

Inside this issue:

Pillager Fair starts July 9
Colt League baseball, 14U softball
The coyote is wily
Sidewalk art at library



Wednesday, July 1, 2026

Staples, Minnesota

\$125

Patriotic community There is no shortage of American flags and patriotic displays in Staples and Motley, celebrating 250 years since the signing of the Declaration of Independence. The Staples Veterans Park will host a Fourth of July celebration at 11 a.m. on Saturday morning. Pictured here and on the back page are some of the places Old Glory is flying with pride in the community. (Photos by Mark Anderson)

Hanson steps down as Staples EDA Director

By Mark Anderson
Publisher

The Staples Economic Development Authority (SEDA) learned that recently hired Economic Development Director Jim Hanson will not be continuing in his position.

At the June 23, 2026 SEDA meeting, Hanson told the board that he had an unexpected family emergency in southern Minnesota that he has to attend to.

At the Staples City Council meeting, Hanson said “I enjoyed my time here immensely, it’s a great town, I just need to go be a dad for a bit.”

At his final SEDA meeting, Hanson gave the board updates on several of the projects he has been working on.

The SEDA had identified housing as a need in the community. Hanson said he has been working to set up a partnership between Staples-Motley career and technical education (CTE) classes and Habit for Humanity to build starter homes on the south side of Staples. He has a identified a city-owned lot as a place to start and has contacted the M State construction program in Wadena, who

See **SEDA** on page 10a



Weather

2026			
This Week's Forecast			
High Low Cond.			
July 1	84 64	T-Storms	
July 2	88 65	P. Cloudy	
July 3	85 65	Rain	
July 4	80 62	T-Storms	
July 5	81 61	Sunny	
July 6	83 62	M. Sunny	
July 7	84 63	M. Sunny	

Last Year, 2025			
High Low Cond.			
July 1	82° 60	Sunny	
July 2	88 61	Sunny	
July 3	90 64	M. Sunny	
July 4	91 74	Sunny	
July 5	79 68	Cloudy	
July 6	80 59	Sunny	
July 7	71 58	Sunny	

Average Temps:
H = 7 81° Low = 59°

Compiled by
Dale Hausmann,
WCCO's Staples area
Weatherwatcher

Public Notices

Moose Lake 9A
Villard 9A
United Hospital 9A
ISD #2170 2A

Obituaries

Richard Allen
Caroline DiGiovanni
Orville Meyer
Tim Mikish

Staples-Motley School District upgraded by Moody's to Aa3

By Mark Anderson
Publisher

An upgrade in the financial rating for the Staples-Motley School District resulted in an interest rate lower than expected, which could mean savings for the school district taxpayers.

At the June 22 board meeting, Jodie Zesbaugh of Ehlers Public Finance Advisors told the board that they had received bids on bonds for the first \$14 million of their \$42 million referendum. They plan to sell the rest of the bonds next year, depending on the timing and the financial market.

Zesbaugh said they received nine bids from financial companies around the country. Before the bidding, they had estimated the school would get an interest rate of 4.1 percent, but when the bids were opened, they were all around 3.8 percent and they picked the company with the lowest interest rate offer at 3.829, Fidelity Capital Markets of Boston, Mass.

“It’s great news all around,” said Zesbaugh.

The main reason for

the lower interest rate is that the financial status of the school district was upgraded by Moody’s, a national credit rating agency that analyses public entities to determine their financial stability. The school district went from A1 to Aa3.

“Getting an upgrade is a huge deal,” said Zesbaugh, “it is very exciting.”

She said the upgrade was unusual because Moody’s has been issuing more downgrades in recent school district ratings across the state.

“That is a strong rating, it indicates a strong financial status,” said Zesbaugh.

Staples-Motley Superintendent Shane Tappe said the school put a lot of work into the rating process, including developing a detailed profile for the entire district. The rating includes the local economy and the school’s long term financial performance.

Because of the saved interest, Zesbaugh said they are able to schedule a drop-down in the tax schedule after the first eight years of paying the bonds.

“It saves your taxpayers quite a bit of interest,” said Zesbaugh.

The school board approved the sale of the bonds and the closing date for the bond sale was set for July 16.

Budget deficit

Staples-Motley Business Manager Ellie Hill told the board that their budget deficit for next year is projected to be \$285,000, after estimating it to be \$300,000 the previous month. Hill said \$120,000 of that is one-time spending that won’t be in the budget the following year.

Hill said the school will have less money for Title I, which helps students who are not meeting educational standards. She also noted that they will continue to monitor the special education program to make sure they can continue to fund it to meet the needs of the students.

“We know those things are coming and we can prepare for that,” said Hill.

Superintendent Shane Tappe said “spending is the one thing we can control. It’s important to keep the

budget in order and control spending.”

Hill said the cost of computers is increasing rapidly because the new data centers being built are taking all the computer components available. As a result, planned technology upgrades for the school might have to be pushed back for a later date.

The school is also unsure of next year’s enrollment numbers, which determines state funding. Hill said they expect to have a few more students in some grades because Sacred Heart Area School will not be operating in the same capacity as before. She also noted that a large number of students were taking PSEO college classes, which decreases the school’s portion of funding because they are considered off-campus classes.

“We don’t know if that carries forward to next year,” said Hill.

Q Comp

Teaching and Learning Coordinator Jenny Pantzke gave the board an update on the Q Comp program,

See **SCHOOL** on page 10a

Sacred Heart School in transition

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

The parochial school that’s been an institution in Staples for 100-plus years held its last classes, for now, at least, May 22, 2026.

Sacred Heart Area School, located next to Sacred Heart Catholic Church on 4th St. NE, will be transitioning to something new, come next fall.

Rumors of the school’s closing had been circulating for much of the

past school year, the reasons voiced being lack of enrollment and finances. The church and school had made concerted efforts to raise the money needed to keep the school afloat, but sadly, that was not to be.

At their final Children’s Mass May 22, Principal Justin Edin announced that although the school in its present form would be closing, it would be reopening in the fall as the Sacred Heart Area Pre-School and Hybrid Homeschool for grades K-8. This will

be a ministry of the church.

Edin went on to say that he would remain employed at the school, but would have the new title of Headmaster.

In a recent conversation, Edin and Fr. JC Duncan explained that the bishop of their diocese had asked them to yield (pause) enrollment for a year and then discern whether it was feasible for SHAS to reopen.

See **TRANSITION** on page 2a



Kindergarten memories

Past and present kindergartners at Sacred Heart Area School (SHAS) posed for a photo with Sheri Henrikson, far left, following a special program and graduation ceremony May 22. Henrikson taught at the school for the past seven years, the last five as the kindergarten

teacher. Kindergartners who graduated that day included Lila Cole, Lillian Lothson, Genevieve Underhill, Everett Douts, Himalaya Reese, Andrew Gawarecki, Cruz Peterson, Kylie Pearson, Haesten Pearson, Emersyn Pearson. (Stapels World photo by Dawn Timbs)

TRANSITION continued from page 1a

Sacred Heart staff to provide enrichment for students

In the meantime, the school feels hopeful about this new ministry opportunity. Parents that are interested in being a part of this are asked that their children be enrolled in the Seton Home Study School which provides Catholic curriculum. Sacred Heart is providing a space for the ministry and Holy Family House of Faith, provides the context.

Edin said that the hybrid homeschool is an opportunity for homeschooled students to get together for certain classes and special activities, such as music, art and science. They will still take religion classes and core subjects.

Students will be integrated with other kids from area Catholic churches. Fr. Duncan noted that the Diocese of St. Cloud has a huge contingent of homeschooled children already. Staples is just matching up.

Fr. Duncan stressed that their staff are not the teachers, the parents are the teachers.

Maria Uselman, a 3rd and 4th grade teacher last year at SHAS, will remain on as a “mentor.” Mentors will offer support to the families enrolled at the hybrid homeschool.

In his new role as administrator of the

preschool, Edin will help provide enrichment and oversee the volunteers. He will serve as principal and ministry leader of Holy Family House of Faith.

Volunteers are welcome, too, Edin said. He noted that Mayor Ron Murray had signed up to help with phy ed and health at the new hybrid homeschool.

Within the Area Catholic Community (ACC), Staples was the last to have a parochial school. St. Ann’s in Wadena closed June 2, 2010, after 107 years of history.

Fr. Duncan said that the hybrid school is a way to continue the legacy of Catholic Education.

He went on to say that it’s phenomenal how many members will be a part of the new homeschool. It’s really “a parity,” Fr. Duncan said. Last year, between the preschool and elementary school, there were 43 students enrolled at Sacred Heart. The new hybrid school has 35 members (students).

Fr. Duncan expressed his appreciation for the Staples-Motley public schools, going on to note their kindness over the years in providing specials, like music, STEM and phy ed.

They tried to make sure all employees at SHAS had somewhere to go, Fr. Duncan said. A few positions are still to be determined.

He’s excited to see how things go, Fr. Duncan said of the new hybrid school, noting that attendance at SHAS had dropped in recent years. He and Edin both said that they are excited for new possibilities.

After 100-plus years, however, it’s bittersweet for many.

Mike Blessing of Staples has a lot of wonderful memories of the school. Now in his 70s, Blessing attended SHAS through the 8th grade. He recalled that there used to be 200 - 300 kids enrolled, with 30 kids in a classroom. There were six kids in his family, Blessing said, and they all went to Sacred Heart. Blessing went on to share that when he was a student there, the teachers were all nuns.

“It was wonderful,” Blessing said of his experience at Sacred Heart, adding that he liked his teachers. He recalled that they had large choirs, and wonderful science and English teachers.

An accomplished organist/pianist, Blessing has been an accompanist at Sacred Heart Church for 52 years. He’s also been involved at SHAS for decades, leading music for students and preparing them for the Friday morning Masses. Most likely, he’ll be sharing his gifts with students at the new hybrid school.



Dad and daughter

Sacred Heart Area School Principal Justin Edin and his daughter Esther posed for a photo at the last day of school May 22. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



Alumni gathering

Several alumni of Sacred Heart Area School in Staples attended the 2026 Kindergarten Celebration May 22, at the close of the 2025-2026 school year. Front row, from left, Jackie Goff, Mike Blessing, Jackie Stevens, Ashley Peterson, Jamie Pearson. Back: Amy Rutten, Lauren Rutten, Julie Peterson, Emily Burrows, Bryan Reese. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



Farewell to grades five and six

Sacred Heart Area School Principal Justin Edin and 5th and 6th grade teacher Ben Underhill posed with the oldest students at the school May 22, the final day of school for the year. Pictured, from right, Principal Edin, 6th grader Josh Uselman, 5th grader Olive Doll, and Underhill. At one time Sacred Heart Area School enrolled students through the 8th grade, but most recently has been a Pre-K through 6th grade school. Due to a lack of enrollment, the school in its present form is closing, with plans to open a hybrid/homeschool this fall. Edin’s new title will be Headmaster. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Staples-Motley School Board Minutes

**MEETING #18
ISD #2170
SCHOOL BOARD
Monday, May 18,
2026
6:00 p.m.
District Office**

MINUTES

Call to Order
The meeting was called to order by Chair Wright at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call was taken, members Wright, Frisk, Freeman, Trout and Reese were present, comprising a quorum. Member Reeck was absent. Also present were Superintendent Tappe, Business Manager Hill, Principal Ferdon, Principal Koenigs, Staples World Editor Anderson, staff and community members. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion by Reese, seconded by Trout, to approve the addition of agenda items 4i, 8a and 9c. **MC**

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

Chair Wright welcomed the public.

School/Community Forum

- None

ConsentAgenda
Approve minutes from the May 4, 2026 Board Meeting/Work Session

Approve the 2026-2027 contract with Interquest Detection Canines.

Approve the 2026-2029 contract with ParentSquare.

Approve the 2026-2027 Resolution for membership in the MSHSL.

Approve the reinstatement from ULA for Lisa Koenigs, Middle School ADSIS Interventionist.

Approve the resignation of Justine Janecek SLP at the end of the 25/26 school year.

Approve the resignation of Paige Ahrendt, Activities/Community Ed Director effective June 30, 2026.

Approve the 2026-2027 Health Occupation Services agreement with Browerville Schools.

Approve the hire of

Samantha Roden, Assistant Gardener.

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

Donations and In-Kind Contributions
Motion by Trout, seconded by Frisk, to approve the Resolution to accept Grants and Donations in the amount of \$18,605.07. **MC**

Thank you to Nyhus Chevrolet/Headway Marketing, Staples Dairy Queen, First International Bank & Trust, Motley Dairy Queen, SM Basketball Boosters, Sherry Frisk, Miscellaneous Donors, LEAP, Inc., Special Olympics MN, Beverly Nolan, Staples Lions Club, Lakewood Health System, LEAP, Inc. - Girls & Boys Basketball, Box Tops for Education and the Carol Penfield Family for their generous donations.

Finance Items
Financial Report presented by Business Manager Hill

FY 26-27 Budget Report

Motion by Reese, seconded by Wright, to approve the April disbursements. **MC**

General Fund:

\$724,315.83

Food Service: \$51,825.11

Community Service: \$17,847.52

Construction Fund: \$17.25

Debt Service: \$0

Fund 21 Student Activities: \$4,795.03

Fund 45: \$0

Motion by Freeman, seconded by Frisk, to approve the April receipts. **MC**

General Fund:

\$1,545,570.37

Food Service: \$102,481.70

Community Service: \$30,399.54

Construction Fund: \$0.00

Debt Service: \$0.00

Fund 21 Student Activities: \$7,224.55

Fund 45: \$0.00

Bond Pre-Sale Report - Informational only

Motion by Trout, seconded by Wright, to approve the resolution stating the intention of the school district to issue general obliga-

tion school building bonds, series 2026A, in the maximum aggregate principal amount of \$42,500,000; and taking other actions with respect thereto. *Roll Call Vote: In favor - Reese, Freeman, Frisk, Wright, Trout; Opposed - None; Absent - Reeck.* **MC**

Cabinet Presentation
by Paige Ahrendt - Activities/Community Ed Director

Personnel
Motion by Freeman, seconded by Frisk, to accept the retirement of LaRae Bjorge, MS Teacher, effective November 6, 2026. **MC**

Thank you LaRae for your 25 years of service to the Staples-Motley School District.

Other
Motion by Reese, seconded by Trout, to approve the sealed bids for miscellaneous items. **MC**

Reports
School Board:
Freshwater - 4/29/2026 Minutes
Sourcewell - 3/17/2026 Minutes
ElementaryPrincipal
Middle/High School Principal
Activities/Community Ed Director- CEAC Meeting Minutes 5-7-2026
SMEA
Superintendent
Other

Motion by _____, seconded by _____, to approve the resolution stating the intention of the school board to enter into professional services contracts with ICS Consulting, LLC. *Roll Call Vote: In Favor - Trout, Frisk, Reese, Freeman, Wright; Opposed - None; Absent - Reeck* **MC**

Motion by Frisk, seconded by Reese, to approve the 2025-2027 negotiation settlement with Transportation. **MC**

Trisha Larson, Clerk
ISD #2170



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- The newspaper is for parents who want their children to learn what is valued in our community so they can participate.
- The newspaper preserves local history and is a timeline of life.



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The local newspaper is the best way to learn about the local community and nothing else comes close. It’s a resource that is shared by the entire community, not broken into age groups, interest groups or people having the right app (see below). The newspaper is a platform for everyone in the community.

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The newspaper covers the hopes and dreams of the community, the traditions, the daily and yearly happenings, the successes, failures and changes. It artfully weaves the features of our community into a professional weekly journal.

Feature stories go deep into the reasons why our community members do the things we do. You can’t find this comprehensive combination of local information anywhere else, which makes it invaluable to the community.

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Do you want your child to grow up to participate in music, sports, speech, arts, trap shooting, FFA, hunting, fishing and many other pursuits that this community elevates to a high status? What better way to become familiar with the local scene than reading the Staples World?

As children grow up and look at the local newspaper week after week, they will become familiar with what we value as a community.

They will eventually meet their role models involved in those activities. They will begin to see themselves as capable of becoming one of those local icons. They can’t jump in and expect to excel without becoming familiar with the excellence that this community creates and imagining that they too can become that person who the community can celebrate.

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Looking back

Staples Police report

June 14, Staples Police took a report of a small amount of cash taken from a business.

June 15, Staples Police were notified of a person trying to get into a garge and digging in a dumpster on 4th Street NE. Police identified the suspect in a security video and spoke to the suspect as his apartment. The suspect agreed to stay away from the property.

June 16, Staples Police took a report of a person staying in a hotel room at EconoLux Inn in Staples. Police advised the person had established long term residency at the hotel and that it was a civil matter. Over several days, police advised to go to the courthouse to file eviction paperwork. Hotel personal stated that a person can not claim residency at a business.

June 17, police received a call from the tenant saying the owner was banging on the door and screaming. Hotel owner said he wanted to file a lawsuit against police if they did not remove the tenant. Police provide a complaint form and advised on the court-approved eviction process.

June 17, Lakewood Health System asked police to come when they tell a patient that he is being placed on a mental health hold. Patient calmed down.

June 17, Staples Police took a call from a person asking for more police, stating "the one you sent is lackadaisical." Police reported there was another officer on

the way.

June 18, Staples Police stopped a vehicle for expired registration. Driver showed indicators of impairment. Driver was given standardized field sobriety testing and was arrested for DWI alcohol with .09 breath alcohol test. Driver was held at Todd County jail until sober.

June 18, police assisted with a citizen who believes a vehicle repair shop in Wadena kept a warranty check when they repaired a vehicle. Police checked for documentation of the warranty check.

June 18, Staples Police took a complaint of a male party standing outside a door when a person got home.

June 18, Staples Police took a report of a bear in town, at 5th Street NE and 4th Ave. NE.

June 20, Donna from FBI is requesting a call back from a Staples officer regarding a gun check. FBI had previously emailed Staples Police. Police advised FBI on subject's involvements with police.

June 20, Staples Police received a call about an underage drinking party north of Staples on 251st Ave. Wadena County contacted Staples Police that they did not have enough resources available and requested assistance from Staples Police. Police tested alcohol levels on six underage drinkers, two admitted to drinking and three refused the test.

75 YEARS Ago - 1951

• June 28, 1951 - Headline: 'Army Deserter Held For Investigation.' Robert Eugene Watzelt, 19, originally of St. Paul, but a deserter from the army at Ft. Lee, Va., arrested last week at Brainerd for the theft of the car belonging to Miss Delores Martin of Staples, was taken before Judge Walter F. Rogosheske at district court in Long Prairie Monday morning of this week, but sentence was held up pending a pre-sentence investigation.

Watzelt was picked up by Brainerd police officials and was then turned over to Staples authorities who took him to Long Prairie to face the charges. His bail was set at \$2,500, and being

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Compiled by Dawn Timbs

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unable to furnish the bail, he was lodged in jail, and still remains there pending the pre-sentence investigation.

• June 28, 1951 - Solid Rock Bible camp located on the east end of Lake Alexander, is scheduled to open its 11th year of camping Wednesday, July 4, and will continue through until July 15.

The Solid Rock camp is located on a 17-acre tract of land 10 miles south of Pillager or seven miles north of Randall, and is on the east side of the lake.

At its beginning, a tent was erected on a cleared piece of ground and people came from near and far. There has been a steady increase in the growth since, and today the grounds contain a large tabernacle built of stone, eleven cabins, a dining hall, a kitchen, and two large dormitories to accommodate the large crowds which gather each year for the annual event.

Outstanding singers, musicians and speakers have been heard in the past years, and this year will be no exception. Services are held daily at 11 a.m., 3 and 8 p.m. and the Rev. Otto Schenk will be the main speaker.

• June 28, 1951 - "I have noticed so many changes in the city of Staples since I left here as a girl of seven years of age, 48 years ago," stated Mrs. John Glaser, 424 Tenth Street S.W., Puyallup, Washington, who with her husband and brother, W. E. Williams of Aberdeen, Washington, spent more than a week visiting relatives and friends in Staples and this vicinity.

Mrs. Glaser and Mr. Williams were both born in Staples. Mrs. Glaser's maiden name was Alma Williams. Her mother was a sister of the late Mrs. Frank Warden whose maiden name was Sargent.

Mrs. Glaser went on to say that about all she could really remember about Staples was the many tracks in the railroad yards here. She could vividly remember the many cautions she always received from her parents before she would cross the tracks at any time. She could also recall some of the older buildings which have long since been razed and been replaced with new and modern buildings.

Mr. Williams stated that he could also remember many of the older buildings here, and marveled at the splendid progress the city had made since the family moved from here nearly a half century ago.

It seemed that these two people, natives of the city of Staples, could remember some of the older names of the community, when prompted a little. They could recall the W. J. Lewis name, the H. C. Millers, Dower and Greeno names and some others, but being children when they left Staples, could not remember any individuals of these families.



Mystery photo

Hello readers. This week's archive photo is from 1976. Do you know who these people are and perhaps the context of the photo? Do you have a memory to share? Email your answers and where

you're from to dtimbs@staplesworld.com by Friday, or call 218-894-1112. The answers will be published in next week's paper, as well as a new mystery photo.



Mystery solved

Last week's mystery photo published in the April 6, 1967 edition of the Staples World featured members of the Lettermen's Club at Staples High School who'd received awards at the annual Lettermen's Banquet. Pictured, front row from left: Jerome Hirschey for cross country; Jerry Cleveland for wrestling, Rick Rengel, most valuable lineman in football. Back row: Jerry Hoemberg for basketball, Donnell Siepkes for track in 1966, Randy Braith as most valuable back in football and Larry Mertens for baseball in 1966. The event was sponsored by the Staples Chamber of Commerce in cooperation with the Letterman's Club of the school. "Red" Severson, head football coach at St. Cloud State college was the featured speaker for the evening.

Sherry (Miller) Frisk of Motley correctly identified Hirschey, Cleveland, Rengel and Mertens. She also responded to the previous week's mystery photo, which had gone unsolved. Sherry said, "It was the crew from Batcher's Department Store," going on to say that Joan Batcher, Ethel Dezell, Mike Stevens and John Nelson were a few she recognized.

Mike Stevens of Motley called in about the previous week's mystery photo, which was of the crew from Batcher's in Staples. He recognized J. Batcher, Betty Orr, Stella Anderson, Ethel Dezell, Linda Glynn, J. Johnson, MaryAnn Olson, Mike Stevens, John Nelson, Bill Case.

Todd Cty. court report

JUNE 24, 2026

Long Prairie Police

Lesbi Karina Castro Palacios, Long Prairie. Wireless communication. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Antonio J. Terero Medina, Long Prairie. Drivers license-driving after revocation. Fine \$200. Fee \$85. Driver must carry proof of insurance when operating vehicle. Fine \$200.

MN Dept. of Natural Resources

John Paul Chalmers, Osakis. Aquaculture-import/transport/stock waters aquatic lie w/out bill of lading, permit. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Justin Bryan Kost, Circle Pines. Hunting-deer without a license. Fine \$25. Fee \$75.

Curtis Michael Woidla, Osakis. Fish and Game-Take fish without a license. Fine \$100. Fee \$85.

MN State Patrol

Jason M. Graham, Maple Grove. Speed 84/65. Fine \$50. Fee \$75.

Brayden Lie Biermaier, Cushing. Fail to provide application for reg/transfer w/in 10 days. Fine \$100. Fee \$85.

Colin Lee Cottingham, Evansville, WI. Speed 85/70. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.

Stacy Lynn Danielson, Parkers Prairie. Speed 88/70. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.

Marc Vernon Gruber, Glenwood. Hands free law. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Heaven Leigh Hall, Cleveland, TN. Speed 80/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Isabella Lynn Jacobs, Carlos. Speed 80/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Kimberly Kaye Kenyon-Brown. Driving after revocation. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.

Christian Seth William Leeds, Backus. Speed 70/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Jose Eduardo Martinez Ambriz, Long Prairie. Speed 71/55. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.

Adam Joshua Mitlying, Sartell. Speed 85/70. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.

Amanda Ortiz Liranzo, Long Prairie. No MN Drivers License. Fine \$100. Fee \$85.

Justin Timothy Prois, Fergus Falls. Speed 79/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Jason James Schroeder, Melrose. Speed 80/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Edan Lee Smith, Sartell. Speed 84/70. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

James Kevin Taylor, Mishawaka, IN. Seat belt required. Fine \$25. Fee \$85.

Sera Piper Varble, Waconia. Speed 81/70. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Avandre Jashaun Brandt, Staples. Exhibition Driving. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

The following cases were heard before Heidi L. Hovis, Seventh District Court in Todd County June 16, 2026.

Owen John Babler, Becker. DWI-Fourth Degree driving while impaired. Dismissed. Wireless communication device. Dismissed. Traffic-careless driving-operate any vehicle carelessly on street or highway. Sentenced. Supervised probation, 1 yr. Fine \$200. Fee \$75.

Gordon Lee Jr. Coffelt, Swanville. Disorderly conduct. Sentenced. Local confinement (90 days, stay 0 yr 0 mo 90 days for 1 yr). Supervised probation, 1 yr.

Jesus Geronimo Gonzales, Long Prairie. DWI-operate motor vehicle-alcohol concentration 0.08 within 2 hours. Local confinement (90 days, stay 89 days for 1 yr credit for time served: 1 day). Supervised probation, 1 yr. Fine \$100. Fee \$150.

Speed 79/60. Fine \$50. Drivers license-driving without a valid license for vehicle class or type. Dismissed.

The following cases were heard before Heidi L. Hovis, Seventh District Court in Todd County June 17, 2026.

Savannah Rose Taylor, Minneapolis. 3rd Degree-possess 10 grams or more a narcotic drug other than heroin. Continued. Local confinement (11 days, stay 0 yr 0 mo 0 days credit for times served: 11 days). Supervised probation, 2 yr. Fine \$10.

Mark Allen Kobliska, Staples. 3rd Degree-refusal to test. Local confinement (364 days, stay 0 yr 0 mo 349 days for 2 year credit for time served: 3 days). Supervised probation, 2 yr. Fine \$250. Fee \$75.

The following cases were heard before Heidi L. Hovis, Seventh District Court in Todd County June 15, 2026.

Jacob Robert Usher, Little Falls. Carrying Pistol while under influence of alcohol-concentration 0.10 or more. Dismissed. 3rd Degree DWI-operate motor vehicle-alcohol concentration 0.08 within 2 hours. Sentenced. Local confinement (364 days, stay 0 yr 0 mo 361 days for 4 yr credit for time served: 3 days). Supervised probation, 4 yr. Fine \$200. Fee \$505.

The following cases were heard before Heidi L. Hovis, Seventh District Court in Todd County June 12, 2026.

Nickolas Fredrick Johnston, Hewitt. Domestic assault. Dismissed. Disorderly conduct. Continued. Unsupervised probation, 1 yr. Fine \$50.

The following cases were heard before Heidi L. Hovis, Seventh District Court in Todd County June 11, 2026.

Craig Steven Toenyan, Sauk Centre. DWI-Operate motor vehicle-any amount Schedule I/II Drugs/metabolite; not cannabis/hemp. Sentenced. Local confinement (3 days, stay 0 yr 0 mo 0 days credit for time served: 3 days). Fine \$500. Fee \$100.

-Court reports forwarded from the Long Prairie Leader.

50 YEARS Ago - 1976

• June 17, 1976 - Goepferd Furniture and Gift Shop offers a wide selection and

Big Savings for Father's Day, including Recliners for Dad priced at \$99.

• June 17, 1976 - At the 58th District 5M Convention of Lions International held in Minneapolis recently, Vern Seipkes received an award for being the only person in the world to organize 50 new Lions clubs.

• June 17, 1976 - The Cardinal Baseball team at Staples High school selected tri-captains for the 1977 season at a recent meeting.

Chosen as the team leaders are Doug Shequen, Bob Nurnberger and Steve Grossman. All three will be seniors next year.

Shequen played third base and pitched on the '76 team and was named honorable mention on the Mid-State All-Conference team.

Nurnberger was the starting catcher during the past season and will probably do some pitching next year, along with being the number one catcher on the squad.

Grossman played right field and pitched on the '76 team and was selected to the Mid-State All-Conference team.

• June 17, 1976 - Jeff Cizek was selected by his teammates as the Most Valuable Player for the 1976 Cardinal Baseball Team.

Cizek led the team in several departments during the past campaign. He hit .422, including seven doubles, five home runs and 22 runs batted in. He struck out only four times during the entire '76 season. He led the team in hits with 23 and was second in runs scored with 14. Cizek led the infielders at first base and he was second in stolen bases with

six. Cizek is a two-time Mid-State All-Conference selection. He is the son of Mrs. Darlene Cizek.

25 YEARS Ago - 2001

• June 28, 2001 - Damages to the Staples Motley High School building's interior caused by the June 13 rain-storm are going to be fairly extensive.

Water from the nearly five-inch rain was more than the city's storm sewers on Third Street could handle, causing a backup of water on the street that flowed eastward toward the school. The high school industrial arts and ag shop rooms and their overhead doors were among the lowest points, with water entering the school under those doors and then flowing down the hallways.

Todd Lyscio, high school principal, reported to the school board on June 19 that about 80 percent of the classrooms in the high school were affected.

• June 28, 2001 - A lifelong Staples resident was one of two people honored last week as Todd County's Outstanding Senior Citizen for 2001.

Bob Sellnow, who volunteers 40 or 50 hours a month at the Staples Care Center

and also does volunteer work with the Staples Senior Citizen Nutrition Site, was named the county's outstanding male senior and will be representing Todd County at the State Fair in August. Also honored was Vonda Hedlund of Clarissa, who was picked as the outstanding female senior citizen.

Bob, who will be 81 on Oct. 18, started visiting the Greater Staples Care Center when his wife, Pearl, became a resident there. He said he saw a need and started helping out where he could while he visited with Pearl.

10 YEARS Ago - 2016

• June 30, 2016 - The Staples Motley Area Arts Council has announced its 'Music in the Park' summer concert series, to be held at Northern Pacific Park in Staples. The lineup includes Kathy Iverson & Daughters; Menten, Nye & Max; Alan Godage & Sundown; Old School; Mikko & Friends; Katie Ziegler.

• June 30, 2016 - National Joint Powers Alliance (NJPA) in Staples was named one of the Top 150 Workplaces in Minnesota, according to the Minneapolis Star Tribune.

Staples World

The Staples World office, moved to 207 4th St. NE open every weekday, 8 a.m. - noon.

•For afternoon availability, call 218-894-1112.

Regular advertising and copy deadline is Friday, noon.

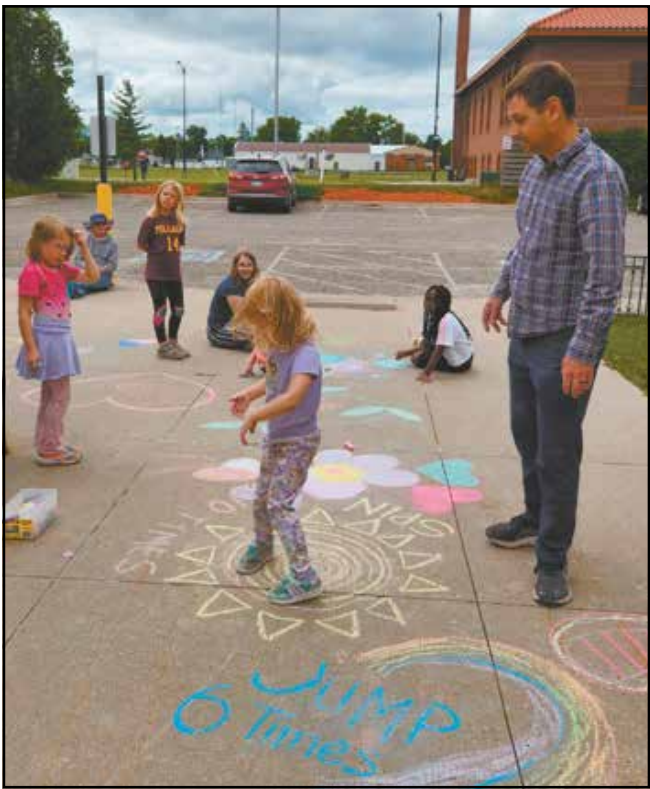
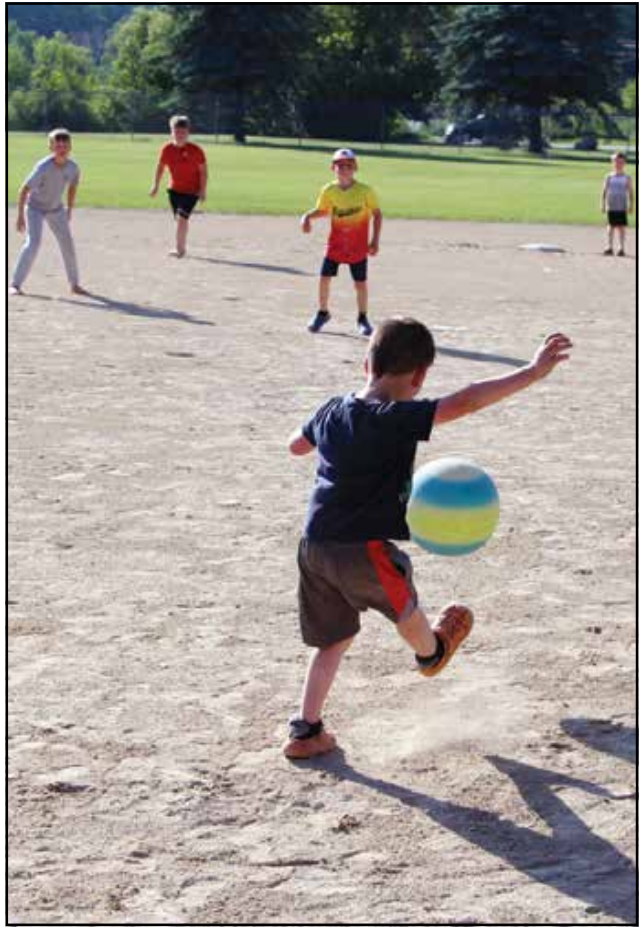
The office closes at noon on Friday.

Across from the old Staples Theatre marquee



Summer relaxation and fun

Families were able to enjoy the shade at Dower Lake Recreation Area as the Colt League summer recreation baseball game was being played at the field. Below, some of the kids not playing baseball stirred up a kickball game on the other field. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



Sidewalk art program held at Staples Library

There was fun during the sidewalk art program recently held at the Staples Public Library (above). There's still time to sign up for the summer reading challenge. Children ages up to 17-years-old can read for fun prizes. Also, join our ECFE Storytime, held every Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. by calling the library, 218-894-1401 to register or stop by 122 6th St. NE, Staples. The program is sponsored by the Staples Friends of the Library. (Submitted photo)

Mark Your Calendar

July 2
'WALK WITH A Doc' Thursdays at 5:15 p.m., at Lake-wood Health System's main campus in Staples. Meet at the main entrance. For more information about this free program, visit <https://walkwithadoc.org/join-a-walk/locations/staples-minnesota>

July 3
WOMEN'S OPEN AA RECOVERY MEETING Fridays in person, 10:30 a.m., Motley Free Methodist Church (lower level), 33 Wellwood St. E. Motley. All women welcome.

July 4
AMERICA PRAYS 250 Saturday, July 4, 9 a.m. - 10 a.m., at Staples Assembly of God Church, 914 3rd Ave. NE, Staples. The public is invited for a time of prayer, dedication and thanksgiving to the Lord for our great nation.

July 5
CELEBRATE RECOVERY GROUP MEETINGS Sundays, 6 p.m., at Motley Free Methodist Church, 33 Wellwood St. E., Motley.

July 7
EXPERIENCE STRENGTH AND HOPE AA GROUP MTGS IN STAPLES Tuesdays, 7 - 8 p.m., at Church of Christ, 27343 490th St., Staples. For info., call Dan at 218-640-7228.

July 8
FREE COMMUNITY PICNIC - SPONSORED BY MOTLEY FREE METHODIST CHURCH Wednesday, July 8, 5 p.m., at Converse Park in Motley. (The free picnics are held on the second Wednesday of each month during the summer).

Pillager Fair runs July 9 - 11

Parade, exhibits, demo derby, fireworks, more

The 127th Cass County Fair in Pillager will be held Thursday, July 9 - Saturday, July 11.
On the agenda are contests, food booths, fireworks, horse judging, demo derby, music and a host of other activities for people of all ages, including a medallion hunt with a \$1,000 prize.
Many favorite events are on this year's Pillager Fair roster, as well as some new ones. Some of the events are listed below:

Thursday
'Set-up day.' Commercial vendors and competition exhibitors will be setting up. Clues for the medallion hunt will be posted each morning at 9 a.m. at the Community Center.
Food booths open at 10 a.m. Stop by the Community Center (at the fairgrounds) for Cash Bingo,

starting at 7 p.m.
Friday
Stop by at 9 a.m. for breakfast (food booths will be open) and visit the horse judging arena and exhibit booths as well.
At 10 a.m. vendor booths open, tours of the day care will be offered, and the History Building also opens. At 11 a.m., the area with the inflatables opens (Froggy Hops Inflation Jumpers!); and at 3 p.m., the Beer garden opens.
The demo derby starts at 7 p.m.; registration at 3 p.m. The fair closes at 11 p.m.

Saturday
From 7 - 10 a.m., the Pillager Boy Scouts will sponsor a pancake breakfast. Horse Judging will be held from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.; and the Color Splash Family Dash starts at 8 a.m., at the Pillager School.

At 10 a.m., be sure to take in the annual parade, which travels downtown Pillager along River St.
Need your vehicle washed? From 11 a.m. - 5 p.m., the Pillager Wrestling Association will hold their 'Car Fundraiser Wash' at 224 River St. S., Pillager.
For those who like contests, Texas Hold 'em will begin at 1 p.m.; and horse-shoe tournament at 4 p.m.
Don't miss the Kiddie Tractor Pull at 5:30 p.m. (sign up at 5 p.m.) or the fireworks at 10 p.m. The "TK Rose" band will perform from 8 p.m. - 11 p.m.
Throughout the day, food booths will be open, as will the exhibition building.
The fair closes at 11 p.m.
For a more detailed list of events, pick up a Pillager Fair Premium Book at area businesses and at the fairgrounds.

Your Invited

AMERICAPRAYS 250

Join us for a time of prayer, dedication and thanksgiving to the Lord for our great nation!

Saturday, July 4, 9-10 a.m.

Staples Assembly of God
914 3rd Ave. NE, Staples

Day Camp for Kindergarten to 6th Graders

At Staples Alliance Church
Join us for games, art, drama skills, music and more.



Staples Alliance.org or call 218-894-2891

JULY 14TH
7am-9am Breakfast
9am-5pm Program
5pm Family Dinner

Registration Open! Max 75 kids
StaplesAlliance.org or Call 218.894.2891

WILDER PAGEANT

Family-Oriented Outdoor Drama
2nd, 3rd & 4th weekends in July

Walnut Grove, MN
888-859-3102
walnutgrove.org

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Breakdowns happen. We'll take it from there.

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The Staples World newspaper thanks you for your continued support

Staples World

Your Community Newspaper Since 1890



- The local newspaper is the best way to identify as a local business, and nothing else comes close.
- The Staples World is one of the best-read newspapers in the state.
- Advertising in the newspaper is a low-cost way of integrating your business into the local ecosystem.

Advertising opportunities:

- Weekly or monthly ads
- Sports pages
- Business and Professional Directory
- Church page
- Shop Local page

Special offers or events:

- Sports contratulations signature pages (For state tournament teams, athletes)
- Community pride signature pages (Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Railroad Days, CLC Field Day, Veterans Day)
- Christmas special section
- Graduation special section
- Chamber of Commerce Hometown Highlights

Advertising in the newspaper identifies you as a local business

The local newspaper is the best way to declare that you're a local business and are integrated into the fabric of the community. People who see your business advertised next to the content they read every week will naturally seek you out when they need your services. They will associate you with meeting their needs and wants.

Becoming a local business takes more than your physical address. People will recognize if you participate in the community and associate yourself with that everyday life. The local newspaper is the best way to do that and nothing else comes close.

The newspaper covers the hopes and dreams of the community, the traditions, the daily and yearly happenings, the successes, failures and changes. It artfully weaves all the features into a professional weekly journal.

The Staples World is one of the best read newspapers in the state, as revealed during school district surveys. The newspaper moves the needle for many projects, events and issues. Advertising works because people want to connect with the businesses they perceive as local.

Advertising in the local newspaper is an investment in the local community, with a return on that investment that you can't get anywhere else.

Any of these advertising opportunities will connect your business to local audiences who will think of you first when they need your services.

RMM Publications, LLC • 207 4th St. NE • P.O. Box 100 • Staples, MN 56479
218-894-1112 • editor@staplesworld.com

Hello World

ONLINE BIRTHS REMOVED AT THE REQUEST OF LAKEWOOD HEALTH SYSTEM.

You will notice the delivery of your newspaper has been arriving later due to unforeseen new postal delivery regulations implemented by the federal government April 25, 2026 and made effective through the post office with the April 29, 2026 issue of the Staples World. Unfortunately, you will receive your Staples World newspaper later than usual due to the fact that only one postal truck will be available in Staples (mornings). The Staples World regular publication date remains Wednesday.

It's recommend that dated advertising (concerts, garage sales, auctions, events, inserts, etc.) be placed two weeks prior to the event.

Staples Area Church Directory

Staples

Staples Alliance
1512 8th St. NE, Staples.....218-894-2891
Pastor John Pavlica, Lead Pastor
Johnny Olson, Associate Pastor
Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School 11:00 a.m.
Weds., AWANA 6:00 p.m.

Assembly of God
914 3rd Ave. NE, Staples..... 218-894-1081
Pastor Roy Miles
Small Groups (Bible classes
for all ages)..... 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship Service..... 10:30 a.m.
Children's Church (Kids start in main
worship service)..... 11 a.m.
Prayer Meeting..... 5 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
Sonlight (kids ages 4 yrs.-6th grade)
..... After school to 5:30 p.m.
Youth Group (Teens, 7th-12th grade)
..... After school to 5:30 p.m.

Church of Christ
27343 490th St., Staples.....218-894-2609
Pastor Barry Klein
Facebook Live
Bible School (youth and adult)..... 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship..... 10:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY:
Adult Bible Study..... 6:30 p.m.

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

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
310 4th St. NE, Staples
Church.....218-631-1593
parishsecretary@marysacc.org
Rev. JC Duncan, 218-632-7314
Rev. Greg Sauer, 218-632-7319
Mass: Sunday.....8:30 a.m.

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

Thomastown Covenant
15940 251st Ave., Staples.....218-894-3923
Sunday School..... 9:15 a.m.
Sunday Worship..... 10:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY NIGHT YOUTH..... 6:30 p.m.

Trinity Lutheran
1000 4th St., NE, Staples.....218-894-2372
Pastor Vicar Paul Koehler
Sunday Divine Service..... 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School and Bible Class ... 10:30 a.m.

United Methodist
310 5th St. NE, Staples.....218-894-2248
Sunday Worship..... 10:30 a.m.
(Nursery Available for Sunday Worship)

Aldrich

Balsamlund Lutheran
19550 490th Street, Aldrich
Janet Eckman SMA.....218-837-5831
jre227@yahoo.com
Sunday Worship..... 8:30 a.m.

Cushing

Bethany Lutheran
25430 Bison Rd.Cushing, MN
320-749-2140
Pastor Carl Larson
www.bethanylutherancushing.org
Sunday Worship..... 9:00 a.m.
Communion 1st and 2nd Sunday
of each month

Lincoln Evangelical Free
1354 320th Street, Cushing, MN 56443
Phone: 218- 575-2449
www.lincolnefree.org
Facebook Lincoln E Free
Office Hours: Tues. - Thurs., 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Senior Pastor: Don Reigstad
SUNDAY
Church Worship Gathering..... 10:00 a.m.
YouTube Channel 10:00 a.m.

Cushing Baptist
26298 Bear Rd., Cushing
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
January - July 9 a.m.
July - January 11 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.

Motley

Motley Free Methodist
33 Wellwood St. E
Motley 56466..... 218-352-6888
Jim Johnson, Senior Pastor
Casey Reynolds, Assistant Pastor
Sunday Worship..... 9:00 and 10:30 a.m.
facebook live..... 9 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
AWANA..... 4:00-5:30 p.m.
Youth Group 6:00-8:00 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 Catholic Church
280 1st Ave S, Motley.....218-631-1593
Rev. JC Duncan, 218-632-7314
Rev. Greg Sauer, 218-632-7319
Mass: Sunday..... 10:30 a.m.

United Methodist

847 3rd Ave. S. Lane, Motley.....218-352-6466
Pastor Greg Leslie
www.motleyumc.net
Sunday Worship Service..... 10:00 a.m.
Monday AA meeting..... 8:00 p.m.

Oylen

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

Pillager

First Lutheran Church
Pastor Mathew Sundquist
717 River Street S, Pillager, MN
218-746-3775
Sunday Worship..... 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School, 2nd and 4th Sundays
..... 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.

Hewitt

Church of the Nazarene
114 Front Street, P.O. Box 146 Hewitt, MN
218-924-2028
Jim and Linda McGaffey, Pastor
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship..... 10:45 a.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.

Hewitt Community Church
Hwy. 210, Hewitt, MN
Pastor Kenneth Uhren
Sunday Worship..... 10:30 a.m.

Verndale

Verndale Alliance
109 NW Brown Street, Verndale, MN 56481
218-445-5619
Senior Pastor Tony Stanley
Youth Pastor Joe Ward
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
office@verndaleflc.org
Pastor Amos Self..... 218-371-7189
Tahna Rurup, Connections & Media Pastor
Tillman Phagan, Kid's & Food Shelf Pastor
Ryan Wolfenden, Youth Pastor
SUNDAY
Youth Prayer..... 9:20 a.m.
Worship Service 10:00 a.m.
Prayer Meeting..... 5 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
Life Groups..... 6:30 p.m.

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 Community Church
5 miles N on Cty Rd 26 (Nimrod tar)
Pastor James Middendorf, 320-260-4952
Sunday Service 9:00 a.m.
Bible Study 10:30 a.m.

St. Frederick Catholic Church
20 Mason Avenue NW
Verndale218-631-1593
parishsecretary@marysacc.org
Rev. JC Duncan, 218-632-7314
Rev. Greg Sauer, 218-632-7319
MASS: Saturday..... 6:00 p.m

St. Hubert Catholic Church
Bluegrass.....218-631-1593
Rev. JC Duncan, 218-632-7314
Father Greg Sauer, 218-632-7319
parishsecretary@marysacc.org
Mass: Saturday..... 4:00 p.m.

Leaf River Township

The Old Country Church
Leaf River Twp., Wadena County Rd. 6
Info. 218-837-5690 Call first.

Wadena

St. Helen's Episcopal Church
22 Dayton Ave. SW, Wadena, MN
218-631-3928
Sunday Worship..... 10:00 a.m.

St. Ann's Catholic Church
514 1st Street SE, Wadena(218) 631-1593
Rev. JC Duncan, 218-632-7314
Father Greg Sauer, 218-632-7319
parishsecretary@marysacc.org
Mass: Sunday (livestream)..... 10 a.m.

Obituaries

Orville Meyer

Orville Christopher Meyer, 89, of Staples, passed away June 28, 2026.

Arrangements are pending with the Iten Funeral Home, Browerville.

A full obituary will follow at a later date.

w28x A00006B2026JY01



Richard Allen

The memorial service celebrating the life of Richard “Rick” Allen of Staples will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, July 10, at the Church of Christ in Staples.

Visitation will be held at the church on Friday, from 9:30 a.m. until the time of the service.

Richard Charles “Rick” Allen was born to Richard H. and Leila (Irish) Allen on April 7, 1960, in Minneapolis. He graduated with

a Graphic Arts degree from Staples Technical College.

Richard, 66, passed away unexpectedly on June 22, 2026, at his home in Staples.

Arrangements with the Schuller Family Funeral Homes & Cremation Services, caring for Bertha, Verndale, Wadena and surrounding communities in Minnesota. (www.Schuller-FamilyFH.com).

w28x A00006B2026JY01

Tim Mikish

A Celebration of Life gathering for Tim Mikish will be held on July 25, 2026 from 2 to 6 p.m. at the home of Bill and Vickie Busker, 26748 410th St., Browerville.

w28x A00006B2026JY01

Caroline DiGiovanni

Caroline Alice DiGiovanni, of Sartell, passed away peacefully in her home on June 18, 2026, after a courageous fight with lung cancer.

A “Celebration of Life” will be held Saturday, october 3, 2026 from 11:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Leader Community Center, 7430 State 64, Motley. Prayers and remembrances will begin at 12:00 noon with lunch to follow.

Caroline will be laid to rest in the Motley Cemetery.

Caroline was born to C. Joseph and Alice DiGiovanni at the Staples Hospital. She was raised on the family farm north of Motley.

Caroline worked for many years at Homecrest Industries in Wadena. Later, she purchased a couple of lunch wagons and worked alongside local auctioneers, enjoying the opportunity to meet people and be part of the community.

After leaving Homecrest, she bought a lake home near Richmond. Those years brought some of her happiest memories. During that time, she also worked at a nursing home in house-keeping and especially enjoyed visiting with the residents.

Eventually, Caroline moved to St. Cloud and later to Evergreen Village in Sartell.

Caroline will be remembered for her strength, independence, humor, love of family and ability to make every house feel like home. She will be deeply missed and lovingly remembered by all who knew her.

Caroline is survived by two daughters, Sharon



(Richard) Saukkola and children, Tyler (Megan) Engelke, Casey (Sarah) Engelke and Abbie (Nick) Velasco and Melody (Jim) Engstand and children, Veronica Engst, Vanessa Engst, Jesse (Samantha) Engst, Joseph Engst, Jacob (Cally) Engst, Jeremiah (Danielle) Engst; 17 great-grandchildren, Charlie, Grace, Margaret Engelke, Gigi and Macie Engelke, Aubry and Gary Velasco, Marissa Engst and Josiah Ricks, Christina, Destiny and Jasmine Engst, Anthony Duran, Beatrix Arellano and Cooper Engst, Rayna Engst, Xila Engst and one great-great grandson, Ezra Campa.

She is survived by eight brothers and sisters, Jerome (Roz), Bruce (Helen), Terry, Dean, Roy (Pat), Ned, Nina, Dewey and a host of nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by one son, Marvin Poynter; parents; two sisters, Ruthy and Kathleen and two brothers, Dale and Scott.

Additional information at bensonfuneralhome.com.

w28c A00006B2026JY01

Needing/Wanting a Granite Memorial FOR YOUR FAMILY?



I can help!
Diane M. Hahn

32 years serving our area!

Rep. for Fergus Falls Monument Co.

Call 218-445-5685 or 218-640-2341

DEADLINE

for all classified ads and copy is 12 noon Friday

For the Staples World

THE STAPLES AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY IS SPONSORED BY THESE AREA BUSINESSES:

To become a Church Directory supporter, call 218-894-1112.

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

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

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

Central Building Supply
Hwy. 10 West, Staples, MN
218-894-3794

Staples World
Your community newspaper since 1890
207 4th St. NE., Staples, MN
218-894-1112

The Church Directory is supported by the advertisers listed above and the Ministerial Association.

To update your church information or to advertise on the Church Directory, email: office@staplesworld.com, call 218-894-1112. Ctoninue to email your Ministerial pastoral message or advertisement to: office@staplesworld.com.



Summer recreation baseball

Colt League team #2, for grades three and four, played a game at Dower Lake in June. There are three Staples-Motley teams playing in the Colt League for summer recreation. They also play at Converse Park in Motley and travel to other towns for the league. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



Softball 14U team

The 14U Staples-Motley summer recreation softball team played June 15 at the varsity softball field in Staples. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



Place your Classified Ad

for only \$9⁸⁵/wk.

Your ad will appear Wednesday in the

Staples World

and online at www.staplesworld.com



Mailing address for checks:
Staples World
P.O. Box 100
Staples, MN 56479

Payment must accompany the order.
Use form below or click on www.staplesworld.com

Deadline: Friday at Noon

SERVICES & EMPLOYMENT

205 Help Wanted

If you enjoy working in a community atmosphere with variety consider working at the Staples World newspaper. Receptionist/ front office, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Mon.-Thurs. Submit resumé to Staples World, PO Box 100, Staples, MN 56479 or email editor@staplesworld.com.

208 Storage

FOR RENT

Japke's North 8th Street Mini Storage

218-884-9356

6x20, 10x12, 10x20, 10x24

209 Business Services

PAUL DRAKE TREE SERVICE, SINCE 1978: General, lot clearing, storm damage clean-up, stump grinding, brushing, 55 ft. bucket truck. 218-894-2871, Staples. 20tfc

FRONTIER TOWNHOMES

FOR RENTAL INFO CALL 218-296-5031

Under new ownership

We are accepting applications for 2 and 3 bedroom townhomes in Staples, a community you can get attached to. Rent based on income. Now professionally managed by

BRUTGER EQUITIES, INC.

Income guidelines apply.

WANTED TO BUY

501 Miscellaneous

JUNK CARS & TRUCKS.

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SW 2024 changed wk #3



NOTICE
VILLARD TOWNSHIP
BOARD
ELECTION FILING
DATES
TODD, COUNTY
STATE OF MINNESOTA

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the period for filing affidavits of candidacy for the Offices of Township Supervisor A, B and Treasurer shall begin on July 14, 2026 and end on July 28 2026 at 5 o'clock p.m. The general election shall be held on Tuesday, November 3, 2026. At that election, three (3) BOARD MEMBERS will be elected to a four (4) year term each.

Affidavits of Candidacy are available by contacting the Clerk of the Township at 31836 Timberlane Rd, Staples, MN 56479 from 8 a.m. -4:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and by 5 p.m. on July 28.

The filing fee for this board is two dollars (\$2). A candidate for this board must be an eligible voter.

The affidavits of candidacy must be filed with the Clerk and the filing fee paid, prior to the 5:00 p.m. closing time on Tuesday July 28, 2026.

No affidavit will be dated before the filing date and no later than the last filing date and time.

When filing the affidavit of candidacy, you must specify your choice by indicating

- Supervisor A
- Supervisor B
- Treasurer

Mary Trantina Koenig,
Clerk
Villard Township
218-640-6115

28pnc

PUBLIC
NOTICES:
Your Right
to Know

MINUTES OF THE
MEETING OF THE TODD
COUNTY BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS HELD
JUNE 2, 2026

Public Comment

Mr. Kevin Winkler addressed the County Board regarding due process of recent legal matters.

Tina Monson, US Solar provided a summary of reasonings in support the passage of the proposed CUP agenda item.

Dave Harren provided a statement of concern regarding concerns about damage to ground field quality if the proposed US Solar CUP is approved.

Call to Order

The Todd County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Board Room in the City of Long Prairie, MN on the 2nd day of June, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Byers. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. All Commissioners were present.

Approval of Agenda

On motion by Neumann and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To adopt the agenda as presented with removal of item 4.6 Accept resignation of Tyler Schwartz, FT Deputy and removal of item 4.7 Hire Tyler Schwartz, PT Deputy.

Consent Agenda

On motion by Noska and second by Becker, the following motions were introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

To approve the Todd County Board of Commissioner's Meeting Minutes for May 5 and 19, 2026 as presented.

Hire Marshall Carlson for the Seasonal Recreational Assistant position start date TBD at a wage of \$20.93 Grade 3/C step A.

Accept the resignation of Correctional Officer Ross Bollin effective June 7, 2026.

Accept the resignation of Deputy Brittany Hendricks effective June 30, 2026.

Hire Trevor Larson for the PT Deputy position start date TBD at a rate of pay of grade 9/I grade A \$33.21 per hour.

Auditor-Treasurer

On motion by Denny and second by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve the Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 404525 through 404541 in the amount of \$22,306.50 and (Regular) 59846 through 59868 in the amount of \$36,164.42 for a total of \$58,470.92.

On motion by Neumann and second by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve the Health & Human Services Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 807569 through 807591 and (Regular) 714150 through 714183 for a total of \$30,595.77.

On motion by Becker and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve the Health & Human Services SSIS Warrants number (ACH) 602011 through 602017 and (Regular) 518965 through 518977 for a total amount of \$51,951.24.

CliftonLarsonAllen

Doug Host, Principal, presented the final report of the findings/sta-

NOTICE OF
MOOSE LAKE
TOWNSHIP
CANDIDATE FILING
DATES

The following Moose Lake Township offices will be voted for at the state General Election to be held Tuesday, November 3, 2026. Candidates may begin filing for these offices on Tuesday, July 14, 2026 and continue until Tuesday, July 28, 2026. The office of the clerk will be open from 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. on July 28, 2026, for candidates to file.

Candidates must file at the Office of the Moose Lake Township Clerk, 5335 51st Ave SW, Pine River, MN 56474. Candidates must complete an affidavit of candidacy and pay a \$2.00 filing fee at the time of filing.

Candidates who will be absent from the state during the filing period may arrange to file in person with the Clerk within seven days prior to departure by giving a written affidavit of reasons for absence and completing all other filing requirements.

Filings will be accepted during the filing period for the following offices to be elected on November 3, 2026:

Township Clerk, (four (4) year regular term)

Township Supervisor Seat 1, (four (4) year regular term).

Karen Roubal, Clerk
Moose Lake Township
28-29pnc

NOTICE OF
ELECTION
OF UNITED HOSPITAL
DISTRICT BOARD
MEMBERS

Notice is hereby given that the Regular Election of the United Hospital District, Staples, Minnesota, will be held on Tuesday, November 3, 2026, to elect members to serve on the District Board of Directors.

Any person desiring to

be a candidate for member of the District Board shall file with the clerk of the city or the township in which they reside, an application to be placed on the ballot as a candidate for election as a member representing such city or township that is included in the Hospital District.

Filing opens Tuesday, July 14, 2026 and closes Tuesday, July 28, 2026.

Members will be elected as follows: The election of one member of District Board for a term expiring December 31, 2030, representing and from each of the following cities and townships:

- City of Staples
- Moran Township
- Motley Township
- Becker Township
- Byron Township
- Thomastown Township

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

Lana Hansen
District Clerk

28-29pnc

NOTICE OF
MORTGAGE
FORECLOSURE SALE

THE RIGHT TO VERIFICATION OF THE DEBT AND IDENTITY OF THE ORIGINAL CREDITOR WITHIN THE TIME PROVIDED BY LAW IS NOT AFFECTED BY THIS ACTION.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: That default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:

DATE OF MORTGAGE: January 6, 2006

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$195,000.00

MORTGAGOR(S): Kevin J. Bednar, and Penny K. Bednar, husband and wife

MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for MILA, Inc.

DATE AND PLACE OF

FILING: Recorded on August 9, 2006 as Document Number 443619 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota.

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee for the Specialty Underwriting and Residential Finance Trust Mortgage Loan Asset-Backed Certificates Series 2006-BC2 by assignment recorded on January 6, 2010 as Document Number 466298 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota; thereafter assigned to Bank of America, N.A. by assignment recorded on September 5, 2023 as Document Number A537950 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota; thereafter assigned to Nationstar Mortgage, LLC by assignment recorded on November 12, 2013 as Document Number 487120 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota; thereafter assigned to U.S. Bank, National Association, as Trustee for the Holders of the Specialty Underwriting and Residential Finance Trust, Mortgage Loan Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2006-BC2 by assignment recorded on October 29, 2014 as Document Number A491803 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: The North 436.14 feet of the South 1183.43 Feet of the West 547 feet thereof of the Southwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 17, Township 133, Range 33 West of the Fifth Principal Meridian, Todd County, Minnesota.

STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 48218 COUNTY 9, STAPLES, MN 56479

COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Todd County, Minnesota.

THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$288,207.71

TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Regis-

SWCD

On motion by Denny and second by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Approve the purchase of a 2026 Chevy Colorado in the amount of \$34,504.45 from Saxon Fleet Services via the State bid.

Todd County Extension
Office

Heidi Igo and Kristin Saarela provided an update of the Todd County 4H Program with special guest Cody Meacham, Youth Leader for the County Board.

Todd County Fair Board

On motion by Noska and second by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To grant the Todd County Fair Board additional access to the Todd County Fairgrounds for fair preparations beginning June 3, 2026 with waiving of the rental fees. Utilities reimbursement will be provided by the Todd County Fair Board for this additional timeframe.

County Sheriff

On motion by Becker and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Approve contracts for the cities of Burtrum, Gray Eagle, Browerville, Clarissa, Eagle Bend, Hewitt and Bertha.

County Ditch/Ag Inspector

On motion by Neumann and second by Noska, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT - DITCH MAINTENANCE - COUNTY DITCH 44

WHEREAS, Dale Lyon is requesting to maintain approximately 4,300 feet of CD44 on parcel 21-0036200 Lyon Family Farm located in Round Prairie Township, section 34, and parcels 03-0002200 & 03-0002700 Steve Berscheit, and 03-0002300 Dale Lyon in Birchdale Twp, section 3. A Hold Harmless Agreement has been signed and submitted to the Ditch Authority, and;

WHEREAS, an onsite inspection has been done, and;

WHEREAS, applicant is allowed to maintain the drainage ditch to the original width and depth. An improvement by lowering or widening the ditch bottom is not allowed. Sediment and vegetation can only be removed to the extent of the original ditch bottom elevation. Spoil may be side cast and leveled, staying within 16 1/2 feet of the ditch, or moved to an approved upland site.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Todd County Ditch Authority gives permission to Dale Lyon to maintain a portion of CD44 located on parcels 21-0036200, 03-0002200, 03-0002700 & 03-0002300. The maintenance will be done at his own expense.

Solid Waste

On a motion by Denny and second by Becker, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

RESOLUTION APPROVING TRANSFER OF FUNDS FOR TEMPORARY LOAN REPAYMENT FOR CAP GRANT PROJECT

WHEREAS, in 2025, funding from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) was delayed for the CAP Grant Project which placed an unforeseen financial burden on Fund 51-Solid Waste to continue funding of the Transfer Station Building Project, and;

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners authorized the interim financing from the Gen-

eration Systems, Inc.

NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: MILA, Inc.

RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Nationstar Mortgage LLC, n/k/a Rocket Mortgage, LLC successor by merger to Nationstar Mortgage LLC

TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 22-0017500

TRANSACTIONAGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1001752-0000289060-9

THAT no action or proceeding has been instituted at law to recover the debt then remaining secured by such mortgage, or any part thereof, or, if the action or proceeding has been instituted, that the same has been discontinued, or that an execution upon the judgment rendered therein has been returned unsatisfied, in whole or in part.

PURSUANT, to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows:

DATE AND TIME OF SALE: July 16, 2026 at 10:00 AM.

PLACE OF SALE: Todd County Sheriff's Office, County Detention Center, 115 Third Street South, Long Prairie, MN 56347.

to pay the debt then secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any actually paid by the mortgagee, on the premises and the costs and disbursements allowed by law. The time allowed by law for redemption by said mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns is six (6) months from the date of sale.

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: Unless said mortgage is reinstated or the property redeemed, or unless the time for redemption is reduced by judicial order, you must vacate the premises by 11:59 p.m. on January 19, 2027.

THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL

REPRESENTATIVE S OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 582.032, DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.

MORTGAGOR(S) RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE: Kevin J. Bednar and Penny K. Bednar

Dated: May 11, 2026

U.S. BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE HOLDERS OF THE SPECIALTY UNDERWRITING AND RESIDENTIAL FINANCE TRUST, MORTGAGE LOAN ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-BC2 Mortgagee

TROTT LAW, P.C.

N. Kibongni
Fondungallah, Esq.
Samuel R. Coleman, Esq.
Alexa Marsh, Esq.
Attorneys for Mortgagee
25 Dale Street North
St. Paul, MN 55102
(651) 209-9760
(24-0766-FC08)

Federal law may require reporting to the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network for certain purchases of residential property by entities or trusts. A successful third party bidder may be required to provide ownership and identifying information as a condition to completing the transfer.

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR.

23-28pnc

Community meeting and Wellness biometrics event.

County Commissioner's
Report

The Commissioners reported on meetings and events attended.

Commissioner Becker attended meetings including the Facilities, Region V, and Regional EMS.

Commissioner Denny has attended meetings including GRRL, Finance, Hands of Hope, Prairie Lakes, and Personnel.

Commissioner Noska has attended meetings as usual including HRA and Wellness Biometrics event.

Commissioner Byers attended meetings including Facilities, Central Bi Products Community Meeting, and TDC.

Commissioner Neumann attended meetings including SRWD, Sauk River 1W1P, Policies, and District 4.

Recessed

On motion by Denny and second by Noska, the meeting was recessed until June 16, 2026.

COMMISSIONER WARRANTS
VENDOR NAME \$ AMOUNT

DIAMOND BUICK GMC.....	\$2,466.69
ESRI	17,254.00
LONG PRAIRIE LEADER	2,715.00
MENCH/JAMES	8,660.00
MIN DEPT OF	
TRANSPORTATION.....	5,206.28
ROLLIES SALES &	
SERVICE	4,436.06
VEOLIA ENVIRONMENTAL	
SERVICES LLC.....	2,274.15
33 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000.....	15,458.74
Total:	\$58,470.92

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
WARRANTS

TODD COUNTY SHERIFF'S	
OFFICE	\$3,476.63
46 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000.....	16,948.74
DW JONES PROPERTY	
MANAGEMENT.....	3,333.00
TOWLER/ROGER	4,200.00
10 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000	2,637.40
Total:	\$30,595.77

VENDOR NAME \$ AMOUNT

DHS - MOOSE LAKE RTC -	
462.....	\$2,752.50
DHS - MSOP - MN SEX OFFENDER	
PROG - 462	4,770.00
GREATER MN FAMILY SRVS	
INC	5,694.41
LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICE OF	
MN - ST PAUL	3,657.30
MAIN STREET FAMILY	
SERVICES	3,971.55
NEXUS-KINDRED FAMILY	
HEALING	8,766.06
TRI-COUNTY COMMUNITY	
CORRECTIONS	3,332.29
VOLUNTEERS OF	
AMERICA	16,424.40
12 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000	2,582.73
Total:	\$51,951.24

On a motion by Neumann and second by Noska, the preceding minutes of the County Board meeting held June 2nd, 2026 were duly approved by unanimous vote at the Todd County Board of Commissioners at the Regular Board Meeting held on June 16, 2026..

Witness my hand and seal:
/s/ on file: Bob Byers,
County Board Chairperson
/s/ on file: Denise Gaida,
Todd County Auditor-Treasurer

28pnc



Gathering under the flag

American flags adorn gathering places in Motley, inviting guests to sit down and contemplate the flag that has been our standard for 250 years. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)

SCHOOL continued from page 1a

School approves hire of Activities Director Josh Wood

which provides training for teaching staff and provides them added compensation if they meet educational goals. Pantzke said all staff in the program met goals this year.

The school board asked questions about new teachers, called Tier 1 teachers. Tappe said all new teachers are eligible for Q Comp. “We need to develop folks who have a passion for education and helping kids,” he said.

Pantzke said during their evaluations this year, they are finding that the Tier 1 teachers need to do a better job of “not teaching to the middle or to the low end,” so the process is helping improve the quality of education throughout the school.

The board approved the Q Comp career ladder positions for the next school year.

In other news, the board

• Approved Josh Wood as activities director/community education coordinator. Tappe said there were 15 candidates for the position

and Wood will have time to overlap with outgoing AD Paige Ahrendt to learn the system.

• Approved lane change requests for Kasey Odden and Caitlyn Hacker, with recommendation from the Professional Growth Committee.

• Approved hire of Dan Bjerga as Head Wrestling coach; John Jacobson as Dean of Students; Kristi Odden, EL teacher; Amelia Travis, 4th grade teacher; Sonja Habedank, 5/6 grade science teacher; Elizabeth Machelles Hottinger Gatts, elementary EBD teacher; Janelle Thompson, van driver; Amanda Keplin, special education teacher; Avaya Brandt, Adventures assistant; and Grace Allen, middle school ADSIS interventionist.

• Approved employment agreements for Julie Polak, HR/payroll; LeRoy Peterson Director of Buildings and Grounds; Wade Vangsness, Food Service Director; Norbert Klimek, Transportation Director; Joe Brandsma, Technology Director; and Ellen Hill, Director of Finance.

• Approved consultant agreement with Staci Headley.

• Approved termination of Troy Erickson.

• Accepted resignation of Tony Marthaler, transportation.

• Approved retirement of Charles Holst, bus driver, after 40 plus years of service to the school district.

• Approved CIS/concurrent enrollment agreement with CLC.

• Approved consulting services agreement with Freshwater Education District.

• Heard from Ryan Koenigs that the American Indian Parent Advisory Committee concluded that their educational goals were met this year with 100 percent graduation, plus academic and career goals met. “This is one of the few schools where American Indian students exceeded the student population averages,” said Koenigs.

• Heard from Tappe that the elementary school gym floor had a full replacement because many boards in the old gym were not properly nailed down.



America’s pasttime

The American flag flies above the 14U softball game, above, and the Colt League baseball game at Converse Park in Motley, below. Baseball has been labeled “America’s Pasttime” as a sport that originated in this country.



SEDA continued from page 1a

Trails growth leads to idea for visitors center

indicated they would like to assist the project.

Hanson noted the city recently has had a lot of momentum with building trails and explored the possibilities of a plot of city-owned land on 3rd Ave. NE that has been identified as a trailhead, near the bicy-

cle trail on Airport Road. Hanson made a proposal to add a shelter, bicycle repair kiosk, water bottle filling station, a map kiosk and flower beds, which he estimated could cost around \$50,000. He also connected that project to the adjacent Staples Auto building and lot, which is now vacant. Hanson put out the idea that the building could be used as a visitor center and could be a headquarters for civic groups such as Discover Staples or the Chamber of Commerce. That way it could connect tourism with the trails system and beyond.

Hanson said he has looked further into the possibility of the city purchasing the Taylor Funeral Home building on the corner of 6th Street NE and Highway 10/210. With no good proposals coming forward, Hanson said the building is likely to “become an albattross for the city” if it does not sell to a private investor. He said one realtor had one party potentially interested, but the purchase price plus the cost of either fixing it up or demolishing it puts it beyond the value of what can be done with it.

The building has no parking lot and no road access, making it unattractive for development.

“It is too cramped a space,” said Hanson.

Hanson also did some work on the SEDA goal of marketing and attraction of new and expanding businesses. He suggested working closer with Discover Staples and the Staples Chamber of Commerce to expand marketing for the city. He said Discover Sta-

ples has increased their web marketing 10-fold in the short time he has been in Staples, and the Chamber of Commerce has a great social media outreach through Paul Augustinak and the Vintage Golf Course.

For business attraction and expansion, Hanson suggested the city develop new promotional materials and present them when business leadership teams come to Central Lakes College in Staples.

“Having a voice at the table where business leaders sit can direct future growth the Staples,” said Hanson.

He noted that Erich Hepner is the new interim Dean of the Staples Campus, and he has been a strong promoter of community projects in the past.

One more marketing opportunity has arisen, Hanson said the marketing firm of Maison Bodega has offered to work with the city on a marketing project. The company is currently working with the Batcher Block Opera House for marketing. Hanson said he invited them to give a presentation at a future SEDA board meeting.

In other news, the SEDA approved partnerships with the Economic Alliance with a donation of \$1,500 and the Initiative Foundation with a donation of \$1,130.

Alison Medeck, Executive Director of the Economic Alliance in Wadena County, gave the board an update of her program. One new initiative she has started is to hold “Marketing Mornings” meetings at Central Lakes College on the first Friday of each month.



Minnesota’s pasttime

Even the road construction is being overwatched by an American flag, this one flying proudly above the 4th Street NE project in Staples.

Staples World

Your Community Newspaper Since 1890



- The local newspaper is the best way to identify as a local business, and nothing else comes close.
- The Staples World is one of the best-read newspapers in the state.
- Advertising in the newspaper is a low-cost way of integrating your business into the local ecosystem.

Advertising opportunities:

- Weekly or monthly ads
- Sports pages
- Business and Professional Directory
- Church page
- Shop Local page

Special offers or events:

- Sports contratulations signature pages (For state tournament teams, athletes)
- Community pride signature pages (Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Railroad Days, CLC Field Day, Veterans Day)
- Christmas special section
- Graduation special section
- Chamber of Commerce Hometown Highlights

Advertising in the newspaper identifies you as a local business

The local newspaper is the best way to declare that you’re a local business and are integrated into the fabric of the community. People who see your business advertised next to the content they read every week will naturally seek you out when they need your services. They will associate you with meeting their needs and wants.

Becoming a local business takes more than your physical address. People will recognize if you participate in the community and associate yourself with that every-

day life. The local newspaper is the best way to do that and nothing else comes close.

The newspaper covers the hopes and dreams of the community, the traditions, the daily and yearly happenings, the successes, failures and changes. It artfully weaves all the features into a professional weekly journal.

The Staples World is one of the best read newspapers in the state, as revealed during school district surveys. The newspaper moves the needle for many projects, events

and issues. Advertising works because people want to connect with the businesses they perceive as local.

Advertising in the local newspaper is an investment in the local community, with a return on that investment that you can’t get anywhere else.

Any of these advertising opportunities will connect your business to local audiences who will think of you first when they need your services.