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Bring back the Pony Express?
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Wednesday, May 13, 2026

Staples World

Staples, Minnesota

\$125



Filling the cracks with red sand

Members of the Student Senate at Central Lakes College in Staples participated in the Red Sand Project May 7, helping to raise awareness about human trafficking and exploitation by filling sidewalk cracks with red

sand. The project highlights vulnerable, overlooked populations, including indigenous people, by symbolizing those who fall through systemic cracks. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

City council poised to change flag

By Mark Anderson
Publisher

At their April 28 meeting, the Staples City Council tried to change the flag displayed in the city hall

council chambers from the current official Minnesota state flag to the former state flag. The motion was tabled because the topic was not on the council agenda for See **COUNCIL** on page 12a



REDress Project observed

Toy Ross-Sullivan, Student Success Navigator at Central Lakes College in Staples, stands near two of several red dresses hung outside the campus May 7, as part of the REDress Project. The project, initiated by artist Jaime Black in 2010, is a public art installation featuring empty red dresses hung in public spaces to raise awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG) across Canada and the U.S.

In her artist statement, Black writes, “The REDress Project is a call to action to end violence against Indigenous women and girls. Through the placing of REDresses, we acknowledge the spirits of those who have crossed over and honor their lives by collectively creating a growing movement towards social change.

It’s a project that means a lot to Ross-Sullivan, who is Native American herself. She shared that she is a tribal member of Upper Sioux Community and is enrolled in Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate in South Dakota. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Traditional native music A drum circle performed several Native American songs during the American Indian Graduation at Staples-Motley High School on May 6. The group came from the White Earth Reservation near Mahanomen. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)



Senior stars

Pamela Lawrence and Ruby Thoe show the star blankets they received during the American Indian Graduation on May 6, the star patterns representing traditional Native American art. American Indian liaison BobbyJo Johnson said the star is a symbol that “your community stands behind you.”



Moving up in school

Kindergarten student Melanie Walters receives a book from BobbyJo Johnson, American Indian liaison for the Staples-Motley School District. Walters was one of the students honored for moving on to a new level of education at the American Indian Graduation on May 6. Below, Johnson helps Pamela Lawrence put on her graduation blanket at the ceremony.(Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



Weather

2026 This Week's Forecast				
	High	Low	Cond.	
May 13	73	47	Sunny	
May 14	71	54	M. Cloudy	
May 15	76	47	M. Cloudy	
May 16	68	48	P. Cloudy	
May 17	59	42	Rain	
May 18	57	39	Cloudy	
May 19	70	45	Cloudy	

Last Year, 2025				
	High	Low	Cond.	
May 13	88°	63	Sunny	
May 14	81	60	M. Sunny	
May 15	72	64	Rain	
May 16	50	44	Rain	
May 17	55	35	M. Cloudy	
May 18	54	38	M. Sunny	
May 19	50	35	Cloudy	

Average Temps:
H = 68° Low = 45°

*Compiled by
Dale Hausmann,
WCCO's Staples area
Weatherwatcher*

Public Notices

Cass County **9A**
Todd weed **9A**
eradication **9A**
Todd BOA **9A**
Todd **10A**
Commissioners

Obituaries

Ethel Bartylla
Carol Kramer
Linette Horn
Rebecca
Lindgren



Helping raise awareness



Toy Ross-Sullivan (above) and Kerry Allen (below), staff members at Central Lakes College (CLC) in Staples, participated in the Red Sand Project May 7, at the CLC campus. The project, founded by Molly Gochman in 2014, uses red sand to fill sidewalk cracks, symbolizing marginalized individuals - including Indigenous people - who fall through social and economic gaps, particularly regarding human trafficking. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



Hiking club first outing

The Legacy Arboretum committee has started a Wednesday evening hiking club, free and open to anyone interested. Pictured on May 6, the first hike of the year, from left are John Jewison, Bucky Blanchard, Lisa Fontaine and Norston Fontaine with their dog, People are invited to meet at the entrance to the arboretum and nature trail, 713 Airport Road, at 6 p.m. on Wednesdays for short hikes around the arboretum to view the nature area and note changes over the course of the year. One new item spotted during the first hike was a series of birdhouses in the arboretum, right. All ages are welcome, dogs must be on a leash.



Quilt club members at work

Members of the Piecemakers Quilt Group spent time working on their creations April 9, at Faith Lutheran Church in Staples. From left are members Annette Good and Mary Theurer. Theurer said she is working on a Quilt of Valor which will be given to a veteran. She's sewn over 50 Quilts of Valor to date. The Piecemakers have other projects as well, including making quilts for missions. The club meets the second Thursday of the month at Faith Lutheran Church and welcomes new members. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



Barn quilt at Legacy Arboretum



A new barn quilt has been installed at the Legacy Arboretum in Staples. It is named "Where The Forests Meet," based on the uniqueness of the Minnesota ecological biomes that meet here in Staples, the northern pines and southern hardwoods. The area also has aspects of the aspen biome of the northwest and the prairie biome from the southwest. Above, Staples-Motley student Lexi Opelia paints the quilt, which is now on the Barn Quilts of Central MN trail. (Submitted photos)

JOIN US

Live Well

A CELEBRATION OF AGING



Central Lakes College: Staples Campus

1830 Airport Rd, Staples

Thursday, May 21

8 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Tickets only \$15

Tickets can be purchased at:
shorturl.at/NT3L7
Or by calling 218-894-8579

With outstanding speakers and dozens of local vendors, this event brings older adults together for a day of education and fun.



Julie Stern

| Iten Funeral Home

Join us for a conversation on prepaid funeral planning—helping seniors reduce stress and plan confidently.



Mitch Fritz, PsyD, LP

| Psychologist

Explore how sleep changes with aging and learn practical ways seniors can improve rest and overall health.



Adrianne Moen, MD

| Family Medicine Physician

Learn how to stay strong and steady as you age with Dr. Moen and members of Twin Cities Orthopedics.

*If registrations are received before May 15th, a lunch is included with your purchase.
If registrations are received on or after May 15th, a lunch is not guaranteed.

SEDA sets sights on housing

By Mark Anderson
Publisher

The Staples Economic Development Authority (SEDA) suggested that housing should be a main focus as they discussed developing another strategic plan for the organization.

Economic Development Director Jim Hanson told the board he has reviewed the “report card” left by his predecessor Lucas Wakefield, showing that most of the economic goals set three years ago had been achieved or were capable of being achieved. He wondered if the board wanted to develop more goals or a new vision and strategic plan.

SEDA board member Steve Gertken said the there is growth in other areas of the city, but it is being hampered by lack of housing.

“We would gain business if we had more residential housing for employment,” said Gertken.

City Administrator Jerel Nelsen told the board there are a few houses for sale in the city, ranging in price from \$100,000 to \$500,000. He said there are several lots available to build single-family homes and the area near the Valley View

subdivision has a possibility of larger lots to build homes in a more rural setting.

Board member Doug Case suggested increasing manufacturing opportunities and pointed to a few former shops that are not being used now.

Theater building

SEDA members asked about the future of the Staples Theater building, which was damaged by a fire this spring.

Nelsen said the building owner brought in a structural engineer who did not find major problems, so it will not be condemned. They are getting quotes from electricians to redo the section that was damaged by the fire.

Nelsen said many of the apartments have no apparent fire damage, but the owners will have to “jump through some hoops” to get them opened for habitation again. He said the building owner is looking at roof repairs and is planning to rent the apartments again in the future.

In other news, the board heard from Nelsen that the Farmers Union meat cutting facility is going to test process the first few animals in mid-May and open it fully in June.

75 YEARS Ago - 1951

• May 10, 1951 - Mrs. E. R. Allen, of Route 2, Staples, is the newest correspondent to be added to The World staff of rural writers.

Mrs. Allen will write for the South Villard vicinity, which is southeast of Staples.

• May 10, 1951 - Richard Rasmussen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Rasmussen of Leader, has been named valedictorian of the Motley High School this year. Richard had an average of 93.94.

Darlene Hanson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Magnus Hanson of Motley, was selected as salutatorian, with an average of 93.60.

There are 26 senior graduates this year, eight of whom averaged 90 and over.

• May 10, 1951 - Duane

- O -
Compiled by
Dawn Timbs
- O -

Lund, vocational guidance instructor of the Staples high school was again elected president of the Todd County Educational Association at the annual meeting held in Clarissa Monday of last week.

Other officers for the coming year include Myron Engen of Staples, vice president; Norman Schmidt of Clarissa, secretary; Mrs. Edna Currie, of Long Prairie, treasurer.

• May 10, 1951 - Anderson Bros. of Brainerd were awarded the contract for the gravel base and bituminous surfacing of 13.9 miles of highway 64 from Motley north of Leader, according to the bulletin received from the state highway department the first of this week.

The bid totalled \$121,305, and it is expected that work will be started just as soon as conditions will permit the company to start.

• May 10, 1951 - At the meeting of the Staples Lions club held Monday evening in the St. Charles Hotel banquet room, Laurence Huff was elected president of the club for the 1951 - 52 year, succeeding Glenn Sansburn who has served for the past two years.

• May 10, 1951 - Dance at the Two Ten Tavern, Saturday, May 12. Music by Al Magnon and his Traveling Tramps.

• May 10, 1951 - Dance at the Clarissa Ballroom, Saturday, May 12. Music by Archie Viering and his Melody Aces Orchestra.

• May 10, 1951 - A Peep Peep Here and a Peep Peep There might well be symbolized with a Chick Chick Here and a Chick Chick There, in the old tune of “Old MacDonald Had A Farm” when a person visits the Staples Hatchery owned and operated by Mr. and Mrs. Bennie Boe, who have been busy the past several weeks getting baby chicks ready for patrons in Staples, this area and the surrounding communities.

Starting of the eggs in the large incubators at the hatchery was begun in February of this year, and since that time thousands of baby chicks have been hatched every Monday and Thursday. The large incubators, two of them, hold a total of 68,000 eggs at one time, and twice a week, since the first setting, baby chicks have been removed from these incubators, placed in the portable chick coops, fed, and then shipped out over



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

a wide area around Staples.

50 YEARS Ago - 1976

• May 6, 1976 - Charles Nelson and Todd Hess, both of Staples were the first place winners at the 13th annual Staples Rotary Community Art Show held last weekend in the high school cafeteria.

Nelson was the first place winner in the adult division with his oil painting of “Mallards in Timber.” He received \$20 and a ribbon as his prize.

Hess captured the first place in the student division, which was limited to Staples students only. He earned \$15 and a ribbon for his oil painting entitled “Waterfall.”

• May 6, 1976 - The annual Junior-Senior prom at Staples High school will be held Saturday, May 8, beginning at 8 p.m. in the Staples Auditorium.

The theme for the event this year is “Success is Nothing Unless You Have Someone You Love to Share it With.” The public is invited to the program. Admission will be 35 cents.

Kevin Crocker will be the master of ceremonies for the program. The welcome will be given by Nancy Kern, president of the Junior class, followed by the response by Larry Dumprope, senior class president.

The sophomore servers will present a skit. This group includes Lynn Anglin, Marge Goeden, Donna Kern, Sue Marden, Beth Tomsich, Kris Wilson, Bob Backberg, Scott Grossman, Todd Hess, Jim Kupitz, Tim Miller and Tom Sadusky. Alternates are Sue Ludovissie, Carol Flack, Rob Kennedy and Doug Olson. Dave Evans will give some humor and the program for the audience will conclude with the Grand March.

• May 6, 1976 - On May 5, Ernie's Food Market in Staples opened for business in their new building, located on east First Avenue.

Ernie Weber, owner of the business, stated, “This is one of the nicest, most modern shopping facilities in this area and the store will carry a complete line of all food merchandise.”

Weber started in the grocery business in Staples June 1, 1945, and the location of that first store is in

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.

the approximate area of his new market. In the 1950s, he moved to the location on North Fourth Street.

• May 6, 1976 - The Motley FFA chapter observed Arbor Day 1976 on April 30. Trees of six different varieties were planted on the school grounds to celebrate the annual school reforestation awareness activity. Six members of the Motley FFA chapter assisted elementary students in planting a class tree for each grade.

• May 6, 1976 - Fifty-three ninth graders and 34 fifth graders at Motley School collected over 350 bags of garbage during their annual observance of Earth Day. These students were under the guidance of Dale Rapovich, Fred Baker and Randy Robb.

25 YEARS Ago - 2001

• May 10, 2001 - The valedictorian and salutatorian of the class of 2001 have been selected at Staples Motley High School.

Jason Reck is this year's valedictorian and Mary DiGiovanni is the salutatorian.

The two have the highest grade point averages in their class, both just over 4.0. Both have been active in a variety of extra curricular areas in addition to set-

ting the pace in academic studies.

• May 10, 2001 - Students, community members and area pastors helped observe National Day of Prayer May 3, at the high school football field in Staples. The message was given by Pastor Roy Miles. Those attending observed a moment of silent prayer and joined in singing “Amazing Grace.”

• May 10, 2001 - Treat Mom to Dinner at the River Inn in Aldrich on Mother's Day, May 13. Buffet includes ham, chicken, roast beef & turkey with all the trimmings, plus salad bar and dessert. Adults, \$4.50; Under 10, \$3; Ages 3 & under, free.

10 YEARS Ago - 2016

• May 12, 2016 - Once upon a time they were pals, growing up in the railroad town of Staples, dreaming of the day they would be old enough to enter Lefty's Bar.

Now, years after graduating from high school and going their separate ways, Chuck Martin, Dan Meyer and Mark Leiwica (all of legal age) have reunited to open Roundhouse Brewery in Brainerd. They officially opened April 27, with a grand opening celebration planned for late May or early June.



Mystery solved

Last week's mystery photo published in the May 8, 1980 edition of the Staples World featured Staples High School (SHS) students Kathy Lauer (left), Jeff Krueger (right); and SHS science department head Ken LeVasseur who visited 3M Center in St. Paul for 3M's 24th annual Science Student Recognition Day. Lauer and Krueger were among 1,500 Minnesota and Wisconsin high school students representing 45 high schools invited to be a part of this day.

Judy Wolak of Staples correctly identified all, recalling LeVasseur was a science teacher at the high school. Thanks for participating in our mystery photo.



DEADLINES
Newspaper deadline for copy and advertising: 12 noon Fridays





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

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

*Regular advertising and copy
deadline is Friday, noon.*

The office closes at noon on Friday.

Across from the
old Staples Theatre
marquee



Bring back the Pony Express?

By Mark Anderson
Publisher

We heard from someone in Browerville who did not get their Staples World newspaper until Monday last week. We had mailed it the previous Tuesday. I remarked “they would have gotten it a lot faster if we had sent it by Pony Express.” We found out that the U.S. Postal Service has reduced the number of mail trucks going in and out of Staples to one truck per day. So now how it works for us, our newspapers are delivered to the post office on Tuesdays, the ones with Staples addresses stay here and are mailed the next day. The others have to wait until Wednesday’s truck to be brought to the St. Cloud processing center. I don’t know what happens to them

from that point on, but it takes several days to reach some mailboxes. This has nothing to do with our local postal workers, it is decisions made at the top, by people who have never visited this town. The U.S. Postal Service has been raising prices and cutting services for years. According to the Brookings Institute, (brookings.edu), much of the financial problem started with a 2007 requirement to fund employee health benefits 75 years into the future, something no other company does. They amended that requirement years later, but the financial constraints remain. We need to bring back the Pony Express, or at least the attitude that brought us the Pony Express. That was a result of a wild west that needed to communicate, so someone came up the dar-

ing and dangerous idea of horse riders carrying the mail back and forth where there were no roads. They saw a need and went above and beyond to meet that need. We still have the same need, but the attitude at the top isn’t to do everything they can to help us. Instead they make us suffer so that they can do the minimum to complete their obligation. We see more and more often that government is not trying to help us and big tech is not trying to help us. The only thing trying to help us is our local community, because we still have that connection that has been lost at a national level. We are the last of the Pony Express riders, small towns that can get things done despite the higher-ups trying to make a profit off of our pain.

Quote of the week

“Success usually comes to those who are too busy to be looking for it.”
— Henry David Thoreau

Organizations vs. interests, what makes you come alive?

By Becky McCray
SaveYour.Town

What makes you come alive? It’s not the committee list. I was in Caldwell, Kansas, population 1,000, with a group of about 50 people in the room for a community conversation. There were people from all ages, and it became obvious that not everyone knew everyone else. I asked them all to introduce themselves, and that’s when I saw the generation gap. The older people introduced themselves by the organizations they belong to and serve. One person said, “I’m on the chamber of commerce executive committee, I volunteer with the historical society and I’m on the Alumni Board.” The younger people introduced themselves by the activities they enjoy doing. Another person said, “I love to garden. Some friends and I do a book club. Oh, and I have a little free library.” I was fascinated. People saw themselves as part of organizations, or they saw themselves as enjoying specific things. If we want to reach and engage younger people, we need to stop asking them to join organizations and serve on committees. Instead, we can tap what they already love and invite them to activities they’ll enjoy. **Introduce yourself by activities, not organizations** I tried this again in a similar setting in Potlatch, Idaho, population 800. The whole range from high school students to older folks were there, along with some folks from outside organizations. I asked everyone to introduce themselves by what they like to do, not by organizations or job titles. And it was interesting! Far more interesting than the usual introductions with the same few organizations being mentioned. I learned more about people I already knew, and I got a better sense of people who were

new to me. It put the emphasis on the people and what they are doing, not the organizations. I watched as they made meaningful connections. The high school students connected with the older people at the arts council; they’re going to create fanciful musical instruments together for a public art sculpture thing. The person heading up the community garden connected with a new resident interested in self-sufficiency. I was watching their community come together. **Interests build connections** Surveys show people want to engage and connect with those around them, but they are not finding it easy. We’ve lost a lot of traditional connection points from our daily lives. And we’re seeing AI change the tasks people do and the very nature of work. While that plays out, our interests take on even more meaning. Identifying our interests, then looking for ways to do them with others can help us connect no matter what the future brings. Do you like reading? Join a book club, or a silent book club. Start a reading group. Ask at the library if there are existing reading groups you could be part of. Ask around whether schools, nursing homes, or libraries need volunteers to read with others. Don’t make it hard. Just take a chair and a book to the sidewalk and read in public. Pick one activity that helps you connect with others in a way you’ll enjoy. **Add introductions by interest to your next event** Next time you have a group together in person, make time for people to introduce themselves. And take it a step further and ask them to share their interests, what they already love to do, or activities they enjoy. Try that out and let me know how it goes.

Quote of the week

“The question is not whether this moment in history will be judged harshly in hindsight. It will. The question is whether journalism will again be the force that helps right the ship — not by force of opinion, but by force of fact.”
— Mike Blinder

House closer to full farm bill

By Kalee Olson
Senior Policy Manager
Center For Rural Affairs

On April 30, the House of Representatives passed the Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2026, moving the nation and rural communities one step closer to a new farm bill. The bill was passed by a vote of 224-200. Fourteen Democrats joined the majority of Republicans in voting for the bill, with three Republicans voting against it. Unlike the vote that took place on March 5, which was limited to the 56 members of the House Agriculture Committee, last week’s vote was made by all 435 members of the House. Because legislation regarding crop insurance and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) previously passed through the One Big Beautiful Bill Act last year, the House debate largely focused on an amendment to remove a provision that would protect pesticide manufacturers from lawsuits related to health risks. Additionally, lawmakers showed up to debate whether or not the vote should include a measure to allow for year-round sales

of E-15 fuel. The pesticide language was removed by a vote of 280-142, while a vote on E-15 legislation was bumped to May 13. The House vote reflects the most progress Congress has made toward passage of a new farm bill since the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 expired in 2023. Now attention will turn to the Senate, where the Senate Committee on Agriculture has yet to release its own version of the bill. Once passed by the full Senate, the two versions must be conferenced and approved again by both chambers before proceeding to the president’s desk and becoming law. The Center has been monitoring passage of a new farm bill and provisions that affect agricultural producers and rural communities. While the legislation touches all corners of rural life, points of interest include: Rural development: The bill includes reauthorization of and improvements to the Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program (RMAP) as outlined in the Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Act of 2025. In addition to reauthorizing the program through 2031,

the bill would raise the loan cap from \$50,000 to \$75,000, allow entrepreneurs to renovate existing buildings, and allow lenders to fully fund loans using RMAP dollars. In addition, the bill reduces the required match for lenders who serve areas with persistent poverty rates. Working lands conservation: The bill pulls \$1 billion from the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) over 10 years to support states and Tribes initiating or administering soil health programs. Additionally, the bill increases cost-share for precision agriculture in CSP and the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), and allows states to select carbon sequestration and greenhouse gas reduction as an issue to address when selecting priority practices for increased cost share. With the current farm bill extension set to expire on Sept. 30, now is an important time to contact your senator and ask them to prioritize meaningful progress on a farm bill. Stay tuned to the Farm Bill Bulletin in the coming weeks for ways to engage your member of Congress on issues that are important to all rural communities.

MnDOT rail plans include increased passenger service

The Minnesota Department of Transportation this week released an updated the Minnesota State Rail Plan, a long-term blueprint geared at improving Minnesota’s rail system. The State Rail Plan identifies needs to improve safety, expand services and improve transportation options throughout Minnesota so people and cargo can get where they need to go. “Minnesota’s rail system provides efficient, cost-effective and environmentally responsible transportation, and we’re working hard to make it even better for passengers and freight operators. This plan demonstrates how key investments can improve the mobility of goods and people,” said MnDOT Commissioner Nancy

Daubenberger. “It serves as a 20-year guide to enhance economic development, provide critical connections for Minnesota residents and businesses and continue to support the state’s economic competitiveness.” The plan advances several key initiatives to support an updated vision for rail in Minnesota over the next two decades, including: Detailing additional funding needs to support freight rail operations Updating the process to analyze the expansion of passenger rail in new or additional corridors throughout the Midwest Expanding passenger rail service by extending or adding more service along existing corridors, such as potentially expanding the

Borealis or building the Northern Lights Express (NLX) lines. Identifying capital improvement projects necessary to enhance reliability, speed or improve capacity in existing passenger rail corridors. The plan is an important tool in MnDOT’s effort to secure federal grants and inform state funding decisions by identifying needs and project recommendations. The content reflects months of extensive outreach with railroads, local governments, tribes, the public and other key stakeholders, with a goal of improving the safety, capacity and reliability of Minnesota’s current rail system, which includes more than 4,000 miles of rail lines.

Chocolate back as favorite ice cream

By Heather Close
The Rural Blog

It’s dark and rich and back in the top spot. “Chocolate is back at No. 1 among U.S. ice cream flavors, with butter pecan gaining ground and richer options continuing to rise in popularity, according to a new survey,” reports Taylor Leach of Farm Journal. “After briefly ceding the No. 1 spot to vanilla in 2024, chocolate has reclaimed the lead in 2026.” Michael Dykes, the International Dairy Foods Association president, told Leach, “Americans’ love for ice cream is as strong as ever.” **No to drones** In rural Indiana, some farming families are “leaning on the law” to keep unwanted drones off their lands, reports Greg Weaver of Indiana Capital Chronicle. “Hoosiers in rural Indiana say drones are unlawfully tracking deer for poachers, inexplicably flying around chicken coops, and increasingly making people uneasy.” Although many Indiana farmers considered shooting down

the snooping drones, they learned that wasn’t legal. “So they’ve found other ways to combat the rascals. . . . Farmers fearful that drones might be spreading disease among livestock recently persuaded the Indiana General Assembly to pass a law that prohibits the devices from being used to harm or harass farm animals.” **988 works** Some really good news: “The rate of suicides among young people in the United States dropped 11% below projections, decreasing most sharply in states with a higher volume of answered 988 calls, a new study has found, reports Ellen Barry of The New York Times. The study’s results, published in a research letter in The Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA), found that 4,372 more adolescents and young adults, ages 15 to 34, are alive today than previously projected. The study’s data suggests that the federal government’s 988 suicide prevention hotline rollout, which launched in 2022, is having a positive impact among younger Americans.

You will notice the delivery of your newspaper will be one to two days later due to new postal delivery regulations implemented by the federal government April 25, 2026 and made effective through the post office with the April 29, 2026 issue of the Staples World. You will receive your Staples World newspaper one to two days later than usual due to the fact that only one postal truck will be available in Staples (mornings). The Staples World regular publication date remains Wednesday. We recommend that dated advertising (concerts, garage sales, auctions, etc.) be placed two weeks prior to the event.

StaplesWorld

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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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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.

Note to Advertisers:

Advertisers should check their ad following first publication. This newspaper shall not be liable for failure to publish an ad or for the typographic error or errors in publication except to the extent of the cost of the ad for the first day’s insertion. Adjustment for errors is limited to the cost of that portion of the ad wherein the error occurred. The publisher reserves the right to cancel any advertisement at any time.

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Website: \$50 per year

Minnesota: \$58 per year - Out of State: \$63 per year

Foreign: on-line only - Student Rate: (Sept. through Apr./in-state) \$43

There is a \$5 charge for address change from local to out-of-state.

Member: Minnesota Newspaper Association, MCAN Advertising



1,000 Books Before Kindergarten

Sylas LaBlanc recently completed his 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten at the Staples Public Library and received his certificate and book. To register children for the program, stop at the Staples Public Library, 122 6th Street NE

Staples, or call 218-894-1401. The program is provided by the Staples Friends of the Library. Above, left to right: Library Assistant, Angie Johnson, Sylas, mom Jessica, Bjorn and Rhett LaBlanc. (Submitted photo)

Beekeepers scholarship at CLC

CLC Foundation announces new scholarship fund established by the North Central Beekeepers Association. The Central Lakes College Foundation is pleased to announce the creation of a new scholarship fund made possible through the generosity of the North Central Beekeepers Association. This newly established scholarship will provide financial support to a second-year CLC student pursuing a degree in Agricultural Science or Horticulture.

The North Central Beekeepers Association (NCBA), a non-profit group formed in 1949, is dedicated to promoting and developing the beekeeping industry. They assist and educate members and prospective beekeepers, promote the use of honey through various outreach programs, as well as maintain a booth at the Crow Wing County Fair. The NCBA created the scholarship to encourage and empower the next generation of agricultural leaders, who are crucial partners in promoting pollinator health.

“We are deeply grateful to the North Central Beekeepers Association for investing in our students and in the future of sustainable agriculture,” said Jon Aga, Central Lakes College’s Associate Vice President of Advancement. “Their support not only eases the financial burden for our students but also strengthens the connection between education and the vital work of pollinator stewardship in our region.”

Representatives from the North Central Beekeepers Association expressed their enthusiasm for supporting



Beekeeper scholarship

Burt Scripture, President of the North Central Beekeepers Association, gives a check to Jon Aga, Central Lakes College’s Associate Vice President of Advancement, for the beekeepers scholarship. (Submitted photo)

students who will shape the future of Minnesota’s agricultural landscape. “Without agriculture and our youth, we have nothing” stated Association President Burt Scripture.

The North Central Beekeepers Scholarship will be awarded annually to a student who has maintained a minimum 2.0 GPA and demonstrates a commitment to advancing their education in agriculture or horticulture. The scholar-

ship will be available beginning in the 2026-27 academic year. Eligible students are encouraged to apply through the CLC Foundation’s scholarship portal.

For more information about the scholarship or to learn how to support student success at Central Lakes College, please visit www.clcmn.edu/scholarships/ or contact the CLC Foundation staff at 218-855-8129.

Staples and Motley DFS awards \$122,725 in scholarships to local seniors

The Staples and Motley Dollars for Scholars (DFS) committee held its annual awards night May 6, at the Staples-Motley Centennial Auditorium. Thirty-seven Staples-Motley High School seniors and one nontraditional student received scholarships totaling \$122,725 - the highest single-year amount awarded to date.

The organization reached another milestone this year: since its inception in 1986, a total of \$2,477,682 has been awarded to local students. These remarkable achievements would not be possible without the incredible support of the Staples and Motley communities and the generosity of our donors. We are deeply grateful to everyone who has contributed to the success of the DFS program and to the students of Staples-Motley.

The DFS committee extends its sincere appreciation to all scholarship donors and contributors, and celebrates the hard work and accomplishments of the Staples-Motley Class of 2026 as they graduate and begin the next chapter of their lives. Congratulations.

For more information about the DFS committee or to learn how to establish a scholarship, contact sm.dollarsforscholars@gmail.com.



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greatriverenergy.com

w21c

Mark Your Calendar

Menu

May 14

‘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>
WADENA WHIRLAWAYS SQUARE DANCE GROUP DANCING Thursday, May 14, 7-9:30 p.m., at St. Michael’s Church, 280 1st Ave. S., Motley. Abe Maier, caller. For info., 612-743-3480.

May 15

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

May 16

MASS AT ST. ISIDORE’S Saturday, May 16, 10 a.m. Pot-

luck to follow. For info., call Rick Adameitz at 218-296-0875.

May 17

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

May 19

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.

May 20

STAPLES ALL VETERANS AND COMMUNITY PARK ASSOCIATION’S BOARD MEETING Wednesday, May 20, 5:30 p.m. in the lower level of Lakewood Health System’s main campus, 49725 Cty Rd 83, Staples. The Public is welcome. To attend via Zoom, call Bob Hamann at 218-894-3139.

Senior Nutrition Program, Staples

Call mornings (218-979-4118) the Thursday before to reserve next week’s meal(s) and current suggested donation info. LSS Meals - traditional older adult menu (subject to change).
LOCATED AT: Staples Hi-Rise, 615 4th St. NE, Staples. Seniors welcome to dine-in at 11:00 a.m., with meal reservations.

Staples 218-979-4118 May 18 - May 22

MONDAY - BBQ chicken breast, scalloped potatoes, peas, wheat bread, brownie, marg., 1% milk.

TUESDAY Swedish meatballs, mashed potatoes brown gravy, mixed veggies, dinner roll, chocolate chip cookie, marg., 1% milk.

WEDNESDAY - Pork choat/ gravy, candied yams, green beans, wheat bread, vanilla pudding/topping, marg., 1% milk.

THURSDAY - Chicken alfredo, peas/carrots, hot spiced apples, dinner roll, marg., 1% milk.

FRIDAY - Blueberry pancakes, egg patty, red diced potatoes, diced peach cup, marg., syrup, 1% milk.

wk21

Linette Horn

A Celebration of Life memorial service for Linette R. Horn, 57, will be held Saturday, May 16, 2026 at 11 a.m. at the Alliance Church/ Valley St. Croix Falls, WI.

Visitation will be held one hour prior to services at the church.

A full obituary will be included in next week's Staples World.

w21x A00006B2026MY13

Carol Kramer

Carol Jean (Beers) Kramer, 82, passed away March 26, 2026.

Services will be held at a later date.

Carol Jean was born April 24, 1943, to Paul and Mary (DeGeest) Beers in Motley. On May 11, 1963, Carol Jean married Ronald Kramer in Little Falls. They resided in Minneapolis a few years before establishing their home in Elk River/Anoka. For over two decades, she dedicated her career to working as a librarian at Elk River Elementary. In retirement, she and Ron settled in Motley, in their custom-built home overlooking the Crow Wing

River.

Carol Jean and Ron cherished many years spent in Arizona during their winters, making new friends, relishing golfing, ATV riding and dancing.

She is survived by her husband, Ronald; one son, Douglas (Shelly); one daughter, Holly (Greg); two grandsons, Jesse (Crystal) and Arron (Vanessa); one granddaughter, Katie (Steve) and six great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents and one sister, Bonnie Farber.

Carol Jean was deeply loved by all who knew her. Her memory will be cherished and she will be deeply missed.

Arrangements by Brenny Funeral Home, Staples.

w21c A00006B2026MY13

Obituaries

Rebecca Lindgren

Rebecca Lynne Lindgren (née Kaeter), 63, lovingly known as Becky, passed away on May 1, 2026, in Staples.

A Celebration of Life will be held May 15, 2026, at noon at Faith Lutheran Church, 430 12th St NE. Visitation is one hour prior to services at the church.

Rebecca was born October 12, 1962, in St. Cloud, the cherished daughter of Bob and Bonnie Kaeter.

Becky grew up on her family's dairy farm near Sauk Rapids, where she developed a strong work ethic and a deep appreciation for family and community. She graduated from Foley High School in 1981 and earned her Associate of Arts degree in Accounting from St. Cloud Technical College.

Becky and Kerry met in Foley, where he taught agricultural education at the high school. Becky's younger brother, Brent - then Kerry's student - arranged a blind date. Becky and Kerry married on July 14, 1989 and joyfully welcomed Megan on June 21, 1994 and Molly on March 27, 2001.

Faith was an integral part of Becky's life. A member of Faith Lutheran Church, she found joy in serving as a Sunday school teacher, making mission quilts, serving on the bereavement committee and helping the Blue Mats group, sewing mats for the unhoused.

Becky belonged to the Piecemakers Quilt group and Barn Quilts of Central MN. She volunteered at the Staples Library, Living Legacy Garden and as a



Sparks Mentor at Staples Elementary.

Becky loved being outdoors year-round. Gardening, sewing, quilting, crafting and reading brought peace, fulfillment and opportunities to express her endless creativity. Above all else, Becky treasured time spent with family. Her selflessness and thoughtfulness was evident in every aspect of her life, consistently putting others before herself and experiencing joy in doing so.

Becky is survived by her husband Kerry Lindgren; two daughters Megan Lindgren and Molly Lindgren; two brothers, Brad (Cindy) Kaeter and Brent Kaeter; mother-in-law, Liz Lindgren; two sisters-in-law, Kim (Doyle) Ranstrom and Kelly (Kevin) Coughlin and nephews, nieces, grand-nephews, and grandnieces.

Becky is preceded in death by her parents; one brother, Brian and father-in-law, Del Lindgren.

Her memory will be cherished by all who knew her for her kindness, creativity and love.

"Where flowers bloom so does hope." --Lady Bird Johnson

w21c A00006B2026MY13

Ethel Bartylla

Ethel Bartylla, 97, passed away.

Visitation will be held Friday, May 15, 2026 from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Brenny Family Funeral Chapel in Staples. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, May 16 at the United Methodist Church in Staples with visitation one hour prior to services at the church.

Ethel was born March 25, 1929, one of nine children, to Stella Serena Kay and Ralph (Doc) Henderson Williams. She was raised on her parents' farm across from Pine Grove Park in Staples. She was a shy girl who loved the outdoors and was a complete tomboy. As a young person she always wished she had been born a boy, as it seemed to her they had more privileges and were taught more about life. As a girl she felt she could not ask questions and grew up very naïve about life.

In her teens she always sold Buddy Poppies on the Saturday before Memorial Day. On Saturday May 25, 1946, Lawrence Bartylla bought one from her and asked her out on a date. She accepted. They married the following year on June 4, 1947. In the early years of their marriage they moved around, living in Corvallis, Oregon and Detroit, Michigan, eventually settling back in Minnesota. In 1958 they made their home in Lauderdale where they lived until the time they left this earth.

Ethel and Lawrence raised four children, Linda, Larry, Randy and Dawn. Over the years Ethel worked at Midland Hills Country Club (1960-76)



and Twin City Die Castings (1977-84) so they could afford to have Lake Property and be near their families in Central MN.

Ethel loved gardening, fishing and sewing (especially western shirts) and music. She played the violin growing up and learned to play the organ as an adult. More than anything she loved spending time with family and friends, especially the time she had with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. At large family gatherings she always wanted to add to the fun with her guessing games and homemade prizes. It was important to Ethel to stay in touch with her family, so everyone in her circle received cards and letters for birthdays, anniversaries and other holidays.

Ethel lived a good, long life and now she's back in the company of the family and friends who left this world before her. I'm sure they are feasting, laughing, and telling great stories.

Memorials preferred to: -Children's Heart Foundation - <https://events.chfwalk.org/event/chicagoil/account/2355690> -American Cancer Society - https://donate.cancer.org/?campaign=honormemorialmedia&gclid=aw.ds&utm_source=google&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaignid=21603275924&utm_adgroupid=169792393161&utm_keyword=american%20cancer%20society&gad_source=1&gad_campaignid=21603275924&g-braid=OAAAAD2heecJbFmbLFJG-Zgvk-r7ELK94x&gclid=CjOKCQ-jwh-FPBhCIARiACOp3ccV9Ctiz-tnvo9l_uhwp3n1OtK0vEDUMAX-nStbk6qyHDrYVNLQcQcaAux-gEALw_wcB

Arrangements by Brenny Family Funeral Chapel, Staples.

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 218-631-1593
parishsecretary@marysacc.org
Rev. JC Duncan, 218-632-7314
Rev. Rick Aubol, 218-632-7310
Rev. Greg Sauer, 218-632-7319
Mass: Sunday.....8:30 a.m.

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

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

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

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

Aldrich

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

Cushing

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

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

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

Leader

Swan Valley Lutheran
Leader 218-397-2470
Sandy Knight, Synodically Authorized Minister of Word and Sacrament
Sunday Worship
January - July 9 a.m.
July - January 11 a.m.

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

Motley

Motley Free Methodist
33 Wellwood St. E
Motley 56466 218-352-6888
Jim Johnson, Senior Pastor
Casey Reynolds, Assistant Pastor
Sunday Worship..... 9:00 and 10:30 a.m.
facebook live 9 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
AWANA 4:00-5:30 p.m.
Youth Group 6:00-8:00 p.m.

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

St. Michael Catholic Church
280 1st Ave S, Motley.....218-631-1593
Rev. JC Duncan, 218-632-7314
Rev. Rick Aubol, 218-632-7310
Rev. Greg Sauer, 218-632-7319
Mass: Sunday.....10:30 a.m.

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

Oylen

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

Pillager

First Lutheran Church
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 218-445-5668
office@verndaleflc.org
Pastor Amos Self 218-371-7189
Tahna Kurup, Connections & Media Pastor
Tillman Phagon, 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 NW 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 218-631-1593
parishsecretary@marysacc.org
Rev. JC Duncan, 218-632-7314 Rev. Rick Aubol, 218-632-7310 Rev. Greg Sauer, 218-632-7319
MASS: Saturday 6:00 p.m

St. Hubert Catholic Church
Bluegrass.....218-631-1593
Rev. JC Duncan, 218-632-7314 Rev. Rick Aubol, 218-632-7310 Father Greg Sauer, 218-632-7319
parishsecretary@marysacc.org
Mass: Saturday..... 4:00 p.m.

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

Wadena

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

St. Ann's Catholic Church
514 1st Street SE, Wadena(218) 631-1593
Rev. JC Duncan, 218-632-7314 Rev. Rick Aubol, 218-632-7310 Father Greg Sauer, 218-632-7319
parishsecretary@marysacc.org
Mass: Sunday (livestream).....10 a.m.

"Two Documents On My Office Wall"

Pastor Barry Klein, Staples Church of Christ

We're in a growing state of confusion in our culture regarding the nature of human relationships. We don't have a corner on the market of history in this dilemma, but we're clearly listening to wrong voices in our present age.

The two framed documents on my wall are a copy of my wife's and my certificate of marriage and a print entitled "Signing of Registry" by Edmund Blair Leighton (1853-1922). The painting is a depiction of a fully wedding gownned young bride with her husband and guests surrounding her, as she enters her new married name in a church registry. It's powerful to ponder. We find both dignity and intentionality throughout the painting.

Be we're losing our moorings. The vows of the past referred to "marriage being an honorable state." The apostle Paul, single himself, brings crisp clarity as to the high calling of both singleness and marriage in I Corinthians 7:7. He makes a case for singleness while also affirming marriage and in each case, is describing them as "gifts." As gifts, God is the Giver of

those gifts. As gifts, then both singleness and marriage need to be treated and cared for accordingly.

Matthew 19:1-12 is another remarkable Scripture that affirms both singleness and marriage in light of God. Even in the first century A.D. there was a lot of confusion and competing views about both singleness and marriage. Regarding the foundation and nature of marriage, Jesus takes the listeners back at least 4,000 years to the beginning of marriage when He refers to Genesis 2:24. In Matthew 19:4-5 He says, "Haven't you read," he replied, "that at the beginning the Creator made them male and female, and said, 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh? So, they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore, what God has joined together, let no one separate.'"

Did you hear how God's design spans all history? Let's trustingly believe in and surrender back to God together.

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218-894-1112

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Schotzko wins home invite golf tournament

Katelyn Schotzko won the Staples-Motley Cardinal Invite golf tournament at The Vintage in Staples on May 5, as the Staples-Motley girls golf team placed second out of five teams at the meet.

Schotzko shot 41 on the front nine and 45 on the back to finish with a score of 86 that included seven pars. She only had two double-bogeys and the rest bogeys.

The Cardinals also competed at the pre-sections tournament on May 4 and

at a Heart O Lakes tournament at Bois De Sioux golf course at Breckenridge/Wahpeton on May 7.

Team results

Pre-Sections at Blackberry Ridge Golf Club, Sartell

Pequot Lakes 366, Albany 368, Pierz 372, Melrose 383, Milaca 398, Staples-Motley 409, Foley 432, Osakis 495, Sauk Centre inc., St. Cloud Cathedral inc. Royalton inc.

5. Katelyn Schotzko 89, 26. Molly Hoemberg 102, 29. Brooklyn Winter 107, 36. Meredith Hoemberg 111, 38. Mara Uselman 112

Cardinal Invite at The Vintage, Staples

Bemidji 359, Staples-Motley 401, Moorhead 435, Wadena-Deer Creek inc., Royalton inc.

1. Schotzko 86, 8. Sarah Kroll 101, 12. Uselman 107, 12. Mo. Hoemberg 107, 15. Winter 110, 18. Me. Hoemberg 119

HOL at Breckenridge

Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton 385, Park Rapids 404, Barnesville 406, Staples-Motley 408, Pelican Rapids 413, Perham 147, Hawley 429, Breckenridge 433, Frazee 444

8. Schotzko 95, 12. Kroll 99, 16. Uselman 103, 24. Winter 111, 32. Me. Hoemberg 114

Cardinals face tough competition, courses

The Staples-Motley boys golf team played three matches, with Jackson White and Thomas Johnson leading the team at each meet against top teams in the area.

They started the week placing 8th out of 15 teams at Bemidji on May 4. Johnson shot 77 and White 78 to both finish high in the standings, but the rest of the team was a little farther back in this big school tournament.

The Cardinals tied for fourth in a Heart O Lakes Conference match at Pelican Rapids on May 7, with White and Johnson both

shooting 79 to place 8th.

At the Fergus Falls Invite on May 8, White was 4th with 78 and Johnson was 22nd with 84.

Even Schultz was the third Cardinal scorer in each meet, with Oskar Doll and Ashton Anderson as the fourth scorers.

Team results

Bemidji Invitational

8th out of 15 teams
7. Thomas Johnson 77, 12. Jackson White 78, 63. Evan Schultz 95, 65. Oskar Doll 96, 76. Zachary Tabatt 104, 83. Tyson Turner 112

HOL at Pelican Rapids

Hawley 306, Frazee 321, Perham 330, Staples-Motley 338, Park Rapids 338, Dil-

worth-Glyndon-Felton 343, Breckenridge 353, Barnesville 363, Pelican Rapids 368, Wadena-Deer Creek 399

8. White 79, 8. Johnson 79, 28. Schultz 88, 35. Ashton Anderson 92, 39. Tabatt 93, 44. Turner 96

Fergus Falls invite

Fergus Falls 311, East Grand Forks 315, Roseau 316, Perham 331, Morris/Chokio-Alberta 336, Moorhead 337, Badger-Greenbush-Middle River 340, Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton 342, Melrose 345, Staples-Motley 353, Thief River Falls 362, Sauk Centre 362

4. White 78, 22. Johnson 84, 53. Schultz 91, 67. Anderson 100, 72. Tabatt 103, 75. Kaleb Harman 113

Baseball team keeps winning games

A doubleheader sweep at Barnesville and a close win at Pillager propelled the Staples-Motley baseball team to a 15-3 record on the season.

They won two at Barnesville on May 7, 10-3 and 11-1, then won 6-5 at Pillager on May 9.

The Cardinals finish the regular season with a game at Pierz on May 11 and at home on Thursday, May 14 against Hawley. The Section 6AA playoffs start Thursday, May 21, with a home game as the highest seed. The rest of the playoffs will be at St. Cloud, either Faber Field or Dick Putz Field, on May 26 and 28, and June 1, 2, and 4.

Against Barnesville, Elijah Kossan pitches six innings and Tristan Moore fin-

ished the game on the mound for the 10-3 win in the first game. In the second game, Silas Claussen pitched all five innings as the team ended the game early on the 10-run rule, 11-1.

Against Pillager, Cooper Tappe started on the mound and Colbe Tappe took over for the last two innings. The Cardinals scored one in the first inning and two in the second, but Pillager tied it with three runs of their own. Staples-Motley scored two more in the fourth inning and one in the sixth for a 6-3 lead, then held on for a 6-5 win. Tappe ended the game by picking off a runner on first base and striking out the final batter on the next pitch.

Close losses in softball

The Staples-Motley softball team lost all four games in a busy week, but two of the games were close until the final out.

The Cardinals traveled to Osakis on May 4 and lost 12-2. In a double-header against Barnesville on May 7, Staples-Motley lost the

first game 12-3 but came within one run in the second game, to fall 11-10. On May 9, they traveled to Pillager and lost another high-scoring game 13-11.

The Cardinals finish their regular season with three conference games this week, two at Park Rapids on

May 12 and a home game against Hawley on Thursday, May 14.

They start the 6AA playoffs on Monday, May 18 and Tuesday, May 19, with games played at the high seed's field.

Cardinals perform at true team track and field

The Staples-Motley track and field teams competed in the Section 6A True Team meet at Frazee on May 7. The boys team finished 8th and the girls were 13th. In this meet, teams enter two people in each event and one team for each relay. Every entrant scores according to their position, so team depth is very important. The Staples-Motley teams are still hampered by injuries and lack of depth.

In the boys meet, the Cardinals excelled in the field events, placing first or second in four of them. In the girls meet, the top finisher was the four by 100 meter relay team that finished fourth.

Boys results

Section 6A True Team

United Clay-Becker 915, Osakis 883, Pelican Rapids 720, Ottertail Central 694, Frazee 673, Breckenridge 636, Wadena-Deer Creek 576, Staples-Motley 565, Parkers Prairie 564, Long Prairie-Grey Eagle 529, Bertha-Hewitt/Verndale 525, Barnesville 508, United North Central 245, Ashby-Brandon-Evansville 239, New York

100 - 27. Adrian Gomez 13.30, 28. Charlie Maros 13.36
200 - 14. Jesus Gallardo 24.57, 26. Carter Kist 26.88
400 - 15. Gallardo 56.92, 29. Angel Luna 1:06
800 - 14. Luna 2:22, 22. Jackson Odden 2:37
1,600 - 15. Andrew Dobson 5:30, 20. Jacob Faulkner 5:48
3,200 - 12. Dobson 11:33, 20. Reed Leach 12:31
110 hurdles - 4. Noah Larson 16.37, 16. Kaleb Harman 19.62
300 hurdles - 18. Harman 48.90, 23. Aaron Oeltjenbruns 54.41
4x100 - 14. SM 52.09
4x200 - 11. SM 1:48
4x400 - 9. SM 3:52
4x800 - 13. SM 10:35
Shot put - 2. Gomez 45'3.5", 16. Larson 35'2"
Discus - 1. Gomez 135'7", 8. Larson 114'6"
High jump - 2. Avandre Brandt 6'0", 11. Larson 5'4"
Pole vault - 2. Turner Beachy 14'6", 5. Conner Kuhns 12'0"
Long jump - 17. Gallardo 16'4.75", 23. Carter Kist 13'.75"
Triple jump - 7. Harman 36'11.5", 25. Liam Jennissen 30'9.25"

Girls results

Section 6A True Team

Frazee 882, Osakis 824, Pelican Rapids 765, Parkers

Clay-Becker 629, Ashby-Brandon-Evansville 530, Long Prairie-Grey Eagle 490, United North Central 489, Browerville 461, Wadena-Deer Creek 459, Staples-Motley 458, Breckenridge 267, Bertha-Hewitt/Verndale 239, New York Mills 194
100 - 7. Sophia Luna 13.54, 11. Chadia Schultz 13.70
200 - 9. Lucille Maros 28.46, 20. Abigail Phillippi 30.02
400 - 15. Piper Hanson 1:07, 25. Belle Mevissen 1:13
800 - 22. Suhaila Mikhaeil 2:52, 23. Elise Trif 2:52
1,600 - 14. Trif 6:12, 23. Elizabeth Kroll 6:50
3,200 - 11. Mikhaeil 13:41, 14. Alexis Odden 14:12
100 hurdles - 17. Abby Brichacek 21.32
300 hurdles - 21. Brichacek 1:04
4x100 - 4. SM 53.92
4x200 - 16. SM 2:06
4x400 - 11. SM 5:03
4x800 - 12. SM 12:05
Shot put - 12. Annie Schlosser 30'5", 26. Jocelyn Vogt 22'1.5"
Discus - 9. Schlosser 91'11", 27. Gemma Fairbanks 66'3"
High jump - 10. Maros 4'6", 19. Luna 4'2"
Pole vault - 17. Kroll 5'0"
Long jump - 23. Lily Davis 13'5", 27. Mari'vel Duran 12'6", Triple jump 18. Davis 26'10",



Baseball salutes American veterans

The Staples-Motley baseball team hosted a Veterans Appreciation Day at their April 29 game, with the All-American sport honoring America's military heroes. Huck Holst and Greg Frisk threw out the honorary first pitches, with Holst handing the ball to his grandsons, Roy and Russell Sterriker, to throw for him. Below, Staples-Motley choir students sing the national anthem as veterans stand at attention. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)





NOTICE OF MAIL BALLOT PROCEDURES
CASS COUNTY, MINNESOTA

The following precincts located in Cass County have elected to vote by mail ballot procedure in statewide elections as authorized under Minnesota Statutes 204B.45. All other precincts vote at their designated polling place on election day. Precincts that can vote at the Courthouse on Election Day from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.:

MAIL BALLOT PRECINCTS			
Ansel Township	Bull Moose Township	Loon Lake Township	Slater Township
Backus	Byron Township	Meadow Brook Township	Smoky Hollow Township
Barley Township	Clickamaw Beach	Moose Lake Township	Sucker Lakes Unorg.
Becker Township	Deerfield Township	Motley-part in Cass County only	Thunder Lake Township
Bena	Federal Dam	Ottertail Peninsula Township	Toney Township
Beulah Township	Gould Township	Pine Lake Township	Wahneena Unorg.
Brook Lake Township	Hardwood South Unorg.	Poplar Township	Walden Township
Blind Lake Township	Honorable Township	Ramer Township	Willow River Unorg.
Boy Lake Township	Liquadrona Township	Rogers Point Unorg.	Wilson Township
Boy River	Lima Unorg.	Rogers Township	Winnie Portage Unorg.
Boy River Township	Longville	Salem Township	

The dates that ballots will be mailed for the foregoing mail ballot precincts are:

State Primary	August 11, 2026	Ballot Mailing Dates:	July 6–July 21, 2026
General Election	November 3, 2026	Ballot Mailing Dates:	September 23–October 13, 2026

Each voter registered by July 21, 2026, by 5:00p.m. for the August 11, 2026, State Primary will be mailed a ballot automatically. Each voter registered by October 13, 2026, by 5:00p.m. for the November 3, 2026, General Election will be mailed a ballot automatically. Eligible voters not pre-registered by this date, or pre-registered voters wishing to receive their ballot at a temporary address, may apply for an absentee ballot. Voters may register and apply for an absentee ballot on-line by visiting mnvotes.sos.state.mn.us or the elections and voting pages of the Cass County website at casscountymn.gov. For paper applications or assistance, call 218-547-7260. Ballots may be returned by mail (a postage prepaid return envelope is included when the ballots are mailed), delivered in person by the voter, or delivered by designated agent to the Cass County Auditor-Treasurer's Office, 303 Minnesota Avenue, PO Box 3000, Walker, MN 56484. Ballots must be received no later than 8:00 p.m. on election day in order to be counted. Normal business hours are Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Hours on election day are 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. At least one assisive voting device will be available at the polling place, allowing for persons with disabilities to vote privately and independently. Officials are also available at these locations to complete the witness requirements for mail ballots. Instructions are included with each ballot. The back of the return envelope must be signed by the voter and witnessed by any the following:

1. A citizen of the United States at least 18 years of age
2. a notary public, or
3. a person with the authority to administer oaths.

Prompt return of voted ballots is encouraged so that any omitted requirements can be corrected in advance of election day. Ballots are processed when received, and voters will be notified if there is a problem. Voters casting a mail ballot may also track their ballot on-line by visiting the website of the Minnesota Secretary of State at mnvotes.sos.state.mn.us. In addition to the normal business hours, extended hours for mail ballot voting (for in-person drop off, voter assist terminal access or absentee voting for non-registered voters) are:
State Primary: from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Saturday and until 5:00 p.m. on the day immediately preceding the Primary election.
General Election: until 7:00 p.m. on the Tuesday before the election; from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on the two Saturdays before the election; from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on the Sunday immediately before the election; and until 5:00 p.m. on the day before the election.

The counting of mail ballots will be completed at the Cass County Courthouse after 8:00 p.m. on election day. Additional information is available by contacting the Cass County Auditor-Treasurer's Office, 303 Minnesota Avenue, P.O. Box 3000, Walker, MN, phone 218-547-7260.

21pnc

NOTICE OF
CANDIDATE FILING
CASS COUNTY
MINNESOTA
NOTICE OF OFFICES
TO BE VOTED FOR
AT THE STATE
GENERAL ELECTION

The following is the notice of federal and state offices that will be voted for at the state general election to be held on Tuesday, November 3, 2026. The filing period for United States Senator, United States Representative, State Senator, State Representative, Governor and Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, State Auditor, Attorney General, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, Judge of the Minnesota Court of Appeals, Judge of the District Court, and County offices begins at 8:00 a.m., Tuesday, May 19, 2026, and ends at 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, June 2, 2026. Note: Filing offices will be closed Monday, May 25, 2026, in observance of Memorial Day.

The place of filing for federal offices is the Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State, Veterans Services Building, 20 West 12th Street, St. Paul, MN 55155. The place of filing for state offices (including judicial offices) is with the Office of the Secretary of State or with the county auditor of the county in which the candidate resides. The place of filing for Cass County offices is the Office of the Cass County Auditor-Treasurer, Cass County Courthouse, 303 Minnesota Ave. W., PO Box 3000, Walker, MN 56484-3000.

Candidates may file in person or by mail if the filing is received during the filing period. Candidates who will be absent from the state during the filing period and meet the requirements of Minnesota Statutes section 204B.09, subdivision 1a, may arrange to file during the seven days immediately preceding the candidate's absence from the state. This notice is provided pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 204B.33 and is based on current law.

Candidates for the following offices must file at the Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State: FEDERAL OFFICES One United States

Senator and One United States Representative (One office per district, districts 1-8; District 8-Cass County)

Candidates for the following offices must file either at the Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State or the office of the county auditor of the county in which they reside: STATE LEGISLATIVE OFFICES Cass County; One State Senator for each of Districts 2, 5, and 6. One State Representative for each of Districts 2B, 5A, 5B, and 6A. STATE EXECUTIVE OFFICES Governor and Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, State Auditor, and Attorney General. JUDICIAL OFFICES Three seats Associate Justice seat 1 (Hennesy), seat 2 (Gaïtas), and seat 4 (Thissen); five seats Court of Appeals - seat 1 (Bentley), seat 7 (5th Congressional District) (Bond), seat 13 (Cochran), seat 15 (3rdCongressional District) (Ross), and seat 18 (Harris); twelve seats Ninth District Court Judge-seat 1 (Adam), seat 2 (Mallie), seat 4 (Halverson), seat 5 (Wimmer), seat 12 (McBroom), seat 13 (Hawley), seat 14 (Lorsbach), seat 15 (Yon), seat 19 (Austad), seat 20 (Grover), seat 21 (Aanes), seat 22 (Duffy)

Candidates for the following offices must file at the Office of the Cass County Auditor-Treasurer: COUNTY OFFICES One County Commissioner four-year term for each of the following districts: Districts 1 and 4; One Special Election for County Commissioner District 3 to fill a vacancy in term expiring January 8, 2029. One for each County Sheriff and County Attorney; one Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisor four-year term for each of the nominating Districts 1 and 5.

Candidates for city, township, school district and United Hospital District offices (without primaries) may file for office at the respective clerk's office beginning July 14, 2026, through July 28, 2026.

/s/ Pamela Smith,
Cass County Election
Administrator

21pnc

ATTENTION
LANDOWNERS:
NOXIOUS WEED AND
BRUSH SPRAYING

Legal Notice is hereby given that there will be Noxious Weed and Brush Spraying of County Road Right of Ways. The spraying will begin sometime after June 1, 2026. Any questions regarding this matter should be directed to Todd County Ditch and Ag Inspector Nancy Uhlenkamp, Located at Public Works, 44 Riverside Drive, Long Prairie, MN 56347, 320-533-4651, nancy.uhlenkamp@co.todd.mn.us.

21pnc

GENERAL NOTICE
TO CONTROL OR
ERADICATE NOXIOUS
WEEDS

Notice is hereby given this 11th day of May, 2026, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 18.83, Subdivision 1 (2009), that all persons in Todd County, Minnesota, shall control or eradicate noxious weeds on land they occupy or are required to

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: July 31, 2015

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$92,857.00

MORTGAGOR(S): Joel Ambriz Carrillo, a single person

MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Wintrust Mortgage, a division of Barrington Bank and Trust Co., N.A.

DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on August 3, 2015 as Document Number 495310 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota.

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. by assignment recorded on September 10, 2019 as Document Number A515937 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: The East One hundred sixty-five (165)

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: September 28, 2006

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$44,481.94

MORTGAGOR(S): Gary W. Mertens, Jr. and Dayna S. Mertens f/k/a Dayna S. Case, husband and wife

MORTGAGEE: CitiFinancial Services, Inc.

DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on October 3, 2006 as Document Number 444789 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota.

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC by assignment recorded on August 12, 2016 as Document Number A500326 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota; thereafter assigned to Bayview Dispositions IVB, LLC by assignment recorded on February 26, 2019 as Document Number A513288 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota; thereafter assigned to Greenwich Revolving Trust by assignment recorded on February 26, 2019 as Document Number A513289 in the Office of the County Recorder of

maintain (Landowners are required to control noxious weeds on lands enrolled in an FSA program. Please contact FSA for control requirements). Control or eradication may be done by any lawful method, but the method(s) may need to be repeated to prevent spread of viable noxious weed seeds and other propagating parts. Failure to comply with the general notice may mean that an individual notice, Minnesota Statutes, Section 18.83, Subdivision 2 (2009), will be issued. Failure to comply with an individual notice may mean the inspector having jurisdiction may hire the work done. If the work is hired done, the cost can be placed as a tax upon the land and collected as other real estate taxes are collected. You may obtain the Noxious Weed List from your County Agricultural Inspector (CAI) or your Local Weed Inspectors (LWI). LWIs include the township supervisors, city mayors or their appointed assistants. More information regarding the MN Noxious Weed Law and a list of

feet of the South Seventy-six (76) feet of the North Eighty (80) feet of Lot Three (3), Block One (1), Budget's First Addition to the Village of Long Prairie, Todd County, Minnesota.

STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 215 6TH ST SE, LONG PRAIRIE, MN 56347

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

THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$77,622.88

TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: Wintrust Mortgage, a division of Barrington Bank and Trust Co., N.A.

RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.

TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 36-0077000

TRANSACTIONAGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 1000312-0001250034-1

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

Todd County, Minnesota; thereafter assigned to U.S. Bank National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely in its capacity as Indenture Trustee of CIM Trust 2019-R5 by assignment recorded on March 18, 2026 as Document Number A550468 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: Lots 7 and 8, Block 1, Donovan's Addition to Staples, according to the plat thereof on file and of record in the office of the Todd County Recorder. And Lots 7,8,9, and 10, Block 1, Donovan's Addition to Staples, according to the plat thereof on file and of record in the office of the Todd County Recorder. Being an abstract property. Todd County, Minnesota.

STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 423 MINNESOTA AVE SW, STAPLES, MN 56479

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

THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$28,279.16

TRANSACTION AGENT: None

NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: CitiFinancial Services, Inc.

RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Fay Servicing, LLC

TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 38-0077300 and 38-0077400

TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: None

THAT no action or proceeding has been instituted at law to recover the debt then remaining secured by

CAIs can be obtained from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture's Web Site: <https://www.mda.state.mn.us/plants-insects/minnesota-noxious-weed-list>. The noxious weeds that need to be: Eradicated: Black swallow-wort, Brown knapweed, Common teasel, Cutleaf teasel, Dalmatian toadflax, Diffuse knapweed, Giant hogweed, Golden honeysuckle vine (formerly Japanese honeysuckle), Grecian foxglove, Hooked hair hops (formerly Japanese hops), Johnsongrass, Pale swallow-wort, Palmer amaranth, Red hailstone/goldencreeper, Stiltgrass, Tree of heaven and Yellow starthistle. Controlled: Bohemian knotweed, Canada thistle, Common barberry, Common tansy, Giant knotweed, Japanese knotweed, Leafy spurge, Meadow knapweed, Narrowleaf bitterweed, Non-native phragmites, Plumeless thistle, Poison hemlock, Purple loosestrife, Round leaf bitterweet, Spotted knapweed, and Wild parsnip. Restricted Noxious Weeds: Amur honeysuckle,

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

DATE AND TIME OF SALE: June 25, 2026 at 10:00 AM.

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

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

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: Unless said mortgage is reinstated or the property redeemed, or unless the time for redemption is reduced by judicial order, you must vacate the premises by 11:59 p.m. on December 28, 2026.

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

Autumn olive, Bell's honeysuckle, Black locust, Callery pear, Common or European buckthorn, Creeping meadow foxtail, Creeping miscanthus (formerly Amur silvergrass), Crown vetch, European alder, Garlic mustard, Glossy buckthorn (all cultivars), Japanese barberry cultivars, Lesser celandine, Morrow's honeysuckle, Multiflora rose, Porcelain berry, Saltcedar, Siberian peashrub, Tatarian honeysuckle, Wild carrot/Queen Anne's lace, Winged burning bush. Specially Regulated Plants: Amur corktree, Amur maple, Common butterbur, Giant butterbur, Norway maple, Rowan mountain ash and Tatarian maple. We appreciate your help in controlling and eradicating Noxious Weeds in Todd County. Nancy Uhlenkamp, Todd County Ditch and Ag Inspector, Located at Public Works, 44 Riverside Drive, Long Prairie, MN 56347. 320-533-4651 nancy.uhlenkamp@co.todd.mn.us.

21pnc

PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.

M O R T G A G O R (S) RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE: None

Dated: April 02, 2026

WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A.
Mortgagee

TROTT LAW, P.C.

By: /s/
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
(25-0371-FC02)

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.

16-21pnc

See **PN** on page 8a

such mortgage, or any part thereof, or, if the action or proceeding has been instituted, that the same has been discontinued, or that an execution upon the judgment rendered therein has been returned unsatisfied, in whole or in part.

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

DATE AND TIME OF SALE: June 25, 2026 at 10:00 AM.

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

to pay the debt then secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any actually paid by the mortgagee, on the premises and the costs and disbursements allowed by law. The time allowed by law for redemption by said mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns is twelve (12) months from the date of sale.

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: Unless said mortgage is reinstated or the property redeemed, or unless the time for redemption is reduced by judicial order, you must vacate the premises by 11:59 p.m. on June 25, 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.

M O R T G A G O R (S) RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE: None

Dated: April 16, 2026

U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY IN ITS CAPACITY AS INDENTURE TRUSTEE OF CIM TRUST 2019-R5
Mortgagee

TROTT LAW, P.C.

By: /s/
*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
(26-0067-FC01)

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.

18-23pnc

Public notices are a community's window into the government. You look for those notices in your newspaper. From zoning regulations to local budgets, governments have used local newspapers to inform citizens of its actions as an essential part of your right to know.

Keep public notices in newspapers!



Todd County Board of Commissioners

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TODD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HELD APRIL 7, 2026

Public Comment

John Young provided information to the County Board regarding a tax-forfeited parcel that currently is serving as a cemetery which was originally owned by his family and concerns about the cost and process to restore the ownership.

Call to Order

The Todd County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Board Room in the City of Long Prairie, MN on the 7th day of April, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Byers. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. All Commissioners were present.

Approval of Agenda

On motion by Becker and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To adopt the agenda as presented.

Consent Agenda

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

To approve the Todd County Board of Commissioner's Meeting Minutes for March 17th, 2026 as presented.

GAMBLING PERMIT – DUCKS UNLIMITED MAIN STREET CHAPTER

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners are establishing their approval for a Gambling Permit for the Ducks Unlimited Main Street Chapter through this resolution;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners approve a Gambling Permit for the Ducks Unlimited Main Street Chapter to hold a paddlewheel and raffle event at the Diamond Point in Birchdale Township at the address 12867 Bayview Dr, Sauk Centre, MN on April 23, 2026.

GAMBLING PERMIT – LITTLE BIRCH ALKE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners are establishing their approval for a Gambling Permit for the Little Birch Lake Improvement Association through this resolution;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners approve a Gambling Permit for the Little Birch Lake Improvement Association to hold a raffle event at the Shattuck's Hub Supper Club in Burnhamville Township at the address 30905 County 13, Burtrum, MN on September 19, 2026.

To approve a Seasonal On Sale, Off Sale and Sunday Liquor License for Double Eagle Golf LLC dba Double Eagle Golf & Grille at the address of 31886 County 3, Eagle Bend, MN in Burleene Township effective April 10th, 2026 through January 10, 2027.

Approve hiring Chet Hudalla to fill the Public Works Summer Help Position (Maintenance) with a start date to be determined.

Approve hiring Brandon Cline to fill the Public Works Summer Help Position (Engineering) with a start date to be determined.

Hire Reilly Jones for the part time Correctional Officer position start date TBD at a pay rate of \$26.36 per hour Grade 6/F step A

Hire Caleb Nurnberger for the part time Road Deputy position start date TBD at a pay rate of \$28.48 per hour Grade 10 step 1

Hire Jeremy Puff for the full time Road Deputy position start date TBD at a pay rate of \$29.33 per hour Grade 10 step 2

Approve the hire of Kayla Fah to fill the open Care Coordinator position. Grade I/9, Step D, \$36.09. Start date: TBD.

Approve the resignation of Registered Sanitarian David Determan, effective April 10, 2026.

Auditor-Treasurer

On motion by Neumann and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve the March 2026 Auditor Warrants number (ACH) 905883 through 905948 in the amount of \$229,071.87 (Manual) 1235 through 1276 in the amount of \$2,486,876.56 and (Regular) 246036 through 246196 in the amount of \$459,967.79 for a total of \$3,175,916.22.

On motion by Becker and second by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve the Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 404421 through 404453 in the amount of \$10,072.06 and (Regular) 59690 through 59730 in the amount of \$57,966.50 for a total of \$68,038.56.

On motion by Denny and second by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve the Health & Human Services Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 807395 through 807448 and (Regular) 713964 through 714024 for a total of \$271,091.44.

On motion by Noska and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve the Health & Human Services SSIS Warrants number (ACH) 601966 through 601970 and (Regular) 518882 through 518911 for a total amount of \$85,866.79.

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

RESOLUTION FOR A DIRECT SALE OF TAX-FORFEITED PROPERTY IN TODD COUNTY CONTINGENT UPON AUTHORIZATION VIA THE STATE LEGISLATURE

WHEREAS: Parcel 17-0032700 located at Lot 4, SECT 29 Township 128 Range 34 in Todd County for-

feited to the State of Minnesota due to non-payment of property taxes on August 31st, 2016, and;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Minnesota Statute § 282.018, this parcel was withdrawn from public sale due to its geographical features and location, and;

WHEREAS, there exists burial plots on this parcel exclusively related to the Young family who has expressed interest in reacquiring the property to be maintained as a private cemetery, and;

WHEREAS, in order for this parcel to be released for sale the county must provide a request for inclusion of this parcel's authorization of release within the state's legislative session.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners do hereby approve said private land sale of property to the Young Family for \$11,446.01 after fees.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the terms of sale are as follows:

All property is sold for cash or check only, no payment plans will be offered and full payment is due on the date of sale.

A charge of \$25.00 will be made for each State Deed issued.

A charge of \$46.00 will be made to record the State Deed.

State Deed Tax on the amount of purchase will be collected. (0.0033 x purchase price or minimum of \$1.65)

A \$50.00 fee for well certificate, if applicable, will be collected.

A Tax Forfeiture Administration fee of \$250.00 will be collected.

A 3% Assurance Fund charge will be made (as per M. S. 284.28, Subd. 8).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tax-Forfeited Parcel will be offered for sale subject to liens, existing roads, easements and leases, if any, and any special assessments canceled at forfeiture may be reassessed by the municipalities after the sale.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the sale of this property is directly dependent upon the state legislature's authorization to release said parcel for county sale.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the right is reserved by Todd County, in the interest of the public, to cancel this sale at any time prior to its sale.

Hands of Hope Resource Center

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

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH APRIL 2026

WHEREAS, April marks Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) – a time to honor 25 years of progress and recommit to creating safer communities for all. This year's theme, "25 Years Strong: Look Back, Moving Forward," celebrates the resilience of survivors and the communities that have worked for change, and;

WHEREAS, for 25 years, Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) has supported survivors, raised awareness, and inspired action to prevent sexual assault, abuse, and harassment. As we reflect on how far we have come, we also recognize the work that lies ahead, and;

WHEREAS, prevention starts with all of us. It is in how we support one another, practice consent, and create spaces rooted in care and respect. When we act with intention, we move closer to a future free from violence, and;

WHEREAS, this month provides an opportunity to show solidarity with advocates, victim service organizations, crisis hotline staff, law enforcement, and prosecutors who dedicate their lives to supporting victims, and;

WHEREAS, we must continue to hold offenders accountable, support survivors in their healing, and foster environments where everyone can live free from fear and harm, and;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Todd County Board of Commissioners hereby proclaim the month of April 2026 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month renewing our commitment to build a future free from sexual violence through strengthened prevention, support healing, and creating communities where everyone feels safe and valued.

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

NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK, APRIL 19-25, 2026

WHEREAS, crime in America has a devastating impact on victims and survivors, and tears at the social fabric of our society as a whole; and

WHEREAS, no victim or survivor should have to endure the trauma of victimization and its impact – physical, financial, emotional, spiritual and social – along; and

WHEREAS, the community of crime victims and survivors, those who serve them, and countless allies work together to ensure that victims' needs are identified and met with quality, collaborative and comprehensive services; and

WHEREAS, there are more than 12,000 system- and community-based victim services programs across the Nation that help crime survivors and promote community safety, and over 32,000 laws that define and protect victims' rights; and

WHEREAS, 2026 is the 45th anniversary of National Crime Victims' Rights Week, first proclaimed by President Ronald Reagan in 1981, and

WHEREAS, this time-honored tradition unites all who care about crime, victimization and survivors to acknowledge and honor survivors, their challenges and their strengths;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners do hereby proclaim the week of April 19-25, 2026, as Crime Victims' Rights Week in Todd County, with this proclamation amplifying our commitment to ensure that crime victims' rights and services

are not only recognized annually, but provided daily.

Great River Regional Library

Brandi Carter, Executive Director and Amanda Wehrspann, Library Services Coordinator provided a summary of the 2025 activities for GRRL for discussion.

Public Works

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

AWARD OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR 2026 BITUMINOUS HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION

WHEREAS, sealed bids were received on March 2, 2026 by the Todd County Public Works Director for SP 077-602-021, SP 077-611-036, SAP 077-648-005, CP 26-98, CP 26-104 and CP 77-26-01, said projects for highway construction related work at various locations in Todd County, and;

WHEREAS, the following sealed bids were received:

Central Specialties, Inc. Alexandria, Minnesota \$5,068,251.05

Anderson Brothers Construction Brainerd, Minnesota \$5,568,310.50

Knife River Corporation Sauk Rapids, Minnesota \$5,697,158.77

Mark Sand & Gravel Co. Fergus Falls, Minnesota \$5,789,585.42

R.J. Zavoral and Sons, Inc. East Grand Forks, Minnesota \$6,179,920.37

Duininck, Inc. Prinsburg, Minnesota \$6,431,637.18

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners does hereby accept and award the contract for the above said construction projects to Central Specialties, Inc. of Alexandria, Minnesota based on their low bid of \$5,068,251.05.

On motion by Becker and second by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the attached Engineering Services Agreement from Widseth for the Bridge L9447 Replacement Project.

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

STATE OF MINNESOTA COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT FOR LAKE OSAKIS, BATTLE POINT PARK WATER ACCESS BETWEEN STATE OF MINNESOTA AND TODD COUNTY

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Natural Resources has the authority, duty, and responsibility under Minnesota Statutes Section 97A.141 to provide public water access on lakes and rivers, where access is inadequate, and;

WHEREAS, under Minnesota Statutes § 471.59, subd. 10, the State is empowered to engage such assistance as deemed necessary, and;

WHEREAS, the State of Minnesota and Todd County have determined that the public water access on Lake Osakis - Battle Point Park is high priority for improvements to better serve boaters and anglers of all ages and abilities, and;

WHEREAS, the County owns land described as the Battle Point Park public water access at Faraway Lane, Osakis, of which is in need a new and improved boat ramp, and the County is willing to take the lead to hire a qualified engineer/architect to develop the design and project specifications for future construction of the double boat ramp, and;

WHEREAS, the County desires a 50/50 cost share with the State to complete the design for the improved boat ramp project, and the State has funding available to assist with public water access projects.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, be it resolved that Todd County does hereby agree to the terms and conditions of the State of Minnesota Cooperative Agreement for Lake Osakis – Battle Point Public Water Access consistent with Minnesota Statutes, Section 471.59.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board Chairperson and Todd County Auditor/Treasurer are authorized to execute the cooperative agreement and any amendments thereto with the Commissioner of Natural Resources concerning the above-referenced.

On motion by Neumann and second by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the attached agreement from Widseth based on their proposed cost of \$20,510.00 for the Battle Point Park Boat Ramp Project.

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

AWARD OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR 2026 GRAVEL SURFACING PROJECTS

WHEREAS, sealed bids were received on March 31, 2026 by the Todd County Public Works Director for CP 26-88 and CP 26-93, said projects for gravel surfacing located on County Road 88 and County Road 93, and;

WHEREAS, the following sealed bids were received:

Swenson Aggregate Construction, LLC Pine River, Minnesota \$178,405.00

Sanders Construction, Inc. Randall, Minnesota \$178,870.00

DLL Excavating, Inc. Little Falls, Minnesota \$201,035.00

Braaten Aggregate, Inc. Bertha, Minnesota \$209,343.00

Central Specialties, Inc. Alexandria, Minnesota \$263,775.00

Mark Sand & Gravel Fergus Falls, Minnesota \$378,905.00

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners does hereby accept and award the contract for the above said construction projects to Swenson Aggregate Construction, LLC of Pine River, Minnesota based on their low bid of \$178,405.

On motion by Becker and second by Denny, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by

unanimous vote:

AWARD OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR 2026 HSP PAVEMENT STRIPING PROJECT

WHEREAS, sealed bids were received on March 31, 2026 by the Todd County Public Works Director for SP 077-070-017, said project for ground-in pavement striping work at various locations in Todd County, and;

WHEREAS, the following sealed bids were received:

Century Traffic Pewaukee, Wisconsin \$148,344.30

Sir Lines-A-Lot Edina, Minnesota \$149,261.56

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners does hereby accept and award the contract for the above said construction project to Century Traffic of Pewaukee, Wisconsin based on their low bid of \$148,344.30.

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

AWARD OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR 2026 PAVEMENT MARKING PROJECT

WHEREAS, sealed bids were received on March 31, 2026 by the Todd County Public Works Director for CP 77-26-03, said project for pavement markings located on various highways in Todd County, and;

WHEREAS, the following sealed bids were received:

Sir Lines-A-Lot, LLC Edina, Minnesota \$162,700.19

KAMCO Inc. Dassel, Minnesota \$176,857.71

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners does hereby accept and award the contract for the above said construction projects to Sir Lines-A-Lot, LLC of Edina, Minnesota based on their low bid of \$162,700.19.

County Assessor

On motion by Neumann and second by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the reduction of the 2026 property value by \$122,900 and abate the property tax by \$1,326 for parcel 03-0015400 which was destroyed by fire.

Facilities

On motion by Becker and second by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the low bid from Arnzen Construction for a total cost of \$57,932.23 to add a bathroom to the north half of the Northern Government Center.

Planning & Zoning

On motion by Denny and second by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Approve Ken Hovet to serve as District 4 representative on the Todd County Board of Adjustments and move Richard Johnson to serve as an alternate to the Board of Adjustments.

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

FINAL PLAT APPROVAL – “FIRST CREEK ADDITION” SUBDIVISION

WHEREAS, Applicants and property owners Robert and Judith Berscheid applied to subdivide a property that is described as part of Section 24 of Birchdale Township with the plat to be known as “First Creek Addition”,

WHEREAS, First Creek Addition consists of six (6) lots; Block 1, Lot 1, 41,921± square feet, Lot 2, 44,807± square feet, Lot 3, 49,573± square feet, Lot 4, 42,000± square feet, Lot 5, 42,000± square feet, and Lot 6, 61,321± square feet located in Shoreland Recreational Environment Zoning District (Little Birch Lake) in Birchdale Township,

WHEREAS, On January 8, 2026, the Todd County Planning Commission recommended the following property be considered for Subdivision pursuant to Todd County Subdivision Regulation and Ordinance:

That part of Government Lot 2 and that part of Government Lot 3, Section 24, Township 127 North, Range 33 West, Todd County, Minnesota, described as follows:

Beginning at the southeast corner of Lot 10, Block 1, LONG VIEW ADDITION, according to the recorded plat thereof;

thence South 24 degrees 56 minutes 36 seconds East, assumed bearing along the southeasterly extension of the northeasterly line of said Lot 10, a distance of 100.00 feet to the northerly line of the land described in Document No. 243540;

thence North 65 degrees 03 minutes 24 seconds East, along said northerly line of Document No. 243540, a distance of 66.00 feet; thence North 33 degrees 55 minutes 43 seconds East, along said northerly line of Document No. 243540, a distance of 206.97 feet; thence North 42 degrees 28 minutes 40 seconds East, along said northerly line of Document No. 243540, a distance of 111.37 feet; thence North 24 degrees 56 minutes 36 seconds West 504.70 feet;

thence North 09 degrees 56 minutes 36 seconds West 405.86 feet; thence South 78 degrees 31 minutes 23 seconds West 233.90 feet to the easterly line of said LONG VIEW ADDITION;

thence South 25 degrees 03 minutes 24 seconds West, along said easterly line of LONG VIEW ADDITION, a distance of 80.52 feet; thence South 09 feet 56 minutes 36 seconds East, along said easterly line of LONG VIEW ADDITION, a distance of 279.19 feet;

thence southeasterly, along said easterly line of LONG VIEW ADDITION and along a tangential curve concave to the northeast, radius 693.58 feet, central angle 15 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds,

181.58 feet;

thence South 24 degrees 56 minutes 36 seconds East, along said easterly line of LONG VIEW ADDITION and along tangent, 500.00 feet to the southerly line of said LONG VIEW ADDITION;

thence South 65 degrees 03 minutes 24 seconds West, along said southerly line of LONG VIEW ADDITION, a distance of 66.00 feet to the point of beginning

WHEREAS, On January 20th, 2026, the Todd County Board of Commissioners considered the Preliminary Plat for the above-described property and approved the First Creek Addition preliminary plat with three (3) conditions,

1. New accesses from the township road shall be approved by the local township prior to installation.

2. Property owners must obtain appropriate permitting as necessary from other governmental agencies including but not limited to the Sauk River Watershed District.

3. Applicant must abide by all other applicable federal, state, and local standards.

WHEREAS, the Planning & Zoning Department has completed the necessary final plat review and find that all items required for final plat approval have been completed.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the final plat of “First Creek Addition” be approved as presented.

Health & Human Services

On motion by Noska and second by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Opioid Settlement funding request from Long Prairie Police Dept.

On motion by Becker and second by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Transfer fund to Public Health - Fund 20, designating HHS Director Jackie Och to lead the community project.

County Auditor-Treasurer's Report

The County Auditor-Treasurer reminded of the upcoming special elections on April 14. State Election conference is happening yet in April. Tax statements have been fully released to the public. A visit from OSS Election Security was held to discuss planning and protocols for secure procedures for the upcoming busy election year and some areas for improvement for our current building layouts. A note was made that the notice has been released seeking applicants for the upcoming appointment to the Sauk River Watershed Board of Managers through April 24th, 2026.

County Coordinator's Report

The County Coordinator reported attending interviews, sourcewell internship, leadership summit, wellness, spring road, facilities and personnel meetings. An announcement that further information regarding the MPCA fine is available on the homepage of the Todd County webpage for public education.

County Commissioner's Report

The Commissioners reported on meetings and events attended.

Commissioner Becker attended meetings including the Feedlot, Long Prairie Watershed, Spring Road, PC, and Personnel.

Commissioner Denny has attended meetings including site visits, Emergency Services, Spring Road, SWCD, Prairie Lakes, PC, and Property Tax calls.

Commissioner Noska has attended meetings including Feedlot and Spring Road. Reminder of Wellness program for County Employees to utilize.

Commissioner Byers attended meetings including Spring Road, TCDC, Leadership Summit, Long Prairie Airport and Personnel.

Commissioner Neumann attended meetings including Feedlot, CPT, Leadership Summit, Spring Road and MRC.

Adjourn

On motion by Becker and second by Denny, the meeting was recessed until April 21, 2026..

AUDITOR WARRANTS

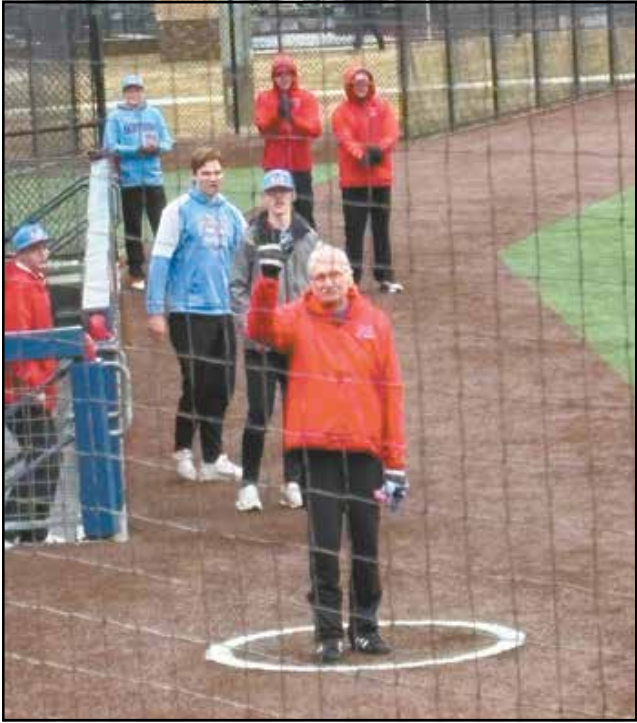
VENDOR NAME	\$ AMOUNT
CITY OF LONG PRAIRIE.....	5,345.62
DEPUTY REGISTRAR	3,007.52
JOHNSON CONTROLS BUILDING SOLUTIONS.....	5,541.03
KARL CHEVROLET, INC.	42,836.53
LINCOLN FINANCIAL GROUP	7,145.04
METROPOLITAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY	13,203.22
MINNESOTA POWER & LIGHT	2,675.75
MN TEAMSTERS NO 320	2,733.24
PHILIP'S REPAIRABLES & COLLISION CENTER	15,632.61
25 PAYMENTS LESS THAN \$2,000	12,815.50
ARC ELECTRIC SERVICE	2,060.60
CENTRA CARE	13,350.31
CLIFTON LARSONALLEN, LLP	10,395.00
COWING ROBARDS INC.....	2,146.00
FLEET SERVICES/WEX BANK	6,654.42
LONG PRAIRIE SANITATION INC	6,512.52
METRO SALES INC.....	2,919.05
MN DEPT OF FINANCE.....	6,310.50
MOTOROLA.....	28,301.78
PACIFIC LIFE INSURANCE CO.....	2,325.00
PETERS LAW OFFICE, P.A.	3,475.00
POPE DOUGLAS SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT	25,776.00
PRAIRIE LAKES MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE AUTH	98,136.20
STEP	10,321.25
VERIZON	6,212.70
VOYANT COMMUNICATIONS, LLC	3,287.65
WEST CENTRAL REG JUVENILE CTR	6,554.00
38 PAYMENTS LESS THAN \$2,000	19,146.36
CENTERPOINT ENERGY.....	2,117.13
COUNTIES PROVIDING	

TECHNOLOGY	7,448.00
GALLAGHER BENEFIT SERVICES INC	2,000.00
KEYL KXDL HOTROD RADIO	2,920.00
LONG PRAIRIE OIL COMPANY	5,499.22
MADEN GALANTER HANSEN, LLP	2,422.44
MINNESOTA POWER	20,635.92
MORRISON COUNTY	6,456.43
SMITH/CARL	3,400.00
STAPLES ADVANTAGE	3,393.30
STREICHER'S	5,869.99
WARNER LAW, LLC	4,485.00
WONDERLICH/SCOTT A	5,687.51
57 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000	27,266.13
AFSCME COUNCIL 65	5,163.10
CENTERPOINT ENERGY	8,329.40
FRISK-NOSKA MECHANICAL LLC	5,290.00
LAW ENFORCEMENT LABOR SERV INC	2,321.32
LIBERTY TIRE SERVICES LLC	2,724.00
LINCOLN FINANCIAL GROUP	7,175.35
LONG PRAIRIE LEADER	5,460.00
METROPOLITAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY	12,822.52
MN TEAMSTERS NO 320	2,733.24
PACIFIC LIFE INSURANCE CO	2,325.00
TODD CO AUDITOR-TREASURER	70,301.57
26 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000	8,814.01
PAYCOM PAYROLL, LLC	40,636.55
PAYCOM PAYROLL, LLC	3,484.97
WEX HEALTH INC - HSA	4,493.70
WEX HEALTH INC - HSA	43,403.59
COUNTY OF TODD	3,808.34
VOYA (MSRS) PAYROLL, LLC	4,400.35
BETTER HEALTH COLLECTIVE	601,923.78
BETTER HEALTH COLLECTIVE	33,250.00
BETTER HEALTH COLLECTIVE	322,974.00
MN DEPT OF REVENUE	63,446.87
US BANK-CC	7,525.06
PAYCOM PAYROLL, LLC	3,559.96
PAYCOM PAYROLL, LLC	42,722.83
VOYA (MSRS)	19,798.32
WEX HEALTH INC - HSA	38,657.93
COUNTY OF TODD	3,499.13
PAYCOM PAYROLL, LLC	576,344.34
WEX HEALTH INC - HSA	2,153.70
PAYCOM PAYROLL, LLC	29,459.01
HUMANA INSURANCE COMPANY	8,053.44
PERA	208,908.89
PERA	207,216.76
PERA	196,605.62
PERA	4,999.98
20 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000	15,549.44
AMERDGAO SERVICES LLC	3,800.00
ANOKA CO GOVERNMENT CENTER	8,375.00
CLARISSA BALLROOM	3,685.81
PETERS LAW OFFICE, P.A.	2,096.25
RJ CONTRACTING & REMODELING LLC	5,447.19
TODD CO AUD-TREAS	24,871.00
TODD TRAILS ASSOCIATION	29,550.75
USDA-RD	2,538.14
23 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000	10,794.52
TOTAL	\$3,175,916.26



SMHS senior banners on display

Staples-Motley High School senior banners went up May 5 by city crews along 2nd Ave. NE. (old Hwy. 10) in Staples. (Staples World photo by Janice Winter)



Pat Held coaches 1,600th game

Pat Held of Motley coached his 1,600th baseball game April 11, at Saint John's Prep (SJP) in Collegeville, where he serves as head coach. Amanda Henry, a staff member at SJP, shared that Held (Above center) was recognized during the game by the entire team, as well as many SJP baseball fans. She went on to note that, "We were playing Nevis and won a great back and forth game with a final score of 13-10 at Saint John's University's Haugen Field." In addition to coaching at SJP, Held has served as the head and assistant coach at Motley High School, Staples-Motley High School and Central Lakes College. (Submitted photos)



Streets improvement project continues

Crew members from Tree top Service, Delano, were at work along 4th Street NE in Staples May 6, taking down dozens of trees as part of the Streets Improvement Project.

As reported in The World Oct. 29, 2025, 4th Street NE is a county road. Todd County spearheaded a reconstruction project on this street and the city is partnering with them to replace the underground infrastructure (water, sanitary and storm sewer) which has been showing signs of failure. The trees needed to come down to make room for the new storm sewer going in. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



Final tree goes down

A total of 105 trees were reportedly removed in Staples May 6, as part of the Streets Improvement Project. This final tree, located along 5th Street NE, was cut down to make room for a sewer line which will run from 4th Street NE to 5th Street NE, where a man-hole will be put in. The trees were removed by Tree Top Service,

Delano. As part of the process, the trees were transported to a wood chipper that day, with the chips made into erosion control logs. Crew members removed all of the tree stumps that day as well. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



