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Local government ethics questions
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Murder-for-hire scheme in Todd County
May library activities
Two wins in softball opening week

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Wednesday, April 19, 2023 — Staples World — Staples, Minnesota — $1.25

Summertime's a comin' The DeWald siblings Noah, eight, and Mia, five, welcomed the balmy weather April 10, riding their bicycle and scooter along 7th St. NE in Staples. With temperatures in the low 50s that day, snow was melting, grass was beginning to show, and there were even a few sightings of robins…returning from their winter down south. When asked how she liked the warmer weather, a barefoot Mia exclaimed, "Yay!" She was also excited to share that her big brother, also barefoot, had promised to teach her how to ride bike later that day. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Smoke shop near school back on track

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

The Staples City Council approved a new ordinance regulating the sale of tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) products, a derivative of marijuana. The council opted to make changes to their tobacco ordinance and learned that a second application has been submitted to open a tobacco shop a block from Staples-Motley High School.

At the April 11 meeting, the council passed the second reading of the THC ordinance. The conditions included not allowing any selling of THC products within 500 feet of a school, church, park or daycare within the Staples city limits.

At their March 28 meeting, the council had approved similar restrictions for the tobacco ordinance, but at the April 11 meeting, the board felt that it was too restrictive.

City Administrator Jerel Nelsen included a map in the council packet that shows an approximate distance of 500 feet from every school, park and church in Staples. The restrictive distance blocks off much of the downtown area.

Council member Blake Gerard said he didn't want to restrict businesses and wanted that portion to be taken out.

Council member Mary Theurer said she was not comfortable taking the language out completely. "I still don't think it should be near a school," said Theurer.

The board also discussed lessening the distance for tobacco licenses. Council member John Jewison asked if 200 feet was acceptable. Mayor Ron Murray said that would still allow a smoke shop to be built near the school.

Eventually, the council agreed on 300 feet away from any school building that has students, not any school-owned property.

With the new directive from the council, the tobacco ordinance will have to be rewritten and go through the process of a first and second reading at the next two council meetings.

Nelsen told the council that the city has received another tobacco license application from the owners of the former gas station that is one block from Staples-Motley High School.

A previous application had been rejected because of discrepancies in the form that was submitted. The second application was submitted before the council's new ordinance could have taken effect, even if they did pass it at the meeting. For an ordinance to become law, it has to pass a first reading and second reading, then must be published in the newspaper of record, at which point it becomes the city's law.

Electric improvements

The council heard from Public Works Director Scott Grabbe about a proposal to improve infrastructure and add an electric generator to supplement the city's electric supply.

Grabbe said there is an infrastructure improvement grant to improve electric systems. He said Staples could apply to improve the north substation for the city.

Grabbe said the city's peak electrical demand has increased from five megawatts to 5.8 in just three years, nearly a full megawatt increase. In order to prepare for future growth, Grabbe said if they switched higher voltage

See **COUNCIL** on page 10a

Support for Motley Fair expressed at meeting

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

An informational meeting was held at BRICKS Restaurant in Motley April 12, with the purpose of discussing the future of the Motley Fair, dispelling rumors, and getting everyone in the community on the same page.

Amy Brichacek, president of the Motley Community Events Organization (MCEO), chaired the meeting. A total of 30 were in attendance, including other MCEO board members, as well as people who expressed an interest in helping keep the fair going.

Brichacek explained that the current fair board was disassembling. Rhonda Amundson, who'd served as fair board president for many years, had reached out to her about a month ago to see if the MCEO would be interested in taking over.

The two organizations had partnered in recent years, but kept their separate identities. Brichacek explained that the Motley Fair Board ran the fair... usually a three-day event which included 4H activities, animals, bouncy houses, vendors, horse show and a demo derby. The MCEO was granted permission to hold June Fest and Fall Fest at the fairgrounds, with the understanding they'd help with grounds upkeep.

Except for one person who'd be willing to help on an interim basis, nobody else on the fair board wanted to continue. So, if no one else steps forward, there would be no more fair.

Did the MCEO want to take over? Can they do it? These were questions Brichacek proposed to the group.

Brichacek noted that the Motley Fair Board made a profit of only $78 last year. There is a lot of work involved in keeping up the grounds.

Brenda Borash told the group that the MCEO had obtained the deeds, learned there were 13 lots and that the fair board owned all but three of them. In a later conversation, Borash said that per final review of the deeds, ALL property was purchased and is the sole property of the Motley Fair.

During the subsequent discussion at the meeting, Pillager Fair Board member Donna Klimek stressed the importance of advertising and applying for grants. They raise a lot of money every year by selling ads in their fair book. It takes a lot of work but is worth it, Klimek said.

Klimek went on to share that a drawback to small fairs such as Motley's and Pillager's, is that it's too expensive to have a carnival, which have a price-tag of $10,000, she said.

Steve Lorber said he'd been on the Motley Fair Board in the 1970s and

See **FAIR** on page 10a

Weather

This Week's Forecast

	High	Low	Cond.
Apr. 19	43	34	Rain
Apr. 20	41	29	Rain
Apr. 21	40	26	Showers
Apr. 22	39	22	Cloudy
Apr. 23	44	25	P. Cloudy
Apr. 24	51	32	P. Cloudy
Apr. 25	58	31	M. Cloudy

Last Year, 2022

	High	Low	Cond.
Apr. 19	39°	18	M. Sunny
Apr. 20	43	36	Rain
Apr. 21	51	33	M. Cloudy
Apr. 22	45	40	Cloudy
Apr. 23	75	55	Sunny
Apr. 24	38	32	Rain
Apr. 25	28	26	Cloudy

Average Temps:
H = 57° Low = 36°

Compiled by Dale Hausmann, WCCO's Staples area Weatherwatcher

Public Notices

Fawn Lake **9A**
Motley Cemetery **9A**
Todd Commissioners: **9A**

Obituaries

Iris Floistad
Ted Masog



Full house at BRICKS

At least 30 people were in attendance at BRICKS Restaurant in Motley April 12, to discuss the future of the Motley Fair. The meeting was chaired by Amy Brichacek, president of the Motley Community Events Organization (MCEO), the group which has successfully held June Fest and Fall Fest at the fairgrounds in recent years. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Motley votes to purchase a new, second squad vehicle

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

The Motley Police Department has been given the go-ahead to order a second squad vehicle, a new 2024 Chevy Tahoe, estimated to cost $86,312.48.

It was a decision made at the Motley City Council's regular meeting April 10, with Mayor Mike Schmidt and council members Pat O'Regan and Brenda Borash voting in favor of the purchase. Council member Steve Johnson was a nay-sayer and council member Nikki Bjerga abstained from voting.

Prior to the vote, Johnson expressed his opinion that a second vehicle was not needed. If they did order one, he felt a used vehicle would be sufficient, adding that a new one would be a lot of money for the taxpayers.

Police Chief Jason Borash noted that there is currently $72,992.10 in the capital (401) account which is designated specifically to the police department to be used for new squad and equipment.

The remaining balance of a new squad vehicle could be covered with a grant from Sourcewell. Borash went on to explain that they typically award $20,000 - $50,000 to each city, with most receiving around $30,000 - $40,000. He was requesting $50,000. However, the grant must be submitted by April 26, the chief said.

Bjerga wondered how many times throughout the last year had the police department needed a second vehicle? Chief Borash said that it varies, but it could happen a couple times a month. He cited examples of the squad car being in the shop for an oil change, or repairs.

Mayor Schmidt asked about the possibility of borrowing a vehicle from another city when needed. Chief Borash said this is possible, but there aren't always vehicles available. Plus, each county programs their police vehicles differently, so that makes things difficult.

O'Regan asked about the life expectancy of squad vehicles, and the chief explained that their department puts on about 20,000 miles a year. With the average lifespan of a squad car being about 10 years, Chief Borash estimated that they would need to replace their current vehicle in two or three years. If they purchased a used vehicle, most likely it would already have high miles, as well as a lot of wear and tear to the engine.

Council member Brenda Borash said, in an effort not to be biased, she'd sought out feedback from the community about this issue, talking with a variety of people, of all ages. Most said they appreciated the efforts being made to help cover the cost of a new vehicle. They also felt that a second squad was needed, in order for the police department to best serve the city.

Bjerga said her concern was regarding the price of a new vehicle. Mayor Schmidt said, to be clear, that this was not a new request. He noted that the city has been budgeting funds for years to save for purchases like this and that it wouldn't create any new costs to the residents.

Council member Borash wondered if the 401 (capital projects) fund is the same one that was used recently to purchase the new truck for the public works department. Yes, was the answer.

Johnson wondered, if they did receive the Sourcewell grant, if it could go toward something else. The chief explained that it is impact funding for cities (to help provide better service), and that their application is specific toward the purchase of a new squad.

Ultimately, the council approved having Chief Borash move ahead with purchasing a new 2024 Chevy Tahoe. It will be ordered through North Country Chevrolet GMC in Hibbing.

The council also approved the resolution supporting the Motley Police Department in submitting a Community Impact Funding application to Sourcewell, requesting financial support for the 2024 police squad car. Johnson was the lone nay-sayer.

In other matters the council:

- APPROVED an ordinance amending fence regulations.
- APPROVED a resolution authorizing a summary publication of a revised zoning map.
- HEARD the monthly report from Fire Chief Brad Olson, which included eight calls during March.
- APPROVED Chief Olson's request to apply for a DNR 50/50 grant.
- HEARD monthly report from Police Chief Jason Borash, which included 237 calls. During these calls, one handgun and many drugs (with a value of over $26,000) were confiscated. Mayor Schmidt noted the multiple traffic stops documented and wanted to clarify that they all took place in March, which they did.
- HEARD monthly report from Public Works Director Bruce Brotherton, in which he noted that the wastewater ponds had been severely disrupted starting around the week of Feb. 19. He did not know what had caused this, but said some possibilities included a slug of a strong cleaning product or a discharge of a low PH waste. Brotherton said the spike passed through the second pond on March 16, and that it took until March 21 to get the discharge numbers back where they belong. Everything is "back to normal now" he said.
- SCHEDULED a performance review for Public Works Director Bruce Brotherton to be held in a closed meeting following the council's regular meeting in May.
- HEARD monthly report from City Clerk/Treasurer Darci Odden, who was back from maternity leave.
- APPROVED increasing the hours of Administrative Accounting Assistant Sarah Lenzen from 26 to 28 hours per week.
- APPROVED a motion allowing all city employees/council members who are interested, to attend the League of MN Cities Annual Conference in Duluth this June.
- SCHEDULED a performance review for City Clerk/Treasurer to be held in a closed meeting following the council's regular meeting in June.
- NOTED city-wide garage sales will be held Friday - Saturday, May 5 - 6.
- SET next regular council meeting for Monday, May 8, 6:30 p.m., at city hall.



Faith Lutheran donates

Faith Lutheran Church of Staples recently donated $892.80 from their March Food Share Drive, to the Motley Area Food Shelf (MAFS). Pictured, from left, are Sherry Mudgett, food shelf volunteer; Cheryl Koll, Faith Lutheran Social Concerns Committee member; Pearl Dingman, food shelf volunteer and Sherry Frisk, MAFS Director. (Submitted photo)



Friendly Rider donation

The Staples Host Lions recently donated $250 to Friendly Rider, with funds designated to provide free rides this summer for children involved in summer recreation programs/activities. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



Staples Host Lions donate to REACH program

The Staples Host Lions recently donated $1,600 to the REACH leadership program at Staples-Motley High School. REACH stands for Relationship, Education, Accountability, Character and Hard work. Pictured, from left, are Brody Shaw, Ivan Lozano, Ryan Neelan, Kadin Ottomoeller, Mason Nielson, Violet Dahlvang, students; Valerie Turner, teacher; Brooklynn Huewe, student; and Lion Frank Leidenfrost. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

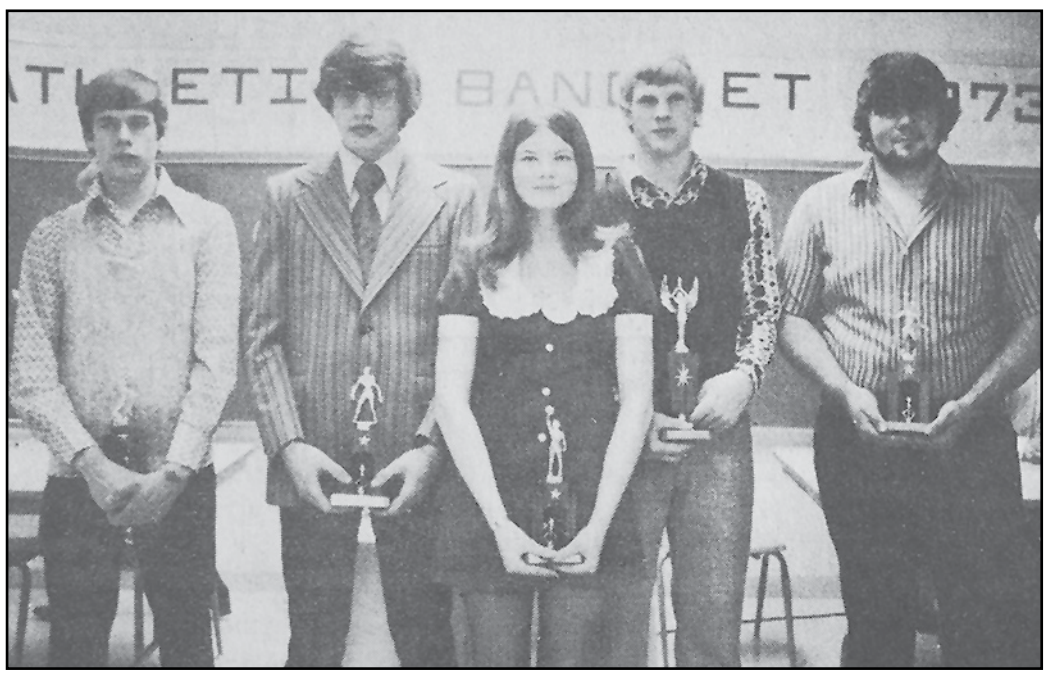


Knights of Columbus donate

The Staples Area Food Shelf recently received a check for $752 from the local Knights of Columbus organization. Pictured, from left, are Larry Odden, member of the Knights of Columbus; and Frank Leidenfrost, food shelf volunteer. (Submitted photo)



Looking back



Mystery photo

Hello readers. This week's archive photo is from our April 19, 1973 edition. Do you know who these people are and perhaps the context of the photo? Do you have a memory to share? Email your answers and where you're from to dtimbs@staplesworld.com by Friday, or call 218-894-1112. The answers will be published in next week's paper, as well as a new mystery photo.

75 Years Ago - 1948

∘ April 15, 1948 - What might have been a very serious catastrophe, and what resulted in the serious burning of one man, occurred at the new Morey Fish house a half mile south of Motley Friday afternoon, April 9, when a bottle gas explosion occurred in the building.

Tom Vasecka, the victim of burns, and an employee of the Morey Fish Company of Motley, was in the basement of the building, going

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Compiled by
Dawn Timbs

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there to investigate one of the large smoke ovens that had gone out.

Mr. Vasecka opened the steel door of this chamber and did not notice any excessive gas, due to the fact that the circulation fan was on at the time. He stooped down, lighted a match and touched it to the open gas jet. Immediately the burners ignited, but the gas-filled chamber also ignited. Mr. Vasceka "hit the floor," sustaining an abrasion on the right side of his face, as well as first and second degree burns on this face and arms. He was immediately taken to the Staples Municipal hospital where he was given treatment, and where he remained until Wednesday of this week. He is progressing satisfactorily.

E.A. Morey, owner of the place, stated that the damage resulting from the explosion would amount to about $500 and the place is fully covered by insurance.

∘ April 15, 1948 - The ice left the Leaf River on Monday for what was one of the quietest breakups in years. The river did not seriously overflow. The big rain Wednesday brought the river out of its banks however, and over the township road, but not over the county road that was raised last summer.

∘ April 15, 1948 - When the Staples Woman's Study Club met in the library on Tuesday afternoon, Mrs. Jay Willcox gave part of the lesson, using as her theme, Russian History. Giving the last half of the lesson, Mrs. Oliver Warner spoke on Communism, as applied to Russia.

Mrs. Clyde Weston gave the selected verse, reading two selections from the Good Housekeeping magazine.

∘ April 15, 1948 - Cass Timberlane, one of the outstanding M-G-M pictures, will be shown at the Staples Theatre this coming weekend. The picture stars Spencer Tracy and Lana Turner, and Zachary Scott, in one of the most brilliant pictures of 1948. The book was written by Sinclair Lewis, Minnesota's own author, who holds a high rank in the literary world.

50 Years Ago - 1973

∘ April 19, 1973 - Lost: A Community Plate teaspoon, Adams pattern, was thrown from my window accidentally Saturday evening around six o'clock. Finder please notify Esther Bottemiller, phone 761-W.

∘ April 19, 1973 - Nels Japke, owner and operator of Japke Decorating, was elected president of the Staples Lions Club for the 1973-74 year. Japke succeeds James D. Randgaard.

∘ April 19, 1973 - Steelwork for the Stern Manufacturing Co. plant in the Staples Industrial Park was in place last week, and the roof was to be put on this week. The structure covers nearly 10,000 square feet, and will incorporate both work and office space. Machinery will be moved in after the roof has been placed, and applications for employment will be taken starting in May. Full occupancy of the building is expected by June 1.

∘ April 19, 1973 - The resignation of two faculty members and hiring of a new teacher was approved by the members of the Board of Education, Staples, at their meeting Aril 10.

C. Richard Longbella, board clerk, said that the resignations accepted by the board were those of Wil Meierhofer, director of the Central Minnesota Irrigation Demonstration Research Farm, and Mrs. Lola Grafstrom, third grade at Staples elementary.

It was also announced that the contract was approved for the hiring of Thomas Honek of Mahnomen as a sixth grade instructor at Staples Elementary. Honek will receive his degree from Bemidji State College in June.

The Board of Education also accepted the resignation of Earl Mergens as an assistant football coach. Mergens will remain on the faculty in the Special Education Cooperative.

∘ April 19, 1973 - Holm's Cafe in Staples, owned and operated by Mrs. Lorraine Holm, has been sold, according to information released this week. Mrs. Holm said that the effective date of the sale will be May 1 and an announcement by the new owners will be forthcoming.

25 Years Ago - 1998

∘ April 16, 1998 - The Staples Area Food Shelf had a very successful fund drive during the March Food-Share Month promotion, reports Fran Mertens, the Food Shelf treasurer and coordinator.

The local food shelf received $11,285.75 in March, she said, as well as 1,066 pounds or units of food items.

∘ April 16, 1998 - Highway 10 about one mile west of Motley was the scene of an accident that claimed the life of a Cushing area man Tuesday. Just after noon, a 1996 GMC Yukon driven by Randall P. Moe, 53, of Cushing and semi-truck driven by Dale A. Westling, 60, of Fargo, collided. The state patrol said both vehicles were traveling in the east-bound lane when they made contact. Both vehicles crossed the center median and ended up on the pavement of the west bound lanes of traffic. Moe was dead at the scene while Westling was checked at the Greater Stapes Hospital.

∘ April 16, 1998 - Thirty years ago the community saw "The Music Man" produced locally, the first major production of a young music teacher at the school.

A new production of the show by the Staples Motley High School Choirs' will open its run April 16 at Centennial Auditorium in Staples. The show will also be presented April 18, 23 and 25.

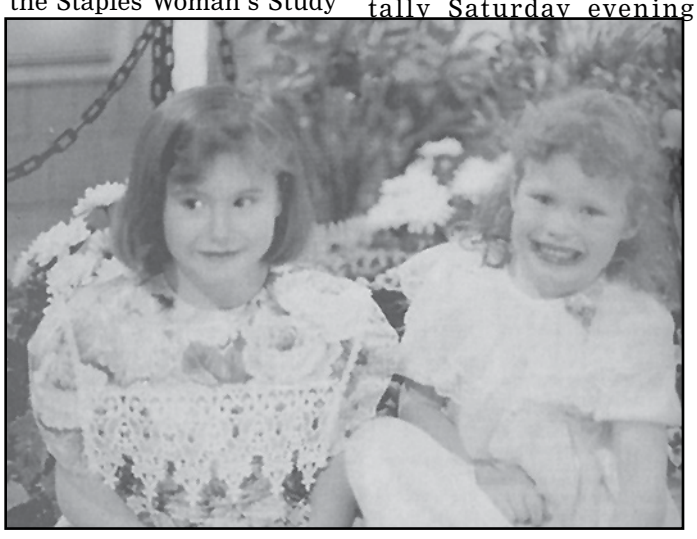
Stan Carlson, that young music teacher of 30 years ago, is staging this anniversary show with his co-director, Becky Hasselberg. She had been a student in his first production.

Some of the participants in that first production have children in the current show. Cast members from the 1968 production will be treated to a reception with the current cast and crew following the April 25 performance..

10 Years Ago - 2013

∘ April 18, 2013 - Staples-Motley schools were called off early April 11, due to a snowstorm.

∘ April 18, 2013 - Eleven speakers of the Staples Motley Speech Team competed at the Section 6A speech tournament at Underwood April 13. Three SM students finished in the top three places and will advance to the state speech contest at Blaine High School Saturday, April 20. They are Samantha Weyer - original oratory, second place; Kali Klimek - creative expression, first place; and Spencer Svendsen - extemporaneous speaking, second place.



Mystery solved

Last week's mystery photo published in the April 6, 1995 edition of the Staples World featured Ashley and Kirsten Longbella, who were adorable models during the "Spring into Fashion" brunch and style show at the Brainerd/Staples Tech College Staples campus, an event sponsored by the Staples '93 Lions.

Jody Longbella of Staples remembered well her daughters' picture in the paper, and the Spring Style Show at the college. "They both had a great time modeling a couple of outfits - fun memory!" Jody said. She went on to share that Ashley (now Fink) and her family live in St. Joseph; and Kirsten (now Waverek) and her family live in West Fargo, N.D.

Kathy Odden, Judy Jenkins and Deb Jordan, all of Staples, recognized Ashley and Kirsten, graduates of Staples-Motley High School in 2006 and 2008, respectively. Judy Wolak of Staples recognized Ashley, but thought Kirsten was Melissa Good. Thanks for participating in our mystery photo.

Man arrested in murder-for-hire scheme



Robert Thomas

The Todd County Sheriff's Office arrested a man April 10, 2023 after he admitted to engaging in a murder-for-hire scheme. Robert Thomas, 38, of Sauk Centre is in custody at the Todd County Jail on charges of conspiracy to commit murder.

In late March 2023, the Todd County Sheriff's Office was made aware of a person trying to hire someone to murder a resident of Todd County. The target of the scheme is a close acquaintance of the suspect. The Todd County Sheriff's Office, the West Central Minnesota Drug and Violent Crime Task Force and the Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) immediately launched an investigation.

An undercover BCA agent arranged to meet with the suspect, later identified as Thomas. During the meeting, Thomas came to an agreement with the agent to commit murder, including making an initial payment. Thomas agreed to pay more money once the murder was committed.

A formal complaint is pending with the Todd County Attorney's Office. No other information is available at this time due to the active nature of the investigation.

Staples Police report

Recent reports taken by the Staples Police Dept. included;

April 3, Staples Police responded to a report of a man attempting to break in a door on subjects in their trailer home at 8th St NE. After investigation, police arrested Derek Stegora-Johnson, 19, for 2nd degree assault with a dangerous weapon, domestic assault and obstructing the legal process with force. He had attempted to assault his brother with a hatchet and a firearm. He was also uncooperative and fought with officers during his arrest. He was booked into the Wadena County Jail.

April 3, Staples Police assisted the Todd County Sheriff's Dept. on a traffic stop near the intersection of US 10 and Cardinal Dr. The driver, Howard Weekley, 51, of Detroit Lakes, was arrested for driving after cancellation and driving under the influence. Police assisted in a vehicle search for narcotics related to the DUI and remained on scene for the vehicle to be towed.

April 4, Staples Police assisted the MN State Patrol with a vehicle rollover at Hwy 10 and Cty Rd 83. There were no injuries.

April 4, Staples Police received a report of a dog at large. The complainant dropped the dog off at the police department and police identified the owner of the dog. Police advised the owner he has been warned multiple times for dog at large, and next time he will receive a citation.

April 6, Staples Police stopped a vehicle for failure to maintain a lane. Officers arrested Chad Blue, 47, of Browerville, for 3rd degree DWI.

April 8, Staples Police responded to the 400 block of Dakota Ave. SE on report of a disturbance between neighbors. Officers arrived and advised both parties to go to bed and avoid antagonizing each other in the future.

April 9, Staples Police took a report of a vending machine that had been tipped over and damaged in the 200 block of 2nd Ave. NE. Contact was made with the owner who only wanted to report it in case there was other damage caused in the area. Owner also stated that they would have it removed from the alleyway the next day.

March 9, Staples Police received a call from an individual in Moorhead who stated that her childhood neighbors are appearing in her house as ghosts and spirits and molesting her. She requested that numerous individuals from her childhood be investigated by police because they could be involved in some way and are working with the devil. When asked, she stated that the assaults from these spirits have been happening daily in Moorhead. She was then advised to contact Moorhead Police to report these incidents.

April 9, Staples Police were called to the 900 block of 6th St. NE for a domestic disturbance. After an investigation, Beechestore Stroot, 26, was arrested for domestic assault and transported to Todd County jail.

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Motley area law enforcement report

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

April 5 - 11

April 11 - Motley police issued a citation to Jennifer Stephens, 48, for driving after revocation.

April 11 - Motley police issued a citation to Adam Trumble, 20, for not having insurance.

April 11 - Motley police assisted the Minnesota State Patrol with a vehicle rollover at Hwy 10 and Spruce Rd., Motley.

April 10 - Motley Police conducted a traffic stop at Hwys 10 and 210 in Motley, subsequently, Isom Lee Marbray, 21, was issued a citation.

April 10 - Motley Police conducted a traffic stop at Gold Ln. and Riverfront Ln. in Motley, subsequently, Montrell Davon Albers, 21, was issued a citation.

April 6 - Motley Police issued a citation to Allan Christle, 44, for having expired tabs on his vehicle.

April 5 - The manager of the Motley Dairy Queen brought a bud of marijuana to the MPD office that had been passed from a customer to an employee via the drive-thru window.

April 11 - The MCSO received a call from Cass County, reporting a one-vehicle accident at 7765 120th St. SW, Motley. Motley Fire and Rescue was paged.

April 8 - The MCSO received a report of suspicious activity at the 600 block of East River Rd., Motley.

April 7 - A Morrison County Deputy conducted a warrant check at the 33000 block of Dogwood Ln., Motley. The subject was transported to the Morrison County Jail without incident.

April 5 - Morrison County deputies responded to a one-vehicle accident at Dove Rd. and Dollars Dr., Pillager. The vehicle had gone off the road due to icy road conditions, rolled once and ended up on its roof. The driver was not injured.

WE'RE HIRING!

Citizens Alliance Bank seeks applicants for the following positions:

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Newspaper keeping an eye on local government ethics

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

In the last two weeks, the Staples World has developed concerns about governmental ethics in three of the boards that we cover.

One is a potential conflict of interest situation and the others are concerns about the process of how decisions are being made. We do not believe there is any corruption going on, but in government, if there is an appearance of a gap in the process, it can harm public trust in the body. If it is not pointed out, eventually it could allow elected officials to push it to the point of actual corruption.

Here are the specific items that drew our attention as being unusual and which could create an appearance of not following common board practices:

Motley City Council

New Motley council member Brenda Borash was a part of the discussion on whether the Motley Police Department needs a new car or used car. Her husband, Jason Borash, is the Motley Police Chief. That could be considered a conflict of interest.

The Minnesota statute on conflict of interest is more concerned with lawmakers who "make a decision that would substantially affect the official's financial interests."

In this case, the topic was not likely substantial, but it could set a precedent for when the Motley City Council has to make bigger decisions about the police force in the future.

In a small town, it is often hard to separate duties. There will always be council members who are business owners, belong to organizations or are friends and relatives with other officials. But those connections need to be recognized, and if it creates a conflict of interest, the council member needs to recuse themselves from the discussion and refrain from voting on it.

The Motley City Council should have discussed the potential of a conflict of interest beforehand.

We did report on the relationship in the Staples World, putting in parentheses that Borash is the spouse of the police chief. That is one of the roles of a newspaper covering a meeting.

Police Chief Jason Borash noticed that it was mentioned in the newspaper and confronted reporter Dawn Timbs about it after the next meeting. He asked if she was trying to say something negative about him. The answer is no, it is an essential part of democracy for a newspaper to point out potential conflicts of interest. Getting it out to the public protects the integrity of the council and the police department. They should agree that they have nothing to hide and can talk about such things at an open meeting.

Staples City Council

After passing the first reading of a new tobacco ordinance, the council changed their mind at the next meeting and took out some of the provisions they had added previously.

There is nothing wrong with changing their mind, but what concerned me was the lack of discussion on why they changed their mind. Did they talk to community members? Did they talk to business owners? Who helped them form their opinions?

They don't have to say specifically who they talked to, but it would be helpful for them to be more open about what are the main reasons that led to changing the decision.

Our ethics concern is that council members are talking to each other outside of the meeting. There are seven voting members on the council, so if a majority, four of them, talk about a topic before the meeting, that is a violation of the Minnesota Open Meeting Law. Even if two of them have a discussion and then they talk to two others later, that would be violation because it would involve a majority. Those discussions should be held at the meeting, not behind the scenes.

A council's discussion should be about the bigger picture, about how decisions are being made and who will potentially be affected by those decisions. If they hold conversations on that level, the actual decision-making will be easy for the public to understand.

Staples-Motley School Board

When the school board approved the sale of the Motley school building, the agenda item came up and immediately there was a motion to approve it and a second. After that, Superintendent Shane Tappe explained what was in the sale agreement.

To me, that seemed out of order. I asked Board Chair Bryan Winkels about it, he said that according to Robert's Rules of Order, a motion is needed to introduce the topic to the board.

That just brings up more questions. The sale agreement was not in the board's packet, so how did they know what they were motioning for? How did they know that the questions they had from the previous meeting had been resolved?

Winkels said that because they had a discussion about it at the previous meeting, the board should know that their concerns would be addressed in the action item. If it comes out during the discussion that they would like it addressed differently, they can make an amendment to the motion.

But that gives too much power to the agenda item that is presented. I have been to enough board meetings to know that any time there is a motion, it is very unlikely to be approved. In this case, at the previous meeting the board was uncertain whether they would even accept the offer for the building, since it was well below the asking price. By introducing the topic with a motion to approve the sale, there wasn't much chance for them to change it or talk about voting it down.

On a related issue, all of the school board members had a copy of the sale agreement at the meeting, although it was not in the board packet. Following the meeting, I emailed the school and asked for a copy of the agreement. They said they would have to check with the realtor to see if there was any information that the public was not allowed to see. I countered that by telling them that any information that appears before the board is public information. With a few specific exceptions, there is nothing propietary that a board can see that the public can't see. After that, I did get a copy of the sale agreement.

Newspaper role

A common denominator in our concerns is how board and council members are getting their information. Are they are getting information that is not available to the public? Should they be better at sharing what they know at the meetings?

Having a newspaper reporter present and asking those questions is one of the main reasons for local boards to remain honest.

Just having newspaper reporters present at council and board meetings has surely saved you a lot of money on your taxes. I can't count the number of meetings I have attended when a board has a choice to make, they look up and notice that their words are going to be printed for the public to see, so they make the choice that saves money for the community.

That is not always the case. I have pointed this out but it bears repeating. When Bell, Calif. lost their local newspaper, nobody covered their city coun cil meetings. Within a few years, their city officials had become the highest paid government officials in the nation. Taxpayers paid millions of dollars that would likely not have been approved if there were a reporter telling the public what they were doing.

At the Staples World, we will continue to attend board meetings, simply to tell the public what is going on. With our years of experience in attending meetings, we will be able to question when things seem out of line with what we think should happen.

Quote of the week

"If what you have done yesterday still looks big to you, you haven't done much today."
Mikhail Gorbachev (1931 - 2022)

A lot happening in Staples this spring

By Ron Murray
Staples Mayor

I just finished my first quarter as mayor of Staples. I thought I would share how things are going. I have a chance to visit with many citizens of Staples about concerns and questions related to how things work and to explain things. We have a great deal going on now in town.

Visibly, you can see the new building going up on Hwy 10 and some other signs up that tell us some other things will be going up soon. As well as some areas are now clear of previous physical buildings in anticipation of new and better construction soon.

However, we also have projects that do not have any visible indication of them. Namely our upcoming water main and street projects on portions of our city streets that need to be updated to improve the quality of the water and systems we use. It is exciting to get at these things and improve quality for citizens that they have been patiently waiting for.

I recently visited the CLC campus with my annual meeting with president Hara Charlier. I had not been in the building for a long time and in some areas ever. What an amazing facility we have here in Staples and the number of programs that CLC offers here in Staples and in conjunction with the Brainerd campus. We are fortunate to have this facility here in Staples.

I also spent some time in our community center with my grandkids and that facility is so nice to have here for us to enjoy. With the recently passed local sales tax we will be able to do some overdo structural and operational changes and updates that will really improve the way we can enjoy the building. Did you know that memberships are very reasonably priced and that we have 24 hour access? And Pickle ball.

Our groups of engaged citizens are busy working in three smaller work groups for "revitalization of downtown". The newspaper had good coverage of the early meetings.

Over the course of summer, fall and into next year things will be happening as a result of these meetings. If anyone has any thoughts on what would be good for Staples, I encourage you to reach out and attend one of these meetings. You can contact Melissa Wyman, our economic developer at the City of Staples for more information. We have great business owners in Staples, stop by their places of business to check them out and say hi. They would love to see you.

We encourage you to reach out to us and let us know how we are doing. However, if you do so in a respectable manner that would be much appreciated. We have had some communication that has been downright terrible and degrading to our leaders and our staff who are out working to keep our city running as well as they can. This past winter has been especially hard on our city streets, when the weather warms up we will be out and patching those areas. In the meantime, be careful and drive slowly in those areas.

Our council meetings are the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at the city building that houses the library and our city offices. It is open to public and if you can't be there in person, we are on YouTube channel. It is a great way to keep up with what is being decided for your City by the City council members.

Hope to see you around town. Call me anytime.

Voices of crime victims can be heard at Hands of Hope

By Barb Dinkel Goodrich
Lead Advocate
Hands of Hope Resource Center

Every year, millions of people's lives are impacted by crime every year. Victimization and its aftermath may be one of the most difficult periods in a person's life – and victims' families, friends and communities often face their own challenges as well.

Since 1981, National Crime Victims' Rights Week has been celebrated every year in April. Prior to this date, crime victims had no rights, access to crime victim compensation, or services to help rebuild their lives. They were often excluded from courtrooms, treated as an afterthought by the criminal justice system, and denied an opportunity to speak at sentencing. Yet through decades of advocacy and hard work, we have come a long way. Today, all states have enacted crime victims' rights laws and established crime victim compensation funds.

National Crime Victims' Rights Week 2023 (April 23 – 29) honors and celebrates the achievements made since 1981 in securing rights, protections, and services for victims and their families. This year's theme - "Survivor Voices: Elevate. Engage. Effect Change." – calls upon communities to amplify the voices of survivors and commit to creating an environment where survivors have the confidence that they will be heard, believed, and supported.

If you are a victim of crime, or would like additional information regarding victim rights, contact Hands of Hope Resource Center at 320-732-2319.

Antibiotics for livestock becoming subscription-only

From University of Minnesota Extension

Starting June 11 of this year, all currently available over-the-counter antibiotics for livestock will only be available as prescription medications.

The Food and Drug Administration's regulation is intended to provide more veterinary oversight. Similar to the FDA's Veterinary Feed Directive, placing antibiotics under the supervision of veterinarians should result in more judicious use and less antibiotic resistance.

University of Minnesota Extension educator and veterinarian Dr. Joe Armstrong offered more details on the measure.

Which antibiotics will no longer be over-the-counter starting June 11?

All currently available over-the-counter antibiotics will only be available as prescription medications starting June 11, 2023. This includes but is not limited to the following: Penicillin, Oxytetracycline, Sulfa antibiotics, Mastitis tubes.

Which livestock species will be affected by this rule change?

This new rule will impact all livestock species.

Why are over-the-counter antibiotics moving to prescription only?

Over-the-counter antibiotics are moving to prescription only to provide more veterinary oversight. Similar to the Veterinary Feed Directive, placing antibiotics under the supervision of veterinarians should result in more judicious use and less antibiotic resistance.

What do you need before you can get a prescription from a veterinarian?

Livestock producers must have a valid Veterinary-Client-Patient Relationship (VCPR) in place before they can be prescribed antibiotics by a veterinarian.

What is a Veterinary-Client-Patient Relationship (VCPR)?

A VCPR is a working relationship between a veterinarian (veterinary clinic) and a client. Ideally, a VCPR is a documented agreement between both parties that includes a dedicated visit to the animal location(s) the client operates. This visit and documentation must occur at least once every year.

What questions about antibiotics from your veterinarian should you be prepared to answer?

The main question you should be prepared to answer is, how are you using antibiotics right now? This includes the following:

- What antibiotics do you use?
- How do you administer each antibiotic?
- When do you administer antibiotics?
- Why do you administer antibiotics?

Staples World

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Letters: Readers are encouraged to express their views by writing letters to the editor. Letters are verified for authenticity, so please include a name, address and phone number. Only the author's name and city will be published. Letters may be edited for spelling and grammar errors, libel, length and other factors. Private thanks, solicitations and libelous letters will not be published. Letters are printed on a space available basis. The editor reserves the right to reject letters. ***The deadline is 12 noon, Friday.*** Opinions expressed on this page do not necessarily represent the views of this newspaper.

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

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

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"Storytime" at Staples Public Library

Activities at the library help engage curiosity, while developing important literacy skills and fostering a life-long love of reading and learning. Singing, playing and other age appropriate activities and crafts are explored. The next "Storytime" will be held Sat., May 13 at 10:30 a.m. at the Reading Roundhouse. Call 218-894-1401 for information and to sign up. The program is sponsored by the Staples Friends of the Library. Above: Mom, Lisa Frisk, Archie Hanson, Faith Frisk, Samuel Reigstad, Alana Reigstad, Alida Hanson, mom, Rachel Biggar, Ray Biggar.

Left: Benjamin Underhill and children, Marcella, Genieve and Harrison. (Submitted photos)



Mark Your Calendar

April 25

Wadena County Republicans Mtgs are held on the 4th Tuesday of the month at Larry's Pizza in Wadena. Dinner and visiting at 5:30 p.m. with speakers and a business meeting at 6:30 p.m. Call 218-894-1899 for more information.

'GriefShare' Grief Support Group is held on Tuesdays from 6 - 8 p.m., at Motley Free Methodist Church, through May 30. For more information, call 218-352-6888.

Experience Strength And Hope AA group Mtgs In Staples are held at the Staples Congregational Church, 204 5th St. NE, Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m.

Lakewood Grief Support Group is held on Tuesdays from 3 - 4:30 p.m., at Sourcewell in Staples (202 12th St. NE), through April 25. For info., call 218-894-8093 or email pauljohnson@lakewoodhealthsystem.com.

May 1

Staples Area Retired Educators (REAM) Meeting Monday, May 1, 9:30 a.m., at Staples City Hall. CLC President, Dr. Hara Charlier, will present the program.

Cardinal Calendar

SM school events

April

- **Paul Bunyan Band Festival at Pillager HS** April 21, 7 p.m.
- **FFA State Convention** April 23 - 25

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

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Long Prairie Office:(320) 732-6141
HEALTHY MOUTHS.... One smile at a time

Staples Public Library May activities

From Staples Public Library

1,000 Books before Kindergarten

Enjoy a fun program encouraging reading and early literacy skills. For ages birth to kindergarten. Check out the new app available to record books read. Sponsored by the Staples Friends of the Library. During library open hours.

D.I.Y. Fun Activity

Check out our fun guessing game. Each week a new activity and prize winner. For ages 5-12. Sponsored by the Staples Friends of the Library.

Ongoing during library open hours.

Tech Time

Trouble understanding your laptop, iPad, Kindle or other electronic device? Would you like to download books from the library website or use eBooks, but aren't sure how? Tech help will be available the first Wednesday of each month from 10 a.m. to noon. Registration is required. For teens or adults.

Wednesdays; May 3 and June 7, 10 a.m. to noon

Mobile WorkForce Services

Get help with online applications, resumes, career explorations, interviewing skills, unemployment applications, and other resources.

Stop and visit with Scott the first Wednesday of every month from 2 - 4 p.m.

Wednesdays, May 3 and June 7, 2 - 4 p.m.

Why Reading Matters for Women

Join us for a discussion with Marcie Stokman, M.A. Marcie is the founder and president of Well-Read Mom, an international movement and book club. As a former clinical nurse practitioner in mental health and a longtime homeschooler, she writes and speaks to encourage women and share the power of reading. For adults.

Tuesday, May 2, 6 - 7 p.m.

Reading Roundhouse Storytime

Join us for fun stories, flannel boards, and craft activities. Children gain early literacy skills by listening to stories, singing songs, and making crafts.

For preschool to grade two. Registration required. Limit 10. Sponsored by the Staples Friends of the Library.

Saturday, May 13, 10:30 - 11 a.m.

Preschool Storytime

Join us in the Reading Roundhouse for singing, playing, and other age appropriate activities and crafts. We will engage their curiosity, while developing important literacy skills and fostering a life-long love of reading and learning. For preschoolers. Limit 10. Registration is required. Sponsored by the Staples Friends of the Library.

Wednesday, May 17, 10:30 - 11 a.m.

Celebrate Aging Expo

Join us to celebrate health and wellness. Vendors will display products and services. Enjoy entertainment, prizes and refreshments. No registration required. Meal for first 275 in attendance. Music from Singleton Street was made possible with Arts & Cultural Heritage Funds from Minnesota's Clean Water, Land, and Legacy Amendment. Location: Central Lakes College Staples Campus, 1830 Airport Rd, Staples, MN

Thursday, May 18, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Bon Voyage Butterflies

Painted Lady caterpillars will be arriving in the library June 1. Follow their stages as they mature into beautiful butterflies. We will have a special release party when they are ready with crafts and snacks. Sponsored by the Staples Friends of the Library.

Remarkable Reptiles

Author James Gerholdt brings the facts to your doorstep, along with a variety of unique, beautiful, and living reptiles. For all ages. No registration needed. This program was made possible with Arts & Cultural Heritage Funds from Minnesota's Clean Water, Land, and Legacy Amendment.

Thursday, June 15, 6 - 7 p.m.

Friendly Rider
Annual SURVEY for Friendly Rider Transit
YOUR OPINION MATTERS!
How:
- Click or paste Link in Browser: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SMVA
- –OR- Like us on Facebook and find the site on our page

How Long Does it Take:
- 2 Minutes

The SIMPLEST way Scan with your phone's camera to go to survey!

Survey Parameters:
- Information will be tabulated and presented to our Transit Advisory Committee- Quarterly Meetings
- One survey per Device allowed
- Surveys will be going out into regions:
  Wadena: February 1st to March 1st
  Verndale/Aldrich/Staples/Motley: April 1st to May 1st
  Sebeka/Menahga/Nimrod: June 1st to July 1st
  Bluffton/NYM/Deer Creek: August 1st to September 1st
  Bertha/Hewitt/Eagle Bend: October 1st to November 1st

Friendly Rider- Here to get you There!
229 Harry Rich Drive-Wadena MN-56482- 218-631-5730
w15-18c

The search for Todd County's big trees is on

Do you like trees? Do you really like big trees? The Todd County Historical Society wants your help in finding some of the biggest trees in the county.

Trees are an asset to Todd County. Our county is currently about 20 percent forested, though historically it was 50 percent. One way to appreciate the trees in our county is to identify the largest specimens of each species.

Big Tree Registries for Minnesota and the nation already exist. People like you have nominated Minnesota state champions, five of which are also the national champions. National champions from Minnesota include Silver maple, White spruce, Jack pine, Bigtoothed aspen and Black willow.

The Todd County Historical Society wants to use a similar system to find the biggest trees in our county. Who knows, you might even find an undiscovered state or national champion right here in Todd County.

Here is a summary of the information needed to nominate a big tree:

- Tree species: Only Minnesota native species are eligible at this time. Trees from yards or forests are eligible as well from public or private land.
- Tree measurements: (See MN DNR Big Tree website for directions). This includes circumference in inches, crown spread in feet, height in feet.

The biggest tree is determined by creating a score that adds the circumference (inches) plus the height (feet) plus one-fourth of the crown spread (feet). Note that the biggest trees for each species in the county will be field checked by trained volunteers, so you don't need to be perfect.

Do you want to join the hunt? The historical society will help you with the forms and instructions. Call Dee at 320-732-4426. This will be an ongoing project, but any nominations received by July 1, 2023 will be displayed in the Historical Building during the Todd County Fair. As an added incentive, a 12 oz. bottle of local maple syrup will be given to the first 25 landowners who submit a nomination.

Note: There is no legal effect from having your tree on the list. It could blow down or you could cut it for firewood and all that would happen is that your tree would be removed from the list, creating an opening for a new nomination. And, unless you want to show off, you do not need to let people on your property to look at the tree. So join the hunt, watch out for ticks, get the landowners' permission if it's not your land, and have fun.

DEADLINE for all classified ads and copy is 12 noon Friday For the Staples World

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IT'S THE 41st EXPO!

Visit MNHorseExpo.org or Call 952-356-2029 for Ticket & Schedule Info

Hello World

Online births removed at the request of Lakewood Health System.

* * * * *

Births reported at Astera Health Hospital in Wadena included:

Baby girl Kaylee Faye Mary Nemitz, born March 22, 2023, to Kayela Maire Lindula and Daniel Kevin Edward Nemitz of Staples weighing seven pounds, one ounce. Siblings are McKenna and Kinsley; grandparents are Kevin and Kris Nemitz and Mary Kish.

Baby girl Bristol Kay Beach-Bittner, born March 28, 2023, to Carly Drake and Dalton Beach-Bittner of Motley weighing six pounds, four ounces.

Obituaries

Iris Floistad

Iris Floistad, 91, of Staples passed away April 12, 2023 in Fridley.

Services will be held Saturday, April 22, at 11 a.m. with visitation starting one hour prior to the services at Faith Lutheran Church in Staples.

Iris Mae Lorentz Floistad was born in West Allis, Wisconsin on August 1, 1931 to Rinehard and Edith Lorentz.

She married Eugene Floistad on December 17, 1955 at Our Saviors Lutheran Church in Milwaukee, WI. They had four children, David, Linda, Laura and John.

Iris' employment history included working for Bell Telephone and Chain Belt Companies. Iris always dreamed of becoming a math teacher. Her dream was realized as she taught students at the high school in Staples, North Dakota State School of Science in Wahpeton, North Dakota and at the Adult Learning Center in Thief River Falls. She continued to take math courses into her 50's, loving every math challenge.

Her interests included gardening, quilting, church choir, Circle Bible Study, watching baseball and football with her husband, Gene, listening to classical music, especially opera and spending time with her family and friends.

Once Iris made up her mind to do something, she was unstoppable, including her once a year water skiing trip around Lake Shamineau. She also loved to gently tease and stated that she knew someone loved her if they teased her, too.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Rev. Eugene Floistad; one son, David Floistad; two siblings Darlyn Magis and Dr. Robert Lorentz and parents, Edith Weed and Rinehard Lorentz.

Memorials can be made to Faith Lutheran Church in Staples or to the Alzheimer's Association.

Arrangements are by Brenny Family Funeral Chapel, Staples.

w17c A00006B2023AP19

Ted Masog



The Mass of Christian Burial for Ted Masog, of Verndale will be celebrated at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 22, 2023, at St. Frederick's Catholic Church in Verndale. Visitation will be held on Friday, April 21 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the Ted Masog Auditorium at the Verndale School with Prayers at 6:00 and Rosary at 7:00 p.m. Visitation will resume at the church on Saturday from 9:30 a.m. until the time of the Mass.

Edward "Ted" Joseph Masog, 88 of Verndale died at Fair Oaks Lodge in Wadena April 14, 2023, surrounded by family, with care provided by staff and Knute Nelson Hospice.

Edward "Ted" Joseph Masog was born to Edward and Gladys (Hanson) Masog on December 12, 1934, in Little Falls. He attended parochial school to which he attributes his love of music. Ted graduated from Little Falls High school in 1952 then attended St Cloud Teachers College graduating in 1956 with a degree in Music Education and a minor in Spanish. He then taught instrumental music in Isle. He was drafted into the Army in 1957 and was honorably discharged in 1959 after serving in Germany with the Army band. On Aug. 8, 1959, he married Ladonna Jaeckels in Foley and they moved to Eyota, where he taught music. In 1960 they moved to Keewatin, where he taught music in Nashwauk. By 1962 they moved to Los Angeles, CA, where he started work on his Master's degree in Music Education from UCLA and also worked at Hughes Aircraft in the Accounting department (he would later receive his Master's degree in Music Education from St. Cloud State University). In 1964, they moved back to Minnesota and lived in Beardsley, where he also taught music. In 1967 they moved for the last time to Verndale.

Until he retired in 1993, Ted taught instrumental music in Verndale and Spanish. His students have fond memories of performances in concert band, pep band, stage band, dinner concerts, solos, ensembles, regional and state competitions. Summers included marching band, mostly for the Verndale Celebration but also included trips to Chicago, Winnipeg, St Louis and ValleyFair. In May of 2003, he was honored in Verndale with the renaming of the high school auditorium to the Ted Masog Auditorium.

Ted played organ at area churches, primarily St. Frederick's Catholic Church in Verndale, where he retired from playing in 2020 after 52 years of accompanying for masses and other celebrations. He accompanied many student soloists and ensembles in the Verndale area and was the accompanist for the Staples Area Mens Chorus, enjoying the regional Big Sing performances, madrigal dinners, concerts and shows. The Bertha-Hewitt school paid him tribute in 2008 with the Outstanding Layperson in Education award and in 2012 he was honored with the Minnesota ACE (Advocate for Choral Excellence) Award for his accompanist work. Numerous students also learned from his after-school piano lessons.

Ted enjoyed many hobbies including gardening, cooking, stamp collecting, dyeing Ukrainian Easter eggs, reading (especially Sci-Fi), crossword and Sudoku puzzles, playing piano and listening to different types of music, primarily Classical music. He was also seen biking around the area in the summer and cross-country skiing in the winter. His enjoyment of decorating for holidays always made his house recognizable. Ted enjoyed spending time with family and often combined that with his passion for photography.

Survivors include three daughters, Barb of Alexandria, Catherine and Carol, both of St. Cloud; three sons, Jeff (Jodi) of Ramsey, Mike (Marsha) of Clear Lake and Doug (Robin) of West Fargo, ND; one sister: Shirley Ploof of Little Falls; three brothers, Jerry of Apple Valley, Terry of Benton, LA and Tom (Dan) of Riva, MD; one sister-in-law, Audrey Aufderhar of Becker; 14 grandchildren, 17 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

Preceding Ted in death were his wife, Ladonna (2005); parents; one sister, Joan Knopik and three grandchildren.

Pallbearers will be Brett Masog, Christopher Johnson, Trent Masog, Alexis Masog, Ryan Masog and Justin Masog.

Burial will be in St. Frederick's Catholic Cemetery in Verndale.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to your local hospice.

Arrangements with the Schuller Family Funeral Homes & Cremation Services, Wadena (www.SchullerFamilyFH.com).

w17c A00006B2023AP19

Staples Area Church Directory

Staples

Staples Alliance
1512 8th St. NE, Staples 218-894-2891
Pastor Zach Jones
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:
Teen Youth/Adults Bible Study .....7-8 p.m.

First Congregational Church, UCC
firstcongouccstaples@gmail.com
204 5th St. NE, Staples 218-894-2571
Worship.....9:30 a.m.
Fellowship, refreshments following service

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

Sacred Heart Church
310 4th St. NE, Staples
Church.....218-894-2296
Pastor Fr. Aaron Kuhn
Parochial Vicar, Fr. Gabriel Walz
MASS:
Thursday and Friday.....8:30 a.m..
Sunday.....8:30 a.m.

Seventh Day Adventist
421 Dakota Ave. SE, Staples
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
Rev. Robin Collins
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
Eric Clapp.....701-261-2394 (cell)
Sunday Worship.....8:15 a.m.
Sunday School .....8:30 a.m.

Cushing

Bethany Lutheran
25430 Bison Rd.Cushing, MN
320-749-2140
Pastor Carl Larson
Pastor Chris Mathiason
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
Community Life Pastor: Jim Brown
Associate Pastor: Joe Reigstad
SUNDAY
Church Worship Gathering.....10:00 a.m.
YouTube Channel .....10:00 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Community Meal.....5:30 p.m.
Family Night.....6:00 p.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
1st St. and Birch, Motley.....218-894-2296
Pastor Fr. Aaron Kuhn
Parochial Vicar, Fr. Gabriel Walz
MASS:
Tuesday.....6:30 p.m,
Saturday .....4:00 p.m.

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

Oylen

Oylen Alliance
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 .....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.

United Methodist Church
Hwy. 210, Hewitt, MN
Pastor Kenneth Uhren
Sunday Services .....10:30 a.m.
Sunday School .....9:30 a.m.

Verndale

Verndale Alliance
109 NW Brown Street, Verndale, MN 56481
218-445-5619
Senior Pastor Tony Stanley
Heath Belknap, Pastor of Student Ministries
Sunday Worship.....9:30 a.m.
Sunday Bible Fellowship Classses .....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 United Methodist
5 miles N on Cty Rd 26 (Nimrod tar)
Pastor James Middendorf, 320-260-4950
Sunday Service ..... 9:00 a.m.
Bible Study ..... 10:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Seeds of Hope..... 7:00 p.m.

Leaf River Township

The Old Country Church
Leaf River Twp., Wadena County Rd. 6
Info. 218-837-5690
Sunday Service ..... 10 a.m.

w17c

The Ultimate Passover Lamb

By Laura Bradford (God's Word For Today)

"The blood will be a sign for you on the houses where you are, and when I see the blood, I will pass over you. No destructive plague will touch you when I strike Egypt." --Exodus 12:13, NIV

God knew the devastation His last plague would cause the Egyptians. The death of firstborn children would not only break Pharaoh's stubborn spirit, but the Egyptians would be so distressed, they would beg the Israelites to leave.

However, in God's desire to spare Israel, He instructed them to kill a lamb and paint its blood on the doorframes of their houses. With that covering for sin, death passed over the homes of every obedient family, sparing their firstborn and gaining the release of His people from captivity.

Thirteen hundred years after that first Passover, God again chose to release captives. That time, it was the Father who suffered the heartbreak of losing a firstborn. His only Son became the sacrificial lamb whose precious blood saves from eternal death all those who choose to receive Jesus as their Lord.

Prayer Suggestion: Father, thank you for allowing Your only Son to die so you could grant me mercy.

--Submitted by Pastor Roy Miles, Staples Assembly Of God

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"Complete Animal Care"
Staples, MN 218-894-1775

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Staples, MN 218-894-3263

Central Building Supply
Hwy. 10 West, Staples, MN
218-894-3794

Staples World
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218-894-1112

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Pizza, Pasta, Salads, Sandwiches
Staples, MN 218-894-3299

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Softball season opens on shoveled turf fields

As the snowdrifts were still melting on their home field, the Staples-Motley softball team traveled to play six games on artificial turf fields that had been shoveled off at St. Joseph and St. Paul to open their season. The team won two of the six games, with pitchers Emerson Bettis and Jessica Lundquist getting the wins.

The Cardinals played two games against Aitkin on April 11 at St. Benedict College. They lost 19-2 and 8-0. A highlight was Ellie Moulton going 4 for 4 at the plate in the second game.

On April 13, Staples-Motley played four games at Northwestern University in St. Paul, spending a full day at the stadium.

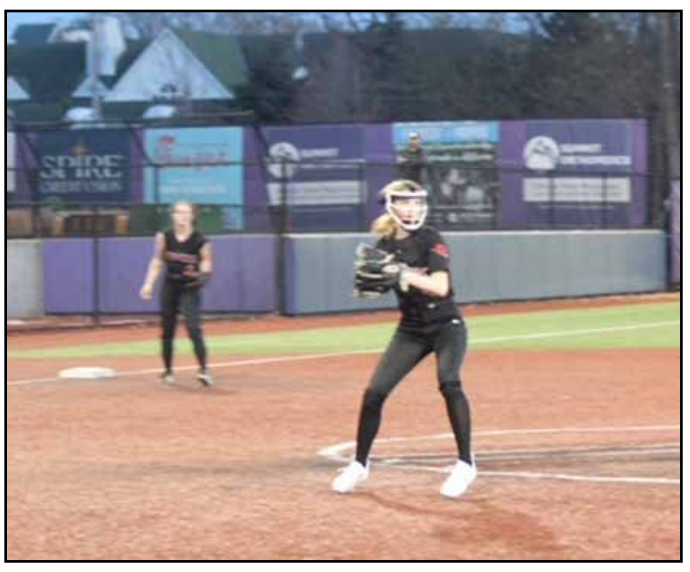
In the first game against Pillager, the Cardinals lost 15-3. Jade Storry was 2 for 2 with 2 RBI's.

In the second game against Pine River, Staples-Motley scored eight runs but fell 16-8. Senior Mandy Carter went 2 for 3 with 2 RBI's. Storry was 4 for 4 with 1 RBI, Moulton was 2 for 3 with 1 RBI and Elle Lange went 2 for 2.

In the third game of the day, against Crosby-Ironton, the Cardinals won 5-4 behind winning pitcher Emerson Bettis, who pitched the full game.

In the fourth game, also against Crosby-Ironton, Staples-Motley won 4-3 with Jessica Lundquist as the starter who pitched the whole game for the win.

In both games, Alli Olander was 2 for 3 with 1 RBI. Storry was 2 for 3 with 1 RBI.



Emerson Bettis



Elle Lange



Mandy Carter



Jade Storry



Emilya Case



Alli Olander



Oliviah Lorber



Emerson Bettis



Izzy Olander

Track teams do well in big indoor meet

The Staples-Motley track and field teams had three champions at the Bison Stampede indoor meet at North Dakota State University in Fargo on April 13.

Remington Converse finished first out of 123 competitors in the 60 meter dash. He ran 7.14 seconds in prelims, then was faster in the final with 7.08.

Hunter Miller placed first out of 65 competitors in the high jump. He was the only competitor to clear 6'2".

The 4x800 meter relay had 19 teams competing. The Staples-Motley girls placed first, four seconds ahead of Valley City, N.D. Team members were Aften Robinson, Kyanna Burton, Audrey Brownell and Ashley Robben.

The boys team finished in fourth place behind three North Dakota teams: Red River, Kindred and Fargo North. They were ahead of Hillsboro/Central Valley, West Fargo and Devils Lake, with Pelican Rapids the next Minnesota team in eighth place.

The girls team was 13th out of 23 teams in the scoring column, but a few more teams competed but didn't have a finisher in the top eight that count towards team scoring.

Girls results

Bison Stampede indoor meet

60 meter dash - 43. Corrine Olson 8.96, 93. Kana Reese 9.98, 102. Cecily Moe 10.43, 108. Livia Trif 11.66

200 - 47. Olson 30.52, 67. Maddie Bartle 31.74, 74. Isabel Cole 31.84, 99. Annie Schlosser 34.46

400 - 47. Bella Hines 1:13, 51. Abby Brichacek 1:13, 75. Suhaila Mikhaeil 1:17, 79. Moe 1:19, 87. Leah Greenwaldt 1:23

800 - 9. Kyanna Burton 2:33, 15. Ashley Robben 2:38

1,600 - 19. Sophie Schlosser 6:06, 54. Addisyn Cichos 7:25

3,200 - 9. Hines 13:19

60 hurdles - 22. Jayce Kobliska 11.26, 29. Bailey Weiland 11.50, 43. Avery Japke 12.06

4x200 - 36. (Cole, Olson, Bartle, Trif) 2:12

4x400 - 3. (Aften Robinson, Kobliska, Robben, Audrey Brownell) 4:21; 27. (S. Mikhaeil, S. Schlosser, Greenwaldt, Japke) 5:07

4x800 - 1. (Robinson, Burton, Brownell, Robben) 10:09

Long jump - 46. Ronnie Noska 12'11", 65. Weiland 12'3", 82 Camden Anderson 11'0"

Triple jump - 47. Cole 28'0", 49. Jorja Kobliska 27'9", 61. Abby Brichacek 24'2"

Shot put - 20. Anderson 29'1", 46. Weiland 25'4"

Boys results

Bison Stampede indoor meet

60 meter dash - 1. Remington Converse 7.08, 15. Austin Weite 7:50, 42. Avandre Brandt 7.70, 46. Hunter Miller 7.72, 82. Dakota Hennagir 7.98

200 - 3. Converse 22.95, 28. Weite 25.10, 93. Gavin Chenoweth 27.92

400 - 5. Logan Robben 55.89, 40. Elijah Blue 1:00, 41. Ramiro Gallardo 1:00, 78. Maddock Harvey 1:05, 94. Tyler Plattner 1:16

800 - 46. Odin Trif 2:32, 54. Israel Ritter 2:37

1,600 - 48. Ivan Lozano 5:50, 63. Blaine Plattner 6:14

60 hurdles - 24. Noah Larson 10.36

4x200 - 26. (Hennagir, Benet Robinson, Blue, Chenoweth) 1:46; 42. Ryan Neelan, Larson, Alexander Helstrom, Sawyer Ferdon 1:56

4x400 - 10. (L. Robben, Robinson, Ferdon, Gallardo) 4:04; 26. (Ritter, B. Plattner, Lozano, T. Plattner) 4:25

4x800 - 16. (L. Robben, Gallardo, Trif, Dillan Robben) 10:13

High jump - 1. Miller 6'2", 5. Brandt 5'10"

Pole vault - 4. Turner Beachy 11'6"

Long jump - 18. Josiah Critten 18'7", 34. Robinson 17'5", 82. Helstrom 14'7", 86. Chenowith 13'11"

Triple jump - 9. Brandt 38'7", 10. Ferdon 38'4", 28. Beachy 35'0", 46. Critten 32'1"

Shot put - 48. Steven Petrich 36'4", 84. Drake Dukowitz 32'7", Blue 27'6"

Spring brings an avian explosion

It's often said that "good things come to those who wait." In other words, sooner or later good fortune will find us. The "good thing" that many Minnesotans have been most eager for is weather that resembles genuine spring. We've had our disappointments. We have been teased and tempted with summer-like temperatures and rapid snowmelt, only to be dealt the blow of multiple inches more snow, and thermometer readings that dipped below freezing. Shorts and polo shirts one day, stocking caps and polar fleece two days hence. Though we grumble about it, we can reset our expectations as quickly as the next weather forecast. It seems to be in a Minnesotan's DNA.

- o -

Inside the Outdoors



Mike Rahn

- o -

It's a different dynamic for the many migratory birds that return in spring to Minnesota from southern destinations; some as near as Iowa, others as far away as Central America. Ideally, their return is timed to coincide with seasonal changes that will enhance their chances of survival, and to successfully raise the next generation of their kind. Changes like melting ice on ponds and lakes, greening vegetation, and the first hatches of insects.

These migratory returnees face the same unpredictable and inhospitable conditions we do. But unlike us, they can't change into warmer apparel, or turn up a thermostat. They must endure spells of hostile conditions that will hopefully take a turn for the better before their survival is in doubt.

The last 10 days have seen an explosion of returning migratory birds. This began even before the brief heat wave we experienced during the week after Easter, which was followed by the recent snow event. A good phenologist—a person who studies seasonal cycles of climate, plant and animal life—would keep track from one year to the next of the dates of appearance of these returning avian migrants. I've sadly not acquired the habit of recording these things. But I certainly take note of them.

For instance, it was the Friday before Easter—April 7—when I saw and heard the first returning robin. They say that "familiarity breeds contempt"—something common is not always appreciated—and I know it's true with robins, one they have returned en masse and are seen everywhere. But the first robin sighting of spring is special.

That same day, when snow still lay deep, was also the first sighting of a great blue heron. We usually see them standing statue-like, cautiously stalking in the shallows of a pond or lake, hoping to ambush a careless frog or fish with a lightning-fast thrust of its long, sinuous neck and dagger-shaped bill. But with most still waters still frozen over, this one was seen as it stood on its stilt-like legs atop a snow-covered hummock, in a wetland of cattails surrounded by alders. Perhaps there was moving water in the tiny trickle of a stream that runs through it, and instinct had informed the heron that the odds of finding a meal here were least fair, until open water arrives.

With Easter came the start of a week-long warmup, a dramatic shrinking of snowbanks, the opening of some smaller ponds, free flowing rivers and streams, and narrow bands of open water along the edges of some larger lakes. Herons now seem to be in all these places; even in roadside drainage ditches. As proof that spawning fish will migrate through these ditches from lakes to shallow ponds, while driving by I saw a heron standing immobile in a ditch, a panfish-sized victim clamped in its bill and about to become a lump passing down the heron's long, serpentine neck.

Even more dependent on open water are ducks, geese, and swans. When my travels take me over a bridge spanning one of several area rivers, or past another vantage point near open water, I keep an eye on the rear-view mirror for following traffic, and a finger ready to punch the vehicle's flasher button, so I can safely pull over and scan the water for birds with binoculars. Following the post-Easter week of unseasonably warm weather, waterfowl seemed to be everywhere. There were goldeneye ducks on the Crow Wing River, a raft of several hundred ducks, geese, and swans—even a dozen pelicans—on a backwater of the Gull River, ringnecks and woodducks on a nearby pond that was just freed of its ice, and waterfowl any place open water could be found.

Songbird migrants, too. Before the weekend snow event, a band of jet-black, yellow-eyed male grackles were engaged in serious territorial and courtship combat in the yard. I also spotted my first warbler of the season—a yellow-rumped warbler—the first of many varieties that will soon be passing through. Most warblers feed heavily—even primarily—on insects, one reason they are not typical holdover bird feeder neighbor residents during our winters. As evidence that this warbler's insect-driven timing was good, we experienced the season's first episode of windshield-smashed insects, at dusk on Friday as my wife and I returned from an out-of-town visit.

Minnesotans are all too familiar with weather-related disappointments that often accompany our transition from winter to spring. But if the recent arrival of dozens of migratory birds is any indication, the latest installment of winter will soon be banished permanently.

Schultz, Miller earn All Conference in basketball

Staples-Motley basketball player Isaiah Schultz was selected as Mid State All Conference and Hunter Miller was All Conference Honorable Mention for the 2022-23 season.

DNR publishes Cass County Groundwater Atlas

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has published the Groundwater Atlas of Cass County (Part B). This atlas covers groundwater conditions and sensitivity to pollution, expanding on the Geologic Atlas of Cass County (Part A) previously published by the Minnesota Geological Survey.

The groundwater atlas can help identify viable water sources, evaluate supply, identify recharge sources and flow, manage sustainability, guide decisions for well and septic system construction, assist in well head protection for public water supply, and assess pollution sensitivity.

Printed atlases can be purchased from Minnesota Geological Survey Map Sales opens in a new browser tab, 612-626-2969. PDF and GIS files can be downloaded from the County Atlas Status List page on the DNR website, which includes all the completed county groundwater atlases and links to the completed county geologic atlases.

The DNR and partners will present results and details of the new Cass County atlas at a May 16 workshop. More information is available by calling Cass County Environmental Services at 218-547-7429 or checking the "News Flash" section of their website opens in a new browser tab closer to the event date.

Details about groundwater atlases are available on the DNR's Groundwater Atlas Program page. For questions, contact Hydrologist Supervisor Paul Putzier at 651-259-5692 or paul.putzier@state.mn.us opens in a new browser tab.

The Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund and Clean Water Fund provide partial funding for this project.

Notices

103 Lost/Found

LOST: Ladies soft leather brown glove with buckle.; sentimental. If found, drop off at the Staples World (drop box by the door). 17x

Services & Employment

205 Help Wanted

LONGBELLA DRUG is looking to hire a **full time person for the clerk position** at our Longbella Drug Clinic pharmacy. Apply at Longbella Drug downtown or online at Indeed.com. 12tfc

TODD COUNTY HHS EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES: Todd County HHS is looking for reliable, service oriented individuals to serve the citizens of Todd County in the following positions: ****Eligibility Worker (FT). **Registered Nurse - Care Coordinator (FT). **Home Health Aide (PT).** To learn more about these openings and how to apply, visit the official Todd County website at https://**www.co.todd.mn.us/**. Questions can be directed to Todd County Administration 320-732-6155. EOE 17c

HELP WANTED
Cook
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Pick up application at:
THE FRIENDLY INN
2321 330th Ave., Motley or call 612-801-4463 with questions.
cl17-18c

BJERGA FEEDS IN MOTLEY is looking for someone with a class B or CDL license. Apply at Motley location. 17-18c

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Central Todd County Care Center is seeking personable and friendly Certified Nursing Assistants to help our residents with their Activities of Daily Living as described in each resident's individualized plan of care. We have both **part-time** and **full-time** positions available. For those interested, but not currently certified, we offer financial assistance and reimbursement for the certification classes. Additionally, we offer nursing scholarships that cover most of the cost for obtaining your LPN or RN licensure. Wages may be adjusted based on years' experience. The individual must pass a background study.

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CTCCC offers a wide variety of benefits and is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

CENTRAL TODD COUNTY Care Center
Contact Tyler Kliniske at tkliniske@ctcccinc.com or call 218-756-3636 ext. 12
Pick up an application in the Business Office, Mon.-Fri., 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. or after hours at the Nurse's Station.
CENTRAL TODD COUNTY CARE CENTER IS LOCATED IN CLARISSA, MN.
cl39tfc

HELP WANTED
Seasonal Public Works - Parks employees
The City of Staples is hiring Seasonal Public Works-Parks employees. This is a great job for anyone who wants to spend their workday outdoors during the summer months. Most of the time will be spent mowing grass and trimming weeds on all City of Staples parks and properties. This position will be asked to do routine maintenance on the mowing equipment, assist with other Public Works and Park duties as needed and as time allows. This position will work 40 hours most weeks, but that may be altered due to weather. Employment will begin after Memorial Day and end before Labor Day. Starting pay is $12.36/hour.
Apply at the City of Staples City Hall, 122 6th St NE, Staples, MN 56479.
You may also find an application on our website at **www.staplesgovoffice.com.**
For questions, call Public Works Director, Scott Grabe at 218-894-2550, Ext 6.
Application deadline is Weds., May 24, 2023.
EOE
cl17-18c

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Chris
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Todd County Board of Commissioners

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TODD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MARCH 21, 2023

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 21st day of March, 2023 at 9 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Neumann. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. All Commissioners were present with Commissioner Erickson absent.

Approval of Agenda

On motion by Denny and seconded by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the agenda as presented with the addition of item 4.6 Shadys Midway Inc - One Year Liquor License.

Consent Agenda

On motion by Noska and seconded by Denny, the following motions were introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

To approve the Todd County Board of Commissioner's Meeting Minutes for March 7, 2023 as presented.

GAMBLING PERMIT - SOCIETY OF SAINT PIUS X

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners are establishing their approval for a Gambling Permit for the Society of Saint Pius X; Long Prairie, MN Inc. through this resolution;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners approve a Gambling Permit for the Society of Saint Pius X; Long Prairie, MN Inc to hold a raffle event at the St. John Vianney Chapel and Academy in Round Prairie Township at the address 18910 Ellipse Loop, Long Prairie, MN on August 13, 2023.

GAMBLING PERMIT – STRUTTIN BLACKBEARDS - NWTF

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners are establishing their approval for a Gambling Permit for the Struttin Blackbeards - NWTF through this resolution;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners approve a Gambling Permit for the Struttin Blackbeards - NWTF to hold a raffle and bingo event at the Clarissa Ballroom in Eagle Valley Township at the address 19281 Kotter Road, Clarissa, MN on May 13, 2023.

To approve Kellie Bitz to fill an open Eligibility Worker position. Grade 6, Step 1 at $21.68. Start Date: March 23, 2023.

To approve Julie Lambrecht to fill the open Financial Support Services Supervisor position. Grade 11, Step 1 at $29.02. Start Date: March 27, 2023.

To approve a one year Off Sale, On Sale & Sunday Liquor License for the Shadys Midway Inc. at the address of 17908 US 71, Long Prairie, MN in Round Prairie Township effective April 1, 2023 through March 31, 2024.

Auditor-Treasurer

On motion by Becker and seconded by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve the Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 402446 through 402469 in the amount of $8,664.26 and (Regular) 56804 through 56847 in the amount of $73,436.12 for a total of $82,100.38.

On motion by Denny and seconded by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve the Health & Human Services Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 803800 through 803883 and (Regular) 7110274 through 710345 for a total of $106,827.95.

On motion by Denny and seconded by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous rollcall vote: To approve the Health & Human Services SSIS Warrants number (ACH) 600869 through 600888 and (Regular) 517267 through 517296 for a total amount of $92,911.75.

On motion by Becker and seconded by Noska, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

TRANSFER OF FUNDS OF ARP/SLFRF PROJECT EXPENSES

WHEREAS, Todd County has received funding via the Federal American Rescue Plan (ARP/SLFRF) Act, and;

WHEREAS, Todd County has used/expensed funds within the allotted time frame indicated in the federal guidance terms, and;

WHEREAS, Todd County departments incurred qualifying expenses via the Federal ARP/SLFRF Act which were not able to be expensed directly to Fund 19-ARP/SLFRF and now necessitate realignment to the County Departments that incurred the initial eligible expense.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners hereby authorize the transfer of funds in the amount of $22,293.83 from Fund 19-ARP/SLFRF to Fund 01-General Fund in the amount of $17,237.23 and to Fund 11-Human Services in the amount of $5,056.60 to realign eligible ARP-SLFRF expenses to the County Departments where the support of the positions expense occurred.

Public Works

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

AWARD OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR 2023 GRAVEL SURFACING PROJECTS

WHEREAS, sealed bids were received on March 14, 2023 by the Todd County Public Works Director for CP 23:60, CP 23:87, CP 23:95 and CP 23:97, said projects for gravel surfacing located on various County Roads in Todd County, and;

WHEREAS, the following sealed bids were received:

•Sanders Construction, Inc. , Randall, Minnesota, $338,800.00

•Central Specialties, Inc., Alexandria, Minnesota, $394,720.00

•Braaten Aggregate, Inc., Bertha, Minnesota, $405,162.00

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners does hereby accept and award the contract for the above said construction projects to Sanders Construction, Inc. of Randall, Minnesota based on their low bid of $338,800.

Planning & Zoning

On motion by Denny and seconded by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Adopting the findings of the Planning Commission and approve the Preliminary Plat for Eastwood Shores First Addition with the following conditions: 1. Establishment of a drainage easement for protection of the wetland area on lots 1 and 2. Drainage easement shall include the wetland area and a 25' buffer around all sides. 2. All driveway accesses must be approved by the Township. 3. Applicant must abide by all other applicable federal, state, and local standards.

On motion by Becker and seconded by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Adopting the findings of the Planning Commission and grant the rezone of parcel 22-0010000 from Commercial to Residential-2 with the following conditions: 1. There will be from time to time, sights, sounds and smells associated with the operation of farming. Land owner shall abide by Section 9.11E of the Todd County Planning and Zoning Ordinance. 2. All driveway locations must be approved by the Township. 3. Applicant must abide by all applicable federal, state, and local standards.

On motion by Noska and seconded by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Adopt the findings of the Planning Commission and approve the Preliminary Plat for the Clarissa Amish Cemetery with the following conditions: 1. Applicant shall remain compliant with applicable local, state or federal regulations related to operation of the cemetery. 2. Declare a cemetery official and an alternate that will be responsible for following state rules and provide contact information to the County to be recorded with the final plat. 3. Maintain a list of individuals buried and exact location within the cemetery. 4. Cemetery plot must be completely fenced off with boundaries clearly identified. All burial sites must remain inside of the fenced area. 5. All future driveway accesses must be approved by the Township.

Health & Human Services

On motion by Denny and seconded by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Approve the listed members serving on the Todd County Public Health Advisory Committee as follows: The committee members include: Barb Becker, County Commissioner-District 1; Randy Neumann, County Commissioner-District 5; Jackie Och, Todd County Health & Human Services Director; Rona Bleess, Faith Community Nurse; Cindy Denning, Staples/Motley ISD #2170; Bernice Desotell, Community Member; Dr Alex Harsha, Medical Consultant; Megan Kruse, TWCC; Tanja Levin, Long Prairie/Grey Eagle ISD #2753; Jason Polovick, CTCCC; Amber Rasinski, Community Member; Randi Valencia, Community Member/Hispanic Laision; Lisa Warner, CentraCare Health Long Prairie.

On motion by Denny and seconded by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Approve notification to the Minnesota Department of Commerce, Todd County's intent to administer and deliver the Energy Assistance Program for FFY 2024.

On motion by Becker and seconded by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Approve the rescinding of Board Action Tracking Number 20230307-15.

Administration

On motion by Becker and seconded by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Approve the final amount of ARP funds previously authorized via BA #20210921-19 for Solid Waste staffing costs at $73,871.50, and allow remaining funds of $55,328.50 to be available for other proposed projects brought forward to the Board of Commissioners.

Closed Session

On motion by Noska and seconded by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To enter into closed session pursuant to Minnesota Statute §13D.05 Subd 3(b) at 9:34 a.m.

On motion by Denny and seconded by Becker, the meeting was reopened at 9:47 a.m.

On motion by Denny and seconded by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the hire of Kaylene Madsen as Human Resource Manager, at Grade 14 Step 3 of the salary grid.

County Auditor-Treasurer's Report

The County Auditor-Treasurer reported on the upcoming events including the annual audit via CLA is happening this week.

County Attorney's Report

The County Attorney reminded persons that there is a free legal clinic in the law library on the fourth Monday of every month from 1 - 3 p.m.; contact St. Cloud Legal Aid office or County Attorney office to get connected with this service.

County Commissioner's Report

The Commissioners reported on meetings and events attended.

Commissioner Noska had meetings with Ag Society for upcoming events and TWCC updates.

Commissioner Becker reported on Dept Head, Soil & Water, TWCC, Personnel, Feedlot meeting, Broadband Coalition meeting, Long Prairie Watershed meeting, and Finance Committee.

Commissioner Denny had Hilltop Kitchen meeting, Hands of Hope meeting, Ag society and the Broadband Coalition meeting.

Commissioner Neumann will provide full report at the April 4th board meeting. Attended Second Amendment rally meeting in Osakis regarding proposed legislation.

County Coordinator's Report

The County Coordinator reported on many of the meetings already discussed and recruitment trends.

Adjourn

On motion by Becker and seconded by Denny, the meeting was adjourned for the month of March 2023.

COMMISSIONER WARRANTS

VENDOR NAME	AMOUNT
ANDERSON INDUSTRIAL SCALES INC	$2,450.00
ARC ELECTRIC SERVICE	$8,892.54
COMPASS MINERALS AMERICA	$27,647.54
HILLYARD	$2,267.10
JOSH'S AUTOBODY AND TOWING	$3,390.11
LONG PRAIRIE LEADER	$2,333.25
MORRIS ELECTRONICS	$10,056.80
WHITMORE SALES INC	$2,327.40
60 PAYMENTS LESS THAN $2,000	$22,735.64
Total:	**$82,100.38**

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES WARRANTS

VENDOR NAME	$ AMOUNT
BRENNY FUNERAL CHAPEL - STAPLES	$3,500.00
DHS - SWIFT	$2,036.97
COST EFF HEALTH INS - V #4106	$2,352.02
KARVONEN FUNERAL HOME - WADENA	$3,500.00
COST EFF HEALTH INS - V #16675	$2,919.58
RURAL MN CEP INC	$15,085.17
SHI CORP	$3,201.67
USPS - POC	$4,809.00
148 PAYMENTS LESS THAN $2,000	$69,423.54
Total:	**$106,827.95**

VENDOR NAME	$ AMOUNT
#17141	$3,016.44
PINEHAVEN YOUTH AND FAMILY SRVS INC	$8,718.82
PRAIRIE LAKES YOUTH PROGRAMS	$19,756.80
#17183	$2,166.92
STEP	$4,924.40
VALLEY LAKE BOYS HOME INC	$19,750.00
VILLAGE RANCH INC	$3,452.75
WEST CENTRAL REG JUVENILE CTR	$4,686.00
PAYMENTS LESS THAN $2,000	$26,439.62
Total:	**$92,911.75**

On a motion by Erickson and seconded by Noska, the preceding minutes of the County Board meeting held March 21, 2023 were duly approved by unanimous vote at the Todd County Board of Commissioners at the Regular Board Meeting held on April 4, 2023.

Witness my hand and seal:
Randy Neumann,
County Board Chairperson
Denise Gaida,
Todd County Auditor-Treasurer

17pnc

NOTICE CITY OF STAPLES ORDINANCE NO. 542 REGULATING THE SALE OF TETRAHYDROCANNABINOL PRODUCTS IN THE CITY OF STAPLES

THE CITY COUNCIL DOES ORDAIN:

ARTICILE VII. TETRAHYDROCANNABINOL PRODUCTS

It is the purpose of the city council to regulate the sale of legalized adult-use of any product that contains tetrahydrocannabinol and that meets the requirements to be sold for human or animal consumption under Minnesota Statute 151.72. This ordinance is enacted to ensure responsible THC product retailing, allowing legal sale and access without promoting increases in use, and to discourage violation of THC Product-related laws, especially those which prohibit or discourage the marketing, sale or distribution of THC products to youth under 21 years of age.

NOTICE: THE FOLLOWING PUBLISHED MATERIAL IS ONLY A SUMMARY OF THE ADDITION OF ARTICLE VII TO THE STAPLES CITY CODE. THE ENTIRE ORDINANCE IS AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW ON THE CITY'S WEBSITE AT STAPLES.GOVOFFICE.COM OR AT CITY HALL DURING REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS.

Adopted this 11th day of April, 2023

Ron Murray, Mayor
City of Staples
Attest:
Tara Greer, City Clerk

17pnc

CITY OF STAPLES NOTICE OF MEETING TO CONSIDER THE VARIANCE APPLICATION FOR A MINIMUM LOT SIZE IN THE B-1 DISTRICT AT 213 4TH ST NE

NOTICE is hereby given that the Staples Board of Appeals and Adjustment will meet at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 20, 2023, at the Staples City Hall, 122 6th St NE, to consider the application for a Variance to Section 109-75 (e)(1), to create a parcel in the B-1 Zoning District that is less than 2,000 square feet by splitting Parcel #38-0014400 at the existing common wall.

All persons interested are invited to attend this meeting and be heard on this matter. If you would like to submit a comment, please email it to tgreer@ci.staples.mn.us. If you would like to mail a comment the address is 122 6th St NE, Staples MN 56479.

Dated: April 18, 2023

Tara Greer, City Clerk
City of Staples

17pnc

NOTICE FAWN LAKE TOWNSHIP ANNUAL ROAD TOUR

The Fawn Lake Township Annual Road Tour will be held Friday, April 28, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.

Meet at the town hall prior to 9:00 a.m. Questions call the clerk, 218-531-0287.

Kelly Miller, Clerk
Fawn Lake Township

17-18pnc

NOTICE MEADOWBROOK TOWNSHIP 2022 ANNUAL ROAD REVIEW

Meadowbrook Township will hold its annual road review on Friday, April 28, 2023.The board will meet at 12:00 p.m. at the Leader Community Hall and proceed to drive and review all township roads from there, making note of road maintenance issues that must be corrected.

Ty Peterson, Clerk
Meadowbrook Township

17pnc

NOTICE MOTLEY PUBLIC CEMETERY ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

The Motley Public Cemetery Association will hold their annual meeting, Monday, May 1, 2023, 6:00 p.m. at BRICKS, Motley.

Greg Frisk,
Secretary

16-17pnc

Filed in District Court
State of Minnesota
March 30, 2023

COUNTY OF TODD
DISTRICT COURT
PROBATE DIVISION
SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
Court File No. 77-PR-23-262

ESTATE OF
Dennis L. Fore,
Decedent

NOTICE AND ORDER FOR HEARING ON PETITION FOR DESCENT OF PROPERTY

A Petition for Determination of Descent has been filed with this Court. The Petition represents that the Decedent died more than three years ago, leaving property in Minnesota and requests the descent of such property be determined and assigned by this Court to the persons entitled to the property.

Any objections to the Petition must be filed with the Court prior to or raised at the hearing. If proper, and no objections are filed or raised, the Petition may be granted.

IT IS ORDERED and Notice is further given, that the Petition will be heard on May 8, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. by this Court at Todd County District Court, Minnesota via remote Zoom hearing.

1. Notice shall be given to all interested persons (MINN. STAT. § 524.1-401) and persons who have filed a demand for notice pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 524.3-204.

2. Notice shall be given by publishing this Notice and Order as provided by law and by: Mailing a copy of this Notice and Order at least 14 days prior to the hearing date..

BY THE COURT
Dated: September 21, 2009

Daniel A. Benson
Judge of District Court

Kim Peterson
Court Administrator/
Deputy Court Administrator

Attorney for Petitioner
Name: Robert L. Russell
Firm: Robert L. Russell, Attorney at Law
Street: 220 W Washington Ave, Suite 103
City, State, ZIP:
Fergus Falls, MN 56537
Attorney License No: 94523
Telephone: 218-998-6400
FAX: 218-998-6404
Email: robert@russell-lawoffice.com

16-17pnc

TODD COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

215 1st Ave. South, Suite 103
Long Prairie, MN 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, May 4, 2023 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, but Zoom and phone options are still available for those who are unable to attend in person. If you wish to join via Zoom, please contact our office for the call-in information. 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.

AGENDA

•Call to Order.

•Introduction of Planning Commission Members and process review.

•The applicant is introduced

•Staff report

•Applicant confirms if staff report accurately represents the request Public comment

•Board review with applicant, staff, and public

•Approval of agenda.

•Approval of the April 6, 2023 Planning Commission meeting minutes.

1. All Energy Solar: Section 32, Lady Lake, Burnhamville Township Site Address: 15364 County 102, Grey Eagle, MN 56336
PID: 06-0044601

1. Request for a Conditional Use Permit for a ground mounted interconnection solar PV system in AF- 1, AF-2 and Natural Environment Shoreland Zoning.

2. Knife River: Section 19, Round Prairie Township. Site Address: 17576 231st Ave., Long Prairie, MN 56347 PID: 21-0021000

1. Request for a Conditional Use Permit to place a temporary asphalt plant in AF-1 and Commercial Zoning.

3. Barry Thoele: Section 14, Staples Township
Site Address: 48301 County 21, Staples, MN 56479 PID: 22-0014100

1. Request for a Conditional Use Permit for a year-round greenhouse in R-2 Zoning.

4. Cody Rossmann - Wolf River Electric: Section 27, Staples Township
Site Address: 46406 Red Oak Road, Staples, MN 56479
PID: 22-0024500

1. Request for a Conditional Use Permit for a ground mounted interconnection solar PV system in AF-1 Zoning.

5. Kandota Landing, Inc - Chuck Anderson: Section 35, Cedar Lake, Little Sauk Township Site Address: 21166 150th Street, Sauk Centre, MN 56378
PID: 17-0039701 & 17-0039800

1. Request for a Conditional Use Permit for a Planned Unit Development for up to six Non-transient RV hookup sites in Recreational Development Shoreland Zoning.

6. Josh Brichacek: Section 06, Hartford Township Site Address: 32389 US 71, Browerville, MN 56438 PID: 12-0006903

1. Request for a Conditional Use Permit to expand the existing auto body repair and towing business and to establish a salvage/junk yard in Commercial Zoning.

7. Proposed Amendment to Todd County Planning & Zoning Ordinance: 1. Section 9.08: Sewage Treatment Standards

Adjournment.
Next Meeting:
June 1, 2023

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 Planning Commission
Jim Pratt, Chair

17pnc

SMBP cleanup program assists Staples residents

The community-wide clean up will be May 19 this year. This is the day when residents can take large items and equipment that needs to be disposed to a disposal station that will be set up at the Staples city shop area.

A program from Staples-Motley Beyond Poverty (SMBP) will supplement the cleanup day for residents who may need assistance hauling items or paying for the disposal fees.

The SMBP group is taking applications from residents who need help with loading, hauling and disposal of trash, junk and recyclables.

Applications can be found at Staples City Hall or on the City of Staples web site. The Staples World also has applications.

Options on the applications include people who have their own transportation but need help loading the items onto their vehicle or trailer. The group can also load and haul items.

The application asks for an estimate of the number of items to dispose of and the types of items.

If the applicant wants help with the disposal fees, they can fill out an income-based portion of the application.



Cleanup crew 2022

Part of the cleanup crew from last year's SMBP Community Cleanup Support Program, from left, Stewart Wiebesick, Gail Honek, North Wiebesick, Elizabeth and Andrea DiGiovanni, Kathy and Roy Miles, Les Killian, Judy Richter and Melissa Wyman. (Submitted photo)



The last hurrah for shovels

Bobbie Braford (left) and Travis Wolfe cleared snow and ice from the sidewalk along 7th St. NE in Staples April 10. There was still quite a bit of the white stuff that had accumulated during recent snow storms, but with temperatures in the 50s that day, it was beginning to melt rapidly. Both Braford and Wolfe were confident they could soon put their shovels in storage until next winter. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



Two swans 'a swimming...

A sign of spring, the Trumpeter swans have returned to the flooded field across from Central Lakes College in Staples. The swans were swimming in the melted run off near the walking path on April 12, however the water had receded by the following day. (Staples World photo by Janice Winter)

COUNCIL continued from page 1a

Electric generator could help in emergencies, peak times

to the north substation, it would increase capacity and the entire electrical system would work more efficiently.

The council approved applying for the grant to help pay for the improvement.

Grabbe also asked the council if he should continue to pursue adding a diesel generator for electricity. He said it would mainly be used in emergencies if the electrical supply were damaged by a storm or other outage. But also as the electrical supply is moving toward renewable energy, the diesel generator could be used to supplement the grid if the renewable supply couldn't handle peak loads.

"With the uncertainty of the grid, we would like to have it," said Grabbe.

He said Missouri River Energy has asked if Staples could develop local power generation and have created incentives to help the project. Because the power generated is sold on the market, Grabbe said it would pay for itself, possibly in around 10 years or more.

In other news, the council approved agreements with Missouri River Energy and Western Area Power, the city's two electrical power suppliers.



Longtime landmark

The Motley Fair, known as 'Morrison County's Oldest, Continuous Fair,' has been a fixture in the community since 1911. The current fair board has decided to step down and recently reached out to the Motley Community Events Organization to see if they would take over. A meeting to discuss the fair's future and what it would take to keep it going was held April 12, at BRICKS Restaurant in Motley. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

FAIR continued from page 1a

Fairgrounds insurance could be factor

would be willing to help out again. He went on to mention that Morrison and Cass are the only two counties that have two fairs. He wondered if there was too much competition for all to succeed? Klimek said that as far as Cass County, both Pillager and Pine River are separate entities and "we don't butt heads."

Barb Trantina said that the Motley Fair has been a great "starter fair" for kids, including her own, who have shown animals there. They've enjoyed it and learned a lot during the process.

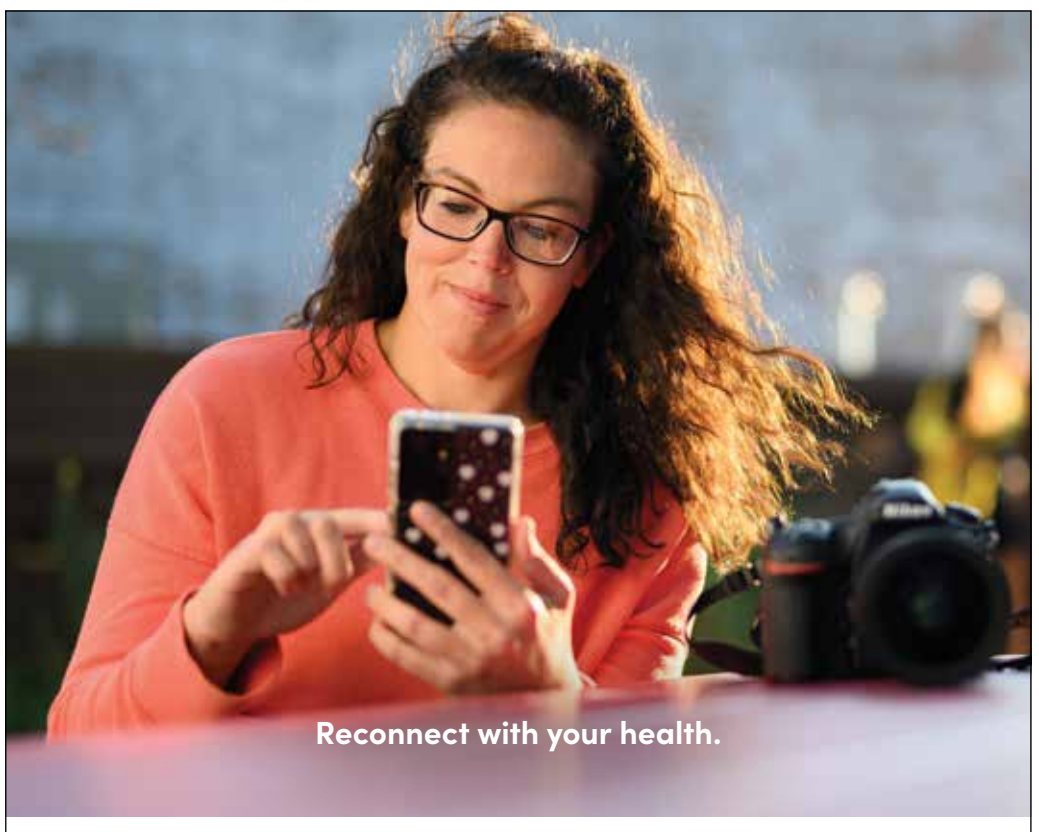
To remain a fair, 4-H and animals would need to remain a part of it. Shawn Jordahl mentioned that it would have to be run by an ag. organization, with its own board.

During the subsequent discussion, someone mentioned that before a new entity could take over, the current fair board would need to dissolve first (with all board members officially resigning) . The fair board and the MCEO would continue to run as two separate entities, as they are both nonprofits and have different bylaws.

It was also noted that an investment in insurance will need to be made. Currently, the fairgrounds (and its buildings) are not insured…'special events' insurance has been purchased for events such as the three-day fair. Walt Trantina, who holds auctions at the fairgrounds, said he carries a bond, in case something happens. His first auction this year will be April 29, Trantina said, adding that he cleans up before and after the auctions. He also said that he owns most of the tables in the big building at the fairgrounds, but that the fair board/MCEO could use them.

At the close of the meeting, a group was formed, tasked with stopping by the fairgrounds and putting together a list of projects that needed to be done. Tony Brichacek agreed to lead this group of volunteers. Others who signed up to help include Tom Daly, Bruce Brotherton, Steve Lorber, Larry Beckner, Shawn Jordahl, Jim Trantina, John Trantina and Barb Trantina.

The next MCEO meeting will be held Wednesday, April 26, at 6 p.m., at Motley City Hall.



LET'S CHECK IN

Scheduling a wellness visit is a simple, easy way to take care of yourself. Whether it's face-to-face or virtually, we're committed to providing the right care for you.

Our Primary Care team offers visits for all ages, including:

- Well-Child or Teen Visits
- Adult Preventative Visits
- Sport Physicals
- Medicare Annual Wellness Visits

Schedule online with a Family Medicine provider at EssentiaHealth.org/CloseToHome

Essentia Health