

Staples World

Wednesday, January 11, 2023 Staples, Minnesota $1.25

Weather

This Week's Forecast

	High	Low	Cond.
Jan. 11	29	16	Cloudy
Jan. 12	24	9	Cloudy
Jan. 13	21	12	M. Cloudy
Jan. 14	25	20	Cloudy
Jan. 15	32	25	Cloudy
Jan. 16	32	23	Snow
Jan. 17			Cloudy

Last Year, 2022

	High	Low	Cond.
Jan. 11	32°	4	Sunny
Jan. 12	33	26	P. Sunny
Jan. 13	27	25	Cloudy
Jan. 14	14	11	Snow
Jan. 15	7	-6	M. Sunny
Jan. 16	24	13	M. Sunny
Jan. 17	32	18	Cloudy

Average Temps: H = 21° Low = 3°

Compiled by Dale Hausmann, WCCO's Staples area Weatherwatcher

Public Notices

Thomastown: Todd Cty BOA: **9A**

Obituaries

Jason Blessing
Charles Calhoun
Mandy Cole
Michael Marsh
Joseph Tkalcich

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Thank you for subscribing!



Who you gonna call? Snowbusters!

After several more inches of snow fell throughout the area Jan. 5, concerted efforts were made by many to clear the roads, sidewalks and driveways of the white stuff. Pictured above, Scott Buresh clears a path along 5th St. NE in Staples. At left, Buresh blows the snow away from the sidewalks leading to Lakewood Manor. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)

Staples downtown summit Jan. 12

The public is invited to discuss the future of downtown Staples and help shape the direction of a $100,000 grant from the Blandin Foundation.

The Staples Downtown Revitalization Committee will host an event on Thursday, Jan. 12, from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at Timbers Event Center in Staples.

The committee has been meeting with the help of Neil Linscheid of the University of Minnesota Extension. Information from the meetings will be available at the public event on Jan. 12.

The committee has explored business ideas, downtown culture, social opportunities and developing a sense of place.

For business ideas, suggestions have included a brewery, river outfitters, clothing and shoe stores and a small mall for specialty products.

Event and social ideas included a downtown social club, a river event, engaging community partners and encouraging more voices to join the civic life.

For developing a sense of place, the group has explored more lighting for evenings and winter, connecting with the high school and letting the people of the community give input into their needs.

The downtown culture discussion revolved aound creating more family friendly things to do downtown, more senior-friendly options and more accessible buildings that stay open later.

Additional input and ideas from the public will be sought at the downtown summit on Jan. 12.



First baby of 2023 born at Lakewood

Twenty-twenty-three brings the celebration of birth for Courtney and Ryan Schrupp, Pine River, who welcomed their new baby girl, Riverly Michelle, into the world on Jan. 1, 2023. Riverly was born at 2:19 a.m., weighing 7 pounds, 7 ounces, and measuring 22 inches. She is welcomed home by her siblings: Rylan, Reagan and Rylah.

The delivering provider was Dr. Kaitlyn Schoeck. To celebrate Riverly's birth, the Lakewood Health System Foundation and Piecemakers Quilt Club of Staples presented gifts to the family in honor of the New Year. The Foundation gave a gift of $100 and a basket of goodies from The Shoppe,Lakewood's gift shop. Piecemakers Quilt Club gave a beautiful handmade baby quilt, prepared just for the first baby of 2023.

Pictured above are Dr. Kaitlyn Schoeck, Courtney and Riverly. (Submitted photo)

Lakewood celebrates a new year with a new president and CEO; Bjerga makes rounds

Two thousand twenty-three is a year for new beginnings as Lisa Bjerga, CPA, MBA, took over as president and chief executive officer (CEO) at Lakewood Health System on Jan. 1, 2023.

During her first week as president and CEO, Bjerga welcomed staff back after the new year by spending part of the week visiting Lakewood's various campuses and clinics. These visits gave her an opportunity to connect with staff and answer questions now that she has officially transitioned into her new role.

"As I step into the new year and this new role, I am humbled by the opportunity to lead such an amazing organization," said Bjerga. "I fully understand what makes Lakewood, Lakewood and am committed to honoring what is important to our employees, providers and patients. Throughout the next year, my main areas of attention will be around building and strengthening relationships and partnerships, focusing on our organizational goals, and aligning those goals with where we want to be as we move forward."



Bjerga visits the various departments at Lakewood

Lisa Bjerga, the new president and CEO at Lakewood Health System, Staples, visited various departments at Lakewood during her first official week in her new role. (Submitted photos)

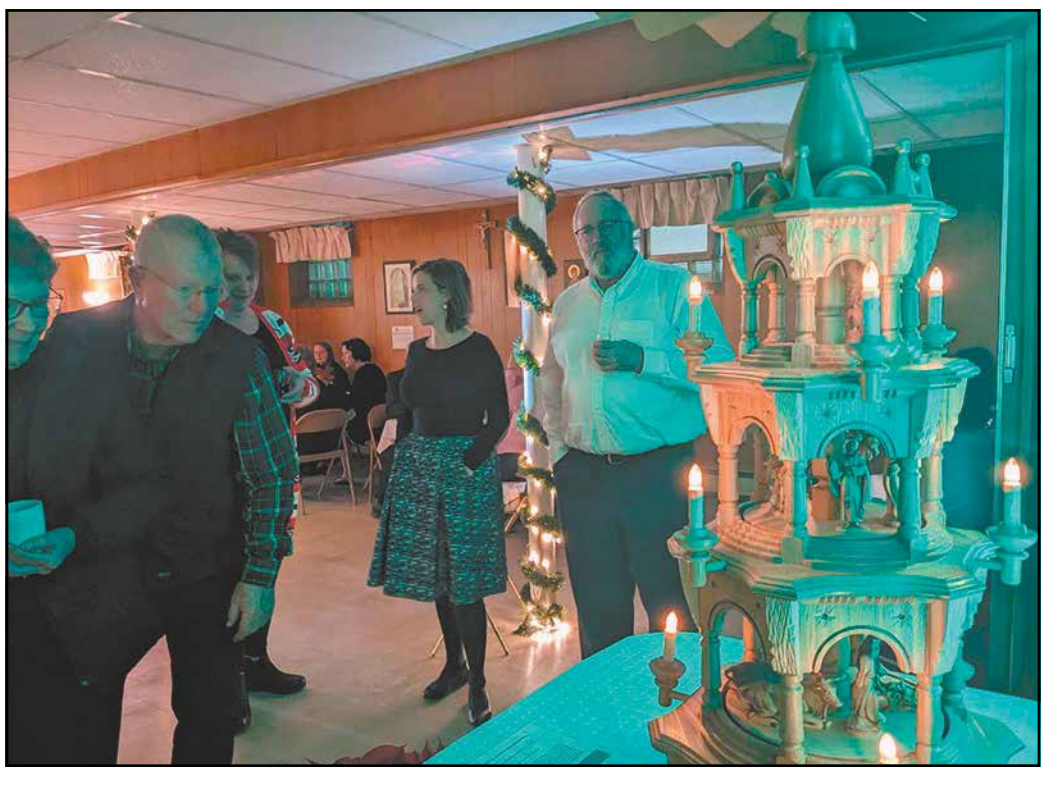
Originally from Sartell, Bjerga has an undergraduate degree in accounting and economics from St. Cloud State University, and a master's in business administration degree with an emphasis in healthcare management from the University of St. Mary. Since 2016, Bjerga has been Lakewood's chief financial officer, and prior to that, held several positions at Lakewood since 2008, including finance director, director of

See **LAKEWOOD** on page 3a



Parish art gallery

A number of Catholic art pieces were on display at the Pulchritudo event Dec. 28, at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Motley. The event, 'A Celebration of Beauty in Catholic Music & Art', was a fundraiser for the church's building expansion project. Pictured above, attendees visit near a copy of the Leonardo da Vinci painting "The Last Supper." Below, people pause to look at the large wooden 'Christmas Pyramid' owned by John Wolak of Staples. Handcarved in Germany, it's the largest one in the United States. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)





Looking to the future

Gary Trout of Motley, at the podium, expressed his appreciation to his son Nick (seated) and daughter-in-law Jenn Trout, who organized the recent Pulchritudo event at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Motley. Nick Trout also served as emcee at the concert, introducing the performers and explaining the significance of various Catholic songs and artifacts, as well as the meaning of Pulchritudo (beauty) and its importance in the faith. A Celebration of Beauty in Catholic Music & Art, the event was a fundraiser for the church's much-needed expansion project. Gary noted that although he may never see all of the future repairs/additions to the church, he wanted to support these efforts so that his grandchildren and future generations will have a beautiful place to worship and know God. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



Admiring the painting

Ron and Mary Murray of Staples admire one of the art pieces on display at St. Michaels Catholic Church in Motley, part of their Pulchritudo 'A Celebration of Beauty in Catholic Music & Art.' A fundraiser for the church, the event included an Art & Wine Reception, followed by a Contemplative Christmas Concert.

Motley police reports

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

Dec. 29 - Jan. 3

Jan. 3 - The MPD received a report of shoplifting from the Holiday Station Store in Motley. The suspect stole two packs of cigarettes and other items from inside the store in the amount of $26.86.

Jan. 1 - The MPD received a report of a fire in Cass County at 6445 State 64 SW in Motley.

Jan. 1 - The MCSO arrested Abigail Barragan, 31, for a domestic.

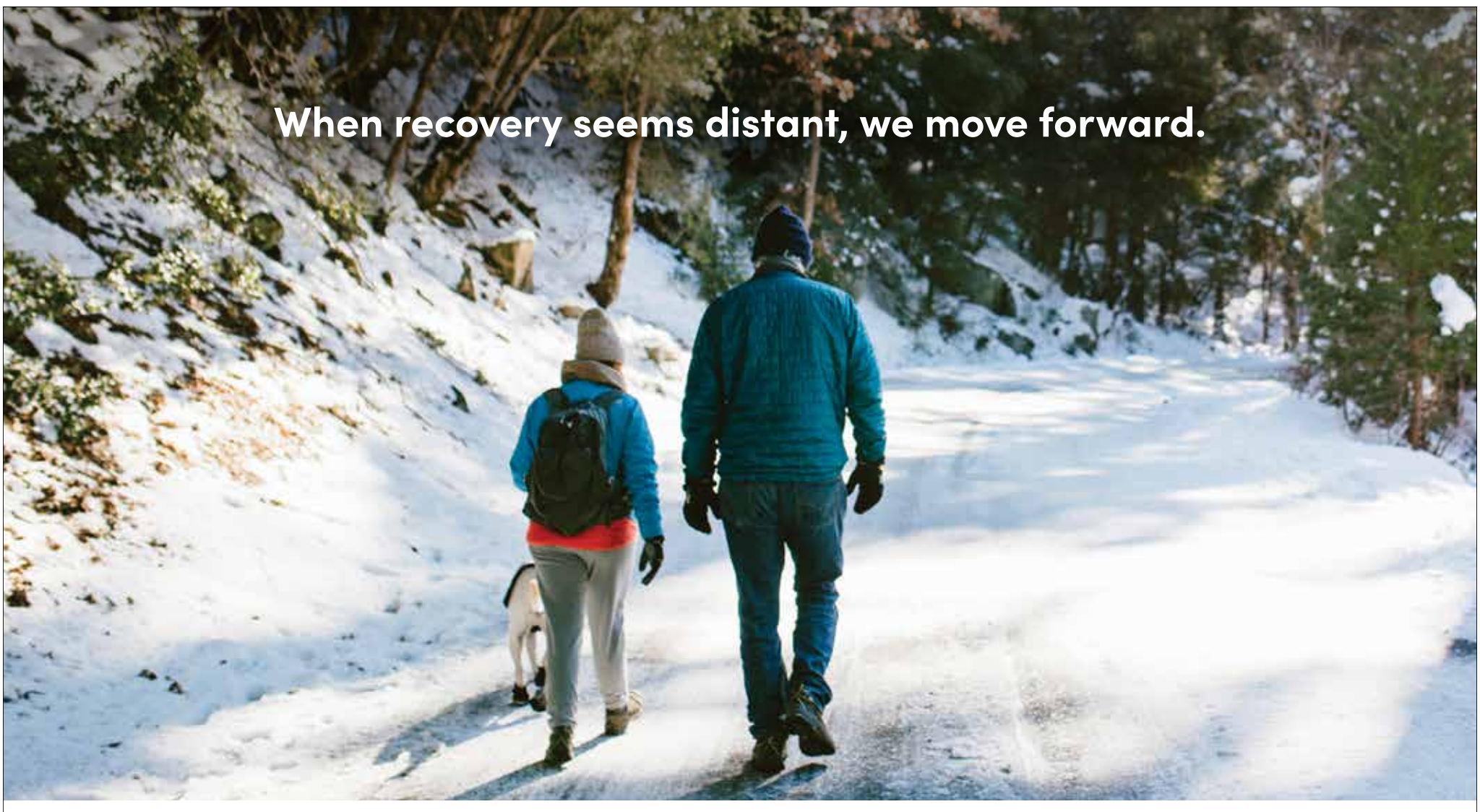
Dec. 28 - The MPD received a 911 transfer call from Todd County reporting a diesel fuel spill at the 200 block of Hwy 10 W, Motley. Motley Fire responded.

Jan. 2 - The MCSO issued a speeding citation to Michael Cole, 38.

Jan. 1 - The MCSO issued a citation to Joshua Bednar, 45, for driving with a revoked license and no insurance.

Jan. 1 - The MCSO received a call from Lakewood Health System Hospital in Staples reporting a dog bite. The victim was the owner of the dog. The deputy spoke with the victim, who stated he was fine.

Dec. 30 - A warrant check was conducted at BRICKS gas station in Motley. The subject, Samantha Rae Marie Decoteau, 35, was located and arrested without incident. She was then transported to the Morrison County Jail.



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New day for Lakewood

Lisa Bjerga on her first official day as Lakewood President and CEO, above, and visiting the food pantry, below. (Submitted photos)



LAKEWOOD continued from page 1a

Bjerga involved locally

revenue cycle, and vice president of finance and revenue cycle. She has received national recognition for her achievements and is involved in many national and local associations and committees.

Bjerga and her husband, Dan, live in the Motley area, and have two children, Gage and Garrett. As a family, they spend many weekends at wrestling tournaments, and enjoy spending time together outdoors.

Noska, Denny take oaths of office

Karin L. Nauber
Todd County correspondent

The new county board members and other elected officials took their oaths of office January 3, 2023, which included:

-District 2 Commissioner Tim Denny

-District 4 Commissioner Lew Noska

-Todd County Attorney John Lindemann

-Todd County Auditor-Treasurer Denise Gaida

-Todd County Recorder Kim Bosl

In other business:

• Appointed Commissioner Randy Neumann as the Chairperson of the Todd County Board of Commissioners for the 2023 proceedings.

• After discussion on possibly having one of the newly elected commissioners take the role of vice-chair, the board appointed Commissioner Barb Becker as the Vice-Chairperson of the Todd County Board of Commissioners for the 2023 proceedings.

• Accepted Part-time Road Deputy John Fick's resignation, effective December 31, 2022.

• Approved the resignation of Eligibility Worker Tracy Dullinger, effective December 27, 2022.

• Approved Camryn Schaber to fill the open social worker position.

• Approved the resolution designating the Official Newspaper for 2023 as the Independent News Herald, Long Prairie Leader and Staples World with the bid of $14 per column inch. The Long Prairie Leader will act as the contact for sending the notices and financials.

The Osakis Anchor will also publish the public notices and official county documents free of charge this year as it is not yet an official newspaper as it needs to be published for one year prior to being able to apply for official newspaper status.

• Approved the resolution designating the Extra Publication Newspaper for 2023 as the Independent News Herald, Long Prairie Leader and Staples World with the bid of $11.25 per column inch.

• Adopted a resolution to establish the 2023 Todd County Board of Commissioners Board Protocol.

• Approved to continue to hold the Todd County Board of Commissioner's meetings on the first and third Tuesday of every month at 9 a.m. in the Todd County Historic Courthouse and work sessions as designated by the board chairperson or three members of the board as deemed necessary. The board also approves that the July 4, 2023 meeting be moved to July 5, 2023; that the December 5, 2023 meeting be moved to December 7, 2023; and that the year-end board meeting be scheduled for December 26, 2023.

• Approved the commissioner's committee assignments.

• Approved a resolution for the designation of depositories, investments and electronic funds transfers in the following accounts:

-American Heritage National Bank

-CETERA Investments managed through American Heritage National Bank

-Minnesota National Bank

-US Bank

-MAGIC Fund

• Adopted a resolution appointing commissioners Barb Becker and Lew Noska to the Todd-Wadena Community Corrections Executive Committee and Advisory Board.

• Approved the following reappointments:

Board of Adjustments-Appointments set to expire December 31, 2026

District 1 - Mike Soukup

District 3 - Danny Peyton

District 5 - Bill Berscheit

Alternate - Larry Bebus (District 5)

Planning Commission - Appointments set to expire December 31, 2026

District 1 - Arnie Boie

District 3 - Lloyd Graves

District 5 - Roger Hendrickson

Alternate - Vacant

• Approved the appointment of Jon Barber as chief deputy.

• Approved the update of the Todd County Personnel Board of Appeals Policy with one change to update the name of the county attorney.

• During the work session that followed the regular meeting, the commissioners were updated on the progress being made at the Transfer Station.

Looking back

75 Years Ago - 1948

∘ Jan. 8, 1948 - Chief of Police Jess Marr of Staples reports that during the year 1947 a total of 117 arrests were made within the city for various offenses against the law.

Drunkenness led all other offenses with a total of 32 being lodged in jail, with offenders held for other county officers being second on the list.

∘ Jan. 8, 1948 - White Star Gas Stoves for sale at Carlson Furniture Co. on Fourth Street in Staples. $169.50 to $179.50, plus installation. Phone 278.

∘ Jan. 8, 1948 - The first baby to be born in the Staples Municipal hospital in the year 1948, arrived t the hospital on New Year's day, Jan. 1, at 8:15 o'clock in the morning. Mr. and Mrs. Harry Larson of Cushing are the parents of the first child born in the hospital in 1948. The baby, a boy, weighed seven pounds and 12 ounces at birth, and has been named Gary Curtis.

∘ Jan. 8, 1948 - Kenneth Bastin, who caught the 23-pound northern in Crow wing river, north of Staples recently, stated that when he cut the fish open, a two-pound walleye pike was found in the inside.

Mr. Bastin speared the fish a week or so ago.

∘ Jan. 8, 1948 - People of Staples must have been mighty thirsty during the past year, because figures released by Hugo Klang, superintendent of the water and light plant revealed that the city of Staples consumed over 10 million more gallons of water in 1947 than they did in 1946. July was the largest month, when 10,363,700 gallons were used by the people of Staples.

∘ Jan. 8, 1948 - That long legged, long beaked bird, Old Mr. Stork, was a busy man at the Staples Municipal hospital during the year 1947, according to a report given to The World the first of this week.

A total of 145 babies were born at the hospital during the year. July saw the largest number of births for one month, when 20 babies made their appearance into the world.

Of this total six sets of twins were born, and the rest of the babies were all "singletons."

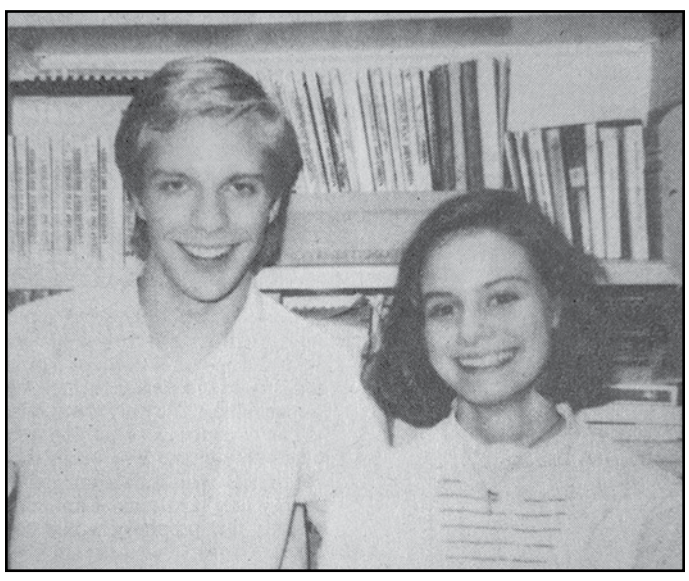
∘ Jan. 8, 1948 - In the Peaceful Valley News - Fire destroyed the farm home of Mr. and Mrs. Leo Moyer on Friday afternoon, Jan. 2. The house and the contents were a total loss.

Mrs. Moyer was home alone, except for a small grandson, when she noticed smoke. As the fire was between the walls of the home, it was some time before she discovered its origin.

Mr. Moyer was sawing wood at a neighbor's place, and when help arrived it was too late to save either the home or the contents.

The Moyers have purchased a small house belonging to Mr. and Mrs. G. G. Bookhart.

- o -
Compiled by
Dawn Timbs
- o -



Mystery solved

Last week's mystery photo published in the Jan. 3, 1991 edition of the Staples World featured Alan Bjerga (left) and Heidi Storbakken, captains of the Staples/Motley High School speech team that year.

Donna Bestland of Staples recognized Bjerga and Storbakken right away, she said, going on to share that they were in her son Ben's class at SMHS, and they all graduated in 1991. Ben Bestland of Staples, also wrote in to identify his classmates, and guessed the context to be either speech or Knowledge Bowl. Judy Wolak of Staples correctly identified the two, mentioning they were involved in many of the same activities at SMHS, including the speech team, of which they were captains in 1991.

Heidi (Storbakken) Johnson, whose parents (Ron and Sue Storbakken of Staples) sent her a copy of the above mystery photo, wrote in to thank the Staples World for the trip down memory lane. She still has the original newspaper clipping in her scrapbook, identifying herself and Alan Bjerga, the 1991 speech captains. "Speech was an important part of many Staples-Motley students, including myself," Heidi shared. "I minored in Speech Communications and Theatre Arts in college and coached speech at the high school I taught at for five years, before going on to graduate school and becoming a college librarian. It is with a special pride that my ninth grader is now continuing in my footsteps by being involved in theatre and speech as well." The Cardinal speech alum also said, "Good luck to all students involved in this year's speech season!"

Thanks for participating in our mystery photo.



Mystery photo

Hello readers. This week's archive photo is from our March 3, 1983 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.

50 Years Ago - 1973

∘ Jan. 11, 1973 - Behind the 34 point scoring of Hans Borstad, the Staples Faculty posted a 112 to 67 victory over Wadena Tech-O in Staples-Wadena Area Basketball League play Jan. 3, on the Wadena court.

Besides the 34 by Borstad, Staples received scoring as follows: Joe Joerger 23, Larry Werder 20, Mark Vibeto 16, Russ Craigmile 13 and Jerry Riewer 6.

∘ Jan. 11, 1973 - January Clearance Sale at dj's Mens' Wear in Staples. Leather coats - $69.90 to $79.90; Suburban Coats, $29.90; Slacks, $12.90; Robes, $7.99; Pajamas, $3.99 to $5.99; Jeans, $5.99; Hats, $5.99.

∘ Jan. 11, 1973 - The power of the Staples Cardinals was just too much for the Crosby-Ironton wrestlers as the men of Coach Don Dravis sent the Rangers down to a crushing 49 to 6 defeat on the Staples mat last Thursday evening.

∘ Jan. 11, 1973 - At their meeting last Wednesday, the Staples Education Association voted to sponsor a scholarship fund in memory of one of their faculty members, Miss Constance Olson, who died at the University Hospital Jan. 1.

It will be called the Connie Olson Memorial Scholarship fund and it will be open to anyone who wishes to contribute, both within and outside of the school.

SEA officers said that a committee has been appointed to take charge of establishing the fund. The committee includes william Uhrich, representing the school administration; Homer Clark, representing the Staples Education Association ; and Jay Miller, representing the Staples community.

25 Years Ago - 1998

∘ Jan. 8, 1998 - Little Kaylene Dawn Kruse, all 8 pounds and 19 inches long, was the first baby born in 1998 at the Greater Staples Hospital. She arrived at 3:58 a.m. Jan. 2. The newcomer's parents are Sandra and Kurt Krause of Browerville.

∘ Jan. 8, 1998 - Charlie Otteson, a lifelong farmer who has experienced farming practices go from the horse-powered equipment to steam engines to tractors and modern machinery, will note his 100th milestone on Jan. 12.

"I've had a good life," Charlie said from his room at the Greater Staples Care Center, which he has called home since 1985. He likes it there. "You can't imagine how nice it is here. A millionaire wouldn't live any better," Charlie said.

∘ Jan. 8, 1998 - The Cardinal boys basketball team last week won all three games played at the Concordia College Cobber Tournament.

The Staples Motley boys downed Hawley 79-54 in the Monday opener. Tuesday's game found the boys defeating Waconia 75-30 with double digit scoring from three Cardinal players.

Wednesday, in their final game at the Concordia Fieldhouse, the boys downed Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton 75-50.

Top Cardinal scorers mentioned in the article were Kyle Stevens, Derek Mattila, Jeff Brever, Wade Christensen and Dustin Hjelmeland.

∘ Jan. 8, 1998 - Motley Staples Middle School Students of the Week were Carly Farber, Andrea Brichacek, and Jerome Spencer.

10 Years Ago - 2013

∘ Jan. 10, 2013 - Since 1981, Tri-County Livestock Auction in Motley has been a magnet every Wednesday for farmers and ranchers looking to buy or sell livestock.

A fire Jan. 6 changed all that. "It's so sad," said Heather (Mudgett) Eischeid of Motley who captured photos of the fire shortly after it broke out last Sunday evening. "We got there about 8:45 p.m. The fire department was already there."

As she and her family watched the building go up in flames, Heather said she couldn't help but think of the memories that were going along with it. "There was a lot of history in that building," she said. Heather's father-in-law, John Eischeid, co-manages Tri-County Livestock Auction with Wayne Hoffman. The two men, both from Motley, built the establishment in 1981. They sold it to Joe Varner about 14 years ago, but still own some outbuildings, the feedlot and the livestock pens.

∘ Jan. 19, 2013 - Avalene Junette, the daughter of William Chew and Andrea Blake of Sartell, is the first baby of 2013 at Lakewood Health System in Staples, coming into the world on Jan. 3, at 3:23 p.m.

Staples council looks at storm shelter, part time salaries, new bar in Staples

The Staples City Council learned that the cost for a storm shelter at Dower Lake could be higher than expected. The city has received a FEMA grant to build a shelter for campers, but initial numbers show the cost could be higher than expected.

At the Dec. 27 council meeting, City Administrator Jerel Nelsen said they will plan to use the Sourcewell contract instead of going through a bidding process. Sourcewell uses their own selective bidding process to reach the lowest bid that meets standards.

Nelsen said they will plan to work with FEMA, Sourcewell and the Parks and Recre ation Board to try and bring the cost down.

Also at the Dec. 27 meeting, the council approved salaries for part time and sea sonal staff. Nelsen said there is a three per cent increase for most seasonal and part time positions, with a higher bump for elec tion judges.

The council also approved on sale, off sale and Sunday liquor licenses for The Boxcar, a new bar in the location that was formerly Local Legends, on 4th Street and Highway 10 in Staples. The business was purchased by Tracy Stevens.

Minnesota sees first Black women senators

By Panashe Matemba-Mutasa
Mshale Newspaper

The 2023 swearing in of lawmakers who were elected to Minnesota's state legislature was like no other before. The ceremony, which was held on Jan. 3, saw the swearing in of a Black woman for the state senate for the first time since Minnesota joined the United States 164 years ago.

Make that three Black women sworn in. Zaynab Mohamed of District 63, Clare Oumou Verbeten of District 66, and Erin Maye Quade of District 56 shared the honor of making history when they got elected in November.

"You can't have democracy without Black women," Quade said. "I am excited for all three of us on this monumental day."

The state of Minnesota joined the union on May 11, 1858. It elected its first Black senator, Dr. Robert Lewis, more than a century later, in 1972, but no woman has ever been elected to serve in the upper chambers of the state legislature.

The election of the three women is indicative of the state's changing demographics. Minnesota is home to around 400,000 residents who identify as Black or African American, 125,000 of whom were born in Africa, according to a 2020 study published by the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development. Between 2010 and 2020, the state's African immigrant population grew by 78 percent, the same report said. With the growth in population, Africans have become more involved in Minnesota politics and are creating significant impact in the state. Over the last few elections, several African-born Minnesotans have been elected to various seats ranging from local government in small suburban cities to the Minnesota state legislature, and of course to Capitol Hill, in the case of Rep. Ilhan Omar, who was overwhelmingly re-elected to her third term representing Minnesota's 5th Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Quote of the week

"The Constitution of the United States was made not merely for the generation that then existed, but for posterity- unlimited, undefined, endless, perpetual posterity."
— Henry Clay (8th speaker of the House of Representatives, 1811-1825)

Can snowfall provide relief for drought?

From University of Minnesota Extension

Though some homeowners and commuters in Minnesota consider heavy snowfall an inconvenience, many are hoping this season's above average snow totals will provide drought relief in many parts of the state, after difficult years in 2021 and 2022.

Jeff Strock, a professor at the U of M's Southwest Research and Outreach Center, provides expert comment on how heavy snowfall is expected to impact soil and drought in 2023.

"While above average snowfall may be perceived as a positive for addressing drought, the reality is that it depends. It's important to remember that snow is not as effective as rain for addressing drought conditions. As a rule of thumb, only about 25 percent of the water from melting snow will infiltrate the soil.

In most areas of Minnesota, the ground is frozen. The official frost depth as of Jan. 3 at the Southwest Research & Outreach Center in Lamberton was 22 inches, which is similar to the same time last year. If the spring snowmelt is fast and the ground is still frozen, very little if any moisture available from the snow will get into the soil for recharge. A fast melt in the spring, on frozen soil, could result in localized flooding, however, there is a lot of storage capacity in rivers, marshes and sloughs because they dried up during the drought.

If the spring thaw is relatively slow, some of the moisture from the melting snow will infiltrate the soil. A slow spring melt would help provide decent conditions for planting and germination of seed."

Farmers Union lists health care as priority for 2023 session

FRom Minnesota Farmers Union

Minnesota Farmers Union (MFU) looks forward to working with the Walz-Flanagan administration and Minnesota's legislators in the 2023 legislative session to make Minnesota an even better place to farm, raise a family and grow a business.

MFU will advocate for policy set by its grassroots membership. Members brought forth resolutions at their county conventions late last summer and into fall. Those resolutions were combined and debated by elected delegates from across the state during the annual convention in November. Delegates established Special Orders of Business to guide legislative work this year. The orders include:

Making health care affordable and accessible, including expanding MinnesotaCare through a public 'buy-in' option that will improve choices in rural Minnesota and lower costs through competition.

"As small business owners, family farmers disproportionately purchase health insurance on the private market and are hit hard by high premiums and lack of choice between health plans in rural areas," said MFU President Gary Wertish. "This cuts into their farm income and pushes too many farmers to consider giving up the farm, seeking a second off-farm job with insurance, or going without health coverage all together—a decision that could prove financially devastating. We've advocated to expand MinnesotaCare through an affordable buy-in option and feel strongly that this is the year we can finally take this important step for farmers and other small business owners."

Limiting corporate control and ensuring competitive markets by defending Minnesota's Corporate Farm Law, strengthening Minnesota's antitrust laws, funding capacity at the state Attorney General's office to bring cases against companies who use their power to abuse farmers, consumers, and workers; strengthening prohibitions against mergers and passing Right to Repair.

Expanding local and regional processing by continuing to support meat processing training programs at technical colleges, supporting incentives for employee retention, funding state meat inspection services and establishing a certification navigator position, and working across government to establish financing options, develop model business plans, provide technical assistance, streamline regulations and permitting, and otherwise make it easier to start a new meat processing business.

Creating climate resilience by establishing and expanding voluntary publicly funded conservation programs that offer incentives for on-the-ground practices that promote soil health and improve the climate, funding alternative crop research at land-grant universities, removing the sales tax on fencing equipment and establishing other incentives for grazing, and expanding the use of biofuels.

"We understand there are many demands on the state budget, but we believe in supporting family farmers, the foundation of Minnesota's economy," Wertish said. "Minnesota's farmers generate $112 billion in economic impact and support 430,000 jobs, but their livelihood is threatened by extreme weather, lack of market access and rising health care costs. We believe that growing the state's investment in family farmers and supporting agriculture will help build a farm and food system that is more resilient, distributed, and fair not only for farmers, but also for workers and consumers."

In addition to these priorities, MFU will continue to advocate for a grain indemnity fund this session.

"We strongly believe that to adequately protect producers and create a fair regulatory system for buyers, any changes to the grain program must include an indemnity fund," Wertish wrote in a letter to the Minnesota Department of Agriculture. "Too many families have been hurt by elevator failures to continue to leave farmers without real protection. . .. We feel strongly about this issue, because our members and others who market grain are among the least protected in the nation."

The 2023 Minnesota legislative session began Jan. 3 and must end by May 22.

Enbridge to pay $11 million for environmental breaches

From Minnesota Pollution Conrol Agency (MPCA)

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) and Department of Natural Resources (DNR) today announced the results from extensive enforcement investigations of water quality violations and aquifer breaches related to Enbridge Energy's Line 3 pipeline construction project in northern Minnesota. Combined with the previous DNR actions, and in partnership with Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, these investigations have resulted in more than $11 million in payments, environmental projects, and financial assurances from Enbridge.

The MPCA investigation found that Enbridge violated a series of regulations and requirements including discharging construction stormwater into wetlands and inadvertently releasing drilling mud into surface waters at 12 locations between June 8, 2021, and Aug. 5, 2021. Building upon previous enforcement actions, the DNR has also finalized two comprehensive enforcement resolution agreements to address three aquifer breaches related to Line 3 construction. These agreements are in addition to Attorney General Keith Ellison announcing a settlement with Enbridge that includes fines and environmental restoration.

"At the start of this project, the MPCA issued our most stringent water quality certification to date and permits that were strong, enforceable, and protective — and this enforcement action holds Enbridge accountable for the violations that occurred during construction," said MPCA Commissioner Katrina Kessler. "We are committed to protecting Minnesota's wetlands and streams and will continue to monitor the company's ongoing work to return the site to its pre-construction condition."

"In entering into these comprehensive enforcement actions, the DNR is holding Enbridge fully accountable and ensuring that the DNR has the resources needed to address the aquifer breaches," DNR Commissioner Sarah Strommen said. "We deeply appreciate the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa's partnership in investigating and addressing the aquifer breach affecting their Reservation. We will continue work to ensure that mitigation and restoration efforts effectively address damages to Minnesota's natural resources resulting from these aquifer breaches."

Enforcement Actions

The DNR and the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa reached an agreement with Enbridge to address an aquifer breach at Milepost 1102.5, just west of the Fond du Lac Reservation. This agreement includes:

- $150,000 in funds for the DNR and Fond du Lac to conduct ongoing monitoring
- $20,000 (the statutory maximum) in penalty funds to the DNR
- $105,000 in penalty funds to Fond du Lac
- $200,000 to Fond du Lac for water quality enhancement projects
- $300,000 in financial assurance funds available to the DNR, if needed, for restoration, mitigation, or monitoring
- $1 million in financial assurance funds available to Fond du Lac, if needed, for restoration, mitigation, or monitoring

Separately, the DNR and Enbridge reached an agreement for two other aquifer breaches, one near Enbridge's Clearbrook Terminal and the other near the LaSalle Creek Crossing. This agreement builds on previous enforcement actions taken in the fall of 2021, which included $20,000 in penalties, $590,000 for mitigation and monitoring, and $2.75 million in escrow as financial assurance for fen wetlands mitigation and restoration, if needed. The new agreement includes $165,400 in additional groundwater mitigation funds for the Clearbrook location.

For the LaSalle Creek site, the new agreement includes:

- $100,000 in funds to conduct ongoing monitoring
- $20,000 (the statutory maximum) in penalty funds
- $200,000 in mitigation funds
- $610,000 in financial assurance funds, if needed, for restoration, mitigation, or monitoring

Under these two agreements, the DNR retains its authority to pursue further enforcement, restoration, and mitigation if the DNR identifies additional aquifer breach sites.

As of Oct. 11, 2022, the repairs made in April to the breach at Milepost 1102.5 have eliminated the uncontrolled groundwater flow at that location. The repairs at LaSalle Creek have lowered the uncontrolled flow to 20 gallons per minute and the Clearbrook flow to less than one gallon per minute. DNR continues to monitor these sites, evaluate additional breach repair options, and address any natural resource-related concerns.

Additional information about DNR enforcement actions is available online.

The MPCA investigation results require Enbridge to:

- Pay $2.395 million to the State of Minnesota
- Fund $2.625 million to complete several supplemental environmental projects in affected watersheds along the project line

MPCA considered violations of its water quality certification through on-site investigations, independent environmental monitors, and from Enbridge. MPCA placed additional requirements on Enbridge during construction, including increasing the number of independent environmental monitors and requiring turbidity curtains at river crossings as a preemptive barrier to contain any inadvertent drilling releases. Enbridge and MPCA worked together to address the violations that occurred during construction.

The new pipeline began operating once construction was completed in Nov. 2021, however the MPCA applicable permits for the project remain in place as Enbridge works to ensure all sites along the pipeline route are returned to their condition prior to construction.

Minnesota state agencies will continue to evaluate any new information about environmental impacts of the construction as it becomes available.

Staples World

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

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Arts council meeting in Staples Jan. 20

Seeking additional members

Are you interested in being a part of the Staples Motley Area Arts Council (SMAAC), or learning more about the non-profit organization established over 50 years ago?

A meeting will be held Friday, Jan. 20, at Timbers Restaurant in Staples, beginning at noon.

The agenda will include discussing the upcoming Music in the Park Series, as well as potential future events at Centennial Auditorium in Staples.

"Where do we go from here?" is a question to be addressed. During the past couple of years, SMAAC has cut back on its regular programming, due to various reasons, including COVID, and declining membership. In order to continue to fulfill its mission "To Enlighten, Educate and Enrich through Visual, Literary and Performing Arts" more board members (including officers) are needed.

If you are at all interested in keeping the arts council going, or at least finding out more about it, you are encouraged to attend the upcoming meeting at Timbers.

Cardinal Calendar

SM school events

January

- **Honor Society Induction** Jan. 22, Time TBA
- **Dollars For Scholars Dinner and Auction** Jan. 23, 5:30 p.m., HS Cafeteria

February

- **Special Olympics Basketball Tournament** Feb. 1, Staples-Motley HS gym
- **Home Speech Meet** Feb. 11, Staples-Motley HS
- **Large Group Instrumental Contest** Feb. 22, Staples-Motley HS

All upcoming Events are subject to change. Go to www.isd2170.k12.mn.us.

Mark Your Calendar

January 12

'Walk With A Doc' Thursdays at 5:15 p.m., at Lakewood Health System's main campus in Staples. Meet at the main entrance. For more information about this free program, visit https://walkwithadoc.org/join-a-walk/locations/staples-minnesota

Wadena Whirlaways Square Dance Group Dancing Thursday, Jan. 12, 7:30 - 10 p.m., at St. Michael's Church, 280 1st Ave. S., Motley. For info., 218-296-1642.

January 13

Women's OPEN AA Recovery Meeting Every Friday in person, 10:30 a.m., Motley Free Methodist Church (lower level), 33 Wellwood St. E. Motley. All women welcome.

January 16

AA group Mtgs In Motley are held at the United Methodist Church, 847 3rd Ave. S., on Mondays at 8 p.m.

January 18

Staples All Veterans and Community Park Association will hold its annual meeting at Timbers Restaurant and Event Center in Staples Wednesday, Jan. 18, at 5:30 p.m. Immediately following the annual meeting, the board will hold its regular monthly meeting in the same location. The public is invited to attend. A Zoom connection may be possible to join the meeting upon request to Bob Hamann at 218-894-3139.

STAPLES - MOTLEY DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS

AUCTION & spaghetti dinner

-- Monday, January 23, 2023 --

Staples-Motley High School Cafeteria - Doors open at 5:30 p.m.
Spaghetti dinner served from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. - *free will donation*
Auction begins at 6:30 p.m.

Every year, the Staples & Motley Dollars for Scholars Auction and Dinner raises money for scholarships which are awarded to Staples-Motley High School graduates.

Automotive
Car wash certificates - North 4th Car Wash
Car wash certificates - Southside Suds Car Wash
Full car detailing - Nyhus Chevrolet

Excursions & Recreation
Summer/winter 3-day fishing package - Dale's Lake of the Woods
1/2 day fishing trip - Dan Freeman
BBQ and pool party for 15 - Brad & Bobbe Anderson
Tubes/kayaks rental - True Value
$100 gift certificate for laser tag - Holst Acres
Ladies' night out
Guys' night out

Hair Care & Beauty
2 - gift certificates - Kurt's Barbering
Gift certificate and curling iron - Jemma's Salon
Products - Ribbons and Bows
Gift certificate - Markus Hair Design
Color Street Nail Package - Lindsay Kirk
Cut and color with Katie - West Hair Boutique

Homemade Items
2'x2' barn quilt - Katie Benson
Custom catering baskets - Lois Detloff
Quilt - Mary Theuer
Quilt kit - Piecemaker's Quilt Club
Wood/resin serving board - Roger Houselog
Custom jokers and marbles game - Steve Benson
Crocheted baby blanket and hat - Audrey Hanson

Restaurants & Food
Pizza party for 10 - Tower Pizza
Pizza party and ice cream cake - Tower Pizza and Staples Dairy Queen
2 large pizzas a month for a year - Auger's Motley Express
1 dozen donuts a month for 1 year - Staples Bakery and Convenience
2 - ice cream cakes - Staples Dairy Queen
2 - ice cream cakes - Motley Dairy Queen
2 - $50 gift certificates - Beck's Burgers
Alaskan fish and liquor basket - Kellie Erickson and Liquor Depot
4 - jars of sauerkraut - Jan
$50 gift certificate - Morey's
Gift basket - Local Legends
2 - $42.22 gift certificates - 2 Tall Tavern
Gift basket - Ten-High
Gift certificates - Spot Cafe
3 bags of apples - Oasis Orchard Apples
2 - gift certificates and water bottles - Stomping Grounds
Taste of Pillager - various Pillager restaurants
Taste of Staples - various Staples restaurants
Taste of Motley - various Motley restaurants
Taste of Verndale - various Verndale restaurants

Retail
Family portrait session - Sarah Larson
Igloo cooler - Ace Hardware
Timberlake stay package - Timberlake Lodge
Booze basket - Liquor Depot
Basket - Aiden and Oak
Two chairs - Central Building Supply
Fire pit ring and firewood - Staples Precision Metalcraft and Gizas
Sunglasses and gift certificate- Seth Dokken
10 yards black dirt, delivered in 10 mile radius - Ideal Construction
Smart TV - Brichacek Electric
$100 - Rick Brichacek
Gift basket - Jordahl Concrete & Masonry/Jordahl Hardware
4 - $50 gift certificates - Jordahl Concrete & Masonry/Jordahl Hardware
Sweatshirt and 2 gift certificates - Brick's
$100 gift certificate - Japke Decorating
2 - 1 hour massage certificates - Lakewood Health System
2 - $100 gift certificates - First International Bank
Gift certificate - Miran Creek
4 - $25 gift certificates - Ernie's
Apparel - Smokehouse
Cardinal gear - Old 10 Apparel

Miscellaneous
Tent rental - Staples Lions
Spring flower arrangement - Lori Nienow
Flower arrangement - Red Cardinal
Decluttering consultation - Britta Kolodziej
Thirty-One game tote - Kim Petrich
Thirty-One winter tote - Kim Petrich
Christmas basket - Elite Title
Cooler with bloody Mary fixings - Bryan & Amy Winkels

***Additional items to be added.**

Online auction will run from January 14-23:
www.32auctions.com/SMDFS2023

Sponsors: Bruce and Becky Fuhrman, PHB Excavating, Ken's Auto Collision, Southside MiniMart, Brichacek Miran Creek, Brichacek Electric

Auctioneer: Reed Barthel, New York Mills, MN

Use your smartphone to scan this QR code to learn more about Staples & Motley Dollars for Scholars!

TERMS: CASH. Nothing to be removed until settled for; settlement must be made by conclusion of auction. Everything sold 'as is'. You are responsible for your items after making a purchase. Driver's license or proper ID are required to register. Statements made by auctioneer at auction take precedence over any printed material. NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ACCIDENTS.

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THANK YOU
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Congratulations to these 5-Star employees



Misty Baker, MLS (ASCP), Laboratory Manager
Nominated by Cory Denny, MLS (ASCP), Laboratory
"Within the last year the laboratory has gone through many changes. Changes in management, a lab system build and implementation, and a location change. To make it through and come out on the other end a stronger team is a mark of great leadership. Misty stepped into her position as laboratory manager and was more than ready to take on all tasks thrown her way. She supports and empowers those she leads. Misty takes time to get to know everyone and their strengths; this helps her delegate duties and build a strong team. I am so excited for what the future holds for our team; not only do I know she will continue a culture of engagement, but she is invested in providing new and innovative testing processes to provide the best care for our patients at Lakewood."



Tiffany Sykes, RN, Behavioral Health Unit
Nominated by Leslie Hoogakker, RN, Nurse Manager, Behavioral Health Unit
"Tiffany has gone over and above in her role at the BHU. Tiffany has been taking new employees under her wing and showing them how to navigate in BHU. She is always willing to pick up shifts to prevent her co-workers from working short. Tiffany has a very calming effect on the floor with our patients. She is willing to work in activities to keep our patients engaged while on our unit. She is a wonderful advocate for all of our patients. Tiffany is very knowledgeable about all the processes in the BHU and is eager to show new employees. She is a team player and will often put patient's needs before her own."



Ashley Wallgren, RN, Care Center Director of Nursing
Nominated by Kathy Dobson, Vice President of Senior Services
"Ashley has been in her role as the Director of Nursing for the Care Center for just over one year and has worked hard to create a positive and accountable work environment and truly leads by example. Ashley has worked alongside all staff, learning what they do, getting to know our residents, and ensuring exceptional care. During this past year, she has led staff through multiple COVID outbreaks and significant staffing challenges. She has come in to assist on evenings, nights, weekends, without hesitancy knowing it was the right thing to do. We truly enjoy having her on our team and we appreciate that she leads by example with her high accountability to herself and her staff as well as her commitment to high quality of care and encouragement of staff development. Thanks for choosing our care center team, Ashley."



Martina Hendrickson, Environmental Services
Nominated by Joe Reycraft, CFO; Marnie Pogreba, Patient Accounts; and Home Based Services Department
"Martina goes above and beyond every shift at the senior campus. If she sees something dirty - she cleans it. Martina does her job with pride, professionalism, heart and joy. Those of us who benefit from her hard work and attention to detail appreciate her greatly. Martina always goes the extra mile to keep our work environment neat and clean. She is a shining example of Quality, Service, and "always exceeding expectations". We are very lucky to have her work here at Lakewood."



Jessica Iken, CPhT, Pharmacy
Nominated by Quality Committee
"Jessica was checking the Omnicell for outdates when she identified some of the tablets in one of the bins didn't look the same as the others. She looked at the medication names and noticed they were not the same medications. She took the proper steps and verified with a pharmacist that each medication had the correct label. Thank you for having great attention to detail and keeping our patients safe."



Bobbi Richards, LPN, Behavioral Health Unit
Nominated by Leslie Hoogakker, RN, BHU Nurse Manager
"Bobbi exemplifies the meaning of team player. She is always up to a new task and performs it over and above what is ever expected of her. She has a very good rapport with families when giving updates about their family member who is on our unit. Bobbi is always open to new ideas and is not afraid to bring ideas to the table that will better the unit or her teammates. Bobbi is a wonderful example of how team members should work together to make it a better place for the employees and patients."

Lakewood HEALTH SYSTEM
218-894-1515 lakewoodhealthsystem.com

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J11-25G

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Duties and essential functions include patrol duties enforcing Minnesota criminal and traffic laws; investigation of crimes; respond to calls for service; civil process service; transport prisoners and provide security for courtrooms.

DEADLINE: 4:30 p.m.,Thursday, January 12, 2023

To apply visit www.co.stevens.mn.us under Employment Opportunities. Upload a legible photocopy of your Minnesota P.O.S.T. License or eligibility letter from Minnesota P.O.S.T. Board

Stevens County is an EOE.

Hello World

Births reported at Lakewood Health System Hospital in Staples included:

LHS births removed online at the request of Lakewood Health System

Student Achievements

Minnesota State Community and Technical College recently announced its Fall 2022 Academic honors. Students on the President's List earned a grade point average of 4.0 while completing a minimum of six college-level credits; and students on the Dean's List earned a grade point average of 3.50 to 3.99 while completing a minimum of six college-level credits. Local students named included:

- Callista Gardner, Aldrich, Dean's List
- Jaelyn Jordahl, Motley, Dean's List
- Rachel Connell, Staples, Dean's List
- Alexander Giza, Staples, Dean's List
- Damon Halverson, Staples, President's List
- Kylee Magee, Staples, Dean's List
- Cal Olsson, Staples, Dean's List

Minnesota State Community and Technical College recently announced its Fall 2022 Graduates List. Local graduates include:

- Callista Gardner, Aldrich, Cosmetology-Diploma
- Kylee Magee, Staples, Cosmetology-Diploma
- Lynda Thompson, Staples, Accounting Clerk-Diploma, and Payroll Specialist-Diploma

HAPPY BIRTHDAY HAPPY BIRTHDAY HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Ron Starke of Motley, turns 90 JANUARY 15 !



Ron serves as the Chaplain of the Motley American Legion Post #124. He enjoys spending his days playing the accordion, reading his Bible and working out on the treadmill.

Happy birthday to a wonderful man! You are so loved!

w3p

Congratulations, Fred and Joyce Landis on their 65th Wedding Anniversary, January 11, 2023



"Love bears all things...believes all things... Hopes all things ... endures all things"
-I Corinithians 13:7

With love and best wishes from your family

w3p



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Obituaries



Charles Calhoun

Charles Lawrence Calhoun, 82, of Hutchinson passed away December 3, 2022 at Hutchinson Health in Hutchinson.

Memorial services will be held at a later date.

Charles was born May 2, 1940 to Floyd and Violet (Elias) Calhoun in St. Paul. He was baptized as an infant and later confirmed in his faith as a youth. He received his education in St. Paul and was a graduate of the Humboldt High School Class of 1958.

He entered active military service in the United States Navy on July 1, 1958 in Minneapolis and served his country during peacetime. He received an honorable discharge on Aug. 21, 1962, at U.S.S. Severn, achieving the rank of seaman apprentice.

He was employed at Woodland Container in Staples and later with Manion Lumber and Truss in Pillager, retiring in 2004. He lived in Hutchinson since 2010. Charles loved to walk the state trail along the river, his morning coffee and deer hunting. He especially enjoyed spending time with his family and friends.

Blessed be his memory.

Charles is survived by his significant other, June Dawson; one sister, Fran Flannigan of St. Paul; one brother, Russel Funk and many other relatives and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents; one sister, Loretta Calhoun and two brothers, Ron Funk and Carl Funk.

Arrangements were by Hantge Funeral Chapel in Hutchinson (www.hantge.com).

w3c A00006B2023JN11

Michael Marsh



Michael Marsh, Sr., 72, died suddenly at home in Brooklyn Center after going into cardiac arrest in the early morning hours of December 22, 2022.

A memorial service will be held January 18 at 1 p.m. at Evans Nordby Funeral Home, 6000 Brooklyn Blvd. Brooklyn Center, MN 55429. Visitation will be held at 12 p.m. The family will be honoring their father with full military honors at Camp Ripley at 1 p.m. on April 24, 2023, which is their parent's 52nd wedding anniversary. Their ashes will be spread at Marshland.

Michael was born June 17, 1950 to Monroe and Alice Marsh, on their farm in Staples. He was raised on the family homestead on the Crow Wing River.After graduating from Staples High School in 1968, Michael was drafted into the Army to serve his country during the Vietnam War. He was stationed stateside as a radar instructor during the war. He served active duty for 16 months, and an additional five years in the reserves. Michael was a proud veteran who loved his country.

On April 24, 1971, Mike married the love of his life, Christine Kemp, from Staples. Theirs was a great romance - an epic love story that most of us only encounter in poetry or song. They raised four children, eldest daughter, Jennifer, first born son, Michael, Jr. and identical twins Justin and Josh. In April 2015, just three days after their 44th anniversary, Mike tragically lost Christine to complications from lung cancer at the age of 62.

For the next seven plus years, Mike mourned Christine every day. He retired from Sun Chemical shortly after her passing, where he was a lab technician/color matcher for many years. Mike enjoyed spending time with his family, playing guitar, hanging out with his springer spaniel, Trudy and spending time on the Crow Wing River, near the homestead where he was born, on the ancestral estate his family affectionately refers to as"Marshland." Mike loved his family immensely. He was proud of the children and the grand/great grandchildren he shared with his bride - there was a twinkle in his eye as he doted on them, to his very last day.

Mike is survived by four children, Jennifer (Jason) Barg, Michael (Shelley) Marsh, Jr., Justin (Maran) Marsh and Joshua (Erika) Marsh; five siblings, Pete (Jean) Marsh, Patt (Curt) Browning, Tim (Colleen) Marsh, Cindy Lou Chase and Dave (Cindy) Marsh; 12 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

He is preceded in death by his parents; wife, Christine and one sister, Karen.

In lieu of flowers the family asks that you make a memorial donation in their father's honor.

w3p A00006B2023JN11

Mandy Cole



Mandy Lee (Bledsoe) Cole, 66, passed away December 20, 2022, at her home, with her family by her side.

Memorial services were held January 7, 2023, at the Iten Funeral Home in Browerville.

Mandy Lee (Bledsoe) Cole, was born July 24, 1956,the daughter of Artie and Marjorie (Jones) Bledsoe, II of Northfield. Mandy was baptized and confirmed in Inver Grove Heights. She attended Sibley High School. Mandy married the love of her life, John Cole, on August 9, 1978. Their union was blessed with two children, Johnny and Artie.

Mandy worked at Madden's for several years, otherwise she spent her time at home with her family, her number one priority. Her loving, generous heart showered them with joy. Mandy could be found tending to her garden, cooking or baking up delicious meals and shopping for essentials and some not so essential items. She loved holidays and the changing of the seasons, often decorating the inside of the house to celebrate each one as they came and passed. Mandy was an outgoing soul who had a great sense of humor, often lovingly teasing her grandchildren. Her bubbly and kind soul will be deeply missed by her family and friends.

Mandy is survived by her husband of 44 years, John; two children, Johnny (Sarah) and Artie Cole; four grandchildren, Mason, Gavin, Collin and Colton and two sisters, Carol Cherpellis and Nanetle Monjeau.

She is preceded in death by her parents; four siblings, Katherine Hopkins, Jan Bledsoe, Artie Bledsoe, III, Pamela Bledsoe; one aunt, Lois Jones and one uncle, Floyd Jones.

Arrangements were with the Iten Funeral Home of Browerville.

w3c A00006B2023JN11



Jason Blessing

Jason Blessing, 43, of Brainerd, was called to his Heavenly home on Saturday, December 24, 2022, after a long battle with liver disease. Jason passed away at St. Cloud Hospital surrounded by family.

A private Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

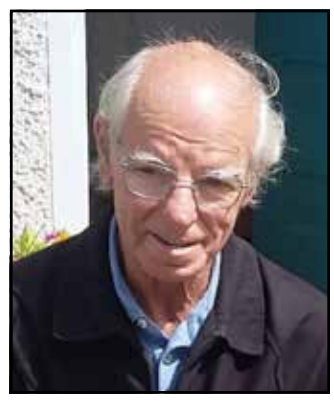
Jason was born January 21, 1979 to Mark Blessing and Kathy Richardson-Blessing in Staples. He graduated from Staples Motley High School in 1997. Jason enjoyed rollerblading, skateboarding, snowboarding and fishing. He spent most of his free time playing guitar for family and friends. In his younger years, you could find him shredding the guitar in bands such as Ground Silver and Wandering Jack, to name a couple.

Jason is survived by his mother, Kathy; father, Mark; eight siblings, Jamie (Ron), Jenni (Mark), Jessica (Chad), Jacki, Jordan (Jenny), Joey (Anna), Jana (Shawn) and Jill; five nieces, Emilya, Gabby, Lexi, Aubrey and Brigid and five nephews, Devon, Paxton, Parker, Oliver and Hudson.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Ken and Kathryn Richardson and Bev and Pete Blessing.

He will be greatly missed, but forever loved. Please remember to hug your loved ones extra tight and often.

w3p A00006B2023JN11



Joseph Tkalcich

A kind and generous man, Joseph Matthew Tkalcich, went home to be with the Lord on January 5, 2023.

A time of remembrance will be held at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 12 at Christ Community Church, 24646 Hazlewood Drive, Nisswa, MN 56468 with services to follow at 5:30 p.m.

Joe'z as he was known by many, began his life in Ely January 12,1954. He lived in the Staples area for many years. In 2000 he and his wife, Tamela (Srock), built their home in Breezy Point, where they built their life together.

Known for his fine craftsmanship, Joe's creations graced many homes with Intarsia and custom routered signs. His earlier years of trucking and decades of crafting brought him many friends who will miss him dearly. His family, while rejoicing his victory over disease by death, mourn a great loss in their lives.

Joe is survived by his wife; four stepchildren, Nathen (Jenny), Amanda (Joe), Mathew (Jessicka) and Leah (Ben); nine grandchildren; one great-grandchild; one brother, John (Eden) and numerous nieces and nephews that will hold him dearly within their hearts.

Preceding him in death were his parents, Frank and Mary Tkalcich and one brother, Raymond.

Arrangements are with Kline Funeral Home, Pequot Lakes.

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Minnesota bids farewell to a wildlife management legend

If there was a Hall of Fame for the most influential and respected figures in Minnesota conservation and wildlife management, Bob Jessen would enter on the first ballot. Jessen, for decades the undisputed guiding force behind waterfowl management in Minnesota, died last week at the age of 91. Natural resource professionals do not enjoy the visibility or fan appreciation—not to mention the financial reward—of Hall of Fame athletes. But among performers in the conservation arena, Jessen would be the equivalent of baseball's Harmon Killebrew, or football's Fran Tarkenton, in Minnesota legend and lore.

- o -
Inside the Outdoors



Mike Rahn

- o -

Jessen was a big-leaguer in his field, a scientist as much as a practical resource manager, respected not only here in Minnesota, but nationally and even beyond U.S. borders. He retired in 1987 after more than a quarter century as the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources' leading figure in duck and goose management, and more than three decades overall as a DNR employee.

Bob Jessen was "old school" in a manner that especially resonates with waterfowl hunters who have some gray in their hair, and an abundance of dings and scratches on the walnut stocks of their favorite shotguns. His regulatory philosophy was to err on the side of harvesting too few ducks, rather than too many.

Current state waterfowl management seems to be trending in another direction, with such changes as more liberal shooting hours, more generous bag limits on some species, and special early seasons. Some waterfowl managers justify this by noting that Minnesota has only out half the number of waterfowl hunters that we had when Jessen was at the helm, and therefore the harvest impact is of less consequence. In other words, 'Why not give the remaining waterfowl hunters more harvest opportunities, and in the process perhaps recruit new hunters, or at least retain those we now have?" I'm not convinced that Bob Jessen would completely agree, yet I'm not aware that he ever publicly challenged the recent liberalizing regulation changes. In retrospect, it would be nice if we could go back in time and ask.

As a young novice writer, I had the privilege of interviewing Bob Jessen in 1980, for the now-shuttered Fins & Feathers Magazine. I traveled to his home in rural Bemidji where he lived and hunted throughout his tenure as our top waterfowl biologist, rather than being stationed in an ivory tower in St. Paul. As others have described him in numerous posthumous tributes, he was personable and genuine, thoughtful and unpretentious.

But Jessen was not shy about expressing his beliefs on the principles of waterfowl management he considered most important. One such principle was the importance of balancing hunting opportunity with maintaining local breeding populations, and maintaining migratory traditions that govern the routes by which waterfowl make their way from breeding grounds in the north to wintering grounds far to the south, and where they stop along the way. He believed that this, in the end, determines the harvest opportunities hunters will—or will not—have.

Jessen recognized that ducks and geese are not only creatures of inborn instinct, but also of habit. They do not stop to rest and feed on a particular lake or slough because it is permanently programmed into them at birth. They do so by having successfully made the migratory trip with others of their kind, and develop the habit of stopping in certain places by having found rest and food there.

One of the rules found in Minnesota waterfowl hunting regulations for many years, now eliminated, was a 4 p.m. end to hunting hours during the early weeks of the hunting season. This was in place primarily to protect locally-breeding ducks, those that raise their young here. Especially mallards, which are inclined to remain where they are born and raised until forced by weather to migrate. He was certain that these ducks—more than pass-through migrants—were susceptible to over-harvest by dawn-to-dusk hunting hours.

More broadly, Jessen believed that maintaining season-long hunting opportunities required giving migrating birds, too, an opportunity to rest and feed on our Minnesota waters. He believed that waterfowl that are denied this opportunity by unrelieved disturbance will eventually lose the tradition of stopping here, and hunters will be the losers in the long run.

Jessen cited the fact that the hunting pressure that was once restricted mostly to weekends, has—over time—expanded to week-long hunting on the most popular waters. Other recreational activities have an impact, too, he believed. On some waters that are both popular with anglers and stopover areas for migrating waterfowl—some of the deeper lakes that are particularly attractive to diving duck species—an increased angler and recreational boater presence during the fall months adds to the disturbance factor, and could influence whether migrating ducks remain here long enough to build and maintain this stopover tradition.

In that 1980 interview, Jessen also cited some hunting practices used elsewhere to maintain season-long and long-term hunting opportunity, but admittedly run counter to Minnesota traditions. He noted that—at the time—shooting hours on Louisiana waterfowl management areas ended at 2 p.m., in order to give waterfowl a rest, to not "burn them out" prematurely. Jessen cited practices in parts of Canada—some cultural, some enforced by law—that limited waterfowl hunting to mornings only. He pointed out that way back in 1906, on the famed waterfowl hunting mecca of Heron Lake in southern Minnesota, guides and hunters agreed to a 2 p.m. end to shooting for the same reason. Private waterfowl hunting clubs employ similar time-limiting practices. Today, on some National Wildlife refuges that are open to waterfowl hunting, there are areas that are open to shooting, and sanctuary areas where no shooting is allowed, to the same beneficial effect.

Bob Jessen believed, wrongly it turns out, that Minnesota hunters and our waterfowl management philosophy would eventually embrace rules that provide some sanctuary periods for migratory waterfowl in the form of limits on shooting hours. "I think," he said in that 1980 interview, "that as hunters begin to more fully appreciate that instead of being penalized, they're gaining … in the long run," you'll see the mood turn the other way."

Jessen may have been wrong in predicting some directions Minnesota's waterfowl management would take, but may be right in directions that should have been taken. All that notwithstanding, he was a keen student of his scientific discipline and had the best interests of both waterfowl and hunters at heart. More than a few believe that his ideas were the right ideas.



Eyeing the basket

Miranda Schotzko goes up for a shot. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)

Girls basketball plays strong second half

The Staples-Motley girls basketball team went cold for a stretch in the first half, and never made up the deficit in a 56-40 loss against Rothsay on Jan. 3.

The teams exchanged the lead several times in the first half until Rothsay went on an 11-2 run and took a 32-17 lead at halftime.

In the second half, Staples-Motley played even with Rothsay but were unable to overcome the first half deficit.

Even though Rothsay came in with several tall post players, Oliviah Lorber and Miranda Schotzko had success against the taller team.

Team results

Staples-Motley 40, Rothsay 56

Scoring: Oliviah Lorber 11, Lauren Rutten 10, Miranda Schotzko 8, Cami Anderson 6, Izzy Olander 3, Ashley Robben 2





Basketball action

Above, Kenzie Erickson passes the ball. Left, Izzy Olander fires a three point shot. Below, Cami Anderson passes the ball back out after being surrounded by defenders.



Greenwaldt, Beachy, Tappe win titles at BBE wrestling tournament

The Staples-Motley wrestling team had three champions at the Belgrade-Brooten-Elrosa Invite on Jan. 6. Elijah Greenwaldt, Turner Beachy and Colbe Tappe each won their weight class with three straight wins.

The Cardinals also won two dual matches at a triangular meet on Jan. 5, defeating Wadena-Deer Creek and New York Mills.

At the BBE tournament, Greenwaldt had two pins and an 8-0 win at 106 pounds. Beachy didn't allow a single point in the tournament as he won 13-0, 12-0 and 4-0 in his three matches at 120 pounds. Tappe scored two falls and a 17-4 win to dominate the 138 pound bracket.

Jason Trantina placed third at 132 pounds with two pins, including a fall in the third place match. Blake Neelan also placed third at 152 pounds with a fall in his third place match, his third pin of the tournament.

Owen Winter reached the third place match but lost there to place fourth at 145 pounds.

Riley Reese won 3-1 in overtime in the fifth place match to finish fifth at 138 pounds. Steven Petrich scored two pins in the tournament to place fifth.

Three Cardinals placed sixth, Dustin Converse at 160, Kevin Miller at 195 and Adrian Gomez at 220. Converse had two pins while Miller and Gomez each had one pin in the tournament.

In results from the previous week, Staples-Motley finished 24th out of 59 teams at the Rumble on the Red at the Fargodome in North Dakota Dec. 29-30.

Elijah Greenwaldt and Colbe Tappe each placed fourth in their weight class, the only Cardinals to place in the top eight. Tappe had four pins in the tournament.

Owen Winter had two wins at 145 pounds, while Riley Reese and Jason Trantina each won a match at 132 pounds.

Team results

Staples-Motley 51, Wadena-Deer Creek 19

106 Gage Bjerga W fall, 113 Eli Greenwaldt W fall, 120 Turner Beachy W TF 18-0, 126 Caden Dobson L fall, 132 Jason Trantina W fall, 138 Colbe Tappe W fall, 145 Jackson Shouviller W ff, 152 Owen Winter W 9-1, 160 Blake Neelan W 12-8, 170 Dustin Converse L 2-0, 182 Jacob Becker L 11-3, 195 Kevin Miller L fall, 220 Adrian Gomez W 13-11, 285 Steven Petrich W fall

Belgrade-Brooten-Elrosa Invite

Thief River Falls 221, Belgrade-Brooten-Elrosa 197, Milaca/Faith Christian 176, Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton 152, Staples-Motley 151, Fergus Falls 100, Eden Valley Watkins 66, Ottertail Central 34, Ortonville 26

Boys basketball takes loss at Osakis

The Staples-Motley boys basketball team had a cold spell in the second half as a close game against Osakis turned into a 61-46 loss on Jan. 5.

The score at halftime was 29-27 as the Cardinals had balanced scoring. In the second half, the Cardinals were hurt from the outside as one Osakis player made four three pointers in the half and had six in the game, while Staples-Motley had four three pointers in the game.

Team results

Staples-Motley 46, Osakis 61

Scoring: Hunter Miller 10, Dakota Hennagir 10, Isaiah Schultz 9, Avandre Brandt 5, Alex Schultz 5, Luke Brownell 4, Elijah Claussen 2

Services & Employment

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TODD COUNTY HHS EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES: Todd County HHS is looking for reliable, service oriented individuals to serve the citizens of Todd County in the following positions: ****Eligibility Worker (full-time) **Home Health Aide (part-time, intermittent).** To learn more about these openings and how to apply, visit the official Todd County website at **https://www.co.todd.mn.us/**. Questions can be directed to Todd County Administration, 320-732-6155. EOE 2-3c

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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.

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Full-time Employment
Todd-Wadena Community Corrections

Todd-Wadena Community Corrections seeks one **full-time Office and Administrative Specialist** for our **Todd and Wadena Offices**. Travel between both counties will be required. Current work load assignment consists of, but is not limited to, the following: providing word processing, data entry and retrieval, receptionist services, maintaining information tracking systems, and utilizing technology to fulfill assigned tasks. Successful applicant must be highly organized and efficient and demonstrate strong written and verbal communication skills.

Minimum qualifications Minimum qualifications include a high school diploma, plus skills in the following areas: data entry, database management, business English, customer service, word processing, and typing/keyboard.

Preferred qualifications include an associate degree or vocational/technical diploma in relevant field, experience entering data into information tracking systems and experience working in a correctional setting.

Must have valid MN driver's license and auto insurance, and reliable transportation. Must pass agency background check requirements prior to employment. Convictions, continuances or stays for crimes other than minor traffic offenses may disqualify the applicant from being hired.

Salary range $18.63-$24.69 per hour.

Contact Kathy Langer, Director, at 320-732-6165, kathy.langer@co.todd.mn.us for an application packet and/or to request a reasonable accommodation. Veteran's preference applies. Submit cover letter, resumé and completed application to: Todd-Wadena Community Corrections, 221 First Avenue South, Suite 200, Long Prairie, MN 56347.

Position will remain open until filled.

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TODD COUNTY BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT
215 1st Ave. South, Long Prairie, Minnesota 56347
320-732-4420
toddplan.zone@co.todd.mn.us

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that on **Thursday, January 26, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.** the Todd County Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing in the Commissioner's board room, 215 1st Ave. South, Suite 301, Long Prairie, Minnesota.

NOTE: This meeting is again being held in-person and the public is encouraged to attend, but Zoom and phone options are still available for those who are unable to attend in person. If you wish to join via Zoom, please contact our office for the call-in information. Those who do attend in person can find parking atop the hill on the west side of the Historic Courthouse and enter through the north doors, near the American Flag and monument.

Questions? Call or email 320-732-4420 or toddplan.zone@co.todd.mn.us.

AGENDA

•Call to Order

•Introduction of Board of Adjustment Members and process review

•The applicant is introduced

•Staff report

•Applicant confirms if staff report accurately represents the request

•Public comment

•Board review with applicant, staff, and public

•Approval of agenda

•Approval of January 12, 2023, Board of Adjustment meeting minutes

1. Patrick and Caryn Gallagher: Big Birch Lake, Section 30, Grey Eagle Township

Site Address: 29683 Arbor Drive, Grey Eagle PID: 11-0055500

1. Variance request to reduce the road rights-of-way setback from 20' to 15' for proposed garage in Recreational Development Shoreland Zoning.

2. Steven Fuchs: Fawn Lake, Section 29 & 30, Fawn Lake Township.

Site Address: 40771 Pinto Drive, Browerville PID: 08-007660

1. Variance request to reduce the Ordinary High Watermark setback from 100' to 70' for proposed dwelling in Natural Environment Shoreland Zoning.

2. Variance request to reduce the Height restriction from 18' to 26' for proposed same dwelling in Natural Environment Shoreland Zoning.

3. Variance request to reduce the Ordinary High Watermark setback from 100' to 75' for proposed garage in Natural Environment Shoreland Zoning.

3. Green Barn LLC: Mound Lake, Section 02, Grey Eagle Township

Site Address: 33397 Cottontail Drive, Burtrum PID: 11-0002001

1. After-The-Fact Variance request to reduce the rear yard property line setback from 20' to 10' for attached garage in non-riparian Recreational Development Shoreland Zoning.

4. Robin and Scott Sedey: Section 11, Grey Eagle Township

Site Address: 33556 Cottontail Dr., Burtrum PID: 11-0073000

1. Variance request to reduce the rights-of-way setback from 20' to 11' for an after-the-fact storage shed in Recreational Development Shoreland.

Adjournment.

Next meeting: **February 23, 2023**

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

Todd County Board of Adjustment
Richard Johnson, Chair
3pnc

FILING NOTICE THOMASTOWN TOWNSHIP

Thomastown Township will hold their annual election in March for:

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

The filing period for these offices opens January 3, 2023 and closes January 17, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

To file for office contact Stacy Dukowitz at 218-296-0834.

Stacy Dukowitz, Clerk
Thomastown Township
3pnc

SECTION 00 11 13 ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

TITLE:
Staples-Motley High School Addition & IAQ Upgrades

Work Scope 9 – Aluminum Doors Windows & Glazing Rebid

LOCATION OF WORK:
401 Centennial Drive
Staples, MN 56479

OWNER:
Staples-Motley Public Schools ISD #2170
905 Fourth Street NE
Staples, MN 56479

CONSTRUCTION MANAGER:
ICS Consulting, LLC.
1139 Franklin Ave.,
Suite 1
Sauk Rapids, MN 56379
(320) 360-5506
Contact: Jorden Pangrac

ARCHITECTURAL:
JLG Architects
525 Broadway
Alexandria, MN 56308
(320) 408-7008

STRUCTURAL:
Northland Consulting Engineers
102 South 21st Ave. West
Duluth, MN 55806
(218) 727-5995

CIVIL, MECHANICAL & ELECTRICAL ENGINEER:
CMTA
2201 12th Street N,
Suite E
Fargo, ND 58102
(701) 280-0500

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The project consists of multiple work scopes for all of the work necessary for the construction of an approximate 22,000 sf gym and wellness center addition and indoor air quality upgrades to the existing school. Rebid consists of Work Scope 09: Aluminum Doors Windows & Glazing only.

BID DATE AND LOCATION:

Sealed Bids will be received at **Staples-Motley School District ISD #2170 District Office, 905 4th Street NE Staples, MN 56479** then publicly opened and read aloud. Bids will be received and stamped-in prior to **2:00 PM local time on January 18th, 2023.** Bids submitted after allotted time will be discarded, **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

EXAMINATION OF DOCUMENTS:

Bidders may view drawings and specifications for the project at the office of the Construction Manager.

For Electronic access to the bidding documents, please contact **Angie Stahnke at 218-336-5901.** The Construction Manager can also provide locations of Builders Exchanges holding plans for contractors to access. Bidders are responsible for any and all costs associated with the production of plans and specifications for their use.

BIDDING REQUIREMENTS:

Each Bidder must comply with the following requirements to reassure acknowledgment and recognition of their Bids:

Bids must be accompanied by Bid security in the form of a certified check, cashier's check, or Bid bond in the amount of 5% of the base Bid submitted, made payable to the owner, as guarantee that Bidder will, if awarded, enter into contract in accordance with contract documents and submitted Bid.

Submit Bid on the prescribed form, which is furnished with the specification, with full name and address of the Bidder.

Completely fill in all blank spaces on the Bid Form, in ink or typewriter, in both words and figures.

Sign in longhand, executed by a principal duly authorized to enter into an agreement. If a Bidder is a co-partnership, then signatures on the Bid shall be by an authorized member of the firm, with names and addresses of each member of partnership.

Base Bid and all alternate Bids shall be stated both in writing and in figures. In all cases, written and numerical figures must agree; otherwise at Owner's option, it shall be cause for rejection of Bid. Complete form without alterations.

Submit alternate prices (Bids) for either increasing or decreasing the costs, as called for on Bid form and Description of Alternates. Submit a Bid for all alternates.

Owner may make such investigations as they deem necessary to determine the ability, competency, and responsibility of the Bidder to perform the work. Any Bidder shall furnish to Owner all such information and data for this purpose, as the Owner may request. Owner reserves the right to reject any Bid if the evidence submitted by, or investigation of, such Bidder fails to satisfy the Owner that such Bidder is properly qualified to carry out the obligations of the contract and to complete the Work contemplated therein. The competence and responsibility of Bidder will be considered in making an award, including, but not limited to; (1) proof of financial responsibility, (2) quality of similar work, (3) amount of experience with similar projects, (4) facilities, personnel and equipment, (5) reputation for performance, and (6) the ability to complete the work within specified time. Owner reserves the right to reject any Bid where there is reasonable doubt as to the qualifications of the Bidder.

Owner reserves the right to: (1) accept Bidder's Base Bid only, (2) accept any one or more of bidder's Alternate Bids, in any order regardless of the order in which they were listed, (3) reject all Bids, (4) award contract based on their investigation of Bidders, as well as acceptance of alternates, all of which the Owner deems to be in their best interest, (5) waive informalities or minor irregularities in Bids and waive minor irregularities or discrepancies in Bidding procedure.

Upon award of Contract, Contractor shall provide AIA A312 Performance and Payment Bonds in the amount of 100% of Contract Sum in accordance with General Conditions and Amendments to General Conditions.

BIDDING DOCUMENTS & SITE REVIEW:

Each Bidder (including subcontract Bidder where appropriate) is required to visit the site and to fully inform themself and record their own investigations as to the extent of the Work, the extent of the work performed by other contractors under other construction packages, conditions under which the Work is to be performed, existing buildings and streets, conditions of the area, existing utilities and other features, type of soil, available facilities and difficulties that may be encountered in connection therewith, and other relevant items which will affect their Bid or the Work.

Prior to submitting a Bid, each Bidder is required to examine all of the bidding requirements, all Contract Documents, all drawings, and specifications for the Project (including those primarily for other Subcontracts). Contractors shall become thoroughly familiar with the scope of the Project and all factors and items of work which will affect their Bid or the Work, whether shown or specified in documents primarily for Work of others or Work of this Contract.

No extras will be allowed the Contractor as a result of misunderstanding of the extent of scope of the Work as a result of their failure to study and record their own findings. Submission of a Bid shall be proof that such examinations have been made and that Bidder has recorded their own investigation and has become thoroughly familiar with all contract documents (including all addenda). The failure or omissions of any Bidder to examine any form, instrument or document shall in no way relieve any Bidder from any obligation in respect to their Bid. Nor shall it be the responsibility of ICS or its counterparts to ensure you have read all documentation. This is the sole responsibility of the Bidder and its Sub-Contractor(s).

PRE-BID CONFERENCE:

There will not be a Pre-Bid conference for the rebid. If Bidders want to visit the physical site, a site review can be coordinated through the Construction Manager – (Jorden Pangrac 320-360-5506). No extras will be allowed because of the Bidder's misinterpretation as to the amount of work involved, Bidder's own error, negligence, or failure to examine the site.

START DATE:

Work will begin after receipt of the signed contract from the Owner. The anticipated award date is January 25, 2023. Pre-construction and submittals work related to the project is to commence immediately after receipt of the signed contract. The onsite work will begin on the premises no later than June 2, 2023.

SUBSTANTIAL AND COMPLETION DATE:

Owner requires all work to be substantially complete by:

IAQ Phase 1: August 25, 2023

IAQ Phase 2: August 23, 2024

Wellness Center Addition: September 27, 2024

END OF SECTION 00 11 13
1-4pnc

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 & 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)
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
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
Sunday Worship ..... 9:00 and 10:30 a.m.
facebook live ..... 9 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
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,
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 ..... 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
Childrens' 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
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.

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Staples, MN 218-894-1775

Staples True Value
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Staples, MN 218-894-3263

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

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"Children: The Gift That Keeps on Giving"

Pastor Barry Klein, Staples Church of Christ

Before going any further, as my wife and I have three grown children and nine grandchildren, we are aware with you that children can be challenging. It's good to remember that we were once imperfect kids. As we all own that, let's spend the rest of our devotion on the rich upside of children.

One of my favorite Scriptures to ponder is Matthew 19:13-15 where we hear that "People brought little children to Jesus for Him to lay His hands on them and pray for them. But the disciples rebuked them." Please let that scene sink in. Can we imagine the life and laughter that captured those little one's worlds. The atmosphere was filled with anticipation on both the part of the parents and children. Then, Jesus' followers of all people, tried to shut the whole enterprise down.

We need to know that culturally, children were neither to be seen or heard. They were not on an equal plane with adults. In value. To the disciples' defense, they probably thought that Jesus somehow needed to be "protected" from children.

One of my favorite movies to watch with our grandchildren is "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang." We see the character played by Dick Van Dyke as one of being an inventor. He is a single dad with two young children, a son and a daughter. His goofy inventions preoccupy his days, so his two children were happy-go-lucky adventurers themselves. In the midst of many unfolding twists and turns, they come upon a land in a story dream that despises children. The people in this land capture children that are found and put them in an underground cavern. This country has a literal professional KIDnapper. The two children end up also being captured.

There was this sense of marginalizing children in Jesus' day. Tragically, with overloaded schedules and mixed priorities, too many children are marginalized today at best and abused physically, emotionally and sexually at worse. Oh, the heartaching stories out there that are often brought into adulthood in ways that continue to debilitate one's sense of identity.

But Jesus cuts through all of this and says, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." We then hear, "When He placed His hands on them, He went from there." One of our widows in our church made and gave me a time intensive counted cross stitch about this whole scene that now hangs on one of our granddaughter's bedroom walls.

There is a whole other devotion to be written on good touch bad touch, but it's all centered on the Jesus Who made us all and Who is very clear about relationship design, boundaries and motives in human relationships of which all three are in deep trouble in present-day culture.

Folks, let's re-embrace God's incredible gift of children. Let's intentionally give them unhurried time and attention. Let's literally get down on their level to listen to their joys and sorrows. Let's literally hold them tight. Please Google Bill and Gloria Gaither's song, "We Have This Moment," Steve and Annie Chapman's song, "Broken Pieces," and of course, "The Cat's in the Cradle."

Treasure a child!

--OPINION--

The importance of the Arts

By Cecily Moe

Why are the arts important for elementary school, middle school and high school students? In my opinion the arts should be a high priority for children in school, because they encourage creativity, help develop motor skills for younger children. The arts teach about color, layout, perspective and balance: skills that are necessary in presentations of academic works.

Learning with the arts enriches the experience of students in school as well as getting students ready for life after school. Subjects related to the arts encourage students' joy in self-expression and building a stronger sense of self and individual identity.

Other non visual arts such as theater and music can encourage children to explore their emotions, grow their imaginations, and help them gain confidence and develop their unique personalities. The performing arts such as music, dance, and drama teach discipline, improve focus, encourage cooperation, teach empathy, respect and listening skills, and teach students to respect others. The arts engage students' minds in ways other school subjects can not, and have been proven to improve students' mental health. Public speaking is one of the biggest fears for grown adults, when people are exposed to public speaking at a younger age in a more fun and educational environment like in theater they will be much more prepared for it in the future. In my opinion art makes the world a much better place bringing joy to places that need it.

Art and the arts has helped me greatly in and out of school and I believe that it is one of the most important things to be taught to kids of all ages.



New woodshop teacher

By Elijah Greenwaldt

This year the woodshop has made a major change. There is a new teacher in the department after 21 years. Mr. Robisnson, the old woodshop teacher, retired at the end of the 2021-22 after a long career of teaching at Staples-Motley.

I have asked the new teacher, Jeffery Sterriker, a few questions to see what it was like and how things were going.

First of all, Mr. Sterriker would like to compliment Mr. Robinson's work and would like to add on the program that he built. Right now he teaches Computer Aided Design (CAD), intro. to woods, woodshop and home repair. Mr. Sterriker says that all of these classes are going very well so far.

As a teacher this is his first year but before this he has been a paraprofessional and even has experience coaching. In the district alone he has helped as a para, part time wrestling coach and bus driver.

He is a master carpenter by trade and a very skilled tradesman who has a lot to offer this program. Mr. Sterriker has done many jobs within these fields, some examples are cabinet making and house building. He wants to stay in the district as a teacher until retirement and even wants to add a few classes such as building trades and an all tools class.

Welcome to the district, Mr. Sterriker.



Ryan Macheel



Riley Dabbs

Successful tennis season led by community of support

By Ronnie Noska

As many know the Staples Motley Girls Tennis Team had a successful year, ending in a State berth not only for the team but also two individual singles players. Like in many of life's achievements, these experiences can come at a cost.

This year's tennis team received an enormous amount of community, booster club, coach and family support which offset such expenses, allowing the team to enjoy a great time with less stress. Donations in the form of snacks, meals, money and other essentials helped during their week at state, and all season long.

Some organizations and businesses really stood out with generous donations of memorabilia, including team State T-shirts that included all the player's names in print on them. Also, yard sign markers to help the players be recognized and honored for their accomplishments. Some parents of past State bound teams even donated a lunch experience for the entire team at The Rainforest Cafe at the Mall Of America (M.O.A.). Throughout the season their fans really helped the team by cheering and showing up to events in support of them. Their send-off to State was a great celebration with many past coaches showing up with well wishes. Current faculty, friends, families and student body joined in to make the experience special. Being led out of town by local Sheriffs, Police Departments and Fire Departments with lights and sirens was unforgettable and helped hype up the players for their upcoming matches.

To highlight and thank some of the community supporters: Holst Acres, Holst Construction, Leader Lions, Motley Lions, Ernie's, Central Building Supply, PHB-Phil Bjerga, HR Electric and many, many more. Whether it was a grandparent leaf blowing the courts prior to practices and matches, a mom bringing coolers of water, snacks and shade tents to matches, an alumni player sending a thoughtful message to the team, or a generous donation of money, all of that support contributed to their successful season.

Without this great community, the memorable accomplishments of this team would not have been possible.

Pros and cons of being an athlete

By Annie Schlosser

Being an athlete has many pros, but it can also have many cons. The pros and cons can depend on the person and the sport. They can also vary on what kind of program you are in and who is in it.

A pro of being an athlete is that you tend to be healthier. You are more active so it can help you not catch diseases as easily. Being an athlete can also help you socialize and also helps with character development. When you are playing sports with people you tend to grow bonds with them. You can gain independence, responsibility, communication, confidence, and conflict skills. You can develop good sportsmanship.

Depending on the sport you can get teamwork skills. Being an athlete can also look good when applying for a college. A big pro is that you can go farther than just being a high school athlete. You can go to college and even someday if you're good enough, could make money to play. Lastly, the biggest pro of all is that you can have fun.

A con of being an athlete is that you can get injured. There are so many different injuries you can get, some even being life threatening. Being an athlete can also increase your stress. You are having to do a lot with being in a sport and still doing school. It is also very time consuming and can be expensive. You can get so mentally and physically drained from all of it. When this happens athletes tend to lose the love and passion that they had for that sport.

Overall I think that anyone could say that there are both many pros and cons to being an athlete. It is all just up to you whether not you think it is good to be one or not.

Bullying

By Gracie Wolpert

Many children come to school everyday and hope for a safe environment, they come to find out that the safe environment they were promised wasn't safe at all. If you ever see any children walking alone or with their heads down you can just tell they've been hurt, especially if you've experienced it yourself. The majority of school students are bullied on a daily basis. Some get bullied to the point where they don't even want to live anymore.

Even though students are getting bullied most won't come forward, being too nervous or wanting to avoid being bullied even more. This is a major problem in schools it can lead to kids not wanting to come to school, harmful thoughts, and even suicide.

The Megan Meier Foundation reports that students who are bullied are two times more likely to attempt committing suicide.

This is a serious issue that needs to be fixed, parents and families losing their loved one because of another student at school is awful and cruel. We need to stop bullying and start helping the kids who need it.

--Resource: https://www.meganmeierfoundation.org/

The requirement to have a phone in sports

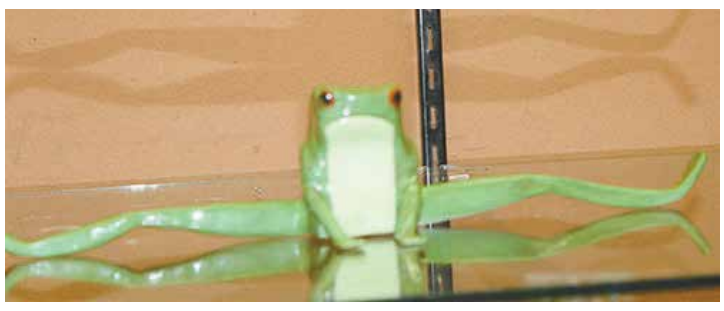
By Bella Hines

I know you're probably wondering what I mean by this and even if this is a rule, let me explain. I'm an 8th grade girl who runs varsity in cross country and track, and I play basketball.

As I've realized you need a phone for just about anything in a sport, from texting your parents to pick them up, to scheduling something or searching something up. I also was on the speech and debate team for a year and they make you sign up for coaching on your phone and use it for everything. And I know it's not a written rule that you need a phone but they make you have to have one. My parents said that I wasn't going to get a phone till I was 18 but that quickly changed because once I joined cross country in sixth grade they soon realized why I needed it.

They gave me my mom's old phone and put me on a free plan that used wifi. But that would not work because when I tried to get the password for the wifi they would not give it to me. And the office closes at like four p.m. every day so by the time I needed to text them I could not use the office phone. This caused my family to have to pay for a plan. Luckily, I am fortunate enough to have a family that can give me a spare phone and pay for a cheap plan but not everybody is. And for a less fortunate family that may not be possible so they have to use a friend's phone or nothing at all. And so, with no phone for them to use or wifi what can they do?

Phones play such a big role in sports and are expensive.



Andrew Salcido



Aften Robinson

Cheese, cheese, cheese and more cheese...

By Colbe Tappe

Cheese...It's a good type of food. You can use it as a snack, a salad topping, incorporate it into many foods and many more things. There is just one problem, what cheese is the best or what one should you use?

Well, I am kind of biased so what I decided to do was take some data that I found and tell you what cheese is the best (according to the data). Here is what some of the data says. About one in five, 19 percent (%) say their top pick is cheddar, while 13% say their favorite is American cheese. In third place is mozzarella, with nine percent, followed by Swiss, eight percent. Now that's a lot to take in so in simple terms Cheddar is the most popular cheese in the United States. This is not surprising because every time I go to a grocery store I swear this is the only cheese I see. Now let's look at second place which is American cheese. Whenever I go to Subway I feel that this is the main cheese that people get (not me, though). Now let's take a look at Mozzarella cheese. This one surprised me because this is the most sold cheese in the world, so why is it not the most picked cheese in the U.S.A.? I still don't have an answer to that question, but it's still my favorite cheese and nobody can tell me different.

Okay, I know that there is a lot of data and boring stuff in that, so now I asked a few of our local teachers what their favorite cheese is. Mr. Johnson, the ninth grade social studies teacher, says he likes pepper jack cheese because he likes his cheese a little spicy.

Pepper jack is a strange cheese, because it is made in Monetary, California which is also where Monetary Jack is made which I think is cool. I also asked Mrs. Tkalcich, the ninth-tenth grade English teacher, said that she likes goat cheese because "it's creamy and soft and delicious." I think that this is an interesting choice because I don't know a lot of people who like goat milk let alone goat cheese.

Now that I got some insight from two teachers and some data I think that I have enough information to make a conclusion, but I think that I am going to give you my opinion. I am between Parmesan and mozzarella. Parmesan is a good cheese that is kinda hard but you can put it on anything and it will taste good and it just makes spaghetti taste better. Mozzarella on the other hand is a softer, more delicate cheese that can make a few things more creamy and good, so I think it goes well with anything. Now that I got that out of the way I will go and pick a cheese that I think is good but so do the statistics.

I chose mozzarella. Now you might think that this is a biased opinion, but if you look at what cheese is sold the most around the world it's mozzarella, also it's one of the most used cheeses to date. The reason that I think not a lot of people eat more of it is because it is more spendy than the other cheeses that I spoke of.

That will be all I have to say about cheese, so have a Gouda day.

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