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Staples couples buy Wadena DQ
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8 10499 02493 3



Wednesday, April 5, 2023 Staples World Staples, Minnesota $1.25

Tae Kwon Do Students at the United Tae Kwon Do Systems of Staples, led by Master Francisco Jimenez, practiced a number of martial arts forms at the studio in Staples. See story on page 7a. (Photo by Dawn Timbs)

Plans in place for Old Wadena Society meeting

Plans are being made for Old Wadena Society members to conduct their annual meeting and election of board members at the Historic Northern Pacific Depot in Staples at 1 p.m. Sunday, April 16, 2023.

The public and all OHS members are invited to attend and hear Deana Malone, administrator of Wadena County's parks system, discuss past history and future plans for all of the Crow Wing River parks. She will also discuss the re-construction and re-planting efforts at Old Wadena Park after last year's tornado. The Memorial weekend twister demolished a recently constructed pavilion and devastated the main campground area, uprooting many trees.

OHS members plan to discuss preliminary plans for this year's Old Wadena Rendezvous planned for August 12 and 13 at the park. The group recently learned that it was one of numerous organizations awarded a major grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board to be used to fund artistic activities and entertainment at this year's rendezvous. Additional funding is also being provided by the Five Wings Arts Council Board.

The roughly 30-year-old organization also plans to present their "Friend of Old Wadena" award this year posthumously to Sally Ireland Robertson, a long time OWS member and active volunteer at annual rendezvous for over 20 years. A long time attorney and retired District Court judge with chambers in both Todd and Wadena counties, Judge Sally was a strong supporter of Old Wadena activities.



Active Easter celebration

Area youth enjoyed hula hoops, basketball and bouncy house, among the many games at the '93 Lions Easter Eggstravaganza on April 1 at the Staples Community Center. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)

Traffic stop in rural Staples results in arrest, drugs seized

Cass County Sheriff Bryan Welk reports that on March 28, at 3:09 p.m., a Cass County deputy initiated a traffic stop on a vehicle on MN State Hwy 64 in Ansel Township, rural Staples, for speeding.

During the investigation, an individual was removed from the vehicle and a search was conducted, during which three individually wrapped baggies of white powder were located. Through the deputy's training and experience, he believed it to be cocaine or fentanyl. The substance was later weighed and field-tested positive for fentanyl, containing 194 grams with an estimated street value of approximately $19,400. The male, Noel Cortez, age 21, of Cass Lake, was arrested and transported to the Cass County Detention Center with formal charges pending.

Sheriff Welk reports that during the first quarter of 2023 drug investigations have been very active in Cass County, including the seizure of seven firearms, as well as the seizure of 743 grams of methamphetamine, 1.25 grams of cocaine, 28 grams of psychedelic mushrooms, 48 grams of fentanyl, and 85 gabapentin pills. A stolen truck and a stolen dump trailer were also recovered. A total of $35,548 in U.S. currency was seized and is pending forfeiture. Twenty-three probable cause arrests were made and seven warrant arrests were completed.

Sheriff Welk reports that most of these investigations start with a tip from the public. The Cass County Sheriff's Office encourages you to report suspected drug or other crime-related information to the sheriff's office. You can request to speak to the investigation staff and you can remain anonymous. You can also report tips and information online through Crime Stoppers of MN through their website portal at: http://crimestoppersmn.org.

Community Foundation award submissions

Nominations are now being accepted for the Staples Motley Area Community Foundation's 2023 Community Awards. A time to honor and encourage community involvement is the hallmark of nearly every successful community. To that end, the Staples Motley Area Community Foundation (SMACF) yearly solicits your nominations for the following awards:

- Citizen of the Year
- Business or Organization of the Year
- Youth of the Year

This year's awards are co-sponsored by the Staples Chamber. Award recipients will be announced in May on the Staples Motley Area Community Foundation Facebook page and in the Staples World newspaper. Recipients will be recognized at other SMACF events throughout the year. Nominations will be accepted through April 15. Please visit https://www.staplesmotleyfoundation.org/community-awards.html for more details and information on how to submit a nomination.

The inspiration for the SMACF community awards originated with the celebration held in 2004 to honor Dr. Duane R. Lund for his lifetime achievement of contributions to the area. During the planning for that event, the SMACF decided one of the best ways to honor Dr. Lund was to continue his mission of enabling the gifts of so many others to flourish and bloom in the community.

Community Foundation grant round

The Staples Motley Area Community Foundation (SMACF) announced the start of the 2023 grant round. The SMACF is a Turn Key fund of the Initiative Foundation, established with the mission to develop and strengthen community resources and to enhance the quality of life of individuals, families, and organizations in the Staples Motley School District. Through local dollars, the SMACF provides direct grants to projects within the community that:

- Strengthen youth and families: Supplementing the endeavors of others in developing and implementing positive opportunities for youth and families.
- Improve community appearance: Making our community attractive and inviting to visitors and improving the appearance of the community to make residents proud to live here.
- Increase community involvement and leadership: Promoting citizen community involvement by developing and identifying leaders within the community in order to instill a sense of solidarity based on the assets of our community.

Grant opportunities are available to public, academic, and nonprofit organizations that serve residents living and/or working in the boundaries of the Staples-Motley School District, ISD #2170. For full eligibility requirements, please visit www.staplesmotleyfoundation.org.

To start an application, visit www.staplesmotleyfoundation.org/how-to-apply.html and click "Start a New Application." This will redirect to an online grant system operated by the Initiative Foundation. Through this system, applicants can create an account, complete an eligibility quiz, submit proposals, review application history, and submit grant reports. The deadline to submit applications is April 15, 2023.

Questions about the grants available or the application process, can be directed to the SMACF Grants Committee Chair, Nick Trout, by phone at (218) 296-2565 or email at troutnicholas@gmail.com.

The Staples Motley Area Community Foundation is a component fund of the Initiative Foundation. Its mission is to develop and strengthen community resources, and to enhance the quality of life of individuals, families and organizations in and around the Staples community. Its focus is to strengthen youth and families, improve community appearance, and increase community involvement and a sense of belonging.

Weather

This Week's Forecast

	High	Low	Cond.
Apr. 5	30	15	Snow
Apr. 6	31	31	M. Cloudy
Apr. 7	40	26	P. Cloudy
Apr. 8	46	29	M.Cloudy
Apr. 9	44	28	Cloudy
Apr. 10	46	27	P. Cloudy
Apr. 11	47	29	M. Cloudy

Last Year, 2022

	High	Low	Cond.
Apr. 5	40°	20	Sunny
Apr. 6	38	32	Rain
Apr. 7	33	31	Snow
Apr. 8	40	28	Sunny
Apr. 9	48	25	Sunny
Apr. 10	51	36	M. Cloudy
Apr. 11	48	35	Sunny

Average Temps:
H = 48° Low = 30°
Snow Totals Thru March:
Staples-Motley - 80"
Twin Cities - 89.7"
Alexandria - 65"
St. Cloud - 84"
(amounts vary)

Compiled by Dale Hausmann, WCCO's Staples area Weatherwatcher

Public Notices

City of Staples **9A**
Meadowbrook: **9A**
Staples: **9A**

Obituaries

Gregg Chapin
Ross Miller
Richard Peterson
Gwendolyn Schoon



Donations to the Motley Area Food Shelf



The Motley Area Food Shelf (MAFS) recently received donations from area organizations totaling $15,500.

Above, Dan Noss, with the Randall VFW, presented two checks to the MAFS: one from the Randall VFW for $3,000 and another from the Randall Lions for $2,500. Pictured, from left, are Jim Kaup, MAFS volunteer; Sherry Frisk, MAFS director; Noss; Fran Kokett and Lorrie Brathol, MAFS volunteers.

Lower photo: Lion Bruce Brotherton, center, presented a $10,000 check to the food shelf from the Motley Lions. Also pictured are MAFS Director Frisk (left) and MAFS volunteer Kokett. (Submitted photos)



Special shirts donated to Lakewood

The Pillager & Area Lions Club recently donated 16 shirts to the Infusion Therapy center at Lakewood Health System (LHS) Hospital, Staples. The shirts, which have zippers, make it easier for patients to access their ports during chemotherapy infusions, without having to pull off their shirts or other invasive measures. Pictured, from left, are LHS Oncology staff Michael Cole, Alicia Miller, Emily Berg, Brooke Rohl; and Pillager Lions Holly Thiers (who sewed all the zippers) and Cathy Johnson-Tripp (who organized the project). Kim Pilgrim (not pictured) made labels for the shirts.

Johnson-Tripp, who is treasurer for the Pillager & Area Lions, shared that she had been diagnosed with breast cancer this past September and had her last chemo infusion at Lakewood at the time of this photo. On her first visit there, the nurses gave her a shirt with a zipper, mentioning that it had been donated to the cancer infusion center. After learning they were low on stock, Johnson-Tripp checked with her Lions club to see if it was a project they were interested in being a part of. The Pillager & Area Lions Club immediately made up 16 shirts to give to the infusion center and are working to expand the project to the district level. Anyone interested in donating new T-shirts are asked to call Johnson-Tripp at 218-838-9285. The Pillager & Area Lions will supply the zippers and labor to make the 'port shirts' to be donated to local hospitals. (Submitted photo)

Drugs seized, two arrested, after traffic stop in Motley

Two St. Paul men were arrested following a traffic stop in Motley March 18, during which law enforcement located a large quantity of drugs in their vehicle.

The incident took place at Hwy 10 South and Spruce Road. According to a news release, a Motley Police Officer observed a vehicle drive past him in the City of Motley, having dark window tint and expired registration. The officer conducted a traffic stop and identified the driver as 41-year-old Timothy Salazar; and the passenger as 64-year-old Steven Sutton, both of St. Paul.

Both subjects were initially placed under arrest for outstanding warrants. The officer also observed drug paraphernalia in plain view in the vehicle. The officer searched both subjects and located what was believed to be controlled substances on both of them, including methamphetamine, cocaine, prescription pills and suspected fentanyl. During a search of the vehicle, more suspected controlled substances were located inside of the vehicle. An estimated total of 102 grams of methamphetamine, 243 suspected fentanyl pills, six grams of cocaine and 24 other prescription pills were located in the search.

Both subjects were transported to the Morrison County Jail in Little Falls. The press release states that Salazar was booked with felony third degree controlled substance possession and felony introduction of contraband into the jail. Sutton was booked for felony first degree controlled substance possession, second degree controlled substance possession, and prohibited possession of a stun gun.

The Motley Police Department was assisted on scene by the Staples Police Department and the Morrison County Sheriff's Office.



Pillager Family Council receives $20,000 grant

The Bernick Family Foundation recently awarded $20,000 to the Pillager Family Council, with the funds designated to go toward improving the city's skating rink (adding cement, surrounding boards and lighting) and building a warming house, all of which are located on the Pillager Fairgrounds property. Pictured, from left, are Jason Bernick from the Bernick Family Foundation; Eric Fornshell, local business owner; Betty Doss, Pillager Family Center; and Lori Blumke, with the City of Pillager.

The Pillager Family Council is a group of community members from area organizations, area businesses, the City of Pillager and the Pillager School, who meet monthly to discuss good things happening in town, and what things need improvement. They are excited to start work on the above-mentioned project this spring and are grateful to the Bernick Family Foundation as well as others who have donated materials, supplies and labor. This group meets the second Wednesday of each month at the Huntin' Shack in Pillager at 12:30 p.m. All are welcome. (Submitted photo)

Motley area law enforcement report

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

March 15 - 21

March 16 - The MPD received a report of a vehicle off the roadway along Hwy 10 at River Road West, Motley. There were no injuries and no damage to the vehicle. The driver was calling for a tow-truck.

March 16 - The MPD issued a speeding citation to Kyvan Quarry, 33.

March 15 - The MPD assisted the MCSO with a dog bite at the 100 block of Eldredge St. E., Motley.

March 17 - The MCSO responded to a report of a turkey barn on fire at the 37000 block of Bugle Rd., Motley.

March 16 - The MCSO responded to a one-vehicle rollover on Hwy 10 and Azure Rd., Cushing, and assisted Minnesota State Patrol.

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Enjoying Friday's fish and fellowship

Hundreds of people stopped by Sacred Heart Church in Staples on Fridays during Lent to enjoy the weekly fish fry dinner, the 10th annual fundraiser for Sacred Heart Area School. Volunteers for the meal (which included fish, scalloped potatoes, baked beans, coleslaw, bread, seafood salad and dessert) included parishioners, parents, students and staff. The final fish fry will be held March 31. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



Looking back

75 Years Ago - 1948

• April 1, 1948 - Staples hospital has been a busy place since the first of the year, and it has taken a lot of work to care for the 37 babies who have been born at the hospital since the first of the year.

The girl babies lead the boy babies. Twenty little girls were born in the three-months period and 17 baby boys. Up to Tuesday afternoon of this week, four babies were in the hospital, being cared for by the nursing staff.

- o -

Compiled by
Dawn Timbs

April 1, 1948 - Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Sams of 5 miles southwest of Staples, are the proud parents of twin boys who were born to them Monday morning, March 29, at the Thiel hospital in Bertha.

Both of the little lads weighed 6 and one-half pounds. As yet they have not been named. The babies have a little brother three years old.

• April 1, 1948 - It is a unique thing to have twins as valedictorian and salutatorian of any high school graduating class, and this is just what happened at Bertha this year when final standings were revealed for Karl Bottemiller, who is valedictorian, and his sister, Kathryn, who is the salutatorian of the class.

The Bottemiller twins are a nephew and niece of Miss Esther Bottemiller of Staples.

• April 1, 1948 - Many of the stores in Staples "did themselves proud" with the Easter displays this year, and these windows attracted hundreds of people who passed "up and down" the streets prior to Easter Sunday.

• April 1, 1948 - A dramatic version of Louise M. Alcott's "Little Women", which has been selected as the Motley High School's senior class play, will be presented April 30, at 8:15 p.m.

Thelma Ramey plays Jo; Rae Lorene Roberts, Meg; Doris Heinen, Amy; Darlene Johnson, Beth; Beatrice Ackerson, Marmee; Douglas Frisk, Laurie; David Pribbenow, Professor Bhaer; Joe Hazuka, John Brooke; Barbara Johnson, Aunt March; and Clarence Johnson, Mr. March; Katherine Scruppie is the student director and the production is under the direction of John Phelps.

50 Years Ago - 1973

• April 5, 1973 - Will a community center be constructed in Staples? This is the question that will be answered by the qualified voters of the City of Staples at a special election Tuesday, April 10.

• April 5, 1973 - The resignations of four elementary faculty members and football coaching duties of Frank Leidenfrost were accepted at the special meeting of the Staples Board of Education Monday evening.

C. Richard Longbella, board clerk, said that the four elementary teachers giving their resignations at the end of the current school year were Mary Haukom, sixth grade at Staples Elementary; Mrs. Marion Stone, music at Staples Elementary; Mrs. Ada Roberts, third grade at Staples Elementary; and Janet M. Travis, first level at Lincoln Model Nongraded school.

After seven years at the helm of the Staples Cardinal Football team, Frank Leidenfrost submitted his resignation from the coaching duties only. Longbella said that the resignation was accepted and that Leidenfrost will remain within the high school as a faculty member.

• April 5, 1973 - Seven young men at Staples High school received trophies from the Staples Lions Club, designating them as the Most Valuable Player in their respective sport. Trophy recipients were Rick Pohl, cross-country; Craig Dezell, baseball; Pat Wilhelmson, golf; Mike Hajek, track; Denny Hanson, football backfield; Robert Rego, football lineman; Charlie Sowers, wrestling; and Joe Neznik, basketball.

Sharon Greenwood received the award from the Staples Lionells as the Most Valuable Player in Girls' basketball. The "True Grit" Award by the Staples Quarterbacks Club went to Kevin Olsen, a Cardinal wrestler.

• April 5, 1973 - The Motley FFA General Livestock Team placed second in the District Contest March 21. The members of the team were Kenny Zetah, Charles Mick, Rodney Jenson, and Brian Alt.

• April 5, 1973 - In the Motley Locals: Mr. and Mrs. Bill Berndt and family, Crystal, spent the weekend with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Berndt and with Florence's mother, Mrs. Minnie Pribbenow and other relatives.

25 Years Ago - 1998

• April 2, 1998 - A man whose parents live in Staples was reported missing and presumed drowned Sunday in a boating accident on North Dakota's Goose River near Hillsboro.

The Trail County, N. D., Sheriff's Department reported three young men were missing following a boating accident Sunday morning. Craig Cameron, 29, of Grand Forks, son of Ike and Carol Cameron of Staples, was one of the three . Ike and Carol Cameron own and operate Lefty's Bar in Staples.

• April 2, 1998 - Staples Motley High School senior Jakin Koll won first prize in the essay contest sponsored by the Staples Rotary Çlub.

Koll's essay defined the need to preserve tropical rain forests, proposed methods to save them, and used the Rotary Four-Way Test to judge whether each method is likely to be reasonable, effective and beneficial.

Senior Lisa Reed won second prize for her essay about the desirability of FFA membership for high school students in the U.S.

Koll, Reed, and their teacher, Don Sanda, were guests at the Staples Rotary Club breakfast meeting March 25, at the Cardinal Cafe.

• April 2, 1998 - Showing at the Cozy Theatre in Wadena through April 9, "As good as it Gets." All Matinee Seats $2.50.

10 Years Ago - 2013

• April 4, 2013 - After 10 years of service in the community, the Stomping Grounds, a non-profit organization, will be closing at the end of April. It will be re-opening in the near future as a private-owned business. A final 'Soup Feed' will be held April 7, with a number of soups and breads available. To reserve a pottery bowl made by a Staples Motley High School art student, be sure to call ahead.

• April 4, 2013 - Staples Motley High School music students traveled by bus to New York City over spring break, where they toured a number of landmark sites, appeared on NBC's 'Today Show' and attended two Broadway plays..."Phantom of the Opera" and "Mama Mia." Two student reporters, Sarah Koopmann and Megan Han, took time to write down some highlights of the trip which they shared with the Staples World. A group photo shared featured the music students by the Alice in Wonderland sculpture in New York City's Central Park



Mystery photo

Hello readers. This week's archive photo is from our March 28, 1957 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.



Mystery solved

Last week's mystery photo published in the April 13, 1989 edition of the Staples World featured Mike Rollins, a fifth grader at Sacred Heart School in Staples; and his parents Virginia and Jim Rollins. Mike is pictured with trophies he'd received for basketball hoop contests (local, regional and state), including one for placing second at the Elks National Hoop Shoot regional national competition in Iowa City. It was one of 12 regional contests around the nation, with the first place winners advancing to the national event. Mike made 19 of 25 free throw attempts, while the winner made 22 of 25.

Janice Johnson, Huck Holst, Michelle Lundquist, Bruce Drone, Lori Bates, Mike Koppes, Judy Wolak, Carmen Nordell, all of Staples; and Pat DiGiovanni of Motley, correctly identified all in the photo. Drone mentioned that Jim Rollins was his supervisor when he worked at Staples-Motley Schools. Bates said she met Jim Rollins when she worked at the school business office and that he was a "super nice guy. And Virginia is one of the sweetest checkout ladies at Ernie's grocery store," she added. Koppes mentioned that he graduated from Staples High School with Virginia, and noted that Mike Rollins is now an electrician in Staples. Koppes thought the trophies were from bowling.

The 'boys from the bus garage' called in to say they were having coffee with Jim Rollins and one of them said, "Hey, Jim, you're in the paper!" Jim remembered their family traveling to Iowa City for the hoops shoot competition. Virginia Rollins wrote in to identify her family, recalling that her son Mike had been the local, district and state champion in the Hoop Shoot, sponsored by the Elks Lodge. "He then went to Iowa City for quarter nationals and placed second. It was a great time and brought back lots of memories. Thank you." Thanks for participating in our mystery photo.

Mariah Nieman, FNP, joins Lakewood's oncology staff

Mariah Nieman, family nurse practitioner (FNP), joins Lakewood Health System's oncology staff, Staples.

Originally from Pine River, Nieman received her bachelor of science in nursing degree from Western Governor's University and her master of nursing degree from Walden University. Nieman is a member of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners.

As a family nurse practitioner, Nieman will provide oncology care and support for patients, working alongside Dr. Wade Swenson and fellow family nurse practitioner, Alyssa Manning. Nieman has experience as a registered nurse, working within the medical/surgical, long-term care and hospice fields.

"I'm excited to be joining such an amazing team at Lakewood and to begin my journey within the oncology field," said Nieman.



Mariah Nieman, FNP

Nieman has a five-year-old daughter and together they enjoy traveling and anything outdoors. Her whole family is local to the Brainerd Lakes Area, so she's thankful for the opportunity to start her practice close to home.



Donation to SPARKS

The Staples Host Lions recently donated $1,500 to the SPARKS. The money will be used to fund their Lunch Buddies program next school year. Pictured, from left, are SPARKS board members Rosie Blessing and Rynell Schock; and Lion Frank Leidenfrost. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Motley area law enforcement report

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

March 22 - 28

March 28 - The MPD arrested Jasmine Leigh Bellcourt, 28, following a traffic stop at Hwys. 210/64 in Motley.

March 27 - The MPD received two reports of gas drive-offs at the Holiday Station in Motley; one in the amount of $35.83 and the other, $67.69.

March 26 - The MPD responded to a report of a suicidal subject at the 200 block of Ash St E., Motley. The subject made threats to harm staff as well.

March 22 - The MPD responded to a shooting complaint at the 900 block of Poplar Ln, Motley.

March 22 - The MPD received a report of a house fire at the 100 block of Beaulieu St W., Motley. The Motley Fire Department responded.

March 27 - Morrison County deputies received a request from the Crow Wing Sheriff's Office to check a residence at the 3200 block of Scandia Dr, Cushing. They had probable cause to arrest a subject there.

March 27 - The MCSO received a report of a domestic at the 1600 block of 320th St., Cushing. Children were present and witnessed the altercation.

March 27 - Morrison County deputies assisted the MPD with a stop at Hwys. 10/210 in Motley. Two passengers were placed in the squad vehicle while the police officer interviewed the driver.

March 26 - The MCSO received a report of harassment at the 100 block of Hwy. 10 N., Motley.


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BNSF changes result in fewer employees for track inspections

By John Mozinski Jr.
General Chairman
Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way
Employees Diviion
Burlington Northern System Federation

On January 6, 2020, we sent a letter to many newspapers, city councils, and elected representatives in WI, IA, MN, ND, SD, MT, ID, WA, and OR, and a copy of that letter is attached. The letter addressed "a matter that we believe could have dire consequences for public safety, specifically in regard to the possibility of a serious train derailment." Some newspapers ran articles based on the letter that our System Federation wrote. For example, on January 12, 2020, the Fargo Forum ran an article by Patrick Springer that was based on our letter.

During the three years since the last article was published, we have watched our membership dwindle in Seniority District 300, which includes Raymond, MN, where this latest derailment occurred. Total membership fell from 1,052 in 2016 to 618 in 2023.

We are Union Representatives with The Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employes Division, representing the men and women who construct and maintain railroad tracks, bridges, and buildings on BNSF Railway. Our concern focuses on BNSF Railway's continued plan to decrease the visual inspections made by our members and on the continuing decrease in our membership. As we stated in 2020, BNSF Railway reduced the number of visual track inspections that are crucial in catching any errors the new system makes. New technology may supplement visual track inspections, but it cannot replace what a track inspector can see and feel when he/she is actually on the tracks. It is also essential to ensure an adequate workforce in this age of Precision Scheduling Railroading (PSR) for railroads.

That is clearly not the case at this point, just based on pure numbers. While we currently do not know what caused the derailment, we wanted to provide some information on the effects of PSR in the area and the visual inspections.

As we stated on April 1, 2019, BNSF Railway changed their own track safety standards. BNSF unliterally changed their track inspection protocol, frequency, and key route definition. Not only has this affected the safety of BNSF employees but it has also put the general public at risk, and we cannot tolerate that. However, the rule remains unchanged, and that has resulted in fewer inspections, plain and simple. For example, the Raymond, MN, area where this derailment happened used to be inspected seven (7) days a week, but then the inspections dropped to four (4) times per week, and now the inspections have dropped further with only two (2) inspections per week. The roadmaster in the area used to have seven inspectors roll up to him, but now there are only four inspectors.

BNSF Railway made a change to their Engineering Instructions when they changed the definition of "key route" and inspection frequency, thus reducing the number of visual inspections or, put more simply, there are now fewer men and women who visually inspect and examine the tracks to look for problems that could derail the train.

Key routes were previously defined by having a total of 10,000 or more cars containing hazardous material traveling across them in a 12-month period.

The rule changed in BNSF Railway's Engineering Instructions dated April 1, 2019, when that note was removed, and the frequency rate dropped. It now reads:

"Track inspection on all BNSF main tracks and sidings that have been designated as key routes will be conducted in accordance with the FRA Track Safety Standards."

We had hoped BNSF would reverse their decision. But now we are waiting for the next derailment and waiting to see how BNSF will spin it when it does. It could happen in your community, or it could be the community down the tracks. We urge you act now to encourage your readers to contact their congressional representatives and to insist that they pass legislation that will keep the visual frequency of inspections, that will establish a set amount of BMWED workers per miles of railroad tracks, and that will eliminate Precision Scheduling Railroading (PSR) before it's too late.

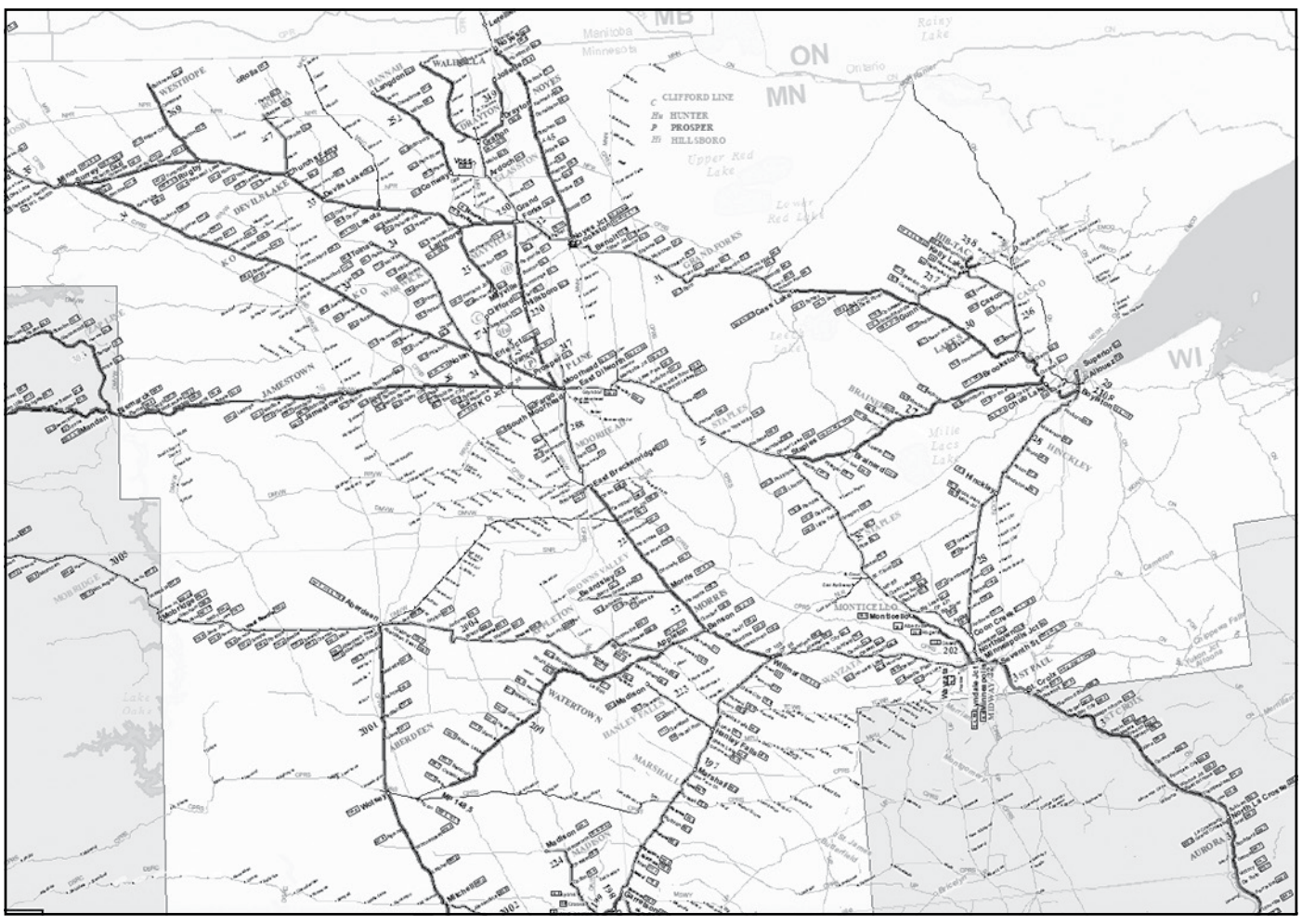
Employment on Railroads is down because of PSR.

On behalf of the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way, we thank you in advance for taking action.



Train safety concerns

Minnesota Governor Tim Walz toured the train derailment in Raymond, Minn. The accident has brought up the issue of train safety in Minnesota. (Submitted photo)



Staples line is mainstay of BNSF Fargo District

The BNSF Fargo District spans several states. The route from Minneapolis to Dilworth, which passes through Staples, is still called the Staples line.

Minnesota concerned about rail safety

From the office of Governor Tim Walz

Governor Tim Walz traveled to Raymond, Minnesota, to survey the site where a train carrying ethanol derailed. The Governor met with residents and offered the state's full support. The Governor is coordinating closely with the United States Department of Transportation, Minnesota Department of Transportation, Minnesota Department of Public Safety, and Homeland Security and Emergency Management to protect the health and safety of the Raymond community. Photos from the visit are attached.

"I am immensely grateful for the swift, coordinated response between local, state, and national partners to ensure the immediate safety of the Raymond community," said Governor Walz. "The state's multi-agency emergency response team will continue working on the ground to ensure health and safety. This incident has highlighted the critical need to invest in rail safety and the state's emergency management response to prevent incidents like this from happening again."

As the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Rail Safety during his time in Congress, Governor Walz helped secure requirements around puncture-resistant DOT-117J tank cars to reduce fatalities during the transport of hazardous materials.

The Governor's proposed budget makes significant investments in rail safety and emergency management, including:

- $600,000 for rail safety inspectors to ensure compliance with federal and state regulations.
- Over $300 million in funds to make safety improvements at rail crossings.
- Over $1 million annually to fund state emergency response assets and ensure response teams are ready to respond across the state when major emergency incidents occur.
- $40 million in increased funding for the Disaster Assistance Contingency Account to help communities respond to and recover from disasters $1 million each year to support firefighter training and education.
- Increasing funding for the Fire Safety Account to ensure fire agencies across the state have sustainable resources to support their work.

Quote of the week

"Thinking is the hardest work there is,
which is the probable reason why so few engage in it."
— Henry Ford

Promoting consensual, respectful relationships

By Connie Nelson
Victim Advocate
Hands of Hope Resource Center

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Most of us are a bit uncomfortable talking about sex, but we need to get past the blushing and have constructive conversation about sexuality and sexual abuse. Knowledge is essential to prevention, and that is the goal. By talking about it, we are promoting healthy behaviors that encourage healthy sexuality in ways that enrich our lives. Healthy sexuality is comprised of consensual, respectful relationships free of coercion and violence.

Our children, as young as twelve, are being impacted by misconceived messages of sexuality and are being sexually abused. Sexual abuse whether online or any other way is emotionally damaging, unforgettable, and often results in lifelong harm and agony. Over seventy percent of all sexual assaults are never reported to anyone. Victims are blamed and shamed for being part of this behavior. A clear message needs to be sent that there is NO disgrace in being a survivor of sexual assault, but that shame lies ONLY with the aggressor. Sexual offenses are not usually a reckless event, they are knowing, and often intentional, and most sexual offenses are committed by someone familiar to the victim. Most sexual aggressors are motivated by a need to control their victim. There is also adult sexual victimization as well and the characteristics are quite similar, as few are reported and most of the time the aggressor is known to the victim.

We need to start believing and supporting victims when they report sexual abuse. Rarely is someone falsely reporting that kind of violence. A negative response to victims can worsen the trauma for them, and foster an environment where perpetrators face no consequences for their crimes. Statistics show that sexual predators very rarely attack only once, many re-offend multiple times.

If you or someone you know has experienced a sexual assault and would like to have a confidential conversation about it, please feel free to contact an advocate at Hands of Hope Resource Center at 320-732-2319 or online at www.handsofhope.net.

Staples World

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

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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"Celebrate Aging Conference" May 18

Free event in Staples

The annual "Celebrate Aging Conference" will be held at Central Lakes College, Staples campus, on Thursday, May 18, from 8 a.m. - noon. This will be the first in-person gathering to be held in four years.

Topics from speakers will include "Flourishing in the second half of life" and "Laughter yoga." Musical entertainment will be provided by Singleton Street Band. In addition, over 40 vendors will be present.

Registration is not required and there is no charge. Meals will be provided to the first 275 participating guests.

For more information, contact Kristine Hoheisel by phone at 800-224-6451 or 320-468-6451; or email khoheisel@horizonhealthservices.com.

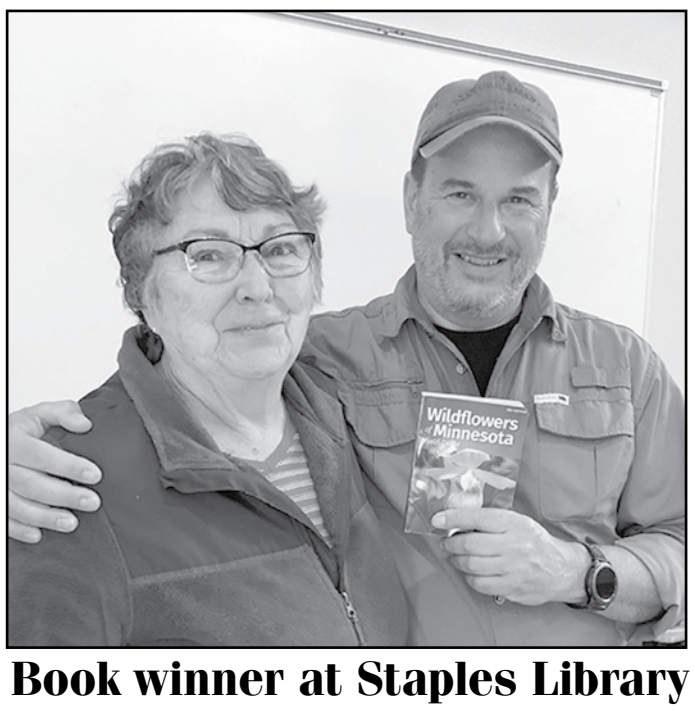
Lakewood Health System to host job fair

Lakewood Health System, Staples, will be hosting a job fair on Saturday, April 15, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at its main campus (49725 Cty. 83, Staples).

Various Lakewood departments will be on-site to meet with interested job seekers about opportunities available. Departments/teams include behavioral health, clinic nursing, dietary, emergency, environment services, lab, long-term care, patient access and radiology.

Interviews will take place on-site and job offers may be made on the spot. Retention bonuses of up to $5,000 are available for select positions and health and wellness benefits are available for both full and part-time employees.

Attendees should enter through the Main Entrance and members of Lakewood's Human Resources team will be on-hand to assist further.



Book winner at Staples Library

MaryLou Sapp of Staples won the Stan Tekiela book from the Nature's Treasures program recently held at the Staples Library. The next program will be held April 15 at 11:00 a.m. called "Start Seeing Mushrooms - an introduction to Spring fungi". With more than 5,000 species of mushrooms found in our area alone, learning about them can be challenging, fascinating and rewarding. When it comes to mushrooms, the most common questions include "What is this?" and "Can I eat it". The presentation is by Kathy Yerich, Minnesota Mycological Society and North American Mycological Association member and co-author of the local field guide. Attendees can register for a chance to win one of Kathy's books donated by the Staples Friends of the Library. No registration needed. This program was made possible with Arts & Cultural Heritage Funds from Minnesota's Clean Water, Land, and Legacy Amendment. (Submitted photo)

Easter church services listed

The following is a listing of Easter church services received:

Staples Assembly of God

April 6: Hosting Maundy Thursday Community Service, 6:30 p.m. with Staples Church of Christ

April 9: Easter Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.; Easter Service, 10 a.m.

Staples Church of Christ

April 6: Maundy Thursday Community service at Staples Assembly of God, 6:30 p.m.

April 7: Hosting Good Friday Community Service, 7:00 p.m. with Staples Assembly of God

April 9: Easter breakfast, 8:30-9:30 a.m.; Easter service 10 a.m.

Sacred Heart, Staples

April 6: Holy Thursday, 7:00 p.m.

April 7: Good Friday, 3:00 p.m.

April 8: Easter Vigil, 8:30 p.m.

April 9: Easter Sunday, 11:00 a.m.

St. Michael, Motley

April 9, Easter Sunday, 11:00 a.m.

Area churches, their addresses and contact information can be found on the weekly Church Directory in the Staples World. Check with your church listing for Easter service information.



March puzzle team winners

The "We're Puzzled" team put their puzzle together the fastest at the March activity held at the Staples Library. The last Puzzle Tournament will be held April 25 at 9:00 a.m. This program is provided by the Staples Friends of the Library. Call the library during open hours to sign up: Mon.,10 a.m.-6 p.m., Tues., 1-8 p.m., Weds., 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Thurs., 1-8 p.m., Fri., 1-5 p.m. and Sat. 9 a.m.-noon; 218-894-14041. Above: Sandy Moran, Sarah Kronbeck and Gina DeWald. (Submitted photo)



Food Shelf donations

The Student Councils of Staples-Motley Middle/High Schools recently donated money and a number of food items to the Staples Area Food Shelf. Pictured, from left, are Allison Vangsness, high school advisor; Lion Frank Leidenfrost; and Sarah Decker, middle school advisor. The students raised the money in a variety of ways, including during 'hat days' and at a dance. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Cardinal Calendar

Staples-Motley School events

April

- **Instrumental Solo/Ensemble Contest at Sebeka** April 5
- **Vocal Solo/Ensemble Contest at Pequot Lakes** April 12
- **Music Ensemble Showcase - Cafeteria** April 14, 4 p.m.
- **Paul Bunyan Band Festival at Pillager HS** April 21, 7 p.m.

May

- **Dollars for Scholars Awards Night** May 3, 7 p.m.
- **Prom** May 6

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

Motley Fair meeting

A meeting on the Motley Fair will be held Wednesday, April 12, at 6:30 p.m. at Bricks in Motley.

This meeting is open to to public to discuss the future of the Motley Fair.

Mark Your Calendar

April 5, 6

Free Tax-Aide Wednesdays, 1-4 p.m. and Thursdays, 10 a.m.- 4 p.m., through April 13, Staples City Hall. Must call for an appointment at 218-296-6616. For low to moderate income taxpayers.

April 10

'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.

April 29

Staples Sportsmen's Club Field Day and Online All Day Field Day Saturday, April 29, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Students must be 12 years old by the start of this year's deer hunting season. *Traditional FAS classes begin April 17.* For info., to register, call Darlys or Jon Hamberg at 218-894-2255 (8 - 4 Mon. - Fri.) or 218-894-2608 after 6 p.m.; or Bob Koenig at 218-352-6390.



Donation to food shelf

The Staples Host Lions recently donated $5,000 to the Staples Area Food Shelf. Pictured, from left, are food shelf volunteers Dawn Adamietz and Lisa Kajer; and Lion Frank Leidenfrost (also a food shelf volunteer). (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

COMMUNITY EGG HUNT
SATURDAY, APRIL 16
STAPLES ALLIANCE CHURCH
1512 8TH ST NE, STAPLES
ACTIVITIES START AT 9:30
EGG HUNT BEGINS AT 10:45
AGES 2-12! CANDY AND FUN! RAIN OR SHINE!
ACTIVITIES INSIDE! HUNT OUTSIDE!

Needing/Wanting a Granite Memorial FOR YOUR FAMILY?
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Rep. for Fergus Falls Monument Co.
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www.lakelanddental.com
Email: info@lakelanddental.com
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Clarissa Office:(218) 756-2234
Long Prairie Office:(320) 732-6141
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Veteran Car Donations
While we appreciate every donation, in some cases, we find that we are unable to accept certain vehicles, watercraft, and/or recreational vehicles due to the prohibitive costs of acquisition. If you have any questions, please give us a call at (833) 937-2593.

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EMPLOYMENT
EARLY CHILDHOOD SPECIAL ED. TEACHER
New London-Spicer Schools. (.7 FTE) MN Special Education License required. Start: August 2023. For more information, see: www.nls.k12.mn.us

EARLY CHILDHOOD ED. TEACHER
New London-Spicer Schools. (.2 FTE) MN Licensure Required. Start: August 2023. For more information, see: www.nls.k12.mn.us

MS SPECIAL ED. TEACHER
New London-Spicer Schools. (1 FTE) MN Special Education License required. Start: August 2023. For more information, see: www.nls.k12.mn.us

8TH GRADE PHYSICAL SCIENCE TEACHER
New London-Spicer Schools. (1 FTE) MN Licensure Required. Start: August 2023. For more information, see: www.nls.k12.mn.us

MS INTERVENTIONIST & STEM TEACHER
New London-Spicer Schools. (1 FTE) MN Licensure Required. Start: August 2023. For more information, see: www.nls.k12.mn.us

EMPLOYMENT
MS/PW PHY. ED./HEALTH/DAPE
New London-Spicer Schools. (1 FTE) MN Licensure Required. Start: August 2023. For more information, see: www.nls.k12.mn.us

MS/HS FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE
New London-Spicer Schools. (1 FTE) MN Licensure Required. Start: August 2023. For more information, see: www.nls.k12.mn.us

K-4 ART TEACHER
New London-Spicer Schools. (1 FTE) MN Licensure Required. Start: August 2023. For more information, see: www.nls.k12.mn.us

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Hello World

Online births removed at the request of Lakewood Health System.

Obituaries

Gregg Chapin

Gregg A. Chapin, 73, of South Haven, died March 29, 2023, at his home surrounded by his family.

Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:30 a.m. Weds., April 12 at St. Ignatius Catholic Church in Annandale with Fr. Kevin Manger as Celebrant. Visitation will be held from 4 to 7 p.m. on Tuesday at Dingmann Funeral Care Chapel in Annandale with a prayer service at 7 p.m. Visitation will continue one hour prior to the service on Weds., at the church.

Burial will be held at a later date at North Corinna Cemetery in Annandale.



Obituary, Guestbook, Video Tribute, Funeral Webcast online at www.dingmannfuneral.com.

w15c A00006B2023AP05

Richard Peterson

Richard (Pete) A. Peterson, 88, passed away March 28, 2023, in Staples.

Funeral Services were held April 1 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Staples.

Richard was born April 4, 1934 to Selmer and Ida (Stuber) Peterson in Anamoose, North Dakota. His early childhood was spent in Martin and later in Harvey, ND. He moved to Fargo in 1949 and later to St. Paul, moving to rural Staples in 1968.

He married Barbara Vasecka Weishalla on September 3, 1971. He was in the wood and sawmill business. His favorite hobbies were fishing and gardening.

Richard is survived by his wife, Barb; five sons, Ricky Peterson, Ray (Marene) Peterson, Dale (Connie) Peterson, Paul (Dawn) Peterson and Peter Peterson; five stepsons, Gary (Kristine) Weishalla, Jeff (Heidi) Weishalla, Roger (Judy) Weishalla,



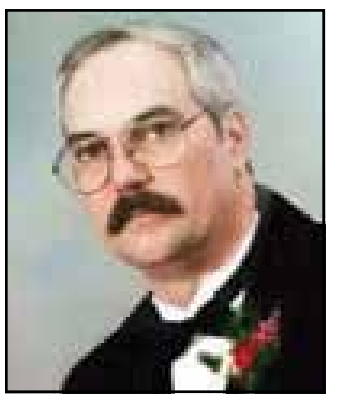
Randy (Sue) Weishalla and Tom Weishalla; two step-daughters, Suzanne (Dan) Smith and Laurie (Jerry) Imdieke; one brother, Donald (LaVonne) Peterson; 37 grandchildren; 44 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one stepson, Mark Weishalla.

Arrangements were by Brenny Family Funeral Chapel, Staples.

w15c A00006B2023AP05

Ross Miller



Ross Jacob Miller, 70, passed away March 29, 2023, at M Health Fairview Hospital in Minneapolis surrounded by his wife and children.

Ross was born July 18, 1952, to Rodney and Charline Miller in Staples. He grew up in rural Staples and graduated from Staples High School in 1970. He attended Anoka Technical College and graduated with a degree in Farrier Education. Ross married Rhea Weber in the spring of 1971 and they welcomed two children into the world. The couple enjoyed showing and breeding Arabians on their farm, Er Mar Arabians west of Staples. Ross also worked on the railroad throughout these years.

On June 11, 1982 he married his soulmate, Lori. They blended their families and had one child together. Ross and Lori dairy farmed for 16 years south of Bluegrass on their farm, Legacy Jersey. While dairy farming, he also applied his degree and continued to be a farrier for over 23 years. After farming, Ross worked a variety of jobs ranging from estimating at lumber yards, deejaying at a local radio station and selling horse trailers at Sundby Trailers, Verndale. He ended his career working part time at a local hardware store in North Branch where he resided at the time of his passing.

Ross was known as a craftsman of all trades and greatly enjoyed time in his woodshop. While in his shop he also put his talents to work blacksmithing. If he wasn't in his shop, he could be found reading a good book. Ross was loved by many and deeply cherished the relationships that were created through his ventures. He was a kind, genuine person who was always willing to lend a helping hand or share his knowledge on a subject. He would tell anyone who listened how proud he was of his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He was a dedicated and loving husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother, uncle and cousin. All who knew him well were blessed by his humor and teasing nature.

Ross is survived by his wife, Lori; three sons, Jason Miller of Georgetown, KY, Zack (Sara) Weber of Coon Rapids and Ernest (Ashley) Weber of Circle Pines; two daughters, Darcy Miller of Champlin and Amy (Michael) Waldvogel of Little Falls; 11 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

w15p A00006B2023AP05

Gwendolyn Schoon



Gwendolyn Carol Schoon, 80, of Sebeka, passed away March 22, 2023, at Cherry Meadows in Appleton, Wisconsin.

Memorial services will be held Saturday, April 15 at the Church of Christ in Staples at 11 a.m. with visitation one hour prior to services at the church. Pastor Barry Klein will preside.

Burial will be held at Greenhill Cemetery in Sebeka.

Gwendolyn was born December 4, 1942 to Patrick S. and Bertha A. (Lee) Young in Staples. She attended Staples school and graduated with the class of 1960.

Gwen married Clarence Schoon in Staples on June 6, 1964. They farmed for many years and were blessed with four children.

Gwen enjoyed gardening, flowers, birds, crafts and sewing. She made quilts for each grandchild. Gwen was a self-taught piano player and enjoyed playing and singing at the church. She was a member of the Model T Club and enjoyed going to Pioneer Days with Clarence.

She will be dearly missed and is survived by one daughter, Brenda (Butch) Cleveland; three sons, Brian Schoon, Brent Schoon and Bradley (Julie) Schoon; nine grandchildren, Derek, Jared, Jake, Patrick, Andrew, Daniel, Michael, Conner, and Corey; two great-grandchildren, Brantley and Everley; one sister, Marcy Young; one brother, Tony (Dorothy) Young; one sister-in-law, Judy Young and many relatives and friends.

Gwen is preceded in death by her parents; husband, Clarence; two brothers, Toby and Mort Young and one sister, Denise Young.

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

Arrangements are by Karvonen Funeral & Cremation Service of Wadena.

w15c A00006B2023AP05

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.

w15c

Reflecting on the Meaning of the April 6 Maundy Thursday

Pastor Barry Klein, Staples Church of Christ

You may notice the word "Passover" on your April calendar for the 6th. Professor of Christianity and Philosophy, Allan Hauck in his book "Calendar of Christianity," notes that "this day historically remembers and reflects upon Jesus' gathering of His apostles before His arrest and crucifixion to share His supper (communion, Lord's Supper, Eucharist) and then to wash their feet. It focuses in on John 13:34, "A new commandment I give to you that you love one another; even as I have loved you, that you also love one another."

Professor Hauck goes on to say, "On this night Jesus and His disciples participated in one of the meals featured in the Passover celebration of the Jews. The Passover celebrated the deliverance of the Israelite's first-born from the angel of death and more generally the deliverance of the Israelites from their Egyptian bondage. The angel of death passed over the houses of the Israelites while striking the houses of the Egyptians the night before the exodus of the Israelites from Egypt."

Two other important factors about the original event of the Israelites in Egypt were that they were instructed to kill a lamb and put it's blood on the top and sides of their door posts. They also had present unleavened bread to mark the haste in which they would be "exiting."

The imagery is to be viewed powerfully and experience unhurriedly. As with the Passover in about 1491 B.C., so today, we have in Communion the rich and meaningful elements or emblems of the "Fruit of the vine" blood and the unleavened bread marking both past and present realities in Jesus' death on the cross in our place: "His body and blood, given for us."

In our Staples-Motley area churches, we are invited to participate in Maundy Thursday services (if you don't have another, please fee free to come to the Assembly of God at 6:30 p.m.) on April 6. Also you are invited to a community Good Friday service at the Staples Church of Christ by Pine Grove Park at 7 p.m. on April 7 if you don't have another service to attend.

These gatherings will help us to, once again, get our bearings, not only in preparation for the Easter Resurrection weekend, but for life. We have no lack of distractions in our lives to what is truly important and of substance. Even eggs and bunnies are from God if we have eyes to see and ears to hear. But by themselves, apart from God, they can distract us from the true meaning of this time of year. Please take your opportunity to get your bearings again by gathering in church services in these next four days before the opportunity is lost.

As for the meaning of "Maundy"... it comes from the Latin word giving us the word "command" in reference to Jesus' command above in John 13:34.

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To update your church information or to advertise on the Church Directory, call 218-894-1112 or email: jwinter@staplesworld.com. As always, continue to email your Ministerial pastoral message or advertisement to: jwinter@staplesworld.com

Nature's 'big dance'

With the possible exception of the Super Bowl, there is no athletic happening that captures the imagination and attention of American sports fans more surely and completely than the so-called "big dance," the national collegiate tournament held at the end of each college basketball season.

The big dance analogy is appropriate, for it is not so unlike an invitation-only social affair. Some teams qualify for the 64-team event by winning a preliminary tournament in their own athletic conference. But most of the 64-team field is made up of college basketball teams whose performance during the season has been judged outstanding. Like a coveted invitation to an elite social event, it's an honor to be invited.

-o-
Inside the Outdoors



Mike Rahn

-o-

There is another dance that in most years follows soon after the nets are cut down at the crowning of the college basketball champion. It's a dance that occurs out of doors, in the muted light of dusk or dawn, performed ritually by that enigmatic woodland creature we met here in a recent column: the American woodcock.

That column dwelled on the pioneering nature of this quail-size migratory game bird, which returns from southern wintering grounds so early in spring that it often threatens its own survival, a time when wintry conditions persist over much of the land. This year, though there is still deep snow, there is little frost beneath it, thanks to its insulating effects. As bare, moist ground emerges with rising air temperatures and growing sunlight intensity, returning woodcock will zero in on these areas favorable to their survival.

It is after their return here—and prompted by hormones that govern reproduction—that woodcock engage in one of the most unusual and fascinating mating rituals among wild creatures. That ritual is the so-called "sky dance" that males perform to capture the attention and demonstrate their worth to the females of their species. Fortunately, it is a ritual that can be witnessed by ordinary folks like you and me, not just biologists and researchers on intimate terms with this secretive little bird.

The woodcock's dance floor is an open, field-like area amid or adjacent to young forest, one typically composed of aspen, birch, or alder, these fields perhaps studded with the occasional willow clump or small conifer. But openness is a requirement. So, too, is a very specific light intensity for the dance to begin. A scientist might describe this light intensity in "foot candles," which is the amount of illumination from a light source at a distance of one foot. To the rest of us, it's more simply the light intensity of dusk or early dawn.

When the light intensity is right, the dance typically begins with the arrival of a male woodcock alighting in this field or forest opening. He might be visible through binoculars, or with the naked eye if we are close enough. If we are quiet and still, a woodcock is likely to tolerate our presence nearby. He will likely stride about with the less-than-graceful gait characteristic of woodcock, tilting his head, and uttering a series of nasal calls that have been described as an insect-like buzz, or "peent," as well as a gurgle-like call phonetically described as "tuk-o."

After what could be a long series of these vocals, the male woodcock lifts off from the ground, its accelerating wing beats creating a musical twitter. The flight begins as a wide circling pattern, growing smaller and tighter in diameter as the woodcock's elevation increases. At a height that could be nearly three football fields' distance above the ground, the woodcock hovers briefly, then glides back to the ground on a zigzag course, landing in virtually the same place from which he launched himself moments before.

This display is likely to be repeated multiple times until foreclosed by darkness or full daylight. Ideally, following one of these flight displays another bird will glide in from the cover nearby. If it is another male, our performer will attempt to chase off the competition, often with a "cac-cac-cac" vocal threat and warning. But if he has attracted a female, the response will be entirely different. The male will approach her, walking on stiff legs, sounding a courtship note, and raising his wings, this display ultimately ending in their mating.

Woodcock nests are typically located in woodlands not far from an open sky dance area, which is sometimes also called a "singing ground," for the sounds made in courtship flight. A typical clutch of eggs is four, and chicks hatch at about 25 days, give or take. The woodcock's life cycle is not as visible in all its stages as that of many birds, but some of the most reliable researchers conclude that—unlike some of its shorebird relatives—male and female woodcock do not bond in the monogamous sense, nor do males assist in the rearing of young.

With or without a male's parenting help, woodcock hatching and chick survival rates are high. This may be due to their amazingly effective plumage camouflage, and to the protective instincts of hens, which—when confronted with intruders or predators—will attempt to decoy the threat away from their nearby chicks.

With the tardy and fitful arrival of real spring weather, some of Nature's performers are still waiting in the wings for their time onstage. For the sky dancing woodcock, it will be a performance both figurative and literal. And one well worth being in the audience for.



Tae Kwon Do trophy/medal winners

Instructors and students at United Tae Kwon Do in Staples recently participated at a tournament in Owatonna, receiving a trophy and medals. Pictured, from left, are Master Francisco Jimenez, Staples instructor; Grand Master Esmaeil Torabpour (Master Jimenez' teacher and head of the National Tae Kwon Do Institute); Dominic Thiede, Collin Hall, Gabriel Gibson, students; and Randy Suess, Asst. Instructor in Staples, and a student. (Submitted photo)

Tae Kwon Do students win medals, gain strength and more

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

Martial arts is alive and well in Staples, as is evidenced by the number of students enrolled at the United Tae Kwon Do Systems, as well as the many medals and trophies that are on display at the studio.

Students are led by Master Francisco Jimenez of Staples, along with Asst. Instructor Randy Suess, also of Staples. At a recent tournament in Owatonna, both instructors, along with three students, brought home medals and a trophy. These included:

- Dominic Thiede, first place, board breaking; first place, forms; grand champion, board breaking.
- Collin Hall, first place, forms; first place, board breaking; first place, sparring; second place, sword sparring.
- Gabriel Gibson, first place, sword sparring; second place, forms; second place, board breaking.
- Asst. Instructor Randy Suess, second place, board breaking; third place, forms.
- Master Francisco Jimenez, first place, forms; second place, board breaking.

Master Jimenez mentioned that both he and Suess also served as judges at the tournament. He shared that, "It was a pleasure to teach these students the values and the discipline to overcome emotions in a tournament situation, and being themselves as they experience what they learn in class and apply it to competition. They all did a great job and had a lot of fun participating...that's the most important part of any tournament."

At a recent class, the award winners shared thoughts on their martial arts experiences.

Dominic Thiede, eight, of Motley, said he was very excited to win the grand champion trophy. The 4'3" student has been studying martial arts for one and a half years, and shared that "it is so much fun, I have a good time." It takes a lot of practice, Thiede said of martial arts. Some things were difficult at first, but now, when practicing kicks, he can get his leg over his head, he said.

Gabe Gibson, 12, of Staples, said he was inspired after watching the 'Karate Kid' movies, and his mom encouraged him to join Tae Kwon Do Systems. He's been a student for four years, but this was his first tournament, Gibson said, adding that, "Covid got in the way." He's excited to be working toward being an assistant instructor.

Collin Hall, 11, of Motley, has been in Tae Kwon Do for almost four years. He said he first got involved after feeling bored at school, as well as being bullied. "I just decided to not let bullying happen," Hall said. Since enrolling at United Tae Kwon Do Systems in Staples, Hall said that he's gained confidence and is not as shy as he once was. He's "really excited" about the next tournament, Hall said.

Randy Suess, 67, of Staples has been a martial arts student for six years. A retired railroad worker, Suess said he got involved with Tae Kwon Do after meeting Jimenez. "Paco (Jimenez' nickname) had a self defense course and needed a guinea pig (to practice various moves on)," Suess said.

Shortly after, he became a student himself, and has worked his way up to being a black-red belt, along with being an assistant instructor. How has his life changed since taking Tae Kwon Do classes? Suess said that he's gained confidence, self defense skills, as well as strength. While his friends boast of doing five push-ups at one time, Suess said he's now able to do 50.

Competitions are fun, Suess said, adding that "you meet a lot of interesting people, and they're polite." He's also enjoyed helping the younger students and watching as they've improved their skills.

Of course, working with Jimenez is a joy as well, Suess says. "It's good to have a three-degree black belt friend. Plus, he's a good cook," Suess laughed.

It means a lot to him that Tae Kwon Do Systems of Staples has had a positive impact on the lives of his students. Master Jimenez went on to share a note he'd received from Glen Vogel, a parent of one of his students, after the recent tournament. "Congratulations to one of the best persons I have ever met. You should be a true inspiration to all who are lucky enough to have crossed paths (with you) and are a great second father for my Ashlyn."

Track and field gets started with indoor meets

The Staples-Motley track and field team participated in two indoor meets, The Heart of Lakes Conference indoor meet at Concordia, Moorhead on March 28, and the Thurndering Herd Classic at North Dakota State University in Fargo on April 1.

The girls 4x800 relay team placed first in both meets, with Aften Robinson, Kyanna Burton, Ashley Robben, Audrey Brownell and Bella Hines as team members in the two races. The 4x400 team also placed first at Fargo with Jayce Kobliska joining the group.

In the boys meets, Remington Converse picked up two second places in both meets. Logan Robbena nd Noah Greenwaldt placed 1-2 in the 400 at Fargo, while Issiah Tabatt won the 3,200 and Turner Beachy won the pole vault.

Boys results

Heart Of Lakes Conference indoor meet

Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton 97, United Clay-Becker 96, Perham 87, Staples-Motley 79, East Grand Forks 53, Park Christian 49, Pelican Rapids 40, Barnesville 33, West Central Area 14, Rothsay 12, NCE/UH 12, Crookston 7, United North Central 2, Ashby-Brandon-Evansville 2

55 meter dash - 2. Remington Converse 6.63, 7. Austin Weite 6.97, 42. Benet Robinson 7.63, 43. Sawyer Ferdon 7.63, 65. Ryan Neelan 8.26

200 - 2. Converse 24.12, 8. Hunter Miller 26.01, 25. Noah Larson 27.79

400 - 2. Logan Robben 56.18, 31. Isreal Ritter 1:04, 35. Ivan Lozano 1:05

1,600 - 12. Dillan Robben 5:34, 13. Odin Trif 5:39

3,200 - 11. Blaine Plattner 13:28

55 hurdles - 8. Larson 9:56

4x200 relay - 2. Converse, Miller, Weite, Avandre Brandt 1:39

4x400 - 8. L. Robben, D. Robben, Larson, Trif 4:07

4x800 - 6. B. Plattner, Ritter, Lozano, Tyler Plattner 11:02

High jump - 2. Brandt 5'7", 3. Miller 5'7", 11. Dakota Henagir 5'3"

Long jump - 13. Josiah Critten 16'11", 15. Robinson 16'10", 24. Gavin Chenoweth 16'0", 47. Drake Dukowitz 13'3", 48. Ryan Neelan 13'3"

Triple Jump - 2. Sawyer Ferdon 38'6.5", 3. Brandt 37'1", 4. Turner Beachy 36'8", 9. Chenoweth 32'7", 18. Alexander Helstrom 31'5"

Pole vault - 3. Beachy 10'9", 12. Neelan 6'3"

Shot put - 16. Steven Petrich 35'7"

Thundering Herd Classic at NDSU, Fargo

Kindred 146, Staples-Motley 84, Detroit Lakes 79, Pelican Rapids 58, Wadena-Deer Creek 45, Rock Ridge 43, Central Cass 40, Ottertail Central 29, Nevis 26, Bishop Ryan 17

60 - 2. Converse 7.10, 6. Weite 7.37, 24. Hennagir 7.96, 28. Robinson 8.03

200 - 2. Converse 23.57, 6. Weite 24.84

400 - 1. L. Robben 55.29, 2. Noah Greenwaldt 56.21, 10. Ferdon 59.79

800 - 6. Tabatt 2:18

1,600 - 20. D. Robben 5:30

3,200 - 1. Tabatt 11:03

4x200 - 4. Converse, Robinson, Weite, Brandt 1:42

4x400 - 5. Greenwaldt, L. Robben, D. Robben, Brandt 4:02

High jump - 3. Brandt 6'0", 12. Miller 5'4", 16. Hennagir 5'2"

Long jump - 8. Critten 17'11", 14. Greenwaldt 17'2", 19. Robinson 16'8", 32. Neelan 14'2"

Triple jump - 6. Brandt 39'4", 7. Ferdon 38'10", 13. Beachy 35'3", 14. Critten 35'2"

Pole vault - 1. Beachy 10'9", 13. Neelan 6'9"

Girls results

Heart Of Lakes Conference indoor meet

Perham 113. Barnesville 106, Park Christian 71, Pelican Rapids 51, East Grand Forks 43, United Cla-Becker 35, Crookston 35, Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton 29, Ashby-Brandon-Evansville 27, United North Central 17, West Central Area 17

55 meter dash - 19. Corrine Olson 8.47, 21. Jayce Kobliska 8.48, 24. Madison Bartle 8.59

200 - 41. Annie Schlosser 35.34

400. 26. Leah Greenwaldt 1:26

800 - 1. Ashley Robben 2:40

1,600 - 8. Sophie Schlosser 6:21, 11. Naila Mikhaeil 6:32, 17. Suhaila Mikhaeil 6:50, 25. Addisyn Cichos 7:14

3,200 - 1. Kyanna Burton 12:08, 6. Bella Hines 13:24

55 hurdles - 6. Kobliska 10.49, 15. Avery Japke 11.47, 18. Abby Brichacek 12.45

4x200 relay - 10. Bartle, Brichacek, Japke, Olson 2:06

4x400 - 9. S. Schlosser, Greenwaldt, S. Mikhaeil, N. Mikhaeil 5:22

4x800 - 1. Audrey Brownell, Aften Robinson, Hines, Robben 10:39

Long jump - 24. Bartle 12'7", 32. Camden Anderson 11'10", 39. Bailey Weiland 10'11", 46. Brichacek 9'9"

Triple jump - 12. Ronnie Noska 28'1"

Shot put - Anderson 27'11", 36. Weiland 21'9",

Thundering Herd Classic at NDSU, Fargo

Detroit Lakes 109, Central Cass 109, Kindred 84, Wadena-Deer Creek 80, Staples-Motley 57, Rock Ridge 54, Ottertail Central 47, Pelican Rapids 27, Nevis 10

60 - 10. Olson 8.91

400 - 20. Japke 1:15

800 - 2. Burton 2:35, 3. Robben 2:35

1,600 - 1. Brownell 5:25

3,200 - 4. Hines 13:04

60 hurdles - 5. Kobliska 11.12, 13. Japke 12.02

4x200 - 7. Bartle, Olson, A. Schlosser, Noska 2:06

4x400 - 1. Robinson, Brownell, Robben, Kobliska 4:23

4x800 - 1. Robinson, Burton, Robben, Hines 10:27

High jump - 19. A. Schlosser 4'0", 20. Japke 4'0"

Triple jump - 7. Noska 29'10"



Tae Kwon Do students practice drills

Students at the United Tae Kwon Do Systems of Staples, led by Master Francisco Jimenez, practiced a number of martial arts forms recently at the studio located at 119 2nd Ave NW in Staples. Some of the students had recently won medals at a tournament in Owatonna. Many will be competing at another tournament April 29, also in Owatonna. Randy Suess is the Assistant Instructor. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Notices

101 Card of Thanks

The family of Richard (Pete) Peterson is so grateful for all the care and support they have received from family and community in his passing. There are too many to mention all, but especially to all the children and their families, the Lakewood Health Care System staff and physicians, Sacred Heart Church, Father Aaron, Mike Blessing music, Brenny Funeral Home, the ladies who prepared and served the meal, those who brought food, all the neighbors and friends who have offered to help and for all the prayers.

God Bless You for Your Kindness.

Barb and Families

15p

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

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cl14-15p

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Please contact Wade Kern

Verndale School District
Wade Kern, Transportation and Buildings and Grounds Supervisor
411 SW Brown St, Verndale, MN 56481
Phone: 218-445-5184
wkern@verndaleschool.org

cl14-15c

AM REGULAR ROUTE BUS DRIVING POSITION

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Please contact Wade Kern

Verndale School District
Wade Kern, Transportation and Buildings and Grounds Supervisor
411 SW Brown St, Verndale, MN 56481
Phone: 218-445-5184
wkern@verndaleschool.org

cl14-15c

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Please contact Wade Kern

Verndale School District
Wade Kern, Transportation and Buildings and Grounds Supervisor
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cl14-15c

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Central Todd County Care Center

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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.

cl13pfc



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*Thomas Sellnow is a Real Property Law Specialist certified by Real Property Section of Minnesota State Bar Association.
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NOTICE CITY OF STAPLES COUNTY OF TODD

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Board of Review --*Equalization of the City of Staples, Todd County, Minnesota, will meet by appointment at the Office of the Todd County Assessor, Long Prairie, MN at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, April 21, 2023. The purpose of this meeting is to determine whether property in the jurisdiction has been properly valued and classified by the assessor.

If you believe the value or classification of your property is incorrect, please contact your assessor's office to discuss your concerns. If you disagree with the valuation or classification after discussing it with your assessor, you may appear before the County Board of Appeal and Equalization on Tuesday, June 13, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

Tara Greer, City Clerk
City of Staples
15pnc

NOTICE MOOSE LAKE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF APPEAL AND EQUALIZATION

Important Information Regarding Assessment and Classification of Property
This may affect your 2024 property tax payments.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the **Board of Appeal and Equalization** for the **Township of Moose Lake**, Cass County, Minnesota shall meet on **Thursday, April 14, 2023** at **11:30 a.m.** This meeting is at the Leader Community Hall. The purpose of this meeting is to determine whether taxable property in the jurisdiction has been properly valued and classified by the assessor, and to determine whether corrections need to be made.

If you believe the value or classification of your property is incorrect, please contact your Assessor's office to discuss your concerns. If you are still not satisfied with the valuation or classification after discussing it with your assessor, you may appear before the Local Board of Appeal and Equalization. The Board shall review the valuation, classification, or both if necessary, and shall correct it as needed. Generally, an appearance before your Local Board of Appeal and Equalization is required by law before an appeal can be taken to the County Board of Appeal and Equalization.

Karen Roubal, Clerk
Moose Lake Township
14-15pnc

NOTICE CITY OF STAPLES COUNTY OF WADENA

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Board of Review --*Equalization of the City of Staples, Wadena County, Minnesota, will meet at the Office of the Wadena County Assessor, Wadena, MN at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, April 17, 2023. The purpose of this meeting is to determine whether property in the jurisdiction has been properly valued and classified by the assessor.

If you believe the value or classification of your property is incorrect, please contact your assessor's office to discuss your concerns. If you disagree with the valuation or classification after discussing it with your assessor, you may appear before the County Board of Appeal and Equalization.

Tara Greer, City Clerk
City of Staples
15pnc

NOTICE VILLARD TOWNSHIP MEETING

The Villard Township Annual Meeting will hold a continuation meeting on Tuesday, April 11, 2023 immediately following the regular monthly meeting scheduled for 7 p.m. at the Villard Town Hall.

The annual road tour is set for noon on Monday, April 2, 2023, beginning at the Town Hall.

Mary Trantina Koenig,
Clerk
Villard Township
15pnc

NOTICE STAPLES TOWNSHIP BOARD OF APPEAL AND EQUALIZATION MEETING

The Board of Appeal and Equalization for Staples Township shall meet on Tuesday, April 25, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. at the Town Hall. The purpose of this meeting is to determine whether property in the jurisdiction has been properly valued and classified by the assessor.

If you believe the value or classification of your property is incorrect, please contact your assessor's office at 320-732-4431 to discuss your concerns. If you disagree with the valuation or classification after discussing it with your assessor, you may appear before the Local Board of Appeal and Equalization. The board will review your assessments and make corrections as needed. Generally, you must appeal to the local board before appealing to the County Board of Appeal and Equalization.

Bonnie Thoele, Clerk
Staples Township
15-16pnc

NOTICE MORAN TOWNSHIP BOARD OF APPEAL AND EQUALIZATION

Important Information Regarding Property Assessments
This may affect your 2024 property taxes.

The Board of Appeal and Equalization for the Township of Moran will meet on Monday, April 10, 2023, at 11:00 a.m. at the town hall. The purpose of this meeting is to determine whether property in the jurisdiction has been properly valued and classified by the assessor.

If you believe the value or classification of your property is incorrect, please contact your assessor's office to discuss your concerns. If you disagree with the valuation or classification after discussing it with your assessor, you may appear before the Local Board of Appeal and Equalization. The board will review your assessments and make corrections as needed. Generally, you must appeal to the local board before appealing to the County Board of Appeal and Equalization.

Diane Mack, Clerk
Moran Township
15pnc

NOTICE VILLARD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF APPEAL AND EQUALIZATION

This may affect your 2024 property taxes.

The Board of Appeal and Equalization for Villard Township will meet on April 17, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. at the Town Hall, County Road 28, Philbrook. The purpose of this meeting is to determine whether property in the jurisdiction has been properly valued and classified by the assessor.

If you believe the value or classification of your property is incorrect, please contact your assessor's office to discuss your concerns. If you disagree with the valuation or classification after discussing it with your assessor, you may appear before the Local Board of Equalization. The board will review your assessments and make corrections as needed. Generally, you must appeal to the local board before appealing to the County Board of Appeal and Equalization.

Mary Trantina Koenig,
Clerk
Villard Township
15pnc

NOTICE MEADOWBROOK TOWNSHIP BOARD OF APPEAL AND EQUALIZATION

The Meadowbrook Township Board of Appeal and Equalization meeting will be held Friday, April 14, 2023, at 11:00 a.m. at the Leader Community Hall.

The purpose of this meeting is to determine whether taxable property in the jurisdiction has been properly valued and classified by the assessor, and to determine whether corrections need to be made.

If you believe the value or classification of your property is incorrect, please contact your Assessor's office to discuss your concerns. If you are still not satisfied with the valuation or classification after discussing it with your assessor, you may appear before the Local Board of Appeal and Equalization. The board shall review the valuation, classification, or both if necessary and shall correct as needed. Generally, you must appeal to the local board before appealing to the County Board of Appeal and Equalization.

Ty Peterson, Clerk
Meadowbrook Township
14-15pnc

NOTICE BECKER TOWNSHIP ANNUAL ROAD TOUR

The Becker Township Annual Road Tour will be held on Tuesday, April 11, 2023. Meet at the town hall at 4:00 p.m. The public is invited to attend.

Mary Fitcher, Clerk
Becker Township
14-15pnc

NOTICE MOTLEY TOWNSHIP BOARD OF APPEAL AND EQUALIZATION

Important Information Regarding Assessment and Classification of Property
This may affect your 2024 property taxes.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Board of Appeal and Equalization for the **Township of Motley** in Morrison County, Minnesota, will meet on **Friday** the **14th day of April, 2023,** at **10:30 o'clock a.m.** at the **Motley Town Hall**. The purpose of this meeting is to determine whether taxable property in the jurisdiction has been properly valued and classified by the assessor, and to determine whether corrections need to be made.

If you believe the value or classification of your property is incorrect, you may contact the Morrison County Land Services Office at 320-632-0170 or toll free at 866-401-1111, ext. 170, to discuss your concerns. If you are still not satisfied with the valuation and classification after discussing it with your assessor, you may appear before the Local Board of Appeal and Equalization, at the above date, time and location, by setting up an appointment through the Morrison County Land Services Office. The Board shall review the valuation, classification or both, if necessary, and shall correct as needed. As required by law, a property owner must appeal to the Local Board of Appeal and Equalization before an appeal can be taken to the County Special Board of Appeal and Equalization.

Ken Swecker, Clerk
Motley Township
15pnc

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TODD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MARCH 7, 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 7th day of March, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Neumann. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. All Commissioners were present.

Approval of Agenda

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the agenda as presented with the redirection of item 4.16 Approve Hire Human Resource Manager to the March 21, 2023 board meeting as a closed session item.

Consent Agenda

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

•To approve the Todd County Board of Commissioner's Meeting Minutes and Joint County/SWCD Meeting Minutes for February 21, 2023 and County Special Board Meeting Minutes for February 24, 2023 as presented.

•To approve a one year On Sale and Off Sale 3.2 Malt Liquor License for Rebecca L. Pratt dba Clarissa Ballroom at the address of 19281 Kotter Road, Clarissa, MN in Eagle Valley Township effective April 1, 2023 through March 31, 2024.

•To approve a one year Dance License for Rebecca L. Pratt dba Clarissa Ballroom at the address of 19281 Kotter Road, Clarissa, MN in Eagle Valley Township effective April 1, 2023 through March 31, 2024.

•To approve a one year Setup License for Rebecca L. Pratt dba Clarissa Ballroom at the address of 19281 Kotter Road, Clarissa, MN in Eagle Valley Township effective April 1, 2023 through March 31, 2024.

•To approve a one year Wine License (including Strong Beer) for Rebecca L. Pratt dba Clarissa Ballroom at the address of 19281 Kotter Road, Clarissa, MN in Eagle Valley Township effective April 1, 2023 through March 31, 2024.

•To approve an Off Sale and On Sale 3.2 Malt Liquor License for TMF Resort Inc dba Head of the Lakes Resort at the address of 15080 Gardenia Drive, Osakis, MN in Leslie Township effective April 1, 2023 through March 31, 2024.

•To approve a Setup License for TMF Resort Inc dba Head of the Lakes Resort at the address of 15080 Gardenia Drive, Osakis, MN in Leslie Township effective April 1, 2023 through March 31, 2024.

•To approve an On Sale Wine License including strong beer for TMF Resort Inc dba Head of the Lakes Resort at the address of 15080 Gardenia Drive, Osakis, MN in Leslie Township effective April 1, 2023 through March 31, 2024.

•To approve a one year Off Sale, On Sale and Sunday Liquor License for Shady's Golden Eagle at the address of 13218 County 103, Burtrum, MN in Grey Eagle Township effective April 1, 2023 through March 31, 2024.

GAMBLING PERMIT – SAUK CENTRE FAIRY LAKE ASSOCIATION

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners are establishing their approval for a Gambling Permit for the Sauk Centre Fairy Lake Association through this resolution;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners approve a Gambling Permit for the Sauk Centre Fairy Lake Association to hold a raffle event at the Sauk Centre Lions Fairy Lake Park in Kandota Township at the address 10500 County 95, Sauk Centre, MN on May 24, 2023.

•To hire Heather Forsberg as a FT Dispatcher, start date 3/12/23, Grade 6, Step 4.

•To hire James Olson as a FT Dispatcher, start date 4/9/23, Grade 6, Step 7.

•Approve the hiring of Holli Winkler for the FT Correctional Officer position at Grade 6, Step 1, $21.89 with a start date of 03/09/2023.

•To approve Ryan Rhodes to fill the open Eligibility Worker position. Grade 6, Step 1 at $21.68. Start Date: TBD

•To approve Cathy Kirkpatrick to fill the open Home Health Aide position. Grade 2, step 1 at 17.18/hr. Start Date: TBD.

•Approve hiring Jaden Evenson to fill one of the vacant Public Works Summer Help positions for 2023.

•Approve hiring Travis Moller to fill one of the vacant Public Works Summer Help positions for 2023.

Auditor-Treasurer

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous rollcall vote: To approve the February 2023 Auditor Warrants number (ACH) 903013 through 903088 in the amount of $712,350.27 (Manual) 801 through 809 in the amount of $40,788.00 and (Regular) 240599 through 240729 in the amount of $422,427.21 for a total of $1,175,565.48.

On motion by Denny and seconded by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous rollcall vote: To approve the Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 402419 through 402445 in the amount of $25,717.39 and (Regular) 56766 through 56803 in the amount of $77,478.35 for a total of $103,195.74.

On motion by Becker and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous rollcall vote: To approve the Health & Human Services Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 803770 through 803799 and (Regular) 710216 through 710273 for a total of $55,606.18.

On motion by Noska and seconded by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous rollcall vote: To approve the Health & Human Services SSIS Warrants number (ACH) 600862 through 600868 and (Regular) 517252 through 517266 for a total amount of $96,943.74.

Public Works

On motion be Erickson and seconded by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the attached Cooperative Construction Agreement with West Union and Kandota Township for the replacement of Bridge L9172.

On motion by Becker and seconded by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the attached Engineering Services Agreement from Widseth for the Bridge L9172 Replacement Project.

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

AWARD OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR 2023 BITUMINOUS HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION

WHEREAS, sealed bids were received on February 28, 2023 by the Todd County Public Works Director for SAP 077-611-035, SAP 077-638-018, CP 23:66, and CP 77-23-01, said projects for highway construction related work at various locations in Todd County, and;

WHEREAS, the following sealed bids were received:

•Knife River Corporation, Sauk Rapids, MN, $5,351,251.39

•Anderson Brothers Construction, Brainerd, MN, $5,495,631.57

•Central Specialties, Inc., Alexandria, MN, $5,919.233.61

•Mark Sand & Gravel Co., Fergus Falls, MN, $6,512,170.44

•Duininck Construction, Prinsburg, MN, $6,768,618.10

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 Knife River Corporation of Sauk Rapids, Minnesota based on their low bid of $5,351,251.39.

County Sheriff

On motion by Noska and seconded by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the purchase of squad equipment for five (5) new squads for a cost of $9,482.60 each from Emergency Automotive Technologies at a total cost of $47,413.

On motion by Denny and seconded by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the purchase of 14 Taser 7 bundles at a price per year as follows: 2023 - $9,338 then 2024 through 2027, $7,728 per year. Total cost for the replacement Tasers will be $40,250.

Health & Human Services

On motion by Becker and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve a start date of March 13, 2023, for Steven McCoy, Financial Support Services Manager. Grade 13, Step 1 at $32.62/hr.

Administration

On motion by Denny and seconded by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve participation in Summer Internship Program through Sourcewell for Departments requesting to participate (Planning and Zoning, Sheriff, Administration).

County Auditor-Treasurer's Report

The County Auditor-Treasurer reported on the upcoming events including the Township Elections on March 14, 2023 and upcoming CLA Audit the week of March 20, 2023.

County Attorney's Report

The County Attorney asked for clarification on the closed session request for the redirected item 4.16 to ascertain the concern meets statutory guidelines for a closed session. The County Attorney office is holding steady with business and staff schedules.

County Commissioner's Report

The Commissioners reported on meetings and events attended.

Commissioner Noska had meetings postponed due to weather.

Commissioner Erickson had nothing new to report so will report at the next meeting

Commissioner Becker reported on Region V, Facilities, Personnel and Mississippi Watershed meetings.

Commissioner Denny will report at the next meeting.

Commissioner Neumann provided a summary of numerous meetings attended in the month of February.

County Coordinator's Report

The County Coordinator reported on meetings and events including committee meetings attended and maintaining flow during the interim period until HR Manager is filled.

Recess

Chairperson Neumann recessed the meeting until March 21, 2023.

AUDITOR WARRANTS

VENDOR NAME	$AMOUNT
ACTIVE911	$3,287.50
CLIFTON LARSONALLEN, LLP	$3,255.00
MCTAVISH STEELWORKS LTD	$4,517.00
MN DEPT OF FINANCE	$5,304.00
PETERS LAW OFFICE, P.A.	$6,070.50
PRAIRIE LAKES MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE AUTH	$86,883.00
STEP	$11,792.48
VERIZON	$5,744.20
VOYANT COMMUNICATIONS, LLC	$3,568.51
39 PAYMENTS LESS THAN 2000	$16,289.27
CDW GOVERNMENT INC	$3,477.98
CENTRA CARE	$11,532.50
CITY OF LONG PRAIRIE	$10,681.41
COUNTIES PROVIDING TECHNOLOGY	$5,709.00
COUNTRYSIDE RESTAURANT	$4,162.40
FLEET SERVICES/WEX BANK	$7,482.54
MINNESOTA POWER & LIGHT	$23,218.97
MISSISSIPPI HEADWATERS BOARD	$7,700.00
MORRISON COUNTY	$20,054.70
NORTHERN STAR COOP	$2,200.32
NOW MICRO INC	$3,267.54
PSST, LLC	$2,450.00
SHIRLEY'S GAS & GROCERIES INC	$4,582.56
TOWN OF BARTLETT	$21,175.34
TOWN OF BERTHA	$25,929.73
TOWN OF BIRCHDALE	$25,286.62
TOWN OF BRUCE	$19,401.45
TOWN OF BURLEENE	$21,339.09
TOWN OF BURNHAMVILLE	$27,020.64
TOWN OF EAGLE VALLEY	$29,739.11
TOWN OF FAWN LAKE	$25,458.52
TOWN OF GERMANIA	$25,852.44
TOWN OF GORDON	$27,562.26
TOWN OF GREY EAGLE	$20,207.17
TOWN OF HARTFORD	$33,285.04
TOWN OF IONA	$29,850.06
TOWN OF KANDOTA	$19,451.78
TOWN OF LESLIE	$22,326.46
TOWN OF LITTLE ELK	$18,364.48
TOWN OF LITTLE SAUK	$27,579.82
TOWN OF LONG PRAIRIE	$27,492.39
TOWN OF MORAN	$25,533.02
TOWN OF REYNOLDS	$26,144.98
TOWN OF ROUND PRAIRIE	$30,031.98
TOWN OF STAPLES	$23,877.50
TOWN OF STOWE PRAIRIE	$29,437.32
TOWN OF TURTLE CREEK	$15,004.40
TOWN OF VILLARD	$28,423.23
TOWN OF WARD	$31,376.59
TOWN OF WEST UNION	$16,830.64
TOWN OF WYKEHAM	$27,739.94
42 PAYMENTS LESS THAN $2,000	$16,197.20
ANOKA CO GOVERNMENT CENTER	$8,375.00
BENNING PRINTING & PUBLISHING	$3,565.50
CARD SERVICES COBORNS	$2,320.33
CENTERPOINT ENERGY	$2,541.51
GALLAGHER BENEFIT SERVICES INC	$2,000.00
MCKESSON MEDICAL SURGICAL	$4,625.90
ST CLOUD HOSPITAL	$26,381.47
TODD CO AUD-TREAS	$5,697.93
WARNER LAW, LLC	$4,484.78
35 PAYMENTS LESS THAN $2,000	$9,458.74
ARC ELECTRIC SERVICE	$25,408.19
CENTERPOINT ENERGY	$8,359.65
CITY OF STAPLES	$7,909.48
MN DEPT OF FINANCE	$2,534.10
S DISTRICT 2170	$22,991.55
S DISTRICT 2753	$2,027.45
TOWN OF FAWN LAKE	$2,849.45
TOWN OF MORAN	$4,907.05
TOWN OF WARD	$3,739.27
23 PAYMENTS LESS THAN $2,000	$13,449.55
MN DEPT OF REV	$29,237.69
US BANK $6,293.72	
MN DEPT OF REV	$2,393.15
6 PAYMENTS LESS THAN $2,000	$2,863.44
TOTAL:	**$1,175,565.48**

COMMISSIONER WARRANTS

VENDOR NAME	AMOUNT
BRAATEN SAND & GRAVEL	$13,353.87
COMPASS MINERALS AMERICA	$10,046.03
FARM-RITE EQUIPMENT, INC	$3,851.75
FRONTIER PRECISION INC	$3,330.00
H & L MESABI	$2,542.12
J & E CONCRETE LLC	$5,000.00
JOSH'S AUTOBODY AND TOWING	$11,668.21
NORTH COUNTRY EQUIPMENT REPAIR, INC	$5,476.90
NORTHERN STAR COOP	$4,652.12
NOW MICRO INC	$4,148.00
NUSS TRUCK & EQUIP	$6,172.27
ROLLIES SALES & SERVICE INC	$3,670.54
ST CLOUD ACOUSTICS INC	$3,650.00
TOWMASTER	$5,754.89
51 PAYMENTS LESS THAN $2,000	$19,879.04
Total:	**$103,195.74**

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES WARRANTS

VENDOR NAME	$AMOUNT
DHS - SWIFT	$7,512.86
FRESHWATER EDUCATION DISTRICT	$17,505.00
V #16114 - COST EFF HEALTH INSURANCE	$2,188.80
MORRISON CO PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE	$2,053.02
PATTON SCHAD FUNERAL SERVICE - SAUK CENTRE	$3,500.00
PERISH/ALAN	$2,127.53
82 PAYMENTS LESS THAN $,2000	$20,718.97
Total:	**$55,606.18**

VENDOR NAME	AMOUNT
DHS - ANOKA METRO RTC - 412	$30,780.00
DHS - MSOP - MN SEX OFFENDER PROGRAM	$6,649.50
DHS - ST PETER RTC - 472	$6,150.40
LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICE OF MN-ST PAUL	$2,541.90
NORTH HOMES CHILDREN & FAMILY SRVS	$19,617.92
PRAIRIE LAKES YOUTH PROGRAMS	$21,843.26
PRESBYTERIAN FAMILY FOUNDATION INC	$3,264.55
PAYMENTS LESS THAN $2,000	$6,096.21
Total:	**$96,943.74**

On a motion by Kneisl and seconded by Erickson, the preceding minutes of the County Board meeting held March 7, 2023 were duly approved by unanimous vote at the Todd County Board of Commissioners at the Regular Board Meeting held on March 21, 2023.

Witness my hand and seal:
Randy Neumann,
County Board Chairperson
Denise Gaida,
Todd County Auditor-Treasurer
15pnc



First at Melrose

The Staples-Motley Speech Team placed first at the Melrose tournament on March 25. Pictured are the individual place winners with their first place trophies. Front row from left, AJ Nienow, Micah Larson, Luke Bates, Caden Mrazek and Brynn Bestland; back row, Olivia Opheim and Lexi Fishman. (Submitted photo)



Subsection champion team

The Staples-Motley Speech Team brought home the Subsection 23A 1st place team trophy, competing on April 1. The Cardinals registered 25 speakers and advanced all 25 to the Section tournament, which will take place on Saturday, April 15th in Perham.

Pictured, front row from left, Luke Bates, Caden Mrazek, Grace Allen, Cy Johnson, Sabina Moe, Olivia Opheim and Jaden Johnson; row two, Maddock Harvey, Lexi Fishman, Walker Johnson, Keegan Bestland, AJ Nienow and Laken Hines; Row three, Andy Daniels, Lily Davis, Hailey Richardt, Sarah Kroll, Maria Halvorson, Coach Heather Sams and Brynn Bestland; row four, Gabriel Kroll, Joshua Cushing, Keegan Harvey, Micah Larson, Raina Mikhael and Riley Dabbs.

School bus camera grant shows need for safety

The Staples-Motley School District's Transportation Director Norbert Klimek received a $29,975 grant from the Minnesota Department of Public Safety to install school bus stop arm cameras on ten regular-route buses. The additional stop arm cameras capture images of drivers on the road who may put students in danger by disregarding the stop arm and red, flashing lights.

Klimek said "Many motorists are confused about when they should stop around school buses. To keep it simple, if the red lights are flashing, if the stop sign [stop arm] is out on an undivided highway — just stop." He added, "The bus driver will shut the red flashing lights off and bring the stop arm in when it is safe to proceed."

Klimek continued, "Sometimes there are stragglers getting off the bus, or a paper flies out of a student's backpack. We need motorists to be patient as students cross roadways and get safely to their homes. These stop arm cameras allow our drivers to focus on students entering and exiting the bus, instead of trying to write down a license plate number of a driver who disregarded the stop arm and red lights — It's really about keeping our kids and drivers safe."

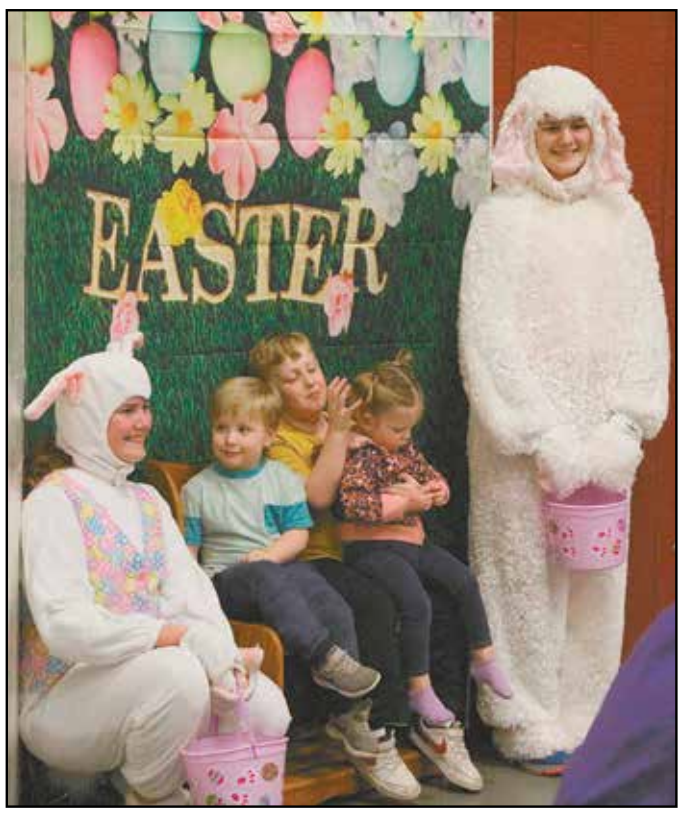
The stop arm cameras will be installed before the 2023-2024 school year begins in September. For more information about this grant, read the press release from the Department of Public Safety at https://bit.ly/DPSStopArmGrant.





Subsection first place

Subsection champions, front row: Luke Bates and Caden Mrazek (Duo), Micah Larson (Creative Expression); Back row: Lily Davis (Storytelling), Olivia Opheim (Informative Speaking), Walker Johnson (Extemporaneous Reading), Brynn Bestland (Great Speeches). Also advancing to the Section tournament are Keegan Harvey and Joshua Cushing, 2nd & 3rd respectively in Creative Expression; Sabina Moe 3rd and Hailey Richardt 5th in Discussion; Cy Johnson 3rd and Sarah Kroll 5th in Dramatic Interpretation; Maria Halvorson 6th in Extemp Reading; Raina Mikhael 2nd and Gabriel Kroll 4th in Great Speeches; Laken Hines 3rd and AJ Nienow 4th in Humor; Andy Daniels 5th in Informative; Keegan Bestland 3rd and Jaden Johnson 4th in Original Oratory; Grace Allen 2nd and Riley Dabbs 4th in Poetry; Lexi Fishman 3rd in Prose; and Maddock Harvey 2nd in Storytelling.





Eggstravaganza action

At the Staples '93 Lions Easter Eggstravaganza, children were able to pose with and Easter Bunny and Easter Lamb (left), get Easter face painting (above, top), receive prizes (above) and play games (right). (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



