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The Adventures of Johnny Pants
National Night out in Staples
Old Wadena Rendezvous and Chatauqua
Full Railroad Days schedule (insert)

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Wednesday, August 13, 2025 — Staples World — Staples, Minnesota — $1.25

Rendezvous action Children searched through straw for prizes at the Old Wadena Rendezvous on Aug. 9, while others played an old-fashioned rope-pulling game in the background. See more photos from the Rendezvous on page 11a. (Photo by Mark Anderson)

Railroad Days filled with activities

Railroad Days 2025 is again packed with multiple events on multiple days, leading up to the big bash downtown on Saturday, Aug. 16 that promises to have more food and more activities.

Wednesday, Aug. 13

The Staples Trails Committee is hosting a grand opening for the Legacy Arboretum and Nature Trail at 5:30 p.m., located at the corner of Airport Road and Summit Ave., across from the JV baseball field. The trail is open to the public to hike the one mile of trails on the property owned by the Staples-Motley School District.

Also on Wednesday, the Batcher Block Opera House will be open for tours and will be hosting an outdoor movie.

Thursday, Aug. 14

The Staples Library has two events on Thursday, Aug. 14. From 3-6 p.m., they will host the Tiny School of Art and Design, which brings art projects for people of all ages. At 6 p.m. they will host Book Bingo to celebrate the end of the summer reading program.

The Little Red Caboose Variety Show is packed with local talent doing entertaining songs, skits and speeches. This popular event starts at 7 p.m. at Centennial Auditorium.

Friday, Aug. 15

LAPS will be giving away baby accessories, including clothing and equipment, for the Great Giveaway from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Beck's Burger will host their classic car show starting a 4 p.m.

The Staples-Motley Athletic Hall of Fame is hosting an open house at The Nest to view the new wrestling room displays and murals at the Legacy Gym. The open house is 4-7 p.m.

Also on Thursday, the Staples-Motley tennis team will host a tennis tournament and food at the tennis courts.

The Friday night fireworks is promising to be an extended show this year thanks to a donation from the Staples Lions Club.

Saturday, Aug. 16

The big day starts with th Lakewood & Ziegler 5K fun run, starting in front of Lakewood Manor on 5th Street NE. A kids run starts at 7 a.m. and the 5K is at 7:30

Trinity Lutheran Church is hosting a pancake breakfast from 7:30-9:30 a.m.

The Railroad Days Parade begins at 10 a.m., with the route starting on 4th Street NE near the elementary school, going towards downtown and back up 5th Street NE.

Following the parade, the crowd can head downtown for vendors, games, food, bounce houses, activities and the Women of Today car show.

This year promises to have more food, as last year some of the scheduled food vendors did not make it to the event.

Beck's Burgers is hosting a pickleball tournament starting at noon and Lefty's is hosting their cornhole tournament at noon.

Magician Magic Norm will have shows at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. on the main stage.

Tower Pizza will host their pizza eating contest at 2 p.m.

Lefty's is hosting a street dance at 8:30 p.m., featuring the Eagle Valley Playboy Band

Sunday, Aug. 17

An outdoor community worship will be at Faith Lutheran Church at 10 a.m.

The Staples-Motley Artistic Hall of Fame is inducting their first honoree, Stan Carlson, starting at 2 p.m. at Centennial Auditorium.

The final Music in the Park of the year will be at 7 p.m. at NP Park in Staples, featuring the Havana String Quartet.



Jumpin' cool sisters

Abbie and Caitlynn Lucas of Staples found a fun way to keep cool on July 28, when temperatures were in the 80s, along with high humidity. While jumping on their trampoline, the sisters hooked up a hose and took turns spraying each other with water. They've been enjoying summer vacation, but are also looking forward to the start of school. Abbie will be entering seventh grade at Staples-Motley Middle School, and Caitlynn will be entering third grade at Staples-Motley Elementary School. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



Magic, comedy at RR Days

Magic Norm's magic and comedy show is family-friendly entertainment. He will be putting on two shows for Railroad Days, at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. He also will be warming up the crowd before the 10 a.m. parade.

Magic Norm is a well known performer from Minneapolis. He has performed for several state fairs and international shows. His show is heavily based on audience participation, so it should be a fun event for kids of all ages and community members to take part in, or and enjoy watching friends and family on stage. (Submitted photo)

Weather

2025
This Week's Forecast

	High	Low	Cond.
Aug. 13	80	63	Sunny
Aug. 14	81	67	Showers
Aug. 15	81	61	M. Cloudy
Aug. 16	78	61	Showers
Aug. 17	77	60	Cloudy
Aug. 18	74	58	M. Cloudy
Aug. 19	76	60	M. Cloudy

Last Year, 2024

	High	Low	Cond.
Aug. 13	78°	54	Sunny
Aug. 14	70	61	M. Cloudy
Aug. 15	70	63	Cloudy
Aug. 16	72	64	Showers
Aug. 17	80	65	P. Sunny
Aug. 18	81	60	M. Sunny
Aug. 19	82	61	M. Sunny

Average Temps:
H = 79° Low = 57°

Compiled by Dale Hausmann, WCCO's Staples area Weatherwatcher

Public Notices

Accepting bids for Staples Comm. Center remodel **9A**
City of Staples **9A**
Swedish Baptists Church dissoluction notice **9A**

Obituaries

Ottar (Al) Flack
Robert Follis
Roger Germann
Carol Johnson
Judithann Richer



Watching drone footage of yourself

Kayden Beard, left, and Braxton Reem try to figure out how the drone camera works as Wadena County Sgt. Bryan Savaloja zooms in on the Wadena County emergency response trailer that they are in, with their mothers outside waving at the drone camera. This was one of the many first responder displays at the National Night Out event on Aug. 6. See page 10a for more. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)



Farmer's Market well attended

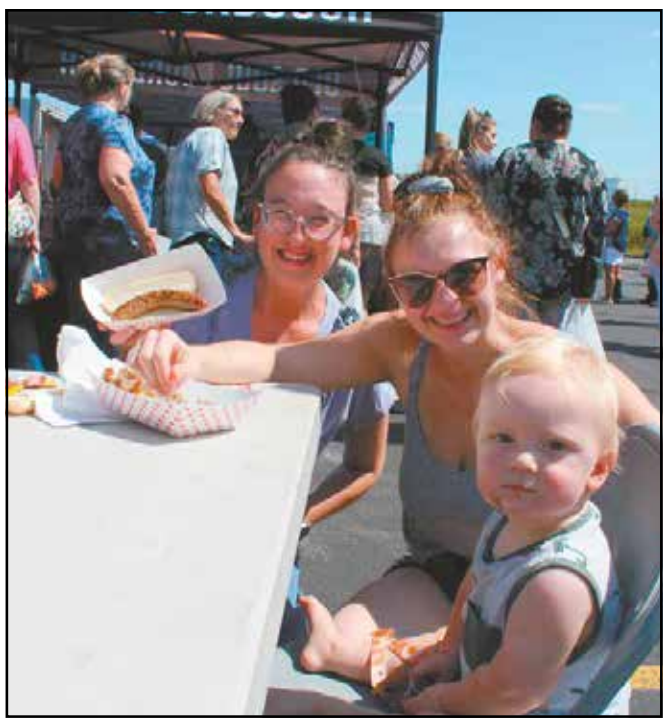
Dozens of people stopped by the Staples Area Farmer's market Aug. 7, where a variety of vendors had merchandise for sale, including baked and canned goods, fresh-cut flowers, honey, farm-raised meats, lemonade, coffee, and more. The Farmer's Market is held Thursdays, 2 - 5 p.m., in the clinic patient parking lot at Lakewood Health System's main campus in Staples. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



Love those brats!

In celebration of "National Farmers Market Week" the Staples Host Lions grilled and served brats at the Staples Area Farmer's Market held at Lakewood Health System's main campus in Staples Aug. 7. The 150 free brats were made possible thanks to Lakewood's Community Health program. Pictured above, from left, are brothers Joe and Evan Lehner of Motley; and Staples Host Lion members Frank Leidenfrost and Don Flaten. In lower photo, from left, are Taylor Miller, Kylie Matteson with her baby Lukas Matteson, all of Staples. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)







Enjoying the summer day

Shoppers at the Staples Area Farmer's Market sat for awhile at a bench, enjoying some goodies they'd purchased and visiting with one another. Pictured, from left, are Lisa Hall and her granddaughter Amelia Weber, both of Staples; Rose Isder and Darlene Hoemberg, both of Staples. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



Motley Lions donate

The Motley Lions recently donated $2,500 for the Hooked on Fishing event at Camp Shamineau in Motley. Pictured, from right, are Motley President Bruce Brotherton; and Hooked on Fishing volunteers Laurie Thew and Mark Holper. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

LAPS celebrates 30 years and new ultrasound

The Lakes Area Pregnancy Support Center (LAPS) in Staples is celebrating its 30th anniversary along with introducing ultrasound services by the end of 2025. For three decades, LAPS has offered free, confidential support to women and men, reinforcing its commitment to empowering families and protecting the unborn across central Minnesota.

Since its founding in 1995 in Brainerd, LAPS has expanded to serve the region, opening a center in Staples in 2013 and in Wadena in 2022. Over the past 30 years, LAPS has provided compassionate care through pregnancy testing, counseling, parenting classes, a dedicated program for dads and material support via its rewards program. The dads program equips fathers with resources and guidance to navigate parenthood with confidence.

"Our mission is to support every parent, and our dads program is a key part of that," says Lisa Boie, Development Director at LAPS. "Celebrating 30 years reflects our community's unwavering support."

LAPS is set to enhance its offerings with ultrasound services by late 2025. Ultrasounds use high-frequency sound waves to create images of a developing baby, showing parents their child's heartbeat and movements to foster connection and informed decisions. "Ultrasounds affirm the value of life," Boie notes. The center is securing equipment, training staff and meeting standards to provide this service free of charge.

Community support from Staples, Brainerd and Wadena fuels LAPS's mission. Partnerships with churches, businesses and individuals ensure all services remain free. Volunteers are needed to assist with client meetings or to organize clothing donations for the rewards program. Donations of baby supplies, like diapers and clothing, are also vital.

As LAPS marks 30 years and prepares for ultrasound services, it remains dedicated to protecting the unborn and supporting families. For more information on volunteering, donating, or accessing services, contact LAPS at; 218-895-5200 or visit lakesareapregnancy.org. Join us in celebrating this milestone and strengthening our community.





LAPS making space for ultrasound

The new ultrasound room is currently being built at LAPS in Staples. Pictured, right. (Submitted photos)

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Looking back



Mystery photo

Hello readers. This week's archive photo is from 2003. 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.

75 Years Ago - 1950

- Aug. 17, 1950 - On Aug. 27, at the Congregational church in Staples, Wallace Anderson and James Ewing, who are taking college work preparatory to entering a seminary, will have charge of the services at the church Sunday morning, at 11 o'clock.

Wallace is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Anderson of rural Staples and is a student at Macalester, James is the son of Rev. and Mrs. Ray Ewing of Staples, and is a student at Carleton college. Both boys are graduates of the Staples high school, and both were salutatorians of their respective classes.

- Aug. 17, 1950 - On the second day of the Motley fair, a livestock judging contest was held for FFA and 4-H club members. This was the first year a contest of this kind was held during the fair. Approximately 20 members took part in the judging of dairy cattle, beef cattle, sheep and swine.

Jeanne Pfeiffer, of near Staples and a 4-H club member, displayed her judging ability by winning the first prize of $25. The second prize of $15 went to Alex Lamb, a local FFA member. The $10 for third place was divided between Agnes Dennemeyer (4-H) and Russell Schrupp (FFA) who had tied for this placing.

- Aug. 17, 1950 - Mrs. Bill Pribbenow will head the 1950 Christmas Seal campaign in Motley, according to Eleanor Bauleke, field representative for the Minnesota Public Health Association.

Mrs. Pribbenow succeeds W. W. Trushenski who served as chairman last year.

- Aug. 17, 1950 - Thomastown news - Mr. and Mrs. Louis Christopherson returned last Saturday evening from their honeymoon to Yellowstone Park and on Monday evening about 150 merry-makers brought every form of loud weird and noisy music available for a grand old charivari.

- Aug. 17, 1950 - Sister Consuello, who comes from Perham, has arrived in Staples and will be principal of the Sacred Heart Parochial school for the coming year.

Sister Bonavita, who had been principal for several years has gone to ElRosa where she will assume a like position in the parochial school in that village.

- Aug. 17, 1950 - The Railroaders, with an injection of hustle and some new team spirit, snapped out of their two-game losing streak and beat a fighting South Long Lake nine in a playoff game which determined the Number One standing in the Crow Wing Valley league.

50 Years Ago - 1975

- Aug. 14, 1975 - For Rent: Cabins at resort on Lake Shamineau, available for students, $35 per month plus utilities, phone Lincoln 575-2100.

- Aug. 14, 1975 - Last month at the Motley Women's Slowpitch Softball Tournament, Ted & Gen's team captured the first place trophy after defeating teams from Brainerd, Stillwater, Crosby-Ironton and Swanville.

Swanville placed second, with Stillwater taking third and Motley finishing fourth.

Following the championship victory, Ted and Gen Ludovissie invited the entire team to Ted & Gen's for steak dinners to celebrate the win.

Team members are Sue Ludovissie, Jan Dryburgh, Bunee Knosalla, Peggy Anderson, Terri Thorn, Kim Nurnberger, Audrey Newcomb, Patty Bartle, Becky Peterson, Rhonda Van Norman, Ruthie Nurnberger, Kaye Braith, Shari Draves and Renee Berg. Brad Mertens and Wayne Dryburgh are the managers of the team and Lu Wagner is scorekeeper..

- Aug. 14, 1975 - The Staples Terrace Junior Golfers competed in the State Junior Golf Tournament at Minnetonka Country Club Aug. 4 and 5.

The open division was won by Bill Israelson of Bemidji with a 69 and 74 for 143. Israelson had a back nine of 30 on the first day of competition.

Staples golfers scored as follows: Dale Zappe 79-88 for 167; Steve Randgaard 84-88 for 172; Tom Backberg 103-77 for 180; Mark Matanich, 74-WO.

The girls division was captured by Kelly Varty of Elk River, shooting 84-91 for a 175. Kris Wilson of Staples shot 127-117 for 244 and Julie Pluth of the Terrace Golf Course shot 138-156 for a 294.

- Aug. 14, 1975 - Three members of the Staples Rotary club were recipients of awards for perfect attendance, at a recent meeting of the organization.

R. C. Read received an award for 29 years of perfect attendance, whereas William Uhrich had 15 years and Melvin A. "Whitey" Mueller had 14 years.

- Aug. 14, 1975 - Staples will become the country music capital of North Central Minnesota Wednesday, Aug. 20, as this Todd County community hosts the Heartland Region Country Music Festival.

Set for the Staples Auditorium at 7:30 p.m., the contest will feature the top country musicians from the region who will be competing for positions in the Minnesota State Championship Country Music Festival at Glyndon Sept. 5-6.

25 Years Ago - 2000

- Aug. 17, 2000 - Faith DeBow, daughter of Marc and Holly DeBow of Staples, will present a special concert on Saturday, Aug. 19, at 7 p.m. at the Thomastown Covenant Church.

Faith DeBow currently lives in Rochester, New York where she is pursuing a master's degree in accompanying and chamber music at the Eastman School of Music. She was the inaugural recipient of Eastman's Brooks Smith Fellowship and studies with Dr. Jean Barr.

- Aug. 17, 2000 - Aryn Ladd, daughter of Kyra and Rod Ladd, was recently selected a 2000 Academic All-Star. She qualifies to attend the 2000 Gathering of Champions at the Minnesota State Fair Aug. 28. Aryn was selected by her school, Staples Elementary, as a Minnesota Academic All-Star which recognizes a student's academic excellence.

Aryn will be a first grade student at Staples Elementary School. She is the granddaughter of Rick and Kathy Odden of Staples.

- Aug. 17, 2000 - Two families, one from Staples, one from Belfast, Ireland, shared their lives for just about three weeks this summer. It was a return visit for 13-year-old Siobhan Reynolds, who spent the summer with the Palmer family of Staples three years ago.

This time her family, including her father, Desmond, mother Geraldine, and twin sister Shauneen, traveled with her. The Palmer family included Mike and Gloria and their children Anne, Katie and Abby.

10 Years Ago - 2015

- Aug. 13, 2015 - The first church built in Staples will be celebrating their 125th anniversary during Railroad Days.

The origin of the church dates back to 1889, when a small group of people met in the Charles Tedford Hall at the encouragement of a Scottish evangelist. By 1890, the Congregational Church was officially organized.

This summer four church members gathered to discuss the church history and legacy it has brought to Staples. Carole Winter, Rita Stone, Merle Kupitz and Stan Schuette have been active members who have many memories and stories to share about the church.



Mystery solved

Last week's mystery photo published in the May 17, 1984 edition of the Staples World featured seven Cardinals who were recognized by the Mid-State baseball coaches as the top players in the conference. Three were named all-conference: Tom Hegre, Dean Jennissen and Troy Marden. Front, from left: Darrel Card, Hegre, Marden. Back: Dennis Shequen, Jennissen, Mark Lauer and Mike Lauer.

Tom Hegre, a 1984 graduate of Staples High School and one of the baseball players pictured above, correctly identified all. Hegre shared, "Got old over night. Doesn't seem like 40 years ago. I was always fortunate to have great teammates in baseball and football." Hegre is currently the Athletic Director at Knight High School in Palmdale, Calif.

Judy Wolak of Staples correctly identified all. Thanks for participating in our mystery photo.



Wenzel at campaign stop

Steve Wenzel, a Political Science instructor at Central Lakes College was a recent luncheon guest of former presidential candidate Vivek Ramaswamy, who is now running for Governor of Ohio. The CLC instructor was able to visit at length with Ramaswamy in Edina, and briefed him on some of Minnesota's political history.

Wenzel, who has taught at CLC for 35 years, also serves as the Executive Director of the Gordon Rosenmeier Center for State and Local Government. The Center seeks to preserve the legacy of Senator Gordon Rosenmeier, who represented both Morrison and Crow Wing Counties for 30 years. (Submitted photo)

Staples Police report

Recent Police reports;

July 27, Staples Police received a report of a male raising his fists to a female, followed by the sound of screams. Suspect left in a vehicle. Police were unable to locate vehicle.

Aug. 2, Staples Police received a report from a male party who was walking through Staples and reported teens who were following and harassing him.

Todd County Sheriff's report

Recent report(s) from the Todd County Sheriff's Office (TCSO) included:

July 31, 2025, 5:44 p.m.: Todd County Sheriff's Dept. received a report of an injury crash near the intersection of Cty Rd 24 and 255th Ave., Staples. A 2002 Cadillac Escalade driven by Logan Perlinger of Wadena rear ended a 2026 Chevy Equinox driven by Beverly Dolezal of Staples. Both vehicles sustained extensive damage. No individuals were transported by ambulance. TCSO was assisted on scene by Staples Fire Dept. and Lakewood Health Sysem Ambulance.

Court report Aug. 6

Long Prairie Police

William Lee Duckett, Long Prairie. Driving without a valid license for vehicle class or type. Fine $100. Fee $85.

Alexander Gonzalez Ruiz, Long Prairie. Driver must carry proof of insurance. Fine $200 Fee $85.

Daniel Antonio Camorlinga Mesa, Long Prairie. Motor vehicle registration without plates on public streets Fine $100 Fee $85.

Igene Sainvinus, Lauderhill, FL. Driving without a valid license for vehicle class or type. Fine $100 Fee $85.

Raul Alberto Wood, Long Prairie. Driving after revocation. Fine $200. Fee $75.

Dept. of Natural Resources

David Joh Baumgart, Willmar. Watercraft-personal floatation or lifesaving devices required. Fine $25. Fee $85. Rachel Cecilia Masters, Richfield. Must have license or proper paperless in personal possession. Fine $25. Fee $85.

State Patrol

Kathleen Ann-Juaire Daulton, Elk River. Speed 75/65. Fine $40. Fee $85.

Nicholas Glen Lawrence Dixon, Wadena. Speed 75/65. Fine $40. Fee $85.

Brock Thomas Maslowski, Blaine. Speed 70/60. Fine $40 Fee $85.

Jared Grant Pickar, Verndale. Seat belt required. Fine $25. Fee $85.

Stephanie Lee Rodgers, Sebeka. Speed 75/65. Fine $40. Fee $85.

Annissa Rose Stenger, Oakdale. Speed 75/65. Fine $40. Fee $85.

Darius Dshun Alexandria. Houston, TX. No Minnesota drivers license. Fine $100. Fee $85.

Mattie Lee Anheluk, Minnetonka. Speed 87/70. Fine $60. Fee $85.

Eliza Mary Bernards, Alexandria. Speed 86/70. Fine $60. Fee $85.

Brenda Kathryn Bethel, Ham Lake. Speed 85/70. Fine $60. Fee $85.

Amina Joan Bernadette Bushey, Wahpeton, ND. Speed 81/70. Fine $50. Fee $85.

Benjamin Johannes Brauer, Minneapolis. Speed 89/70. Fine $60. Fee $75.

Siwosah Natu Conway, St. Paul. Speed 89/70. Fine $60. Fee $75. Careless driving. Dismissed.

Tessa Ann Cooper, Sartell. Speed 83/70. Fine $50. Fee $85.

Dalton J. Cope, Bourbonnais, IL. Speed 89/70. Fine $60. Fee $85.

Peyton Mary Ellen Delozier, St. Cloud. Speed 80/70. Fine $40. Fee $85.

Stephen Akoi Doe, Fargo, ND. Driving after revocation. Fine $200. Fee $85.

Scott A. Dvorak, Crystal Lake, IL. Speed 84/70. Fine $50. Fee $85.

Kaleah Sue Ellerbroek, Apple Valley. Speed 84/70. Fine $50. Fee $85.

Wilmer Joseph Engle, Cushing. Speed 74/60. Fee $50. Fine $85.

Rachel Ann Ernst, Inver Grove Heights. Speed 74/70. Fine $40. Fee $85.

Muhiyedin Ali Farah, St. Cloud. Speed 79/70. Fine $40. Fee $85.

Myrissa Belle Guenther, Miltona. Speed 89/70. Fine $60. Fee $85.

Jennifer Lynn Harty, Parkers Prairie. Speed 79/70. Fine $40. Fee $85.

Sydney Quinn Heid, Willmar. Speed 84/70. Fine $50. Fee $85.

Lucas Douglas Hersrud, Glyndon. Speed 80/70. Fine $40. Fee $85.

Elizabeth Marie Hochsprung, Alexandria. Speed 80/70. Fine $40. Fee $85.

Gabriel Khachatryan, Fargo, ND. Speed 85/70. Fine $60. Fee $85.

Caleb Michael Kimmes, Kimbal. Speed 89/70. Fine $60 Fee $85.

Michael Ray Kuntz, Grand Forks, ND. Speed 83/70. Fine $50. Fee $85.

Arien Zander Irene Lanyeine-Lagoon, Minnetonka. Hands free law. Fine $50. Fee $85.

Alissa Lynn Linder, Pillager. Speed 65/60. Fine $40. Fee $85.

Marco Antonio Ahedo Martinez, Long Prairie. Speed 70. Fine $40 Fee $85.

Tommy Nguyen, Moorhead. Windshield tinted or glazed. Fine $50. Fee $85.

Edmundo Hernandez Orozco, Sioux City, IA. Hands free law. FIne $50. Fee $85.

Jana Marie Pecinovsky, Rochester. Speed 89/70. Fine $60. Fee $85.

Ramon Ortega Trigueros, Long Prairie. Speed 70/60. Fine $40. Fee $85.

Jose Francisco Villa Concepcion, Long Prairie. No MN Drivers license after 60 days residency/30 days CDL). Fine $100. Fee $85. Speed 75.60 Fine $60.

Staples Police

David, Jr. Morales Aquino, Staples. Expired registration. Fine $30. Fee $85.

Agustin Jr. Murrieta, Dodge City. Speed 85/55. Fine $100. Fee $185.

Austyn Hunter Gothoudt, Staples. Liquor consumption under 21. Fine $100. Fee $85.

Malaya Marie Reem, Brainerd. Liquor consumption under 21. Fine $100. Fee $85.

Todd County

Andres Diaz Martinez, Long Prairie. Driving after revocation. Fine $200. Fee $85.

David Lawrence Doty, Greenwood Village, CO. Speed 65/55. Fine $40. Fee $85.

Benjamin Jr. Govea, Long Prairie. Speed 78/55. Fine $70. Fee $155. Driving after revocation. Fine $200.

Dominick Antonio Juarez-Garcia, Long Prairie Speed 75/60. Fine $60 Fee $85.

Hunter Charles Laage, Brooten, Liquor consumption by persons under 21. Fine $100. Fee $85.

Melissa Botello Rodriguez, Long Prairie. Speed 60/50. Fine $40. Fee $85.

Juan Manuel Santana De La Rosa, Long Prairie. Speed 65/55. Fine $40. Fee $85.

Jeffrey Lee Stetzel, Richmond. Speed 64/55. Fine $40. Fee $85.

The following cases were heard before Judge Daniel A. Benson in Seventh District Court in Todd County July 30, 2025.

Randy Lee Chock, Verndale. Violate cease and desist/restoration order relating to use of wetlands and public waters. Local confinement (90 days, stay 0 yr 0 mo 80 days for 1 yr). Supervised probation. Fine $100. Fee $650.

Michael Allyn Fitzherbert, Browerville. Possess ammo/any firearm-previous felony conviction. Local confinement (364 days, stay 0 yr 0 mo 82 days for 2 yr credit for time served: 99 days). Supervised probation, 2 yr.

Crystal Lynn Holmquist, Long Prairie. 3rd degree DWI-operate motor vehicle under influence of alcohol. Dismissed. 3rd degree DWI-operate motor vehicle-alcohol concentration 0.08 within 2 hours. Local confinement (364 days, stay 0 yr 0 mo 334 days for 4 yr credit for time served: 2 days). Supervised probation, 4 yr. Fine $125. Fee $75. Driving after cancellation. Dismissed

The following cases were heard before Judge Daniel A. Benson in Seventh District Court in Todd County July 28, 2025.

Angel Ramon Laccen Escalera, Long Prairie. 2nd degree-refusal to test. Sentenced. Local confinement (364 days, stay 0 yr 0 mo 334 days for 4 yr credit for time served: 4 days). Supervised probation, 4 yr). Fine $300. Fee $105. 3rd degree driving while impaired. Dismissed. Open bottle possession. Dismissed Driving after revocation Dismissed.

The following cases were heard before Judge Daniel A. Benson in Seventh District Court in Todd County July 29, 2025.

Colbert Beches Etpison, Clarissa. Domestic assault. Dismissed. Disorderly conduct. Dismissed. Disorderly conduct. Sentenced. Local confinement (90 days, stay 0 yr 0 mo 87 days for 1 yr credit for time served: 3 days) Supervised probation Fine $50. Fee $75.

The following cases were heard before Judge Daniel A. Benson in Seventh District Court in Todd County July 25, 2025.

Sasha Lea Gangl, Grey Eagle. Disorderly conduct-brawling or fighting. Local confinement (4 days credit for time served: 4 days). Supervised probation, 1 yr. Fine $50. Disorderly conduct. Dismissed. Disorderly conduct. Dismissed.



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The Adventures of Johnny Pants

The mystery of Bushy Pinegrover

This fictional story is a reimagining of what it was like to live in Staples more than a century ago, seen through the eyes of "Johnny Pants", the actual nickname of early Staples World Publisher J.T. Drawz. The stories are based on real historical events in Staples, although nothing else in the story is true in any other way.

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

The mystery of Bushy Pinegrover

The ladies of the Staples Civic Association bought 40 acres of land south of Staples and turned it into Pine Grove Park. The year was 1919, the grand opening celebration was on June 19, with food, frivolity, games, races, contests, music, dancing, a kangaroo court with a mock jail fundraiser, and many speeches.

Johnny Pants was there, taking notes. He had gotten what he needed for the story when an unscheduled speaker stepped up to the podium. It was a short man with a luxuriant moustache, wearing a baggy baseball uniform and a baseball cap perched high on his head.

"My name is Bushy Pinegrover. I have been a baseball manager since the turn of the century. I know what it takes to build a team," said the strange fellow. "With this park, Staples can become a baseball town.

"In a baseball town, so many ailments go away. People are happier and healthier. The doctors have less business, unless someone gets hit by a baseball, of course," he noted. "The players feel the pride of the community and they get accolades from their fellow men."

Pinegrover held up a baseball above his head.

"You have all heard of the famous curve ball. Well I have invented a twistier pitch, called the curvaceous ball," said Pinegrover. "The beauty of this pitch is that once taught, anyone can do it, from the slimmest pitcher to little kids to the women of the Civic Association.

With a flip of his wrist, he let the baseball fly and it sailed over the crowd, winding through the branches of the giant pine trees before taking a sharp dip, landing with a plop in the lemonade bowl. The crowd gasped.

He then turned to the possibilities of baseball at Pine Grove Park.

"We have a wonderful town team that will be playing here later tonight. My proposal is to start more baseball leagues at this park, where all can play. We will have a town team and children's leagues, but this is a game for anoyne to play. The ladies from the Civic Association can challenge the ladies from Motley to a game, and both communities will be blessed by such a sight," he said.

The crowd was visibly uncomfortable at the thought of women playing baseball, but they clapped politely when Pinegrover stepped down.

Following the speeches, Bushy Pinegrover talked to a few people in the crowd. Johnny Pants overheard him saying that he was blown into Staples by a wind from Europe following the Great War. Before Johnny Pants could ask any further questions, Bushy Pinegrover hopped into one of the automobiles driven by the Civic Association ladies and it sped away.

Later that night, as Johnny Pants was back downtown, he spotted the little Bushy Pinegrover sneaking into the brick drug store building being built by George W. Beckett on 4th Street.

He peeked in but didn't see any lights on. Some railroad workers were heading in for their evening shift and they stopped to make small talk with Johnny Pants, joking about how he will need a bigger newspaper to cover the day's events.

A few minutes later he saw Mrs. Beckett emerging from the building.

"Hi Mrs. Beckett, I'm looking for that Pinegrover fellow so I can learn more about the baseball leagues he is proposing," said Johnny Pants.

"Oh, I haven't seen him," said Mrs. Beckett.

"Well he headed into your building a little before you came out," said Johnny Pants.

"Oh, he went out the back door, what I meant was that I didn't talk to him," said Mrs. Beckett.

Johnny Pants noted that she was carrying a half filled laundry sack and was clutching a baseball hat in her other hand.

"Is that his hat?" asked Johnny Pants.

"Oh, I guess I'm in charge of washing baseball uniforms these days. A woman's work is never finished, you know," said Mrs. Beckett as she hustled away.

Johnny Pants went to the Staples World office, pondering how to encapsulate the grand opening of Pine Grove Park. The civic pride shown throughout the day, the creation of a new park and the possibilities of what it could do for the community were included in every word he wrote.

But the one thing he couldn't figure out was the Bushy Pinegrover enigma. Why had the town never seen him before? How did he happen to have a name that was an imitation of the park that was just created?

Johnny Pants realized that he didn't remember seeing Mrs. Beckett at the Pine Grove Park celebration, which he thought was odd since she was one of the ladies of the Civic Association. Was she involved with this Pinegrover character? Then it hit him: was it Mrs. Beckett who dressed up in the baseball uniform and pretended she was a baseball manager?

The newspaper story was written without mention of the curvaceous ball or women playing sports. Bushy Pinegrover became a faded memory as Johnny Pants never saw him again, although his speech was sometimes referenced when talking about the park.

The baseball field at Pine Grove Park became a storied field, although it took much longer for women to be allowed to play.

But there were also unconfirmed reports that on summer evenings, after everyone had gone to bed, there were some moonlight games being played with ladies frolicking and whooping late into the night. And one of the rumors was that Mrs. Beckett was a very good pitcher.

Staples World, June, 1919:

Big Picnic and Celebration

The Picnic of the Season and Celebration of Return of the Soldiers by the Staples Civic Association

Plans are being rushed and elaborate preparations are being made to make the Community and Victory picnic scheduled for next Thursday, June 19th, a complete success. It will be a regular Fourth of July celebration and everybody old or young is assured a good time.

The grounds will be appropriately decorated for the occasion and a competent chairman of the day together with efficient supervisors of the booths and the amusements will see that nothing is left undone to make everybody happy.

Amusements of the Day

Speeches in the Park—Short talks by Staples business men.

Races and contests of all kinds with prizes for the winners.

Kangaroo court where all violators of the law will be tried.

Dances by the Wood Nymphs.

Children will be especially provided for. There will be continual play supervision besides swings, etc.

League ball game early in the evening.

Big dance later in the evening. Music by Tower's full orchestra.

Refreshments

Refreshments will be provided for all who do not care to bring their own lunches. The refreshment booths will have on sale doughnuts, sandwiches, buns, hot wiener wursts, coffee, iced drinks, fruit and ice cream.

Remember

The day, Thursday, June 19th at the Pine Grove; the grounds will be open to the public at 2:00 p. m. and continue open during the evening. Jitney busses will run to and from the picnic grounds. People may park their cars for a small fee. Tickets for the dance and the ball game will be on sale on the grounds.

Everybody Invited

This picnic is for everybody who is thankful that the war is over and that the Victory is ours. The returned soldiers, the people from the surrounding country and from our neighboring towns will be especially welcome. Everybody come and help boost for Staples and the surrounding country.

HOWARD TENNEY SEES GAME OF BASE BALL OVER IN FRANCE

Nogent-en-Bassigny,
May 15, 1919.

Dear Folks:

I wonder if you all think I am on my way back home? I have not received a letter for quite some time but I can't complain a great deal because I have had no time to write any myself recently and before that I got into the habit of not writing because the weather was cold and wet, I had no fire in my room and only a mayor, then they promenade down to the church and are married a second time by the priest. The procession here yesterday had to take the middle of the street as the sidewalks are of uncertain width; they may be twelve feet wide in one place and less than a block farther on narrow down to a point.

We had some unusual entertainment at the movies the other night when one of the German prisoners

Staples World, June, 1919:

Community Picnic and Celebration at New Park

Patriotic Addresses, Talk on Good Roads, Kangaroo Court, Some Prize Contests and Twilight Base Ball Game

The Victory picnic and celebration under the auspices of the Civic Association last Thursday afternoon was a fairly successful affair. The weather was excessively warm but people got along quite comfortably in the shade of the beautiful trees at Pine Grove Park where the celebration was held, supplemental to which were ice cream and lemonade stands where people were able to obtain an abundance of coolness and comfort at so much per including war tax.

The Kangaroo Court proved to be a source of pleasure as well as profit. E. M. Greeno made a dignified judge and assessed the fines with the ease of an old municipal judge. Lawyers Cashman and Gartner, and Cal Giddings and Floyd Dudrey acted as police officers and did the "running in" of the offenders and preferred the charges against them. The fine was generally 25c. Among those whom the reporter saw taken before the court were the following: Judge Lewis of Long Prairie for talking politics on the grounds; Wm. Bartraw for flirting; Harry Peterson for stealing ice cream; Knute Peterson for cracking nuts in the round house; Mike Trunk for impersonating an officer; Bill Poore for breaking into the park; "Shorty" Hand for selling poor gasoline; Mrs. Cal Giddings, cruel and inhuman treatment of her husband; Mrs. Clint Foster, flirting; Paul Read, flirting with an officer's wife; Lester Vogtman, running a bicycle on the sidewalk on 1st street; E. C. Martin, refusing to buy his wife any refreshments; H. L. Waldron, buying drinks unaccompanied by gentlemen; Mr. Hubbell, not spending money for the ladies; Mary Wheeler and Mildred Daniels, flirting; Louis Dannovsky, wearing government socks without a license; Burnetta Hurd, resisting arrest; H. W. Burdick, eating ice cream in company; Landlord Voorhees, overfeeding his boarders; Thos. Butz, for not wearing B. V. D's; Dr. Knickerbocker, flirting; Ruth Greeno, paying too much attention to an army officer. These fines added over $18 to the association funds.

Mrs. Leslie Miller won the prize in the ladies' nail driving contest and Celia Robinson won in the peanut race.

Hon. F. C. McGivern had charge of the program of speeches and opened it with a short talk in which he quoted from the articles of incorporation of the Civic Association, the purpose and object of the league. He said that the Association takes the place of a Commercial Club in Staples and urged a large membership for the Association.

Rev. W. H. Johnson the next speaker praised the object and work of the Civic Association and pledged his support to it. To make the work of the organization a success there must be unity, he said, and all must face the civic problems together. He went on to speak of the advantages Germany had when the war started in the way of explosives, big guns, airplanes and schooled officers and showed that it was the efficient organization of the German armies that enabled them to attain the success they did. Organization coupled with dogged persistence is what is necessary to day if all our civic problems are to be properly and successfully dealt with. In conclusion, he urged the men to back the ladies in their efforts to make Staples a better town and said to the ladies "If we men don't stand back of you, take us out and shoot us."

Rev. Emil Gustafson also gave a short talk in which he showed the value of a Civic Association and congratulated Staples for having such a live organization. He made the point that when we do anything to improve our city it is of benefit to the state and to the nation and an honor to the flag we love. He also showed that though the war is over we still have a great deal of work to do in America to round up the disloyal people and thwart their efforts to destroy our government. In conclusion he promised his assistance and that of the people of the South side whom he represented, to the Civic Association.

The last speaker was Harrison Hatton of St. Paul who had come to explain the Babcock plan for a state trunk highway system and its advantages, and to urge the voters to see to it that the amendment to the constitution of Minnesota establishing such a system be put through. Under the Babcock plan the trunk highway system will be financed entirely by an increased tax on motor vehicles, a tax which, strange as it may seem, will be returned three fold to the owners through decreased cost of operation. The townships and counties will be relieved of the burden of maintaining the roads and these local funds amounting to $10,925,000 a year will be available for building other roads. The speaker quoted figures showing how under the present plan of financing roads the proposed trunk system would cost the tax payers in Hennepin county one mill taxation, those of Anoka a 23 mill tax, those in Sherburne Co. a 300 mill tax, etc., a plan utterly unjust and impossible. There were on April 1, 1919, 207,303 registered automobiles in Minnesota, one-fourth of which were owned in Hennepin, Ramsey and St. Louis counties. The car owners under the Babcock plan will have to pay a tax proportionate to the weight, power and value of their cars and the money thus obtained will be adequate to finance this splendid trunk system crossing every county in such a way that there are few or no towns more than from two to two and one-half miles from the trunk line. Mr. Hatton urged the voters to study the bill and become thoroughly informed about it and advised organizations in every town to keep the amendment before the voters so that when the time comes for voting on the proposition it would not be defeated through indifference and neglect.

The money made from this celebration will go into the fund for the payment of the park where the celebration was given. This tract of land contains 40 acres, a large part of which is covered with a beautiful grove of evergreens and is one of the most beautiful spots to be found anywhere near the city. Last winter the New Hampton Land Co. had a chance to sell the place to others who would have cut the timber for ties. Hearing of this the ladies of the Staples Civic Association got busy and bought it for the city. The first payment of $500 was made by the city council and the balance, $23,000, will be raised by the ladies in various ways. A part of the land may later be sold to the school board for agricultural work required by the state. Twenty-five years from now everybody in this city will rise up and bless the present council and the ladies for saving this park for a playground for young and old and the criticism of the knockers of the plan today will be overlooked and forgotten.

The afternoon's sports closed with a baseball contest between the Verndale and Staples teams at the ball park. This was won by the home team the score being 8 to 11.

The evening was given over to dancing at Desmarais hall where a large crowd enjoyed themselves for several hours. Fine music was furnished by Tower's orchestra.

BARGAINS IN SEWING MACHINES

I am closing out a few new and some slightly used sewing machines at a very reasonable price. These machines are at the Loso hardware store for your inspection.

Wm. F. Robinson

Quote of the week

"Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy."
— Francis Pharcellus Church, editor of The New York Sun (9/21/1897)

Railroad merger concerns

By Heather Close
The Rural Blog

Union Pacific has announced plans to merge with its smaller rival, Norfolk Southern. The $85 billion merger would create the nation's first transcontinental railroad while giving Union Pacific the power "to reshape the movement of goods from grains to autos across the country," report Sabrina Valle, Shivansh Tiwary and David French for Reuters. "If approved, the deal would be the largest ever buyout in the sector."

The mega deal, which would connect 50,000 miles of track across 43 states, "will face lengthy regulatory scrutiny amid union concerns over potential rate increases, service disruptions and job losses," Reuters reports. "The 1996 merger of Union Pacific and Southern Pacific had temporarily led to severe congestion and delays across the Southwest."

Particularly at harvest time, railroad changes, costs, delays and timing can directly impact farming incomes. The National Grain and Feed Association said in a news release "that it will undertake an extensive evaluation of the proposed merger to better understand its implications for our industry," reports Mary Kennedy for Progressive Farmer.

The American Chemistry Council weighed in and cautioned against further rail mergers. ACC leadership told Kennedy, "The impact of a transcontinental merger between two of these railroads threatens to leave American manufacturers, farmers and energy producers with even fewer competitive options to ship by rail. . . . Many rail customers are currently dealing with high rates and unreliable service. Further consolidation within the rail industry is likely to make these problems worse."

The proposed merger "reflects a shift in antitrust enforcement under U.S. President Donald Trump's administration," Reuters reports. "Executive orders aimed at removing barriers to consolidation have opened the door to mergers that were previously considered unlikely. . . .The Union Pacific merger would give the company a 43% market share, dominating most categories of commodities."

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Member: Minnesota Newspaper Association, MCAN Advertising

Jumpin' Jehosafats jazz band at Staples United Methodist Aug. 18



The Jumpin' Jehosafats jazz band and singers will be at Staples United Methodist Church Monday, Aug. 18, from 7 - 8 p.m. The church is located at 310 5th St. NE.

The group has been together since 1985 and has played ore than 700 benefit concerts in the Midwest and the Caribbean. They have raised nearly $500,000 to benefit missions and service to others.

Their music is equal parts traditional jazz and gospel. They play in churches, prisons, nursing homes, homeless shelters, riverboats, fairs and in hilltop villages in Jamaica. They've played in Haiti and have future trips planned to Africa and India. Every summer they take a "world tour" of northern Minnesota.

A free will offering will be taken.



Library staff, volunteers, honored

The volunteers and staff of the Staples Public Library were honored at a picnic at Pine Grove Park on July 21 hosted by the Friends of the Staples Public Library. These dedicated individuals are vital to the success and smooth operation of a very active library. In addition to handling the book inventory and making sure requests are fulfilled, they assist with the variety of programs and services offered by the library for adults and children.

From left are Megan Lindgren and Becky Lindgren, Staples; Lenny Cossentine, Eagle Bend; Cathy Perish, Clarissa; Ardy McAllister, Hewitt; Judy Wolak, Staples; Angie Johnson, Motley; and Heidi Haase, Pillager. LaVonne Selleck, Staples; Julie Kloster, Cushing; Cindy Klein and Tamber Edin, Staples; were unavailable for the photo. Perish is the Library Services Coordinator; Johnson and Edin are Library Assistants; Klein and Wolak are Library Aides. The others are volunteers.

The library is located at 122 6th St. NE, Staples. The hours are Monday and Wednesday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday 1-8 p.m.; Friday 1-5 p.m.; and Saturday 9 a.m. to noon. For more information follow the library on Facebook or see www.griver.org/staples.

Mark Your Calendar

August 14

Staples Area Farmers Market Thursdays, 2 - 5 p.m., in the clinic patient parking lot at Lakewood Health System's main campus in Staples.

'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

August 15

Women's OPEN AA Recovery Meeting Every Friday in person, 10:30 a.m., Motley Free Methodist Church (lower level), 33 Wellwood St. E. Motley. All women welcome.

Great Free Give Away Event Friday, Aug. 15, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., sponsored by Lakes Area Pregnancy Support Center, 616 4th St. NE, Staples. Free baby clothes, baby equipment, diapers and wipes.

August 17

Music In The Park - Havana String Quartet Free concert at Northern Pacific Park in Staples, organized by the Staples Motley Area Arts Council. This is the final concert in the summer series. In the event of rain, concert will be moved to Faith Lutheran Church in Staples.

Celebrate Recovery Group Meetings are held every Sunday at 6 p.m., at Motley Free Methodist Church, 33 Wellwood St. E., Motley.

August 19

Experience Strength And Hope AA group Mtgs In Staples are held at the Church of Christ, 27343 490th St., Tuesdays, 7 - 8 p.m. For info., call Dan at 218-640-7228.

August 20

Staples All Veterans and Community Park Association will hold its monthly board meeting on Wednesday, Aug. 20, at 5:30 p.m., in the lower level of Lakewood Health System's main campus in Staples. For info., to attend via Zoom, call Bob Hamann at 218-894-3139.

Menu

Senior Nutrition Program

Call on mornings the Friday before to reserve next week's meal(s). and for current suggested donation info. LSS Meal - traditional older adult menu. Menu is subject to change.

NEW location: Staples Hi-Rise Apartments, 615 4th St. NE, Staples.

Staples

NEW number:

218-979-4118

LSS meals include bread (various kinds), marg. and 1% milk.

August 18 - 22

Monday - Beef chili macaroni casserole, green beans, California veggie blend, sugar cookie.

Tuesday - Scalloped chicken, peas, sliced carrots, blonde brownie.

Wednesday - Diced turkey & gravy, mashed potatoes, stuffing, whole kernel corn, red Delicious apple.

Thursday - Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, brown gravy, broccoli, fresh orange.

Friday -Potato crunch fish fillet, mashed sweet potatoes, mixed veggies, tartar sauce, snickerdoodle cookie.

wk34



Concert moved inside

A number of people enjoyed the music of Acoustofiddle July 20, at Faith Lutheran Church in Staples, part of the Music in the Park series hosted by the Staples Motley Area Arts Council. Due to threats of rain as well as poor air quality, the concert was moved inside. Members of the band include Jeff Menten (left) and Paul Nye. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)















SHS class reunion Aug. 15

Classes of '54, '55, '56 and '57

The Staples High School Classes of '54, '55, '56 and '57 will be meeting at BRICKS in Motley on Friday, Aug. 15, from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Classmates are welcome. For more information, call 763-244-4686.

Hello World

Online births removed at the request of Lakewood Health System.

Student Achievements

St. Cloud State University recently announced its 2025 Spring Semester Dean's List. To qualify, students must have a grade point average of 3.75 or higher. Local students named include:

- Daniel Leone, Staples
- Oliver Lund, Staples

Paul Freelove, Pillager, recently graduated from St. Olaf College, Northfield, with a Bachelor of Arts degree in music.



More Lions donations

The Staples Host Lions recently made several donations to community organizations, including $1,450 to the Staples-Motley Schools to be used for the fan bus, and $1,085.32 for the Staples-Motley Speech Team's home meet. Pictured above, from left, are Lori Nienow, AD/CE Ad,Administrative Assistant at the SM Middle/High School; and Dan Shaw, Lion Past President. Pictured below, from left, are Laken Hines, former SM Cardinal Speech Team captain; Lion Shaw; and Kip Hines, SM Cardinal Speech Team head coach. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



Obituaries

Judithann Richer



Judithann 'Judy' Cecelia Mares-Richer, 78, of Staples, passed away July 28, 2025, in Staples.

A Memorial Service will be held Saturday August 23, 2025, at 11:30 a.m. at Faith Lutheran Church in Staples. Visitation will be held one hour prior to services at the church.

Judy was born June 5, 1947, to Willfred Mares and Ida Schmit. She grew up in Watkins. She attended St. Anthony Catholic School and graduated from Cold Spring High School. She then graduated from St. Cloud State University, receiving a teaching degree. She taught in Minneapolis and later was Dean of Student Affairs at Central Lakes College. She loved socializing, visiting casinos, playing cards and slots and camping.

Judy is survived by one son, Chad Richer; one granddaughter, Carsyn Richer; one grandson, Cash Richer; one brother, Duane (Pat) Mares and many friends.

She is preceded in death by her parents and former husbands, Russ Way and Dal Richer.

Arrangements are by the Brenny Family Funeral Chapel, Staples.

w34c A00006B2025AU13

Robert Follis



Robert 'Bob' Leon Follis, 81, of Motley went home to be with the Lord on July 19, 2025.

A military service will be held at the Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery, Little Falls on August 29 at 1 p.m.

Bob was born October 25, 1943 to Sgt. Robert Kenneth Follis and Florence Louise Neider in St. Louis Missouri.

Bob believed in service to your country, community and family.

Over the years he followed different career paths, police office, teaching and military service. He retired after 20 years of service in different branches, U.S. Army, Inactive Reserves and National Guard.

He will be known for a lifelong passion for military history and collecting military memorabilia.

Bob is survived by his wife, Georgia; two sons, Robert and Ben (Sandra); two daughters, Lee (Cyle) and Rose and two grandchildren, Dylan and Jessica.

Bob is preceded in death by his parents and one son, Kenneth (K.C)

The family asks that any donations in memory of Bob are made out to the Autism Project https://theautismproject.org/.

w34p A00006B2025AU13

Roger Germann

Roger Allen Germann, 84, Moorhead, formerly of Staples, died Monday, August 4, 2025, at Farmstead Living, Moorhead.

Arrangements by Korsmo Funeral and Cremation Service, Moorhead.

www.korsmofuneralservice.com.

w34c A00006B2025AU13

Carol Johnson



Carol Andrea Johnson, 94, of Motley, went home to be with her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on August 1, 2025.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Friday, August 22 at Lincoln Evangelical Free Church, 1354 320th Street, Cushing. Visitation with the family will begin at 10:00 a.m. and the service will begin at 11:00 a.m., with lunch following. Pastor Don Reigstad will officiate.

No open mic time will be offered during the funeral service; the family would appreciate your sharing remembrances, stories, etc on Carol's obituary page at www.brenny.com, in the "Guestbook". The funeral service will be livestreamed on the church's YouTube channel, at https://youtube.com/@lincolnefree798.

Carol was born May 11, 1931, to Albert and Jennie Sandberg in Minneapolis. She grew up in Minneapolis with her siblings, Eljane and Maynerd and later moved with her family to Crystal. Carol cherished memories from her childhood - stories of wartime simplicity, playful mischief with her older brother and the spiritual foundation laid when her father left his job at the Minneapolis Tribune to follow his calling as a full-time gospel minister.

After graduating from Robbinsdale High School in 1949, Carol worked in payroll at General Mills and attended MacPhail College of Music and Northwestern College. In 1952, she married Wesley Johnson. They moved to Chicago where he completed seminary. Together, they raised a family and served in various churches across the Midwest. In 1977, she and Wes moved to Crystal Lake, IL where Wes was Superintendent of the Great Lakes District of the Evangelical Free Church of America. Carol served faithfully alongside Wes in the District offices until their "retirement" in 1995 when they moved to Minnesota. Apple Valley first and with "full" retirement, to Motley in 2006. Wes passed away in 2020 after their 68 years of marriage.

Carol remained active in her church, deeply invested in her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren and continually anchored by her faith.

Carol was affectionately known as both "Grandma" and "Bop" - a nickname given by her oldest grandchildren. Her grandchildren hold countless cherished memories of time spent at her house, remembering her as caring, funny, kind, down to earth, a prayer warrior and a delightful goofball. She was steady, sassy, sometimes brutally honest and always full of love. When they visited, she and Wes would say, "We wish you could stay forever." Above all, she was a woman of God and her faith touched everyone who knew her.

She is survived by two sons, Larry (Lois) Johnson of Motley and Rick (Jan) Johnson of Kalispell, MT; one daughter, Tammy (Brian) Teyema of Barrington Hills, IL; nine grandchildren, Lisa (Charlie) Anderson, Kimberly (Charlie) Carlson, Sarah Johnson, Rachel Johnson, Katie VanDixhorn, Matthew (Maddie) VanDixhorn, Alison (Gerrit) Immink, Ashley (Jay) Williams and Whitney VanDixhorn; 17 great-grandchildren, Dayton, Camden, Ashton, Waylen and Hazel Anderson; Eli and Owen Carlson; Maia, Noah and Judah Johnson-Mendoza; Henry and Cecelia Immink; Sage, Scout, Lewis and Piper Williams and Asher Dahmm.

Her legacy of love, faith, and service continues through each of them.

She also is survived by one sister-in-law, Marie Hauck of Ramsey and many, many loved neices, nephews, cousins and dear friends.

w34c A00006B2025AU13

Ottar (Al) Flack



Ottar Allen "Al" Flack, 94, passed away peacefully, August 2, 2025.

Celebration of Life services were held August 9 at Peace Lutheran Church, Nevis.

Al was born June 26, 1931 to Ottar and Helen (Nordberg) Flack in Starbuck.

He was a graduate of Starbuck High School and Concordia College, Moorhead.

During his senior year in college, he married Jean Baasen. They had four children and were married for nearly 71 years.

After teaching for a year in Middle River, he was drafted and served two years in the U.S. Army, much of that time stationed in Germany.

Upon his return from service, Al attended graduate school at the University of Minnesota and taught in Evansville for two years before moving to Staples where he taught high school math until his retirement in 1987. He also taught driver's education and was the ticket sales manager for Staples High School athletics for many years. After retirement, Al and Jean moved to their lake home on Island Lake north of Park Rapids. In 2018, they moved to Crystal Brook Senior Living in Park Rapids.

Al was always active in church, the choirs, on the council, as congregation president and in Bible studies.

Other activities included Sons of Norway, Men's Chorus (Staples), Classic Chorale (Park Rapids), fishing, wood working and home improvement projects. He also enjoyed playing Bridge with friends, Cribbage with family and he was an avid Twins and Vikings fan.

Al is survived by one son, John (Jan) Flack; two daughters, Carol (Carl) Larson and Becky (Bryan) Lambrechts, six grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Jean; one son, Paul; parents and one brother, Chet Flack.

Al's children would like to give a special thank you to the staffs at Crystal Brook in Park Rapids and Green Pine Acres in Menagha for the excellent care they provided for Al.

Arrangements were by Cease Family Funeral Home of Park Rapids

w34c A00006B2025AU13

Life Currents Policy

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 adveritising 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 webstie.

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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Classifieds

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Getting started on golf

The Staples-Motley youth golf program had more than 30 participants age 5-12 this summer. Pictured, some of the golfers in their new golf outfits that were a part of the program. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)





Following in their footsteps

Staples-Motley football team held a youth camp Aug 5-7, with third through sixth grade athletes learning football drills and skills, under the watchful eye of varsity players who demonstrated for them. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



















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205 Help Wanted

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cl33-34c

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Staples Railroad Days
August 14 - 16
City Wide Garage Sales

Multi-Family Sale: Thurs., Aug. 14, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Fri., Aug. 15, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. 120 Kansas Ave SE, Staples. 34p

Garage Sale: Thurs., Aug. 14, Fri., Aug. 15, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. 987 Pleasant Ave. NE, Staples. 34p

Garage Sale: Thurs., Aug. 14, Fri., Aug. 15, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. 1306 3rd St. NE, Staples. Apt. D. 34p

3rd Annual
FLEA MARKET SALE
at Bob 'n Marlene's
Friday, Aug. 15
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cl35-36c

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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
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Income guidelines apply.

Garage Sales

701

GARAGE SALE: ANTIQUES, COLLECTABLES, CANNING KETTLES, JARS, CLOTHING, TOOLS, STORAGE AND MUCH MORE: **Thurs., Aug. 14-Fri., Aug. 15, 7 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sat., Aug. 16, 7 a.m.-noon.** 304 Warner Rd NE, Staples. 34p

GARAGE SALE: Thurs., Aug. 14, Fri., Aug. 15, Sat., Aug. 16, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., 421 2nd Ave. NE, Staples (the former Longbella Drug store building downtown). Items include furniture, antiques, vintage clothing, toys, housewares, tools, sporting goods, clothing, display cases/ racks/ shelving, seasonal items, more. 34p

GARAGE SALE: Thurs., Aug. 14, Fri., Aug. 15, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Priced to sell - $10 below sale, 224 Park Rd, Staples. Dishes, home décor, entertainment (records, VHS movies, cookbooks, magazines, sporting equipment, etc.), walkers/ canes, some misc. items. 34p

GARAGE AND CRAFT SALE: Thurs., Aug. 14, 4-7 p.m., Fri., Aug. 15, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. 515 McKinley St. SW, Staples. Clothing: newborn-5T, girls-sz. 12, adult, med.-3xxx; a lot of baby items, household items, furniture, toys. **CRAFTS:** embroidered flour sack towels, crocheted dish clothes, scrubbies, doilies, baby blankets. 34p

GARAGE SALE: Thurs., Aug. 14, Fri., Aug. 15, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. 16994 Wilderness Dr., Staples. Toys, clothing, furniture, kitchenware, more. 34p

DOWNSIZING "PRE-ESTATE" INDOOR GARAGE SALE: Thurs., Aug. 14, Fri., Aug. 15, Sat., Aug. 16, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. 12330 Trout Lane, Motley. 1 mile N on #64, left on 124th, right on Trout Lane. Toys, games; men, women, kid's clothing; household items, electric/smoker, carpet cleaner, Christmas décor, vintage Little Wonder books, other vintage items, bedding, jewelry, Medtronic Mini-Med insulin supplies, bobbleheads, wheel covers/hubcaps, camping items, pool supplies, window screens, burlap sacks, kid's books, garden items, mountain bike, scrubs, horse tack, various tools, 100's of DVD's, much misc. Rain or shine. 34p

ANNUAL MULTI-FAMILY SHED SALE: YELLOW SIGNS, 10707 285th Ave., Staples. **Thurs., Aug. 14, 3-7 p.m., Fri., Aug. 15, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.** Name brand, boutique clothing, girl's 10/12, women's plus. Allen, Berg, Johnson, Zetah. 34p

YARD SALE: Thurs., Aug. 14, Fri., Aug. 15, Sat., Aug. 16, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Lot's/ lot's of miscellaneous. 10279 231st Ave., Staples. 34p

ANNUAL EBLEN 6-FAMILY GARAGE SALE: Thurs., Aug. 14 - Fri., Aug. 15, 9 a.m-5 p.m., Sat., Aug. 16 9 a.m.-noon. Staples Lions Building (Wisconsin Ave.,) (moved from Motley fairgrounds). Books, clothing, material, crafts, toys and misc. 34p

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PROFESSIONAL

Sellnow Law Office, P.A.
*Thomas H. Sellnow**
sellnowt@sellnowlaw.com
Jason R. Sellnow
sellnowj@sellnowlaw.com
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229 Central Ave., Long Prairie
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NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION

Swedish Baptist Church of Reynolds

Pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 317A.727, Reynolds Baptist Church and Reynolds Baptist Church f/k/a the Swedish Baptist Church of Reynolds (hereinafter, together, "Reynolds Baptist") (EIN: 41-1463377) is providing written notice to known and potential creditors that the organization is in the process of dissolving. Reynolds Baptist was originally organized under Minnesota Statutes Chapter 315 in 1896. Thereafter, on March 23, 2007, Reynolds Baptist formed a Minnesota nonprofit corporation organized under Minnesota Statutes Chapter 317A (File Number 2276906-2). More recently, on July 1, 2025, Reynolds Baptist elected to convert the Chapter 315 organization to a nonprofit corporation governed under Minnesota Statutes Chapter 317A (File Number 1566778600042). It is believed that both legal entities used the same EIN and operated as the same organization. Reynolds Baptist's Board of Directors executed a written resolution on October 24, 2024, voting via written action to dissolve the organization. The motion passed unanimously 2-0, with no abstaining votes. On July 29, 2025, Reynolds Baptist filed a Notice of Intent to Dissolve with the Minnesota Secretary of State's Office pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 317A.723. Any written claims against Reynolds Baptist must be presented by October 31, 2025 and mailed to:

Jennifer L. Urban, Esq.
Legal for Good PLLC
5353 Gamble Dr., Suite 320
St. Louis Park, MN 55416

33-36pnp

CITY OF STAPLES
Summary Financial Report

The purpose of this report is to provide a summary of financial information concerning the City of Staples to interested citizens. The complete financial statements may be examined at Staples City Hall at 122 6th St NE.
Questions about this report should be directed to the City Clerk at (218) 894-2550

Revenue and Expenditures for General Operations (Governmental Funds)

	Total 2023	Total 2024	% Increase or (Decrease)
Revenues:			
Property Taxes	$ 1,018,932	$ 1,051,592	3.21%
Special Assessments	119,970	98,562	-17.84%
Licenses and Permits	277,869	162,719	-41.44%
Intergovernmental Revenues	1,485,764	1,924,332	29.52%
Charges for Services	415,883	477,747	14.88%
Fines and Forfeits	20,292	20,379	0.43%
Investment Earnings	235,945	60,799	-74.23%
Miscellaneous	939,277	107,213	-88.59%
Total Revenues	$ 4,513,932	$ 3,903,343	-13.53%
Per Capita	1,504.64	1,301.11	-13.53%
Expenditures:			
Current:			
General Government	$ 415,885	$ 486,645	17.01%
Public Safety	1,269,007	1,565,577	23.37%
Streets and Highways	672,718	637,252	-5.27%
Economic Development	489,663	827,834	69.06%
Parks and Recreation	103,938	182,331	75.42%
Airport	182,645	138,352	-24.25%
Debt Service:			
Principal	1,003,000	500,000	-50.15%
Interest and Other Charges	232,370	136,736	-41.16%
Capital Outlay	647,604	580,600	-10.35%
Total Expenditures	$ 5,016,830	$ 5,055,327	-0.76%
Per Capita	1,672.28	1,685.11	-0.76%
Total Long-term Indebtedness	$ 10,685,804	$ 10,573,447	-1.05%
Per Capita	3,561.93	3,524.48	-1.05%
General Fund & Special Revenue Funds Unrestricted Fund Balance - December 31	$ 1,654,191	$ 1,805,154	9.13%
Per Capita	551.40	601.72	9.13%

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID STAPLES COMMUNITY CENTER REMODEL

Contractor's sealed proposals for the construction of Staples Community Center Remodel will be received by the Owner in accordance with the plans and specifications prepared by:

ARCHITECT
WiDSETH
650 3rd Avenue SE, Suite 10
Perham, MN 56573

SITE VISIT INFORMATION
Pre-Bid Meeting:
08-18-2025, at 10:00 A.M. (CST)

BID DATE INFORMATION: 09-04-2025
Bid Time: 2:00 P.M. (CST)
Location: City Hall, Council Chambers
Attn: Jerel Nelsen, City Administrator
122 6th Street NE, Staples, MN 56479
at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud for the construction of the above named project. Envelopes containing bids must be sealed, clearly marked on the lower left-hand corner "Bid Enclosed for Staples Community Center Remodel" and with the name and address of the bidder and the date and hour of the opening.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The project consists of the alteration and construction of renovating the existing men's and women's locker room, to make it more ADA accessible. The project will include demolition, new construction, including but not limited to CMU, aluminum storefront, toilet partitions, plumbing fixtures, HM doors and frames, updating Mechanical, Plumbing and Electrical as required.

Each bid must be accompanied with a cashier's check, bid bond, U.S. Government Bonds (at par value) or certified check equal to five percent (5%) of the amount of the proposal. Security is payable to the Owner as a guarantee of prompt execution of the contract in accordance with the proposal and Contract documents, along with furnishing Payment and Performance Bonds of One Hundred percent (100%) of the bid amount acceptable to the Owner.

Bids received after the deadline will be returned unopened. Bids are to be submitted on the Bid Form provided in the project manual. Bids not received on the Bid Form will be cause for rejection.

Complete digital project bidding documents are available at https://widseth.com. Click "Bid Documents" in the top right corner of your screen or go to www.questcdn.com and enter the Quest project No. 9820173 on the website's Project Search page. Please contact QuestCDN.com at (952) 233-1632 or info@questcdn.com for assistance in free membership registration, downloading and working with this digital project information. You may download the digital plan documents electronically for $30. An optional paper set of project documents is also available from CES Imaging for a non-refundable price of $30 plus printing costs. If you choose a paper copy you will get all addenda as paper copies and will be charged for the printing costs. Please make your check payable to CES Imaging and send it to 1701 James Circle N, Brooklyn Center, MN 55430. Please contact CES Imaging Repro Dept at (763) 560-9098 or (800) 831-8587 for pricing and if you have any questions.

The successful bidder must be a "responsible contractor." The term "responsible contractor" means a contractor as defined in Minnesota Statutes Section 16C.285, subdivision 3. Any prime contractor, subcontractor, or motor carrier that does not meet the minimum criteria or fails to comply with the verification requirements is not a responsible contractor and is not eligible to be awarded a construction contract for the project or to perform work on the project. A prime contractor, subcontractor, or motor carrier that makes a false statement under oath verifying compliance with the minimum criteria will be ineligible to be awarded a construction contract on the project and the submission of a false statement may result in termination of a contract awarded to a prime contractor, subcontractor, or motor carrier that submits the false statement. A prime contractor shall include in its verification of compliance a list of all of its first-tier subcontractors that it intends to retain for work on the project. Before execution of a construction contract, a prime contractor shall submit a supplemental verification under oath confirming that all subcontractors and motor carriers that the prime contractor intends to use to perform project work have verified to the prime contractor, through a signed statement under oath by an owner or officer, that they meet the minimum criteria for a responsible contractor.

Bids may not be withdrawn within forty-five (45) days after the scheduled closing time for receiving bids without consent of the Owner. The Owner reserves the right to reject any and all bids and rebid the project until a satisfactory bid is received.

No bid will be read or considered if the bid does not fully comply with the requirements of this invitation and/or other bidding and contract documents. Any deficient bid submitted will be resealed and returned to the bidder immediately.

By: Jerel Nelsen,
City Administrator
City of Staples

34-36pnc

TODD COUNTY BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

215 First Ave. South
Long Prairie,
Minnesota 56347
320-732-4420
toddplan.zone@co.todd.mn.us

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that on **Thursday, August 28, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.** the Todd County Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing in the Commissioner's board room, 215 1st Ave South, Suite 301, Long Prairie, Minnesota.

NOTE: This meeting is again being held in-person and the public is encouraged to attend. Those who do attend in person can find parking atop the hill on the west side of the Historic Courthouse and enter through the north doors, near the American Flag and monument.

Questions? Call or email 320-732-4420 or toddplan.zone@co.todd.mn.us

Agenda
•Call to Order
•Pledge of Allegiance
•Introduction of Board of Adjustment Members and process review
•Approval of agenda
•Approval of July 24, 2025 Board of Adjustment's meeting minutes
•The applicant is introduced
•Staff report
•Applicant confirms if staff report accurately represents the request
•Site Visit Review
•Public comment
•Board review with applicant, staff, and public

1. Michael G. and Julie A. Wehlage: Section 29, Grey Eagle Township, Big Birch Lake

Site Address: 30422 Aspen Dr., Grey Eagle, MN 56336

PID: 11-0062300

1. Request to reduce the road right of way setback from 35' to 20' for construction of a small cabin addition

2. Request to reduce the lake setback from 100' to 55' for construction of small cabin addition

3. Request to increase the total impervious surface coverage allowed from 25% to 33.8% and the impervious roof surface allowed from 15% to 19.2% for small addition to cabin all in Recreational Development Shoreland Zoning District.

2. James Benson: Section 20, Kandota Township, Fairy Lake

Site Address: 18895 Adams Drive, Sauk Centre, MN 56378

PID: 14-0036300

1. Request to reduce the lake setback from 150' to 56.3' for construction of a storm shelter addition to existing cabin in Natural Environment Shoreland Zoning District.

3. Mike Gallus: Section 34, Turtle Creek Township, Loon Lake

Site Address: 33798 321st Ave., Cushing, MN 55438

PID: 24-0037201

1. Request to reduce the lake setback from 150' to 90' for the construction of a home in Natural Environment Shoreland Zoning District.

4. Northern Natural Gas Company: Section 29, Long Prairie Township, Venewitz Creek

Site Address: 23811 230 Street, Long Prairie, MN 56347

PID: 18-0033500

1. Request to reduce the 150-foot structural setback from Venewitz Creek OHW to 118 feet. This is a natural gas town border station, where the Northern Natural Gas transmission lines connect to the customer distribution lines. Replacing the two existing buildings, piping, and pipeline heater with new single building, new heater and new piping in Natural Environment Shoreland District Zoning.

5. Sheila Asmus: Section 23, Turtle Creek Township, Big Lake

Site Address: 36000 Northern Drive, Cushing, MN 56443

PID: 24-0024200

1. Request to reduce the 100-foot structural setback from OHW to 82 feet, for the construction of a guest cottage

2. Request to reduce the lot size requirement of 80,000 sq. ft. to 68,428 sq. ft. for the construction of a guest cottage

3. Request to increase the height of the guest cottage from 15' max allowed to 18' to accommodate handicapped lift system in the future, all in Recreational Development Shoreland Zoning District.

6. Robert Fritze: Section 34, Leslie Township, Osakis Lake

Site Address: 21499 Fiddle Trail, Osakis, MN 56360

PID: 15-0049100

1. Request to increase peak height of a non-conforming structure from 18 feet to 24 feet

2. Request to reduce the lake setback from 75 feet to 53 feet to relocate garage to adjoin cabin

3. Request to reduce the ROW setback from 35 feet to 18 inches to relocate same garage to adjoin cabin, all in General Development Shoreland Zoning District.

Adjournment.

Next meeting:
September 25, 2025

All persons interested are invited to attend said hearing or submit a letter to be heard on these matters. **All correspondence must include name, mailing address and be received 48 hours before the date and time of the hearing.**

Todd County Board of Adjustment
Russell Vandenheuvel, Chair

34pnc

Staples Area Church Directory

Staples

Staples Alliance
1512 8th St. NE, Staples 218-894-2891
Jonny Olson, Associate Pastor
Sunday Worship.....9:30 a.m.
Sunday School .....11:00 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
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
Pastor Carl Larson
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.....218-894-2296
info@marysacc.org
Father JC Duncan, 218-632-7314
Father Rick Aubol, 218-632-7310
Father Greg Sauer
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
Pastor Scott Jorgenson
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
1st St. and Birch, Motley 218-894-2296
info@marysacc.org
Fr. Aaron Kuhn Fr. Gabriel Walz
MASS:
Saturday.....4:00 p.m.

St. Michael
280 1st Ave S, Motley.....218-894-2296
Father JC Duncan, 218-632-7314
Father Rick Aubol, 218-632-7310 Father Greg Sauer
Sunday.....10:30 a.m. (May - Nov.)
Saturday ..... 4:00 p.m. (Dec - April)

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
VerndaleFLC@gmail.com
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
Verndale 218-894-2296
info@marysacc.org
Father JC Duncan, 218-632-7314
Father Rick Aubol, 218-632-7310 Father Greg Sauer
MASS: Saturday .....6:00 p.m

St. Hubert Catholic Church
Bluegrass.....218-894-2296
info@marysacc.org
Father JC Duncan, 218-632-7314
Father Rick Aubol, 218-632-7310 Father Greg Sauer
Sunday Service..... 10:00 a.m. (Dec. - April)
Saturday .....4:00 p.m. (May - Nov.)

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
Father JC Duncan, 218-632-7314
Father Rick Aubol, 218-632-7310 Father Greg Sauer
Mass: Sunday.....10 a.m.

"The Love Chapter"

Pastor Barry Klein, Staples Church of Christ

I am intrigued by how many different styles of writing that God used with His some 40 different individual writers of the 66 books of the Bible. When in II Timothy 3:16 it describes Scriptures (the Bible) as being "God-breathed," we are assured that all the variety of styles are used creatively by God, being guided by His Spirit.

We have examples from history, as in C.S. Lewis, as to how powerful differing genres can be to express living truth in various ways. The apostle Paul is no exception in the way God used him to write so much of the New Testament. We get some of the deepest truths from his pen from his letters to various churches and individuals, to profound insights on marriage, even though he was single, to the call to love lavishly and sacrificially in I Corinthians 13.

Let's listen in to a part of that chapter in verses 4-8a (NIV) when we hear, "Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no records of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil, but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, it always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails."

That may be the most wonderful earthy description of what it means to be a person that loves that way. Of course, only Jesus lived that way perfectly. Yet, there is much for each one of us to move toward in a more deep and intentional way.

Here's an essential point with it all. We need to draw that I Corinthians 13 love FROM God's perfect sacrificial love towards us. Think of God's love as a large ocean, that we draw from and the share with another person, a teaspoon full at a time. You see, the kind of love (agape) that God calls us to share with another person is too deep, rich and far reaching for us to manufacture it ourselves. We need to realize that none of us could accomplish what Jesus did on the cross for each one of us with His perfect, sinless blood in our place.

Jesus' ultimate sacrifice of Himself to pay sin's price is the measure and source of the love we are called to draw upon from Him, to then share with another person. Again, there's no way we can come up with that kind of love of our own doing.

Please slowly read through I Corinthians 13:4-8a again, asking, "am I drawing upon God's love in order to share these descriptions with the people that God has entrusted to me in my life's store?" God wants and desires for you and me to be a living vessel of sharing His love with those around us. Love well!

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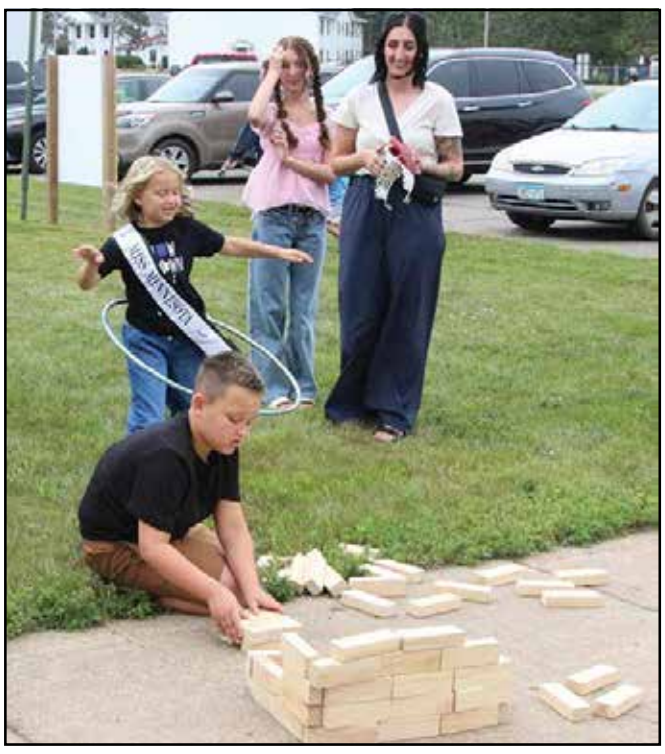
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National Night Out held at Staples Airport on Aug. 6





Hundreds of people came to the National Night Out on Aug. 6, hosted by the Staples Police Department and the City of Staples, with Staples Motley Beyond Poverty and Staples Rotary providing food and Staples Motley Women of Today providing games and face-painting. First responders included Motley Police, county sheriffs, Staples and Motley fire departments, and the DNR fire helicopter. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



















Old Wadena Rendezvous and Chatauqua, Aug. 9-10











Music at Old Wadena Rendezvous

Above, the band Boots and Needles plays at the Old Wadena Rendezvous. Left, Curtis and Loretta play a song. Both bands feature historical American music for the event. Other photos show hands-on crafts, historical displays, games and building activities at the event. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)













New crosswalks around NP Park

Crosswalks were painted at the four corners of Northern Pacific Park in Staples, to make drivers aware of people walking or riding bikes to the park on 6th Street and 7th Street NE. (Submitted photos)

Hikers crossing

Another new crosswalk was installed across Airport Road, leading walkers to the newly formed Legacy Arboretum and Nature Trail. The grand opening of the arboretum is at 5:30 p.m., Wednesday, Aug. 13. The parking lot is at the corner of Airport Road and Summit Ave. in Staples.



Area first responders participate in mass casualty incident training exercise

On July 17, a large-scale training exercise was held just south of Staples to prepare local emergency personnel for response to a potential mass casualty incident (MCI). The training was a coordinated effort between Lakewood Health System's Emergency Medical Services (EMS) team in Staples, the Staples Fire Dept., and the Staples Police Dept.

The simulated scenario involved a two-vehicle accident at the intersection of Hwy 210 and Cty Rd 7, with multiple volunteer participants acting as victims suffering from a range of injuries. The drill tested the ability of first responders to assess, triage and manage care in a chaotic, high-pressure environment.

This kind of training is critical to ensuring those responsible for responding to real-life emergency situations are ready to do so quickly and effectively. It allows each team to practice their communication, coordination and decision-making not only within their team, but across departments. It's especially valuable for newer team members who haven't experienced an incident of this scale, or worked directly with members of the other departments.

The exercise emphasized collaboration between fire, police, and EMS teams… each playing a vital role in ensuring scene safety, providing medical care and managing traffic and logistics.

Lakewood Health System and its emergency partners are committed to community safety and preparedness, and plan to continue similar joint exercises in the future to strengthen response efforts.

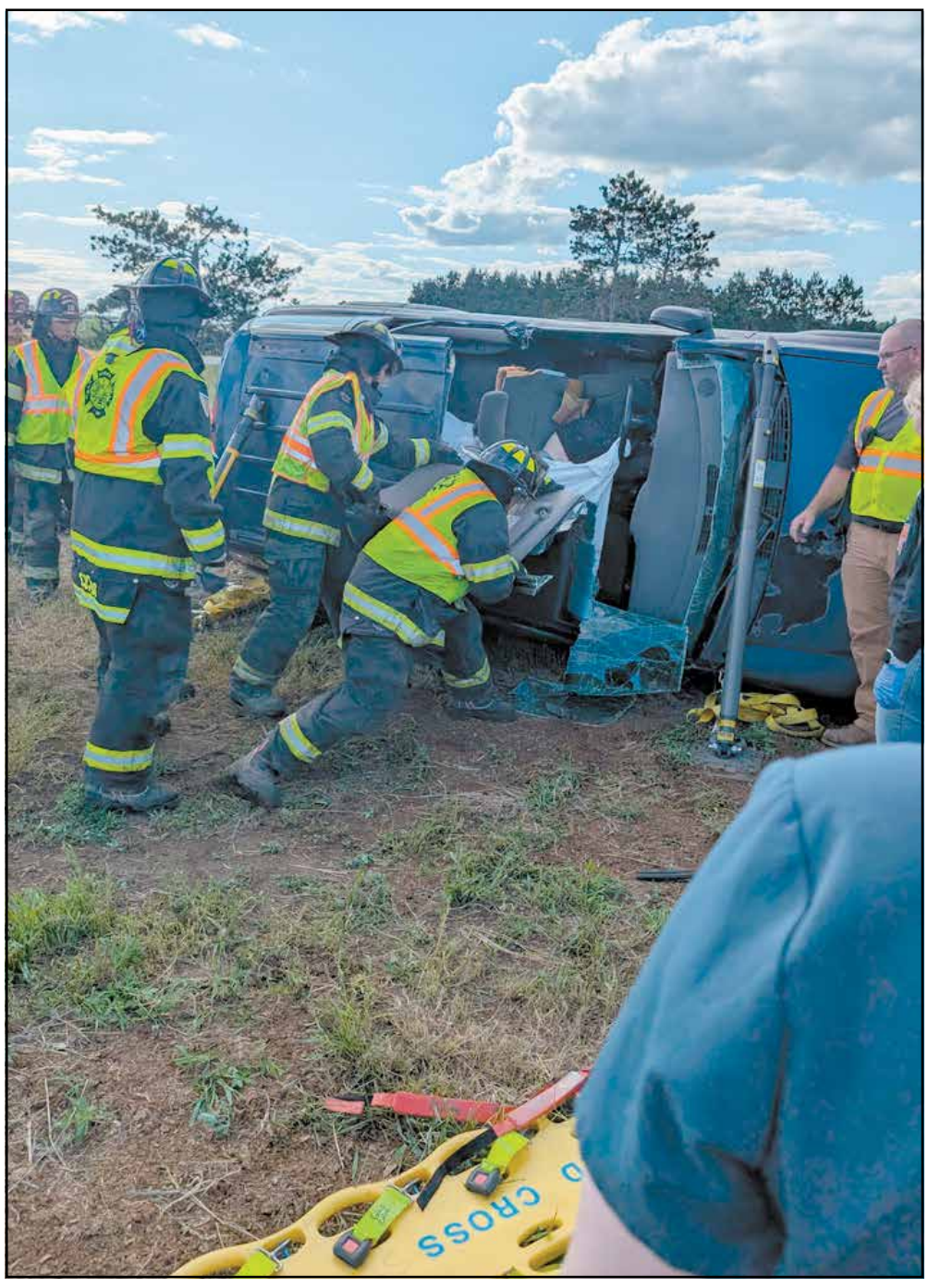


Training exercise in action

Members of Lakewood Health System EMS, Staples Fire Dept. and Staples Police Dept. took part in a large-scale training exercise south of Staples July 17. (Submitted photos)









Farm Safety

Look up for power lines

BE AWARE.
Keep equipment clear of power lines and poles.

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

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

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