

Inside this issue:

Rosie Daze Band coming to Staples Sept. 19
School year off to a good start
Sept. 11 remembered
Cardinal football earns first win



Hometown soldier remembered in Motley

Family members of WWII Veteran Duane Payne, a Motley native, stopped by Veterans Park in Motley Sept. 11, enroute to his final resting place at Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery in Little Falls. As noted in previous Staples World articles, Payne was wounded and reported Missing in Action on Oct. 9, 1944 while serving in Germany. He was officially declared Killed in Action on Oct. 9, 1945. After 82 years, Payne's remains were identified and he was returned to his home country from the Netherlands.

The Sept. 11 procession for Payne, which began at the Brenny Funeral Home in Staples, included the Patriot Guard, law enforcement, Motley American Legion, and others. The stop in Motley included a wreath laying ceremony and a visit to Payne's granite paver. See pages 10a, 2a for more. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)

Sixty-inch conversation starter The 60 inch corn rows gave plenty of room for closer inspection, as CLC Farm Manager Todd Pollema, left, has a conversation with Kurt Blomgren, Minnesota's Executive Director of the USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA), who attended Field Day on Aug. 28. The CLC Ag and Energy Center is experimenting with planting wider rows of corn with cover crops between them for grazing and soil health. Blomgren, from Butterfield in southern Minnesota, said he was very interested in the 60 inch corn experiments. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

CLC inventing new ways to grow corn

By Mark Anderson
Publisher

Watching corn grow became exciting again at Central Lakes College's Ag and Energy Center in Staples.

For years, Minnesota farmers have been trying to put more and more corn plants onto their field with narrower rows and closer spacing in the hope of higher yields per acre. But that takes much more input such as fertilizer to keep the crops growing each year. CLC's Ag and Energy Center is turning that concept upside down.

At the Field Day on Aug. 28, the CLC farm displayed 60 inch corn rows, double the conventional 30 inch spacing, plus other inventive planting options such as 10 foot blocks of corn interspersed with 10 foot blocks of cover crops.

This is a four or five year project to find a balance between soil health, crop production and cover crops. The experiments are being



Corn planted in blocks

In one experiment at CLC, 10 foot blocks of corn are interspersed with 10 foot blocks of cover crops.

replicated by some area farmers.

The additional space between corn rows allows for cover crops to be grown in the gaps. The process improves soil health, but the difference maker is after the corn is harvested, cattle can graze on the cover crops for a big boost to the field's utility.

CLC is partnering with Centra Sota, an agronomy cooperative, for these new

planting methods.

In the 60-inch row experiment, corn is planted in back-to-back rows, so it is technically two rows every 60 inches.

A variety of cover crops are interspersed within the corn rows. For the experiment with 10 foot blocks, they planted rye grass, crimson clover, bayou kale and african cabbage.

See **CORN** on page 12a



Motorhome crash on Hwy 10 east of Staples

On Sept. 4, at approximately 1:14 p.m., the MN State Patrol responded to a crash east of Staples, on Hwy 10 near Cty Rd 83. According to the report, a motorhome pulling a trailer, driven by Jacquelyn Main, 77, of Brainerd, was westbound on Hwy 10 when the motorhome she was driving sustained a blowout of a front tire. The motorhome and trailer left the roadway, went

into the ditch and struck a tree. Main and her passenger, 86-year-old Jon Main of Brainerd, were wearing seat belts and were not injured. Their dog, Snowflake, was not injured either. Other agencies responding included the Staples Police, Staples Ambulance, Staples Fire and Rescue, Todd Cty Sheriff's Dept. See page 2a. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Weather

2026

This Week's Forecast

	High	Low	Cond.
Sept. 16	60	50	Cloudy
Sept. 17	71	54	Sunny
Sept. 18	72	59	Showers
Sept. 19	72	52	Cloudy
Sept. 20	67	50	Cloudy
Sept. 21	66	49	M. Cloudy
Sept. 22	67	52	P. Sunny

Last Year, 2025

	High	Low	Cond.
Sept. 16	82°	64	Sunny
Sept. 17	75	58	M. Cloudy
Sept. 18	70	60	Cloudy
Sept. 19	69	61	Rain
Sept. 20	67	60	Cloudy
Sept. 21	69	55	Cloudy
Sept. 22	73	49	Sunny

Average Temps:
H = 66° Low = 46°

Compiled by
Dale Hausmann,
WCCO's Staples area
Weatherwatcher

Public Notices

Todd BOA 9A
Todd forfeited
land sales 9A
Todd
Commissioners 9A
Freshwater 9A

Obituaries

Rose Czech
Eugene
Grossman
Lora Toedter

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w39c&w41c



Rough start to Labor Day weekend

Jacquelyn Main, 77, and Jon Main, 86, of Brainerd, along with their dog, Snowflake, were not injured after their motorhome (pulling a trailer) sustained a front tire blowout east of Staples on Hwy 10 near Cty Rd 83. The incident took place Friday, Sept. 4, at approximately 1:14 p.m., the start of Labor Day weekend. At top: First responders assist Jon Main out of the tall grass, after helping him out of the motorhome. Cen-

ter: Jacquelyn Main, holding Snowflake, and Jon, seated in the ambulance, speak with first responders. Lower photo: After three-plus hours, Collins Brothers Towing of Central MN were able to pull the motorhome out of the ditch. Responders included MN State Patrol, Staples Police, Staples Fire and Rescue, Todd City Sheriff's Office. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



Appreciation for support

Above, the family of Duane Payne thank law enforcement and the Patriot Guard who escorted them from Staples to Motley to Camp Ripley on Sept. 11. Below, at the Camp Ripley service. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)





Artistic Hall of Famer

Stan Carlson of Staples, the inaugural member of the Staples Motley Area Artistic Hall of Fame, waved during the Railroad Days parade in Staples Aug. 22. Driving the vehicle is Jeanne Rohr, a board member of the SM Artistic Hall of Fame. Fellow board member Luke Bates walked along side the vehicle. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Todd Cty. court report

SEPT. 9, 2026
Long Prairie Police
Hlsaias Danauris De La Cruz Acevedo, Long Prairie. Driving After Revocation. Fine \$200. Fee \$85
Alexander Gonzalez Ruiz, Long Prairie. Driving After Revocation. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.
Sebastian Molina, Long Prairie. Drivers License-Driving After Suspension.
Raul Alberto Wood, Long Prairie. License-Driving After Cancellation. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.
Mohamed Omar Youssouf, Long Prairie. 2nd Degree - Refusal to Test. Dismissed. 3rd Degree Driving While Impaired. Dismissed. Vehicle Lighting Dismissed. Driving After Cancellation. Sentenced. Local Confinement 364 Days, Stay 0 Yr 0 Mo 329 Days For 2 Yr Credit for time served: 35 Days. Unsupervised probation, 2 Yr. Fine \$200. Fee \$275.
Todd County Sheriff
Harold Joel Anderson, Long Prairie. Speed 69/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Adolfo III Cantu, Eagle Bend. Operate Vehicle With Expired Registration. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.
Alberto Castillo Arias, Long Prairie. Drivers License-Driving After Suspension. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.
Victor Emanuel Lopez Rolon, Long Prairie. Driving without a valid license for vehicle class or type. Fine \$100. Fine \$85.
Micheal M. Yoder, Oklee. Speed 65/55. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
MN Dept. of Natural Resources
Jennifer Ann Kellin, Champlin. Watercraft - Operate Unlicensed Watercraft. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.
Luis Francisco Lara Sanchez, Long Prairie. Take fish without angling license. Fine \$100. Fee \$85. Driving Without a Valid License for vehicle class or type. Fine \$100.
Jordan Daniel Thieschafer, Burtum. Personal Watercraft - Operate without personal flotation device. Fine \$25. Fee \$85.
Paul Tony Wilczek, Little Falls. ATV-Fail to renew registration. Fine \$50. Fee \$85. Fail to make application for transfer of ownership within 15 days of transfer. Fine \$25.
MN State Patrol
Jacob Jeffrey Anali, Long Prairie. Speed 75/60. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.
Kenneth Albert Andres, Bismarck, ND. Speed 80/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Gabriel Laroy Baron, Rochester. Window Tint (less than 50% light transmittance. Fine \$50. Fee \$85. Windshield tinted or glazed. Fine \$50.
Jacob Lee Blair, Clayton, WI. Seat Belt Required. Fine \$25. Fee \$85.
Marta Alicia Chavez-Martinez, Long Prairie. Speed 65/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Landon Jay Hanson, Blaine. Speed 88/70. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.
Brian Alexander Herandez Ambriz, Melrose. Speed 87/60. Fine \$100. Fee \$185.
Scar-Lar Latron Jefferson, West Fargo, ND. Speed 91/70. Fine \$70. Fee \$155.
Metaya Angela Jergenson, Starbuck. Speed 80/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Ryley Scott Killinger Sauk Centre. Window Tint (less than 50% light transmittance. Fine \$50. Fee \$85. Windshield tinted or glazed. Fine \$50. No Front Plate Foreign State if state requires it. Fine \$100. Equip veh/ illegal h/1 or t/l covers (except stock). Fine \$40.
Damascus Alexander McCabe, Bronx, NY. Speed 80/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
David Emmanuel Pascual Luciano, Long Prairie. Speed 65/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Nicholas Robert Peters, New York Mills. Hands-Free Law. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.
Robert Lawrence Smith, Eden Prairie. Speed 75/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Isaac N. Swartzentruber, Long Prairie. Unsafe Equipment. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Ronda Marvella Thompson, Barnesville. Speed 79/70. Fee \$40. Fee \$115
Michael Gene Tiedemann, Crookston. Speed 82/70. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.
Chandler John Vandam, Little Falls. Speed 82/60. Fine \$70. Fee \$155.
Travis Jeffery Vogel, Brooten. Window Tint (less than 50% light transmittance. Fine \$50. Fee \$85. Windshield tinted or glazed. Fine \$50.
Allyson Rae Westfield, Ellsworth. Speed 79/70. Fee \$40. Fee \$85.
The following cases were heard before Heidi L. Hovis, Seventh District Court in Todd County August 25, 2026.
John Paul Chalmers, Osakis. Aquaculture - Import/ Transport/ Stock Waters Aquatic Life w/out bill of lading, permit, disea. Fine \$80. Fee \$85.
The following cases were heard before Heidi L. Hovis, Seventh District Court in Todd County August 27, 2026.
Ulises Orozco Ambriz, Melrose. Driving After Revocation. Sentenced. Local Confinement 22 Days, Stay 0 Yr 0 Mo 0 Days Credit for time served: 22 Days Fee \$125. -Uninsured Vehicle-Driver Violation Dismissed.
The following cases were heard before Heidi L. Hovis, Seventh District Court in Todd County August 31, 2026.
Frances Marie Kucera, Staples. 2nd Degree Driving While Impaired. 2nd Degree Driving While Impaired. Dismissed. 2nd Degree Driving While Impaired - Blood Alcohol Content Greater than .08 Within Two Hours of Driving. Supervised probation, 4 Yr. Sentenced. Local Confinement 364 Days, Stay 0 Yr 0 Mo 274 Days For 4 Yr Credit for time served: 1 Days. Fine \$200. Fee \$275.
The following cases were heard before Mary B. Mahler, Seventh District Court in Todd County August 31, 2026.
Daniel David Miller, Brainerd. Possess Ammo/Any Firearm - Conviction or Adjudicated Delinquent for Crime of Violence. Dismissed. 5th Degree - Possess Schedule 1,2,3,4 or paraphernalia residual - Not cannabis/hemp. Dismissed. Fleeing a Peace Officer in a Motor Vehicle. Sentenced. Commit to Commissioner of Corrections - Adult(MN Correctional Facility - St. Cloud, 15 Mo, Stay For 3 Yr. Local Confinement 402 Days, Stay 0 Yr 0 Mo 0 Days Credit for time served: 402 Days. Fine \$50. Fee \$398.88 2nd Degree DWI - Refuse to submit to chemical test; Blood or urine as required by search warrant. Sentenced. Local Confinement 364 Days, Stay 0 Yr 0 Mo 0 Days Credit for time served: 364 Days . Fine \$50. Fee \$50. Driving after Cancellation-Inimical to Public Safety. Dismissed.
The following cases were heard before Heidi L. Hovis, Seventh District Court in Todd County September 1, 2026.
Cody James Becker, Grey Eagle. Disorderly Conduct. Sentenced. Unsupervised probation, 1 Yr. Local Confinement 90 Days, Stay 0 Yr 0 Mo 88 Days For 1 Yr. Credit for time served: 2 Days Fine \$100. Fee \$250. Indecent Exposure-Public Place Wilfully/Lewdly Dismissed.
Mark Anthony Wolters, Little Falls. Open bottle law; drinking and consumption. Dismissed. Carrying Pistol While Under Influence of Alcohol-Concentration less than 0.10 but more than. Dismissed. Operate Motor Vehicle Under Influence of Alcohol. Dismissed. DWI - Operate Motor Vehicle - Alcohol Concentration 0.08 Within 2 Hours. Local Confinement 90 Days, Stay 0 Yr 0 Mo 89 Days For 1 Yr Credit for time served: 1 Days. Supervised probation, 1 Yr. Fine \$200. Fee \$300.
Patricia Viloa Pryor, Randall. Give Peace Officer False Name/Birthdate/ID Card. Fine \$50. Fee \$125. Seat Belt Required. Dismissed.
Kelly Ann Lemke, Long Prairie. DWI - Operate Motor Vehicle -Alcohol Concentration 0.08 Within 2 Hours. Local Confinement 1 Days Credit for time served: 1 Days. Supervised probation, 3 Yr. Fine \$200. Fee \$275.
Robert Michael II Pallansch, Grey Eagle. Careless Driving. Unsupervised probation, 1 Yr. Fee \$75.
Walter Robert Sadusky, Staples. Failure to obtain a burning permit. Sentenced. 90 Days, Stay 0 Yr 0 Mo 90 Days For 1 Yr. Fine \$50. Fee \$125. Forestry-Open Burning-Prohibited Garbage. Fine \$50.
The following cases were heard before Heidi L. Hovis, Seventh District Court in Todd County September 2, 2026.
Micheal Dale Miller, Staples. DWI 1 - Operate Motor Vehicle Under Influence of Al. Dismissed. DWI 1 - Operate Motor Vehicle - Alcohol Concentration 0.08 Within 2 Hours. Sentenced. 364 Days, Stay 274 Days For 4 Yr Credit for time served: 2 Days. (Supervised probation, 4 Yr. Fine \$75. Driving after Cancellation-Inimical to Public Safety. Sentenced. Traffic - Careless Driving - Operate any vehicle carelessly on street or highway. Dismissed.
Robert Michael II Pallansch, Grey Eagle. Careless Driving. Unsupervised probation, 1 Yr. Fee \$75.
Kendel Jo Roline, Staples. 3rd Degree DWI - Operate Motor Vehicle - Alcohol Concentration 0.08 Within 2 Hours. Dismissed. Domestic Assault-Misdemeanor-Commits Act to Cause Fear of Immediate Bodily Harm or Death. Sentenced. 90 Days, Stay 0 Yr 0 Mo 88 Days For 2 Yr Credit for time served: 2 Days. Supervised probation, 2 Yr. Fine \$50. Fee \$279. Domestic Assault-Misdemeanor-Commits Act to Cause Fear of Immediate Bodily Harm or Death. Dismissed.
-Court reports are received from the Long Prairie Leader.

Looking back



Mystery photo

Hello readers. This week’s archive photo is from 1976. Do you know who these people are and perhaps the context of the photo? Do you have a memory to share? Email your answers and where you’re from to dtimbs@staplesworld.com by Friday, or call 218-894-1112. The answers will be published in next week’s paper, as well as a new mystery photo.

75 YEARS Ago - 1951

Sept. 13, 1951 - Staples Railroader football team came out on top of a 13 to 7 game on the local gridiron Friday evening of last week, when the Long Prairie Indians were unable to complete their passing attack against the Railroaders during the last half of the game.
Sept. 13, 1951 - Bud Korff, farmer living in District 80 vicinity lost four valuable milk cows and a heifer by lightning recently.
Mr. Korff went out to get the cows for milking and found the five dead, all lying around a tree where they had been struck by lightning.
Value of the animals, all of which were high grade Holsteins, is placed at from \$1,000 to \$1,500. Insurance was carried on the cattle, but the insurance carried would not cover the loss to Mr. Korff.

He was a full can of milk short the morning the animals were discovered dead. Mr. Korff resides on the farm formerly owned by Fred Kurz southwest of Staples.
50 YEARS Ago - 1976
Sept. 2, 1976 - A bomb, believed to be a practice bomb from the late 1930s or early 1940s, was found near the Crow Wing River bridge at Motley about 10 days ago. It was reported to The World that Norman Lundquist of Motley came upon the bomb when using a metal finder. Marty Krzywiecki, a member of the Motley Police Department, was notified and took the bomb from the bridge area to a spot south of town.
Monday, Aug. 23, the bomb was disposed of by a Bomb Demolition Squad from Minneapolis.
Sept. 2, 1976 - Michael Newton, 14, who attended eighth grade at Staples high school the past school term, died Sunday evening, Aug. 29, at the Bemidji Community Hospital from injuries received in an accident in that city.

According to information received from the Bemidji Pioneer, young Newton was riding his bike about 8 p.m. Sunday evening and collided with a pick-up truck at the intersection of 23rd Street and Ash Avenue in Bemidji, He was taken to the Bemidji Community Hospital, where he died about 10:30 p.m.
It was also reported that Newton was staying with relatives in Bemidji and would have been attending school there this term.
Sept. 2, 1976 - Lefty’s Men’s Softball team from Staples took first place in the annual Jaycee Softball Tournament in Wadena Sunday, Aug. 29.
In capturing the championship, Lefty’s won a total of four games. The first win was against a team from Wadena 16-11, followed by a 9-8 conquest of Deer Creek, 16-8 over Security State Bank and the title game was against New York Mills which Lefty’s won by a 10-6 score.
Sept. 2, 1976 - Thirty-four Staples high school girls are competing for a spot on the 1976-77 girls’ volleyball team, said Christy Werder, coach. She said the emphasis in practice is on basic skills, ball control, and in developing each girl’s best serve.
Sept. 2, 1976 - Close to 2,000 people came in nine airplanes, a dozen buses and several hundred cars to attend the Irrigation Field Day in Staples Thursday, Aug. 19.

Although temperatures hit 103 degrees Fahrenheit that day, more than 1,400 persons stood in line for the sweet corn, hot dogs and bean feed. The lunch was handled by Bruce Hayenga and his help from the Vocational Institute.
Sweet corn was grown at the irrigation farm, the beans were donated by Bush Bros. from Augusta, Wis., the pickles and ketchup were given by Gedney’s of Chaska, and the potato chips came from Barrel O’Fun of Perham. All of the irrigated crops are grown in this area.
25 YEARS Ago - 2001
Sept. 13, 2001 - Headline: ‘Tragic news turns to shock, disbelief, horror.’ The tragedy that the United States managed to avoid for over 30 years of world wide terrorist attacks finally occurred Tuesday, Sept. 11, 2001.
In a coordinated and highly successful attack, terrorists hijacked four commercial airliners, crashed two of them into New York City’s world Trade Center, one into the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. and one into a Pennsylvania farm field.
The twin towers of the World Trade Center, hit about 18 minutes apart by jets fully laden with jet fuel, collapsed just minutes after the massive explosions.
Approximately 252 passengers were aboard the four planes, with 37 crew members. Late Tuesday afternoon there was no word on the number of people killed or injured in the buildings hit, but casualties were estimated to approach 10,000 killed and/or injured. A reported 50,000 people worked in he two 110-story towers of the Trade Center.
The four planes, three bound for Los Angeles, one for San Francisco, took off from Boston and Newark. Air traffic controllers and radar tracked them making sharp turns and going off their normal courses, but were not able to put out an alarm in time.
People around Staples flocked to television sets and radios shortly after 9 a.m. Tuesday as word spread of the first attack. Shock turned into disbelief and total horror as each new bit of news was aired.
Two families in Staples made some very quick and urgent phone calls

Tuesday morning to learn where their pilot children were. Marv Giza called his son’s home to learn that Sun Country Airlines first officer Mark Giza had just flown out of New York early that morning. Later they learned his flight had been diverted, first to Canada, then to Michigan.
Barb Schmitt had similar concerns about her daughter, Marnie (Schmitt) Loftis, a first officer flying 737’s out of Chicago’s O’Hare Airport for United Airlines. (Two of the highjacked planes were Untied flights).
“When I heard that a 737 had hit the World Trade Center, my heart just dropped. I went right to the phone. No one answered right away, but her husband later called back,” the relieved mother said.
She learned Marnie had flown out of Syracuse, N.Y. about 8 a.m. on a flight to Chicago. She also learned Marnie was on the ground, much to her relief.
Harriet Dent of Staples compared the news to another fateful day, Dec.

7, 1941. “It’s just like Pearl Harbor,” she said Tuesday afternoon at the Staples Dairy Queen. Sixty years ago, the young bride was concerned about her husband and her unborn child, Kathy. This week, her thoughts turned to her grandson, Kathy’s son, who works a few blocks from the World Trade Center.
He called on his cell phone to his dad in Little Falls. The terse message was, “I’m okay. We’re being evacuated.” That was the end of the call.
10 YEARS Ago - 2016
Sept. 8, 2016 - The family of Jacob Wetterling finally knows what happened to their 11-year-old son and brother who was abducted nearly 27 years ago near his home in rural St. Joseph.
On Sept. 6, Danny Heinrich, the man who kidnapped Jacob Wetterling, confessed to abducting, sexually assaulting and killing the 11-year-old boy in 1989, providing the family with answers they had waited to hear for nearly 27 years.

Steve Ziegler, Alexandria, recognized his mom and sister. Thanks for participating in our mystery photo.



Mystery solved

Last week’s mystery photo published in the May 8, 1980 edition of the Staples World featured Ann Ziegler, Head Start teacher at the Staples center, sitting with her daughter Barbara (aged 9) at a table in the pre-school program. Ziegler is now a teacher with Head Start and one of the first parents involved with the program 15 years ago.

Steve Ziegler, Alexandria, recognized his mom and sister. Thanks for participating in our mystery photo.



Across from the old Staples Theatre marquee

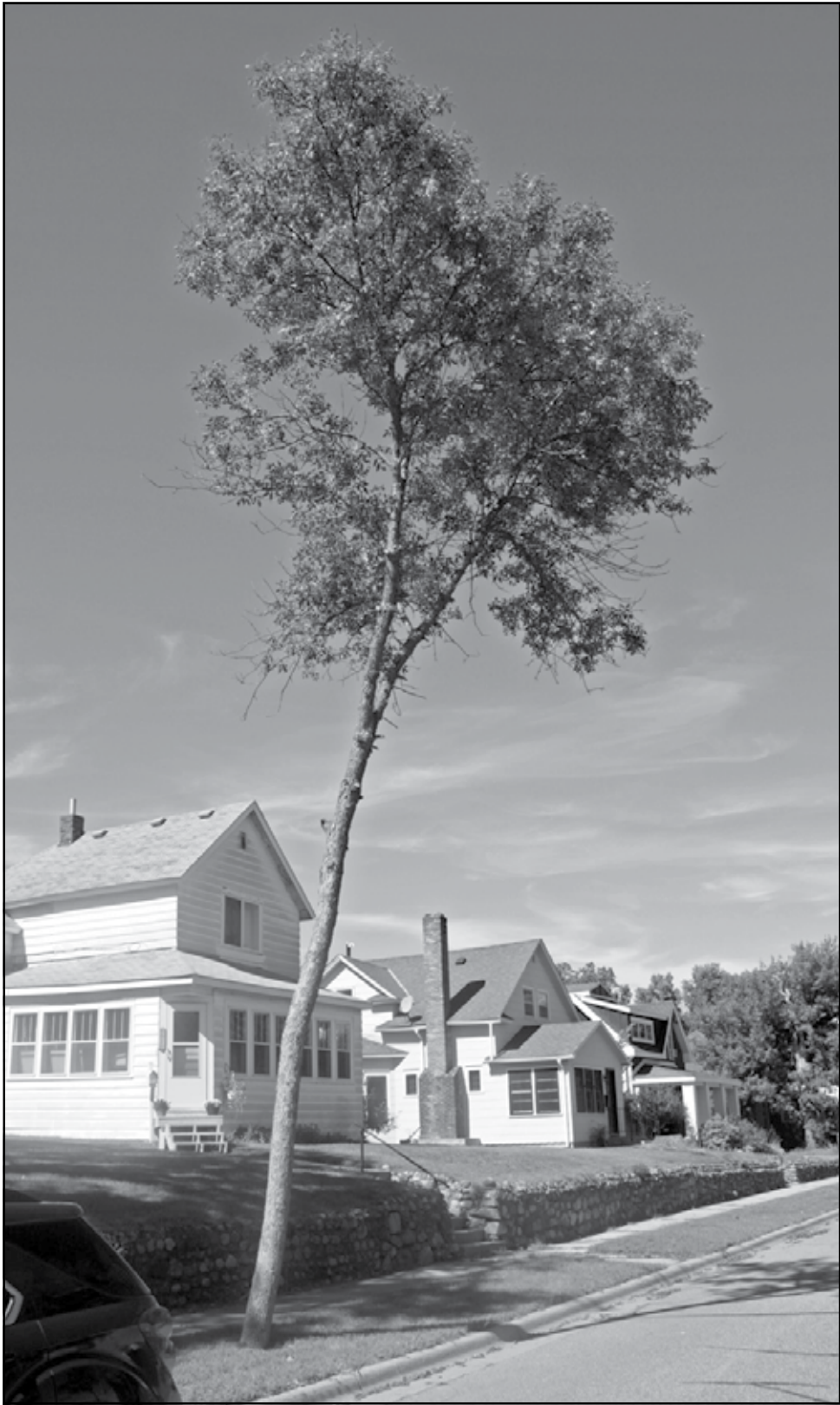


The Staples World office, moved to 207 4th St. NE

Located two doors south of Stomping Grounds Coffee Shop.

Regular advertising and copy deadline is Friday, noon.

The office closes at noon on Friday.



Palm trees in Staples

When you have a passion for palm trees.
But you can't grow them in Minnesota.
I guess this is what you do.
(500 block, 8th St. NE, compliments of the City of Staples Street Dept.)

(Photo and caption by Ken Klose)

Value of neighborhood trees

The Arbor Day Foundation
Arborday.org

Trees are the backbone of our neighborhoods. Trees do so much for our communities. Regardless of why a neighborhood tree gets planted in the first place, it offers profound layers of good.

With more people moving to urban areas, trees help us keep pace and ensure our growing communities remain healthy. Trees clean our air, cool our cities, and safeguard us from stronger storms. They also create a home for birds, bugs, and critters, which bring a neighborhood to life. Trees in our yards and parks strengthen neighborhood bonds that lead to happier and safer communities, too.

Underserved communi-

ties shoulder the effects of climate change. Trees lessen the burden and help residents breathe easier.

Our Canopy Report revealed that 91% of Americans believe trees help make neighborhoods more livable, yet 56% must drive to their nearest park or green space. The benefits of trees are undeniable, and when we focus on planting in areas with little coverage, we help those who need it most.

Other key findings:

- 95 percent of Americans find value in trees.
- 73 percent of Americans wish their neighborhood had more trees.
- 95 percent of people engage in out-

door activities around trees.

- 87 percent of Americans say trees and green spaces have a noticeable impact on their mental well-being.
- 79 percent of Americans say, "being among trees is my happy place."
- 40 percent said they would plant trees in their yard if they knew more about tree planting.
- 61 office of Americans have experienced a natural disaster in the past 12 months.
- 1 in 2 shoppers seek out information about a company's environmental commitments before buying.

In the end, hunting, like politics, is local

If you were paying attention during high school civics classes in American government, or perhaps in a post-secondary school course in political science, you might have heard the expression "all politics is local." It's credited to former congressman and Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, Tip O'Neill, of Massachusetts. It means that voters typically make voting booth decisions based on things they believe directly affect their daily lives, rather than abstract ideas or policies they don't think affect them directly. They're more likely to care about the price of gas and groceries, or safe streets—and the candidates who show they share those priorities—than they care about foreign policy, or a new space program to put a man on Mars.



Mike Rahn

As avid as we might be, hunting as a recreation does not routinely present us with the high stakes issues that politics and governance do. In this recreation of ours, "local" has significance of a different kind. It is not "local" in the close-to-home sense. It is "local" in the sense of where opportunities—and the factors that can bring tangible success—are most apt to be found. These are generally not spread evenly across the landscape.

With September has come a rush of hunting seasons. Sept. 1 brought the first of these, for mourning doves—among our earliest migrants—and for snipe, a very lightly-hunted member of the shorebird family.

Next up, beginning on the Saturday of Labor Day weekend, came two waterfowl seasons. One was the special five-day teal season for the smallest of our popular duck species, birds that both nest in Minnesota, and migrate through our state from breeding grounds elsewhere. Concurrent with that Sept. 5 date began the early Canada goose season, which runs through Septn 20. Youth Waterfowl Weekend—for young persons age 17 and under, accompanied by a licensed adult—was held this year on the weekend of Sept. 11-12

A handful of Northwest Minnesota counties are open to sandhill crane hunting, which also begins on Sept. 12 and runs through Octn 18. Minnesota held its first sandhill crane hunt of the modern era in 2010, the last prior season being in 1916.

The 2026 season for ruffed grouse, Minnesota's most popular upland game bird, begins on Sept. 19 and runs through Jan. 3. Also beginning on that date is the season for migratory woodcock, Hungarian partridge, and sharptail grouse, the latter found primarily in Minnesota's Northwest counties. One week later, Sept. 26, is the start of the general waterfowl season for most ducks and geese that breed in or migrate through our Mississippi Flyway.

Last, but not least of the seasons that begin in September, are the statewide 2026

archery deer season—Sept. 19 through December 31—and seasons for rabbits, hares, and squirrels, also beginning on Sept. 19.

So how does "local" fit into the hunting of any of these game birds or mammals? Certainly for some—like the sandhill crane, and the sharptail grouse—their regional restrictions are the starting point. For other species, that starting point is statewide. It is beyond these broad boundaries that the detective work begins, finding the local elements that often separate the most successful from the rest.

Waterfowl hunting offers examples. One issue is simple access. With much of the state mired in an extended drought, some wetlands that held water earlier in the year are "dewatered," or nearly so, and inaccessible for all practical purposes. Some shallow waterfowl lakes with lower water levels may have launch points that are close to unusable, at least for some hunting boat rigs and the vehicles that tow them. Knowing these conditions in advance may be more important this year than most.

Beyond the issue of simple access, is a shallow lake or wetland's attractiveness to ducks and geese. Except for waterfowl feeding primarily in crop fields, and visiting waters only for rest and security, the most attractive wetlands are those that offer preferred foods. One of the most widely important is wild rice. A rice crop can be abundant one year, and a failure or nearly so the next. Scouting both before and during the season can narrow down the better locations. Scouting can be both in-person, and by making contact with local conservation officers and wildlife managers, who are often eager to share information.

Apart from narrowing down options to the places where migratory waterfowl are most naturally drawn, timing can be especially important. The Minnesota DNR publishes updated waterfowl migration reports weekly during the hunting season, and offers the option of receiving these reports directly, by email.

Comparable local elements for success apply in upland hunting, such as in pursuit of ruffed grouse. The best prospects, in Minnesota at least, are commonly found in woodlands with a mix of aspen, birch, alder, and their associated understory plants, ideally where several different tree age classes—from sapling size to mature—come together. Further scouting that might reveal a good crop of preferred grouse foods—like gray dogwood, hazel catkins, rose hips, or hawthorns—would be another step in pinpointing local areas that stand out from the rest.

Whatever the wild game might be, not all habitat is equal. This can be especially important in so-called "down years," as there predictably are with the roughly ten-year cycles of ruffed grouse abundance. When some areas are barren, the very best habitat might be the only place where there's a reasonable chance of success.

Whatever the game, finding the local areas of "best" habitat, and learning how and when game use it, is worth the effort, more often than not.

Ninja city beautification

Deb Brown
SaveYour.town

Last year, our friend Maggie was excited to add greenery to the planters in front of a couple of blocks of retail and commercial buildings before Small Business Saturday. She put the word out asking if anyone had any fresh greens or evergreens that could be cut up. She also kindly notified the city that she would be doing it.

We loved it.
A local leader took it

upon themselves to get all official; it was a matter of CYA, I think. They wrote an email back with a lot of requirements. Like:

- Don't add more dirt to the planters; it might fall behind the liners into the box.
- How will the rest of the District perceive this? What about their planters in front of their stores? There is a perception problem that Maggie's area is being favored by the city. So, she needs to advertise that this is an action taken by volunteers, and not the city.
- The City can't help them unless it's done for the whole district.
- The city has other things they must do. Trim the trees, replace other trees and repair sidewalks and curbs.

- Now the city could help, but more planning is needed, so not until next year.

And they closed with:

"Again, if this is a private donation to spruce up 6th Street and those owners and businesses want to participate, great! But please do not ask for/use City resources for this or bill this as a District event."

Sometimes I just shake my head. Other times I ask things like, "We can bill the city for stuff?"

I always encourage you to take the small steps to make a difference, spread a little joy and have fun doing it.

Maggie and her team added greenery without city help, and it looked lovely.

This is what we call a Ninja move. Just do it.

Staples World



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

Quote of the week

“But man is a part of nature, and his war against nature is inevitably a war against himself.”
— Rachel Carson

Quote of the week

“The role of journalism is not to mindlessly affirm power, but to relentlessly examine it.” — Maria Ressa



Rosie Daze Band coming to Staples

The new stage at Centennial Auditorium will be celebrated on Saturday, Sept. 19, with a group named to the “Top 10 New Bands of MN Music Scene 2026” by The Current public radio. The show starts at 7 p.m., tickets are available at the door.

The Rosie Daze Band will play on the brand new stage, which was first used for the Little Red Caboose Variety Show in August.

The Rosie Daze Band plays Americana music, bluegrass and folk. Their harmonies combine with their enjoyable stage presence to give audiences a

memorable musical show.

The auditorium stage was extended this summer by taking out the orchestra pit and the wooden stage covering it. The whole structure was filled with sand and covered with cement to extend the stage towards the seating area.

The new stage is the start of a full renovation of the auditorium, which will eventually get new backdrops, lighting and sound system. The performance by the Rosie Daze Band also will feature the new sound panels at the auditorium that direct stage voices towards the audience.

The performance is being brought to Staples by a partnership between the Staples Motley Area Arts Council and the Central Lakes College Performing Arts Center’s Cultural Arts series. Tickets are also available at the CLC Performing Arts Center web site.

GriefShare support at Motley Free Methodist

Motley Free Methodist Church will be offering a GriefShare seminar/support group on Tuesdays, from 6 - 8 p.m., through Dec. 15.

A 13-week program, GriefShare is a weekly video seminar featuring some of the nation’s foremost experts on grief recovery topics. Each seminar is combined with a small group

discussion time for group participants to talk about the content of the seminar and about how they’re dealing with the death of their loved one.

For more information about the GriefShare program, call 218-352-6888 or visit online, www.griefshare.org. Motley Free Methodist Church is located at 33 Wellwood Street E., Motley.

MISSIONS CELEBRATION

Serving Free

CHILI COOK-OFF MEAL

Sat., Sept. 19

5:30 p.m.

Vote for your favorite flavor. Presentation by missionary guests.

Staples Assembly of God, 914 3rd Ave. NE

Mark Your Calendar

September 17

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

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

September 18

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.

September 20

CELEBRATE RECOVERY GROUP MEETINGS Sundays, 6 p.m.,

at Motley Free Methodist Church, 33 Wellwood St. E., Motley.

September 22

CARE MINISTRY FREE MEAL Tuesday, Sept. 22, 4:30 - 6 p.m., at Faith Lutheran Church, 430 12th St. NE, Staples. The free meals are held on a monthly basis to promote fellowship, connection and nourishment.

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

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

WADENA COUNTY REPUBLICANS MEETING Tuesday, Sept. 22, 7 p.m., at the Wadena VFW. Come early to eat and visit with like-minded people.

Menu

Senior Nutrition Program, Staples
Staples: Call mornings (218-979-4118) the Thursday before to reserve next week’s meal(s) and current suggested donation info. LSS Meals - traditional 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 Site: 218-979-4118.
•Motley Site: 218-824-3820.
Sept. 21 - Sept. 25
MONDAY - Country fried chicken, cream gravy, mashed potatoes, green peas, wheat bread, marg., sugar cookie, 1% milk.

TUESDAY - Pasta pizza casserole, country veggie blend, spiced peaches, marg., dinner roll, 1% milk.
WEDNESDAY - Oven roasted turkey/gravy, mashed potatoes, whole kernel corn, wheat bread, marg., Tapioca pudding/topping, 1% milk.
THURSDAY - Beef goulash, mixed veggies, pumpkin bar, dinner roll, marg., 1% milk.
FRIDAY - Baked pork chop/gravy, scalloped potatoes, diced carrots, wheat bread, marg., oatmeal raisin cookie, 1% milk.

MN Sheriffs’ Association scholarship program

Sheriff Shawn Larsen of Morrison County recently announced the commencement of the Law Enforcement Scholarship Program for 2026. He announced that the MSA Board of Directors has established a scholarship fund for awarding up to 18 - \$2,000 scholarships for this year. These scholarships are due to the coordinated efforts of the 87 elected sheriffs of the State of Minnesota.

The MSA gives special recognition to the financial needs of students attending the peace officer skills course or one of the two or four-year law enforcement degree programs around the state.

“The Board of Directors feel peace officers in our democratic society have complex duties to perform,” said Sheriff Larsen. MSA recognizes the importance of pre-entry training for people considering law enforcement as their career choice. The MSA also acknowledges that some students may need outside help in meeting the costs of such training, even though they excel academically.

The MSA scholarship committee, in making its selection of awards, intends to achieve representation from all geographical areas of the state. The scholarship deadline is Nov. 30, 2026. Awards will be announced on the MSA web page and on social media at the start of 2027. Application forms and a statement of procedures are available at the Morrison County Sheriff’s Office. Scholarships are only available to students currently enrolled in one of the following three categories:

- Mandated POST Skills Program
 - In their second year of a two-year law enforcement program
 - In their third or fourth year of a four-year college criminal justice program.
- To qualify, students must have completed at least one year of the two-year program or two years of a four-year program. Students meeting these criteria are invited to obtain a scholarship application form from their local sheriff’s office or online at www.mnsheriffs.org.

Sunday, Oct. 4, 1 p.m.
Guaranteed \$500 Blackout

Sunday, Oct. 11, 1 p.m.
\$1,000 or less Blackout

TEN HI, MOTLEY
Come, join the fun, Oct. - March.
-Bingo hosted by Ten Hi and the Motley Lions
Lic. #05943

“Top 10 New Bands of MN Music Scene”

“The Rosie Daze Band”
Saturday, Sept. 19, 7 p.m.

in concert at
Centennial Auditorium, Staples
401 Centennial Dr, Staples
**Tickets at the door*
Adult: \$25 Under 18: \$10 Senior: \$22.50

This all-female band out of Minneapolis plays traditional Bluegrass, Old Time, Americana and Folk Music. Rosie Daze is keeping bluegrass mountain fresh with vocal harmonies dunked in sugar, sass and a side of spicy.

• Staples Motley Area Arts Council
• Part of the CLC Performing Arts Center’s Cultural Arts Series
• Presented in partnership with the Staples-Motley Performing Arts Center

DEADLINE
for all classified ads and copy is 12 noon Friday

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•Bring a Friend: 2 rings possible•

VERY LARGE FARM AUCTION

As I have sold my place and am moving the following property will be sold at auction located from Brainerd, at the intersection of Hwy 18 / Hwy 25, approx. 2 mi. east to Fire #12438 State Hwy 18, Brainerd, MN 56401 (next to Oak Lawn Town Hall). Follow signs on:

Saturday, September 26, 2026

SALE TIME: 9:00 A.M. RESTROOMS AVAILABLE LUNCH ON GROUNDS

2002 GMC XLT, 4 wh. dr., ext. cab, 1/2 ton, Vortex 5.3, clean, 106,693 mi.	1650 Oliver tractor, wide front, with Schwartz loader, gas, 6,400 hrs.	Allis-Chalmers D-15 tractor, gas powered, wide front	17 ft. Lowe canoe, like new
1982 Lund boat, 16 ft., 50 hp Mariner motor, live well, depth finder on Shore Landr trailer	Generac generator, Robin Subaru eng., 10,000 watt		Rooster collection

2022 X590 JD rider w/snow blower, like new, 267 hours

LARGE AMOUNT OF TOOLS
14' ext. ladder Log chains
Pedestal vise Step ladders
Scoop shovels Long handle tool
Lg. amt. nuts, bolts Ext. cords
Power tools Sockets, wrenches
Files Elec. tools Truck tool boxes
Black & Decker cut off saw Axes
Chainsaws, Stihl, 235 Husqvarna,
Hatachi Hitches Hyd. jacks
Craftsman and Diamond wrenches
Air tools Nailer Fans Misc. oil
Air compressor Planer Belt sander
Ryobi chop saw 10" top drill press
MANY MORE MISC. TOOLS

EQUIPMENT, MORE
14' White 252 disc w/wings, dual wheels
Section drag 6" steel ramps
300 gal. gas barrel on stand
3 pt. Farm King snow blower
2-wheel trailer, 4x8 Hay mow lift
GT 275 John Deere Rider
Produce/veggie table 5 gal. buckets
Chicken feeders, chicken brooders
lg. and sm. Chicken crates
Packer, lawn roller
Fencing, t-posts, elec. fence posts
Hyd. cylinders Water tank
Wheelbarrows Lg. chicken feeder
Many livestock/portable corral panels
Used lumber, barbed wire, wooden fence posts Rough sawed lumber

Cattle gates, various sizes
Lg. amt. mixed firewood, approx. 5-6 cords
Pig feeders on stands
Treated lumber Sawhorses
Galv. tanks, wood tank Gas heater
Convection heater, in box
ProTuff aerator Manure spreader
Pull behind ATV sprayer, 30 gal.
Agri Fab lawn spreader Scrap iron
8 hp Yard Machine snow blower
Push mowers, Lawn Boy w/bagger
22" magnetic sweeper Hog wasterer
Craftsman portable compressor
Industrial pallet racks
Pull behind ATV sprayer
2 field cultivators, 3 pt. 8 ft.
INDUSTRIAL MEAT EQUIPMENT
Lg. Hobart meat cutting saw, 220v
Lg. Hobart grinder/mixer
VacuTec commercial vacuum machine
Stainless steel meat tubs
Stainless steel meat table
Broiler Built chicken plucker, 220v
Chicken scalding, stainless steel
Assorted sizes galv. tubs
20 lb. electronic scale

SPORTING
12 ft. Kayak, like new Fishing tackle
Tackle boxes Workout weights
Camping items, stove Ice augers
Portable ice house Fishing items
Sled, Royal Racer, nice

ANTIQUES/ COLLECTIBLE/ OLDER
Antique collectible glassware
Galvanized tubs, all shapes/sizes
Old wagon running gear Cream cans
Old pto driven Spred-Air No. 110
Old JD corn planter, 4 row, w/ fertilizer attachment
Vintage pedal bike
Old fanning mill Old cow horns
Gambles Coronado Duchess wringer/ washer machine
Antique 2-row corn planter, iron wheels, IH?
3-bottom plow, 3-16", IH
Old 2-wheel corn planter for parts
Old potato digger

HOUSEHOLD
3 pc bedroom set
Cabinet on wheels Stereo cabinet
Misc. metal shelving Refrigerators
Stained glass lamp High chair
Lg. oriental rug Porcelain table
Slate pool table (3 pc.) Telescope
Folding tables 3 pt. dishwasher
Porcelain bowls Gas stove
Clow wood furnace Platform scale
Approx. 8 freezers, lg., sm., chest
Secretary desk Commercial freezer
Folding tables Port. dishwasher
Old piano Bench Pedal bikes
Schwinn Varsity and Breeze bicycles
Sm. roll top desk Lg. file cabinets
Speakers Glass fireplace screen

MANY MORE ITEMS TOO NUMEROUS TO MENTION

Leslie (Les) Pagel, owner

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I can help! Diane M. Hahn 32 years serving our area! Rep. for Fergus Falls Monument Co. Call 218-445-5685 or 218-640-2341

Staples World Advertising (classified and display), copy, public notices, letters to the editor, etc.: DEADLINE Friday noon



Obituaries

Lora Mae Toedter



Lora Mae “Mae” Toedter, 86, of Presbyterian Homes in Bloomington, entered the presence of her Lord and

Savior, Jesus Christ, on July 14, 2026.

Mae grew up near Staples, and attended Thomastown Covenant Church for many years. She devoted more than 35 years to Wycliffe Bible Translators, primarily supporting Bible translation work in Mexico. Her faith, service and love for family defined her life.

Her memorial service will be held Saturday, September 26, at 2 p.m. at Thomastown Covenant Church in Staples. Visitation will begin one hour before the service at the church.

Interment will immedi-

ately follow.

Mae is survived by four brothers, David, Phillip, Wendel and Daniel; as well as many extended family members.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Walter and Lora Toedter and siblings Lois, Robert, John, Margaret (Hewitt), James, Joy (Snyder) and Barbara.

Memorials are preferred to Wycliffe Bible Translators, specifically the Mexico Branch of SIL.

The full obituary is available at washburn-mcreavy.com.

w39p A00006B2026SP16

Rosemary Czech

Rosemary Czech, 67, of Wadena, passed away August 30, 2026.

Graveside services will be held Friday, September 18, at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church Cemetery in Little Falls at 11:00 a.m. with lunch to follow in the parish hall.

Visit www.karvonenfuneralhome.com to leave memorials and condolences on Rosemary's Tribute Wall.

Arrangements provided by Karvonen Funeral & Cremation Service of Wadena.

w39c A00006B2026SP16

Staples Area Church Directory

Staples

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

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

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

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

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

Seventh Day Adventist
421 Dakota Ave. SE, Staples 218-894-0033
Pastor Joshua Jerešek
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 Edkman SMA 218-837-5831
jre227@yahoo.com
Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m.

Cushing

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

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

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

Leader

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

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

Motley

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

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

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

United Methodist
847 3rd Ave. S. Lane, Motley 218-352-6466
Pastor Jonathan Holland
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 218-445-5568
office@verndaleflc.org
Pastor Amos Self 218-371-7189
Tahna Rurup, Connections & Media Pastor
Tillman Phagan, Kid's & Food Shelf Pastor
Ryan Wolfenden, Youth Pastor
SUNDAY
Youth Prayer 9:20 a.m.
Worship Service 10:00 a.m.
Prayer Meeting 5 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
Life Groups 6:30 p.m.

Hope Chapel Alliance
18126 County Road 7, Verndale
218-445-5643 or 218-472-3316
Pastor Neal Malcore
Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Family Night 5:30 p.m.

Immanuel Lutheran Church of Bartlett Township (LCMS)
17097 460th St., PO Box 37, Verndale
Pastor Robin Fish
Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Bible Study 6:30 p.m.

Verndale United Methodist
10 3rd Ave. SW, Verndale
218-445-5108
Pastor Jill Pawlowski
Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.

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

St. Hubert Catholic Church
Bluegrass 218-631-1593
Rev. JC Duncan, 218-632-7314
Father Greg Sauer, 218-632-7319
parishsecretary@marysacc.org
Mass: Saturday 5:00 p.m.

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

Wadena

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

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

“Is God Serious About I Thessalonians 5:16-18?!”

Pastor Barry Klein, Staples Church of Christ

Let’s hear these three verses and then talk about them. “Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”

Three short verses made up by one sentence. Yet, there’s an entire worldview contained in their message. Let’s ruminate together with these verses.

Let’s first recognize a commonality in all three admonitions. They call us to a 24/7/365 perspective on life that’s a way of life...a lifestyle in contrast to a hit and miss approach to life. The three words call us to an entire outlook on life as we hear: always, continually and all. We’re invited by God to give our entirety of life to Him.

The Bible is consistent about this all the way to the greatest commandment in Matthew 22:37 when Jesus says, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all you mind.” Someone may ask, “Isn’t God selfish in calling us to turn our entire life over to Him in love?” After all, Jesus is tellin gus that God is to have competitors to our love.

The beauty of God’s life arrangement is that everything He calls us to is life-giving. Any alternative to loving do exclusively as our greatest loyalty is a counterfeit at best and is destructive at worse. Oh, the examples are myriad.

So back to applying this our I Thessalonians 5:16-18 Scripture.

“Rejoice always.” How can this be when there are so many heartaches and losses in life? When we’re oriented to Jesus each day and each moment of our lives, that relationship transofrms perspective in the midst of circumstances. If we get too spiritually near sighted, our life’s landscape will become only a desert. When we surrender each moment to God, seeking His nearness, involvement and eternal plan, the difficulties of life can find hope.

“Pray continually.” God designed prayer to be a communig conversation with Him, with or without words, in every breath and heartbeat that He gives us. If you start writing down people and matters of life that you want to pray for, soon you will be writing in the margins of your paper. Pray for people in the homes you drive by. When you’re in a large crowd in any venue, life the people up to God. You will never run out of “things” to pray for!

“Give thanks to God in all circumstances.” Note that the apostle Paul keenly and carefully chooses h is word as “in” and not “for” all circumstances. Here again, a God focus to life does transform the meaning and experience of each circumstance of any given day. So, yes indeed, God is very seriously about I Thessalonians 5:16-18 and we are the better for it!

So, rejoice, pray and give thanks ALL THE TIME!

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Reaching new levels

Ronnie Noska leaps to catch up to a forehand smash in the match against LPGE. Noska is ranked in the top five in

the state by the Minnesota High School Coaches Association. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

Noska, Perius roll along with Perius/Hanson duo

The Staples-Motley girls tennis team continued to show strength at the top of their lineup, as singles players Ronnie Noska and Kaylee Perius won two matches in one day, as did the doubles team of Madison Perius and Natalie Hanson. The Cardinals defeated Roseau 5-2 on Sept. 11, and beat Parkers Prairie by the same score in their second match that day.

The rest of the Cardinal lineup is still moving around to find the right positions for both singles and doubles.

The Cardinals also defeated Long Prairie-Grey Eagle 7-0 on Sept. 8, with another different lineup.

Team results

Staples-Motley 5, Roseau 2

Singles: Ronnie Noska W 6-0, 6-0; Kaylee Perius W 6-1, 6-3; Charlie Noska L 7-6, 1-6, (5-10); Grace Halverson L 6-1, 0-6, 5-7

Doubles: Madison Perius/Natalie Hanson W 6-0, 6-0; Sarah Kroll/Lydia Roelofs W 6-4, 6-1; Mia Pesta/Kaitlyn Erickson W 6-3, 6-1

Staples-Motley 5, Parkers Prairie 2

Singles: R. Noska W 6-3, 6-0; K. Perius W 6-0, 6-1; Roelofs L 1-6, 2-6; Pesta L 3-6, 1-6

Doubles: M. Perius/Hanson W 6-1, 6-1; Kroll/C. Noska W 6-0, 6-1; Erickson/Lauren Dolezal W 6-4, 6-0

Staples-Motley 7, Long Prairie-Grey Eagle 0

Singles: R. Noska W 6-0, 6-0;



Sarah Kroll

Roelofs W 6-2, 6-0; C. Noska W 6-4, 6-3; Halverson W 7-6, 6-3

Doubles: M. Perius/K.

Perius W 6-2, 6-0; Hanson/Kroll W 6-0, 6-0; Pesta/Alexa Dolezal W 6-3, 6-3



Kaylee Perius

Tappe, Neisen, Carlson lead Cardinals to win

The passing attack of Cooper Tappe to Cayden Neisen led to three touchdowns and opened up room for Beau Carlson to chew up yardage and score two touchdowns in the running game, as the Staples-Motley football team won 34-14 at Roseau on Sept. 11.

The game started out with Staples-Motley going on a long drive that was stopped on a fumble.

Roseau took off on a long drive of their own, but Ayden Hovland and Ayden Blue made a big stop to set up fourth down. On fourth down, Zachary Tabatt put pressure on the quarterback to force an incomplete pass.

The Cardinals opened the game up with a trick play. Running back Carlson took a direct snap, passed it backwards to quarterback Tappe, who sent it far downfield to an open Neisen, who carried it in for a touchdown. Neisen also kicked

the extra point for a 7-0 lead.

Roseau responded with a long drive of their own for a score and took an 8-7 lead.

Staples-Motley got back to work with a long drive behind their offensive line that included Owen Roline, Adrian Caldwell, Ryder Thompson, Russell Milton and Bryson Dump-prope. When Roseau sent players on a blitz, the Cardinals caught them with a screen pass to Carlson, who brought it down to the one yard line. Carlson finished the drive with a touchdown run. Tappe passed to Neisen for the two extra points and the Cardinals took a 15-8 lead.

After Roseau started the game with two long drives, the Staples-Motley defensive line forced a three-and-out punt to give the team two minutes to try and score before halftime.

The offense worked the two minute drill to perfection, scoring a touchdown

with no time left. Tappe completed a slant pass to Neisen, who dove to make the catch at the one yard line with four seconds left. The team called time out and handed it to Carlson on the next play for another touchdown and a 22-8 half-time lead.

In the second half, Roseau made another long drive, but Caldwell and Blue stopped them on fourth and inches to get the ball back.

Tappe made a long run thanks to a pancake block by Roline. Tappe then rolled out to the left and fired a pass to Neisen for another touchdown and a 28-8 lead.

In the fourth quarter, they ran a similar play but this time Tappe floated a perfect pass over the defense and Neisen ran under it for the team's final touchdown, going up 34-8.

Roseau scored once more late in the game to make it 34-14 for the final score.

Volleyball team third in C-I tournament

After two losses during the week, the Staples-Motley volleyball team came back strong in a weekend tournament, placing third in the Crosby-Ironton Barb Neprud Invitational on Sept. 12. The Cardinals lost 3-1 against Osakis on Sept. 8 and 3-0 at Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton on Sept. 10.

At Crosby-Ironton, the Cardinals came out on top in two different matches that went to a third tie-breaker set.

Addison Potter had five blocks and six kills to beat Moose Lake-Willow River, while Hannah Cole and Jada Ellingsen had four kills each.

In the third place match against Barnum, Cole scored seven kills while Clara Maros and Jasmyne Hove had five each. Setter Lucy Maros had 16 assists and Katelyn Schotzko had nine in that match.

Team results

Staples Motley 1, Osakis 3
16-25, 25-19, 9-25, 19-25

Lucy Maros- Assists 13, kills 3, Digs 2

Chloe Trantina- Ace 2, Digs 10

Kylee Chenoweth- Ace 6, Digs 5

Clara Maros- Ace 1, Kills, Digs 3

Addison Potter- Kills 4, Blocks 2

Jasmyne Hove- Kills 1, Digs 1, Blocks 3

Kyleena Rudlang- Kills 4, Digs 1

Jada Ellingsen- Kills 5, Digs 3

Katelyn Schotzko- Assists 5

Hannah Cole- Kills 2, Blocks 1

Staples-Motley 0, DGF 3
14-25, 22-25, 9-25

Potter: Kills-7, Blocks-2, Digs-2, Assist-1

Trantina: Digs-10, Kill-1

Rudlang: Kills-1, Digs-5

C. Maros: Aces-2, Kills-2, Digs-1

Ellingsen: Kills-1, Blocks-1

L. Maros: Assists-8, Digs-1

Cole: Kills-2, Blocks-3, Assists-1

Chenoweth: Aces-1, Digs-7

Schotzko: Assists-9, Digs-2

Hove: Kills-6, Blocks-2, Digs-2

Jocelyn Lenk: Digs-2

Taylee Reese: Digs-3

C-I Tournament

Staples-Motley 2, Ogilvie 0

25-18, 25-16

L. Maros: Aces-2, Assists-9, Digs-1

Schotzko: Assists-5, Kills-1, Digs-2

Trantina: Kills-1, Digs-3

Chenoweth: Aces-1, Digs-2

Lenk: Aces-1, Digs-1

Reese: Digs-1

Potter: Blocks-2, Kills-4

C. Maros: Aces-4, Kills-4

Ellingsen: Kills-2

Cole: Kills-1, Assists-1

Rudlang: Kills-2

Hove: Kills-2, Assists-1

Staples-Motley 2, Moose Lake-Willow River 1

23-25, 25-21, 15-12

L. Maros: Aces-2, Assists-5, Digs-2

Schotzko: Aces-2, Assists-6, Kills-1, Digs-1

Trantina: Aces-1, Assist-3, Digs-5

Chenoweth: Aces-3, Reese: Digs-3

Potter: Blocks-5, Kills-6

C. Maros: Aces-3, Kills-3, Blocks-5, Digs-1

Ellingsen: Kills-4, Blocks-1, Digs-1

Cole: Kills-4, Assists-1, Blocks-2, Digs-1

Rudlang: Kills-1, Digs-3

Hove: Kills-1

Staples-Motley 0, Crosby-Ironton 2

17-25, 22-25

L. Maros: Assists-10, Digs-3

Schotzko: Assists-10

Trantina: Assists-1, Kills-1, Digs-4

Chenoweth: Kills-1, Digs-5

Reese: Digs-2

Potter: Kills-3, Digs-1

C. Maros: Aces-1, Kills-6, Digs-2

Ellingsen: Kills-1

Cole: Kills-3, Blocks-1



Katelyn Schotzko

Rudlang: Kills-2

Hove: Kills-4

Staples-Motley 2, Barnum 1

25-20, 23-25, 18-16

L. Maros: Aces-1, Assists-16, Digs-4

Schotzko: Aces-1, Assists-9, Digs-2

Trantina: Aces-1, Assist-1, Digs-14

Chenoweth: Aces-1, Digs-7

Potter: Kills-4

C. Maros: Aces-1, Kills-5, Digs-3

Cole: Kills-7, Blocks-2

Rudlang: Kills-5, Digs-3

Hove: Kills-5, Blocks-1



Chloe Trantina dives for another dig. As the designated back-row player (libero), Trantina is the team's dig leader.

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Public Notices

TODD COUNTY BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT
215 First Ave. South
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Minnesota 56347
320-732-4420
toddplan.zone@co.todd.mn.us

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice is hereby given that on **Thursday, September 24, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.** the Todd County Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing in the Commissioner's board room, 215 1st Ave South, Suite 301, Long Prairie, Minnesota.
NOTE: This meeting is again being held in-person and the public is encouraged to attend. Those who do attend in person can find parking atop the hill on the west side of the Historic Courthouse and enter through the north doors, near the American Flag and monument.
Questions? Call or email 320-732-4420 or toddplan.zone@co.todd.mn.us
Agenda
•Call to Order
•Pledge of Allegiance
•Introduction of Board of Adjustment Members and process review
•Approval of agenda
•Approval of August 27, 2026 Board of Adjustment's meeting minutes
•The applicant is introduced
•Staff report
•Applicant confirms if staff report accurately represents the request
•Site Visit Review
•Public comment
•Board review with applicant, staff, and public
1. **Dennis Waldvogel:** Section 25, Birchdale Township, Big Birch Lake

Site Address: 10736 Angler Trail, Grey Eagle, MN 56336 PID: 03-0059200
1. Request to reduce the Road Right-of-Way setback from 20' to 10' for the replacement of the garage.
2. Request to increase the allowed height for a non-conforming accessory structure from 18' to 25' for the replacement of the garage.
3. Request to increase the allowed roof surface coverage from 15% of the total lot size to 19.18% for the garage replacement all in Recreational Development Shoreland Zoning District.
2. **Jason Arnzen, St Rosa Lumber:** Section 25, Birchdale Township, Big Birch Lake
Property Owners: Nate and Allie Schmidt
Site Address: 10714 Anger Trail, Grey Eagle, MN 56336 PID: 03-0058700
1. Request to reduce the OHW lake setback from 100' to 70.29'
2. Request to increase the roofed impervious surface area from 15% to 22%.

Adjournment.
Next meeting: October 22, 2026
All persons interested are invited to attend said hearing or submit a letter to be heard on these matters. **All correspondence must include name, mailing address and be received 48 hours before the date and time of the hearing.**
Todd County Board of Adjustment
Russell VanDenheuvel,
Chair
39pnc

FRESHWATER EDUCATION DISTRICT #6004 Board Meeting August 19, 2026 Wadena, MN
MINUTES
The regular meeting of the Freshwater Education District #6004 Governing Board was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chair Rod Huttunen.
Board members present: Chair R. Huttunen (Sebek), Vice Chair B. Tumberg (Wadena-Deer Creek), Clerk S. Veronen (Verndale), Treasurer J. Hillmer (Brownerville), R. VanDenheuvel (Bertha-Hewitt), R. Thalmann (Henning), K. Howard (Menahga), R. Wright (Staples-Motley), and C. Wolf (Long Prairie-Grey Eagle).
Superintendents present: S. Vedbraaten (Brownerville) and D. Fjeldheim (Bertha-Hewitt).
FED Admin present: Ex. Director P. Brownlow, SpEd Director J. Wothe, Finance Manager J. Anderson, and Admin Assistant S.Thiel.
Agenda
The Board approved the agenda as presented.
Consent Agenda
The Board approved the consent agenda, which included the 6.2426 Governing Board minutes, payments 67981-68286, personnel actions, position postings, FY27 operating contract renewals, and renewal of the 26/27 WCMCA Head Start Collaborative Agreement and CLC PSEO Agreement.
Personnel actions included lane changes, resignations, new hires, and adjustments to employee days and hours for the 26/27 SY. All motions passed unanimously.

Informational Items
Ex. Director Brownlow reported on FED's review of CIPA requirements and confirmation of compliance for E-rate funding. The Board reviewed Policy 524 regarding Internet Acceptable Use and Safety. The district continues to use Lightspeed Filter Relay as its technology protection measure, and internet safety instruction is provided through the Digital Citizenship Curriculum.
Additional updates included the WAN, the Wadena ALC property insurance claim, visits to member districts and PAWN, and progress on the Ex. Director transition, program updates, attendance at the State Approved Alternative Programs Conference, and the appointment of K. Howard as the Wadena County Family Services Cooperative Representative under Policy 213L.
Upcoming events discussed included the Principal/Superintendent Meeting August 12 and the FED All-Staff Meeting August 25.
SpED Director Wothe reported on special education trainings held in August and provided updates regarding the Academics and PAWN Level IV programs.
Finance reports and business services were also reviewed.
Old Business
The Board approved the exclusion of Pillager #116 from the Long-Term Facilities Maintenance (LTfM) cooperative levy calculation and approved the LTfM 10-year plan resolution as presented.
The Board approved the first and final reading of policies recommended

by the Minnesota School Board Association, including Policies 208, 402, 423, 507.5, 509, 521, 524, 613, 621, 709, and 722.
New Business
Donations: The Board adopted a resolution gratefully accepting the following donations:
Reading for the Future:
•\$500 - Pillager Area Firemen's Department of Relief, Pillager, MN
FED Paraprofessional and Special Education Teacher Training:
•\$30 - Owly Coffee, Wadena, MN
•\$50 - Super One, Wadena, MN
•\$75 - Subway, Wadena, MN
•\$75 - Pizza Ranch, Wadena, MN
•\$10 - Hometown Crafts, Wadena, MN
•\$50 - Boondocks, Wadena, MN
•\$20 - Oma's, Wadena, MN
•2 T-shirts - Maslowski Center, Wadena, MN
•\$30 - BBQ Smokehouse, Wadena, MN
•\$50 - Wal-Mart, Wadena, MN
The Board expressed its appreciation to the individuals and businesses for their generous support of Freshwater Education District programs and staff. The resolution accepting the donations was approved unanimously.
The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for October 28, 2026.
The meeting adjourned at 5:41 p.m. All motions were approved unanimously unless otherwise noted.

Respectfully submitted,
Scott Veronen,
Board Clerk
39pnc

OFFICE OF THE MINNESOTA SECRETARY OF STATE CERTIFICATE OF ASSUMED NAME Minnesota Statutes Chapter 333
The filing of an assumed name does not provide a user with exclusive rights to that name. The filing is required for consumer protection in order to enable consumers to be able to identify the true owner of a business.
ASSUMED NAME:
Staples Southside Mini Mart
PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS:
223 6th St SE
Staples, MN 56479
USA
APPLICANTS(S):
Name:
Mini Enterprise LLC
Address:
715 8th St SE
Staples, MN 56479
USA
If you submit an an attachment, it will be incorporated into this document. If the attachment conflicts with the information specifically set forth in this document, this document supersedes the data referenced in the attachment.:
By typing my name, I, the undersigned, certify that I am signing this document as the person whose signature is required, or as agent of the person(s) whose signature would be required who has authorized me to sign this document on his/her behalf, or in both capacities. I further certify that I have completed all required fields, and that the information in this document is true and correct and in compliance with the applicable chapter of Minnesota Statutes. I understand that by signing this document I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Section 609.48 as if I had signed this document under oath.

SIGNED BY:
Ashley Ottomoeller
MAILING ADDRESS:
715 8th St SE
Staples, MN 56479
EMAIL FOR OFFICIAL NOTICES:
mini.enterprise.llc@gmail.com

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STATE OF MINNESOTA
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE
FILED
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Official Publication for Todd County

NOTICE OF ONLINE SALE OF FORFEITED LANDS

Estimated Market Value Auction
•October 19, 2026, through November 18, 2026
(Parcels that do not sell will go back to auction)
Minimum bid price sale
December 1, 2026, through December 15, 2026
Todd County will sell to the highest bidder, per Minn Statute 282.005. All properties will be offered at an initial auction sale for no less than estimated market value, as determined by the most recent assessment. Any properties that do not sell at auction will be offered for a second auction. The sales price for the second auction will be the amount of delinquent taxes, special assessments, penalties, interest, and any costs.
You will need to register with bid4assets prior to bidding. The registration link will be provided on Bid4assets web site - www.bid4assets.com or on the Todd County web site - www.toddcountymn.gov.
Information about the sale of tax-forfeited land in Todd County can be obtained at the office of the County Auditor/Treasurer, Todd County Courthouse, 215 1st Avenue So, Suite 201, Long Prairie, Minnesota, 56347. Email: Tax.Forfeit@co.todd.mn.us Telephone: (320) 732-4469, or online.
39pnc

Todd County Board of Commissioners

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TODD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HELD AUG. 18, 2026
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 18th day of August, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Byers. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. All Commissioners were present.
Approval of Agenda
On motion by Neumann and second by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To adopt the agenda as presented with the removal of item 10.7 2026 Todd County Comprehensive Plan Adoption and addition of 12.1 Discussion on Hiring Freeze.
Consent Agenda
On motion by Denny and second by Noska, the following motions and resolution were introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:
To approve the Todd County Board of Commissioner's Meeting Minutes of August 4, 2026 as presented.
GAMBLING PERMIT – NWTf STRUTTIN BLACKBEARDS
WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners are establishing their approval for a Gambling Permit for the NWTf Struttin Blackbeards through this resolution;
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners approve a Gambling Permit for the NWTf Struttin Blackbeards to hold a raffle event at the Little Sauk Legion in Little Sauk Township at the address 16268 County 50, Long Prairie, MN on October 24th, 2026.
Accept the resignation of Intern Isaiah Anderson effective 8/9/2026.
To approve the hire of Justin Host as a MIS Technician pending successful national fingerprint background check. Grade 7/G, Step B, \$29.27. Start date: TBD
To approve the hire of Joselyn Alvarez to fill the open Seasonal Office Support Specialist II position. Grade D/4, \$22.60. Start date: TBD.
Approve the resignation of Child Services Supervisor Breezy Tate, effective August 19, 2026.
Auditor-Treasurer
On motion by Becker and second by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve the Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 404631 through 404653 in the amount of \$42,208.56 and (Regular) 60004 through 60035 in the amount of \$134,899.60 for a total of \$177,108.16.
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 Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 807752 through 807793 and (Regular) 714390 through 714432 for a total of \$55,354.84.
On motion by Denny and second by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unani-

mous Roll Call vote: To approve the Health & Human Services SSIS Warrants number (ACH) 602073 through 602086 and (Regular) 519063 through 519076 for a total amount of \$72,507.16.
Initiative Foundation
Carol Newbanks and Brian Voerding provided an overview of activities and projects supported by the Initiative Foundation that supported Todd County over the past year.
On motion by Denny and second by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Approve annual contribution of \$7,500.00 for the Initiative Foundation for the 2027 budget year.
County Assessor
On motion by Neumann and second by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the total abatement of \$356 on parcel 36-0121300 to abate the difference in non-homestead versus homestead property tax for the 2025 and 2026 years.
Public Works
On motion by Denny and second by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Approve the attached state bid tractor and mower purchase agreements below:
a. Midwest Machinery Co. (New John Deere 6M 130 Tractor) for \$120,000.00
b. Truman Welters (New Schulte XH1000 Mower) for \$44,922.72
On motion by Noska and second by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Approve the attached quote from the Trailer Center of Long Prairie, Minnesota for the purchase of a 2026 H&H Trailer for \$16,248.13.
On motion by Noska and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Approve the attached State Bid quote from Midway Ford of Roseville, Minnesota for the purchase of a 2027 Ford F350 Truck for \$46,887.00.
On motion by Noska and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Approve attached MnDOT Permit requesting authority for Todd County to install two flashing stop signs at the intersection of State Highway 27 and County Road 11.
Facilities
Facilities Supervisor Mitch Johnson provided an update on the Historic Trim Project and its effect on the ADA access to public entrances to the Historic Courthouse - especially the North Hilltop Entrance. Building access could be affected for up to two months which may impact access to vital services such as early voting and property tax payment.
On motion by Neumann and second by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Approve the low

bid from Resorts Marine for a total cost of \$8,200 for a new dock in zone 3 at Battle Point Park.
Planning & Zoning
On motion by Denny and second by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Adopt the Fiscal Agent Agreement for the Long Prairie River Watershed Collaborative.
On motion by Denny and second by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Adopt the findings of the Planning Commission and grant the CUP on parcel 13-0003502 to establish Temporary Family Housing with the following conditions.
1. Applicant shall abide by Section 9.17 of the Todd County Planning and Zoning Ordinance.
2. Existing outhouse shall be abandoned and filled prior to land use permitting.
3. Applicant shall provide a septic application or maintenance agreement to Todd County prior to issuance of land use permits.
4. Applicant shall provide plans for greywater discharge prior to land use permits.
5. All land use permits shall be paid at 2x after the fact rates.
6. Applicant shall abide by all other applicable federal, state, and local standards.
On motion by Noska and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Adopt the findings of the Planning Commission and grant the CUP on parcels 27-0021000 and 27-0021601 to expand an existing feedlot from 1,471.7 animal units to 2,471.3 animal units with the following conditions.
1. Applicant must obtain NPDES permitting prior to issuance of land use permits.
2. Applicant must obtain MN DNR waters withdrawal permitting and provide verification of permitting to Todd County prior to issuance of land use permits.
3. Air quality exemption notices shall be provided to Todd County prior to all future manure application events.
4. Liquid manure storage structure shall have capacity for no less than 12 months storage. All manure storage shall be constructed prior to issuance of land use permits.
5. In the event of a manure spill or other discharge, applicant must notify the County and the Minnesota Duty Officer immediately upon discovery of said discharge.
6. Applicant shall maintain and adhere to updated Manure Management Plans, setback maps, soil sampling, and manure analysis, as required by MPCA Feedlot Rules. Manure management records shall be made available to Todd County upon request.
7. Applicant must abide by all other applicable federal, state, and local standards.
8. Applicant must obtain permitting and/or licensing from additional governmental agencies as necessary.
On motion by Neumann and second by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Adopt the findings of the Planning Commission and grant the CUP on parcel 10-0033400 to establish Temporary Family Housing with the following

condition.
1. Applicant shall abide by Section 9.17 of the Todd County Planning and Zoning Ordinance.
On motion by Becker and second by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To remand back the Kesslers Bay Preliminary Plat to the Planning Commission for further consideration.
On motion by Denny and second by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To authorize the Board Chair to sign the Sacred Heart Cemetery Addition Plat.
Solid Waste
On motion by Becker and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Approve the bid by Farm Rite for S510 Bobcat in the amount of \$28,354.00.
On motion by Noska and second by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Approve the bid by Central MN Door in the amount of \$5,700.00.
Commissioners
Discussion was held regarding the implementation of a hiring freeze for new hires and a standard for replacement authorizations due to the concerns over the County Levy proposed and forecasted increases.
County Auditor-Treasurer's Report
The County Auditor-Treasurer reported that the Primary Election turnout was a higher-than-expected turnout at 26 percent (%). A statement was read and posted regarding a results posting glitch that occurred on Primary Election Night. The office is also working through plans to assist customers during the current construction project. Finance Committee has met multiple times in preparation for today's work session.
County Attorney's Report
The County Attorney reported that everything is business as usual and all is well.
County Coordinator's Report
The County Coordinator reported attending meetings including policies, Historical Museum tour, wellness, initiative foundation on childcare, union agent, personnel courthouse floorplan, employee picnic, dept head, Solid Waste, MN Region 7 and TWCC Advisory.
County Commissioner's Report
The Commissioners reported on meetings and events attended.
Commissioner Becker attended meetings including the Policy, Friendly Rider, TWCC, TWCC Advisory, Public Health Advisory, Employee Picnic, Solid Waste, and Rainbow Rider.
Commissioner Denny has attended meetings including Personnel, dept head, SWCD, Solid Waste, Fair Board and Finance.
Commissioner Noska has attended meetings including Historical Museum Tour, employee picnic, Canvassing Board and Fair Board.
Commissioner Byers attended meetings including TWCC Advisory, and Canvassing Board.
Commissioner Neumann attended meetings including CPT Personnel, Public Health Advisory, Employee Picnic, Park Board, Solid

Waste, Rainbow Rider, and SR Millers Bay.
Adjourned
On motion by Neumann and second by Denny, the meeting was adjourned for the month of August 2026.
COMMISSIONER WARRANTS

VENDOR NAME	\$ AMOUNT
ARC ELECTRIC SERVICE	\$7,902.71
BUSKER CONCRETE, INC	2,000.00
CENTRAL APPLICATORS INC	24,489.75
COMMISSIONER OF TRANSPORTATION	15,215.48
D & D AUTO REPAIR	2,314.28
GOVERNMENT FORMS AND SUPPLIES	5,557.43
HERDERING INC	26,932.80
JERRY'S AUTO BODY	7,943.53
LONG PRAIRIE LEADER	4,230.00
M-R SIGN COMPANY INC	8,849.76
NORTHERN STAR COOP	4,162.48
POWERPLAN BF	5,500.39
PRAIRIE VIEW DIESEL REPAIR	6,389.58
TODD SOIL & WATER CONS DIST	36,317.00
WAGNER ELECTRIC LLC	4,088.34
40 PAYMENTS LESS THAN \$2,000	15,214.63
Total:	177,108.16

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES WARRANTS

VENDOR NAME	\$ AMOUNT
ITEN FUNERAL HOME	3,500.00
VENDOR #11481	2,237.95
VENDOR #17406	2,257.65
TODD COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE	4,659.95
69 PAYMENTS LESS THAN \$2,000	32,357.61
MORRISON COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES	4,032.44
RENTERS WAREHOUSE LLC	2,783.99
10 PAYMENTS LESS THAN \$2,000	3,525.25
Total:	55,354.84

VENDOR NAME	\$ AMOUNT
COMMUNITY AND FAMILY SRVS LLC	\$9,132.50
LITTLE SAND GROUP HOME	12,398.14
MERIDIAN SERVICES INC	2,655.16
NEXUS - KINDRED FAMILY HEALING	5,663.09
NORTHERN PINES MENTAL HEALTH CTR INC	7,375.00
PINE MANORS INC	2,400.00
PORT GROUP HOMES	9,979.68
STEP 6,018.88 VALLEY LAKE BOYS HOME	5,160.00
19 PAYMENTS LESS THAN \$2,000	11,724.71
Total:	72,507.16

On a motion by Noska and second by Becker, the preceding minutes of the County Board meeting held August 18th, 2026 were duly approved by unanimous vote at the Todd County Board of Commissioners at the Regular Board Meeting held on September 1st, 2026..

Witness my hand and seal:
/s/ on file: Bob Byers,
County Board Chairperson
/s/ on file: Denise Gaida,
Todd County Auditor-Treasurer
39pnc



WWII Veteran Duane Payne’s journey comes to an end

After have been missing 82 years, WWII Veteran Duane Payne’s remains were laid to rest at Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery in Little Falls Sept. 11, 2026. Grandchildren of the Motley native served as his pallbearers and he was buried with full military honors. The service, officiated by Pastor Greg Leslie of Hutchinson, was held at a Camp Ripley Chapel. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



Presenting the flag to his grandchildren

The funeral service for WWII Veteran Duane Payne at Camp Ripley in Little Falls Sept. 11, included full military honors. Members of the Army National Guard and the American Legion salute his casket. Above, a soldier presents Payne’s grandchildren with an American flag. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



Observing 25th anniversary of 9/11 terrorist attacks

Both the Motley and Staples Fire Departments observed the solemn 25th anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the United States of America, displaying American flags and messages to “Never Forget” the thousands who died and made the ultimate sacrifice that day. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



Underground discoveries

Children visiting Field Day at Central Lakes College Aug. 28 in Staples were thrilled to dig for potatoes and find some to bring home to eat. They were also able to pick flowers to bring home. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



3M, Staples flies flags in tribute of 9/11

3M in Staples observed the 25th anniversary of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the United States of America, by flying American flags at their entrance and the flagpole flag at half-mast. (Staples World photos by Janice Winter)



School year off to a good start at S-M

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

Staples-Motley MS/HS Principal Debbie Ferdon said that classes are in full swing, as are extra-curricular activities for the Cardinals beginning their 2026-27 school year.

As far as the building itself, there have not been major changes. Ferdon did note that there is new furniture in the cafeteria, which has been a hit. It's more modern, the principal said of the chairs and tables, adding that, "It's been fun to watch who picks out what" at lunch time.

The new thrust stage at Centennial Auditorium has also been a wonderful addition. Ferdon noted that the students' reactions to it

have been positive. A new name for the performing arts center is being discussed, but at present, it continues to be called Centennial Auditorium.

Homecoming for the Cardinals is around the corner. It will take place Sept. 28 - Oct. 3, with a kick-off pep fest scheduled for Friday, Sept. 25, at the Nest. Coronation will take place Wednesday, Sept. 30, at Centennial Auditorium. The time is still being firmed up.

Fall sports are underway and auditions will soon take place for the fall musical, "Shrek the Musical." It's a joint effort of the school and Lamplighter Community Theatre, Ferdon said, adding that it will be performed at Centennial Auditorium.

She's beginning her fifth year as principal at Staples-Motley MS/HS, a job she continues to enjoy.

Ferdon's career with the school district began in Motley, where she was the kindergarten teacher. Now as a secondary principal, it's been special to hand out diplomas to graduates that she taught when they were just beginning school. "These seniors will be the last ones I had in kindergarten," Ferdon said, noting that that school year, 2014-15, would have been her last at Motley-Staples Elementary School. Now, she looks forward to seeing these same students as they begin their final high school year 2026-27, and having the opportunity to sign their diplomas next May.



Kindergartners are now seniors at SMHS

Pictured is the 2014-15 kindergarten class at Motley-Staples Middle School, taught by Debbie Ferdon (back row, center). Ferdon is beginning her fifth year as

principal at Staples-Motley Middle/High School and students in this kindergarten class will be the last she will present diplomas to in 2027. (Submitted photo)



New cafeteria furniture at MS/HS



New furniture graces the cafeteria at Staples-Motley Middle/High School, including high-top tables and chairs and restaurant-style booths. Pictured in left photo, from left, are Porter Lehner, 8th grade; Preston Caldwell, 7th grade; and Timber Munger, 8th grade. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



Where did the time go?

Jack Tetlie, left, a senior at Staples-Motley High School, is pictured with Debbie Ferdon, SMHS Principal, who was his kindergarten teacher at Motley-Staples Elementary School. She noted that Tetlie was part of her last class as a kindergarten teacher at MSES, the final group she will now give diplomas to next May. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



Lions donation to SMV Golf

The Staples Host Lions recently donated \$1,000 to Staples/Motley/Verndale golf. From left, Brad Anderson, SMV golf coach; Lion President Bob Schafer; Thomas Johnson, SMV golf captain. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



LAKEWOOD WELCOMES

Kayla Orbeck, MD

OBSTETRICS & GYNECOLOGY

Lakewood is pleased to welcome **Dr. Kayla Orbeck** to its obstetrics and gynecology team. Originally from Cold Spring, Dr. Orbeck is excited to serve patients in a close-knit community where relationships truly matter.

Dr. Orbeck offers a full spectrum of women's health services, from routine gynecologic and obstetric care to the management of complex conditions. Her areas of interest include minimally invasive and robotic gynecologic surgery, pelvic floor disorders, PCOS, abnormal uterine bleeding, and high-risk pregnancy care.

Dr. Orbeck values partnering with patients to help them understand their health and make informed decisions about their care. She will be seeing patients at Lakewood's Staples Clinic.

TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT, CALL
218-894-8381
LAKEWOODHEALTHSYSTEM.COM



CORN continued from page 1a

Tons of cover crop biomass helps feed cattle, protects ground and provides nutrients for next year's crops

So far the results are very very positive, with benefits they were not even counting on. The corn is producing well, with good harvest sizes per plant.

They have found that the fields produce a lot of biomass. At Field Day, they said they were getting up to nine tons of biomass per acre.

"It has been quite astounding," said Todd Pollema, CLC Farm Manager.

CLC measures their biomass to get a scientific number on what is happening, but farmers who are participating will run cattle on the fields after the corn is harvested.

Another benefit is what happens to the field over

winter. The Centra Sota presenters called it an "absolute mat" of vegetation that protects from erosion and keeps moisture in the soil. In the spring, the organic matter is plowed into the field before planting. They compared it to "green manure" because of the nutrients and ecology it adds to the soil.

Amy Robak of Centra Sota said the purpose of these different experiments is to give producers ideas on what might work for their fields, depending on what equipment they have for planting and harvesting. She said a farmer in Pierz is trying 48 inch rows because that's what worked for that operation.



Interest in 60 inch corn rows

Amy Robak of Centra Sota, in black at right, shows Field Day attendees some of the cover crops planted amid the corn rows. Centra Sota is an agronomy cooperative working with CLC on the 60 inch corn rows and

other creative planting experiments. The cover crops provide grazing for cattle once the corn is harvested, and remains as a fertilizer and protector of soil and water. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

Staples tax capacity grows more than tax levy increase

By Mark Anderson
Publisher

The City of Staples looked at a preliminary tax levy that would increase 8.47 percent, but because of an increased tax capacity, city property owners would likely pay slightly less than this year for the city portion of their taxes.

The Staples City Council looked at the 2027 proposed budget at their Sept. 8 meeting. City Administrator Jerel Nelsen said state aid is still unknown, but they are budgeting for a \$4,000 increase in Local Government Aid (LGA) from the state, up to \$994,274.

The 8.4 percent budget increase is around \$101,000 more for the entire city

budget. The largest increases in the general fund budget are in the police department, with a smaller increase in the fire department administrative budget.

The Staples Police Department is planning a \$162,800 budget increase. Most of that is projected for officer salaries and insurance. The Chief of Police salary is projected to go from \$105,000 to \$108,000. The increase also includes \$60,000 for purchasing squad cars, up from \$24,000 budgeted in 2026.

The Staples Fire Department has budgeted for a \$17,219 increase, up to \$313,190. They proposed small increases in several categories, including prac-

tice time payments, relief association payments and travel/training expense.

The city has budgeted for increased administrative costs, mostly because of insurance increases and salary bumps. The preliminary tax levy is to be set in September, after which the council can not increase the tax levy, but can still reduce it.

Nelsen said the tax capacity has increased because of three TIF Districts that ended this year and will now be fully on the tax rolls. Because of such a large jump, the tax rate will go down for most property owners in the city.

Electric peak

Public Works Director Scott Grabe told the council

that Staples set an all-time peak in electricity demand in July. Grabe said electricity usage has been increasing over the years, but the heat in July is what put it over the previous record.

With increasing demand, Grabe said they will need to upgrade the city's north electrical substation, which is getting close to capacity.

"If we continue to do nothing, it will be urgent," said Grabe.

He said there are some temporary solutions such as rerouting some of the circuits and switching the load around. They have done some of that already through the 4th Street NE construction project. They are also helping by burying some electrical cables in

the city.

But the need for improvements to the substation is still there, which Grabe said would be costly.

In other news, the council

- Approved change order for 4th St. NE street and utility project that will add around \$33,000 to the cost of the project for more utility line work.

- Approved lease-purchase agreement for a new police squad car.

- Agreed by general consensus to continue to explore using city owned land on the north end of the city to create larger home lots of three to six acres. Access to the subdivision would be from 12th Street NE.

- Heard from Scott Grossman about his wish to add a pageant to the Railroad Days celebration, saying it would add a "wow factor". The council said they would get him in touch with Discover Staples, who puts on the event.

- Heard from council member Mary Jo Goff, who said the city crew is doing a "great job" on tree trimming. Mayor Ron Murray agreed. Nelsen said "they have a new-found love for tree trimming."

- Heard from Nelsen that the corner of 4th Street NE and Warner Road will be shut down starting Sept. 14 to finish the construction project at that end of the street.

Hometown Connected. Community Strong.



Hometown Highlights is a collaborative feature brought to you by the Staples Area Chamber of Commerce and the Staples World, dedicated to showcasing the businesses, people, and organizations that make our community thrive. Through this ongoing series, we celebrate Chamber member businesses, share their stories, highlight their impact, and help residents connect with the local entrepreneurs who invest in our hometown every day.



Stomping Grounds

Coffee, Community & Small-Town Connection

Located in downtown Staples, Stomping Grounds has been part of the community since the early 2000s, with Lindsey taking ownership in 2017. Choosing to operate a business in the Staples area was personal, she grew up here. The small-town atmosphere remains one of the things she loves most about the community.

What makes Stomping Grounds so inviting? Lindsey is especially proud of her baristas and staff, who help create the warm, familiar atmosphere customers have come to know. Whether someone is stopping in for a signature drink, grabbing a local goodie or meeting a friend, the goal is to make Stomping Grounds a place where people feel comfortable staying awhile. Stomping Grounds gives back by serving as a local meeting spot and providing a welcoming place for people from throughout the area to gather and connect. She takes pride in her work, and the community connection reflects Lindsey is a people person!

Stomping Grounds is known for its signature drinks and locally sourced goodies, along with a variety of sweet treats. They also offer lunch Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., making the shop more than just a morning coffee stop. Looking ahead, customers can expect seasonal favorites, including fall and winter drinks, while Lindsey is also looking forward to doing some traveling herself.

From its signature drinks and treats to the conversations happening around its tables, Stomping Grounds represents something special about small-town business: a place where a cup of coffee can turn into a connection.

Her coffee order? A spiced brown sugar chai with two shots—a fitting favorite for someone who spends her days surrounded by great drinks! When asked what Stomping Grounds' slogan or theme song might be, Lindsey summed up her approach perfectly:

“Live life to its fullest.”



Stomping Grounds

📍 Downtown Staples

☎ 218-895-3599

Facebook: Stomping Grounds

