

Inside this issue:

SBDC business start-up sessions
All sports teams get wins
New providers at Lakewood Health System
Jose Alba joins Sourcewell's AscendRural
SWCD field day



Getting started on arboretum trees Staples-Motley high school students plant white pine trees at the Legacy Arboretum on Sept. 11. The project is part of the conservation and community scope and sequence class taught by Daren Blanck, which includes improving conservation in the arboretum and the community process of making nature available to the public. (Photo by Mark Anderson)

Traffic stop results in two narcotics arrests

Patrolling near the City of Hewitt Sept. 4, a Todd County Deputy conducted a traffic stop on a motor vehicle for a traffic violation. During the traffic stop, the deputy observed signs of criminal activity and investigated further. Todd County K9 Ranger and his handler were called to assist at the scene. K9 Ranger was utilized and alerted to the presence of narcotics. During a search of the motor vehicle, deputies located nearly five ounces of suspected methamphetamine and an amount of suspected Fentanyl. The driver and passenger were both placed under arrest. The driver, Heather Leah Morris, Perham, was placed under arrest for No Proof of Insurance, Driving After Revocation, 1st Degree



Heather Morris

Possession of a Controlled Substance and 5th Degree Possession of a Controlled Substance. The passenger, John Machett Tinker, Park Rapids, was placed under arrest for 1st Degree Possession of a Controlled Substance and 5th Degree



John Tinker

Possession of a Controlled Substance. Both Morris and Tinker remain in custody at the Todd County Detention Center. Police reports from this incident will be forwarded to the Todd County Attorney's Office for prosecution.

Staples budget increasing, smaller tax bump predicted

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

The City of Staples is looking at a 7.64 percent increase in their 2026 budget. Increased tax capacity will cover some of that increase so the city portion of property taxes could increase by 1.4 percent. City Administrator Jerel Nelsen said the 1.4 percent increase translates to a \$47 increase for a home valued at \$150,000. The Staples City Council reviewed the proposed budget at their Sept. 9 meeting. Nelsen said the budget is still being tweaked as state legislation comes out. The council will pass a preliminary budget at their next meeting, which will limit the budget to no more than what is passed. Nelsen said one large increase will be paid family medical leave coverage, which will increase the city budget by about one percent. The 2026 election will increase the city budget by \$7,000. Every department is projecting a budget increase,

including police, fire, city hall and administrative. Large increases are proposed for the permanent improvement fund, from \$509,000 to \$679,000, and the street fund, from \$360,000 to \$414,000. **LGA intact so far** Elizabeth Wefel of the Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities told the council that Local Government Aid (LGA) from the state will remain the same this year, after some proposals to cut it for cities. She said protecting LGA was the main goal that her organization worked on during the Minnesota legislative session. She said some politicians were in favor of cutting LGA until they learned that any cuts would increase local taxes, which would hurt rural communities the most. She said LGA may get cut in the future, but they are less likely to do it next year during an election year. Wefel said the legislative session had a good outcome for housing, including laws on increasing housing den-

sity on single-family lots and allowing multi-family housing in commercial zones. When asked about the state's budget surplus turning into a projected deficit, Wefel said part of the surplus was one-time money that wasn't going to come back. Another factor was that the state is now counting inflation on the expense side, so the budget had a deficit built in to start with. A third factor was increased spending by the legislature. **In other news, the council** • Approved request from B&B Sports Bar & Grill to open at 8 a.m. for Sept. 28 and Oct. 5 football games. • Approved resolution ordering preparation of report on the 4th Street NE street and utility improvement project. • Approved parcel combination - turns lots into one parcel for property tax purposes. • Scheduled closed meeting. See **STAPLES** on page 12a



Weather

2025

This Week's Forecast

	High	Low	Cond.
Sept. 17	78	60	Cloudy
Sept. 18	67	56	Rain
Sept. 19	62	56	Showers
Sept. 20	68	57	Showers
Sept. 21	71	55	M. Cloudy
Sept. 22	76	54	M. Cloudy
Sept. 23	72	52	M. Sunny

Last Year, 2024

	High	Low	Cond.
Sept. 17	86°	67	M. Sunny
Sept. 18	76	69	Cloudy
Sept. 19	80	68	Sunny
Sept. 20	77	65	M. Sunny
Sept. 21	72	56	Sunny
Sept. 22	67	47	Sunny
Sept. 23	70	45	Sunny

Average Temps:
H = 68° Low = 47°

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



Public Notices

City of Motley

	10A
Todd Planning & Zoning	10A
Villard	10A
TCC	9A

Obituaries

Dean Hove
Donna Johnson



Remembering Sept. 11

On the morning of Sept. 11, the Staples Fire Department set up their ladder truck with an American Flag, with a billboard reminding us "We will never forget." (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



Birthday party reunion

Former co-workers at Lincoln Elementary School in Brainerd reunited at the 90th birthday celebration for Marie Smith of Motley, held Sept. 13, at Motley United Methodist Church. Sitting, from left, are Ruth Boldan, 101, of Leader; and Smith, both of whom were teachers at the school. In back is Nancy Jo Chisholm, 82, of Brainerd, who was a media secretary there.

Marie (Dumpprope) Smith recalled

that Boldan was her teacher when she attended Swan Valley Country School in Leader years ago...little did she know that they would be co-workers down the road. She went on to share that they drove together to the school in Brainerd for 28 years. All three women mentioned that they bonded during those years at Lincoln Elementary and that it was fun catching up at Marie's birthday party. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Motley area law enforcement

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

Sept. 9 - Motley Police received a report of a dog running at large at BRICKS Travel Center in Motley. The responding officer picked up the dog and brought it to a residence at the 200 block of Hwy 10 W., Motley, where he noticed four other dogs on the property, none of which have been permitted by the city. The owner of the dogs was advised and told he needed to take care of this matter.

Sept. 9 - Motley Police received a report of a vehicle that hit three mailboxes on Hwy 210 and 67th Ave. SW in Motley. One of the owners took a photo of the suspect vehicle's license plate that was left at the scene.

Sept. 4 - Motley Police received a complaint of

Motley residents at the 300 block of Birch St. that were letting their dog run without a leash or supervision. Motley Police spoke with the dog owner and advised her of the complaint. She was also informed of the city's ordinance regarding dogs in the city limits.

Sept. 3 - Motley Police received a report of a theft that took place at 16 Hwy 10 S., Motley.

Sept. 5 - The MCSO received a report of a boat that had been drifting on the lake near the 30000 block of 21st Ave., Cushing. The reporting party said they'd tied the boat up. Law enforcement called the registered owner of the boat and advised where it was, along with contact information to facilitate recovering it.

Sept. 3 - Morrison County deputies responded to a report of a burglary at the 1800 block of Lil St., Motley.

Alba joins AscendRural

AscendRural announced that Jose Alba has joined AscendRural as its new Director of Community Engagement. AscendRural is a technology program hosted by Sourcewell, located in Staples.

Alba brings a background in rural healthcare leadership and community engagement. Most recently, he served as President of CentraCare – Long Prairie, overseeing a fully integrated healthcare campus that included a critical access hospital, rural health clinic, and family medicine practice. Under his leadership, the campus achieved its highest-ever employee engagement scores and earned recognition as a Lown Institute "Top 30 Socially Responsible Hospital."

Prior to CentraCare, Jose held senior leadership roles at Astera Health, where he helped design a multimillion-dollar, next-generation rural health center and championed innovative models of outpatient care. His leadership has consistently delivered measurable results through expanding



Jose Alba

career. He has served on numerous boards, including Rural Minnesota CEP, the Minnesota State Foundation, and the United Way of Ottertail and Wadena Counties, and has been active in local Rotary and Lions organizations. His leadership reflects a deep belief in the power of community-driven solutions to advance health and opportunity.

"I believe the strength of rural communities lies in their people, their resilience, creativity, and shared commitment to one another," Jose shared. "I'm excited to join AscendRural and to help lift up local voices so that solutions are designed with, not for, rural America."

In his new role, Jose will lead AscendRural's efforts to build and strengthen relationships with communities nationwide, ensuring that local perspectives shape innovation and that AscendRural's work reflects the values, strengths, and aspirations of rural America.

patient access, improving satisfaction, and strengthening workforce development and retention.

"Jose's impressive background in rural healthcare will be a tremendous asset to AscendRural," said Melissa Kjolsing, Managing Director of AscendRural. "Rural hospitals are more than healthcare providers. They are anchors of community well-being. They create access to care, sustain local economies, and serve as gathering places where trust and connection are built."

Jose's commitment to rural vitality extends well beyond his professional



Staples Host Lions donate

The Staples Host Lions recently made several donations, including \$3,000 to Staples-Motley Dollars for Scholars (DFS) and \$2,000 to the Staples Motley Area Arts Council (SMAAC). Pictured above, from left, are Lion President Bob Schafer; Lori Nienow, DFS representative; and Past Lion President Dan Shaw. Above right, from left, are Lion President Bob Schafer; Sherry Frisk, SMAAC representative; and Past Lion President Dan Shaw. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



Lions Club donation

The Staples Host Lions Club recently donated \$1,500 to the Staples-Motley Community Education/Summer Rec program. Pictured, from left, are Lion President Bob Schafer; Paige Ahrendt, SM Community Ed/Athletics Director; and Past Lion President Dan Shaw. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

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Sunday morning traffic in Motley

Sunday morning traffic, Sept. 7, on Highway 10 in Motley ground to a halt when a Burlington Northern Santa Fe freight train blocked the crossing for close to 30 minutes. The above photo shows eastbound traffic just past the Highways

10 and 210 traffic lights near the fairgrounds. Below, northerly, shows traffic is backed up to Highway 210. The train cleared the tracks just before 9 a.m. (Submitted photos)



Court report Sept. 3

Long Prairie Police
Cecilia Raquel Gonzalez Lorenzo, Long Prairie. Expired registration. Fine \$30. Fee \$85.

Dept. of Natural Resources
Ellie Kaylee Enneking, Motley. Fish & Game-Take fish without angling license. Fine \$100. Fee \$85.
Demario Nathaniel Lopez, Long Prairie. Watercraft-personal floatation or lifesaving devised required. Fine \$25. Fee \$85.

Wendy Alice Theisen, St. Joseph. ATV-prohibitions on youthfull operators-permit unlawful operation. Fine \$100. Fee \$85.

State Patrol
Russell James Eck, Shoreview. Speed 75/65. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Dustin Kenneth Ecker, Wadena. Speed 75/65. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Rachel Alice Hoffman, Pequot Lakes. Speed 75/65. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Lonnie Lee Ross, Staples. Speed 75/65. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Richard John Saucedo, Farmington. Speed 75/65. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Thomas Andrew Vervoort, Staples. Speed 75/65. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Olabisi Olanike Ayeni, Winnipeg, MB. Speed 84/70. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Frankie Raphael Baker-Klinkenborg, Big Lake. Windshield tint or glazed. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Jules Berikt Camacho, Clarissa. Speed 45/30. Fine \$60. Fee \$85. Instruction permit violation (18 years or older). Fine \$50.

Jeffrey Nathan Carter, Bedford, TX. Speed 70/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Jeremy Joe Cross, Brainerd. Speed 71/60. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.
Kimberly Colt Cunningham, Brainerd. Speed 89/70. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.

Richard Joseph Danna, Shakopee. Speed 75/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$75.

Samuel David Kaikane Garbow, Maple Grove. Speed 84/70. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Carlos Manuel Gonzalez Vargas, Pelican Rapids. Driving after suspension. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.

Barbara Jean Gorder, Wahpeton, ND. Speed 80/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Meaghann Ashley Graber, Dorchester, MA. Speed 85/70. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.

Chelsea Ann Harlander, Long Prairie. Speed 65/55. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Jason Keith Harless, Sarasota, FL. Speed 80/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Sander Kangur, St. Cloud. Speed 76/60. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.

Alexander Toby Lee, Glenwood. Speed 70/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Lisa Marie Lovelace, Plymouth. Speed 84/70. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Kateri Marie Marion, Surrey, ND. Speed 89/70. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.

Eric Sheldon Marquardt, Alexandria. Speed 70/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Jorge Armando Emman Munoz Ortega, Pelican Rapids. Speed 74/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

David Andrew Neuman, Clearwater. Speed 99/70. Fine \$100. Fee \$185.

Robert Sheridan Oakes, Hopkins. Speed 84/70. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Roberto Martin Rodriguez Ortiz, Long Prairie. Seat belt required. Fine \$25. Fee \$85.

Errol George Steele, Alexandria. Speed 88/70. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.

Megan Lee Sullivan, Hugo. Speed 85/70. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.

Neangcolmonyrek Suon, Hastings. Speed 89/70. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.

Kiya Lynn Thompson, Blooming Prairie. Speed 80/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Makayla Marie Tollerud, Fargo, ND. Speed 87/70. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.

Sergii Vitiuk, Manitowoc, WI. Trucking regulation-seatbelt violation in a commercial vehicle. Fine \$25. Fee \$85.

Hajah Eve Washington, Fargo, ND. Child passenger restraint. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Carla Marie Wolfe-Bartusek, Osakis. Speed 80/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Zachary Alan Zadach, Vadnais Heights. Hands free law. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Todd County
Megyn Marie Asmus, Long Prairie. Speed 64/55. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Veronica Avila Torres, Osakis. Speed 80/55. Fine \$70. Fee \$155. Driver must carry proof of insurance when operating vehicle. Fine \$200.

Anthony Alexander Foster-Berroa, St. Cloud. Motorcycle-driving on street or highway without endorsement. Fine \$50. Fee \$85. Off road vehicle-operate on public street or highway-headlight, taillight, brakes required. Fine \$25.
Betty Jean Geise, Grey Eagle. Driving after revocation. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.

Adrian Allen Gomez, Speed 80/55. Fine \$70. Fee \$155.

Adam Paul Hillerud, Long Prairie. Window restrictions-tint too dark. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Kaitlyn Laree Kasper, Motley. Speed 72/55. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.

Jennifer Lopez, Little Falls. Driver must carry proof of insurance when operating vehicle. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.

Josean Joel Rodriguez Rodriguez, Long Prairie. Speed 77/60. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.

Alan Lucas Smith, Browerville. Unsafe tires-prohibitions. Fine \$50. Fee \$85. Careless driving. Fine \$100.

Angel Gabriel Torres Martinez, Long Prairie. Driver must carry proof of insurance while operating vehicle. Fine \$200. Fee \$85. Driver fails to stop for STOP sign. Fine \$50.

Anthony Michael Witt, Henning. Issue dishonored check-value more than \$250-\$500. Continued. Unsupervised probation, 1 yr. Fine \$409.57.

The following cases were heard before Judge Daniel A. Benson in Seventh District Court in Todd County August 27, 2025.

Tiffany Ann Erickson, Long Prairie. 3rd degree DWI-operate motor vehicle-alcohol concentration 0.08 within 2 hours. Sentenced. Local confinement (364 days, stay 0 yr 0 mo 362 days for 4 yr credit for time served: 2 days). Supervised probation, 4 yr. Fine \$250. Fee \$105.

The following cases were heard before Judge Daniel A. Benson in Seventh District Court in Todd County August 26, 2025.

Nelson Cruz, Maplewood. Driving after revocation. Sentenced. Local confinement (90 days, stay 0 yr 0 mo 90 days for 1 yr). Unsupervised probation, 1 yr. Fine \$200. Fee \$75. Open bottle in MV (consume). Dismissed.

Brittany Ray Ryappy, Brainerd. 3rd degree driving while impaired. Dismissed. 3rd degree driving while impaired-alcohol content greater than 0.8 within 2 hours. Sentenced. Local confinement (364 days, stay 0 yr 0 mo 299 days for 4 yr credit for time served: 1 day). Supervised probation, 4 yr. Fine \$600. Fee \$105. Driving after revocation. Dismissed. Careless driving. Dismissed.

The following cases were heard before Judge Daniel A. Benson in Seventh District Court in Todd County August 22, 2025.

Aaron Ray Carpenter, Browerville. Theft. Dismissed. Receiving stolen property. Dismissed. Possess Ammo/any firearm-previous felony conviction. Continued. Fine \$100.

Nikko Michael Donovan, Eagle Bend. Speed 82/55. Fine \$100. Fee \$185.

Chet Ryan Porter, Little Falls. Receiving stolen property. Dismissed. 5th degree-possess Schedule 1,2,3,4 or paraphernalia residual-not cannabis/hemp. Continued. Local confinement (7 days credit for time served: 7 days). Supervised probation, 364 days. Fine \$50. Restitution \$3,510.08.

The following cases were heard before Judge Daniel A. Benson in Seventh District Court in Todd County August 21, 2025.

Mary Ann Joy Kelley, Browerville. 3rd degree driving while impaired. Dismissed. 3rd degree driving while impaired-blood alcohol content greater than .08 within 2 hours. Sentenced. Local confinement (364 days, stay 0 yr 0 mo 314 days for 2 yr credit for time served: 5 days). Supervised probation, 2 yr. Fine \$500. Fee \$105. Driving after cancellation. Dismissed.

75 YEARS Ago - 1950

• Sept. 21, 1950 - Motley came through last Friday with a 12 to 12 tie with Pequot Lakes at Pequot. Pequot lakes led 12 to 0 at the end of the first quarter.

Motley came back in the third quarter with two touchdowns making the score 12 to 12. Making the scores for Motley were Howard Sklenicka and Melvin Greenwaldt.

Playing for the Motley Rockets were: James Allan, Bill Berndt, Melvin Greenwaldt, Richard Dickey, Richard Thomson, Eugene Holub, Alex Lamb, Leo Melt-evolt, Howard Sklenicka, Richard Anderson, Ronald Starke and Jack Swanson.

• Sept. 21, 1950 - Mr. and

- O -
Compiled by
Dawn Timbs
- O -

Mrs. Albert Berndt of Motley returned home on Tuesday of last week after a 7,000 mile motor trip to the west coast and south into Mexico. They had a most enjoyable trip and saw many former Motley residents.

• Sept. 21, 1950 - The Staples softball team took home the Brainerd YMCA championship trophy, after copping the honors of the ten-team league. The team included Bob Belling, Ronald Bacon, Stan Borle, Armand Anderson, Herman Rach, Dick Benson, Roger Hammond, Phil Andert, Robert Strand, John Fear-ing and Al Bacon.

• Sept. 21, 1950 - Staples Cardinal football team won its opening game on Sept. 8, at Long Prairie by trouncing the countyseaters to the tune of 21 to 0.

The first touchdown of the season for the Cards was made by Blahosky who powered his way across the pay-



Mystery solved

Last week's mystery photo published in the April 22, 2004 edition of the Staples World featured members of Motley Junior Troop #160 area Girl Scouts who'd spent an afternoon learning about other Girl Scouts and Girl Guides by going online to the World Association website, WAGGS. From left are Whittney Risser, Cassandra McGree, Liz Kronenberg, Janessa Brotherton, Sara Frie and Becky DeGeest. Sierra De-Geest (not pictured) was also part of this troop.

Marv Kowalski of Motley and his daughter Krista Kowalski of Baxter recognized all of the girls. Krista shared that she had gone to school with and been a part of girl scouts with the girls. Thanks for participating in our mystery photo.

Looking back

dirt stripe from the 11-yard line, and did the same thing for the extra point, and the first half ended with Staples out in front 7 to 0.

• Sept. 21, 1950 - Staples city council, at a special meeting held Monday evening, made the purchase of a new patrol car for the police department.

Bids were received from a number of car dealers, but the one of the Scharf Chevrolet Company of Staples was the one accepted, with the result that within 30 days the police department will receive their first patrol car.

• Sept. 21, 1950 - Last spring new officers were elected for the Future Farmers of America chapter of the Staples schools, and are now serving the chapter in arranging schedules and programs for the coming school year.

Elected as president last spring was Jack Markley. Other officers serving with him are Marcus Anderson, vice president; Laurence Geiger, secretary; Clarence Jacobson, treasurer; William Heldman, reporter; Dixon Hyndman, sentinel; J. V. Raine, advisor.

50 YEARS Ago - 1975

• Sept. 18, 1975 - The City of Staples became the 107th Minnesota community to be officially designated as a bicentennial city. Lt. Governor Rudy Perpich, Honorary Chairman of the Minnesota Bicentennial Commission made the designation at the meeting of the Staples Chamber of Commerce last Thursday in the V.F.W. Hall.

"The Spirit of '76 is alive in Minnesota and Staples is no exception," the Lt. Governor said, "as ambitious programs are being made throughout America in commemoration of our nation's 200th birthday."

State Representative Bruce Nelsen presented the



Mystery photo

Hello readers. This week's archive photo is from 1962. 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.

certificate to the City of Staples and Perpich presented the Bicentennial flag to Dr. V. D. Bredemeier, acting mayor. Following the acceptance, Bredemeier stated, "We are happy to be participating in the bicentennial and we shall display this flag proudly in our city."

• Sept. 18, 1975 - The Rev. Bill Arant is the new pastor of the Christian and Missionary Alliance Church in Staples. He assumed his duties here Sunday, Sept. 14.

Mr. Arant is a native of Omaha, Neb. He graduated from the St. Paul Bible College in 1972 and has been assistant pastor at the Monticello Alliance Church for the past two years.

Rev. Arant and his wife, Becky, have a four-month old son. The family are residing in the parsonage of the local congregation.

• Sept. 18, 1975 - Dr. Jon Theurer was the winner of the first annual dj's Classic golf tournament. Theurer won five matches to take the championship. Play in the classic started Aug. 1, with 50 men entered. Taking second place was Leo Fahnlander; third, Bill Knapp; and fourth, Jerry O'Keefe.

• Sept. 18, 1975 - Bob and Betty Lee, exclusive representatives at Staples for united Farm Agency, Inc., national real estate firm, have been honored for sales excellence.

Mr. and Mrs. Lee qualified for their fourth President's Round Table Award during August, by reaching a new goal in sales volume since the first of the year.

• Sept. 18, 1975 - A free street square dance was one of the features of "Old-Fashioned Saturday Night" in Staples last weekend and about 50 dancers performed on Fourth Street in the business district.

Norm Zaucke of Osage was the caller, and dancers from Long Prairie, Wadena, Brainerd, Staples and other cities took part.

25 YEARS Ago - 2000

• Sept. 21, 2000 - Seeking to draw publicity to the plight of Gulf War veterans suffering from effects of 'Gulf War Disease,' Kevin Shores of Moorhead trav-

eled from Moorhead to St. Pal via wheelchair, passing through Staples last Thursday. A support van, driven by his father, traveled behind him.

• Sept. 21, 2000 - The Staples Volunteer Fire Department responded to several calls recently, including four in the past week.

The calls included a house fire in Bullard Township; a coal car fire at the Burlington Northern Santa Fe yards in Staples; a faulty smoke detector that activated the alarm at Staples Motley High School; and an electrical fire at Stern Rubber Company in Staples.

• Sept. 21, 2000 - The Cardinal girls tennis team remained undefeated in dual meet play with wins over Crosby-Ironton and Wadena-Deer Creek Sept. 14.

The girls also won the Mid State Conference tournament on Saturday, taking titles in two singles and two doubles divisions.

• Sept. 21, 2000 - Two Minnesota school teachers who employ innovative methods to teach students about the state's forests were announced Aug. 24, as winners of the second annual Minnesota Forest Educators of the Year Award.

During a morning ceremony at the State Capitol, Lt. Gov. Mae Schunk presented the Minnesota Forest Industries-sponsored awards to Karl Kaufmann of Pillager and Steve Maanum of Park Rapids.

Kaufmann is a forestry and biotechnology instructor at Pillager High School. Maanum is a fifth grade science and math teacher at Park Rapids Middle School.

10 YEARS Ago - 2015

• Sept. 17, 2015 - The 2015 Minnesota State Fair was an exciting one for 16-year-old Katie Benson of rural Staples.

Not only did she bring home two purple ribbons, but the Wadena County 4-H'er was named this year's Poultry Princess. Along with the title, Benson was awarded a \$1,000 academic scholarship and will have the opportunity to represent the state throughout the coming year.

Todd countyCourt report Sept. 10

Long Prairie Police
Rodney Ruiz Garcia, Long Prairie. Driving after revocation. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.

Dept. of Natural Resources
John Thomas Alan Durkot, New Hope. Game-license required to take/buy/sell/transport/possess protected wild animals. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Demario Nathaniel Lopez, Long Prairie. Personal floatation device or lifesaving devices required. Fine \$25. Fee \$85.

State Patrol
Christopher Michael Brenny, Foley. Speed 83/65. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.

Zander Leland Calhoun, Sartell. Speed 75/65. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Mason Thomas Graves, Keewatin. Speed 75/65.

Anthony Nelson Mevissen, Staples. Speed 80/65. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.

Ashira Shalom Amarasuriya, Apple Valley. Speed 96/70. Fine \$60. Fee \$75.

Sanchez Diego Beltran, Long Prairie. Speed 87/55. Fine \$150. Fee \$85. No MN drivers license (after 60 days residency/30 days CDL). Fine \$100.

Jared Duane Carr, Bloomington. Speed 83/70. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.
Theodore James Cha, Anchorage, AK. Speed 89/70. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.

Uriel Flores Soriano, Burnsville. Speed 89/70. Fine \$60. Fee \$85. No MN Drivers license. Fine \$100.

Jeison Jamar Fransua Marte, Long Prairie. Speed 72/60. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Carlos Manuel Gonzalez Vargas, Pelican Rapids. Driving after suspension. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.

Ignatia Sadie Jackson, Fargo, ND. Speed 80/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Bryce Charles Joerger, Eagan. Speed 69/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Sander Kanger, St. Cloud. Speed 76/60. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.

David Martens Knelsen, Winkler, MB. Seat Belt required. Fine \$25. Fee \$85.

Mary Jane Martinez, Alamo, TX. Speed 83/70. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Jamos David McNinch, St. Cloud. Speed 71/60. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Elias Moreno, Willmar. Speed 72/60. Fine \$50. Fee \$85. Driving after revocation. Fine \$200.

David Andrew Neuman, Clearwater, FL. Speed 99/70. Fine \$100. Fee \$185.

Michelle Hien Ngo, Minneapolis. Speed 80/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.
Kyle David Oswald, Ramsey. Driving after revocation. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.

Melvin Dario Perez Rodriguez, Long Prairie. Seat belt required. Fine \$25. Fee \$85.

Jordan Christopher Rau, St. Cloud. Window restrictions. Windshield tinted or glazed. Fine \$50. Fee \$85. Window tint. Fine \$50. No proof of insurance.

Roberto Martin Rodriguez Ortiz, Long Prairie. Seat belt required. Fine \$25. Fee \$85.

Presley Susan Stark, Kimberly, WI. Speed 80/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Megan Lee Sullivan, Hugo. Speed 85/70. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.

Michael Cleon Sunby, Alexandria. Speed 80/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Kiya Lynn Thompson, Blooming Prairie. Speed 80/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Andrew Charles Weisser, St. Joseph. Speed 80/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Ethan Daniel Wittmer Gerde, Mil-tona. Window restrictions-windshield tinted or glazed. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Megan Lynn Zander, Fargo, ND.

Speed 82/70. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Todd County
Megyn Marie Asmus, Long Prairie. Speed 64/55. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Logan John Butler, Grey Eagle. Speed 50/40. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Caleb Louis Christensen, Browerville. Speed 74/55. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.

Kaitlyn Laree Kasper, Motley. Speed 72/55. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.

Travis Jerome Kubacki, Browerville. Driver fails to stop for STOP sign. Fine \$50. Fee \$85. Driver must carry proof of insurance. Dismissed

Kurt Ralph Linn, Grey Eagle. Speed 64/55. Fine \$40. Fee \$85

Bruce Troy Meech, Sebeka. Speed 64/55. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Erica Yanet Sanchez Olea, Long Prairie. Expired registration. Fine \$30. Fee \$85.

Paul Richard Stay, Dayton. Speed 64/55. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Angel Gabriel Torres Martinez, Long Prairie. Driver must carry proof of insurance when operating vehicle. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.

The following cases were heard before Judge Daniel A. Benson in Seventh District Court in Todd County Septem-

ber 2, 2025.

Deury Suero de Roa, Long Prairie. Trespass. Fine \$100. Fee \$75.

Robert Lesley Wilson, Alexandria. 2nd degree DWI-operate motor vehicle under influence of alcohol. Dismissed. 2nd degree DWI-operate motor vehicle-alcohol concentration 0.08 within 2 hours. Sentenced. Local confinement (364 days, stay 362 days for 3 yr credit for time served: 2 days). Supervised probation, 3 yr. Fine \$100. Fee \$105. Carry/possess pistol w/out permit-public place-gross misdemeanor; second or subsequent felony. Dismissed. Carry pistol while under influence of alcohol-concentration 0.10 or more. Dismissed.

The following cases were heard before Judge Daniel A. Benson in Seventh District

Court in Todd County August 26, 2025.

Michael Lee Isenberg, Staples. DWI-Operate motor vehicle under influence of alcohol. Dismissed. DWI 3-operate motor vehicle-alcohol concentration 0.08 within 2 hours. Sentenced. Local confinement (364 days, stay 362 days for 3 yr credit for time served: 2 days). Supervised probation, 3 yr. Fine \$100. Fee \$105. Carry/possess pistol w/out permit-public place-gross misdemeanor; second or subsequent felony. Dismissed. Carry pistol while under influence of alcohol-concentration 0.10 or more. Dismissed.

Donate Your Vehicle

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While we appreciate every donation, in some cases, we find that we are unable to accept certain vehicles, watercraft, and/or recreational vehicles due to the prohibitive costs of acquisition. If you have any questions, please give us a call at (833) 937-2593.

Letter to the Editor

Potholes on new street

A few weeks ago there was an article, with pictures, of the city street department installing riser rings on the manholes to bring the covers up to the estimated height of the scheduled asphalt overlay. That turned out quite nice. That same

product is available for the water gate valve access points but it was elected not to do that. The result is, on our street, we have about three blocks of nice smooth asphalt with eight potholes to try to avoid, and assuming it's that way everywhere surfaces were upgraded.

Rick Anderson
Staples, Minn.



Soybean trade with China now down to zero

Jemi Chew
The Rural Blog

American soybean farmers head into the harvest without sales to China. One quarter to a third of American soybean exports were purchased by China before the U.S.-China trade wars began in 2018, Keith Bradsher from The New York Times reported. Now American soybean exports to China have fallen to zero. China has boycotted buying the crop in retaliation of tariffs imposed by the Trump Administration

on Chinese imports. China now buys soybeans from Brazil. “The pain is being felt in Midwest states, especially Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota and Indiana. For the first time in many years, American farmers are preparing to harvest their crop this fall with no purchase orders from China,” Bradsher wrote. Farmers in rural China are also facing the impact of the trade war. Because of rising demand, soybeans can fetch higher prices and thus

some farmers in Heilongjiang Province (where the greatest output of soybeans in China comes from) are turning a profit. However, the crop yield from Chinese soybean farmers in Heilongjiang Province is not enough to supply all of China and many farmers in the area do not want to grow soybeans because it requires more effort and overall is less profitable than corn. At the same time, rural areas face labor shortages as the youth move to the cities for higher paying jobs.

Quote of the week

“Justice means minding your own business and not meddling with other men’s concerns. To kill is to destroy harmony, not restore it.”
— Plato

MFU advocates for farm bill

From Minesota Farmers Union

About 20 members of Minnesota Farmers Union (MFU) participated in the National Farmers Union (NFU) Fall Legislative Fly-in that brought more than 250 members from across the nation to Washington, D.C., to meet with lawmakers and other leaders to advocate for passage of a farm bill, passing permanent disaster relief and investing in local and regional food procurement. “Our members met with Sens. Amy Klobuchar and Tina Smith, Reps. Angie Craig, Kelly Morrison and Betty McCollum and aides for Reps. Tom Emmer, Brad Finstad, Michelle Fischbach, Ilhan Omar, and Pete Stauber. In addition, they met with officials from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Department of Justice and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission,” said MFU President Gary Werfish. “Thank you to all the policymakers, legislative leaders and staff members who took the time to meet with us. It is important to continue the dialogue as

our members return to their farms to harvest the crops that will feed, fuel and clothe us. No matter what their crop, farmers find joy in growing a product to share with their customers, be they down the road or around the world. I am hopeful that members of Congress will reach across the political divide and pass a farm bill that supports farmers, families and rural communities.” The 2018 farm bill expired in September 2023. It was extended to Sept. 30, 2024, and again to Sept. 30, 2025. The farm bill funds a variety of farm, food and economic development programs, including crop insurance, nutrition and rural development, credit and energy. The House Agriculture Committee passed a farm bill in 2024, but it wasn’t heard on the House floor. The Senate produced a framework that didn’t advance. Several parts of the farm bill were included in HR1, the One Big Beautiful Bill Act signed by the president in July. However, the sections not included in HR1 expire at the end of this month.

“Farm country is facing a crisis, and America’s family farmers and ranchers need their elected representatives to listen to the challenges they’re facing and take action,” said NFU President Rob Larew in a news release. “Farmers are earning less than ever, consumers are paying more, and corporate profits are soaring. Our members are here to remind Congress not to leave farmers and ranchers behind.” “It’s important for family farmers to show up and share their stories when it comes to not only the next farm bill but also other government actions. Decisions made by the administration and Congress impact what we do on the farm every day, and it’s important for policymakers to hear directly from the people impacted by their decisions,” said MFU Vice President Anne Schwagerl. “A sincere thank you to all the members who took time away from their families and farms to attend fly-in; your action is important and appreciated.” The Fall Legislative Fly-in was held Sept. 8-10. Learn more at nfu.org/fly-in/.

Biblical lessons to end the tortuous circle of cruel horror

By Pastor Robert Drake
Faith Lutheran Church, Staples

I had to sit down. And pray. And think. It was last week Wednesday, late afternoon, I was at the church office, on my computer and a news feed popped up announcing the assassination of Charlie Kirk. Dead. At a college event. Surrounded by young people engaging in the most fundamental freedom granted to us by our Constitution: the freedom of speech. I had heard Kirk on his radio show and on his podcasts, but I was not a regular listener. I found agreement with him on some issues, while disagreeing with him on others. Yet I always found him intelligent, articulate and respectful. But now he’s dead, which leaves the rest of us here in America with a profound question: Have we been pulled into a cruel circle of torturous horror?

I spent the last two days (I am writing this on the morning of September 12) reading articles, listening to press briefings and talking with friends and colleagues. It wasn’t so much the facts that I was after—those will come later as law enforcement does its work. Instead, I was trying to sense our collective mood. What are we as a nation feeling? What are we wanting? What are we hoping for? What will we do next? Psychologists suggest that when trauma affects a group of people, the first emotion is collective sorrow. But on the heels of sorrow comes a flood of anger and retribution. “We must do something. This can’t go unpunished.” The national mood after the attacks on September 11, 2001, followed this well-worn pattern. Sorrow... and then anger. This cycle of sorrow and anger brings us back to the question: Have we been pulled into a cruel circle of torturous horror? I don’t know about you, but here’s something I know about myself: I value my independence, a lot. I don’t like being manipulated, I don’t like being told what to do or what to think or how to feel. I am my own person. I assume that many of you feel the same way.

Because I like my independence, I don’t want to be pulled into anything, especially not into a cycle of national and political violence. Many news commentators on both the left and the right are saying that our nation is on the cusp of spiraling into uncontrollable violence. For years now we’ve heard about the “culture war,” but now many are worried about an actual war. Some are even advocating for war, suggesting that the “other side” is “pure evil.” Are we being pulled into war? Is violence the only answer? Do we need to punish the other side and make them pay? Over these last two days, numerous Bible passages and stories flowed through my mind and heart. But I kept returning to one of them in particular, the Apostle Paul. Or, more precisely, the story of forgiveness as Saul transitioned to become Paul. Before his conversion, Saul was directly complicit in murder and violence against followers of Jesus. Everybody in the Jesus movement were deathly afraid of Saul, and for good reason. If Saul had his way, he would ensure that the torturous circle of cruel horror continued until the last follower of Jesus was dead. Saul saw the “other side” as “pure evil” and was willing to do whatever was necessary. But someone broke that cycle. On his way to Damascus to spread violence and hate, Saul was confronted with a vision of Jesus Christ, who asked him why he was persecuting Him. Saul could never have broken that cycle without Jesus. And neither can we. As our nation processes not only the tragedy of Kirk’s assassination, but also the assassinations of Melissa Hortman and her husband, as well as the horrible deaths at Annunciation Catholic Church, we must make room in our hearts to hear Jesus asking us the very same question he asked Saul, “Why are you persecuting Me?” We must make room in our hearts to break the torturous cycle of cruel horror.

Quote of the week

“We can return violence with fire and violence. We can return hate with hate. And that’s the problem with political violence ... at some point we have to find an off-ramp.”
— Utah Gov. Spencer J. Cox

Town rallies around downtown construction

Deb Brown
SaveYour.Town

Imagine that your Main Street is on a state highway. And major work needs to be done. This happened in Hutchinson in 2020. Repairs were going to happen and included the replacement of all city services below ground, and the Chamber had three years to get the town and businesses ready for it. The project included 133 parcels along an eight-block by two-block corridor of downtown. The original goal was to keep 100 percent of businesses open during construction. Man plans, God laughs. The pandemic shut down everything, except con-

struction. While there were a few businesses open, many were closed to the public. The project went faster because there was no foot or vehicle traffic anywhere. Project updates were still very necessary. Here’s what helped: • They put up billboards on all four main incoming state highways, supporting local downtown businesses. • Signage was placed along detours directing people to downtown parking lots. • They wrote newspaper updates to the community and email updates to businesses. • The Chamber webpage had all the updates, contacts and news. • Business owners made social media videos asking people to keep coming downtown. • Back alley video tours were shared on social media and local access TV. • Blessings of the road was done by local ministries.

There were road viewing opportunities from businesses with large windows to the gaping holes.

Keys to Success • Plan ahead, be proactive versus reactive. • Bring in experts and business people affected by the project. • Educating the general public is very important, more so for your community’s residents they have habits for shopping, from where they park, to when/where they enter, tourists don’t know what’s different from regular operating procedures. Listen to business people. They are scared, frustrated and anxious. Not only are they losing some business, they have to pay the assessments. Like anything, it’s hard when it’s happening, but it

will seem like a blip on the monitor after it is done. **Positive outcomes** • Businesses started to cross-market each other. • MN Retailers Association presented The Paint Factory with the 2020 Innovation Award. • No business closed permanently due to construction. • Because of the preparation ahead of time, businesses were also able to maintain through the pandemic. • Partnerships were formed. • A Marketing/Website company offered staff for the task force and free Main Street 2020 logo and marketing materials to the chamber • Two local marketing/website companies offered discounted rates and help to businesses • Economic Development Authority (EDA) adapted its previous Sign and Awning Grant to include back entrances, and updated their façade loan grants for downtown businesses • A local doctor certified in ADA compliance offered his services to audit any business requesting support. • State ADA expert offered a free webinar and provided self-assessments • Business and building owners sat on the task force, providing ideas, input and helping to share the information with others Collaborative efforts continue in 2025. This could’ve been really ugly. But it wasn’t. Because many people came together to work through what needed to be done. And many more got it done. They shared ideas, stories, laughter and enforced shopping local. Well, insisted on shopping local. This is the power of small towns.

Staples World

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..... Kathy Odden kodden@staplesworld.com
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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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The deadline is 12 noon, Friday. Opinions expressed on this page do not necessarily represent the views of this newspaper.
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Menu

Senior Nutrition Program
Call mornings the Friday before to reserve next week's meal(s) and for current suggested donation info. LSS Meal - traditional older adult menu. Menu is subject to change.
NEW location: Staples Hi-Rise Apartments, 615 4th St. NE, Staples.

Staples
NEW number:
218-979-4118
or call Luann, 218-296-2804.
LSS meals include bread (various kinds), marg. and 1% milk.

Sept. 22-26
MONDAY - Beef chili macaroni casserole, green beans, California veggie blend, sugar cookie.
TUESDAY - Scalloped chicken, peas, sliced carrots, blonde brownie.

WEDNESDAY Diced turkey/gravy, mashed potatoes, stuffing, whole kernel corn, Red Delicious apple.
THURSDAY - Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, brown gravy, broccoli, fresh orange.
FRIDAY - Potato crunch fish fillet, mashed sweet potatoes, mixed veggie, tartar sauce, snickerdoodle cookie.

Sept. 29-30
MONDAY - Spaghetti noodles/meat sauce, Italian veggie blend, green beans, gingersnap cookie.
TUESDAY - Herb baked chicken, mashed sweet potatoes, peas, Granny Smith apple.

wk39



One card...Endless Possibilities

A Staples Public Library card offers many possibilities: checking out books, free classes, job resources, homework help, streaming media and cultural events connecting communities to information, inspiration and each other. This year's library card theme, "One Card, Endless Possibilities," is a reminder that libraries are for everyone no matter age, background or goals. Above: Malachi Mumm displays his first library card at the Staples Public Library. (Submitted photo)

Upcoming events are listed on the webpage at www.griver.org or stop by the Staples Public Library, 122 6th St NE, phone 218-894-1401, open Monday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Tuesday 1-8 p.m.; Wednesday, 10 a.m.-6p.m.; Thursday, 1-8 p.m., Friday, 1-5 p.m. and Saturday, 9 a.m.-noon to sign up.

Join or Die film about why to join a club

The Sowing Room invites the public to a special screening of the award-winning documentary Join or Die, a film about why you should join a club—and why the fate of America may depend on it.

Join or Die follows the story of America's civic unraveling through the lens of legendary social scientist Robert Putnam (Bowling Alone). The film explores the decline of civic and community engagement, the impact on democracy, and the power of people coming together in local clubs, organizations, and civic life.

Event Details:
• Date: Monday, Sept 22.
• Time: Doors open at 6:15p.m.; film begins at 6:30 p.m.
• Location: Gichi-ziibi Center for the Arts, 523 S Fifth St, Brainerd, MN 56401
• Admission: FREE to attend. RSVP at <https://www.sowingroom.org/event-details>

tails/join-or-die-community-screening
Following the screening, a Q & A with the film's director will invite audience members to reflect on the themes of the film and consider local opportunities for civic connection, volunteering and community building.

"Join or Die reminds us that democracy is not just about elections—it's about relationships, trust, and participation," said Dawn Espe, Executive Director. "We hope this screening sparks meaningful conversations about how we can strengthen the community right here in Region 5."

About the Film: Directed by Rebecca and Pete Davis, Join or Die has been featured in festivals and earned accolades. It blends archival footage, expert interviews, and moving stories of grassroots action to explore how small groups of committed citizens can make a big difference.

Morrison County Historical Society anual meeting

The Morrison County Historical Society (MCHS) invites the public to its annual meeting on Thursday, Sept. 25, 6 p.m., at Holy Family Parish, 18777 Riverwood Drive, Belle Prairie Township.

There will be a "social half-hour" beginning at 6 p.m., followed by a brief business meeting for the historical society at 6:30. Following that will be a presentation about Women in the Fur Trade (There Were Some?), by author and retired English teacher, Nikki Rajala.

Rajala is the author of several historical fiction books about the voyageurs as her ancestry contains French-Canadian voyageurs, and she has been blogging and writing about the life of the voyageurs in Minnesota and Canada for many years now. Many folks believe that the fur trade was entirely male, because it took great strength and stamina to paddle long hours or portage loads up to 180 pounds. Surprise. In the background, were thousands of women who made enormous contributions to the industry. Without the remarkable skills of native American women, like Thanadelthur and Magdelaine LaFramboise, the fur trade would not have been successful.

Come join us on Sept. 25, at Belle Prairie, a place that was first settled by many former voyageurs long ago, to hear about these women in the fur trade who can continue to inspire us with their remarkable stories of creativity and generosity, and also their just plain grit

and perseverance. MCHS will serve refreshments to honor the 50th anniversary of the Weyerhaeuser Museum of Morrison County.

Fifty years ago, in 1975, the Morrison County Historical Society (MCHS) moved from a small room in the basement of the county courthouse to its present location along the west bank of the Mississippi River. The Charles A. Weyerhaeuser Museum was officially dedicated on Aug. 24, 1975, and became the new home to MCHS.

The museum was named for lumberman Charles A. Weyerhaeuser, who had managed the operations of Pine Tree Lumber Company in Little Falls from 1890 until 1920. Funding for the construction of the museum was provided by Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Sivertsen and Carl Weyerhaeuser: Being the children of Charles, Sarah Weyerhaeuser Rosenberry Sivertsen and Carl Weyerhaeuser wanted to support the museum as a way to honor their father. The new museum was designed by architect Foster Dunwiddie. The general contractor for the museum was Loeffel-Engstrand Co. of Hopkins. The mechanical contractor was McDowall Company of St. Cloud. McDowall was in charge of the heating and air conditioning (HVAC) system. The electrical contractor was

originally Commercial Mechanical Services, Inc., out of Glenwood, but after this company went bankrupt, the Hauer Brothers Electric of Little Falls finished the job. The engineer on the project was Max Oftedahl of Oftedahl, Lock, and Brodston.

The new museum offered a state-of-the-art climate-controlled building with its separate areas for display and for storage. As wonderful as the new museum was, it quickly outgrew its space, and a much-needed Archives and the Artifact Collections wing was constructed in 1981. Fast forward to the present, and the museum collections have continued to increase, as the museum has honored its mission to acquire and maintain artifacts, documents, and other historical information related to Morrison County, as well as educating the public about this important local history. The Weyerhaeuser Museum is open year-round and admission is free. Make plans to come and visit us.

The MCHS annual meeting is open to the public. There is no formal admission but good-will donations will be appreciated. RSVP is not required but also appreciated.

For more information or questions, contact MCHS at 320-632-4007 or mocohistory@gmail.com

Sept. 17

STAPLES ALL VETERANS AND COMMUNITY PARK ASSOCIATION will hold its monthly meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 17, at Holst Acres located at 28943 Todd Line Road, Staples, at approximately 5:30 p.m. The public is invited to attend. Zoom may be available by contacting Bob Hamann at 218-894-3139.

Sept. 18

STAPLES AREA FARMERS MARKET Thursdays, 2 - 5 p.m., in the clinic patient parking lot at Lakewood Health System's main campus in Staples.
'WALK WITH A Doc' Thursdays at 5:15 p.m., at Lakewood Health System's main campus in Staples. Meet

at the main entrance. For more information about this free program, visit <https://walkwithadoc.org/join-a-walk/locations/staples-minnesota>

Sept. 19

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

Sept. 20

PILLAGER FEST - 2025 is happening Saturday, Sept. 20, 11 a.m. - 11 p.m. on Cedar Ave. in Pillager and at the fairgrounds. Live music, bingo, bags and pickleball tournaments, vendors, games, activities,

car/bike show and more.

Sept. 21

CELEBRATE RECOVERY GROUP MEETINGS are held every Sunday at 6 p.m., at Motley Free Methodist Church, 33 Wellwood St. E., Motley.

Sept. 23

CARE MINISTRY FREE MEAL Tuesday, Sept. 23, 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.

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



NOTICE

Water Main Flushing

The City of Staples Water Department will be flushing water mains throughout the City as needed, **Sept. 22 - Oct. 3, 2025** You may experience cloudy water during this time. If this occurs, allow the cold water to run until it clears.

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

6-7:30PM

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RESTROOMS AVAILABLE

SALE TIME: 9:00 A.M.

LUNCH ON GROUNDS



GUNS
308 Endfield rifle, bolt action, #25271, old, Nato
7.65 Argintine #5607 1891
Rimington Model 710 30.06 bolt, #71009878
*Ruger pistol, P95 DC, 9 mm, #314-26585
*MUST HAVE PERMIT TO PURCHASE

EQUIPMENT/ TOOLS/ TRAPPING
1983 300 six 4-spd. Ford 3/4 ton 4x4 XL, needs clutch, runs nice
Pontoon (older) w/atum, trailer, 20 ft. 25 HP Mercury, as is
1996 Wildcat snowmobile 700 cc, runs good
Big, heavy edger with 25 HP roller, well built
12,000 lb. Bobcat trailer, 7 ft. x 12 ft.
18 ft. car hauler
2 generators, 9,000 and 5,000
Heaters
Crescent wrenches, pipe wrenches
A lot of hand tools
Diesel power washer
Chain hoist
A lot of long handle tools
Hog panels, approx. 17
Old pull type grader
1966 Ford Galaxy 500 for parts
2002 Suburban for parts
Mallard camper, as is
Pickup topper
Storage shed, tin
Section doors, singles

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Old pull type grader
1966 Ford Galaxy 500 for parts
2002 Suburban for parts
Mallard camper, as is
Pickup topper
Storage shed, tin
Section doors, singles

GUNS
308 Endfield rifle, bolt action, #25271, old, Nato
7.65 Argintine #5607 1891
Rimington Model 710 30.06 bolt, #71009878
*Ruger pistol, P95 DC, 9 mm, #314-26585
*MUST HAVE PERMIT TO PURCHASE

EQUIPMENT/ TOOLS/ TRAPPING
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18 ft. car hauler
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Happy
50th
Anniversary



Mike and Jeannie Hajek
Love, Your Family

w39p

Hello World

ONLINE BIRTHS REMOVED
AT THE REQUEST OF LAKEWOOD
HEALTH SYSTEM.

Much Appreciated

Thank you to the Staples World for the photos and article regarding the plight of our Sacred Heart Area School.

God Bless,
Saint Mother Teresa
Mission Circle
of Sacred Heart Church,
Staples, Minn.

Staples Area Church Directory

Staples

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

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

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

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

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
310 4th St. NE, Staples
Church 218-894-2296
info@marysacc.org
Father JC Duncan, 218-632-7314
Father Rick Aubol, 218-632-7310
Father Greg Sauer
Mass: Sunday 8:30 a.m.

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

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

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

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

Aldrich

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

Cushing

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

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

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

Leader

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

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

Motley

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

St. John's Lutheran
497 3rd Ave. S, Motley 218-352-6399
Pastor Vicar Paul Koehler
Sunday School and Bible Class 8:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.
St. Michael Catholic Church
1st St. and Birch, Motley 218-894-2296
info@marysacc.org
Fr. Aaron Kuhn Fr. Gabriel Walz
MASS:
Saturday 4:00 p.m.

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

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

Oylen

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

Pillager

First Lutheran Church
Pastor Mathew Sundquist
717 River Street S, Pillager, MN
218-746-3775
Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School, 2nd and 4th Sundays
..... 8:30 a.m.

Casino Assembly of God
Pastor Dan Johnson
N. of Motley, Hwy. 64, E. on Cty 34 to Cty. 104.
Phone 218-746-3839
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship 7:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY 7:00 p.m.

First Baptist
903 River Street South, Pillager
Pastor Jake Anderson
218-746-3768
curious@fbcpillager.com
Worship Gathering 10:00 a.m.
Connection Point 9:30 a.m.

Hewitt

Church of the Nazarene
114 Front Street, P.O. Box 146 Hewitt, MN
218-924-2028
Jim and Linda McGaffey, Pastor
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m.
WEDNESDAY PRAYER 7:00 p.m.

Trinity Lutheran Church (LCMS)
524 Front Street, PO Box 116, Hewitt, MN
Pastor Robin Fish
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.

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

Verndale

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

Family Life Church
402 NE Clark Drive, Verndale 218-445-5568
VerndaleFLC@gmail.com
Pastor Amos Self 218-371-7189
Tahna Rurup, Connections & Media Pastor
Tillman Phagan, Kid's & Food Shelf Pastor
Ryan Wolfenden, Youth Pastor
SUNDAY
Youth Prayer 9:20 a.m.
Worship Service 10:00 a.m.
Prayer Meeting 5 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
Life Groups 6:30 p.m.

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

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

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

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

St. Frederick Catholic Church
20 Mason Avenue NW
Verndale 218-894-2296
info@marysacc.org
Father JC Duncan, 218-632-7314
Father Rick Aubol, 218-632-7310 Father Greg Sauer
MASS: Saturday 6:00 p.m.

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

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

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

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

Obituaries

Dean Hove

Dean Alan Hove, 67, of Motley, passed away September 7, 2025.

Funeral services were held Sept. 13 at the Swan Valley Lutheran Church.

Interment was at the Poplar Cemetery.
Arrangements were by the Brenny Family Funeral Chapel, Staples.

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Donna Johnson

Donna Joan Johnson, 91, passed away peacefully, September 8, 2025 in the home of her niece, Susan Ritterholz, near St Cloud, under the care of her family.

A private memorial service for the family will be held at a later date.

Donna was born January 21, 1934 to Harry and Mary Sussenguth in Breckenridge, one of nine children. The family grew up in a small house with a large garden in Breckenridge, where they felt the love and support of a large family. As a young woman, Donna was the primary caretaker for their mother until the end of her life.

She married Douglas (Doug) Johnson on September 6, 1975 making their home on Lake Shamineau and later settling in Staples.

Donna was a professional photo colorist for Melby's Studio in Breckenridge and later delighted the many who corresponded with her with colorful back-of-the-envelope drawings. She enjoyed watching football (go Vikings!) but golf was her favorite sport and she loved playing.

She had a dry wit, a sharp eye for detail and a strong sense of right-and-wrong. She stayed closely tuned to national politics with a keen eye and critique for those whose values and ethics she disapproved of and who turned a blind eye toward the less fortunate.

She is survived by one brother, Neil (Val) Sussenguth and one sister, Sally DeSantos. While Donna and Doug did not have children, they cherished their relationships with their siblings and their many nieces, nephews and friends.

She was preceded in death by her loving husband, Doug; six siblings Winifred (Strand), Margery (Offerdahl), Doris (Armstrong), Mary (Turnquist), Harry and Hank.

Her family wishes to thank the home-health nurses and staff of Centra-Care Hospice Care for their assistance at the end of Donna's life.

In lieu of flowers, consider donating to your local humane society or animal rescue in Donna's memory.

w39p A00006B2025SP17

"Prayers for Minneapolis Tragedy"

Father Rick Aubol, Sacred Heart Catholic Church

We have to talk about the recent tragedy in Minneapolis. Many are capably continuing the debate over tools with lethal power and many more are praying for the parents, children, priest and parish which suffered so great a shock. So I will simply offer a note I have not heard much of yet.

We must certainly pray for the families especially, and the whole parish family, but we must not only pray for them, but for our enemies as well - Westman lived in hell while on Earth, as evidenced by his own record. To be like Christ, we must believe love is strongest of all, stronger than death. Especially when this means mercy. But this is still not the most important note.

That young man's condition should never be. A healthy person does not choose to do the kinds of things he did. And yet we must pray not only to be protected from people who make such choices, not even only to prevent people in trouble from

being overwhelmed by demonic evil, though indeed, only God's power can overcome that hideous strength, but we must all pray not simply for things we want, or against things we don't, nor even to simply be good, but because God is good.

Prayer is conversation and therefore relationship with God. We don't have contact with God in order to do whatever we want without fear, we love God because He first loved us. This does not mean that nothing bad ever happens in this world, but that bad is defeated by God's goodness. There is pain in life, but life is not pain, life is Christ, joyful union with God and each other in and through him, no matter what befalls.

Let us pray for all hurt by the shooting, all parents and children, parishes and priests and men and women living in pain and horrid confusion, but as part of our whole lives of prayer in union with God in every circumstance, every day.



Summer Reading Program

The Summer Reading Program at the Staples Public Library was recently completed. Children read during the summer for an opportunity to win prizes. The program was sponsored by the Staples Friends of the Library. Above: Lucy Moon took home books as her prize; pictured with mom, Alyssa. (Submitted photos)

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Cardinal teams win cross country meets

Staples-Motley cross country teams won both varsity races at the Pine River-Backus Invitational on Sept. 11.

Both races were close in the team score but the Cardinals pulled it out with their depth.

In the boys race, Staples-Motley had three runners in the top ten, Andrew Dobson, Gage Bjerga and Garrett Bjerga. Jackson Odden and Seth Cossentine were the other varsity scorers.

In the girls race, all six runners finished in the top half of the race, with Aleea Holst and Suhaila Mikhaeil in the top ten and Elise Trif right behind in 11th. Lizzie Kroll and Alexis Odden were the next scorers in the first varsity race for each of them.

Team results Pine River-Backus Invitational Boys results

Staples-Motley 53, Pine River-Backus 54, Crosby-Ironton 56, McGregor 64, Pillager 115

6. Andrew Dobson 18:48, 7. Gage Bjerga 19:06, 10. Garrett Bjerga 19:43, 20. Jackson Odden 21:41, 25. Seth Cossentine 22:20, 26. Alex Leach 22:21, 36. Jacob Faulkner 24:00

Girls results

Staples-Motley 48, Pillager 58, Crosby-Ironton 67, McGregor 73, Deer River/Northland/Hill City 97

6. Aleea Holst 22:18, 9. Suhaila Mikhaeil 22:42, 11. Elise Trif 23:00, 14. Lizzie Kroll 23:58, 15. Alexis Odden 24:21, 16. Madelyn Kist 24:30



Alexis Odden



Jacob Faulkner, left and Alex Leach, right



Lizzie Kroll

Cardinal tennis keeps winning tough matches

The Staples-Motley tennis team showed they can work through adversity with a 4-3 win at Park Rapids on Sept. 11. Missing two of their regular players, the Cardinals played with a makeshift lineup against a competitive team.

The number one doubles team of Madison Perius and Natalie Hanson were the deciding point after dropping their first set. They

came back to win the next two 6-2, 6-2 for a solid win.

The top three singles players rolled through their opponents, with Ronnie Noska, Jaida Holst and Kaylee Perius getting straight set wins.

The Cardinals improved their season record to 7-2 with the win.

Team results Staples-Motley 4, Park Rapids 3

Singles: Ronnie Noska W 6-1, 6-0; Jaida Holst W 6-0, 6-1; Kaylee Perius W 6-3, 6-0; Charlie Noska L 3-6, 5-7

Doubles: Madison Perius/Natalie Hanson W 5-7, 6-2, 6-2; Lydia Roelofs/Lauren Dolezal L 6-7, 3-6; Alexa Dolezal/Carolyn Hoppe L 1-6, 0-6



Madison Perius

Soccer league results

Staples-Motley Elementary youth soccer play has started at Staples Elementary School.

Results from the Sept. 6 matchups include:

1st - 3rd Grade Division

Central Building Supply Lighting vs Ace Hardware Tornados, 8-4

Joseph's Flooring vs

ware Thunder, 0-2
3rd Grade - 6th Grade Division

JT's Handyman Kickers vs Jon's Family Food Sliders, 1-5

Monte Azul Blasters vs Holst Acres Smashers, 3-1

The next games will be held Saturday mornings: Sept. 20, 27; Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25 at SCE

VB earns two tourney wins

The Staples-Motley volleyball team had two wins at the Crosby-Ironton tournament on Sept. 13 to finish in sixth place out of 16 teams. Earlier in the week, they lost to Pine River-Backus and Perham in road games.

In all of their matches, the Cardinals have been spreading the ball around and trying new roles. Setter Annie Schlosser had 17 assists in the PR-B game, then switched to a part-time hitter with seven kills against Perham and nine kills in the two set match against Barnum. Her all-around stats against Greenway in the tournament included 10 assists, 10 kills, two blocks and seven digs.

The Cardinals have started the season with a 4-9 record.

Team results Staples-Motley 0, Pine River-Backus 3; 13-25, 23-25, 13-25 Chloe Trantina: aces-1, digs-15 Izzy Becker: kills-1, digs-20 Pam Lawrence: aces-1, digs-12 Hannah Cole: kills-6, blocks-1, digs-10 Addie Potter: aces-1, kills-6, digs-1 Annie Schlosser: assists-17,

digs-7
Clara Maros: kills-5
Jada Ellingsen: kills-1, digs-3
Abby Brichacek: assists-1, kills-3, digs-1
Staples-Motley 0, Perham 3; 7-25, 16-25, 22-25
Lawrence: aces-1, assists-1, digs-6
Katelyn Schotzko: aces-1, assists-5, digs-2
Becker: aces-1, assists-3, digs-16
Cole: aces-1, kills-1, blocks-3
Schlosser: assists-16, kills-7, blocks-1
Maros: blocks-1, digs-2
Potter: kills-2, digs-1
Trantina: aces-1, digs-23
Abby Brichacek: kills-5, digs-2

C-I tournament SM 2, Barnum 0; 25-21, 25-20 Schlosser: Assists-7, Kills-9, Blocks-3, Digs-3 Becker: Aces-2, Assists-1, Kills-1, Digs-21 Schotzko: Assists-15, Digs-3 Potter: Kills-3, Blocks-1, Digs-1 Kyleena Rudlang: Kills-5, Blocks-1, Digs-1 Cole: Kills-4, Blocks-2 Trantina: Assists-1, Digs-6 Maros: Kills-4, Digs-3 Pam Lawrence: Aces-1, Digs-10 Brichacek: Kills-2 **SM 0, Crosby-Ironton 2; 19-25, 20-25** Schlosser: Assists-4, Kills-6, Blocks-2, Digs-4 Becker: Aces-1, Assists-1,

Digs-13
Schotzko: Aces-1, Assists-6, Kills-1, Digs-1
Potter: Kills-6, Blocks-3
Rudlang: Digs-2
Cole: Blocks-3
Trantina: Digs-8
Maros: Kills-1, Blocks-1, Digs-1
Lawrence: Digs-5
Brichacek: Kills-2, Bocks-3, Digs-3
SM 2, Hill City/Northland/Remer 0; 25-18, 25-20
Schlosser: Assists-10, Kills-7, Digs-6
Becker: Aces-1, Assists-2, Kills-2, Digs-7
Schotzko: Assists-7, Digs-6
Potter: Kills-6
Rudlang: Kills-1, Digs-5
Cole: Kills-4, Blocks-2, Digs-1
Trantina: Aces-1, Digs-5
Maros: Blocks-2, Digs-5
Lawrence: Aces-1, Assists-2, Kills-1, Digs-10
Brichacek: Kills-1, Digs-2
Ellingsen: Kills-2, Digs-1
SM 1, Greenway 2; 25-19, 16-25, 14-16
Schlosser: Assists-10, Kills-10, Blocks-2, Digs-7
Becker: Aces-1, Digs-17
Schotzko: Assists-9, Digs-3
Potter: Kills-6
Rudlang: Digs-1
Cole: Kills-1, Blocks-5
Trantina: Digs-7
Maros: Aces-1, Kills-2, Blocks-1, Digs-8
Lawrence: Assists-1, Digs-2
Brichacek: Kills-3, Blocks-2, Digs-2

Football team keeps rolling with 43-14 road win

The Staples-Motley football team picked apart Hawley in a 43-14 win Sept. 12 at Hawley.

The Cardinals took the opening kickoff and made a long drive with a first down run by Colbe Tappe and two long passes from Eli Rutten to Conner Kuhns and Peyton Jares. They finished the drive with a four yard touchdown run by Beau Carlson.

On their first defensive stand, the Cardinals forced a fumble while sacking the quarterback. Cayden Neisen kicked a field goal to put the team up 10-0.

On the next defensive stand, Ayden Blue disrupted a Hawley drive with a QB sack. The Cardinals responded with a 62 yard touchdown on a middle screen pass from Rutten to Carlson for a 17-0 first quarter lead.

The Hawley defense stiffened up in the second quarter, but Staples-Motley punched in another touchdown, a 13 yard run by Luke Bjerga, to make the score 23-0.

Late in the half, Hawley made a long drive to score and tighten the game to 23-8. But Neisen took the kickoff and ran 81 yards for a touchdown to pump the margin back to 29-8 at halftime.

The Cardinal offense continued to perform with two more scores in the second half, both drives finished with touchdown runs by Tappe, while Hawley had one late score, making the final score 43-14.

The Cardinal defense recorded eight sacks, by Riley Reese, Chase Blue, Beachy, Adrian Caldwell, Noah Larson and Ayden

Blue. They had 14 tackles for loss. Chase Blue had three tackles for loss, while Bjerga and Ayden Blue had two each.

Reese was the top tackler with tree solo tackles and four assists. Adrian Gomez had two solo tackles and four assists.

Team results Staples-Motley 42, Hawley 14 Rushing: Turner Beachy 6-56, Luke Bjerga 5-50, 1TD, Colbe Tappe 13-47, 2 TD, Beau Carlson 4-38, 1 TD, Cayden Neisen 3-23, Eli Rutten 3-19, Eli Bounds 1-7, Tristan Moore 2-6, Cooper Tappe 1-0 Passing: Rutten 12-13, 183 yards, 1 TD Receiving: Carlson 2-67, 1 TD, Cb. Tappe 3-38, Conner Kuhns 3-31, Peyton Jares 1-15, John Schotzko 1-13, Beachy 1-10, Evan Schultz 1-9

Grouse hunting: what's in a name?

You don't have to be a Shakespeare fan to be familiar with this line from his Romeo and Juliet: "A rose by any other name would smell as sweet." Beyond its meaning to those ill-fated lovers in his play, to the world at large it has come to mean that a name we give to something is less important than the qualities that define it, or make it desirable. Even if we called a rose by another name, its appeal would be the same.

In the world of the Nature and the outdoors there are numerous things whose identity is less certain and settled than that rose, things whose name may differ depending on who you ask, or where you encounter it.

With the recent start of Minnesota's grouse hunting season, we encounter a creature with a split personality that is evident in the name of the bird itself. This chicken-size game bird is properly called ruffed grouse for the fringe of dark feathers, or "ruff," that wraps around its neck its breast. But there are any number of places where it's called "partridge" instead.

This is particularly true in the New England states, where the roots and traditions of grouse hunting run

with whom you were in conversation happened to be from Massachusetts, or perhaps Maine, you shouldn't be surprised if the bird's name comes to your ear as "pah-tridge."

Sporting literature from the 19th and even mid-20th century commonly referred to ruffed grouse as partridge, one example being the rare little volume of anecdotes and grouse lore entitled "Partridge Shortenin'." Hunters sometimes further corrupt the bird's proper name by contracting its plural form as "pats."

Even in Minnesota, you will sometimes hear the grouse called partridge, particularly among older folks, and—risky as generalizations can be—the farther north you happen to be. But the only true partridge found in Minnesota is the Hungarian, or gray, partridge, found mostly in agricultural areas in the northwestern corner of the state. The "hun," as it's sometimes called—like the ring-necked pheasant—is an import that has adapted to life here. But its range is nowhere near as broad, nor its population as robust, as the pheasant's.

The habitat where ruffed grouse are often found is also a source of mistaken identities. Decades of research and observation have shown that ruffed grouse thrive best in forests that have several different ages of aspen trees. Yet, to many—including bird hunters, rural landowners, and loggers—the aspen is often better known by the colloquial name of "popple."

than the bird's dual names, has roots in logic. Both of Minnesota's native aspen varieties are scientifically named "populus" as their genus, the level of identification that is just above their species. This genus includes the familiar poplar trees. Populus tremuloides, the trembling or quaking aspen, is one. Populus grandidentata, or bigtooth aspen, is the other.

As its name might suggest, bigtooth aspen leaves have more prominent points, or teeth, on the margins of their leaves than do the leaves of quaking aspen, which are more oval in shape and have finer points. Both have smooth, gray-white or olive-toned bark when the trees are young, but as bigtooth aspen mature their bark becomes rougher and more furrowed than their quaking aspen cousin.

Of these, so closely intertwined in their life cycles here in Minnesota, you're much more likely to hear aspen called popple, than to hear a grouse called a partridge.

For the earliest years of my half century-plus of angling, Minnesota's state fish was commonly referred to as the "walleyed pike." This was very common in sporting literature. It is also "walleyed pike" in the little heirloom fish cookbook I have that was published in the 1940's by one of the Twin Cities' less well known brewers; one that—alas—did not survive much longer than my reaching the age of majority.

Adding to the confusion

walleyes are called pickerel—a fish closely related to northern pike and muskies—while northerns there may be called jacks, or jackfish. Even today you can find this "pike" reference in Wikipedia if you search with the keyword "walleye."

As is more universally understood now, the walleye is not a pike, though both walleye and northern pike are found in the same waters. The walleye is a member of the perch family—the largest member in North America—that includes the similar looking, typically smaller sauger, as well as the panfish-size yellow perch. After a long period of confusion, the walleye's identity crisis seems finally over.

There are numerous other examples of naming anomalies in the world of Nature and the outdoors. There are the lake trout and brook trout, both of which are found in Minnesota waters, but neither of which is a true trout. Both are actually members of the char family, which includes the arctic char.

The University of Minnesota's collegiate sports mascot—the gopher, a.k.a. golden gopher—is named for a tiny rodent that is very widespread across Minnesota, but is actually not a gopher at all. The creature is a thirteen-line ground squirrel. One can imagine that such a name might have been a liability for a football or basketball team.

What's in a name? Like Romeo and Juliet's rose, the name may be less important than the relationship we

Inside the Outdoors



Mike Rahn

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Todd County Board of Commissioners

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TODD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HELD JULY 31, 2025

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 31st day of July, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Byers. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. All Commissioners were present with Commissioner Denny absent.

Agenda

On motion by Becker and second by Noska, the agenda was acknowledged as presented.

Bureau of Mediation Services – Union Negotiations

Chair Byers closed the meeting at 10:03 a.m. pursuant to Minn. Rule 5510.2810, subp. 5B for mediation and pursuant to Minnesota Statute 13D.03 to discuss negotiation strategies.

The Bureau of Mediation Services conducted the mediation proceedings.

On motion by Noska and second by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To reopen the meeting at 3:34 p.m.

Adjourn

On motion by Becker and second by Neumann, the meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote at 3:35 p.m.

On a motion by Denny and second by Neumann, the preceding minutes of the Special County Board meeting held July 31st, 2025 were duly approved by unanimous vote at the Todd County Board of Commissioners at the Regular Board Meeting held on August 19, 2025.

/s/ on file: Bob Byers, County Board Chairperson

/s/ on file: Denise Gaida, Todd County Auditor-Treasurer

39pnc

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TODD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HELD AUGUST 5, 2025

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 5th day of August, 2025 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 with Commissioner Denny and Commissioner Noska absent.

Approval of Agenda

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

Consent Agenda

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

To approve the Todd County Board of Commissioner's Meeting Minutes for July 15, 2025 as presented.

GAMBLING PERMIT – EAGLE BEND AREA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (EBFD AUXILIARY)

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners are establishing their approval for a Gambling Permit for the Eagle Bend Area Community Development Corporation (EBFD Auxiliary) through this resolution;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners approve a Gambling Permit for the Eagle Bend Area Community Development Corporation (EBFD Auxiliary) to hold a bingo & raffle event at the Clarissa Ballroom in Eagle Valley Township at the address 19281 Kotter Road, Clarissa, MN on September 28th, 2025.

GAMBLING PERMIT – MIDWEST OUTDOORS UNLIMITED – PRAIRIE PARTNERS CHAPTER

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners are establishing their approval for a Gambling Permit for the Midwest Outdoors Unlimited – Prairie Partners Chapter through this resolution;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners approve a Gambling Permit for the Midwest Outdoors Unlimited – Prairie Partners Chapter to hold a bingo event at Shady's Golden Eagle in Grey Eagle Township at the address 13218 County 103, Grey Eagle, MN on August 17th, 2025.

To approve a one day On Sale Temporary Liquor License for the Long Prairie Lions Club at the address of 24257 Riverside Drive (Long Drive In), Long Prairie, MN in Long Prairie Township effective August 23rd, 2025.

To approve the hire of Darlene Fah to fill the open Eligibility Worker position. Grade F/6, Step A, \$25.46. Start date: TBD

To approve the promotion of Darichel Ramirez Cruz to fill the open Eligibility Worker position. Grade F/6, Step A, \$25.46. Start date: TBD

To approve the resignation of Social Worker - Aubrey Brezina, effective July 11, 2025.

Approve the resignation of Seasonal Office Support Specialist II - Kathleen Martin, effective July 21st, 2025.

Approve the resignation of Social Worker - Alyssa Etzler, effective August 22, 2025.

Auditor-Treasurer

On motion by Becker and second by Byers, the following motion was

introduced and adopted by unanimous roll call vote: To approve the July 2025 Auditor Warrants number (ACH) 905213 through 905268 in the amount of \$534,070.89 (Manual) 1100 through 1112 in the amount of \$41,511.23 and (Regular) 244748 through 244893 in the amount of \$482,045.39 for a total of \$1,057,627.51.

On motion by Neumann and second by Byers, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous roll call vote: To approve the Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 403996 through 404023 in the amount of \$63,576.32 and (Regular) 59092 through 59138 in the amount of \$71,593.70 for a total of \$135,170.02.

On motion by Becker and second by Neumann, the following motion as introduced and adopted by unanimous roll call vote: To approve the Health & Human Services Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 806683 through 806736 and (Regular) 713242 through 713295 for a total of \$67,838.23.

On motion by Byers and second by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous rollcall vote: To approve the Health & Human Services SSIS Warrants number (ACH) 601738 through 601756 and (Regular) 518529 through 518551 for a total amount of \$134,926.71.

County Ditch/Ag Inspector

On motion by Becker and second by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Acting as Ditch Authority, approves a Brush Spraying project to treat approximately 3 miles of brush on County Ditch 8. Central Applicators of Foley will do the project at an estimated cost of \$2,521.95.

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

HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT – REPLACE PRIVATE CROSSING – COUNTY DITCH 18

WHEREAS, David Gould is requesting permission to replace a private bridge crossing on CD18 that is located on his property. A Hold Harmless Agreement has been signed and submitted to the Ditch Authority, and;

WHEREAS, an onsite inspection has been done, and;

WHEREAS, applicant is allowed to replace the existing, failing bridge crossing. This crossing will be replaced with a culvert that matches or exceeds the hydraulic capacity of the 24" culvert on County Road 14. The culvert will be placed at original ditch bottom elevation.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Todd County Ditch Authority gives permission to David Gould to replace a private crossing on CD18 that is located on parcel 13-0014801, Iona Twp section 15. This project will be done on his property and at his own expense.

MIS

On motion by Byers and second by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by majority vote with Becker against: To authorize the posting and hiring of a MIS Specialist.

Solid Waste

On motion by Neumann and second by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Authorize hiring Mr. Ryan Reimer as solid waste driver at \$24.93/hr, start date TBD.

Health & Human Services

On motion by Byers and second by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Approve the elimination of one Child Services Social Worker position and one Adult Services Social Worker position from the organizational chart.

On motion by Becker and second by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Approve FFY2026 Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program Grant Contract & Internal Controls Documentation.

Discussion held regarding a proposal for revision to the Administrative Assistant II job description to create a bilingual required version. This was a discussion item only due to agenda scheduling needs. This proposal was directed to be brought forward to the next board meeting for potential adoption.

County Auditor-Treasurer's Report

The County Auditor-Treasurer reported that the Finance Committee has met multiple times with the plan to present the preliminary budget at the 8/19/25 work session.

County Coordinator's Report

The County Coordinator reported attending MACA training, employee interviews, safety training, finance meetings, planning for the employee picnic, TWCC executive meeting and union mediation meetings.

County Commissioner's Report

The Commissioners reported on meetings and events attended. Commissioner Becker attended the West Central Juvenile Board, Facilities, TWCC and union mediation meetings.

Commissioner Neumann attended the SRWD, Central MN COA, JD2, and union mediation meetings. Encouraged persons to attend the Meet your Rep event at the Osakis Community Center.

Commissioner Byers attended the union mediation, Facilities, Personnel and Finance meetings.

MCIT

Joe Cieminski, MCIT Risk Management Consultant provided a report to the County Board for information purposes and discussion regarding the County's rates and membership within this Insurance Trust.

Recess

Chair Byers recessed the meeting until August 19, 2025.

AUDITOR WARRANTS VENDOR NAME \$ AMOUNT

CARD SERVICES	
COBORNS.....	3,669.89
CLIFTON LARSONALLEN, LLP.....	20,895.00
GOVERNMENTJOBS.COM, INC.....	5,428.29
PETERS LAW OFFICE, P.A. 6.150.00	
POPE DOUGLAS SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT.....	14,275.27
PRAIRIE LAKES MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE AUTH.....	93,473.61
REDSTONE CONSTRUCTION.....	87,250.74
STEP.....	11,640.33
TODD COUNTY MIS DEPT.....	2,500.00
VERIZON.....	6,983.79
VOYANT COMMUNICATIONS, LLC.....	3,364.25
42 PAYMENTS LESS THAN \$2,000.....	21,414.97
AMERICAN SOLUTIONS FOR BUSINESS.....	12,298.19
CENTRA CARE.....	12,714.58
COUNTIES PROVIDING TECHNOLOGY.....	7,240.00
ELECTION SYSTEMS & SOFTWARE INC.....	15,467.85
FLEET SERVICES/WEX BANK.....	8,182.35
LAKES AREA BLASTING.....	24,000.00
LOVELACE/ARLUSS.....	10,000.00
MN DEPT OF FINANCE.....	8,218.00
MORRISON COUNTY.....	8,478.16
STAPLES ADVANTAGE.....	2,967.93
TOEWS/ROBERT.....	8,755.00
VARNER/JOE.....	44,216.15
WIDSETH SMITH NOLTING INC.....	3,189.80
WONDERLICH/SCOTT A.....	8,500.00
52 PAYMENTS LESS THAN \$2,000.....	24,747.08
ARVIDSON/JEREMY.....	17,437.50
CENTRAL APPLICATORS INC.....	9,858.32
DAVID STERNITZKE & EDNA PAMPY.....	4,884.00
FORUM COMMUNICATIONS PRINTING.....	8,523.76
MINNESOTA POWER.....	17,657.56
NORTHERN STAR COOP.....	2,630.20
VILLARD IMPLEMENT COMPANY.....	9,459.64
WATERGUARDS LLC.....	29,270.63
40 PAYMENTS LESS THAN \$2,000.....	21,981.08
ARC ELECTRIC SERVICE.....	2,528.15
DOHERTY STAFFING SOLUTIONS.....	3,854.82
EBSO INC.....	317,491.00
GALLAGHER BENEFIT SERVICES INC.....	2,000.00
LAKES AREA BLASTING.....	24,000.00
MORRISON SWCD.....	3,550.53
TODD CO AUD-TREAS.....	8,778.00
WEST CENTRAL REG JUVENILE CTR.....	14,054.00
27 PAYMENTS LESS THAN \$2,000.....	12,135.86
US BANK-CC.....	8,980.82
MN DEPT OF REVENUE.....	25,232.84
MN DEPT OF REVENUE.....	3,238.00
11 PAYMENTS LESS THAN \$2,000.....	4,059.57
TOTAL.....	\$1,057,627.51

COMMISSIONER WARRANTS	
VENDOR NAME AMOUNT	
AMAZON CAPITAL	
SERVICES	2,162.32
APEX EQUIPMENT LLC.....	3,160.90
CELLEBRITE INC.....	7,350.00
CENTRAL APPLICATORS	
INC.....	15,716.88
COMMISSIONER OF	
TRANSPORTATION	2,333.37
DIAMOND MOWERS LLC.....	2,690.68
HERDERING INC.....	15,858.30
INNOVATIVE OFFICE	
SOLUTIONS, LLC.....	7,594.24
LONG PRAIRIE LEADER	2,229.00
LONG PRAIRIE LUMBER,	
LLC.....	3,843.75
METAL CULVERTS INC.....	29,220.50
MORRIS ELECTRONICS	
INC.....	2,138.73
NYHUS CHEVROLET INC.....	3,464.89
OTTER TAIL CO SOLID	
WASTE DEPT	2,991.00
STANTEC CONSULTING	
SERVICES INC.....	8,462.02
VEOLIA ENVIRONMENTAL	
SERVICES LLC.....	2,776.41
59 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000.....	3,177.03
Total:.....	\$135,170.02

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES	
WARRANTS	
VENDOR NAME	\$ AMOUNT
GERARD TREATMENT PROGRAMS	9,065.70
GREATER MN FAMILY SRVS INC.....	13,374.35
HEARTLAND GIRLS RANCH.....	21,559.80
LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICE OF MN - ST PAUL	3,615.90
MEENDED INC.....	2,352.88
NORTHERN PINES MENTAL HLTH CTR INC.....	13,008.42
NORTHWOOD CHILDRENS SERVICES	8,593.20
STAPLES MOTLEY ISD #2170.....	5,045.50
VALLEY LAKE BOYS HOME INC.....	17,430.00
VILLAGE RANCH INC.....	28,313.89
32 PAYMENTS LESS THAN \$2,000	12,567.07
Total:.....	\$134,926.71

VENDOR NAME \$ AMOUNT	
DHS - SWIFT.....	13,626.03
V#4106 - H&D INSURANCE.....	2,474.50
TODD COUNTY MIS DEPT.....	5,817.35
TODD COUNTY SHERIFF.....	4,725.03
12 PAYMENTS LESS THAN \$2,000.....	3,060.89
32 PAYMENTS LESS THAN \$2,000.....	38,134.43
Total:.....	\$67,838.23

On a motion by Denny and second by Neumann, the preceding minutes of the County Board meeting held August 5th, 2025 were duly approved by unanimous vote at the Todd County Board of Commissioners at the Regular Board Meeting held on August 19th, 2025.

Witness my hand and seal:

/s/ on file: Bob Byers, County Board Chairperson

/s/ on file: Denise Gaida, Todd County Auditor-Treasurer

39pnc

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TODD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HELD AUGUST 19, 2025

Public Comment

Roger Plombon expressed concerns regarding the proposed CUP for a campground on County Road 47 including seasonal concerns for hunting setbacks and road safety concerns.

Gloria Plombon expressed concerns regarding the proposed CUP for a campground on County Road 47 including septic tank locations and road safety concerns.

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 19th day of August, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Byers. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. All Commissioners were present.

Approval of Agenda

On motion by Becker and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To adopt the agenda as presented with a noted correction to the August 5, 2025 meeting minutes.

Consent Agenda

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

To approve the Todd County Board of Commissioner's Meeting Minutes for July 31, 2025 and August 5, 2025 as presented.

To approve the hire of Idania Montanez to fill the open Eligibility Worker position. Grade F/6, Step A, \$25.46. Start date: TBD

Approve the resignation of Eligibility Worker Cynthia Wardien, effective August 15th, 2025.

Accept the resignation of FT Jailer Connie Spanswick effective 8/9/2025.

Auditor-Treasurer

On motion by Noska and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous rollcall vote: To approve the Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 404024 through 404042 in the amount of \$13,727.22 and (Regular) 59139 through 59170 in the amount of \$133,783.83 for a total of \$147,511.05.

On motion by Becker and second by Neumann, the following motion as introduced and adopted by unanimous rollcall vote: To approve the Health & Human Services Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 806737 through 806794 and (Regular) 713296 through 713338 for a total of \$38,969.78.

On motion by Denny and second by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous roll call vote: To approve the Health & Human Services SSIS Warrants number (ACH) 601757 through 601776 and (Regular) 518552 through 518576 for a total amount of \$155,542.83.

Public Works

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

FINAL PAYMENT AUTHORIZATION – 2025 DUST CONTROL CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT

WHEREAS, the contract with Knife River Corporation for a 2025 Dust Control Construction Contract known as CP 77-25-08 located on various county roads in Todd County in all things been completed, and;

WHEREAS, construction work on this contract was scheduled and completed in 2025 with the value of the total work certified being \$117,975.69, and;

WHEREAS, partial payments amounting to \$112,076.91 have been previously been made to the contractor as work progressed, and;

WHEREAS, it has been determined that \$5,898.78 still remains to be paid to Knife River Corporation.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners does here accept said completed project for and in behalf of the County of Todd and authorizes final payment as specified.

On motion by Noska and second by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the attached Cooperative Construction Agreement with Ward Township for the replacement of Bridge R0405.

Facilities

On motion by Becker and second by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote with Noska abstaining: To approve Chad Twardowski Excavating for a cost of \$7,400 for the annex 2 excavation of the sewer line.

County Ditch/Ag Inspector

On motion by Noska and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the CAI pursuing the County Agricultural Inspector Grant by submitting an application.

Initiative Foundation

Carl Newbanks presented an update to the County Board of projects and initiatives happening in Todd County supported by this foundation.

Great River Regional Library

Karen Pundsack, Executive Director and Amy Anderson, Assoc. Director-Accounting presented information regarding GRRL's proposed 2026 budget for the board's consideration and discussion.

County Sheriff

On motion by Noska and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Purchase the radio package that includes 2 portable and 2 in squad radios from Motorola for a price of approximately \$23,320.38.

Planning & Zoning

On motion by Neumann and second by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Adopt the findings of the Planning Commission and grant the rezoning of the identified parcels 21-0018900, 21-0018909 and a portion of 21-0018908 from R-2 to AF-1 with the following conditions.

1. Establishment of a feedlot shall

require registering with the County Feedlot Program.

2. Livestock fencing shall be constructed to NRCS practice standards and kept in proper working order at all times.

On motion by Becker and second by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Approval of the attached Local Cooperative Agreement expiring on June 30, 2026.

On motion by Denny and second by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Adopt the findings of the Planning Commission and grant the CUP to establish a 17 site seasonal campground with a 40'x40' office building on parcel 11-0027400 with the conditions below.

1. All campsites shall be provided with connection to a compliant septic system.

2. Installation of an approved septic system prior to the start of operation.

3. Establishment of a 911 address number and placement of a physical sign for emergency services.

4. Applicant shall obtain a Construction Stormwater Permit prior to the start of any construction on the campground.

5. Grading of the land and construction of the central office facility must be conducted in a fashion that directs stormwater away from the public roadway.

6. The campground shall be limited to seasonal operation. The campground is restricted to opening no earlier than May 15th and closing for the season no later than September 30th.

7. Campground shall maintain no less than 50% common open space.

8. Applicant shall work with the Soil and Water Conservation District to establish a storm water management plan for the entire site.

9. No RV unit or Park Model shall exceed a total of 400 square feet measured at its largest horizontal projection.

10. Installation of a traffic warning sign to the south of the campground entrance. Signage shall be installed by Todd County and reimbursed to the County by the land owner.

11. Applicant shall abide by all other applicable standards including but not limited to the Minnesota Department of Health.

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 to establish an indoor horse riding arena with 4 camping sites on parcel 12-0030200 with the conditions below.

1. Total campsites shall be limited to 4. Additional campsites shall require the review of the Planning Commission.

2. There shall be no parking within the road right of way.

3. There shall be no loading or unloading of animals or supplies within the road right of way.

4. Bathroom facilities and storm shelter shall be provided for all campsite attendees.

5. Garbage disposal shall be provided on the site.

6. No recreational vehicle (including any RV, UTV, ATV, livestock trailer, towing vehicle, or similar items not titled to the CUP applicant), whether occupied or unoccupied, may be situated on any property permitted under this CUP for more than 16 nights out of any calendar month. (A night is defined as being on-site anytime between 11 pm and 5 am.)

7. Applicant shall obtain a SWPPP for 1 acre or more of disturbance on the site.

8. Establishment of driveways shall be approved by the local township board.

9. Upon sale of either property identified in the CUP, the County shall conduct a review to verify compliance.

10. Applicant shall abide by all other applicable federal, state, and local standards.

11. A review shall be conducted of the CUP after 2 years of operation.

On motion by Noska 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 to rebuild an existing electric transmission line and substation on parcels 07-0039200 and 07-0039201 with the condition below.

1. Applicant shall

Public Notices

**NOTICE
VILLARD TOWNSHIP
VACATE**

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: This notice of petition to vacate undeveloped streets Fourth Ave. North and Franklin Street specific to Parcel #25-0039200, Lots 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, and 8 of Block 3 Philbrook, Villard Township, Todd County.

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

39pnc

**TODD COUNTY
PLANNING
COMMISSION**

215 First Ave. South
Suite 103
Long Prairie,
Minnesota 56347
320-732-4420
toddplan.zone@co.todd.mn.us

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Todd County Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, October 2, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.** in the Commissioners meeting room, Historic Courthouse, 215 First Ave. South, Long Prairie, MN to consider the following applications.

NOTE: This meeting is again being held in-person and the public is encouraged to attend, and 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? Phone 320-732-4420 or Email toddplan.zone@co.todd.mn.us

- Call to Order
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Introduction of Planning Committee Members and process review
- Approval of agenda
- Approval of August 7, 2025 Planning Commission meeting minutes
- The applicant is introduced
- Staff report
- Applicant confirms if staff report accurately represents the request
- Correspondence
- Site Visit Review
- Public Comment
- Board review with applicant, staff, and public

1. Donniel Robinson: Section 28, Moran Township
Site Address: 40324 County Rd., 21, Browerville, MN 56438
PID: 19-0029102.
1. Request to build a 60' x 120' building to grow Cannabis indoors as a licensed microbusiness, according to Statute, in AF-2 Zoning District.

2. Off Grid Recovery Community Inc.: Section 18, Bartlett Township
Site Address: 48650 County 23, Verndale, MN 56481
PID: 01-0018200
1. Request a CUP to grow either up to 5,000 sq. ft. of cannabis in a secured area, to host onsite cannabis events, and operate an onsite thrift store all located in AF-1 Zoning District.

3. William Bontrager: Section 8, Eagle Valley Township
Site Address: 18032 County Road 78
PID: 07-0007200
1. Request to add retail sales to existing wholesale greenhouse operation and construct 4 additional greenhouse structures and 2 canopies located in AF-1 Zoning District.

4. Amos Byler: Section 3, Little Sauk Township
Site Address: 20752 200th Street
PID: 17-0003100
1. Request to establish a machining/repair shop business and construct a 40'x80' building for the operation in AF-1 Zoning District.

5. Joseph Borntreger: Section 20, Eagle Valley Township
Site Address: 17849 352nd Street
PID: 07-0023500

1. Request to amend CUP#2020-021 to eliminate condition #3, to add an additional 30'x100' greenhouse and a 12'x20' storage space, to eliminate the sheet metal business and construct poly furniture in the existing structure in AF-1 Zoning District.

6. Alvin Borntreger: Section 17, Iona Township
Site Address: 17916 300th Street
PID: 13-0016902
1. Review of CUP-2023-024 and a request to add an additional 34'x148' greenhouse in AF-1 Zoning District.

Adjournment.

**Next meeting:
October 6, 2025**

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

Todd County Board of Adjustment
Jim Pratt, Chair

39pnc

**NOTICE
CITY OF MOTLEY
Summary of
Ordinance No. 25-01**

The following is the official Summary of Ordinance No. 25-01, approved by the Motley City Council on the 8th day of September, 2025.

The purpose of the ordinance is to adopt Ordinance Amendment 25-01, "An ordinance amending the land use and subdivision ordinance." The proposed ordinance amendment adds standards for cannabis events within the city.

Applicant: City of Motley

The City Council finds that in the case of lengthy ordinances, Minnesota State law allows the City Council to approve, by a four-fifths vote, publication of an ordinance by title and summary only: and

The City Council finds that the expense to publish the entire ordinance text is not justified; and

The City Council determines that the publication of the title and summary of this ordinance will clearly inform the public of the intent and effect of the ordinance and the City Council has approved the text of this summary and has directed that the title and a summary be published pursuant to Minnesota Statutes.

A printed copy of the Ordinance is available for inspection by any person at the office of the City of Motley, City Clerk.

Passed by the City Council this 8th day of September 2025, by a five/fifths vote of the Motley City Council.

Tami Brotherton, Clerk
Motley City Council

39pnc

TCC

continued from page 9a

PORT OF CROW WING
BOYS HOME..... 11,062.92
STEP..... 6,617.28
#16359..... 2,242.54
TRI-COUNTY COMMUNITY
CORRECTIONS..... 3,072.80
VALLEY LAKE BOYS
HOME INC..... 21,648.00
WEST CENTRAL REG
JUVENILE CTR..... 7,884.90
30 PAYMENTS LESS
THAN \$2,000..... 18,171.59
Total \$155,542.83

On a motion by Becker and second by Denny, the preceding minutes of the County Board meeting held August 19, 2025 were duly approved by unanimous vote at the Todd County Board of Commissioners at the Regular Board Meeting held on September 2, 2025.

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

39pnc

From idea to start-up, SBDC to host business sessions

The North Central Small Business Development Center (SBDC) at Central Lakes College announced the launch of Start Up North: FastTrac Cohort, a 13-week intensive program designed to guide aspiring entrepreneurs from idea to launch. Beginning Jan. 13, 2026, the program will use the nationally recognized Kauffman FastTrac curriculum to walk participants step-by-step through building a business, from ideation and market positioning to financial planning and growth strategies.

Throughout the course, entrepreneurs will engage in weekly sessions, alternating between in-person gatherings at Central Lakes College and virtual meetings via Zoom. These sessions are complemented by independent assignments and optional office hours with facilitators. By dedicating about 10 hours per week, participants will gain practical skills and knowledge to move their ideas forward.

Each participant will complete the program with a lender-ready business plan, a professionally filmed pitch video, and valuable local connections to help them launch and grow their business. The experience culminates in the Start Up North Showcase in April 2026, where participants will present their filmed pitch video to a live audience.

Applications for the cohort are now open through November 1, 2025. Accepted applicants will be notified by November 7, 2025. There is a \$500 participation fee for those selected. To apply and to learn more about the cohort, visit www.northcentralsbdc.com/startupnorth.

"Too often, entrepreneurs are pulled in so many different directions that they don't have the time or space to truly focus on building their business," said Katie Heppner, Regional Director of the North Central SBDC. "Start Up North creates that dedicated time and environment where they can step back, refine their ideas, and move forward with clarity and confidence."

The North Central SBDC at Central Lakes College serves entrepreneurs and small business owners across an 11-county region by providing professional business consulting and training. As an Affiliate Partner of the Kauffman FastTrac program, the North Central SBDC is committed to helping rural business owners and innovators turn their ideas into thriving ventures.

Todd County SWCD field day for intensive grazing Sept. 25

Join local farmers and area natural resource specialists at the Holt farm on Lake Latimer, south of Long Prairie, on Sept. 25 from 2-6 p.m. for a deep dive into innovative practices that can benefit soil health and farm profit.

Matt Holt and family have been working together to implement cover crops and intensive grazing on their farms in Todd County.

This field day will feature practices such as 60" corn with cover crops for grazing, use of a drone for cover crop seeding, nutrient management practices to reduce inputs when possible, strip grazing and other low input cattle management techniques.

Additionally, NRCS State Soil Health Specialist Stephanie McLain will discuss ways to evaluate and improve soil health on your farm. She will also help local NRCS staff demonstrate the value of soil health practices with a rainfall simulator that comparing different types of management and their impact on soil properties. The Holts will also do a live demonstration of how they move cattle in their grazing system. Join us for a panel discussion with the Holt family as well as a meal featuring beef at the end of our tour.

Address for the event is 19685 Ember Dr, Long Prairie, MN 56347. Call the Todd County Soil and Water Conservation District at (320)732-2644 or email alyssa.scheve@co.todd.mn.us to reserve your spot by Monday, September 22.

Cloud wave coming through

The cloud wave above Brenny Funeral Home in downtown Staples. (Staples World photo by Janice Winter)

House moving through town

A large log cabin style house and garage were moved through Staples on Sept. 11, this photo on Warner Road. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

Sept. 11 display above military transport

The Sept. 11 display set up by the Staples Fire Department was likely noticed by this transport truck hauling a military tank and other equipment through Staples. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

Mitch Fritz joins Lakewood Health System’s behavioral health team

Lakewood Health System, Staples, welcomes Dr. Mitch Fritz, clinical psychologist, as the newest provider to its behavioral health team. Originally from St. Cloud, Dr. Fritz completed his undergraduate degree at St. John’s University, and received his Doctor of Clinical Psychology degree from George Fox University in Ore. He recently completed his doctoral internship at St. Cloud Veteran Affairs, and his post-doctoral fellowship at CentraCare’s family medicine clinic and sleep center. Dr. Fritz belongs to the American Psychological Association, the Collaborative Family Health Association, the Society of Behavioral Sleep Medicine, and the Minnesota Psychological Association. Dr. Fritz’s practice will be integrated into primary



Dr. Mitch Fritz

care and the sleep medicine settings. Within primary care, he provides behavioral health services, collaborating closely with primary care providers to support patients’ mental and physical health. Serving patients across the lifespan, he offers brief, evidence-based interventions for problems

such as depression, anxiety, stress, sleep, chronic illness management and lifestyle changes. Dr. Fritz’s role emphasizes accessibility, prevention and early intervention to improve and support patient well-being. “I’m excited to join the Lakewood team and to serve a rural community where I can help increase access to behavioral health services and make a meaningful impact alongside a dedicated team of providers.” Dr. Fritz and his wife, Josie, have two sons, Frankie and Charlie, the latter of whom was born in July. In his free time, Dr. Fritz enjoys spending time outside hunting, fishing, and in their garden. He also enjoys staying active and competing in triathlons.

Paige Carlson is newest internal medicine provider at LHS

Lakewood Health System, Staples, welcomes Dr. Paige Carlson, internal medicine physician, as the newest provider to its family medicine team. Originally from Wadena, Dr. Carlson received her medical degree from the University of Minnesota Medical School – Duluth and Minneapolis. She completed her residency at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics and is a member of the American College of Physicians. As an internal medicine physician, Dr. Carlson has an interest in providing comprehensive, patient-centered care in both inpatient and outpatient settings, particularly in rural and underserved communities. She values the unique challenges and opportunities of rural medicine, including forming long-term relationships with patients and addressing a wide range



Dr. Paige Carlson

of clinical needs which includes transitions of care, chronic disease management and preventative health. As a former Rural Physician Associate Program (RPAP) student at Lakewood, Dr. Carlson is also passionate about medical education and enjoys teaching and mentoring medical students. “I chose to return to Lakewood after residency

because of my experience here during the RPAP. It was during that time I truly fell in love with rural medicine. I appreciated the opportunity to build meaningful, longitudinal relationships with patients and felt deeply connected to the staff and medical providers I worked alongside. Lakewood felt like family and I’m excited to come back and be part of that special environment once again.” Dr. Carlson is married to her husband, Nick and they enjoy golfing, fishing and hanging out with their extended family in the area. She also enjoys reading, watching movies and walking. Patients who are 18 years and older who would like to schedule an appointment with Dr. Carlson in our Staples clinic can call 218-894-1515.



More Lions Club donations

The Staples Host Lions Club recently donated \$5,000 to Discover Staples for the 2026 Railroad Days and \$1,000 to Staples-Motley Schools for the 5th grade trip to the Minnesota State Capitol. Pictured above, from left, are Lion President Bob Schafer; Discover Staples representatives Mary Theurer, Staples Mayor Ron

Murray and Jordan Goodwater; and Past Lion President Dan Shaw. Below, from left, are Lion President Bob Schafer; 5th grader Easton Seely, SM Principal Deb Ferdon, 5th grader Ava Kroll; and Past Lion President Dan Shaw. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



2025 England Prairie Pioneer Days tractor pull results

England Prairie held their annual tractor pull August 23 during England Prairie Pioneer Days. The Youngest Pull was Levi Novak, 14, of Hillman; Oldest Puller: Robert Sudbeck, 80, Eagle Bend; Farthest Away: Hank Burskie, 16, Carrolltown, Pa. **Stock Class: 3500** 1st: Levi Novak, Foley, 1939 John Deere B, 239.35 ft. 2nd: Dan Wittmer, Parkers Prairie, 1948 Cockshutt 30, 234.98 ft. **Stock Class: 4000** 1st: Nathan Olson, Glenwood, 1952 Oliver 77, 266.1 ft. 2nd: Dan Wittmer, Parkers Prairie, 1948 Cockshutt 30, 262.30 ft. **Stock Class 4500** 1st: Wayne Kimber, Hewitt, 1939 IH M, 337.33 ft. 2nd: Jacob Ehnert, Callaway, 1941 John Deere A 324.84 ft. **Stock Class 5000** 1st: Jacob Ehnert, Callaway, 1041 John Deere A, 369.03 ft. 2nd: Wayne Kimber, Hewitt, 1939 IH M, 365.25 ft. **Stock Class 5500**

1st: Hayden Kalina, Lowery, 1956 Oliver Super 88, 370.23 ft. 2nd: Micah Friesen, Detroit Lakes, 1947 John Deere G, 345.07 ft. **Stock Class 6000** 1st: Micah Friesen, Detroit Lakes, 1947 John Deere G, 273.82 ft. 2nd: Jeremey Boeder, Brainerd, 1953 Farmall Super M, 269.68 ft. **Stock Class 6500** 1st: Micah Friesen, Detroit Lakes, 1947 John Deere G, 290.37 ft. 2nd: Jeremey Boeder, Brainerd, 1953 Farmall Super M, 285.71 ft. **Stock Class: 7500** 1st: Jan Hausmann, Alexandria, 1955 Farmall 400, 287.47 ft. 2nd: Caleb Watercott, Henning, 1942 Farmall W9, 273.87 ft. **Stock Class 8500** 1st: Jan Hausmann, Alexandria, 1955 Farmall 400, 330.37 ft. 2nd: Doug Oehrlein, Fort Ripley, 1975 Oliver 1555, 286.27 ft. **Stock Class 9500** 1st: Caleb Watercott, Hen-

ning, 1965 John Deere 4020, 292.40 ft. 2nd: Seth Hess, Eagle Bend, 1962 John Deere 3020, 289.26 ft. **Improved Class 3500** 1st: Hayden Kalina, Lowry, 1952 Oliver 77, 290.4 ft. **Improved Class 4000** 1st: Hayden Kalina, Lowery, 1952 Oliver 77, 312.12 ft. **Improved Class 5000** 1st: Wayne Kimber, Hewitt, 1959 IH 460, 298.99 ft. 2nd: Daniel Kimber, Hewitt, 1959 IH 560, 298.16 ft. **Improved Class 5500** 1st: Daniel Kimber, Hewitt, 1959 IH 560, 309.17 ft. 2nd: Wayne Kimber, Hewitt, 1959 IH 460, 296.13 ft. **Improved Class 6000** 1st: Riley Dietz, Osakis, 1959 Farmall 560, 271.71 ft. 2nd: Jeff Ehnert, Callaway, 1963 Minneapolis Moline, 267.47 ft. **Improved Class 6500** 1st: Jeff Ehnert, Callaway, 1963 Minneapolis Moline, 298.25 ft. 2nd: Riley Dietz, Osakis, 1959 Farmall 560, 286.41 ft.



White pines planted at Legacy Arboretum

Above, a white pine planted by students in the conservation and community scope class taught by Dar-en Blanck at Staples-Motley High School. Above right, Blanck, right, talks to some of the students. Right, students pack up their pails and shovels to walk back to school. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)





Cloud bank wave rolling into Staples

Various views of a cloud bank that rolled across Staples from the west the morning of Sept. 12. Above: Gustafson Diesel, Staples. (Submitted photo by Sam Gustafson)

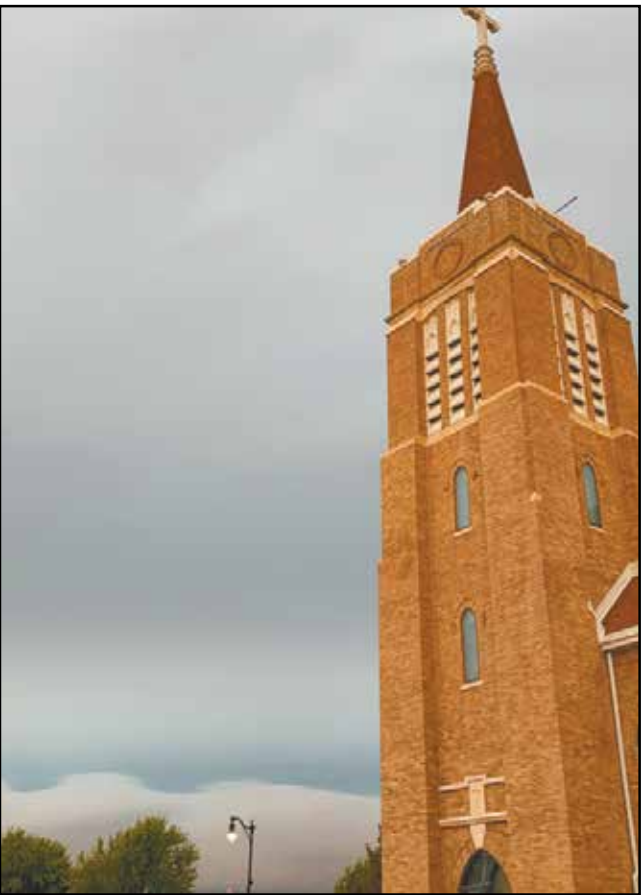


View provided by a third grade teacher, at Staples-Motley Elementary School.



Learning about flowers, apples at a young age

Magic Forest Pre-school students visited Living Legacy Gardens on Sept. 10, getting a tour from Tammy Rick of Central Lakes College, above right. The students also learned how to pick apples at the CLC Ag and Energy Center orchard. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



The cloud wave coming towards the Sacred Heart Church steeple.

Jackie Mattson newest family medicine provider at Lakewood

Lakewood Health System welcomes Jackie Mattson, physician assistant (PA-C), as the newest provider to its family medicine team. Originally from Vernadale, Mattson completed her undergraduate degree at Minnesota State University Moorhead, she has a Master of Science degree from Aurora University, and obtained her Master of Physician Assistant Studies from the University of North Dakota. Mattson belongs to the American Association of Physician Associates and the North Dakota Academy of Physician Assistants. As a physician assistant, Mattson enjoys the variety family medicine offers and values the opportunity to care for patients across all stages of life. She has particular interests in preventive care, women’s health and pediatrics, and she is committed to providing compassionate, patient-centered care to individuals and families alike. “I had the opportunity to complete many of my clinical



Jackie Mattson, PA-C

rotations at Lakewood and quickly developed a strong connection to the dedicated providers and staff there, as well as to the community. I’m grateful to be part of a team that works collaboratively to ensure each patient receives high-quality, compassionate care.” Mattson is a mom of three – two daughters and a son. She is an avid runner and loves being outside and participating in just about any sport. While she dabbles in gardening, she has fully outsourced cooking to her husband of 12 years.

STAPLES continued from page 1a

Food truck converstations

ing for Sept. 23 for performance reviews and handed out performance review questionnaires to council members. • Heard from Nelsen that they are having conversations with Don’s Auctions about a food truck vendor complaint. He said the council was not changing their ordinance, just clarifying what the intent of the ordinance is. • Approved moving forward with Dept. of Education grant to construct a new ramp at the Staples Community Center and do meeting room rehab and technology upgrades.



LAKWOOD WELCOMES



Aquino Williams, MD

ONCOLOGY/HEMATOLOGY

Lakewood is pleased to announce the arrival of on-staff oncologist/hematologist, Dr. Aquino Williams. Dr. Williams specializes in treating blood disorders, as well as cancers of the gastrointestinal tract, prostate, head, and neck. In his free time, he enjoys hiking, weightlifting, and wood carving. He will be seeing patients at the Lakewood Cancer Center in Staples.

TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT, CALL
218-894-8750
LAKWOODHEALTHSYSTEM.COM

