

Wednesday, December 30, 2020

Staples, Minnesota

\$1

Christmas drop off at Staples-Motley Elementary

Above, the Christmas elf and Mrs. Claus delivered pillows and fleece blankets Dec. 22 to 70+ third grade students at Staples-Motley Elementary School. The project, coordinated by Jody Johnson, above right, was made possible by a grant from Thrivent Financial to purchase the supplies to make pillows and buy the blankets. (Staples World photos by Janice Winter)

Weather

This Week's Forecast
High Low Cond.

Dec. 30	17°	3°	Cloudy
Dec. 31	22	4	P. Cloudy
Jan. 1	23	7	M. Cloudy
Jan. 2	22	15	P. Cloudy
Jan. 3	34	23	Sunny
Jan. 4	35	22	Cloudy
Jan. 5	30	17	P. Cloudy

Last Year, 2019

High Low Cond.

Dec. 30	28°	13°	Cloudy
Dec. 31	18	7	Sunny
Jan. 1	20	8	P. Cloudy
Jan. 2	31	13	M. Sunny
Jan. 3	27	19	Cloudy
Jan. 4	23	19	Cloudy
Jan. 5	20	15	Sunny

Average Temps:
H = 21° Low = 5°
Total Snow:
Thru Dec. 27: 4"
For year: 20"
Happy New Year!

Compiled by
Dale Hausmann,
WCCO's Staples area
Weatherwatcher

Public Notices

Todd County
Commissioners:
7A

Obituaries

Leo Pogreba
David Pohl



School building proposal approved

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

The Staples-Motley School Board approved submitting their building proposal to the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE). The proposal is to hold a special election on April 13, with one referendum question on the ballot, to issue \$64,380,000 in bonds for remodeling and construction at Staples-Motley High School and Elementary School.

At the Dec. 21 school board meeting, Mike Hubbard of ICS presented the review and comment document that must be approved by the MDE before a referendum can move forward. Hubbard said the scope of the project is to renovate and build additions at the elementary school location, deconstruct the 1935 building portion of the high school, renovate other areas and build additions.

The plan also calls for discontinuing use of the Motley Early Learning Center, leaving the Motley building without a use.

The construction phase calls for completing the elementary site before starting at the high school. The completion date would be August, 2025.

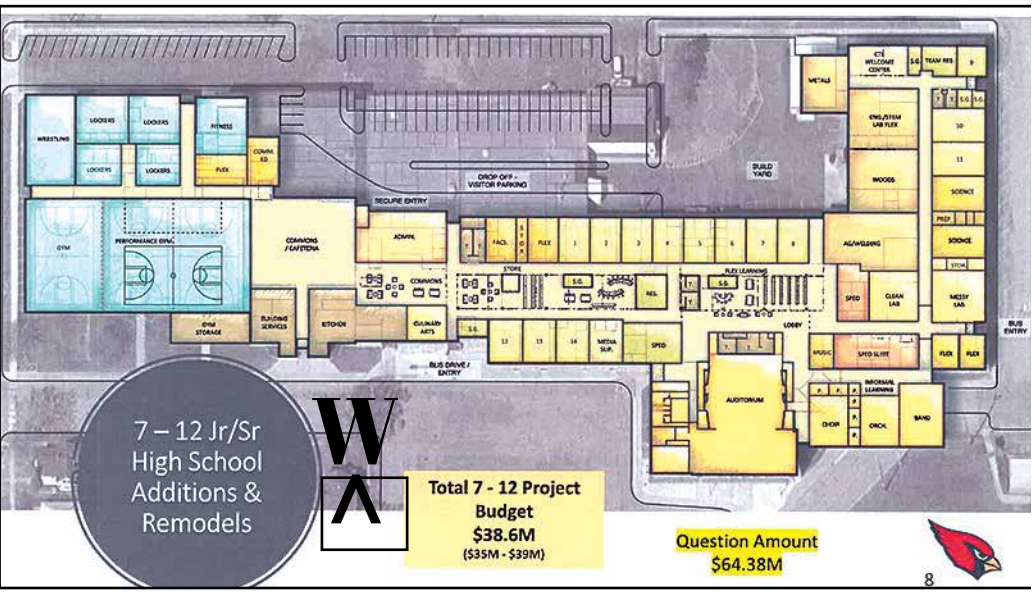
Hubbard said the state

will question why the building project calls for more than 60 percent towards renovation and less for new construction. He said one reason is the school has already put considerable investments in the buildings, including air quality (HVAC) improvements. They will also cite the telephone survey that indicates a strong preference in the district for the two-building proposal and the tax impact study that indicates a desire to keep taxes low.

"The plan is improving operational efficiency so we don't have to cut programs, and making the buildings for 21st century learning models," said Hubbard.

The board set polling places for the proposed referendum on April 13: the Staples Community Center, Motley City Hall and Scandia Valley Township Hall. Cass County residents in the district will be able to use mail-in ballots.

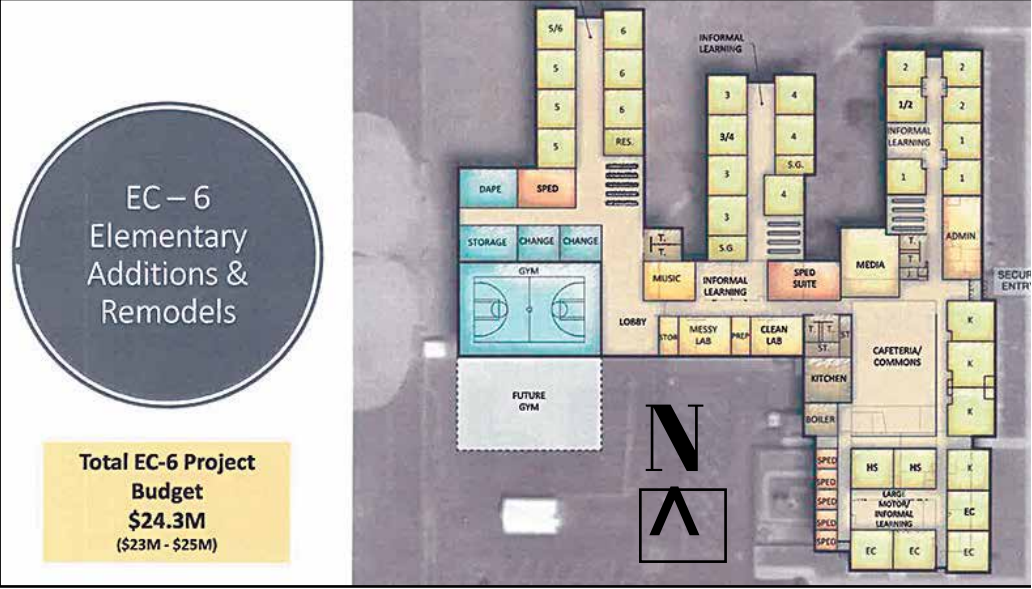
If the referendum does not pass, Hubbard said they will move forward with "plan B", which includes leveraging \$14 million through available local tax mechanisms for the most needed renovations. Otherwise, the \$14 million in renovations will be included in the referendum proposal.



School proposal drawings

The floor plans being submitted to the Minnesota Department of Education include areas of renovation colored in yellow and new construction in blue. The high school building, above, will shift the front entrance to the west side of the

building and will include a gymnasium built near the same area to replace the current gym. The elementary school will also have a new gym to be built towards the softball fields.



Top story of 2020: It's the community, not the pandemic

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

For two months, 2020 seemed like a normal year. Then a global pandemic changed everything the local communities had been doing. The Staples World was right there to document the entire process.

While COVID-19 dominated the headlines, every story in the Staples World was actually about the local response and the opportunities available, the hopes and dreams and tragedies that were happening because of the pandemic and in spite of it. After the initial upheaval, the stories turned to the local people who remained resilient and developed a new form of progress in the face of state-wide restrictions, a crashing economy and political confrontations. Just like every other year, the Staples World helped readers learn who we are as a community.

2020 - The year in review

The year started with the Staples World reporting on residents Francisco Jiménez and Anne Kincaid earning their citizenship and their immigration stories.

There were new things happening in the community, such as the kale pod arriving at CLC, the school district's rollout of a continuous improvement plan, and new city administration, Curt Bryniarski as Motley's new clerk/treasurer and Scott Grabe as



Photos of the Year

Stella Daniels of Staples sews masks for the staff at Lakewood Health System. When she learned about the project, she told her mom, Melissa Daniels, LHS employee, "I want to help."

Staples Public Works Director.

The Staples World was full of events happening each week, including the Staples-Motley school's one-act play, "Our Place," ECFE Family Fiesta Night, Cow-Calf Days at CLC, the high school bell choir and pianist Jared Campbell performing at Faith Lutheran Church. And that was just in two newspapers. The Her Voice, Her Song event was held Feb. 22.

As always, the Staples World

reported on achievements of local people, such as Paige Lenk attending an International Collaboration between JCI Canada and JCI USA in Washington, D.C., and Kerry Lindgren receiving the Minnesota Farm Bureau (MFB) Foundation FFA Advisor of the Year award.

The newspaper also reported on local tragedies, including Paul Peterson, age 18, killed in a snowmobile accident.

Pandemic

The Staples World was one of the first weekly newspapers to start reporting on the pandemic. In the March 18 issue, the big news was that Motley was designated as a 'Yellow Ribbon City' and had purchased a new police car. But there was another story that showed things were not normal. Dawn Timbs wrote about Lakewood Health System's preparations for COVID-19, which had been spreading in the country. Although the virus had not reached the four county area, the public was already reacting to it: Timbs included a photo of empty store shelves where people had purchased all the toilet paper. The next week, the state closed down all schools, restaurants, bars and fitness centers, and issued a "stay at home" order to all except essential workers. Live events were forced to stop immediately.

Every week since then, the Staples World has printed multiple stories

See 2020 on page 3a

Thank you for subscribing!

Lakewood staff and residents receive COVID-19 vaccine

Staff and residents at Lakewood Health System and Lakewood Care Center, Staples, started to receive their first round of the Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine on Dec. 22. A second dose for each person receiving the vaccine will be scheduled and given 21 days after the first.

This is phase 1a of the vaccine distribution which is intended for healthcare workers and residents in long-term care (LTC) facilities. A workgroup at Lakewood has been working on the planning and coordination of the vaccine distribution for Lakewood staff and residents including prioritization and care of staff wanting to receive the vaccine.

It is unknown when the vaccine will be available to the public, but Lakewood will continue to share information as it is available.



Receiving their vaccinations

Above: Dr. Christine Albrecht, Chief Medical Officer at Lakewood Health System, received her vaccination from Jody Yeager, LPN. In photo at right, Care Center resident Jackie Harkcom received her vaccination from Katie Paine-Santos, RN. (Submitted photos)



Motley Area Food Shelf donations

Recent donations have been made to the Motley Area Food Shelf (MAFS) including money, food and household items.

Pictured above, from left, are Sherry Frisk, MAFS Director and Deb Watson from Northern Pines Mental Health Center, Morrison County. Frisk reported that employees at Northern Pines collected food and household items, of which they distributed to several food shelves in the area. Frisk is holding a check for \$200, which was also received from Northern Pines Mental Health Center.



In lower photo, Tonya Enneking (left) of the Pine Ridge Golf Course is pictured with Fran Kokett, volunteer and board member at the Motley Area Food Shelf. Enneking collected money from her friends and purchased books to give to children of the food shelf's clientele. (Submitted photos)

Law enforcement reports, Motley area

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

Dec. 22 - The MPD received reports of two gas drive-offs at the Holiday Station in Motley. One in the amount of \$33.73 and the other for \$44.51.

Dec. 21 - The MPD assisted state patrol on a traffic stop at Hwy 10 N., Motley, after the driver

called 911 seeking advice from another officer. The MPD reported that the driver stated to him over the phone that he was removed from his car so that a trooper could search it and that he was now cold. The MPD advised the driver to ask the trooper if he could sit in his squad. After arriving at the scene, the MPD advised the state patrol trooper of the call. The trooper stated he had given the driver the option

of sitting in his squad car or walking to Bricks to stay warm. The MPD continued to assist as a cover officer while troopers investigated further.

Dec. 21 - The MPD responded to a report of a vehicle accident at the intersection of Hwy 10 and Hwy 210 in Motley. There was minor damage to both vehicles.

Dec. 21 - The MPD issued a speeding citation to Garrison Heyer, 31.

Dec. 18 - The MPD received a report that someone had tried to gain entry into the laundry room at Country Terrace Apartments in Motley by tearing the screens out of the window. It appeared the suspect was not able to make entry. The suspect also unsuccessfully tried to make entry through the main entrance of both buildings.

Dec. 17 - The MPD received a report of a burglary at 448 Pine Ave. S., Motley. The suspect was seen on camera entering the apartment building by use of a tool. Nothing was reported stolen at this time.

Dec. 22 - The MCSO received a report of theft at the 38000 block of Hwy 10 in Motley.

Dec. 18 - The MCSO received a call from a person who had third-party information that an 8,000-pound fish house was pulled out onto Lake Alexander in Cushing. The information was passed on to state patrol/conservation officer.

Dec. 18 - The MCSO received a call from a Cushing resident who reported that a vehicle had been fraudulently registered in her name.

Dec. 17 - The MCSO received a call from a Cushing resident reporting fraud to their credit card. The incident took place in Maryland.



Cardinal Christmas characters on parade

The Staples-Motley School Cardinal mascot, along with a number of other Christmas characters (including Santa) waved to people from the back of a Staples Fire Truck as they drove through Staples Dec. 21. The characters on parade included SM School Superintendent Shane Tappe, Holly Tappe, SM School Board member Brad Anderson, Bobbe Anderson, and SM School staff members Debbie Ferdon and Loren Walz. Inside the truck are Staples Fire Chief Scott Braith and Rhonda Cichos. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



Gifts of food, ornaments

The Staples Motley Area Women of Today had a busy Christmas season, including sponsoring two families. At left are Jody Waterman and Emily Lind with food for two full Christmas meals. The group also made 68 Christmas ornaments and delivered them to residents at Lakewood Care Center. (Submitted photos)



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Looking back

75 YEARS Ago - 1945

- Dec. 27, 1945 - The next meeting of the Motley Study Club will be held in the home of Mrs. Edward Morey, Saturday, Jan. 5. Roll call - lakes and rivers of Canada; Poetry, Mrs. Frank Rasmussen; English drill, Mrs. Jessie Reynolds; Program "Cuba" - Mrs. Harding Blake and "Canada" by Mrs. Clarence Hanley.
- Dec. 27, 1945 - Members of the Staples fire department were called out two times last week, in response to alarms on Thursday morning, and early Satur-

- O -
Compiled by
Dawn Timbs
- O -



Mystery photo

day morning.

Thursday, an electrical switch or wires at the William Shelver home caused a small blaze and a screen of smoke, that aroused the anxiety of Mrs. Shelver who called the department. No material damage was done to the stove in the home, and no damage was done to the home itself. It might have been disastrous had it been at night, however.

Early Saturday morning, between 3 and 4 o'clock, the department was again called to the Scharf Garage in Staples where a fire was discovered near the chimney of the furnace room.

Had it not been for the prompt action of the night man, Donald Johnson, the fire would have been disastrous. A hole was burned in the roof around the chimney, and damage to the amount of \$276 was done to the roof. No other damage was reported to the remainder of the building.

• Dec. 27, 1945 - The regular meeting of the Villard Farm Bureau Unit was held at District 83 school house on Friday evening, Dec. 14. Roy Riedel presided as president at the meeting.

A program following the business meeting consisted of musical selections by the Townsend Kitchen Band, and several songs by Linda and Ellen Reidel, and songs by Karen Young.

Lunch was served at the close of the meeting. Christine Wrede, reporter.

50 YEARS Ago - 1970

- Dec. 31, 1970 - Classified ad: Leaving for Germany, must sell 1968 Plymouth Fury III. New tires, good condition. \$1400. Call



Mystery solved

Last week's mystery photo, published in the Dec. 24, 1970 edition of the Staples World, featured staff members at Batcher's Department Store in a holiday greeting. The names mentioned in their ad were: Left column from top, Don, James, Lillian, Henrietta, Charlotte. Center column, from top, Margaret, Dolores. Right column, from top, Laura, John, Donna, Edythe, Dorothy, Ethel.

Bob Sorenson of Staples recognized Don Gilbertson and many of the other employees at Batcher's Department store. LaRee (Erbe) Shebeck of Minnetonka, 1963 Staples High School Valedictorian, identified her mom, Margaret Erbe as "the cute little lady in the center." LaRee also identified Don Gilbertson, Laura Thorpe, Delores Robinson, Mrs. Johnson, John Nelson, Jamie Fahnlander. Thanks for participating in our Mystery Photo.

Hello readers. This week's archive photo is from our Jan. 28, 1970 edition. Do you know who these people are and perhaps the context of the photos? Email your answers and where you are from

to dtimbs@staplesworld.com by Friday morning, or call 218-894-1112. The answers will be published in next week's paper, as well as a new mystery photo.

Arlene Bjerga, after 5 p.m.

- Dec. 31, 1970 - Classified ad: For sale, three Scorpion snowmobiles: 1969 368 24 h.p. Sacks, electric start, wide track, \$575; 1967 277 cc. 16 h.p. Sacks, 15" track, \$350; 1967 252 10 h.p. Jlo, 15" track, \$250. Terms can be arranged. Call George Palmer.
- Dec. 31, 1970 - Going Out of Business Clearance Sale at Schmitz Radio & TV in Staples. Everything must go! Items for sale include GE Range, \$177; GE Automatic Dryer, \$168; GE Refrigerator, \$249.50; GE 22" color TV, \$459; Admiral Portable stereo, \$55.
- Dec. 31, 1970 - Sunday, Dec. 13, the members of the Christian and Missionary Alliance Church in Staples conducted a mortgage burning service for their parsonage. The Reverend Leo Berreth, district superintendent, delivered the message.

Ground for the 3-bedroom house, located at the corner of Third Street S.W. and Wisconsin Avenue, was broken in the summer of 1964.

Robert Pederson, church treasurer, assisted by Charles Squires, were pictured setting fire to the mortgage. Other board members that participated in the service included Glen Olson, Orval Garland, Ivan Voeltz, Dr. Raymond Garland and Cloyce Grondahl. The Reverend Donald

Brown, present pastor, and the Reverend Lewis Blanchard, former pastor, also participated in the service.

- Dec. 31, 1970 - The meeting of the Staples Boy Scout Troop No. 61 was held at 7 p.m. Dec. 15, with Dr. Raymond O. Garland presiding. The flags were presented by Ted Richardson's patrol. Duane Ash, Kevin Corbett, Ron Elifrits, Scott Grossman, Bruce Grondahl, Tim Meech, and Todd Hess were awarded the Tenderfoot rank.

25 YEARS Ago - 1995

- Dec. 28, 1995 - A young Brownville boy sustained a serious leg injury Sunday morning at his parents' farm and was reported in serious condition Tuesday morning at North Memorial Hospital.

Eleven-year-old Jamie Dreher's leg became wrapped in an auger inside a silo while doing farm feeding chores about 10 a.m. Sunday, according to the Todd County Sheriff's Department.

Rescuers, who included Dr. Paul VanGorp from the Long Prairie Hospital and a registered nurse, took about an hour to free the boy's leg. He was then rushed by Brownville Ambulance to the Long Prairie Hospital and then airlifted to North Memorial Hospital in Minneapolis. Reports from the hospital were sketchy, but indicated that doctors were able to re-attach the boy's leg in a lengthy operation, but will be unsure if the operation will succeed for several weeks. The accident took place on the Alan and Shelly Deher farm about 3- 1/2 miles east of Browerville.

- Dec. 28, 1995 - The Staples Senior Nutrition Site served over 50 meals Dec. 21 at the annual Christmas party. This year Jeff Iverson and the German polka band at Staples Motley High

School provided some polka and Christmas music for the seniors as they began their holiday meal. Santa even paid a visit as apparently even senior citizens still believe.

- Dec. 28, 1995 - 'Ring in the new year at River Inn!' stated an ad from the supper club in Aldrich. It went on to encourage people to make their dinner reservations early. In addition to their meal, patrons would enjoy dancing to the music of Neon Nites, the ad said.
- Dec. 28, 1995 - Richard Anderson of Staples received a Doctor of Philosophy degree from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in ceremonies held Dec. 16.

10 YEARS Ago - 2010

- Dec. 30, 2010 - State Representative Mary Ellen Otremba, (DFL-Dist. 11B: Long Prairie) was selected as the 2010 Legislator of the Year by Minnesota Milk Producers Association for demonstrating support to dairy farmers, the dairy industry and rural Minnesota by her actions at the State Capitol. The award was presented to Representative Otremba at her home by Minnesota Milk President Pat Lunemann on Dec. 16.
- Dec. 30, 2010 - 'A New Year's Eve Tradition on Dec. 31, at Mr. Ed's in Motley, features Prime Rib or Sirloin and Shrimp for two.'
- Dec. 30, 2010 - An ad from Ted and Gen's in Aldrich reads, 'Friday, Dec. 31 specials: Your choice of Prime Rib, Rib Eye or Broiled Walleye, \$15.95. All served with choice of potato and 40 item salad bar! Reservations appreciated.'
- Dec. 30, 2010 - Showing at the Staples Cinema Jan. 1 & 2 is the Disney movie, 'Tangled.' Also showing Dec. 31 - Jan. 2, is 'Narnia - The Voyage of the Dawn Treader.'



Photos of the Year

Oct. 7 Staples World: Staples-Motley fourth grade students helped pick the Farm To School garden at Central Lakes College. Pictured, Tammy Bell explains how a carrot grows to Ray Laney, as William Jacobs hauls some produce in the background. The elementary school had full day in-person learning while other districts went to distance learning or part time in-person.

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2020 continued from page 1a

Community responds to COVID

about the effects of COVID-19 on businesses, churches, schools, organizations and the people of the community. There were many stories on how businesses changed their practices and how meetings and events were held online instead of in person.

The pandemic felt oppressive to most people, but the newspaper helped readers to make sense of what was going on and the stories helped them plan how to combat the problems and move forward. The Staples World printed health guidelines, introduced the concepts of social distancing and quarantining and why to wear masks in public.

Resurgence

After the initial shock of the shutdown orders, the Staples World started printing more stories about the resurgence of community spirit and creativity in dealing with the pandemic. There were stories of people making masks for health care workers and making works of art to lift spirits as the spector of the pandemic loomed over us all.

The Staples Area Chamber of Commerce, led by Board President Rachel Johnson, held weekly video meetings where community leaders, business owners and politicians provided the latest updates on COVID-19 changes. The meetings also helped the public learn about emergency funds and programs available from local, regional, state and national sources. The Staples World conveyed this information to readers on a weekly basis.

The newspapers had multiple stories about school distance learning and the efforts that staff went to for students to be able to keep up while school wasn't in session. Finally, the Class of 2020 held a parking lot graduation after spending more than two months out of school. The Staples World interviewed valedictorian Ryan Wick and salutatorian Katie Smith about the unusual year.

The Staples World covered three locals who helped the National Guard police the protests in Minneapolis that were watched by the world, Blayne Dumphrope, Shaine Guggenberger Todd Allshouse. The newspaper also covered the arrest of a Staples resident, Bryce Williams, for participating in the burying of a police station, and allowed him to tell his story of experiencing protests around the country.

Local spread

Despite all the changes and preparations made because of COVID-19, the actual pandemic was barely spreading in the local the community.

When school resumed in the fall, Staples-Motley was able to hold full time in-person learning because COVID-19 numbers in the area were still low.

On Oct. 15, seven months after the first Staples World story about the pandemic, health statistics showed only 32 people in the Staples zip code had tested positive for the virus, and 35 people in Motley had tested positive. By Dec. 17, the number in Staples had risen to 389 and in Motley it was 229.

By the time Lakewood Health System started

getting large numbers of COVID-19 patients, the hospital had prepared a 16-bed COVID area, and was sharing resources with hospitals around the state to help alleviate overloads in any area.

On Dec. 30, the last newspaper of the year, the Staples World reported on the first COVID-19 vaccines being administered locally. Whether this marks the beginning of the end of the pandemic or not, the Staples World promises that 2021 will again be about you, the readers, and us, the community. It will not be about the pandemic.

Busy year

The community remained active despite the pandemic. Some of the Staples World stories included:

Lake Shamineau's rising water, Motley Cemetery erosion project, Mike Koppes receiving a new kidney from his daughter Trista, Dave Endicott starts as new Central Lakes College Dean of Staples Campuses, massive food distribution events, Josh Lee starts as new Staples-Motley Activities Director and Dean of Students, Brad Wegscheid installs a monument at Old Wadena Park in honor of Duane Lund, Dr. Jerry Henrickson retires after 40 years at Lakewood Health System, Beck's Burger Co. restaurant opens in Staples, CLC Field Day, Bren Davis became a full-time officer with the Staples Police Department, Tony Mack sets up outdoor wrestling mat, Becky Hasselberg honored for volunteering at The Vintage golf course, Sara Kriefall starts as Sacred Heart Area School Principal, Motley firefighters Bryan Stevens and Nick Dille drive tanker truck to fight forest fires in Oregon, Peter Gorton's The Donaldson Network erects statue of pitching legend John Donaldson in his hometown in Missouri, Chuck and Peggy Seelen use homemade pond as CLC class demonstration, Staples-Motley School Board works towards building referendum, Wadena County Attorney Kyra Ladd appointed to the Minnesota Sentencing Guidelines Commission, CLC teams up with USDA on large scale agriculture education process, Ava Schneider and Max Strickland were crowned as Cardinal Days (Homecoming) royalty, Cory Detloff is new Director of the Ag & Energy Center and Farm Business Management at CLC, Ken and Hope Johnson named the '2020 Farm Family of the Year' for Cass County, Region Five Development Commission (R5DC), based in Staples, has receives Impact Award from the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) for the RxCSA/VetCSA food program, Staples-Motley cross country teams finish season ranked first and Emmet Anderson wins race that replaced the state meet, Colton Converse and Caden Mrazek were second place winners at the National FFA Convention for their Agriculture Fair Project, local election results, Hoemberg family deer hunting traditions, Staples-Motley music department's Madrigal Dinner Movie, Dr. Jesse Fenstermacher starts at the Staples Eye Clinic.



Photos of the Year

March 4 Staples World: before the pandemic hit, The Staples-Motley girl's basketball team visited the Lakewood Health Care Center, for games with the residents. Two weeks later, no visitors were allowed.

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Research area built

Workers add a wall and counter to expand access to the Zosel Research Library of the Wadena County Museum. (Submitted photo)

Wadena museum remodel creates research space

Helped by additional funding from the county, the Wadena County Museum is remodeling a portion of their building so it can be made available to the public. This project will double the size of the Zosel Research Library and create a space to safely use the research materials even while the Museum building is closed. While COVID-19 infection rates are high, people will be admitted only by appointment.

Later, when that is not as much of a problem, it will provide a space to serve the public. Throughout the pandemic, the Wadena County Historical Society has continued to fill research requests. Recent additions to the archives include Wadena County Township Records and bound volumes of the Wadena Pioneer Journal.

Watershed planning grant for Long Prairie River

The entities of Todd, Morrison, and Douglas counties, along with Douglas, Morrison, Todd, and West Otter Tail SWCD's, have announced the awarding of a Planning Grant for the Long Prairie River and its associated watersheds from the MN Board of Soil and Water Resources. This is the first stage in developing a long term plan for meeting the needs of the communities in regards to future water quality.

Once a solid plan is in place and approved at the local and state level, the alliance can start the stage of implementing the plan onto the land. To do so, there will be an increase in cost-share dollars to help voluntary landowners wanting to make environmental upgrades that match the objectives of the plan-- maybe as soon as 2022.

The plan will start as a ten year plan. Planning will require input from those who live in watersheds that are connected to the Long Prairie River. Please keep an alert ear for the acronym 1W1P which stands for One Watershed, One Plan- uniting all residents residing within the specified watershed in this common plan. When you hear or see the acronym IWIP, make sure you take time to read or listen to the information being presented. If it is prefaced with the title Long Prairie River, that information will 100% apply to you as a landowner, a city council person, an industry, a business, a lake association, a farmer, a Commissioner, as a road maintenance worker, and as a township.

There are over 80 major watersheds in Minnesota so the preface is important. That's your cue to contact the SWCD offices with your ideas, questions and concerns as we move through this process. The SWCD will provide as many opportunities as possible the public to participate and provide input. If you are wondering about or doubting what you read or hear, you can bet there are at least ten thousand other people wondering the same thing.

It is estimated that 37,810 other people besides you collectively live within the Long Prairie Watershed. Be the person and the neighbor who asks the questions and knows the facts up front. When the SWCD asks, "Is this goal sound and achievable in regards to our citizens?" please do respond. The plan will only be as appropriate and effective as the information you provide to us.

Can Todd County citizens (and other) gain from this plan? Yes, not only in the far but in the near future. Maybe you care about soil health or diversity in crops. Maybe your city well is a concern for you or your lawns and shorelands are showing signs of erosion. Perhaps fear of future state industrial regulations is giving the CEO heart palpitations; maybe your business depends on pollinators. Is water hemp, buckthorn or carp a huge nemesis for you? Maybe the culverts are giving out on your roads or your wells are testing high in nitrates or lead. Is your irrigation costing you an arm and a leg? Is your landfill area closing in, or your city drains backed up? Is the wind blowing your driveway shut in winter or are the skies dark with dust on a windy spring day? Is the hunting habitat diminishing? Can your kids swim in the water? These are the things the plan can and should address, plus many more issues.

Contact your local SWCD for more information or to indicate your participation interest.

Arts changed in 2020, will revive in 2021

By Mark Turner
Executive Director
Five Wings Arts Council

As 2020 comes to a close (thank goodness), I am truly humbled and inspired by the dedication, hard work, resiliency and passion of our Five Wings Arts community. It is tempting to look back and dwell on all the tragedies and challenges of this past year. But, as I reflect on the things I am most grateful for, my mind gravitates toward the tremendous amount of positive energy both expended and produced by our regional arts communities.

I think of The Crossing Arts Alliance in Brainerd that immediately responded to the pandemic by ensuring kids would have access to "Creativity Kits" filled with arts supplies as students moved to distance learning. I think of the Staples Area Men's Chorus whose commitment to singing and to their own

member community transitioned to a farm based machine shop for rehearsals. I think of the Lakes Area Music Festival who did not let a little thing like a global pandemic stop them from producing a complete music festival (streaming digitally) which ultimately reached a broader audience than ever before.

The list goes on and on - again, I am grateful, humbled and inspired.

To those of you who are artists (even those that do not think they are), thank you for your creativity, passion, and ability to see light in the darkest of times. To those of you that are community arts leaders and volunteer with arts organizations, thank you for your tireless efforts and flexibility to pivot programming and delivery systems to provide arts access for your community. To those of you that relentlessly advocate for, search out, and support the arts, thank you

for your generosity and wisdom in championing such a critical component of our lives. I hope you all have the opportunity to "take a breath" during this Holiday Season and surround yourself with loved ones, peace, tranquility, and of course, the inspiration, creativity, and solace of engaging in the arts.

Moving into 2021, Five Wings will continue to support your creative community efforts in a way that is accessible and flexible. We also pledge to listen and actively respond to the unique needs of our collective and diverse arts community. Do not hesitate to contact either Vicki or myself with suggestions for additional or modified programs/services Five Wings could provide. After all, it is truly our mission to help weave the arts into the fabric of our communities.

Be safe, be well, and Happy New Year to you all.

Christmas during a pandemic: building a stronger community

By Joel Beiswenger
President & CEO
Tri-County Health Care, Wadena

December is upon us and the holidays have once again brought festive cheer to our community. However, this year feels a little different. Things aren't the same; many feel exhausted and frustrated. The holidays should be a time of reprieve from the stresses of life, but this year can't bring the same harmony. I want to enjoy Christmas and I want every single person reading this to enjoy it as well.

I know people can't attend Christmas parties as they did in prior years

or form caroling troops for evenings of spreading Christmas joy. Cookie bakes are on hold, and family gatherings have moved online. These changes may be a little depressing, but I want to remind everyone that Christmas is more than candy canes and mistletoe. It's a beautiful feeling that warms us during the winter cold. It's a genuine love for humanity that amplifies during this special time of the year. No virus can take that from you.

While you enjoy your holidays, remember this pandemic has not been easy for anyone. The pandemic has placed an inordinate strain on the health care industry and took its toll on small businesses.

They have struggled with restrictions and the challenges of operating during a pandemic. Without support, the restaurants, shops and stores that have been a foundation of our community may struggle to keep going. This year while you're doing a little Christmas shopping, consider buying locally. Something as simple as picking up a gift card could make a difference in our community.

We appreciate the support of all our communities during this challenging year. Now is a great time to extend that support back out to all the people who make us proud to live here. Remember, we are stronger together.

USDA rural investments

USDA Deputy Under Secretary for Rural Development Bette Brand highlighted the department's investments in 2020 that are building prosperity and strengthening the nation's rural businesses and communities.

"Under the leadership of President Donald J. Trump and Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue, USDA invested a record \$40 billion in rural communities in 2020," Brand said. "This assistance is helping increase economic opportunities and improving the quality of life for rural residents across the 50 states and all U.S. territories."

Brand added, "USDA responded with urgency to help those affected by the COVID-19 global pandemic. We worked to bring high-speed internet capacity, modern community facilities, and upgraded water and wastewater in-

frastructure to rural areas. We helped provide homeownership opportunities and reliable electricity. We invested in businesses and family-supporting jobs, because when rural America thrives, all of America thrives."

Below is a summary of USDA's Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 accomplishments:

Improving Rural Infrastructure

Invested a record \$6.3 billion in 125 projects to upgrade or build electric infrastructure. These investments will benefit 10.7 million customers by improving electric service reliability across 34 states.

Invested \$801 million in Smart Grid technology to improve electric system operations and monitor grid security for rural electric customers.

Invested \$2.1 billion to expand access to safe drinking water and improve wastewater management systems. These investments will improve the reliability of local water supply for 2.1 million rural Americans.

Invested \$140 million through the Community Facilities Programs in rural infrastructure projects such as roads, airports and transportation improvements.

million in 2,304 loan and grants through the Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) for energy efficiency improvements, renewable energy systems, and energy development assistance in rural businesses.

High-Speed Broadband

Invested \$1.3 billion to support rural broadband expansion through the ReConnect Pilot Program. Included in this total is \$85 million provided through the CARES Act. In total, these investments are connecting approximately 280,000 households, 19,978 farms and 10,053 businesses to high-speed internet.

Invested \$187 million in broadband through the Telecom Infrastructure and Community Connect programs. These investments are connecting 58,249 households in rural communities to high-speed internet.

Quality of Life

Invested \$1.5 billion in loans and grants through the Community Facilities Programs that funded the construction or modernization of 1,683 essential community facilities such as rural hospitals, educational institutions and public safety facilities. These investments will benefit 20 million rural residents, across all 50 states, Guam, Virgin Islands and the Western Pacific.

Invested \$71.5 million through the Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grant Program in 116 distance learning and telemedicine projects. These investments will benefit 12 million rural residents, making it easier for them to access health-care and educational opportunities.

Invested \$24 billion in direct and guaranteed loans through the Single Family Housing Programs to help 143,795 low- and moderate-income families buy homes in all 50 states, Guam, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

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

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Legislative update on coffee talk Jan. 4

On January 4, the Economic Alliance, in partnership with the Wadena Development Authority, is hosting a special edition of their regularly scheduled virtual coffee talks. Legislative Lattes will feature guest speakers Congressman Pete Stauber, MN Senate Majority Leader Paul Gazelka, and Representative John Poston. They each will share a legislative update, along with their priorities for 2021. If you are interested in

attending, please email Katie Heppner at wceda@wcta.net for the Zoom meeting log in information. The Economic Alliance is a non-profit that focuses on economic development in Wadena County. Their mission is to give a voice to the economic and business interests of Wadena County by providing educational, networking, and advocacy resources and opportunities.

Region Five seeks energy program cities

As result of the hearing from communities throughout Crow Wing, Cass, Morrison, Todd and Wadena Counties, the Region Five Development Commission (R5DC) has launched Energy & Environment (EE) planning and project implementation initiative. In 2020, R5DC began EE planning and implementation with two communities; Staples and Hackensack. To serve

more communities in our five-county region, R5DC will apply to USDA for an investment that would allow 10 more communities to further this work. The opportunity is open to all communities throughout the region and R5DC will serve the first 10 who respond with interest. Once the community-driven blueprint is in place, an investment of \$10,000.00 will be

utilized for project implementation. R5DC invites your city to participate in local planning to mitigate against your community's unique identified near-term energy and environment risks. The City of Staples is participating in a pilot project for this program. To learn more, visit: www.regionfive.org/eep.



Packages and treats

All third grade students at SMES were given a pillow and blanket from Mrs. Claus (Jean Balfanz) and Mrs. Elf (Elaine Kenyon) and a candy cane treat from elf-in-training, Liv Bahr (lower left). Third grade teachers Sarah Larson and Jody Johnson helped with student traffic. The bagged packages were coordinated for boys and for girls. (Staples World photos by Janice Winter)

Energy project survey underway in Staples

The City of Staples is currently participating in Energy & Environment (EE) planning and project implementation with Region Five Development Commission. Public input is requested for the EE planning survey. This plan will help create community-developed environment and energy goals and projects based on the City's 2018 Comprehensive Plan and Hazard Mitigation Plans. This plan is one of two pilot Energy and Environment planning processes in Region 5 and is supported by a grant from the Min-

nesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). At the end of the planning process, the city will have concrete energy and environment-related action steps and \$10,000 from the MPCA to start implementing the outlined goals. If you live, work, play or visit in Staples, we ask that you please complete the survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/staples-eep>. To learn more, visit www.regionfive.org/eep. You may also contact Erica Bjelland at ebjelland@regionfive.org or by phone at (218) 894-6011.



Waiting in line

Students waited in line in the hallway to go out and get their gifts as others coming back in put them in their lockers until school was out.

COVID-19 rates declining in area

The massive spike in COVID-19 in November and December is continuing to go down, with Central Minnesota part of the decline. Every county and city in the area is seeing fewer new cases in previous weeks. For the first time since the pandemic started, Todd County has fewer new cases than Wadena County. Todd showed 33 new cases and Wadena 37 in the week of Dec. 21-27. Other county numbers include 53 in Cass and 41 in Morrison. For city zip codes, the numbers are heavier in the Staples area, with 23 new cases compared to 11 for the Long Prairie zip code. Brow-

erville had five new cases, Motley four and Wadena 20. The list of congregate care facilities that have either a resident, staff person, or visitor who has tested positive in the past 28 days, includes Riverside Assisted Living in Pillager, Lakewood Health System Care Center and Lakewood Pines. Despite the lower numbers of new cases, the number of COVID-19 deaths in the state has not gone down at the same rate. The state has averaged 42 deaths per day over the past week, after averaging in the 50s every day in previous weeks.

Staples Chiropractic Office

Dr. Jon Theurer

New or established patients by appointment.

Call 218-894-1737 for an appointment or for questions.

W52-1c

FREE DATE CHANGES ON 2021 TOURS*

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Adults do more than read a newspaper. They are actively engaged in newspaper advertising. 77% percent of U.S. adults took some action — clipped a coupon, bought something advertised or visited a store — as a result of a print newspaper ad in the past 30 days.

Newspaper advertising — get in on the action!

Staples World

SOURCE: 2009 MORI Research National Newspaper Association

Staples World

counter sales available **Tuesday morning** after 10 a.m.

224 4th St. NE
Staples, MN
218-894-1112

abortioncounters.com

W52-3p

Hello World

BIRTHS REPORTED AT LAKEWOOD HEALTH SYSTEM HOSPITAL IN STAPLES INCLUDED:

Born to Lacy Blowers and Matthew Johnson of Sebek, a baby girl, Madilynn Rose weighing six pounds, four ounces on December 18, 2020.

Born to Katie Kirchner and Nathan Kmetz of Brainerd, a baby girl, Izabell Frances weighing nine pounds, nine ounces on December 19, 2020.

Born to Courtney Pate of Pillager, a baby girl, Sydney Marie weighing five pounds, 10 ounces on December 19, 2020.

Born to Shonna Eckman and Ryan Johnston of Sebek, a baby boy, Grayson Charles weighing eight pounds, one ounce on December 20, 2020.

Born to Heather and Shawn Webster of Staples, a baby girl, Maeve Noella weighing six pounds, nine ounces on December 24, 2020.

Todd County 4-H

Todd County 4-H Leaders Council meeting was held November 9, 2020.

The meeting was called to order at 7:42 p.m. by President Katrina Buntjer and was held via Zoom due to Covid-19 numbers. The officer installation was done virtually for the first time ever. Members from the Golden Gophers, Lone Star, West Union Country Kids and Wykeham Willing Workers were present. Secretary's report was read by Alexis Woeste. The treasurer's report was presented by Debra Durheim, which was approved subject to audit. Alyssa Scheve talked to Andes Tower Hills about skiing and their Covid procedure is to wear masks at all times. The council approved 2020-2021 budget plans and scholarships. Debra Durheim was elected as the adult treasurer advisor.

A fruit committee was established which included Debra Durheim, Robert Bromeling, Debbie Sauer, Delvin Durheim, Meri Carstensen and Haylie Wielenberg. An in-person officer training is being talked about. Debbie Sauer and Alyssa Scheve are working on awards. A committee was established to investigate changing the records, the members included are Katrina Buntjer, Caroline Kuehne, Haylie Wielenberg, Alexis Woeste, and Alyssa Scheve. The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

-Submitted by: Alexis Woeste

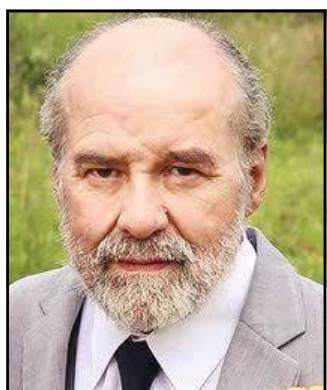
Obituaries

David Pohl

David "Little Buck" M. Pohl, 59, of Mora and formerly of Staples, passed away peacefully surrounded by his loving family at his home in Mora on December 15, 2020.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. on Sat., Jan. 2, 2021 at the Brenny Family Funeral Chapel in Staples. Visitation will be from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday at the funeral home in Staples. A ZOOM opportunity will be available for the service upon request.

Dave was born on January 3, 1961 in Bertha to Theodore "Ted" and Mary (Simkins) Pohl. He attended Central Lakes Community College, Staples for machinist training and furthered his education at Pine Tech where he obtained his license in Taxidermy. Dave married Anna Comeau on February 29, 1980; the couple later divorced. He met and married his life companion, Jill Isvik, on March 22, 1992 in Minneapolis. Dave started his machining career in Minneapolis and most recently worked for Lares Corporation in Cambridge for 20 years. He was a collector of many things; antique cars, motorcycles, guns, and animals. In his retirement years Dave had a goal of learning how to play the guitar and keyboard so he could jam to his classic rock songs. Dave enjoyed



the great outdoors; hunting, fishing and trapping in his younger years. He was determined and an avid sportsman. Above all else he loved his family beyond words. Dave will be dearly missed by all who knew him.

He is survived by his wife, Jill, of Mora; three daughters, Melissa (Keith) Sire, Moorhead, Jamie Pohl, Detroit Lakes and Angela (Justin) Cowden, Milaca; six grandchildren, Keith Sire, Mackenzie Hilden, Timothy Sire, Isaiah Pohl, Aiden Pohl, Autumn Hilden; two brothers, Leland "Butch" Webster and Daniel "Bonze" Pohl; three sisters, Karen (Garry) Carpenter, Rebecca (Joe) Kestner, Cynthia "Penny" (Merl) Engleking and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

w52-1c A00006B2020DC23

Leo Pogreba

Leo Pogreba, 80, of Browerville, passed away December 19, 2020.

Funeral services were held Dec. 28, 2020 at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Motley with Fr. Gabriel Walz officiating.

Interment was at St. Isidore's Catholic Cemetery, Moran Township.

Leo Benjamin was born April 30, 1940, to Leo and Clara (Wagner) Pogreba, Sr. in Moran Township, Todd County. He worked as a machinist until his retirement. Leo enjoyed traveling, especially to South Dakota for prairie dog hunting, wood working, hunting, gardening, driving his Farmall tractor and fishing. Leo was a member of the NRA for many years. He loved looking at the night sky through his telescope.

Leo is preceded in death by his parents; two brothers, Anthony and John; two nephews, Daniel and Nathan DeBolt and two brothers-in-law, Robert DeBolt and Joe Brawthen.

Leo is survived by his 12 siblings: Roland (Virginia)



Pogreba of Staples, Gregory (Judy) Pogreba of Hinkley, Mark (Brenda) Pogreba of Sylvan Shores, Joan DeBolt of Staples, Marlene Brawthen of Staples, Stephen (Janice) Pogreba of Staples, Eunice (Tim) Swanson of Excelsior, Romaine (Maggie) Pogreba of Browerville, Inez Pogreba of Staples, Theresa (Mike) Larson of Arden Hills, Rita (Doug) Ward of Lady Lake, FL, Duane Pogreba of Browerville and many nieces, nephews, and friends.

Arrangements with the Iten Funeral Home, itenfuneralhome.com.

w1c A00006B2020DC30

Needing/Wanting a Granite Memorial FOR YOUR FAMILY?

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Rep. for Fergus Falls Monument Co.
Call 218-445-5685 or 218-640-2341

Happy NEW YEAR Everyone!

Serenity of Flight

To fly unattended in open skies.

No need to follow the flock

Flying amidst the clouds towards the heavens

It is a path of flight, shown by the sun

Which shimmers on gentle waves

That lure you to the cold depths.

Is this why you were given wings like angels

You scorn the creatures that invade your waters

Where the trees encircle to mask a safe haven.

They prey upon what lives within the waters

Then cast aside without thought or care.

The cawing of the crows calling for death or weakness so they may feed upon the pain of it.

I see you as a lone eagle who has lost his taste for blood

Standing proud and regal at the top of the trees.

You search no longer for prey, but for peace.

You are freedom, you are liberty, from all that holds one down.

May you fly in serenity until the world is no more.

Always in my heart, forever in my soul. Love, Mom.

Staples Area Church Directory

Staples

Staples Alliance
1512 8th St. NE, Staples.....218-894-2891
Associate 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
Associate Pastor: Carleton Smea
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. Gabriel Walz
Youth and Young Adult Ministry Coordinator:
Monica J. Simmons.....218-414-0081 cell/text
MASS:
Thursday and Friday.....8:30 a.m.
Saturday.....5:00 p.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 & Bible Class.....10:30 a.m.

United Methodist
310 5th St. NE, Staples.....218-894-2248
Pastor Greg Leslie
Sunday Worship.....10:30 a.m.
(Nursery Available for Sunday Worship)
Sunday School (for grades K-12 and adults).....9:15-10:15 a.m.

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
Associate Pastor: Carleton Smea
www.bethanylutherancushing.org
Sunday Worship.....10:45 a.m.
Sunday School and Coffee Fellowship.....9:30 a.m.
Pancake Breakfast.....11:45 a.m.
2nd Sunday, 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/Youth Joe Reigstad
SUNDAY
Church Worship Gathering.....10:00 a.m.
Facebook Live.....10:00 a.m.
YouTube Channel.....10:00 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Praise & Prayer.....6:30 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
Charles Mallory, Associate Pastor
Sunday Worship.....9:00 & 11:00 a.m.
facebook live.....9 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Youth Group.....6:00-7:30 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. Gabriel Walz
MASS:
Tuesday.....6:30 p.m.,
Wednesday.....8:30 a.m.,
Saturday.....7:00 p.m.
Sunday.....10:30 a.m.

United Methodist
847 3rd Ave. S. Lane, Motley.....218-352-6466
Pastor Greg Leslie
www.motleyumc.net
Sunday Worship Service.....9:00 a.m.
Monday AA meeting.....8:00 p.m.

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

Pillager
First Lutheran Church
Pastor Mathew Sundquist
717 River Street S, Pillager, MN 218-746-3775
Sunday Worship.....9:30 a.m.
Sunday School.....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.

Check with your church to be up-to-date on service options. Many offer remote services.

Hewitt
Church of the Nazarene
114 Front Street, P.O. Box 146 Hewitt, MN 218-924-2028
Pastor Wayne Hoffer
Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship.....10:45 a.m./6 p.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 Classes.....11-11:45 a.m.

Family Life Church
402 NE Clark Drive, Verndale 218-445-5568
VerndaleFLC@gmail.com
Pastor Amos Self.....218-371-7189
Children's Pastor Kenneth Kjeldergaard
SUNDAY
Sunday School.....8:30 a.m.
Worship Service.....10:00 a.m.
Prayer Meeting.....5 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
Night Life Groups.....6:30-8 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
103rd 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 Chuck Horsager, 218-639-4225
Sunday Worship.....9:00 a.m.
Sunday School.....10:30 a.m.

Leaf River Township
The Old Country Church
Leaf River Twp., Wadena County Rd. 6
Info. 218-837-5690 ..Open by arrangement

"A Mother and a Church at Christmastime"

Pastor Barry Klein, Staples Church of Christ

I had the privilege of growing up in a loving, Christian family. Oh, that more adults could have that same childhood experience! (What can each of use do to encourage that in our families and families around us?)

There are rich, enduring memories of growing up on so many levels, but certainly Christmastime was a highlight. My stay-at-home mother would decorate the living room and sun room in a "bigger than life" way.

First, there were the Christmas cards that we were receiving in the mail that would outline the threshold between the living room and sun room. (By the way, that "sun room" had to be heavily partitioned off with a thick curtain in the wintertime for many years because there was no "octopus" furnace heat duct to it!) Then, when we did eventually have heat in the sun room, the windows were outlined with lights and three red plastic blinking bells lit up the east center window for all to enjoy, both in passing by on the street and inside. (It was such a privilege, at Evelyn Adams' sale, to get a duplicate of those same bells decades later!) Then, of course, there was the annual tradition of going to a community Christmas tree lot to pick out our annual family Christmas tree. When it was brought home, it would first be put in a five gallon bucket of water on the porch to begin sucking up water. When the tree was finally put in the stand in the living room, my mother would decorate the tree with vivid ornaments and multi-colored lights (yes, those big-

ger hot ones before miniature lights). The evergreen pine aroma filled the house.

The church family life was equally engaging and memory-filled with Christmas programs and gift exchanges. One year, as a young adolescent, we picked names out of a hat so that we could buy a present to give secretly to another young group member. This particular Christmas, I found out that there wasn't a present for me. I hope that I didn't dwell on it for very long, but in January, I was given a gift of a wrapped up bag of Twizzlers. Now that connected with my taste buds! But, the far more important back story was that I found out that it was from a child in a very poor, challenged family within our church family. There was no money in December to buy gifts for other children.

Back to my mother, there was a family Christmas when a gift to my mother somehow got lost. There we were, all the rest of our family of six with presents before us, but my mother had none. Like the giving mother she is, she made no issue of it, enjoying what the rest of us were receiving.

At Christmas, remember the many who did not receive presents. How can you choose one or two to make a difference in their lives? Read Romans 8:32 and gain the real present perspective as Jesus is the greatest gift God has given to all of us. It puts all other presents in their proper place! You also might find II Corinthians 8:9 fascinating as we learn how Jesus' own poverty makes us rich!!

The Staples area Church Directory is sponsored by these businesses:

Longbella Drug Store
"The Prescription Store"
2nd Ave., Staples • 218-894-2242
Motley and Pillager

Ernie's Food Market
Groceries - Gas - Convenience - more
Staples, MN 218-894-1072

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

Mid-Central Federal Savings Bank
Fully Insured to \$250,000
Staples, MN 218-894-3900

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

Staples World
Your community newspaper since 1890
224 4th St. NE, Staples, MN
218-894-1112

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

Staples True Value
"Just Ask Rental"
Open 7 days a week.
Staples, MN 218-894-3263

The Church Directory is supported by the advertisers listed above and the Ministerial Association.

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



Todd County Board of Commissioners

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TODD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS Nov. 2, 2020

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 2nd day of November, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Kircher. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. All Commissioners were present with Commissioner Becker attending via phone.

Approval of Agenda

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve the agenda as presented.

Consent Agenda

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Neumann, the following motions and resolution were introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote:

To approve the Todd County Board of Commissioner's Meeting Minutes for October 20, 2020 as presented.

To hire John Fick for PT Road Deputy, start date 11/02/2020.

Auditor-Treasurer

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve the October 2020 Auditor Warrants number (ACH) 901049 through 901112 in the amount of \$4,411,743.14, (Manual) 578 through 585 in the amount of \$570,356.80 and (Regular) 236156 through 236371 in the amount of \$1,940,874.14 for a total of \$6,922,974.08.

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve the Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 400893 through 400909 in the amount of \$12,731.18 and (Regular) 54063 through 54103 in the amount of \$63,237.43 for a total of \$75,968.61.

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve the Health & Human Services Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 801127 through 801137 and (Regular) 707209 through 707237 for a total amount of \$47,914.49.

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve the Health & Human Services SSIS Warrants number (ACH) 600283 through 600288 and (Regular) 516047 through 516058 for a total amount of \$54,216.28.

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To adopt the 2020 County Fee Schedule to be effective January 1, 2021 per the attached document.

Administration

A progress report was provided by the County Coordinator regarding the CARES Act Funds projects for the County Board's review and discussion.

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote with Becker abstaining: To award Grants approved for Todd County 2nd Round Small Business and Non-Profit Relief Grant Program.

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve the 3rd Round

Small Business Relief Grant.

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve CARES Act funds for the purchase of 10 radios.

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve CARES Act funds for EM vehicle.

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve the purchase of a Transport Van in the amount of \$46,760 using CARES Act funds.

Health & Human Services

On motion by Becker and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve the letter supporting Willow Bridge Recovery, LLC.

Jackie Och, HHS Director presented an update on the COVID-19 Situation for discussion.

Todd County Solid Waste Designation Ordinance – 2nd Reading

A public hearing was held for the 2nd Reading of the proposed Todd County Solid Waste Designation Ordinance and to gather public input on the proposed Ordinance.

Todd County Tobacco Sales and Access Ordinance – 2nd Reading

A public hearing was held for the 2nd Reading of the proposed Todd County Tobacco Sales and Access Ordinance and to gather public input on the proposed Ordinance.

Solid Waste

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote:

RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE TODD COUNTY WASTE DESIGNATION ORDINANCE

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners has heard two readings of the proposed Waste Designation Ordinance, and;

WHEREAS, as a Member County of the Prairie Lakes Municipal Solid Waste Authority (PLMSWA) this ordinance will ensure a reliable waste supply for its operation.

WHEREAS, this ordinance is also part of a common waste designation plan that was established for all five Member Counties of PLMSWA, and;

WHEREAS, This Waste Designation Ordinance has been reviewed and approved by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency in a Finding of Facts dated April 15, 2020.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners approves adoption of the Waste Designation Ordinance no less than 60 days after the date of approval, hereby establishing the effective date as January 1, 2021.

County Auditor-Treasurer's Report

The Auditor-Treasurer reported that the Absentee Voting period for the General Election has had record-setting utilization surpassing 3,000 issued ballots by this method.

Commissioner's Report

The Commissioner's reported on meetings attended.

Recess

Chairperson Kircher recessed the meeting until November 17, 2020.

AUDITOR WARRANTS		
Vendor Name.....	\$ Amount	
MN DEPT OF REVENUE	\$4,418.00	

MN DEPT OF REVENUE	81,384.66
1 PAYMENT LESS	
THAN \$2,000	8.25
MN DEPT OF REVENUE	2,048.00
1 PAYMENT LESS	
THAN \$2,000	315.21
1 PAYMENT LESS	
THAN \$2,000	811.35
US BANK	10,717.23
MN DEPT OF REVENUE	470,654.10
ALEX PRO FIREARMS, LLC	3,214.00
B & B'S SPORTS BAR & GRILL	5,000.00
CAMP SMORE	
CAMPGROUND LLC	5,000.00
COUNTRYSIDE REST	5,000.00
D & J STYLISTS	5,000.00
DOUBLE R SALOON INC.....	5,000.00
EAGLE LANES	5,000.00
EBSO INC.....	227,689.95
FULL OF FUN, LLC	5,000.00
GREAT RIVER	
REGIONAL LIBRARY	83,351.50
HEADQUARTERS SALON	5,000.00
HEALTH PARTNERS	
DENTAL	4,906.32
HWY 10 PAW SPA	5,000.00
IRON PARADISE INC.....	5,000.00
KEMPE & KIP LLC	5,000.00
KORBLICK EXC LLC.....	3,678.79
LONG PINES BAR	
AND RESTAURANT	5,000.00
METRO SALES INC	3,365.70
NEW IMAGE SALON	5,000.00
RIBBONS AND BOWS	
SALON & SPA	5,000.00
SALON SERENITY	5,000.00
SANOFT PASTEUR INC	2,996.23
TAQUERIA CHAVEZ LLC	5,000.00
THE HEADQUARTERS	
SALON	5,000.00
TIMBERS RESTAURANT	
& EVENT CENTER	5,000.00
TODD CO AUD-TREAS	5,062.66
VERIZON	4,509.04
WOITERS BODY SHOP	2,945.21
40 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000	17,620.84
AMAZON CAPITAL SERV	2,160.35
COUNTRIES PROVIDING	
TECHNOLOGY	5,085.00
COUNTRYSIDE REST	4,007.75
GOLDEN SHOVEL AGENT	5,700.00
KRISSY'S HANDS	2,554.00
LONG PRAIRIE OIL CO	2,392.39
LONG PRAIRIE SANI. INC	3,601.40
MENCH/JAMES	2,450.00
MN POWER & LIGHT	11,770.61
MN DEPT OF FINANCE	8,000.50
MORRISON COUNTY	52,170.14
PATNODE/MONICA	11,277.06
PETERS LAW OFFICE, P.A.	4,140.00
PRAIRIE LAKES MUNI.	
SOLID WASTE AUTH.....	82,637.00
RANGER CHEVROLET	38,698.42
SMITH/LINN AND	
GERMAINE	6,827.71
STATE OF MINN.	7,171.21
STOMPING GROUNDS.....	5,000.00
49 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000	23,655.93
ARNZEN CONST INC	434,034.26
CDW GOVERNMENT INC	5,545.37
CROW WING RECYCLING	3,123.90
D&J STYLISTS	5,000.00
DHS - ANOKA	
METRO RTC - 412	9,772.00
FLEET SERVICES/	
WEX BANK	4,893.06
GOVERNMENT FORMS	
AND SUPPLIES	3,118.48
LONG PRAIRIE SUBWAY	5,000.00
MOTOROLA	9,107.30
SIMPLICITY SALON & SPA	5,000.00
STEP	7,249.56
TENVOORDE FORD	100,345.68
TODD CO PUBLIC WORKS	16,722.94
VOYANT COMMS, LLC.....	4,051.48
37 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000	12,687.23
DHS - ANOKA	
METRO RTC - 412	2,792.00
DOHERTY STAFFING	
SOLUTIONS	2,233.92
DS SOLUTIONS, INC.....	4,866.00
GALLAGHER BENEFIT	
SERVICES INC.....	2,000.00
IMPACT TECHNOLOGY	2,280.00
KNOW INK	8,125.00
MCDONOUGH/MARK	5,500.00
NEOGOV	4,013.10
RANGER CHEVROLET	38,698.48
SANDERS CONST, INC.....	45,398.35
STAPLES ADVANTAGE	3,856.19
STOMPING GROUNDS	
OF STAPLES LLC	5,000.00
TIERNER BROTHERS INC	3,745.73
WATERGUARDS, LLC	25,807.94
29 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000	13,632.86
BIG SWAN LAKE	
IMPROVEMENT DIST.	5,132.37
CITY OF BERTHA	76,482.79
CITY OF BROWERVILLE	115,168.55
CITY OF BURTRUM	11,242.33
CITY OF CLARISSA	83,826.02
CITY OF EAGLE BEND	113,181.11
CITY OF GREY EAGLE	41,586.26
CITY OF HEWITT	21,885.06
CITY OF LONG PRAIRIE	527,583.32
CITY OF OSAKIS	87,806.85
CITY OF STAPLES	427,440.22
CITY OF WEST UNION	3,681.81
REGION V DEVEL.	
COMMISSION	8,931.90
SAUK RIVER WATER	
SHED DISTRICT	41,347.57
SCHOOL DISTRICT 213	261,010.48
SCHOOL DISTRICT 2170	296,738.74
SCHOOL DISTRICT 2753	700,424.62
SCHOOL DISTRICT 486	153,676.09
SCHOOL DISTRICT 740	45,975.19
SCHOOL DISTRICT 743	286,400.77
SCHOOL DISTRICT 786	142,327.44
SCHOOL DISTRICT 786	
DEBT DIST 86	24,764.75
SCHOOL DISTRICT 787	271,898.33
SCHOOL DISTRICT 787-	
DEBT DIST 87	28,507.29
SCHOOL DISTRICT 818	11,851.72
TOWN OF BARTLETT	16,270.72
TOWN OF BERTHA	19,999.09
TOWN OF BIRCHDALE	57,691.51
TOWN OF BRUCE	45,085.77
TOWN OF BURLEENE	17,566.64
TOWN OF	
BURNHAMVILLE	50,127.14
TOWN OF	
EAGLE VALLEY	18,685.10
TOWN OF FAWN LAKE	35,679.44
TOWN OF GERMANIA	12,368.10
TOWN OF GORDON	84,698.82
TOWN OF GREY EAGLE	82,056.41
TOWN OF HARTFORD	42,724.62
TOWN OF IONA	12,310.86
TOWN OF KANDOTA	40,647.09
TOWN OF LESLIE	63,510.27
TOWN OF LITTLE ELK	25,011.89
TOWN OF LITTLE SAUK	39,470.23
TOWN OF LONG PRAIRIE	40,482.66

TOWN OF MORAN.....	29,124.84
TOWN OF REYNOLDS	23,047.16
TOWN OF	
ROUND PRAIRIE	36,678.98
TOWN OF STAPLES.....	66,718.80
TOWN OF	
STOWE PRAIRIE.....	22,020.99
TOWN OF	
TURTLE CREEK	23,182.83
TOWN OF VILLARD	54,951.52
TOWN OF WARD	26,697.89
TOWN OF WEST UNION	12,349.12
TOWN OF WYKEHAM	25,948.70
7 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000	3,942.97
Total	\$6,922,974.08

COMMISSIONER WARRANTS	
Vendor Name.....	\$ Amount
CARGILL SALT DIVISION	8,431.32
EMERGENCY AUTO. TECH	2,034.35
LIBERTY TIRE SERVS	
LLC	32,932.30
MCCC, MI33	5,516.50
MORRISON CO PUBLIC	
HEALTH SERV	3,109.93
WATCHGUARD VIDEO	5,930.00
52 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000	18,014.21
Total	75,968.61

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES WARRANTS	
Vendor Name.....	\$ Amount
BRENNY FUNERAL	
CHAPEL-STAPLES	3,500.00
DHS-SWIFT	26,651.79
HANDI-XPRESS LLC	4,394.00
ITEN FUNERAL HOME-	
BROWERVILLE	3,500.00
PERISH/ALAN	3,571.55
35 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000	6,297.15
Total	\$47,914.49

Vendor Name.....	\$ Amount
DHS - MSOP - MIN SEX	
OFFENDER PROGRAM.....	5,895.00
DHS - ST PETER RTC - 472.....	9,660.00
HOLISTIC FAMILY	
ED. SRVS	12,706.62
LUTHERAN SOCIAL	
SERV. OF MN - ST PAUL	2,876.18
NORTH HOMES CHIL.	
& FAMILY SRVS	11,258.10
WEST CENTRAL REG	
JUVENILE CTR	4,114.00
PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000	7,706.38
Total	\$54,216.28

On a motion by Becker and seconded by Erickson, the preceding minutes of the County Board meeting held November 2, 2020 were duly approved by unanimous vote at the Todd County Board of Commissioners at the Regular Board Meeting held on November 17, 2020.

Witness my hand and seal:

David Kircher,
County Board Chairperson

Denise Gaida, Todd County Auditor-Treasurer 51pnc

Minutes of the Special Board Meeting of the Todd County Board of Commissioners held Nov. 10, 2020

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 10th day of November, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Kircher. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. All Commissioners were present with Commissioner Becker attending by Zoom.

Closed Session

Chairperson Kircher closed the meeting at 9:01 a.m. to hold a closed session pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, section 13D.05 Subd 3(c) 3 to develop or consider offers or counter offers for the purchase or sale of real or personal property.

Chairperson Kircher reopened the meeting at 9:52 a.m.

Adjourn

Commissioner Kircher adjourned the Special Meeting at 9:53 a.m.

On a motion by Becker and seconded by Erickson, the preceding minutes of the County Board meeting held November 10, 2020 were duly approved by unanimous vote at the Todd County Board of Commissioners at the Regular Board Meeting held on November 17, 2020.

Witness my hand and seal:

David Kircher, County Board Chairperson

Denise Gaida, Todd County Auditor-Treasurer 52c

Public Notices

NOTICE OF FILING FAWN LAKE TOWNSHIP

The following positions will be open for filing for the upcoming township election:

- One (1) Supervisor for a three (3) year term
- One (1) Treasurer for a two (2) year term

Please call the Clerk at 218-531-0297 for an appointment to file for office. Filing opens on December 29, 2020 and will close on January 12, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

Kelly Miller, Clerk 52-1pnc

NOTICE LAKE SHORE AERATION WARNING

As of 12/15/2020 there will be an aerator operating along Moore's point on Lake Alexander for the remainder of the winter.

52-1pnc

NOTICE BYRON TOWNSHIP REGULAR MEETING

Byron Township will hold their regular monthly meeting Tuesday, January 12, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. at the Leader Community Hall.

Beverly Hoernberg, Clerk Byron Township 1-2pnc

NOTICE MAY TOWNSHIP REORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

May Township will hold their reorganizational meeting Mon., January 4, 2021 at the town hall at 7:00 p.m.

Regular meeting will be held Mon., Jan. 11, 7:00 p.m. 52-1pnc

Public Notices

STATE OF MINNESOTA DISTRICT COURT COUNTY OF TODD SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT Court File No. 77-PR-20-1028

In Re: Estate of James H. Waldahl Decedent.

NOTICE OF AND ORDER FOR HEARING ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION OF INTESTACY, DETERMINATION OF HEIRS, FORMAL APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on January 25, 2021 at 10:30 a.m. a hearing will be held in this Court at Long Prairie, Minnesota, on a petition for the adjudication of intestacy and determination of decedent's heirs, and for the appointment of Meagan Waldahl whose addresses are 814 2nd Street SW, Wadena, MN 56482, as personal representative of the decedent's estate in an unsupervised administration.

Any objections to the petition must be raised at the hearing or filed with the Court prior to the hearing. If the petition is proper and no objections are filed or raised, the personal representative will be appointed with the full power to administer the decedent's estate, including the power to collect all assets; to pay all legal debts, claims, taxes, and expenses; to sell real and personal property; and to do all necessary acts for the decedent's estate.

Notice is further given that, subject to Minn. Stat. § 524.3-801, all creditors having claims against the decedent's estate are required to present the claims to the personal representative or to the Court within four (4) months after the date of this notice or the claims will be barred. .

BY THE COURT

Dated: December 15, 2020

Daniel A. Benson
Judge of District Court
Rhonda Bot
Court Administrator
Mary Van Koer, Deputy
Court Administrator

Jeffrey D. Pederson
Attorney for Petitioner
PEDERSON & PEDERSON, P.A.
24 SW Colfax Avenue
P.O. Box 623
Wadena, MN 56482
Aty. Lic. #144356
Tel: 218-631-1228
Fax: 218-631-1342

52-1pnc

STATE OF MINNESOTA DISTRICT COURT COUNTY OF TODD SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT Court File No. 77-PR-20-1021

In Re: Estate of Darwin K. Anderson Decedent.

NOTICE OF AND ORDER FOR HEARING ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION OF INTESTACY, DETERMINATION OF HEIRS, FORMAL APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on January 25, 2021 at 10:15 a.m. a hearing will be held in this Court at 221 First Avenue S, Long Prairie, MN 56347, on a petition for the adjudication of intestacy and determination of decedent's heirs, and for the appointment of Christopher K. Breitenfeldt, whose address is 5426 Belmont Road, Grand Forks, ND 58201, as personal representative of the decedent's estate in an unsupervised administration.

Any objections to the petition must be raised at the hearing or filed with the Court prior to the hearing. If the petition is proper and no objections are filed or raised, the personal representative will be appointed with the full power to administer the decedent's estate, including the power to collect all assets; to pay all legal debts, claims, taxes, and expenses; to sell real and personal property; and to do all necessary acts for the decedent's estate.

Notice is further given that, subject to Minn. Stat. § 524.3-801, all creditors having claims against the decedent's estate are required to present the claims to the personal representative or to the Court within four (4) months after the date of this notice or the claims will be barred.

BY THE COURT

Dated: December 9, 202

Public Notices

LEGAL NOTICE		
TODD COUNTY BUDGET SUMMARY STATEMENT		
FOR BUDGET YEAR 2021		
The Todd County Budget Summary Statement is Published in accordance with Minnesota Statute 375.169. The complete budget is available for public inspection at the Todd County Auditor/Treasurer's Office during normal business hours.		
REVENUES	2020	2021
Property tax	16,249,672	16,615,249
State General Purpose Aid	1,867,583	1,844,429
Other taxes	963,711	1,031,626
Licenses & Permits	171,665	163,665
Federal Grants	3,859,047	4,596,418
State Aids	8,678,832	9,424,488
Local Grants	0	0
Charges for Service	2,334,459	2,254,473
Misc Revenue	1,484,689	1,860,098
Interest on Investments	120,000	90,500
Other Financing Sources	39,300	36,100
Transfers	0	0
Total Revenue & Other Source	35,768,958	37,917,046
EXPENDITURES		
General Government	5,843,931	5,663,429
Public safety	4,465,480	4,828,217
Highway/Construction	6,331,997	8,264,750
Streets & Highways (excluding Constr.)	3,569,390	3,606,990
Human Services	8,953,445	8,838,789
Health	2,940,794	2,768,788
Culture and Recreation	435,583	421,397
Conservation of Nat Resources	1,194,362	1,208,419
Economic Development	70,800	70,800
Gen Debt Service	576,590	412,519
Capital Outlay	1,628,200	1,634,100
Transfers	508,386	548,848
Other Fiscal Charges	0	0
Total Expenditures & other uses:	36,518,958	38,267,046
Budget Balance	750,000	350,000
Todd County Auditor/Treasurer Denise Gaida		

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

THE RIGHT TO VERIFICATION OF THE DEBT AND IDENTITY OF THE ORIGINAL CREDITOR WITHIN THE TIME PROVIDED BY LAW IS NOT AFFECTED BY THIS ACTION.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: That default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:

DATE OF MORTGAGE: April 12, 2017

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: \$122,550.00

MORTGAGOR(S): Jacob Meyer, a single man

MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for United Wholesale Mortgage

DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on April 13, 2017 as Document Number 503546 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota.

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Nationstar Mortgage LLC d/b/a Mr. Cooper by assignment recorded on December 17, 2019 as Document Number A517474 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: The North Half of the South Half of the Northwest Quarter (N1/2 S1/2 NW1/4) of Section Twenty-three (23), Township One Hundred Thirty-one (131) North, Range Thirty-four (34) West of the Fifth P.M., according to the United States Government Survey thereof, Todd County, Minnesota.

STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 35614 205TH AVE, CLARISSA, MN 56440

COUNTY IN WHICH

PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Todd County, Minnesota.

THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: \$132,639.27

TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: United Wholesale Mortgage

RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Nationstar Mortgage LLC d/b/a Mr. Cooper

TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 07-0027201

TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 100032412170200270

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

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

DATE AND TIME OF SALE: January 28, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

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

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

twelve (12) months from the date of sale.

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: Unless said mortgage is reinstated or the property redeemed, or unless the time for redemption is reduced by judicial order, you must vacate the premises by 11:59 p.m. on January 28, 2022.

THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 582.032, DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERLY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.

MORTGAGOR(S) RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE: None

Dated: November 25, 2020

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MORTGAGE LLC D/B/A
MR. COOPER
Mortgagee

TROTT LAW, P.C.
N. Kibongni
Fondungallah, Esq.
Samuel R. Coleman, Esq.
Michael van Muelken, Esq.
Attorneys for Mortgagee
25 Dale Street North
St. Paul, MN 55102
(651) 209-9760
(19-1521-FC02)

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50-6pnc

CLC expanding to acquire part of Ridgewater program

Central Lakes College's Farm Business Management (FBM) Program is expected to expand following a verbal agreement to acquire part of Ridgewater College's FBM Program. The shift is expected to be in place as of July 1, 2021.

"It is our primary goal in this move to provide uninterrupted education programs to the farmers affected," said Keith Olander, Executive Director of Ag-Centric and Agricultural Partnerships. "As agriculture navigates its own uncertainties, we want to be a consistent support for these farmers."

Dr. Hara Charlier, President of Central Lakes College, added, "Agriculture has always been an essential part of our focus at Cen-

tral Lakes College. We are pleased to be able to partner with Ridgewater College in this transition to best serve our region's farmers."

The plan involves Ridgewater College transferring its FBM Program to both Central Lakes College and Minnesota West Community and Technical College. This collaboration would result in the two Ridgewater College faculty who serve the Belgrade and Melrose regions moving to Central Lakes College and the six Ridgewater College faculty who serve the Olivia, Barrett, Hutchinson, Willmar, Hutchison/Litchfield and LacQuiParle regions moving to Minnesota West Community and Technical College.

This proposed change

would result in a more universal FBM education delivery model, streamlined education process, reduction in redundancies at individual colleges and projected long-term improved fiscal outcomes for the Minnesota State College and University system.

"CLC is excited to be considered as a part of this proposal and will help ensure a smooth transition of faculty to enable the continuation of programs to farmers," said Cory Detloff, Director of Ag & Energy and FBM at CLC. "It is our goal to continue to provide high quality programs and service to those affected and welcome the new faculty members as a part of our team."

APH acquires Auto Parts stores in Staples, L.P.

Automotive Parts Headquarters Inc. (APH), a St. Cloud, Minnesota-based aftermarket auto parts distributor and store group, recently completed the acquisition of both the Long Prairie and Staples Auto Value parts stores.

APH purchased the two locations from Tad Farris, who is keeping the Little Falls Auto Value parts store where his family has been involved since 1958.

Tad Farris' father, Don Farris, got his start in Long Prairie selling cars and running a service station before buying the Little Falls National Bushing store. In 1962, Don Farris returned to Long Prairie and expanded

the National Bushing network with its 15th location at that time. A few years later, he opened the Staples location.

"Tad and the Farris family have been an integral part of the APH family for more than 50 years, and I could not prouder and more appreciative of their support," commented APH President and CEO, Corey Bartlett. "Both locations are doing a great job in their respective markets and will be a wonderful fit with our corporate stores in central Minnesota."

Automotive Parts Headquarters Inc. (APH) is a third-generation family-owned aftermarket auto

parts distributor based in St. Cloud. APH was established in 1920 in Minneapolis, as National Bushing & Parts Company and today operates Auto Value stores throughout Minnesota, Wisconsin, North Dakota, South Dakota, Michigan, Montana, Iowa and Nebraska. With its network of nearly 200 corporate stores and more than 75 independent stores, APH employs 1,800 employees. For more information, visit www.autopartshq.com.

APH is part of the Aftermarket Auto Parts Alliance, one of the largest auto parts distribution and marketing organizations in the world.

School financial audit earns clean opinion

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

Ryan Schmidt of Schlenner-Wenner accounting firm said the Staples-Motley School District was issued an unmodified (clean) opinion, meaning there was nothing unusual found in the audit.

"There was no compliance issues. Revenues came in under budget and expenditures came in under budget," said Schmidt at the Dec. 21 school board meeting. He said the biggest difference this year is the property tax collected is weighted more heavily

towards the general fund because a decrease in the debt service fund balance.

The board approved their annual budget and levy, with a 1.4 percent increase in budget.

Also at the meeting, the board approved a medical leave of absence for Dawn Larson. Winter coaching assignments were approved, including Shane Tappe as interim head wrestling coach and Eric Kraemer as assistant. Activity advisors will be: speech, Brian Sams; high school knowledge bowl, Allison Vangsness; middle school knowledge bowl, Sarah Dano.

The board approved increasing event worker pay to bring it in line with other school districts in the area.

The board approved the World's Best Work Force summary. Superintendent Shane Tappe said since testing was cancelled due to the pandemic last year, the teacher's educational goals will be rolled into the work force plan. Staff development advisor Deb Ferdon said they are putting more focus on social and emotional goals because they don't have data to analyze year to year testing progress.

Staples retires bonds early

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

The Staples City Council approved paying off general obligation bonds from 2008 before they are due, which will save on property tax levy amounts in future years.

At the Dec. 22 city council meeting, City Administrator Jerel Nelsen said

they are able to do it with money from assessment prepayments and prior debt levies.

"Every year we look at debt we have, this is a nice one to take off the books," said Nelsen. "In a couple of years there may be more to take care of."

Also at the meeting, the council approved a bid from CTC to provide technolo-

gy support services for the city, which had been using Sourcewell as their IT support. Nelsen said Sourcewell is getting out of the IT field and the city has worked with CTC in the past.

The board honored Rachel Johnson with a plaque. This was her last council meeting.



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The City of Staples Public Works
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This position provides a variety of skilled, semi-skilled and manual work
in the routine maintenance of the municipal streets, alleys, City facilities
and parks, as well as the water system, storm and sanitary sewer collection
systems. Class "B" CDL required, plus a minimum of two years Heavy
Equipment Operating experience and two years Heavy Operator Vocational
training or equivalent related experience.

Wage range for the position: \$19.47 to \$27.82 with full benefits.

A cover letter, resumé, and application forms must be
submitted to: Public Works Director Scott Grabe,
122 6th Street NE, Staples, MN 56479.
Application deadline: January 22, 2021.
Anticipated start date is mid-February.

Job description and application materials can be obtained at the
City website www.staples.gov/office.com or by telephoning
Staples City Hall, 218-894-2550.

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