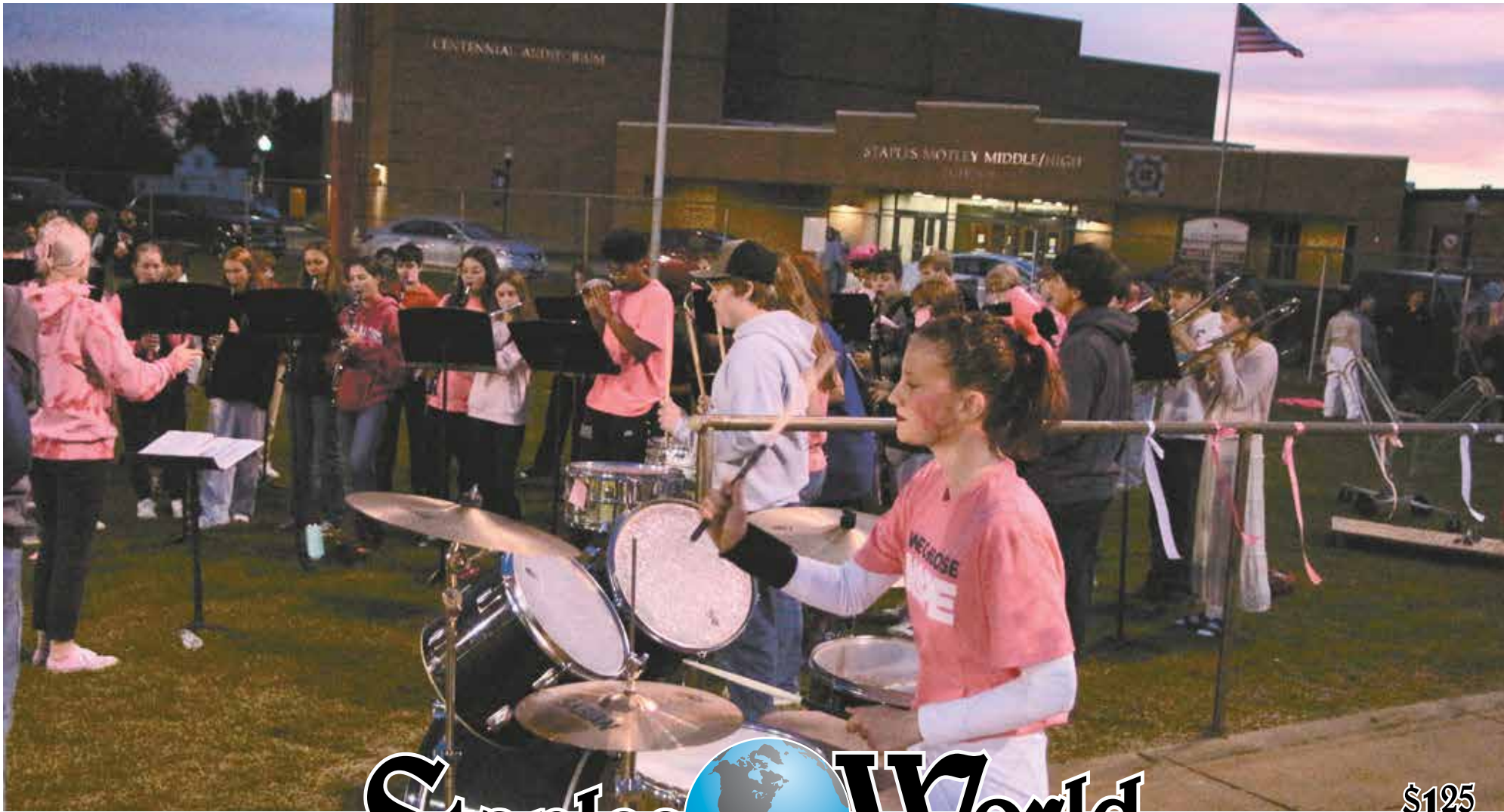


Inside this issue:

More pageantry needed?
Jimmi and the Band of Souls connection to Staples
Football team gets comeback win
Measles spreading in Todd County



Wednesday, October 14, 2026

StaplesWorld

Staples, Minnesota

\$125

Tenor/Bass Male Choral Festival set for Oct. 24

The choral event formerly named “Real Men Sing!” is now the Tenor/Bass Male Choral Festival and will take place Saturday, Oct. 24 this year. The main concert will be at 7 p.m. at the Staples-Motley High School Legacy Gym.

The idea for the festival was originally brought forward to the Staples Area Men’s Chorus by one of its members, Pat Lunneman, and the then chorus director, Stan Carlson. The idea was very simply to create a venue that would bring together young male singers - grades 6-12 - in an experience that would allow them to see male singers using their voices after high school. We wanted them to see that they could continue to sing in a male chorus in college or as working adults in a community chorus. Thus, the Tenor/Bass Male Choral Festival (Formerly Real Men Sing! and RMSjr.)

was born so they could see and sing with men of all ages.

At no charge to participating schools or students, the Staples Area Men’s Chorus books the facility, hires the guest conductors and a voice teacher, buys the music, and provides the afternoon snack, and an evening meal for all participants. So, just how many participants is that? Read on.

The 2026 Tenor/Bass Festival will be the 23rd year for the festival, which provides young men in high school and junior high school choirs throughout Minnesota the opportunity to work under some of the very best choral directors in the state. Previously this event has been led by internationally recognized conductor and composer Dr. Lee Nelson, the professional

See **CHORAL** on page 3a

Pink sky on cancer night Kennedy Judd pulled double-duty at the Oct. 9 football game, as a cheerleader and the drummer for the Staples-Motley Pep Band. Students wore pink, reflecting the pink sky behind them. October is Cancer Awareness Month and the theme of the night was “We Choose Hope,” which also celebrated the one year anniversary of the Lakewood Cancer Center being open. (Photo by Mark Anderson)



Community shows interest in Roosevelt library

More than 100 community members came to see a program on the Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library, which was recently completed in Medora, North Dakota, near the badlands where Roosevelt would travel before becoming president, gaining the strength and courage to go back and run for president after a family tragedy. It

was presented by Gretchen Stenehjelm, whose connection to Staples is her husband, First International Bank President Steve Stenehjelm. Above, Gretchen talks to a group of locals before her presentation, which was held at Central Lakes College on Sept. 30. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

Weather

2026
This Week's Forecast

	High	Low	Cond.
Oct. 14	53	37	M. Cloudy
Oct. 15	55	36	Showers
Oct. 16	50	32	Sunny
Oct. 17	61	42	Sunny
Oct. 18	66	40	M. Sunny
Oct. 19	63	42	Sunny
Oct. 20	66	50	P. Cloudy

Last Year, 2025

	High	Low	Cond.
Oct. 14	45°	42	Cloudy
Oct. 15	50	44	Cloudy
Oct. 16	68	51	Cloudy
Oct. 17	58	43	M. Sunny
Oct. 18	55	45	M. Cloudy
Oct. 19	55	34	Sunny
Oct. 20	52	44	Cloudy

Average Temps:
H = 55° Low = 37°

Compiled by
Dale Hausmann,
WCCO's Staples area
Weatherwatcher

Public Notices

ISD #2170 9A
City of Staples 9A



The outdoors coming indoors

Gretchen Stenehjelm said the Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library is nothing like a library, but more of an experience. From the architecture to the walking path on the roof of the building, the entire library is interactive with the North Dakota badlands and Theodore Roosevelt’s life. “There’s adventure in every single

room,” said Stenehjelm. She did caution to get tickets ahead of time, because they sell out on most days. The posters used in the presentation will be on display at First International Bank & Trust in Staples. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)



1,000 Books (read) Before Kindergarten

Langston Kleinschmidt recently completed the 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program at the Staples Library. Help get your child ready for kindergarten, by signing up for the program and receive a free backpack. Call the library at 218-894-1401 to register or stop by 122 6th St. NE, Staples. The program is sponsored by the Staples Friends of the Library.

Above: Library Asst. Angie Johnson and Langston Kleinschmidt. (Submitted photo)



Meyer celebrates 100 years

Former Motley resident Harry Meyer, now of Brainerd, celebrated his 100th birthday Oct. 4, 2026, at the Northland Arboretum in Baxter. Meyer is a United States Navy and WWII Veteran; and was a code talker in Japan during WWII. He's been a member of various veteran service organizations, including the Motley American Legion, of which he served for over 75 years. (Submitted photo)

MnDOT developing statewide bicycle system

Do you use bicycles or similar modes of transportation, or would you like to use them more often? The Minnesota Department of Transportation would like to hear from you.

MnDOT recently opened a public comment period for its draft Statewide Bicycle+ System Plan. The public comment period closes on Friday, Oct. 23. Once final, the plan will develop the vision, goals and strategies for MnDOT's role in supporting bicyclists and other riders by:

- Identifying MnDOT's role in improving bikeways on trunk highways and routes that cross them
- Reinforcing MnDOT's role in facilitating local and regional biking efforts
- Building internal capacity within MnDOT to advance biking, and
- Responding to current and emerging trends with e-bikes and bike-like devices

MnDOT last updated its bike system plan in 2016, and has since added a "+" to the plan's name to include the emergence of e-bikes and other battery-powered transportation devices.

"Bicycling and bike-like modes contribute to the quality of life for people of all ages and abilities in Minnesota by connect-

ing them to daily activities, strengthening local economies and creating access to the state's amenities," said MnDOT Commissioner Nancy Daubenberger. "This plan will help MnDOT and local partners to align policies that deliver many different types of improvements for active transportation in Minnesota."

The draft plan is based in part on several rounds of public engagement with a variety of stakeholders, groups and the public. Following the public comment period, MnDOT will hold final meetings with each project committee to present the results of public feedback and any proposed revisions.

Minnesota is one of the country's best states for transportation, and investments in active transportation and pedestrian safety are two reasons why. During the Walz-Flanagan Administration, MnDOT:

- Launched Minnesota's Active Transportation Program
- Adopted Minnesota's first Statewide Pedestrian System Plan
- Stood up a new Active Transportation Advisory Committee
- Developed On My Way!, a new model ped/bike training program for students in grades K-8

Motley Police report

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

Sept. 29 - Motley Police assisted MN State Patrol with a crash at the junction of Hwys 10 and 210 in Motley.

Sept. 27 - Motley Police received a report of children riding bicycles on the splash pad at Converse Park in Motley.

Sept. 25 - Motley Police responded to a report of cattle out along Hwy 10, south of Motley. Contact was made with the owner of the cattle.

Sept. 23 - A Morrison County deputy responded to an automated crash alert at the 36000 block of Hwy 10, Motley. While responding, the deputy heard from Todd County, who said that a female driver reported they hit a bear and that the MN State Patrol was handling the crash. The deputy checked the area to make sure the bear was not on the roadway.

Oct. 1 - Motley Police issued a citation for speed to a driver at the junction of Hwy 10 and Hwy 210 in Motley.

Sept. 30 - Motley Police responded to a report of suspicious activity at the 300 block of Beaulieu St W, Motley.

Oct. 6 - Morrison County deputies conducted a traffic stop at W Shamaineau Dr and 330th St, Motley, and subsequently arrested Benjamin Charles Huff, 62, for driving while impaired.

Oct. 6 - Morrison County deputies attempted to stop a motorcycle traveling at a high rate of speed, but never caught up with the driver. Deputies terminated the chase once the motorcycle was out of sight.

Oct. 4 - Morrison County deputies received a request from Cass County to assist with a semi truck that was in the ditch at 8584 State Hwy 64 SW, Motley. There were no known injuries. Motley Fire and Rescue was paged.



Motley High School Class of 1963 reunion

The Motley High School Class of 1963 held a reunion Sept. 19, 2026, at BRICKS Restaurant in Motley. Pictured from left, front row: Elmer Johnson, Ed Neterval, Norbert Cronin, Ronnie Corner. Center: Paul Baumgartner, Ronnie Stelck, Larry Beckner, Mike Bjerga. Back row: Charlotte (Krupke) Ackerson, Linda (Philipp) Hane, Janet (Jordahl) Greig, Betty (Scheid) Johannes, Mary (Eisenlohr) Helmerrick. (Submitted photo)



Motley Lions donate

The Motley Lions recently donated \$1,000 to SPARKS mentoring program. From left are Sherry Frisk, Motley Lions; and Rosie Blessing with SPARKS. (Submitted photo)

Measles spreading in Todd County

A week after the first measles case reported in Todd County, there are now "several cases of suspected measles," according to Todd County Health and Human Services.

All community members who are unvaccinated are at risk for becoming infected with the measles virus. People who have been vaccinated, or have had the measles virus in the past, are not at increased risk.

Todd County Health & Human Services and Wadena County Public Health are providing prevention education, information, and support for families who may have been exposed to measles and anyone experiencing symptoms consistent with the disease.

Measles is a highly contagious disease that spreads easily through the air when an infected person breathes or coughs. Symptoms include a high fever, which may exceed 104°F, cough, runny nose, red or watery eyes, and a characteristic rash. The rash typically begins at the hairline and spreads to the face, neck, and then the rest of the body. Symptoms generally

appear 7 to 14 days after exposure.

If you have symptoms of measles, stay home and avoid visitors until you have spoken with your health care provider. Seek medical care promptly, as measles can cause serious complications, including pneumonia, encephalitis (swelling of the brain), and, in rare cases, death.

Complications are more common among children younger than five years of age and adults older than 20. Measles during pregnancy can increase the risk of pre-mature labor, miscarriage, and low birth weight.

The safest and most effective way to prevent measles is through vaccination with the MMR (measles, mumps, and rubella) vaccine. Talk with your health care provider if you have questions about vaccination. Vaccination also helps protect infants, pregnant individuals, and people with certain immunocompromising conditions who may not be able to receive the vaccine. One dose of the MMR vaccine is 93 percent effective in preventing measles.

Todd County Health & Human Services encour-

ages all residents to:

- Report measles symptoms to their health care provider or Todd County Health & Human Services.
- Seek medical care promptly and obtain testing if you develop measles symptoms. Always call ahead so the health care provider can prepare for your arrival.
- Review your vaccination status and get vaccinated if needed.

Additional information about measles is available from the Minnesota Department of Health: <https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/measles/index.html>

For information about measles, testing, exposures, or vaccination status, contact Todd County Health & Human Services at 320-732-4500. (For Todd County residents.)

Individuals with private health insurance should contact their primary care provider for vaccination assistance. Those who are uninsured, underinsured, or enrolled in a Minnesota Health Care Program should contact Todd County Health & Human Services at 320-732-4500.

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CHORAL continued from page 1a

Music workshops, rehearsals held during the day of big concert

singing group Cantus, as well as The Great Northern Union male choral group out of Minneapolis, just to name a few. The participating schools are not limited to bringing only their “best” students, like many festivals. Instead, they are encouraged to bring all of their male singers to the festival. “Everyone deserves the opportunity to make music,” said Festival Coordinator Kevin Olsen. “Our very own chorus is made up of men of all ages and walks of life, including different levels of musical skill. We pride ourselves as an organization in being inclusive. If guys are willing to join our group, then they have earned the right to sing.”

For this event, rehearsals and workshops are held during the afternoon, prior to the concert. Since 2003, the Tenor/Bass Choral Festival has featured over 4000 participants. “We are quite proud of our tra-

ditions,” said long-time chorus member Ron Denning. “These kinds of events and traditions aren’t pulled off by organizations that aren’t highly organized with many dedicated and talented members,” echoed Don Hoffmann, a former board member and long-time chorus member. Overall participation is expected to exceed 200 adult, college, high school and middle school singers. The concert will also feature soloists selected from the participating high schools.

Tickets can be purchased online at www.staplesmen.org or at Ace Hardware and Hubbard Hardware, Staples or at the door. For more information about the Male Choral Festival, as well as information about other events of the Staples Area Men’s Chorus, go to www.staplesmen.org or visit them on Facebook under “Staples Area Men’s Chorus.”

75 YEARS Ago - 1951

- Oct. 11, 1951 - Motley and Pillager tangled in a game of six-man football under the lights in Staples on Monday evening, Oct. 8. It was a cold and damp evening but it didn’t bother the spectators who watched, for they seemed to be in good spirits throughout the game.
- R. Stark started the scoring for Motley when he made a touchdown on a fumble and Brenning ran around the right end for the extra point.
- Oct. 11, 1951 - Anyone desiring piano tuning or repairing, kindly call the Sisters at the Sacred heart Parish in Staples. F.G. Brennan will soon be in town.
- Oct. 11, 1951 - Wednes-

- O -
Compiled by
Dawn Timbs
- O -

day morning of this week, Carl Carlson, editor of the Long Prairie Leader, called the World, stating that a grand jury had brought indictments against William L. Thompson and George Lehner, former treasurers of Todd county, for “converting over \$11,000 in county funds for their own use.”

- Oct. 11, 1951 - While unloading stock at the NP stockyards Sunday afternoon, Olaf Sather was seriously injured by a “flying” plank.

Mr. Sather was unloading stock which had been shipped in and in so doing one of the large planks which hold the stock in the car flew back striking him in the chest, and cracking two ribs on his right side.

He was immediately taken to the Staples Municipal hospital where his attending physician took X-rays, but the report of these was not available on Wednesday morning of this week.

It is thought that he might be suffering with some internal injuries also. He is resting easily in the hospital at the present time, but will have to remain there for some time.

- Oct. 11, 1951 - Herman Lambert of southwest of Staples is proud of the oddity which he has on his farm - a five-legged Holstein bull calf, born on the Lambert farm on Sept. 25.

The calf was born to a Holstein heifer. The little animal is as spry as can be, eats normally and is normal in every respect except for the fifth leg.

The leg, growing from almost the center of the back, is a completely formed leg except that it is backwards on the back. The first joint of the leg is about two inches from the spine.

The little animal weighed about 100 pounds at birth, has been growing fast and is getting fatter all the time.

50 YEARS Ago - 1976

- Sept. 30, 1976 - At impressive ceremonies held Monday evening in the Staples Auditorium, Sandy Denning was crowned Homecoming Queen at Staples High school for 1976. A senior at SHS, Queen Sandy is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Denning.
- Sept. 30, 1976 - The Staples high school football cheerleaders who have provided so much of the enthusiasm that goes with Staples’ three gridiron victories are Terri O’Keefe, Donna Kern, Barb Blessing, Nancy Kern, Tammy Cleveland, Paula Dravis, Kathy Tomsich and Barb Schletty. Rita Stone is the cheerleader advisor.
- Sept. 30, 1976 - The starting defensive lineup for the Staples Cardinals is: Greg Peterson, end; Peter Card, linebacker; Doug Heldman, tackle; Steve Olstad,

linebacker; Dean Schletty, tackle; Mike Fox, end; Jim Marden, cornerback; Bob Nurnberger, invert; Tim Miller, safety; Dave Roberts, invert; Steve Grossman, cornerback.

- Sept. 30, 1976 - New 1977 Ford Car and Truck Showing Friday, Oct. 1, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., at Mueller Motor Co., Staples. Several 1976 new cars at close-out prices! Free coffee and doughnuts.

- Sept. 30, 1976 - Shop & Save at Batcher’s Dept. Store, Staples. Clip (coupon) & Save \$1 on purchase of any Sedgfield Do-Nothing Denim Jeans.

- Sept. 30, 1976 - Homecoming will be observed at Motley High school next week. The coronation ceremonies will start the festivities Thursday, Oct. 7, at 7:30 p.m. in the Motley Auditorium.

Friday afternoon, a parade will be held and the traditional football game is slated. This year, the Motley Rockets will meet the Hill City Hornets at 1:30 p.m.

Saturday afternoon, Oct. 9, is devoted to the annual homecoming banquet, followed by the dance featuring the music of “One Hundred Proof.”

Ten seniors were chosen by the student body to vie for the titles of king and queen and to reign over the Rockets 1976-77 Homecoming. Queen candidates are Caroline Swecker, Sandy Lucas, Lori Underhill, Joan Germann, Diane Hoherty. King candidates are Jim Thompson, Dennis Geurts, Wade Cantleberry, Mike Emery, Neil Zetah.

- Sept. 30, 1976 - The Staples Junior High Cross Country runners and coaches this week saluted Greg Gritz for his outstanding performance thus far this season.

Gritz has been the No. 1 Staples Junior high runner all meets to date and has been No. 1 in every practice also.

- Sept. 30, 1976 - Jack Wilson, mayor of the city of Staples, threw the first ball at the opening of Donovans Bowling Center last Friday afternoon. The next ball down the lanes was rolled by Don Stern, owner of the new facility.

- Sept. 30, 1976 - The never-say-die Cardinals of Coach Myron Smith proved to themselves that determination and the desire for victory pays off as they returned from the north country last Friday evening with a well played and well deserved 29-28 triumph over the Thief River Falls Prowlers in a non-conference football game.

- Sept. 30, 1976 - Karen Ditmanson, Jan Sams and Bette Christianson attended the Minnesota State Hairdressers convention. The event was held at the Radisson Hotel, Sept. 19 and 20.

25 YEARS Ago - 2001

- Oct. 11, 2001 - The Cardinal football team defeated Crookston last week 17-14 in a hard-nosed, smash mouth football game.

Both teams scored two touchdowns, but only Staples Motley scored a field goal from 37 yards out.

SM got a touchdown on the opening kickoff for their second game in a row.

- Oct. 11, 2001 - The Staples Motley FFA Forestry team placed seventh in the regional competition at Blackduck recently. Team



Mystery photo

Hello readers. This week’s archive photo is from 2001. 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.

members included Derek Deckert, Beau Mertens, and Olander and Justin Holker.

- Oct. 11, 2001 - The Staples Motley Area Chamber of Commerce welcomed new business Doc Sulley’s Tavern Two located at 119 3rd St. NE., Staples.

10 YEARS Ago - 2016

- Oct. 6, 2016 - Staples-Motley High School held its 2016 Homecoming Coronation Oct. 2, at Centennial Auditorium, crowning Millie Klefsaas and Gavin Smith this year’s

Queen and King.

- Oct. 6, 2016 - FFA essay winner Katie Benson of Staples with her father Stephen Benson and Staples Motley FFA advisor Kerry Lindgren were able to fly along with the Minnesota Farmers Union (MFU) on Sept. 12 to join National Farmers Union (NFU) and nearly 300 fellow farmers, ranchers and rural citizens from across the county to meet with several U.S. Senators and Congressmen.



Mystery solved

Last week’s mystery photo published in the Sept. 23, 1976 edition of the Staples World featured Tim Wise (left) and Dain Moe, both of Staples. The boys, ages 12 and 11 respectively, had recently received their Amateur Radio licenses. It was noted that the boys were among the youngest in the state to have passed the Amateur Novice Exam, subsequently receiving their licenses from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The boys were also members of the Heartland Amateur Radio Club.

Tim Wise, of Huachuca City, Az., recognized himself and Dain Moe, recalling that they were the two youngest ham radio operators in Todd County at that time. Wise, now retired, shared that his sister had seen this photo in the paper while visiting their mother, Clarice, in Staples recently and shared it with him. Clarice also called in and correctly identified her son, Tim, and Dain. Thanks for participating in our mystery photo.

Todd Cty. court report

OCT. 7, 2026

Long Prairie Police

Eithen Harvey Hiebel, Nelson. Activate prohibited color lights on streets or highway. Fine \$40. Fee \$85. Windshield Tinted or Glazed. Fine \$50

Todd County Sheriff

Raul Ysabel Alvarez Martes, Long Prairie. Speed 65/55. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Nancy Ann Bitz, Grey Eagle. Speed 64/55. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Jose Alejandro Garcia Jimenez. Driver Must Carry Proof of Insurance. Fine \$200. Fee \$85. Driving without a valid license. Fine \$100.

Manuel Medel, Long Prairie. Speed 50/45. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Jerry Jr. Pabon Padin, Long Prairie. Drivers License-Driving After Suspension. Fine \$200. Fine \$85. Driver Must Carry Proof of Insurance. Fine \$200

Dominic Roger Patterson, Brainerd. Speed 70/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Vanessa Raven Rodriguez. Driver Must Carry Proof of Insurance. Fine \$200. Fee \$85. Driving After Revocation. Fine \$200.

Koryn Michelle Senn, Long Prairie. Driving After Revocation. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.

Alec Eugene Stoecker, Clarissa. Driving After Revocation. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.

Macy Elizabeth Trousil, Alexandria. Speed 70/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Marie Annette Vance, Browerville. Drivers License-Driving After Suspension. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.

Charley Joshua Wiegert, Howard Lake. Speed 45/30. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.

Raul Alberto Wood, Long Prairie. Drivers License-Driving After Cancellation. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.

MN State Patrol

Brian Lee Reece, Staples. No motorcycle endorsement (must have with). Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Joseph Michael Zimmermann, Motley. Over Legal Tandem Axle Weight. Fine \$500. Fee \$85.

Jazmin Almazan, Long Prairie. Seat Belt Required. Fine \$25. Fee \$85.

Adriana Jennifer Botello, Clarissa. Speed 65/55. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Courtney Rae Buth, Moorhead. Speed 80/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85. Chantris Diamondnique Deloach, Detroit. Speed 100/70. Fine \$100. Fee \$85.

Carlos Alberto Gonzalez Acosta, Long Prairie. Driving After Revocation. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.

Abraham Narciso Jimenez, Brownsville, TX. Speed 71/60. Fee \$50. Fine \$85.

James Alexander Jimenez, Minot, ND. No Minnesota Driver’s License. Fine \$100. Fee \$85.

Riley Blais Klick, Zimmerman. Speed 70/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Charlie Jame Kritzeck, Mora. Speed 84/70. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Gaudencio Martinez Vasquez, Foley. No Minnesota Driver’s License. Fine \$100. Fee \$85.

Carlos Andres Martinez, Killdeer, ND. Speed 84/70. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Amani Wasangwambele Muta, Albertville. Speed 80/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Robert Duane Myrin, Osakis. Speed 60/55. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Lance William Olson, Sauk Centre. Speed 65/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Duan Oosthuizen, Aberdeen, SD. Speed 80/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Carlos Joseph Pasillas, Long Prairie. Windshield Tinted or Glazed. Fine \$50. Fee \$85. Window Tint (Less than 50% light transmittance. Fine \$50.

Jose Ysaias Paulino Urena, Browerville. Speed 76/60. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.

Jaden Michael Schemmel, Renville. Window Tint (Less than 50% light transmittance. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Thomas Dale Schroeder, Brocton. Driver fails to stop for a stop sign. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Michael F. Simon, Rockford, IL. Speed 90/70. Fine \$70. Fee \$85.

Nicholas Higgin Smith, Mendota. Speed 80/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Dale Ambrose Wentland, Holdingford. Display expired registration. Fine \$30. Fee \$85.

Kevin David Willman, Browerville. Speed 65/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

The following cases were heard before Heidi L. Hovis, Seventh District Court in Todd County September 30, 2026.

Ulises Orozco Ambriz, Melrose. Drugs - 5th Degree - Possess Schedule 1, 2, 3, 4 or paraphernalia residual - Not cannabis/hemp. Sentenced. MN Correctional Facility - St. Cloud, 13 Mo, Stay For 5 Yr. Supervised probation, 5 Yr. Fine \$200. Fee \$350. Dangerous Weapons-Metal Knuckles/Switch Blade Dismissed. Driving After Revocation. Dismissed. Cannabis open package - Possess in motor vehicle. Dismissed.

Fannie Jo Howard-Johnson, Wolverton. Fleeing a Peace Officer in a Motor Vehicle. Sentenced. MN Correctional Facility - Shakopee, 365 Days. Fine \$50. Fee \$125. Driving After Revocation. Dismissed. Reckless driving. Dismissed.

—Court reports are received from the Long Prairie Leader.

DEADLINE
for all classified
ads and copy is
12 noon Friday

Looking back



The Staples World office, moved to 207 4th St. NE

Located two doors south of Stomping Grounds Coffee Shop.

Regular advertising and copy deadline is Friday, noon.

The office closes at noon on Friday.

Across from the old Staples Theatre marquee



We need more pageantry to remind us of what makes our culture great

Mark Anderson, Publisher

As a person who goes to hundreds of meetings, performances, games, celebrations and functions every year, I often go home thinking that this event could have used more pageantry. By that I mean the purpose of the event should be well defined, the showmanship should match the moment and people attending should be inspired with a sense of wonder or curiosity about what happened there. I don't need glitz and dazzle, I just want the event to be a bright spot in the culture of the community. It also makes for a better newspaper to have events that we all celebrate. It tells us why we do what we do.

Missing pageantry was noted by Scott Grossman when he spoke at the Staples City Council meeting on Sept. 8. He informed them that he would like to hold an actual pageant for the Railroad Days celebration, to add to the engaged audience they already have. I agree that more pageantry is needed, but does it have to be a beauty pageant? I'm not sure that is the direction our culture is going.

Celebrating feminine beauty goes back to the oldest recorded legends in human culture. However, beauty pageants are becoming less common in our modern society, as more people feel it's wrong to objectify women by judging their looks against others. There are a lot of people who are beautiful in different ways, let's use that energy for the common good, not split hairs about it.

Many pageants are going away from the beauty criteria and focusing more on character and talent. That's good, but I'm not sure it improves the event, which is still a relic from a by-gone time. We're too independent and diverse to judge people according to antiquated ideals.

Pageants strive for a high culture

that was formerly used to separate the rich from the poor. That division is still there, but we can also celebrate low culture because we now recognize the importance of working class values. All those traits can be involved in events, but to say one person is better than another is needless.

Pageants have been used to raise awareness for specific causes and issues, which is great but that can also can be done other ways.

Someone will have to explain to me why we should start up an actual pageant, instead of using those concepts to improve our current functions.

Despite my complaints about lack of pageantry, there are many outstanding exceptions. The two local hall of fames, athletic and artistic, have reached high for their induction ceremonies, honoring greatness with grandeur, humor and a sense of awe.

Scott Grossman gave one of the great speeches at the Athletic Hall of Fame, going off script as he inducted one of his classmates. As the first Staples state speech champion who spent a career in high-level arts, one day Grossman should be elected to the Staples-Motley Artistic Hall of Fame. I can't wait for that speech, it's gonna be a doozy.

The local high school has another example of meeting the moment. When they built The Nest and installed a giant video screen, one of the first things they did was produce stylistic team hype videos to play before games. It gives the audience a huge boost to see that and makes the games more enjoyable.

So we do know pageantry, we just don't apply it for every event.

The Staples-Motley speech team is another place to learn pageantry, in the form of storytelling and audience engagement. But that great institution is getting watered down at the state level with a new directive from the

Minnesota State High School League.

From a MSHSL press release:

"In Speech, the Board of Directors approved a proposal to rename the 'Great Speeches' category to 'Communications Analysis' Within that approved proposal, eligible source material would expand beyond traditional speeches to include written, digital or verbal communication intended to convey a message to an audience."

Really? Communications Analysis is a better name than Great Speeches? How about you include those other source materials, but still call it Great Speeches? Where is the sense of pageantry?

Another level drop in pageantry came in the renaming of the "Real Men Sing!" event to "Tenor/Bass Male Choral Festival." The original name was so great, it was copied verbatim by other states. The new name may be more descriptive, but it lacks the fanfare that tells you how amazing the event is.

Some of our yearly events could use much more pre-hype, because of how much they add to our local culture. Two of them just happened recently, the Old Wadena Rendezvous and Field Day at CLC. Those traditions should be celebrated as much as Railroad Days. We do what we can in the newspaper, because that stuff is newspaper gold. I don't know if pageantry is what is missing, but there should be more of a community groundswell because these two events define our heritage: our early settlers, our natural world and our agrarian base.

Adding pageantry just takes a little extra preparation and stepping back to look at the big picture. Find out why people are going to the event and push that metric up a level. A new idea or fresh attitude can turn a regular event into a memorable one that will keep people coming back and will add to our great local culture.

Quote of the week

“Content may be king, but context is God.”
— Gary Vaynerchuk

Nation still engaged in local news

From A Vodcast series hosted by Mike Blinder, Editor& Publisher Magazine

For the third consecutive year, researchers at Northwestern University's Medill School have surveyed how people in one of America's most diverse media markets consume local news. The result is a growing body of research that many news leaders now view as a bellwether for national trends. This year's findings paint a complicated picture: Americans continue to value local journalism, but convincing them to financially support it remains one of the industry's greatest challenges.

During this episode of E&P Reports, Tim Franklin and Dr. Stephanie Edgerly unpacked the findings of The Third Annual Medill Survey: How the Chicago Area Gets Its News, explaining what three years of consistent audience data reveal about the future of local journalism.

Demand remains strong

One of the survey's most encouraging findings is that local news continues to play a meaningful role in people's lives. More than half of respondents said they consume local news every day, while 85% engage with it at least weekly. Yet those encouraging audience numbers stand in contrast to consumers' willingness to financially support local journalism.

Franklin called the decline in paying subscribers one of the industry's most pressing concerns. "I am concerned that there's a ceiling in the percentage of households that will pay for local news," he said, noting that news organizations have increasingly shifted from advertising-driven business models to reader revenue. He pointed to subscription fatigue, with consumers already paying for multiple streaming services, while also acknowledging that the news industry conditioned audiences decades ago to expect online news for free.

Still, Franklin believes there is reason for cautious optimism. Even if only 14 percent of households are willing to pay, he argued, "you can still build a pretty robust news organization from even a 14 percent base level" if those subscribers are loyal and engaged.

Edgerly described the numbers as both encouraging and frustrating. "Clearly people see value in local news. Clearly they are inviting it into their daily lives," she said. But she admitted she was surprised that 61 percent of respondents now believe no one should have to pay for local news, up from 51 percent just two years ago. "So what do you do with being a newsroom where clearly people are engaged and see value with local news, but they don't think people should have to pay for it?"

Student needs survey

Voices of Gen Z Study
Gallup and the Walton Family Foundation
waltonfamilyfoundation.org

The extent to which students are engaged in school is predictive of several larger outcomes. Young people who are engaged at school are significantly more likely to say they are living a great life today, and are not only more excited about, but also more confident in, their future. Moreover, students' engagement is often tied to that of their teachers: When teachers are excited about what they are teaching, students are more excited about what they are learning.

The Voices of Gen Z study sought to provide deeper insight into what makes a school experience enjoyable and engaging for 1,758 Gen Zers enrolled in middle or high school. In examining the factors that best predicted students' overall enjoyment of school, three main themes emerged:

1. Classroom Engagement

Students feel like what they are learning in school is interesting and relevant, and it allows them to use their strengths and push their boundaries.

2. Supportive Adults

Students feel like the teachers and other adults at their school not only support their academic needs but also recognize and develop their individual talents and aspirations.

3. Belonging

Students feel like their school is a place where they fit in, and where their individual needs are understood and supported.

These factors are inter-related: Students who have developed strong, individualized relationships with their teachers and peers are also more likely to feel that their coursework is interesting, important and lets them do what they do best. Additionally, students who have these experiences are more likely to enjoy school and the benefits associated with it, regardless of their academic performance.

Unfortunately, about four in 10 Gen Z students say their coursework is not interesting or important, and three in 10 say there are no adults at school who understand their unique talents and interests. Perhaps most concerning, about three in 10 say they don't feel like they belong at school or have a single adult there who regularly checks in on them.

Quote of the week

“Pressure is a privilege.”
— Billie Jean King

It's fall shuffle time for ruffed grouse

Early on a recent mid-October morning, as a rising sun and warming air were burning off the last traces of ground fog, the stillness beyond our picture window was broken by a flash of motion at the fringe of my vision. My focus shifted, and came to rest on a brown, chicken-like bird. It stood immobile for a moment, then took cautious steps from our neighbor's yard into ours. Perhaps it sensed my presence at the window, for it quickened its steps, repeated a stop-and-go cycle several times, then accelerated into a dash for the dense viburnum hedge at our lawn's opposite boundary, into which it disappeared.

I did not need a field guide to identify it as a ruffed grouse, an upland game bird that has been a hunting passion and biological interest for much of my life. But, as anyone familiar with the bird knows, residential lawns are anything but its natural habitat; even lawns in a rural setting. Hundreds of yards separate our property from the nearest woodland of any size. Not to mention there being a heavily-traveled asphalt county road, and numerous nearby residences whose landscaped lawns are no more ruffed grouse habitat than ours.

So why was this grouse far from an aspen or birch grove, far from the dense, shrub-choked forest understory where a hunter would logically expect to find it? At times, disturbance or pressure by hunting parties or predators may cause a grouse to choose what we would consider a questionable escape route. But for the most part, adult grouse make choices that favor their survival. That's how they manage to become adults.



Mike Rahn

But there is also a normal and predictable time when we can expect the unexpected, with more than the usual departures from sensible ruffed grouse behavior. This is the "fall shuffle," a time when young birds born in that year strike out in search of territories of their own.

Even though ruffed grouse mortality overall is high—as much as 70 percent over the course of a year—enough mature birds carry over from one year to the next to make the dispersal of young-of-the-year a necessity. Cover and food resources are finite, even in the best habitats. Ruffed grouse, like so many wild creatures, are territorial, and will aggressively defend theirs and drive off competitors. The most likely to lose these competitions and be expelled are the young and inexperienced.

Just as our own youngsters grow up, and eventually leave home to make their own way in the world, so also it must be with ruffed grouse. And just as your on youngsters may go through a process of "finding themselves," ruffed grouse literally must find a place that offers them both food and relative security from avian and mammalian predators; hawks, owls, foxes, coyotes, and bobcats among them. The process inevitably leads some young grouse into areas where they are especially vulnerable. These are the birds that quickly become statistics.

Some of the most extensive and relied-upon research on ruffed grouse was conducted over more than three decades by the late Gordon Gullion of the University of Minnesota, on the 3,500 acre Cloquet Forestry Center, west of Duluth, in Northeast Minnesota. Through trapping, banding, electronic tracking, and recapture techniques, Gullion compiled and interpreted data to enhance our understanding of the life cycle and life history of ruffed grouse in general, and of the Great Lakes states in particular. Gullion also involved the everyday hunter in his research, asking us to submit wings and tail feathers from the grouse we harvested in order to track age and sex fluctuations over time.

It was my good fortune to interview Gullion several times for magazine and newspaper stories I was writing. He was variously known as the "sage of the ruffed grouse," Mr. Ruffed Grouse, and no doubt other descriptions that reflected his dedication and research successes. Sadly, he died of cancer at age 68 in 1991.

According to Gullion, the fall shuffle is underway by mid-September, and continues through mid-October, and into November. Population research, not only here but in places as widely separated geographically as Michigan and Alberta, Canada, has found that roughly 50% of the late summer or early fall ruffed grouse population has been lost by early December; largely to predators, some to hunting, some to accident.

Gullion believed that by late November most of the grouse that could not find suitable territories of their own have been culled from the population, and that the remainder are likely to survive to spring, and be part of the coming year's breeding population.

Though not a widely-publicized view, Gullion concluded that late season hunting can have the effect of reducing the number of breeding birds for the following year, potentially leading to the next fall's population being lower than the available habitat could support. Perhaps this view deserves more consideration, as unpopular as that might be. For the record, Minnesota permits ruffed grouse hunting for the full month of December.

I have no idea what became of my early morning lawn-traversing grouse visitor. With luck it may have eventually reached a more suitable patch of wooded real estate, one that will offer adequate food and security from predators for the winter to come.

StaplesWorld

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Fairness: The Staples World tries conscientiously to report fairly and accurately. If you feel we fall short of this objective at any time, please direct your complaint to the manager whose name appears on this page.

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

The deadline is 12 noon, Friday. Opinions expressed on this page do not necessarily represent the views of this newspaper.

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Bringing the blues to Staples

Jimmi and the Band of Souls will be performing at the Batcher Opera House in Staples Saturday, Nov. 7, at 7 p.m. The band includes, from left, Mick Zampogna,

Tom Kochie, Brian Engen, Jimmi Langemo, Steve "Dancin'" Hansen. (Submitted photo)

Jimmi and the Band of Souls to perform at Batcher Opera House

Award-winning band has ties to Staples

Jimmi and the Band of Souls, an award-winning Minneapolis band will be performing at the Batcher Opera House in Staples Saturday, Nov. 7, at 7 p.m. The show will be recorded for a live album.

Described as 'soulful and high-energy,' Jimmi and the Band of Souls are a top Minnesota blues band. According to a press release, "They play boogie-woogie. They play slow and lonely. They play toe tappin', deep groovin' and hard drivin.' They'll lift your spirits with their contagious energy."

Jimmi and the Band of Souls are the only band to represent Minnesota twice in the International Blues Challenge. They've played in festivals all over the Midwest, opening for rock legends like Canned Heat, Vanilla Fudge and Devon Allman. Both their 2025 album, 'Aquarius' and 2011 album, 'The Devil You Know' were voted the best blues albums in Minnesota.

Band leader Jimmi Langemo is excited for their upcoming show at the 'All Original 1907 Batcher Opera House' and shared that there are a few things that make this particular gig an interesting one for him. For starters, he has family ties to Staples, Jimmi said. "My mom, Carol Randgaard, grew up in Staples, and my grandfather, Jim (Rand-

gaard) owned the movie theatre and also served as mayor. My uncle, Jim, worked at the bank. Another uncle, Roger, still lives there, as does my cousin, Brian Dosmann."

Secondly, Jimmi went on, "we are going to be recording the performance (at the Batcher Opera House). "If the recording goes well, we'll release the show as our third live album," he said, adding that it would be his 10th album overall.

In addition to providing entertainment at their shows, Jimmi and the Band of Souls enjoy giving back. Jimmi noted that they are committed to hosting at least one benefit a year. In 2022, they raised over \$11,000 for the people of Ukraine. In 2023, they hosted a benefit for the Takoda Institute, a Native American school in Minneapolis. And in 2024, they co-hosted a benefit for Minnesota music legend, Scott Sansby. "It's about giving back," says Jimmi. "While we have breath, let's

use our talents to create community and build a better world for all of us."

Jimmi also mentioned that they plan on reaching out to the Staples-Motley schools to see if there would be an interest in having the band offer a music-related symposium.

Jimmi and the Band of Souls are Jimmi Langemo (vocals, guitar, slide guitar, harmonica, mandolin, banjo, percussion); Tom Kochie (guitar, slide guitar, backing vocals); Mick Zampogna (organ, piano, accordion); Steve "Dancin'" Hansen (bass, backing vocals) and Brian Engen (drums). Kochie is in the Minnesota Blues Hall of Fame.

For more information about the band, visit www.jimmiandthebandofsouls.com, or Facebook. Their music can also be found on YouTube.

For ticket information, visit www.batcherblockoperahouse.com. The opera house is located at 418 2nd Ave NE, Staples.

Mark Your Calendar

October 15

'WALK WITH A DOC' Thursdays at 5:15 p.m., at Lakewood 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>

STAPLES CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP, FOR THOSE CARING FOR SOMEONE LIVING WITH DEMENTIA meets the third Thursday of each month, 1:30 - 2:30 p.m., at Faith Lutheran Church, 430 12th St. NE, Staples. For info., contact Cristina.Rodriguez@vivie.org or 320-460-7226.

THE MOTLEY AMERICAN LEGION'S ANNUAL DINNER MEETING will be held Thursday, Oct. 15, at Beck's Burger Co., Staples. Dinner at 6, followed by a short meeting. All members welcome, as well as anyone interested in joining the American Legion.

October 16

WOMEN'S OPEN AA RECOVERY MEETING Fridays in

Volunteer drivers needed

Lutheran Social Service of MN (LSS Meals) is seeking volunteer drivers to deliver Meals on Wheels to older adults in Motley and Staples.

Volunteer drivers deliver ready-made, hot meals (and frozen) to qualifying residents. An hour per weekday is the average time it takes to deliver meals during the work week.

To learn more and sign up visit www.lssmn.org/get-involved/volunteer.

For questions, contact Michelle Kern, 218-539-5095..

person, 10:30 a.m., Motley Free Methodist Church (lower level), 33 Wellwood St. E. Motley. All women welcome.

October 18

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

October 20

GRIEF SHARE - WEEKLY SEMINAR AND SUPPORT GROUP Tuesdays, 6 - 8 p.m., at Motley Free Methodist Church, 33 Wellwood Street E., Motley. Through Dec. 15. For info., call 218-352-6888, or visit www.griefshare.org.

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.

October 21

STAPLES ALL VETERANS AND

COMMUNITY PARK ASSOCIATION MEETING Wednesday, Oct. 21, in the lower level of Lakewood Health System, 49725 Cty Rd 83, Staples. Public invited. To attend via Zoom, call Bob at 218-894-3139.

Cardinal Calendar SM school events

October

• **MEA - No School** Oct. 15-16.

• **FALL CONCERTS - BAND/ORCHESTRA/CHOIR** Tuesday, Oct. 27, MS, 6 p.m.; HS, 7:30 p.m., Centennial Auditorium, Staples.

All Staples-Motley Upcoming Events are subject to change. Go to www.isd2170.k12.mn.us for up to the minute information.

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renewal
refreshing

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"rekindling and fueling the fire"

EVANGELISTS BILL & BETH JUONI
Whitewater, Wisconsin

WHEN:
OCTOBER 18-21, 2026
Sunday: 9:30 AM, 10:30 AM, 6:00 PM
Monday - Wednesday: 6:00 PM

WHO:
Evangelist Bill Juoni
Sharing on the Holy Spirit and End Times

WHERE:
Staples Assembly Of God
914 3rd Ave NE
Staples, MN 56479

REVIVAL | RENEWAL | REFRESHING | A FRESH WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

23rd Annual

STAPLES AREA Men's Chorus

Tenor/ Bass Choral Festival

Saturday, Oct. 24, 2026

Staples-Motley High School Legacy Gym

Workshops and rehearsals begin at noon

Concert at 7 p.m.
Doors open 6 p.m.

Tickets \$10
6 & under free
Family max. \$25

Sponsored by staplesmen.org

Purchase tickets online:
www.staplesmen.org
or at Ace Hardware and Hubbard Hardware, Staples

Guest Director
Dr. Michael J. Johnson
Director of Choral Activities and Vocal Music Education at Minnesota State Moorhead

Guest Director
Caleb Horn
General Music and Choral Director at Battle Lake

Staples Motley Area Community Foundation

Lakewood

Five Wings

"This activity is made possible, in part, by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Five Wings Arts Council, thanks to a legislative appropriation free Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund."

Meatball SUPPER
Swan Valley Lutheran Church,
Hwy 64, Leader, MN
Sat., Oct. 24
Meatballs, Mashed Potatoes,
Gravy, Squash, Coleslaw,
Dessert, Beverage
•Quilt Raffle
FREE WILL OFFERING
Serving 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

DEADLINE
for all classified
ads and copy is
12 noon Friday

Sacred Heart Church Staples

Fall Festival
Sunday, October 18
9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Please join us:
8:30 a.m. | Mass

9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. | Coffee, Bingo and More
Located at Sacred Heart Area School
Games, Produce, Crafts, Plants and Baked Goods

10:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. | Meal Served
Located at Sacred Heart Church Basement
Adults - \$15.00 | Ages 6 to 10 - \$5.00 | 5 and under - Free

MENU
Chicken and Pork Roast, Dressing, Mashed Potatoes and Gravy, Squash, Corn, Coleslaw, Buns and Homemade Pie

1:30 p.m. | Raffle Drawing
Located at Sacred Heart Area School

Steve's Auto Salvage & G&L Service

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•AG Tires •Bulbs •Oil •Antifreeze
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Todd County
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MINNESOTA • EST. 1855 •

HOW TO VOTE ABSENTEE FOR STATE GENERAL ELECTION NOVEMBER 3, 2026

Absentee voting is currently available for all eligible Todd County Voters at the Todd County Auditor-Treasurer's office for the upcoming State General Election on November 3, 2026.

Regular office hours are Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at the address of 215 1st Avenue S, Suite 201, Long Prairie, MN.

There will be **additional** hours available on:

Saturday, October 24	9 AM to 3 PM
Tuesday, October 27	8 AM to 7 PM
Saturday, October 31	9 AM to 3 PM
Sunday, November 1	9 AM to 3 PM
Monday, November 2	8 AM to 5 PM

If visiting us in-person, parking is recommended on the courthouse hill lot and entry through the north door (nearest the statue and flag) of the Historic Courthouse building. Curbside service is available by calling 320-732-4469 when you arrive.

To absentee vote by mail, persons are welcome to mail, fax, or e-mail us a signed image of their Absentee Ballot Application form and our office will mail the absentee ballot materials as promptly as possible.

An Online Absentee Ballot Application Portal &/or printable Absentee Ballot Application forms can be found at <http://www.mnvotes.gov>

Note: If you are currently a member of the Uniformed Services (or spouse/dependent) or temporarily or indefinitely overseas please use the website named above for alternate UOCAVA Application procedures.

Completed Absentee Ballot Envelopes can be returned by in-person delivery or mail delivery to the Todd County Auditor-Treasurer's Office at 215 1st Avenue S #201, Long Prairie, MN 56347 located in the Todd County Historic Courthouse.

Please contact the County Auditor's Office at 320-732-4469 or elections@toddcountymn.gov with any questions.

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Diane M. Hahn

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Hello World

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Student Achievements

JAMIE COREY, Staples, has been named to the Summer 2026 Dean’s List at Southern New Hampshire University. To qualify, students must be full-time and have achieved a grade point average of 3.5 to 3.6 for the reporting term.

NICHOLAS KIST, Staples, has been named to the Summer 2026 President’s List at Southern New Hampshire University. To qualify, students must be full-time and have achieved a grade point average of at least 3.7 for the reporting term.

Lakewood Health System wins 2026 Top Workplaces Culture of Excellence Award

Lakewood Health System (LHS), Staples, has been recognized as a 2026 Top Workplaces Culture Excellence Award winner by Energage, the employee engagement technology partner behind the Top Workplaces program. The award is based entirely on employee feedback gathered through a confidential, research-backed engagement survey.

The Top Workplaces program has spent nearly two decades identifying and celebrating organizations that prioritize people-first workplace cultures. Nationally, the program recognizes employers that create exceptional experiences for their employees and foster environments where individuals can thrive.

Lakewood Health System earned recognition in the Woman-Led Top Workplaces category, which honors organizations whose highest-ranking leader is a woman and whose leadership has helped create a strong, high-performing workplace culture. The award recognizes organizations that demonstrate a com-

mitment to employee engagement, trust and organizational success.

“Being recognized as a Woman-Led Top Workplace is especially meaningful because this honor is based on the voices and experiences of our employees,” said Lisa Bjerga, President & CEO of Lakewood Health System. “A strong culture doesn’t happen by accident. It is built every day through trust, collaboration and a shared commitment to our mission. This award reflects the incredible people who make Lakewood such a special place to work, and I’m proud to lead an organization where employees feel valued, supported and empowered to make a difference.”

Top Workplaces awards are based on authentic employee feedback that measures key aspects of workplace culture, including alignment, execution and connection. Because the recognition comes directly from employees, it serves as a meaningful indicator of an organization’s commitment to its workforce.

Staples Area Church Directory

Staples

Staples Alliance
1512 8th St. NE, Staples218-894-2891
Pastor John Pavlica, Lead Pastor
Sunday Worship.....9:30 a.m.
Sunday School11:00 a.m.
AWANA6:00 p.m.

Assembly of God

914 3rd Ave. NE, Staples218-894-1081
Pastor Roy Miles
Small Groups (Bible classes for all ages).....9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship Service.....10:30 a.m.
Children’s Church (Kids start in main worship service).....11:00 a.m.
Prayer Meeting5:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
Sonlight (Kids ages 4 yrs - 6th grade).....After school to 4:30 p.m. 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., Staples218-894-1546
Pastor Robert Drake
Sunday Worship Service.....8:30 a.m.
Sunday School and Coffee Fellowship.....9:30 a.m.

Sacred Heart Catholic Church

310 4th St. NE, Staples Church.....218-894-2296
parishsecretary@marysacc.org
Rev. JC Duncan, 218-632-7314
Rev. Greg Sauer, 218-632-7319
SUNDAY
Mass.....8:30 a.m.

Seventh Day Adventist

421 Dakota Ave. SE, Staples218-894-0033
Pastor Joshua Jeresek
SATURDAY
Saturday Worship9:30 a.m.
Sabbath School.....10:45 a.m.

Thomastown Covenant

15940 251st Ave., Staples.....218-894-3923

SUNDAY

Sunday School9:15 a.m.
Sunday Worship.....10:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY NIGHT YOUTH.....6:30 p.m.

Trinity Lutheran

1000 4th St., NE, Staples218-894-2372
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
Sunday Worship.....10:30 a.m.
(Nursery Available for Sunday Worship)

Aldrich

Balsamlund Lutheran
19550 490th Street, Aldrich
Janet Eckman SMA218-837-5831
jre227@yahoo.com
SUNDAY
Sunday Worship.....8:30 a.m.

Cushing

Bethany Lutheran
25430 Bison Rd., Cushing, MN 320-749-2140
www.bethanylutherancushing.com.
Pastor Robert Drake
SUNDAY
Sunday Worship.....10:00 a.m

Lincoln Evangelical Free

1354 320th St., Cushing MN 56443
218-575-2449
www.lincolnefree.org
Facebook Lincoln E Free
Senior Pastor: Don Reigstad
Office Hours: Tues.-Thurs. 9 a.m.-noon
SUNDAY
Church Worship Gathering.....10:00 a.m.
YouTube channel10:00 a.m.

Cushing Baptist

26298 Bear Rd., Cushing
www.cushingbaptistchurch.org
Pastor Dan Holmes
320-749-2583
SUNDAY
Sunday School9:30 a.m.
Worship.....10:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Bible Study.....7:30 p.m.

Leader

Swan Valley Lutheran
Leader
218-397-2470
Sandy Knight, Syndically Authorized Minister of Word and Sacrament
SUNDAY
January - July.....9 a.m.
August - December11:00 a.m.

Maple Hill Lutheran

Leader (Rural Pine River)
218-397-2470
Sandy Knight, Syndically Authorized Minister of Word and Sacrament
SUNDAY
Worship and Sunday School9:00 a.m.

Motley

Motley Free Methodist
33 Wellwood St. NE, Motley 56466
218-352-6141
Jim Johnson, Senior Pastor
Casey Reynolds, Assistant Pastor
SUNDAY
Sunday Worship.....9:00 and 10:30 a.m.
facebook live.....9:00 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
AWANA4:00-5:30 p.m.
Youth Group6:00-8:00 p.m.

St. John’s Lutheran

497 3rd Ave. S, Motley
218-352-6399
Pastor Vicar Paul Koehler
SUNDAY
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
SUNDAY
Mass.....10:30 a.m.

United Methodist

847 3rd Ave. S. Lane, Motley
218-352-6466
Pastor Jonathan Holland
www.motleyumc.net
SUNDAY
Worship Service10:00 a.m.
Monday AA meeting8:00 p.m.

Oylen

Oylen Alliance
City. Rds. 7 and 9, Oylen
218-472-3440, 218-472-3316
Pastor Neal Malcore
SUNDAY
Sunday School10:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship.....11:00 a.m.

Pillager

First Lutheran Chrch
717 River Street S, Pillager, MN
218-746-3775
Pastor Mathew Sundquist
SUNDAY
Sunday Worship.....9:30 a.m.
Sunday School, 2nd and 4th Sundays8:30 a.m.

Casino Assembly of God

N. of Motley, Hwy. 64, E on Cty 34 to Cty. 104
218-746-3839
Pastor Dan Johnson
SUNDAY
Sunday School9:30 a.m.
Worship.....10:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship.....7:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
.....7:00 p.m.

First Baptist

903 River Street S, Pillager
218-746-3768
Pastor Jake Anderson
curious@fbpillager.com
SUNDAY
Worship Gathering10:00 a.m.
Connection Point.....9:30 a.m.

Hewitt

Church of the Nazarene
114 Front Street, P.O. Box 146
Hewitt, MN 56453
218-924-2028
Jim and Linda McGaffey, Pastors
SUNDAY
Sunday School9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship.....10:45 a.m.
WEDNESDAY PRAYER7:00 p.m.

Trinity Lutheran Church (LCMS)

524 Front St, PO Box 116, Hewitt, MN 56453
Pastor Robin Fish
SUNDAY
Sunday Worship.....10:30 a.m.

Hewitt Community Church

Hwy. 210, Hewitt, MN 56453
Pastor Kenneth Uhren
SUNDAY
Sunday Worship.....10:30 a.m.

Verndale

Verndale Alliance
109 Brown Street NW, Verndale 56481
218-445-5619
Senior Pastor, Tony Stanley
Youth Pastor, Joe Ward
SUNDAY
Sunday Worship.....9:30 a.m.
Sunday Bible Fellowship Class11:00-11:45 a.m.

Hope Chapel Alliance

18126 County Road 7, Verndale 56481
218-445-5643 or 218-472-3316
Pastor Neal Malcore
SUNDAY
Sunday Worship.....9:00 a.m.
Sunday School10:30 a.m
WEDNESDAY
Weds. Family Night5:30 p.m.

Family Life Church

402 NE Clark Drive, Verndale 56481
Pastor Amos Self218-371-7189
Churcht.....218-445-5568
Tahna Rurup, Connections & Media Pastor
Tilman Phagan, Kid’s & Food Shelf Pastor
Ryan Wolfenden, Youth Pastor
SUNDAY
Youth Prayer.....9:20 a.m.
Worship Service10:00 a.m.
Prayer Meeting5:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
Life Groups6:30 p.m.

Hope Chapel Alliance

18126 County Road 7, Verndale 56481
218-445-5643 or 218-471-3316
Pastor Neal Malcor
SUNDAY
Sunday Worship.....9:00 a.m.
Sunday School10:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Family Night5:30 p.m.

Immanuel Lutheran Church of Bartlett Township (LCMS)

17097 460th St., PO Box 37, Verndale 56481
Pastor Robin Fish
SUNDAY
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
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
Sunday Service9:00 a.m.
Bible Study.....10:30 a.m.

St. Hubert Catholic Church

Bluegrass218-631-1593
Rev. JC Duncan, 218-632-7314
Father Greg Sauer, 218-632-7319
parishsecretary@marysacc.org
SATURDAY
Mass.....5:00 p.m.

Wadena

St. Helen’s Episcopal Church
22 Dayton Ave. SW, Wadena, MN 56482
218-631-3928
SUNDAY
Sunday Worship.....10:00 a.m.

St. Ann’s Catholic Church

514 1st Street SE, Wadena, MN 56482
218-631-1593
Rev. JC Duncan, 218-632-7314
Father Greg Sauer, 218-632-7319
parish secretary@marysacc.org
SUNDAY
Mass (livestream)10:00 a.m.

“A Quiet Time Companion”

Pastor Barry Klein, Staples Church of Christ

It would be interesting to sit down and visit with you so that I could take in what your quiet time with the Lord is like. I know that’s a sacred time, so I wouldn’t want to presume upon you if it wasn’t appropriate.

But maybe we can use this devotional occasion to pique a deepening interest in and engagement with our personal time with Jesus.

I’m reminded of a song from yesteryear by Ralph Carmichael (1967), “There is A Quiet Place.” Its lyrics go like this: (verse 1) “There is a quiet place, far from the rapid pace, where God can soothe my troubled mind. Sheltered by tree and flower, there in my quiet hour with Him, my cares are left behind.” (verse 2) “Whether a garden small, or on a mountain tall, new strength and courage there I find. Then from this quiet place, I go to prepare to face, a new day with love for all mankind.”

I’m intrigued by those who have come before us as they capture the daily rhythm of a hour alone with God each day. I hope that will someday soon be every day for me. Some of the titles of the songs are “Sweet Hour of Prayer,” “Tis The Blessed Hour of Prayer,” “Lord, I Have Shut The Door,” and “Draw Me Nearer” to name a few.

There’s no replacement in our quiet times with God in being in prayer and meditating slowly on His Word, the Bible. For years, I’ve had a companion. The book was written by 15th century Thomas ‘A Kempis entitled “The Imitation of Christ.” Spiritual Director Richard Foster sees this little book as a most profoundly helpful book for every successive generation in coming alongside of the Bible and prayer. It’s such a clear description and call to what it means to be totally focused on God. It needs to be read in small portions to encourage unhurried reflection and application into life.

Whatever your style is of getting away to be with God, let’s encourage each other to be more deeply intentional in weaving our time with the Lord into the fabric of our day.

We’re sure on good precedent ground in Jesus’ own living example. After a very full previous day, we read in Mark 1:35 (NIV) “Very early the next morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed.” If the all sufficient Second Person of the Triune God in human form needed and valued this, my need is exponentially more.

Jesus is constantly waiting to meet with us.

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To request that an obituary, anniversary or other event (including benefit events) be placed word for word, personalized, contain more than one photo, or to run for more than one week, it may be placed as a display advertisement at the regular advertising rates (\$10.75 /col. inch). The item will be placed in our newspaper with a border around it and must be paid for at the time of placement. Deadline for advertising copy is noon on Friday.

Obituaries received from private parties, funeral homes, will be edited to our format and paid for prior to running at our obituary rate (\$10.25 pci) plus \$5 per photo. Minimum is \$60. Deadline for copy is noon on Friday, however, every effort is made to include those with timely services. Death notices are available and are free if followed in the next publication by the entire obituary. Obituaries printed in the Staples World will be posted on our website.

All obituaries are paid advertisements. Obituaries requested to be printed word for word will be charged regular advertising rates and marked as a -Paid Advertisement- with a box around it.

Please be sure to include the name of the deceased, date of birth, age, city of residence, when and where he or she died and the name and city of the funeral home handling the arrangements.

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Big plays by Carlson, Niesen, Tappe, Schultz in comeback win

The Staples-Motley football team scored on their first play from scrimmage on a long pass from Cooper Tappe to Cayden Niesen in their 26-17 win against Barnesville on Oct. 9. After that first score, they suffered from a safety, penalties and turnovers to find themselves down by two scores. After that, the defense stood firm. They made four stops on fourth down, including a goal line stand early in the second half.

Beau Carlson brought the team back with a long touchdown run and a touchdown catch on fourth down. A pass from Tappe to Evan Schultz late in the game clinched the win and put the Cardinals up by two scores.

Staples-Motley received the opening kickoff. On their first play, Tappe fired deep to the right side, where Niesen got behind his defender and broke a tackle for a 55 yard completion.

Barnesville started driving but Zachary Tabatt made a tackle for loss to set up fourth down. Carlson got

into the backfield to stop the fourth down run. When Staples-Motley punted, the snap went out of the end zone for a safety.

Overcoming their mistakes again, Niesen out-kicked the coverage on the free kick for good field position. Bryson Dumpprope replaced a temporarily injured player and made a sack on his first defensive play. Ayden Hovland blew up a screen play to force a punt.

A penalty set them back again and Tappe threw an interception trying to get the yards back. Barnesville went down to score, running every play. The next Staples-Motley drive wasn't much better and Barnesville scored again to take a 17-7 lead.

Carlson reversed the momentum with a 72 yard touchdown run where he took a pitch to the left side and outran everyone to the end zone. That made the score 13-17 at halftime.

In the third quarter, Barnesville started march-

ing down the field with multiple first downs. As they got towards the end zone, Owen Roline put pressure on the quarterback and Niesen broke up a pass. Hovland and Niesen brought a Barnesville runner down at the one yard line to set up fourth and goal. The entire Cardinal defense stepped up with Roline, Tabatt Ayden Blue and Ryder Thompson making a push, while Tristan Moore, Adrian Caldwell and Seth Cossentine swooped in to make sure there would be no score.

Tappe stepped up on the next Cardinal drive, making several first downs running and several more passing. Staples-Motley got close to the goal line but a penalty set them back to 4th and goal at the 10 yard line. Carlson got open for a short pass and carried it in to go ahead 19-17 with seven minutes left in the game.

The defense came through again when Moore jumped on a fumble to get the ball back. Carlson made a power run up the middle,

then had another long run where got through the hole and cut outside to get close to the end zone. From there, Tappe found Schultz crossing to the left side and hit him with a pass. Schultz reached out to cross the goal line for a touchdown. Niesen kicked the extra point to make the score 26-17 with less than five minutes left.

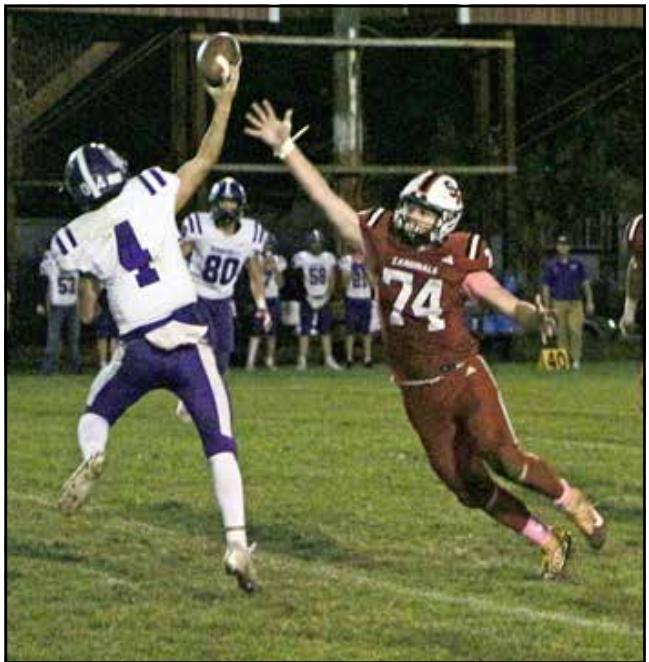
Down two scores, Barnesville started passing. This put them away from their game plan and Staples-Motley started making more defensive plays. Niesen broke up a pass, Roline pressured the quarterback and Moore tackled him for a loss. On fourth down, Schultz broke up a pass.

Staples-Motley ran out the last three minutes with Carlson taking handoffs and running for first downs.

This was the second win of the season for the Cardinals, who are now 2-4 with two regular season games remaining.



Cooper Tappe throws on the first play of the game, a 55 yard touchdown pass.



Ayden Blue forces a quick throw.



Zach Tabatt, left, and Ayden Hovland, right, make tackles behind the line of scrimmage.



Denied at the goal line

The Staples-Motley defense makes a goal line stop, with the line pushing into the backfield. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



Cross country teams face tough conditions

The Staples-Motley cross country teams ran on a tough course at a meet in McGregor on Oct. 6 and against tough competition in a meet at Alexandria on Oct. 10, both resulting in slower times than normal for most of the runners.

At McGregor, both the girls and boys placed second as a team, showing they are still competing hard despite a twisting course with tricky footwork.

At the Alexandria Lions Meet of Champions, the Cardinals were one of two Class A teams, with the rest mostly big schools and several other medium sized schools. The result was many of the runners got stuck towards the back of the pack and weren't able to make up ground.

Girls results

McGregor Invitational
Esko 40, Staples-Motley 57, Carlton/Wrenshall 63, McGregor 96, Deer River 106

6. Elise Trif 22:32, 11. Suhaila Mikhaeil 23:08, 13. Anna Warner 23:49, 17. Alexis Odden 24:21, 21. Elizabeth Kroll 24:29, 34. Cydney McGree-Schmidt-bauer 34:27

Alexandria Lions Meet of Champions

Staples-Motley 16th of 16 teams

72. Trif 22:39, 100. Mikhaeil 24:13, 103. Warner 24:33, 105. Kroll 24:41, 106. Odden 25:13, 113. McGree-Schmidt-bauer 35:04

Boys results

McGregor Invitational

Esko 59, Staples-Motley 63, Cromwell-Wright 66, Carlton/Wrenshall 75, McGregor 77

6. Andrew Dobson 19:22, 8. Spencer Olsen 20:14, 12. Reed Leach 20:29, 14. Jackson Odden 20:39, 24. Alex Leach 22:07, 24. Brayden Moore 25:41, 37. Jackson Bitzer 26:52

Alexandria Lions Meet of Champions

Staples-Motley 19th of 19 teams

85. Dobson 19:30, 104. Olsen 20:18, 113. R. Leach 20:55, 116. Odden 21:05, 127. A. Leach 23:27, 128. Moore 24:49

Crucial kick

Cayden Niesen kicks the extra point to go up by nine in the fourth quarter, meaning Barnesville would need two scores to come back.



Vintage Golf championship

Winners of the recent 2026 Vintage Golf Tournament in Staples included, from left, Reggie Thompson and Bryan Savaloja, 4th division; Paul Mithun and Ryan

Rengstorf, 1st division; Dan Orth and Jef Cichos, 3rd division; Joe Reycraft and Jimmy Dahlheimer (missing), 2nd division. (Submitted photo)

NOTICES

100

Events/
Announcements

AUCTION OF 2 STORAGE UNITS at EEZz Storage in Staples, MN, Via Online Auction at StorageTreasures.com, on behalf of Daniel Bible. Auction starts 10/28/26 8:30 a.m. Belongings include household, bedroom and garage items.

43-44c

DEADLINE

for all classified ads and copy is 12 noon Friday

For the Staples World

SERVICES & EMPLOYMENT

205

Help Wanted

LSS Meals

Site Coordinator Positions

Staples & Motley Locations

Lutheran Social Service (LSS) Meals is seeking dependable, community-minded individuals to serve as Site Coordinators in Staples and Motley. Join a team dedicated to helping older adults remain healthy, connected, and independent through nutritious meal services. Apply online at: www.lssmn.org/careers For information, contact Michelle Kern, Program Manager, 218-539-5095.

cl43c

208

Storage

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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

WANTED TO BUY

501

Miscellaneous

JUNK CARS and TRUCKS. 218-639-5509.

43-44c

FARMERS

Buying Fieldstone Boulders

Contact Chris At 320-630-4570

cl40-48p

GARAGE SALES

701

VETERANS PARK STORE

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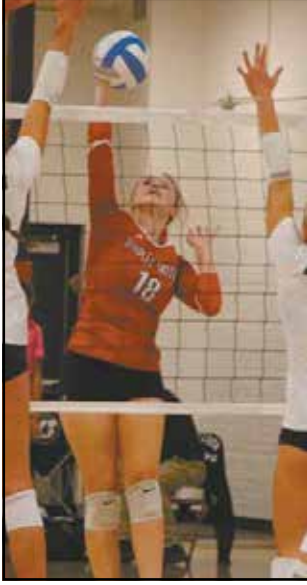
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Public Notices

NOTICE LAKE SHORE AERATION WARNING LAKE SHAMINEAU

An aeration system will be in operation, west shoreline of Lake Shamineau, property address 34568 and 34524 from cover 2026 to ice out 2027.

Purpose: to prevent shoreline damage due to ice expansion. Please be aware of open water:

42-43pnc

NOTICE LAKE SHORE AERATION WARNING LAKE SHAMINEAU

Open water along the shore with thin ice around the edge on the South shores of Lake Shamineau starting November 2026 and early months of 2027. For inquiries contact 320-309-3783.

43-45pnp

NOTICE OF CITY ELECTION CITY OF STAPLES, MINNESOTA

NOTICE is hereby given that the General Election for the City of Staples, Todd and Wadena Counties, State of Minnesota and United States will be held on Tuesday, November 3, 2026, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. The polling place is the Staples Community Center located at 425 4th Street Northeast. Sample Ballots are available for inspection at the polling place or on the Secretary of State website at <https://www.sos.state>.

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: May 8, 2020

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$263,532.00

MORTGAGOR(S): Jatty D. Zondo, married woman

MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Guardian Mortgage, a division of Sunflower Bank, N.A.

DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on May 13, 2020 as Document Number 519346 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota.

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Guardian Mortgage, a division of Sunflower Bank, N.A. by assignment recorded on October 6, 2023 as Document Number A538428 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: The Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter, except the East 33 feet thereof, in Section 4, Township 132, Range 35, Todd County, Minnesota.

STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 13134 COUNTY 24, BERTHA, MN 56437

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

THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$235,754.97

TRANSACTION AGENT:

mn.us/elections-voting/whats-on-my-ballot/.

City Offices to be filled at this election are the Mayor and three City Council Members. The Mayor shall serve for a term of two (2) years. The three individuals receiving the highest number of votes for City Council Member shall serve for terms of four (4) years.

Tara Greer, Clerk
City of Staples

43-44pnc

NOTICE LAKE SHORE AERATION WARNING LAKE SHAMINEAU

Aeration system will be in operation, shoreline of Lake Shamineau, Lot #2196 from ice cover 2026 to ice out 2027. Purpose: to prevent shoreline damage due to ice expansion. Be aware of open water or thin ice.

42-43pnp

NOTICE EVERGREEN HILL CEMETERY FALL CLEAN-UP

Evergreen Hill Cemetery, Staples, will be doing their fall clean-up at the cemetery on **Thurs., Oct. 15, 2026 at 5 p.m.** Flowers must be maintained in an attractive manner or they will be removed. Flowers must be on shepherd hooks, pedestal style pot holders or monument toppers. No other items allowed.

Bob Reeck, Secretary
Evergreen Hill Cemetery

43pnx

NOTICE OF SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2170 STAPLES-MOTLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the general election has been called and will be held on Tuesday, the 3rd day of November, 2026, for the purpose of electing three (3) school board members for four (4) year terms.

Any eligible voter residing in the school district may vote at said election at the polling place designated for the precinct in which he or she resides. The polls for said election will open at 7:00 o'clock a.m. and will close at 8:00 o'clock p.m. on the date of said election. A voter must be registered to vote to be eligible to vote in this election. Any unregistered individual may register to vote at the polling place on election day.

BY ORDER OF THE SCHOOL BOARD

Sherry Miller Frisk,
District Clerk
I.S.D. #2170

43-44pnc

PUBLIC NOTICES: Your Right to Know

December 10, 2027.

THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES 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: None

Dated: October 07, 2026

GUARDIAN MORTGAGE, A DIVISION OF SUNFLOWER BANK, N.A.
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
(23-1001-FC05)

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.

43-48pnc

Dig Pink

For "Dig Pink" night, the volleyball team honored teacher Dawn Weite, who is undergoing cancer treatments.

Power hitters

Addison Potter, left, and Clara Maros, right, go up for spikes against Breckenridge. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)

Volleyball team improving

After beating Pine City 3-0 on Oct. 5, the Staples-Motley volleyball team lost 3-2 at Pillager on Oct. 6 and played well at times in a 3-1 loss to Breckenridge on Oct. 8. The Cardinals showed they are close to turning the corner by competing down to the wire against good teams.

The season-long strategy of relying on versatile players to do multiple tasks is paying off. Katelyn Schotzko and Lucy Maros have been the two main setters, but they also are starting to get more attack chances and are recording kills in the scorebook. Clara Maros and Hannah Cole were primarily hitters but they are showing up with more defensive digs. Cole has become valuable in the back row with her range and hustle. The front row hitters Kylene Rudlang, Addison Potter and Jasmyne Hove are starting to swing confidently to attack the opposing teams. Back row

specialist Chloe Trantina has been receiving serves and diving for spikes and tips. She also has added a strong serve of her own, recording six aces against Pillager.

Despite the positive signs, the 6-13 record for Staples-Motley is only good enough to have them currently seeded 14th in Section 6AA, a very tough section with seven teams ranked in the top 30 in Class AA.

Team results

Staples-Motley 3, Pine City 0
25-20, 25-10, 27-25
Lucy Maros 2 aces, 12 set assists, 2 digs
Katelyn Schotzko 15 set assists, 5 kills, 6 digs
Chloe Trantina 4 set assists, 10 digs
Kylee Chenoweth 3 aces, 11 digs
Clara Maros 3 aces, 11 kills, 1 block, 6 digs
Kylene Rudlang 3 kills, 1 dig
Addison Potter 4 kills, 1 block
Hannah Cole 1 assist, 8 kills,

4 blocks
Jasmyne Hove 4 kills, 1 block
Jocelyn Lenk 5 digs
Staples-Motley 2, Pillager 3
27-25, 21-25, 20-25, 26-24, 13-15
L. Maros 1 ace, 35 set assists, 2 kills, 8 digs
Trantina 6 aces, 1 set assist, 14 digs
Cole 2 aces, 11 kills, 5 blocks, 10 digs
Potter 11 kills, 1 dig
Chenoweth 5 aces, 10 digs
Rudlang 3 kills, 1 dig
Hove 1 ace, 5 kills, 1 dig
Lenk 2 digs
Schotzko 2 set assists
Jada Ellingson 2 set assists
Staples-Motley 1, Breckenridge 3
L. Maros 2 aces, 16 set assists, 1 kill, 7 digs
Schotzko 12 set assists, 3 kills, 2 digs
Trantina 3 aces, 2 assists, 13 digs
Chenoweth 1 ace, 7 digs
C. Maros 2 aces, 8 kills, 6 digs
Potter 5 kills, 2 digs
Cole 2 assists, 6 kills, 3 blocks, 9 digs
Hove 4 kills, 1 block
Rudlang 4 kills, 2 digs
Ellingson 1 kill



Planning the attack

As Miranda Schotzko sets the ball, three Cardinal attackers get ready to rush in for a spike as Schotzko decides which one to send it to. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)



Acrobatics on the volleyball court

Chloe Trantina digs up a hard spike. Playing the libero position (defensive specialist), Trantina makes sure no ball hits the floor near her. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)



Flowers bring beauty and joy each year

Planters in Downtown Staples provide color and beauty each summer. They are maintained by the city's Parks and Rec Department, along with assistance

from the Public Works Department. They were hauled away on Sept. 30, to be put in storage for the next several months. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



Packing up summer

The City of Staples Public Works Department's crew were at work Sept. 30, hauling away the flower planters that lined downtown streets during the summer. The planters will be put in storage for the winter and brought back out in the spring, when new flowers will be planted. The planters are maintained by the city's Parks and Rec Department, but Public Works helps with moving them back and forth each season, as well as some of their watering. "It's a group effort to make our town look beautiful," said Lacey Aguirre, City of Staples Parks and Rec Director. (Photos by Dawn Timbs)



Reaching new heights

The Staples-Motley cheerleaders built a pyramid during their halftime performance at the Oct. 2 Homecoming game. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

Investigators seek information in teen's shooting death

The Cass County Sheriff's Office is asking for help from the public as they work to determine the circumstances surrounding the Sept. 13 shooting death of Dylan Oothoudt. The 17- year-old Walker resident was found deceased in the yard of a residence on the 1600 block of John Moose Dr NW in Pike Bay Township in rural Cass Lake. The Ramsey County Medical Examiner's Office determined that Oothoudt died of homicide by gunshot wound. Investigators have identified a gathering of individuals who were in the area of John Moose Dr NW around the time of the incident. Investigators believe others may also have been in the area who either witnessed or were involved in the incident. Investigators are asking people to come forward with any information about the incident including the identity of wit-

nesses or individuals involved in Oothoudt's murder. "We're asking you to do the right thing, for Dylan and his family, by sharing what you know," said Cass County Sheriff Bryan Welk. "You can remain anonymous, but those responsible for his death must be held accountable for their actions." Anyone with information on this incident is urged to contact the Cass County Sheriff's Office at 218-547-1424 or 800-450-2677. You can also contact the Crime Stoppers of Minnesota Hotline at 800-222-8477 or submit a tip online at www.crimestoppersmn.org. Tips can be anonymous. The Cass County Sheriff's Office is assisted with its investigation by the Leech Lake Tribal Police Department, the Paul Bunyan Drug Task Force and the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension.

Ordinance for cargo containers

The use of cargo containers has been a popular way to provide additional storage for property owners in Todd County. Cargo containers provide highly secure, inexpensive means for additional storage. The Todd County Planning and Zoning ordinance has always limited the number of cargo containers a property owner may have and in some zoning districts, prevented their use all together. On September 15, 2026, the Todd County Board of Commissioners adopted an amendment to Section 9.04 Prohibited Structures, to open the use of cargo containers and similar structures, around Todd County. The new ordinance language allows cargo containers in all zoning districts but limits them to no more than two per parcel. Additional standards were established to help protect from nuisance characteristics and fit the character of the neighborhood. These additional standards consist of removal of all lettering and advertising, the structure must be painted in a uniform, earth-toned color. The storage structure must also be situated on the property to provide the least visual impact to public waters, if the property is located on a lake or stream. If the storage structure is a retired semi-trailer, box truck, railroad car or similar structure, the new ordinance language requires the same of these types of structures. Additionally, these structures must have all running gear removed. Including all wheels, axles, suspension and associated framework. Land Use Permits are required for the use of cargo containers, semi-trailers, trucks, railroad cars and similar structures. These are viewed no differently than other accessory structures in that they must all use standards. This would include such things as meeting property line setbacks and impervious surface standards. Contact the Planning and Zoning Office at 320-732-4420 to inquire about permitting these types of structures. Even if the cargo container was established prior to the ordinance amendment, a permit would still be required.

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