Staples World

Wednesday, June 30, 2021 — Staples, Minnesota — $1



Active learning

Staples-Motley summer school students play flag tag, one of the active movement games they participate in before doing academic learning.

Weather

This Week's Forecast

	High	Low	Cond.
June 30	88°	60°	Sunny
July 1	84	56	M. Sunny
July 2	86	60	M. Sunny
July 3	92	63	Sunny
July 4	93	63	Sunny
July 5	89	66	P. Cloudy
July 6	91	65	M. Sunny

Last Year, 2020

	High	Low	Cond.
June 30	88°	66°	Cloudy
July 1	80	64	Rain
July 2	91	64	Sunny
July 3	92	67	Sunny
July 4	90	66	M. Sunny
July 5	88	70	Sunny
July 6	82	67	P. Cloudy

Average Temps: H = 81° Low = 60° Another hot & dry week

Compiled by Dale Hausmann, WCCO's Staples area Weatherwatcher

Public Notices

Todd Commissioners: ***11A***

Obituaries

Jerdis Cerney
Arthur Dickman
Michael Johnson
Janet Rasmusen
JoAnn Voeltz

Thank you for subscribing!

Greater State of Mind

Central Minnesota mental health initiative begins

As many as one in four adults in Minnesota reported symptoms of anxiety and/or depressive disorder in the last 13 months.

In central Minnesota, an effort is underway to ensure individuals facing mental health challenges can get the services, care, and support they need.

Greater State of Mind, a region-wide mental health needs assessment, began in early June. The assessment is specific to Aitkin, Cass, Crow Wing, Morrison, Todd, and Wadena counties and the Leech Lake Band and Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Tribal Nations. The initiative is being coordinated by Sourcewell in Staples.

The Region V+ Adult Mental Health Initiative (AMHI) is coordinating the project in collaboration with a 14-member advisory group. An independent research company, the Center for Behavioral Health Integration (C4BHI), will conduct the assessment.

Tami Lueck, Crow Wing County Adult Services Division Manager and advisory group member, believes the findings will drive strategic planning and foster collaboration among the region's health care systems, mental health care providers, local governments, and key community partners.

"It's the responsibility of the county to support a continuum of mental health care from prevention all the way to acute care," Lueck said. "We'll use the findings of this assessment to guide us in that work."

She says the AMHI has conducted needs assessments in the past, but on a much smaller scale. Having an outside consultant coming in to help allows for a large-scale assessment with greater participation.

The team of consultants from C4BHI will work closely with local mental health care providers, their consumers, and key community partners in schools, tribal nations, public and social services, public safety, and faith-based organizations.

By this fall, each county will receive a report that summarizes its unique findings, plus a customized action plan to improve citizens' access to mental health care services.

Duffy Craft, general manager of Artesian Homes, a residential care provider, says the findings will help her team meet the needs of consumers.

"Through this project, I am hoping to find areas of improvement for Artesian Homes or additional services that we can provide to fill a need," Craft said.

Support and funding for the Greater State of Mind project is provided by Sourcewell, the regional service cooperative. Learn more about the project at region5mentalhealth.com.

About the Region V+ Adult Mental Health Initiative

The Region V+ Adult Mental Health Initiative (AMHI) is comprised of individuals from Aitkin, Cass, Crow Wing, Morrison, Todd, Wadena counties, and Leech Lake Band and Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Tribal Nations.

The Greater State of Mind Advisory Group

• Kami Genz, Aitkin County, Community Correc-

See **MIND** on page 3a

Remains of missing person located in rural Cass County

The remains of a Ham Lake man, missing for nearly three years, were recently found in a heavily wooded area of rural Cass County.

Cass County Sheriff Tom Burch reports that on June 7, at 3:20 p.m., their office received a report that a survey crew had located human remains in Blind Lake Township.

Deputies arrived on scene and learned that possible human remains were located in a swampy and heavily wooded area. The remains were collected and transported to the Ramsey County Medical Examiner's Office for examination. On June 16, the Ramsey County Medical Examiner's Office reported that the remains were positively identified as those belonging to David Rickbeil, age 62, of Ham Lake.

On July 13, 2018, Rickbeil's vehicle was located running, unoccupied in the



David Rickbeil'

area. Over the next several days a missing person's investigation was launched and extensive searches of the area were conducted by foot, ATV, drone, air support and with the assistance of K9s. The area is very rural, thickly wooded and swampy. The investigation did not indicate any foul play was involved and that Rickbeil likely walked away from his vehicle.



Memories of service in the U.S. Army

Photos from Jack Giza's time in the service were provided to the Staples World. On July 4, he will tell about his time in the U.S. Army.

July 4 celebration at Staples Veterans Park

Jack Giza will be the featured speaker at the 4th of July celebration atthe Staples Veterans Park, starting at noon.

Jack Giza was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1956 and he served until 1962. Giza served in the 14th psychological warfare battalion, where he had top secret clearance. He was also on a landing beach reconnaissance team as a trained scuba diver. Giza served with the 25th Infantry Division at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii.

After serving in the army, Giza started his work career at Honeywell, then came back to his home town and taught drafting at Staples Vocational School.

Also at the celebration, Pastor Barry Klein will deliver the invocation, Deb Ottesen will sing the National Anthem, the Motley American Legion Color Guard will conduct a 21-gun salute and the Schimpp Family will sing patriotic songs.

Guests are reminded to bring lawn chairs to the event. Bratwursts and Dilly bars will be served following the program.

Paver dedication

The ceremony will also include a dedication of 28 granite paving stones engraved with the names of area veterans, including:

E3 Earl E Allee, USN 1971-1975

First SGT Roger A Avery, US Army 1964-1995

PVT Walter C Brown, US Army WWI, 1917-1918

TSGT Roger R Brown, USAF WWII

SP4 Walter I Brown, US Army Vietnam, Korea 1970-1976

SSGT Brian J Crampton, USAF Vietnam 1971-1980

Major Gregory Deering, MNARNG 2007-Present

YNCS Lorranine M Gadway, USN WWII 1943-1965

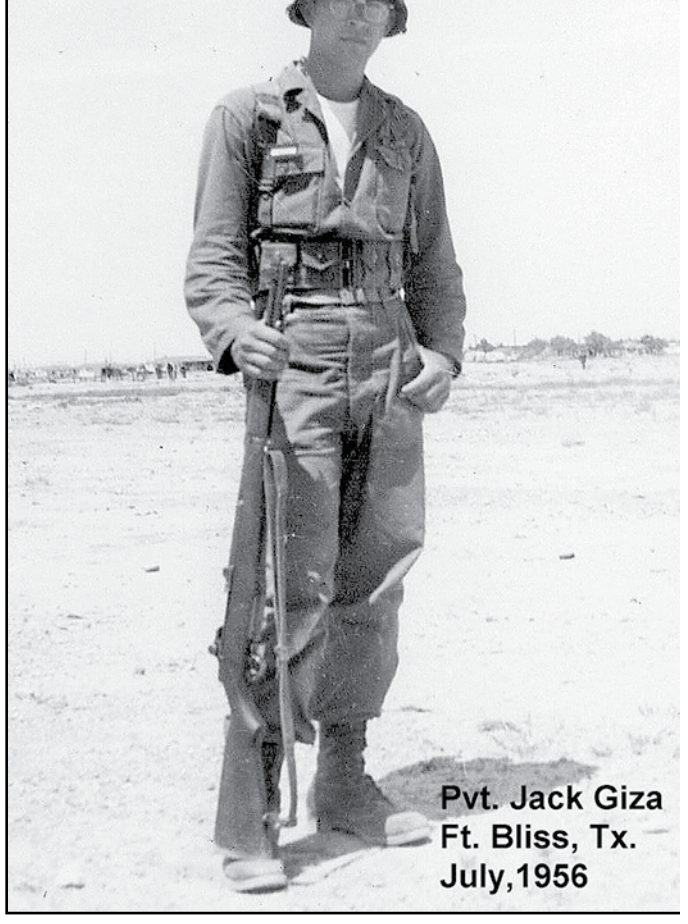
Petty Officer 3 Paul Ginther, US Navy 1955-57

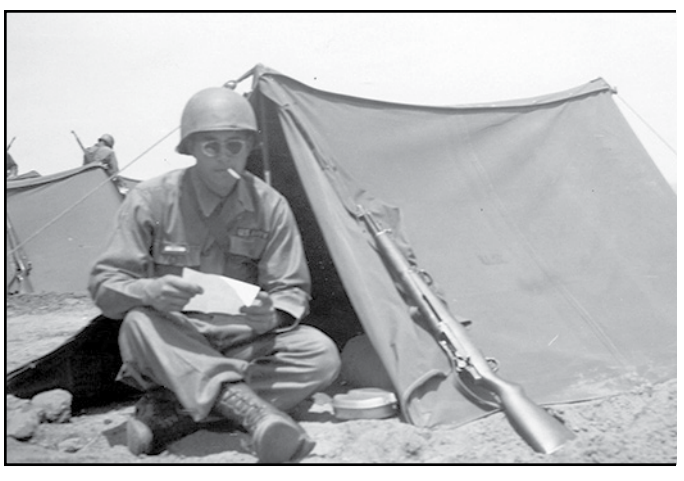
Sergeant Marvin L Griffith, US Army 1954-1962

1st Lieutenant Edward Hustad, US Army WWII 1941-45

Specialist E-4 Ronald Johnson Sr, US Army Vietnam 1966-1968

Airman Second Class Vernon L Johnson, USAF, 1954-1962





Corporal Bernard E Klose, US Army Air Corps 1942-45

TEC-5 E4 James A Klose, US Army 1946-47

Corporal Gerald R Klose, US Army Korean War 1951-53

SGT Raymond J Laventure, USAF 1964-68

SFC E7 Frank L Longworth US Army 1960-80 Vietnam 1965-66

Staff Sergeant Robert B Lulay, US Army Air Corps 1942-45

SGT Leonard P Olson, US Army WWII, 1949

Airman 2nd Class Howard K Opdahl, Air National Guard 1960-66

MM First Class Michael H Opdahl, US Navy 1983-89

PFC Melvin R Opdahl US Army WWII 1942-45

PFC Theodore Pohl, US Army WWII

SGT Daniel Pohl, US Army 1978-81

Petty Officer 3 Robert Roberts, US Navy 1971-74

SGT Gary N Savaloja, US Army 1972-75

Master SGT William D Taylor, USAF Vietnam 1962 1988

CONGRATULATIONS
SMHS State Track winners!



Emmet Anderson • First, 3200 meter race



Kyanna Burton • 8th, 3,200 meter race



Tabetha Allen • 16th, Shotput



Remington Converse • 15th, 100 meter dash







Cardinal state track send off: Emmet Anderson, Head Coach Bruce Fuhrman, Kyanna Burton, Assist. Coach Chris Kappler, Remington Converse, Assist. Coach Tony Spandl, Tabetha Allen.

Staples World photos by Mark Anderson.



Coach Bruce Fuhrman and Emmet Anderson



Emmet Anderson added to the Cardinal Pride sign.

These area businesses offer their support and congratulations to the athletic achievements exemplified by the Cardinal track team throughout the season and the individuals who qualified for the Minnesota State High School League state track competition:

Staples and Motley
Dairy Queen
Albie Electric
Giza Plumbing & Heating
Japke Decorating, Carpet & Gift
Lake Country Insurance Inc., Motley
Unity Bank

Central Building Supply
Lefty's Inc.
Orth Insurance Agency
Sourcewell
Mayer, Porter & Nelson, Ltd., CPA's
First International Bank & Trust
Ernie's Food Market

Prudential Financial, Bob Mueller
Lakewood Health System
Mid-Central National Bank
Stern Rubber
American Family Insurance, Trisha Larson
Staples World

Looking back

75 Years Ago - 1946

• June 27, 1946 - A notice is carried in the Want Ad section of The World this week, relative to the selling of the Olinger school house located on Section 6 in May Township in Cass County, known as the District 23 school house.

No equipment will be sold, just the building, and sealed bids are to be opened on July 10 at nine o'clock. Mrs. Harry Anderson is the clerk of school district 23.

• June 27, 1946 - When Sergeant Winkler of the Sauk Centre recruiting Station was in Staples Monday of this week, he received the application of three Staples young men for enlistment into the United States army. Donald R. Hirschey, Henry J. Severson Jr., and Richard R. Pankratz were the three who were signed up by Sgt. Winkler while he was in Staples. The three went to Fort Snelling Tuesday to report for physical examinations, and induction into the regular army.

• June 27, 1946 - Workmen started last week on the remodeling of the Olympia Cafe in Staples, and the plans call for the completion of the work within the next week.

Gust Koremenos, who had sold his interests in the cafe, purchased the restaurant back again, and immediately started the remodeling operations. A formal opening of the cafe will be held sometime next week, according to Mr. Koremenos who owns the place.

• June 27, 1946 - Severe thunder showers, and hard lightning, accompanied by a strong wind, did considerable damage in the rural areas around Staples last week, and although the loss is not reported to run into the hundreds of dollars, some of the farmers suffered losses which will be hard to replace.

At the Lloyd Goodrich farm north of Staples, two valuable heifers were struck by lightning and were killed.

The season's high was recorded on Sunday when the mercury raced up to 93 degrees, cooling off to only 78 degrees that evening. Saturday holds the second high for the year with a "cool" 82 degrees, cooling down to 72 degrees during the night.

- o -
Compiled by
Dawn Timbs
- o -

50 Years Ago - 1971

• July 1, 1971 - Kenneth LeVasseur, Tom Danculovich and Ronald Beachy, all members of the faculty at Staples high school, are attending the NSF/ISCS Science Workshop at Wisconsin State University, Superior.

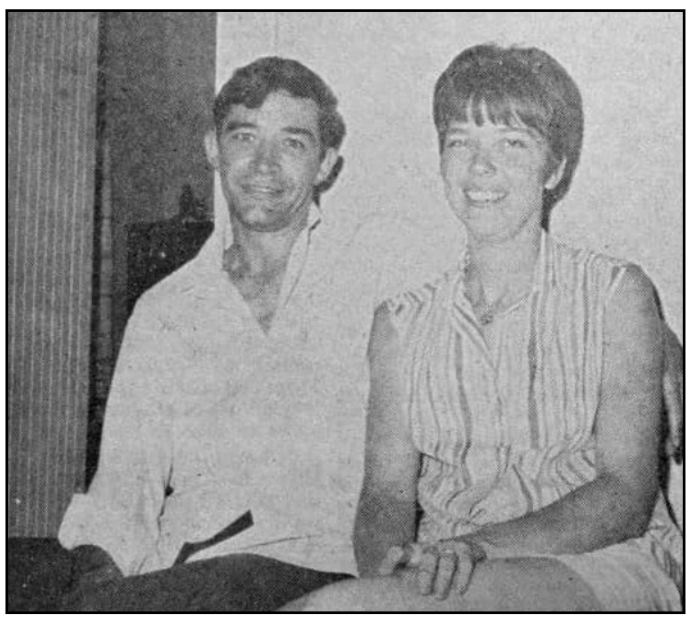
Mr. LeVasseur and Mr. Beachy who teach science at Staples, are specialist students majoring in science. Mr. Danculovich, who also teaches science in grades 8-12 at the local school, is a graduate student, majoring in science and seeking an M.S.T. degree.

• July 1, 1971 - The Cardinal Marching Band, under the direction of Mark Evans, will lead the parade of the Staples Community Appreciation Days on July 3. Then on July 10, the Cardinal musicians will participate in the parade of the Menahga Midsummer Days that evening.

• July 1, 1971 - The Motley FFA chapter held its annual canoe trip down the Crow Wing River Trail June 14 - 16. This year, as part of its community service program, the chapter cleaned up the river by picking up non-decayable trash between campsites.

The group camped at Shell City, Huntersville Forest, and Knob Hill. The group's motto was to leave the campsites cleaner than they found them. Twin Lakes public access near Menahga was the starting point for the canoe trip. More than 25 large bags of cans, wire and bottles were collected on the 70-mile trip which ended at Bullard's Bluff north of Staples.

Grand champions of the cleanup campaign were Dennis Macheel and Kent Kraft. Others in the group were: John Achermann, Mike Achermann, Don Anderson, Jeff Bartle, Loyal Craft, Dean DiGiovanni, Joe Geurts, Mike Lorber, Tommy Mick, Ron Petzolt and Steve Zetah. Advisors for the group were Fred Baker and Charles Funk.



Mystery photo

Hello readers. This week's archive photo is from our Sept. 12, 1968 edition. Do you know who these people are and perhaps the context of the photo? Email your answers and where you are from to dtimbs@staplesworld.com by Friday morning, or call 218-894-1112. The answers will be published in next week's paper, as well as a new mystery photo.

• July 1, 1971 - Behind the fine pitching performance of Joe Neznik, the Staples American Legion Baseball team picked up a 1 to 0 victory over Sebeka Friday evening, at Staples. The win brought the season record of the locals to 4 wins and 2 losses.

• July 1, 1971 - For Sale: Component HI-Fi system: Amplifier, auto changer, FM Tuner and 2 speakers. $50. Ken Klose. Ph. 894-1445.

25 Years Ago - 1996

• June 27, 1996 - Four members of one family and their neighbor are dead following a shooting incident Thursday, June 20 on Big Sauk Lake, just north of Sauk Centre, in extreme southern Todd County.

The family members included 41-year-old Warren Leo Schloegl; his wife, Marcella Esther Schloegl, 39; and their two children, Jodi Marie, 12, and Eric Warren, 11.

Paul Wallace Crawford, 72, of Rt. 2, Sauk Centre, the Schloegl's next door neighbor, apparently became so frustrated over a property line dispute that he shot and killed the four family members and then killed himself, according to Todd County Sheriff David Kircher.

• June 27, 1996 - Lawrence J. Huff, 84, of Staples, former owner of the Huff Funeral Home in Staples, died Friday, June 21, 1996, at Rosewood on Broadway in Fargo, N.D.

• June 27, 1996 - Local Avon representatives were recently recognized at a special banquet luncheon held in their honor at the Ruttger's Lodge in Grand Rapids.

The "Avon Ladies" were honored for their outstanding achievements of obtaining the level of President's Club in the Avon business. They include Jan Dryburgh, Daisy Uhrich, Pat Wilson and Judith Resch of Staples; Diana Rardin of Motley; Orinne Werhan and Karen Treangen of Hewitt; Gerri Wilson of Pillager, Margie Goepferd of Bertha; and Lila Perkins of Sebeka.

10 Years Ago - 2011

• June 30, 2011 - A World War II pilot from Staples is the subject of a new book, "Fatal Incident," a novel by Jim Proebstle of Deer Park, Illinois.

The book is centered around the plane crash, reported in the Oct. 5, 1944, Staple World of Captain Roy Proebstle, Jim's uncle.

Proebstle did extensive research on the crash, which he said still leaves mysteries as to what actually happened and why. Proebstle said those mysteries will likely never be explained, but his book is full of conjecture of why it happened.

• June 30, 2011 - Staples resident Alice Sather, 92; and her 86-year-old sister Betty Judkins of Wadena trimmed trees (with chainsaws) at Alice's place June 28. Growing up on a farm in Bertha, the two women said they learned about hard work early on. Outdoor work is still something they both enjoy.



Mystery solved

Last week's mystery photo, published in the June 14, 1984 edition of the Staples World, featured members of the Staples High School track team receiving their fourth place medals at the state track tournament. From left are Jill Droubie, Tricia Bates, Chanda Sams and Wendy Warn. The girls were part of the 4x100 relay team, placing fourth with a time of 50.49.

Judy Droubie of Staples identified all four girls and the event they were in at state, and thought they might have gotten third in the race. Roddy Sams of Staples also correctly identified all and the context of the photo. Judy Wolak of Staples correctly identified Droubie and Bates, but thought Chanda Sams was Jessica Beachy. Thanks for participating in our Mystery Photo.

CLC SEaM Camp to start July 5

Area students in grades 6-12 are invited to attend Central Lakes College's annual Summer Engineering and Manufacturing (SEaM) Camp from July 5-9 at the college's Staples campus.

The camp runs from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. each day, with lunch provided each day. Transportation is available from the Brainerd campus.

The camp is a one-week adventure for students grades 6-12, and it gives them an opportunity to experience hands-on electronics, motor controllers, computer aided drafting, manufacturing machining and robotics automated systems. Students build "battlebots," all while gaining expert instruction in computer aided drafting and robotics automated systems. At the end of the week, students will compete in a battlebot competition, including an obstacle course, robot hockey and the battlebot demolition, Awards will be awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place teams.

The camp fee is $200, and limited partial scholarships are available. Sign up by contacting Jill at jill.albie@clcmn.edu or 218-894-5138. Sign up deadline is June 30.

MIND continued from page 1a

Locals involved in project

tions Director
• Kara Griffin, Crow Wing County, Programs Manager
• Tami Lueck, Crow Wing County, Adult Services Division Manager
• Michael Steinbeisser, Todd County, Social Services Supervisor
• Jim Exsted, Baxter Police Department, Chief
• Cheryl Turcotte, Minnesota Office of the Ombudsman, Ombudsman
• Duffy Craft, Artesian Homes, General Manager
• Melissa George-Humphrey, Leech Lake Behavioral Health-Human Services, Clinical Director
• Kevin Edwards, Northern Pines Mental Health Center, Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) Team
• Dr. David Anderholm, Northern Psychiatric Associates, Psychiatrist
• Charitie Herbst, Sourcewell, Community Solutions
• Danielle Wadsworth, Sourcewell, Regional Contract Specialist & Region V+ AMHI Program Coordinator
• Mike Willie, Sourcewell, Regional Transitional Specialist
• Lisa Worden, Sourcewell, School Liaison

Staples Police report

Recent reports taken by the Staples Dept. included:

June 14, Staples Police were contacted by an individual who reported to be homeless, stated that due to conditions of probation, they were required to check in with the police department. Police advised they would document the incident.

June 16, Staples Police received a complaint involving a camper parked on private property. The reporting party stated the camper was causing obstruction of seeing at an intersection, which almost caused a motor vehicle crash. Police spoke with the owner of the camper and advised them.

June 17, at 12:23 a.m., Staples Police received a report of two juvenile males, without shirts, sitting along side Hwy. 10 just west of the city. Police located the juvenile subjects, returned them to their residence and spoke with a parent. The subjects were given a verbal warning for the curfew violation.

June 19, Staples Police responded to Cty Rd 83 to assist Lakewood Health System with an individual who was being placed on a 72 hour hold, that had walked away from the facility. Police brought the subject back to Lakewood Health System without incident.

June 19, Staples Police responded to the Lakewood Health System emergency room for a report of an out of control subject. Tristen Springwater, 26, was arrested for first degree damage to property.

June 20, Staples Police assisted a family with a ride to a location when their ride at the train station did not show up.

CRP enrollment

The United States Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency opened an enrollment period for the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). General CRP offers will be accepted through July 23. Continuous CRP offers will also be accepted. This means landowners and operators still have time to get that CRP offer submitted.

CRP is a conservation program that is administered by the Farm Service Agency (FSA). Land owners who are accepted into the program receive an annual rental payment in exchange for enrolling their land into a conservation planting. Landowners may also receive cost share dollars and other sign up incentives for installing the conservation plantings. There are opportunities to enroll tree plantings, prairie plantings, pollintator plantings, food plots and many more practices through CRP. CRP contracts are based on a 10-15 year contract period.

USDA has updated the program with higher rental rates and incentives. The goal is to enroll an additional 4 million acres nationwide. This provides landowners an opportunity to enroll their property into CRP for the first time and it provides landowners with expiring CRP contracts an opportunity to reenroll their property for another term. If you are interested in setting aside land into CRP, reenrolling land into CRP or want to learn more about CRP stop into your local USDA service center.

abortioncounters.com
w10-14p

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Letter to the Editor

Let railroad mowers do their job

I am the General Chairman of the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employes Division (BMWED). We represent the men and women who build and construct railroad tracks and maintain the right-of-way for BNSF Railway from Wisconsin to Washington. We cover Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, Idaho, Oregon and Washington. I write today looking for your help.

Recently, BNSF has decided to cut our weed mowers who have historically performed the job of mowing the right-of-way along BNSF tracks. BNSF is hoping that the towns will take over this job free of charge. Railroads are the second largest landowners next to the federal government. Railroads own an extensive amount of land next to the tracks and we, as the employees of BNSF, are paid to maintain the right-of-way next to the tracks. We have negotiated for this work through collective bargaining, and we have won arbitration awards concerning this work, thus cementing that it truly is BMWED's work, now and forever. With these latest cuts to our weed mowers, BNSF is essentially encouraging the towns to perform the work free of charge. When a town mows the right-of-way, we submit a claim for the violation, but BNSF simply replies that they did not hire the mowers.

We are asking for your help as we work to stop this practice. I am willing to do whatever it takes to help the towns as well, so if there is a certain area that is not being mowed, I will escalate it to the highest levels of BNSF to make sure that all of BNSF"s property is taken care of properly.

When workers other than the employees covered under our Collective Bargaining Agreement perform the mowing, it removes BNSF Railway's responsibility, and it diminishes our work. Because BNSF posts signs that prohibit trespassing on their property, and they charge cities and utilities to go over the tracks, it is clear that any other workers mowing on their property would be considered trespassers. BNSF Railway is the responsible party for mowing and maintaining the right-of-way and they need to assign their employees, our members, to do the work. If you have any locations that have not been addressed, call 701-630-2047, or email me and I will forward it on: john.mozinski@gmail.com.

John Mozinski Jr.
General Chairman
Brotherhood of Maintenance
of Way Employes Division

Small town survey reveals common challenges

By Becky McCray
saveyour.town

Rural communities were not immune to the chaos of 2020, but remained more concerned with ongoing challenges.

To find out what rural people felt were their biggest challenges, SaveYour.Town and SmallBizSurvival.com surveyed over 280 rural people in the fourth quarter of 2020. The results make up this fourth edition of the Survey of Rural Challenges.

Challenges stemming from the pandemic and economic crisis were ranked as less important than long-existing rural challenges.

Continuing challenges with losses in housing, business and population ranked as the highest rural community challenges. The ongoing lack of workers, stiff competition from online businesses, and marketing ranked as the highest challenge to rural small businesses.

Changing preconceptions

Defying stereotyped media profiles of poverty, crime and drug abuse as the primary rural challenges, rural people ranked these lowest of all community challenges.

Although rural economic development often centers around jobs, it was one of the least-mentioned challenges in this survey.

For all the concern over small business lending, rural people say usable buildings are as hard or harder to find than loans.

Rural small business owners show little interest in business plan assistance, yet it remains a popular type of assistance offered to rural businesses.

More rural people said they needed an idea for a business to start than said they were worried their business would fail.

Community challenges ranked

The pandemic and economic crisis not only did not dominate the responses, but it also did not rank in the top ten challenges.

Housing, business and population losses continue to rank as the highest rural community challenges.

The top five rural community challenges in 2021 were:

- Not enough good housing
- Downtown is dead
- Losing young people
- Need new residents
- Not enough volunteers

Business challenges ranked

The lack of workers and difficulties with marketing continue to challenge rural small businesses.

Online competition continued to increase pressure on rural small businesses, climbing to the second-highest ranking challenge.

Despite the pandemic and economic crisis, rural business owners ranked the likelihood of business failure and the inability to find a business loan as some of the lowest of all listed challenges.

Crisis relief loan packages may have played a role in supporting small businesses in late 2020 as this survey was being conducted. On previous surveys, inability to find a business loan scored from the middle to low: ranging from sixth to ninth of the eleven listed challenges, before dropping to eleventh this time.

The top five challenges ranked by rural small businesses were:

- Can't find good employees
- Online competition
- Tried later hours without success
- Marketing isn't working
- Need to sell my business

Break in the weather

- o -
Inside the Outdoors



Mike Rahn

- o -

If we could ascribe personality traits to natural phenomena like the weather, we could say that rain has had to live with a blemished reputation. Take the expression "rain on your parade," for instance. It's commonly used to describe disappointments, things we would rather not have happen to us. Then of course there is "rainout," a term we associate with cancelled athletic events, washed-out picnics and the like, and being unable to do things we were looking forward to.

But there are times when rain is as welcome as a winning Lotto ticket. For much of Minnesota, now seems to be such a time. The month of June has given us near-record consecutive day stretches of 90-degree temperatures, not just in the South where it might be expected, but essentially border to border. That's something that in an average year we might have expected in July or August. This concentration of heat was unpleasant enough. But couple that with week after week of rainless weather, and even the most ardent sun worshipper might have reconsidered their devotion.

Now, for much of the state—officially in drought in many counties—there are signs that the logjam is breaking. At home, there is a truce in the thermostat wars that continually rage in my household during summer months. The air conditioning is off, the windows and doors are open, and the welcome sound of raindrops on aluminum gutters and downspouts is accompanying the click of laptop keys. There really is a scent to the rain, something you rediscover as you stand under the porch overhang and inhale deeply. Ah, blessed rain!

Will this really be the break in the weather that we've been hoping for? Will a major change in weather patterns stabilize or maybe even reverse some of the troubling environmental effects we're already seeing across the state? There is no crystal ball to give us that answer, but that's what is hoped for.

One of the indicators that has made clear the parched state of our state is the depth of our lakes. Some have reportedly dropped six to 12 inches, or even more. On the lake where my family's cabin stands, there is conspicuously more beach than there was when the ice went out on the first of April. By my unofficial guesstimate the water here is down at least four or five inches.

A consequence of lower water levels and a lengthy period of unseasonably high temperature is rising water temperature. DNR fisheries personnel have reported lake temperatures rising five to 10 degrees in some cases, most commonly in shallower lakes. This stresses and endangers the survival of the most temperature-sensitive species, including important forage fish like tullibees, which are important to the growth and survival of walleyes, muskies, and lake trout.

Another potential consequence is fish that will be more susceptible to bacterial infections, which can lead to significant die-offs of both angler-sought and forage species. This, too, is more predictably found later in the summer under a more typical year's weather patterns.

As if these were not enough, there is also the question of panfish spawning success. With the rapid warm-up of many lakes, there is concern that some bluegills and crappies might have abandoned their spawning efforts. An assessment of this possible effect is not likely to be made before late summer, according to fisheries personnel.

Not to be overlooked are the effects of the dry, hot weather on the wetlands we depend on for much of the duck production for the year. Permanent wetlands account for only a portion of a year's production of young mallards, wood ducks, teal, and other species important to waterfowl hunters. So-called seasonal or temporary wetlands that are filled by spring snowmelt and replenished by rainfall have been drying up at a rate faster than normal.

This is true in Minnesota, the Dakotas, and much of prairie Canada. Even with good numbers of breeding birds that returned in spring from their southern wintering areas, dry seasonal wetlands means fewer broods will successfully be raised. There remains some hope that a significant increase in summer rains could lead to re-nesting by some ducks. But predictions as they now stand for production in the "bread basket" of the Mississippi Flyway are not optimistic.

Rainfall after a prolonged drought can be a tonic for fishermen, too. Sunday morning when the rain was pelting down, I watched a pair of intrepid anglers out front from the cabin as they slowly and persistently worked a breakline—for walleyes, I'm sure. Yes, they were wearing rain gear, but even with good gear that gets to be unpleasant after a while. I'm sure they were bedraggled, yet there they relentlessly stayed, "at one with the fish," you might say.

This rain was just what was needed to recharge our enthusiasm, and maybe even boost the status of our waters and wetlands, too.

Fischbach joins hearing on needs of rural America

From the office of Michelle Fischbach

Congresswoman Michelle Fischbach participated in her first hearing as Ranking Member of the House Agriculture Committee's Subcommittee on Commodity Exchanges, Energy, and Credit. The hearing was focused on "Examining Opportunities for Growth and Investment in Rural America."

"The reality is that many rural communities are being left behind, and today's subcommittee hearing was an excellent opportunity to focus on their needs and the challenges they're facing," said Congresswoman Fischbach. "Whether it's a lack of broadband connectivity, limited access to capital, workforce shortages, aging infrastructure, or diminished access to health care services, the needs in rural America are many. If we can address those needs together, we will all benefit."

The hearing included two witnesses from Minnesota's Seventh Congressional District. Kent Mattson, the CEO of Lake Region Healthcare in Fergus Falls, testified on behalf of the Minnesota Hospital Association. Bob Fox, member of the Renville County Board of Commissioners, testified on behalf of the National Association of Counties.

"I'm grateful that Kent and Bob were able to join us today to share their perspectives. With hard work, innovative thinking, and strong partnerships, we can enhance the quality of life in our rural communities – and that's the goal," said Congresswoman Fischbach.

DNR stresses water safety

It's been a deadly start to the open-water season in Minnesota.

As of June 16, as many as nine people have been victims of boating fatalities. That number, which is preliminary, marks the most fatalities at this point of the year in more than a decade.

In addition, a higher-than-average number of people have drowned at places like beaches and swimming pools.

Officials with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources are reminding everyone who's around the water to make safety their first priority.

The beginning of the summer season is traditionally a busy time of year on the water. This year has been even busier than usual – particularly in recent days as people sought respite from an abnormally long string of above-average temperatures. Unfortunately, the increase in activity also has resulted in unusually high numbers of people who didn't make it off the water.

"There are too many families who won't be seeing their loved ones again," said Lt. Adam Block, boating law administrator for the DNR Enforcement Division. "It's up to everyone who heads for the water to double-down on safety and prevent what should be a fun experience from turning tragic."

The people who've drowned so far this season span the age, gender and swimming ability spectrum. DNR safety officials offer the following tips for staying safe around the water.

- Wear a life jacket. All children, and adults should wear a life jacket anytime they're around the water. Each year even adults who are good swimmers go under the water and never resurface.
- Avoid alcohol. Its effects are magnified on the water and the consequences can be deadly. About 40 percent of boating fatalities include alcohol.
- Designate a "water watcher." This person puts down their cell phone or other distractions and focuses only on watching the water to ensure everyone is safe.
- Wade feet-first into the water to avoid jumping into an area where the current, depth and other conditions are unknown.
- Constantly supervise children while they're in or near the water. Looking away even for a moment is enough time for tragedy to strike. Drowning often doesn't involve yelling, screaming and waving of the arms. Rather, it often occurs silently.
- Swim only in designated swimming areas.

For more information about staying safe on the water, see the DNR's boat and water safety pages.

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The deadline is 12 noon, Friday. Opinions expressed on this page do not necessarily represent the views of this newspaper.

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Quote of the week

"I would fight for my liberty so long as my strength lasted…." — Harriet Tubman

Quote of the week

"I skate to where the puck is going to be, not where it has been."
Wayne Gretzky

CONGRATULATIONS
SMHS State Golf winners!



Staples World photos by Mark Anderson.



Beck Erholtz • Second at State



Adriana Dickey • 23rd



Ava Schneider • 65th



Adam Oberlander • 83rd



Isaiah Schultz • 84th



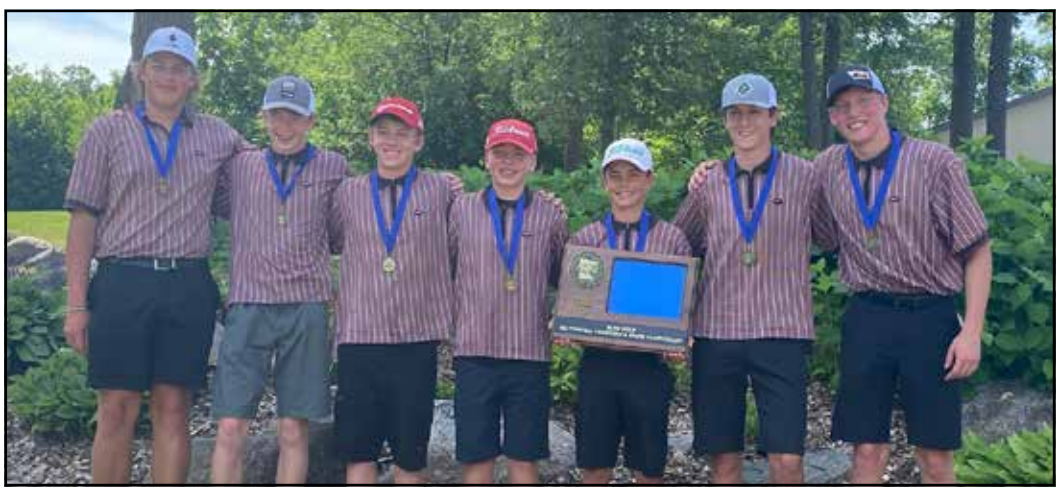
Payton Mithun • 50th



Grant Bestland • 76th



Carter White • 61st



Team places Seventh at State

Left: The Staples-Motley boys team with their section championship trophy, from left, Beck Erholtz, Keller Anderson, Peyton Mithun, Grant Bestland, Carter White, Isaiah Schultz and Adam Oberlander. (Submitted photo)

These area businesses offer their support and congratulations to the athletic achievements exemplified by the Cardinal golf teams throughout the season and the individuals who qualified for the Minnesota State High School League state golf competition:

Staples and Motley
Dairy Queen
Albie Electric
Giza Plumbing & Heating
Japke Decorating, Carpet & Gift
Lake Country Insurance Inc., Motley
Unity Bank

Central Building Supply
Lefty's Inc.
Orth Insurance Agency
Sourcewell
Mayer, Porter & Nelson, Ltd., CPA's
First International Bank & Trust
Ernie's Food Market

Prudential Financial, Bob Mueller
Lakewood Health System
Mid-Central National Bank
Stern Rubber
American Family Insurance, Trisha Larson
Staples World

Janet Rasmusen

The funeral service for Janet Rasmusen of Motley, will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, July 3, at the St. John Lutheran Church in Motley.

Burial will follow the service at the Motley Public Cemetery.

Visitation will be held at the church on Friday, July 2, from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. with Prayers at 7:00 p.m. Visitation will resume at the church on Saturday one hour prior to the service.

Janet, 80, passed away with family by her side on June 27, 2021, at her home near Motley, with compassionate care provided by Knute Nelson Hospice.

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

w27x A00006B2021JU30

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Staples, MN
Staples World

JoAnn Voeltz

JoAnn Caroline (Terrion) Voeltz, 64, of Staples, passed away June 21, 2021, at Lakewood Health System in Staples.

A celebration of life was held June 25 at the Brenny Family Funeral Chapel in Staples

JoAnn was born August 12, 1956, to Joseph A. and Lila (Lawton) Terrion. She attended school in Brainerd and Little Falls. In recent years, she was employed at Ernie's Grocery in Staples as a clerk. She owned and operated "Just for You" Cleaning Service with clients in the Staples, Motley and Pillager communities. JoAnn married Tim Voeltz on November 14, 2003. JoAnn loved family, her golden retrievers and furry pets, friends, gardening and fishing.

JoAnn is survived by her husband Tim of Staples; one brother, Charlie Peck of Brainerd; many nieces and nephews and her special



"goldens," Blu and Charlie.

She is preceded in death by her parents; four brothers, Edgar Peck, George Peck, Stanley Terrion and John Terrion.

The family wishes to extend a thank you to the Lakewood Health System's caregivers including: doctors, nurses, nursing assistants, emergency services, hospice staff, chaplain and A Daughter's Love for their care, kindness and support.

Arrangements were by Brenny Family Funeral Chapel- Staples.

w27c A00006B2021JU30

Obituaries

Arthur Dickman



Arthur Raymond Dickman, 81, beloved father, grandfather, great-grandfather and great-great-grandfather died May 30, 2021, at his home in Two Rivers, Alaska.

A Celebration of Life service will be held July 17 at 2:00 p.m. at Pleasant Valley Community Center, 7234 Anders Ave., Fairbanks, AK 99712.

Art was born in Staples June 3, 1939 to Richard and Iris Dickman. On June 29, 1961 he married Phyllis LaValle, who was smitten with him since the first day she laid eyes on him on their elementary school bus. Together they brought their family to Two Rivers, AK in 1975, where they remained the rest of their lives.

Art was a machinist/mechanic by trade, but was so much more than that. He was a creative genius who taught himself the 'art' of welding and fabricating. There was nothing he could not build; from his own sawmill to a modified John Deere dozer with tires to use as a log skidder at the sawmill, a log loader, a boom truck with a dump box, a BBQ station for HC Price's raffle, a 1950-ish Bluebird bus he converted to a fully-equipped RV, a homemade tractor, a hustler commercial mower converted to a 6-wheeler dozer with independent suspension front, rear blades and a Subaru engine, an automated quilting machine, road safety rumble strip device made for HC Price back in the 80's. When he was not creating his stuff, he was rebuilding front end loaders and dozers, bringing them back to their former glory. His shop was his daughters' personal service station, where he spent hours keeping their vehicles running.

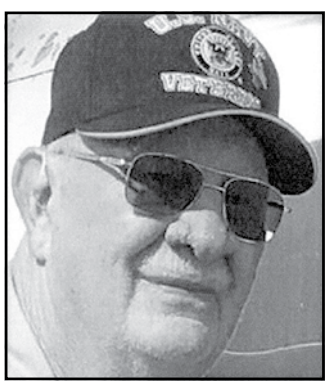
Art was a wonderful husband and father. He placed high expectations on family values, ensuring his family understood the importance and value of each other. If a family member were struggling, he would rally the troops (family) to support the needs of that family member. Together, they built and rebuilt houses for each other or gathered for weekly lunches to lift the mood of a family member in need.

Art is survived by six children, Danny (Debbie) Dickman, Richard (Sophia) Dickman, Tammy Rasmussen, Sherri (Jim) Soileau, Lisa (Allan) Coty, and Wanda (Jeff) Bezona; 19 grandchildren; 29 great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild, as well as countless in-laws, nephews, nieces and cousins.

Art is preceded in death by his wife, Phyllis Dickman; parents; all 12 of his siblings, as well as countless in-laws, nephews, nieces and cousins.

w27c A00006B2021JU30

Michael Johnson



Michael "Mike" Gervase Johnson, 79, Pearland, Texas passed away May 24, 2021 one week before his 80th birthday.

Services were held June 4 at South Park Funeral Home, Pearland.

Mike was born May 31, 1941 to Alfred and Gisella (Mayer) Johnson in Little Falls.

He was a member of the 1960 graduating class of Motley High School. After high school he joined the U.S. Navy and rose to the rank of First Class Petty Officer, serving from 1960 to 1971. He was stationed at Newport, RI, Whidby Island, WA and Rota, Spain. Upon leaving the military he continued to travel all over the world for many years as a Field Service Supervisor for Dresser-Rand until his retirement in 2007. He married Kay Stinson on Oct. 30, 1976. They were married for more than 40 years until her passing in 2017.

Mike never met a stranger. He was a master storyteller, with a smile and a joke always at the ready. He was funny and easygoing that he put everyone else at ease. Mike was a lifetime fan of anything to do with trains and the railroad. He was a huge fan of Kelley's Restaurant in Pearland, making sure that anyone visiting was also introduced to Kelley's, the Chinese Buffet or good Mexican food. He will be missed by many.

Mike is survived by two daughters, Virginia (Mark D. Terry) Gisella of Harrodsburg, KY and Kathleen (Divine Wright) Wilkinson of Baytown, TX; one son, Mickey Johnson of Pasadena, TX; two grandsons, Phillip Traver, Tylan Wilkinson-Hulse; two granddaughters, Stephanie Traver, Lilli Wilkinson-Hulse; great-granddaughter, Violet Traver-Stoess; two sisters, Gloria (Ebbie) Stone and Ardyce (Jeff) Sargent and numerous nieces and nephews.

Mike is preceded in death by his parents; wife, Kay; one brother, Lawrence Johnson; one sister, Germaine Miller; one nephew, Ralph Daigle, Jr. and one great-nephew, Jarvis Hartfiel.

w27p A00006B2021JU30

Jerdis Cerney



Jerdis Kay Cerney, 78, of Minneapolis passed away peacefully June 3, 2021.

A celebration of life will be held in Buffalo, ND at a later date.

Jerdis was born April 1, 1943 to August and Dora Buttke of Buffalo, ND.

She was an avid sports fan, with season tickets to the Twins, Lynx and Gopher basketball. She loved her walks on Nicollet Mall from 12th Street to 9th Street and stopping by the Dakota Jazz club to see shows.

Jerdis formerly lived in Staples for 15 years.

She is survived by one sister, Jayne Robinson and two sons, Del (Lisa and grandchildren Alicia and Madison) and Jon Cerney.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

w27p A00006B2021JU30

Staples Area Church Directory

Staples

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

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

Church of Christ
27343 490th St., Staples.....218-894-2609
Pastor Barry Klein
Facebook Live
Bible School (youth and adult).....9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship.....10:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY:
Teen Youth/Adults Bible Study .....7-8 p.m.

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

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

Sacred Heart Church
310 4th St. NE, Staples
Church.....218-894-2296
Pastor Fr. Gabriel Walz
Youth and Young Adult Ministry Coordinator:
Monica J. Simmons..... 218-414-0081 cell/text
MASS:
Thursday and Friday.....8:30 a.m..
Saturday .....5:00 p.m.
Sunday.....8:30 a.m.

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

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

Trinity Lutheran
1000 4th St., NE, Staples 218-894-2372
Rev. Robin Collins
Sunday Divine Service .....9:00 a.m.
Sunday School & Bible Class.....10:30 a.m.

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

Aldrich

Balsamlund Lutheran
19550 490th Street, Aldrich
Eric Clapp.....701-261-2394 (cell)
Sunday Worship.....8:15 a.m.
Sunday School .....8:30 a.m.

Cushing

Bethany Lutheran
25430 Bison Rd.Cushing, MN
320-749-2140
Pastor Carl Larson
Associate Pastor: Carleton Smee
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
Charles Mallory, Associate 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. Gabriel Walz
MASS:
Tuesday.....6:30 p.m,
Wednesday.....8:30 a.m..
Saturday .....7:00 p.m.
Sunday.....10:30 a.m.

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

Oylen

Oylen Alliance
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
Pastor Wayne Hoffert
Sunday School .....9:30 a.m
Sunday Worship..... 10:45 a.m./6 p.m.
WEDNESDAY PRAYER .....7:00 p.m.

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

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

Verndale

Verndale Alliance
109 NW Brown Street, Verndale, MN 56481
218-445-5619
Senior Pastor Tony Stanley
Heath Belknap, Pastor of Student Ministries
Sunday Worship.....9:30 a.m.
Sunday Bible Fellowship 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 Chuck Horsager, 218-639-4225
Sunday Worship ..... 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School ..... 10:30 a.m.

Leaf River Township

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

"Let's just get back to normal"

Pastor Don Reigstad, Lincoln Evangelical Free Church

"Let's just get back to normal."

We do seem to be getting there. We can see people's smiles again. Gatherings are not restricted to "family only". Businesses, like restaurants and gyms, are seeing profits again. Even graduation exercises are a true celebration without "social distancing".

We're getting back to normal - except for something close to my heart. Many are still remaining distant from their churches. It's time to "get back to normal" church again too. God says in His word, "…not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some but encouraging one another…" (Hebrews 10:25).

So, I encourage you today. Get back to your church. Meeting online is okay if you are sick, shut-in or seasonal. Meeting in-person is better. Your brothers and sisters in Christ need to see you in-person. God calls you to it. Let's get back to normal - in church as well.

The Staples area Church Directory is sponsored by these businesses:

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Motley and Pillager

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Staples, MN 218-894-1072

Staples Veterinary Clinic
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Staples, MN 218-894-1775

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

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218-894-1112

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Staples, MN 218-894-3299

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

w27c



June Fest Fun Run team participants

Staples-Motley Middle School fifth grade girl's basketball participants were challened as a team to enter and complete the 4 mile June fest Fun Run held June 19 in Motley. The girls and their strenth trainer, Tina Maros, along with two younger siblings all finished the race. The runners who crossed the finish line ahead of others would take a breather, then head back to pick up other teammates and run with them to the finsh. Above, left to right: Alyce Scheler, Jasmyne Hove, Jaida Holst, Clara Maros, Chloe Larson, Aleea Holst, Tina Maros (back), Caroline Hoppe, Lucy Maros and Brooklyn Winter. (Submitted photo)





Learning tennis

Local youth tennis players practiced shots during a camp in Staples June 15. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)







Fun Run one mile runners

Runners lined up for the second race of the day the one-mile June Fest Fun Run starting at 9:30 a.m. at Motley. (Submitted photo)







First to cross the finish line

Gage Bjerga and Shelby Wilds-Hemmerich were the first to cross the finish line of the four mile June Fest Fun Run. (Submitted photos)

Motley Fun Run results

The June Fest Fun Run was held in Motley June 19. The four mile run began at 8:30 a.m.; the one mile run began at 9:30 a.m.

Fun Run results include:

4 mile run - first place male: Gage Bjerga with a winning time of 28.00

4 mile run - first place female: Shelby Wilds-Hemmerich, 32:12

1 mile drawing winner: Jeremy Lewis.

Winners received a $50 gift card to 2-Tall Tavern.

A total of 93 runners participated in the Fun Run iincluding 36 four mile run/walkers and 57 one mile participants.

All runners recieved wooden medals, drawstring bags of goodies, fruit water and 1919 root beer.

High mortality is an inconvenient truth of nature

- o -
Inside the Outdoors



Mike Rahn

- o -

Humans, the dominant creatures on our planet, have come to expect virtually all of our offspring to survive. Modern medicine, and the post-natal care and attention we give them, have made it so. There are unfortunate exceptions—found chiefly in impoverished, under-resourced parts of the world—but these basically prove the rule that most newborns will survive their first year of life and well beyond.

But that's not the case with most wild creatures. With some exceptions, the probability of a newborn being an early casualty—from predation, disease, starvation, or another mortality factor—is high. Birds are among the most visible wild creatures whose lives intersect with ours, and they recently provided me with starkly contrasting examples of the uncertainties of offspring survival. Evidence, too, that the good fortune of survival is not evenly distributed.

I was returning home from an errand, slowing down as I often do when rounding a broad curve that follows the edge of "Twin Ponds," a wetland that—from spring through fall—is home to or visited by many kinds of ducks, Canada geese, tundra swans, herons, sandhill cranes, songbirds, and more. On the seat beside me was a camera with a telephoto lens. I've been known to decelerate to a slow crawl along the road's shoulder—my vehicle's hazard flashers on—scanning for anything photogenic within telephoto lens range.

Some creatures are extremely visible and stand out; a snow white tundra swan, for instance. Others are masters at being inconspicuous. But even so, there are tipoffs that can be picked up by an experienced eye. Like the unmistakable, statue-still silhouette of a great blue heron standing in the shallows, where it watches for any movement that spells opportunity for a lightning-quick stab with its dagger-like bill at a frog, a fish, or maybe even an immature muskrat.

Herons seem to be among the creatures least tolerant of human intruders, and this one took to the air as I brought my vehicle to a stop and attempted to aim the camera in its direction: too late. But with the ruckus of its departure and my sudden arrival, three tiny wakes appeared on the surface of the pond. I had also startled a hen hooded merganser and a pair of very small ducklings.

As I watched, mama and one of her young dove beneath the surface. This is the way that mergansers—the hooded species being one of three common to North America—feed, mostly on small fish, aquatic insects, mollusks, and the like. The two bobbed back up and began paddling away, heads turned to keep an eye on me, while the second youngster hustled in their direction to catch up.

I was struck by the fact that there were only two ducklings in the hen's company. I knew that a typical clutch of eggs for most ducks we see here in Minnesota is much larger. My bird reference books (I'm old-fashioned enough to still use them) say the typical clutch of eggs for a hooded merganser is 8-12. Most likely they were laid in a down-lined cavity in a tree somewhere in the vicinity of the pond, or perhaps the hen occupied a nesting box that was intended for a wood duck.

What surprised me was the scarcity of young, as I've more commonly seen hooded merganser hens with a half dozen young in tow, give or take. Some of her young could have been lost in the egg stage to a nest-raiding weasel, mink, crow, or even a snake, and young ducklings on the water fall victim to snapping turtles, herons, and bass or northern pike if they're present.

At the edge of this particular pond are several tall trees where I've often seen a bald eagle perched. Eagles are used to finding meals near water, where they commonly scavenge fish. I've also seen them take a harvested, motionless duck that was floating at the edge of a hunter's decoys, and on another occasion exhaust a wounded duck by forcing it to dive, and eventually capturing it. Eagles are even believed to be a factor limiting the reproductive success of some ducks in the East, like the seagoing eider. Whatever the causes, this hooded merganser had little to show for her efforts.

That same evening, descending the steps to the dock at the family cabin, a hen mallard surprised me with her squawks of alarm, as she and a gaggle of young erupted from where they were feeling in the shallows. I carefully counted 11 youngsters, several of them taking to the air and proving that they were fledged, while the rest created little wakes as they practically walked on water to put distance between them and me.

Mallards commonly lay clutches of 8-10 eggs, so this hen was clearly an over-achiever, or had somehow acquired one or more ducklings in addition to her own. More to the point, this demonstrated that the math that makes up the law of survival averages includes exceptions and outliers, just like this one. There's no guarantee that most of these young mallards will live to full adulthood, much less make the journeys south in fall and back north in spring, mate, and successfully produce offspring. But they have a good start.

More sobering are the survival numbers for some other wild creatures. It's believed that up to 90% of snapping turtle nests are found and destroyed by raccoons, mink, foxes or skunks. Fish, and even other snapping turtles, will eat many of those that do hatch and find their way to water. Only a quarter of the young robins that fledge will survive to November, when the time comes to migrate. And only about half the robins alive in one year will survive to the next.

According to data published by Pheasants Forever, only about 50 percent of pheasant nests produce any chicks, the rest raided and destroyed by raccoons, skunks, foxes, and feral cats; some are destroyed by agricultural practices, too. Of those nests of 12 or so eggs that do produce young, chick survival is about 50 percent, the losses commonly owing to predation by foxes, hawks, owls, as well as human activity, such as mowing of grassland cover before the young can mature.

And so it is with most wild creatures, their abundance dictated by an unsparing law of survival of the fittest, intertwined with the law of averages, and just enough chance and randomness thrown in to keep us guessing.

Notices

104 Give Away

TO GOOD HOME: Kittens, 218-839-4219. 27x

107 Notices

DROP OFF for scrap metals and appliances **ends Sept. 1, 2021** at CARDs, Warner Rd., Staples. 26tfc

Services & Employment

205 Help Wanted

208 Storage

209

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CENTRAL TODD COUNTY Care Center

cl25-28c

CENTRAL TODD COUNTY *Care Center*

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Central Todd County Care Center is located in Clarissa, MN

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MULTI FAMILY SALE: Fri., July 2 - Sat., July 3, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. daily. 966 Long Prairie Rd. SW, Staples. 27p

4-FAMILY ANNUAL GARAGE SALE: Yungbauer. 11870 Cty Rd 30, Staples. **Thurs., July 1, 4-8 p.m., Fri., July 2, 8 a.m.-8 p.m., Sat., July 3, 8 a.m.-1 p.m.** (bag sale). Tons of stuff. 27p

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Todd County Commissioners Minutes

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TODD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS April 20, 2021

Call to Order

The Todd County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Board Room in the City of Long Prairie, MN on the 20th day of April, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Becker. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. All Commissioners were present.

Approval of Agenda

On motion by Kneisl and sconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the agenda as presented.

Consent Agenda

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

To approve the Todd County Board of Commissioner's Meeting Minutes for April 6, 2021 as presented.

GAMBLING PERMIT – LITTLE SAUK AMERICAN LEGION POST #417

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners are establishing their approval for a Gambling Permit for the Little Sauk American Legion Post #417 through this resolution;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners approve a Gambling Permit for the Little Sauk American Legion Post #417 to hold gambling activities at the Thunder Lodge in Long Prairie Township at the address 22056 US 71, Long Prairie, MN effective April 20, 2021 until revoked or otherwise cancelled as provided by law.

GAMBLING PERMIT – NWTF STRUTTIN' BLACKBEARDS

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

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners approve a Gambling Permit for the NWTF Struttin' Blackbeards to hold a raffle event at the Thunder Lodge in Long Prairie Township at the address 22056 US 71, Long Prairie, MN on August 27, 2021.

To approve hiring Jaden Evenson to fill one of the vacant Public Works Summer Help positions for FY 2021.

To approve the resignation of Taylor Triebenbach effective April 9, 2021.

Auditor-Treasurer

On motion by Erickson and sconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve the Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 401170 through 401196 in the amount of $8,218.48 and (Regular) 54675 through 54724 in the amount of $84,443.38 for a total of $92,661.86.

On motion by Kircher and sconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve the Health & Human Services Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 801538 through 801610 and (Regular) 707708 through 707765 for a total amount of $82,721.82.

On motion by Neumann and sconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve the Health & Human Services SSIS Warrants number (ACH) 600377 through 600389 and (Regular) 516283 through 516313 for a total amount of $88,868.78.

Ditch/Ag Inspector

On motion by Kneisl and sconded by Kircher, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Acting as Ditch Authority acknowledges receipt of a Hold Harmless Agreement petition from Jeffery Lopez to clean a Section of CD15 on parcel 02-0023501, Bertha Township, Section 28.

Hands of Hope Resource Center

On motion by Kneisl and sconded by Kircher, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK, APRIL 18-24, 2021

WHEREAS being a victim of crime and navigating the criminal justice system can be a frightening and confusing experience;

WHEREAS progress in improving the treatment of crime victims has been made through the efforts of thousands of victims and survivors who have turned their own experiences into a force for positive change, ensuring that others can receive justice, meaningful assistance, and compassionate treatment before the law;

WHEREAS since the passage of the Victims of Crime Act of 1984, and through the dedicated work of advocates, lawmakers, and victim service providers, there is a growing array of services and resources available to victims and their loved ones;

WHEREAS honoring the rights of victims – including the rights to be heard and to be treated with fairness, dignity, and respect – and working to meet their needs rebuilds their trust in the criminal justice and social service systems;

WHEREAS individuals' trust in the compassion, understanding, and support of their communities is achieved through sustained, deep-rooted, and coordinated outreach;

WHEREAS identifying, reaching, and serving all victims of crime - especially those from groups that often have less access to healing services and avenues to justice - is essential;

WHEREAS our community's continued engagement with the challenges faced by victims of crime will ensure that the progress made to date is not lost, and that new ground is broken to gain greater justice and healing for all victims;

WHEREAS National Crime Victims' Rights Week provides an opportunity to recommit to ensuring that accessible, appropriate, and trauma-informed services are offered to all victims of crime; and

WHEREAS Hands of Hope Resource Center is hereby dedicated to supporting victims and survivors in the aftermath of crime, building trust among our clients; collaborating with other service providers, and engaging our community in response efforts;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Todd County Board of Commissioners do hereby proclaim the week of April 18-24, 2021 as

Crime Victims' Rights Week

Reaffirming Todd County's commitment to creating a victim service and criminal justice response that assists all victims of crime during Crime Victims' Rights Week and throughout the year; and expressing our sincere gratitude and appreciation for those community members, victim service providers, and criminal justice professionals who are committed to improving our response to all victims of crime so that they may find relevant assistance, support, justice, and peace.

County Extension

On motion by Kircher and sconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the attached three-year MOA between Todd County and the University of Minnesota Extension for local Extension programs.

Public Works

On motion by Kircher and sconded by Erickson, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

AWARD OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR 2021 HSIP PAVEMENT STRIPING PROJECT

WHEREAS, sealed bids were received on April 13, 2021 by the Todd County Public Works Director for SP 077-070-014, said projects for pavement striping work at various locations in Todd County, and;

WHEREAS, the following sealed bids were received:

Traffic Marking Services, Inc., Maple Lake, Minnesota, $158,978.46

AAA Striping Service Co., Saint Michael, Minnesota, $159,281.85

Sir Lines-A-Lot, Edina, Minnesota, $160,798.82

Century Fence Company, Forest Lake, Minnesota, $182,643.19

Warning Lites of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota, $245,749.14

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners does hereby accept and award the contract for the above said construction projects to Traffic Marking Services, Inc. of Maple Lake, Minnesota based on their low bid of $158,978.46.

On motion by Kircher and sconded by Kneisl, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

AWARD OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR 2021 PAVEMENT MARKING PROJECT

WHEREAS, sealed bids were received on April 13, 2021 by the Todd County Public Works Director for CP 77-21-03, said project for pavement markings located on various highways in Todd County, and;

WHEREAS, the following sealed bids were received:

AAA Striping Service Co., Saint Michael, Minnesota, $53,954.23

Traffic Marking Service, Inc., Maple Lake, Minnesota, $54,294.43

Sir Lines-A-Lot, LLC, Edina, Minnesota, $55,108.65

Fahrner Asphalt Sealers LLC, Plover, Wisconsin, $66,535.45

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners does hereby accept and award the contract for the above said construction projects to AAA Striping Service Co. of Saint Michael, Minnesota based on their low bid of $53,954.23.

On motion by Neumann and sconded by Erickson, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

AWARD OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR 2021 DUST CONTROL PROJECT

WHEREAS, sealed bids were received on April 13, 2021 by the Todd County Public Works Director for CP 77-21-08, said project for dust control located on various highways in Todd County, and;

WHEREAS, the following sealed bids were received:

Knife River Corporation, Sauk Rapids, Minnesota, $113,332.28

Allstates Pavement Recycling and Stabilization, Rogers, Minnesota, $113,431.87

EnviroTech Services, Greeley, Colorado, $124,486.25

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners does hereby accept and award the contract for the above said construction projects to Knife River Corporation of Sauk Rapids, Minnesota based on their low bid of $113,332.28.

Facilities Committee

On motion by Erickson and sconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the budgeted request to redo the roof of the Grandstand with the low bid of $16,253.44 by Miller Brothers Construction with the completion date of July 2, 2021.

A motion was made by Kircher to redo the exterior of the Food Stand building with steel at the low bid of $8,975.91 by the deadline of July 2, 2021 installed by Arnzen Construction. Motion failed due to lack of sconded.

A motion was made by Kneisl to tear down the Food Stand building and leave the water and electricity hookups at this site. Motion failed due to lack of scond.

On motion by Erickson and sconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by majority vote with Kircher against: To approve the budgeted request to redo the exterior of the Food Stand building with LP Smartside at the low bid of $11,502.84 by the deadline of July 2, 2021 installed by Miller Brothers Construction.

Veterans Services

On motion by Kneisl and sconded by Erickson, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

A RESOLUTION TO ENTER MNDVA GRANT AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, The Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs (MDVA) is again conducting the County Veterans Service Office Operational Enhancement Grant, and;

WHEREAS, The Todd County Veterans Service Office is eligible for the County Veterans Service Office Operational Enhancement Grant, and;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Todd County MN Board, that the County enter into the proposed Grant Contract with the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs (MNDVA) to conduct the following Program: County Veterans Service Office Operational Enhancement Grant Program. The grant must be used to provide outreach to the county's veterans; to assist in the reintegration of combat veterans into society; to collaborate with other social service agencies, educational institutions and other community organization for the purposes of enhancing services offered to veterans; to reduce homelessness among veterans; and to enhance the operations of the County Veterans Service Office, as specified in Minnesota Laws. This Grant should not be used to suppliment or replace other funding.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Todd County Board, that Pete Berscheit, the Todd County Veterans Service Officer, be authorized to execute the Grant Contract for the above mentioned program on behalf of the County.

Solid Waste

On motion by Kneisl and sconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the title change from Office Manager to Office Assistant - Solid Waste for the attached job description.

Planning & Zoning

On motion by Neumann and sconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To extend the application deadline by an additional 60 days (120 days total) for the Sunrise Estates Preliminary Plat to allow for additional review.

Health & Human Services

On motion by Kircher and sconded by Erickson, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING SUPPORT FOR SEEKING FUNDING FROM SOURCEWELL FOR A REGIONAL PROGRAM FOR AN INTENSIVE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE OPTION FOR YOUTH IN REGION 5

WHEREAS, Sourcewell, is providing community impact funding for the Cities and Counties in Region Five, and;

WHEREAS, The Social Service and Public Health agencies of Cass, Crow Wing, Morrison, Todd, and Wadena counties work to prevent intrusive residential treatment interventions, prevent truancy, prevent delinquency, deflect children from child welfare, want to support and stabilize youth's mental health and functioning, and support families in caring for their children with mental health issues, and;

WHEREAS, The service model of Collaborative Intensive Bridging Services focuses on strengthening parents by providing intensive mental health services for youth 8-17 years old in the family home and community, teaching coping skills, building supports, and limiting time out of the home for placement and;

WHEREAS, Collaborative Intensive Bridging Services has demonstrated positive outcomes and costs savings in other counties in Minnesota, and has increased youth's success and connectedness, and:

WHEREAS, Collaborative Intensive Bridging Services will increase the therapeutic skill level of county agency staff and therapeutic partner staff in Region 5; helping to build a stronger more stable workforce of professionals.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners approves Sourcewell innovative funding application submitted by Morrison County Social Services on behalf of Region V Counties of Cass, Crow Wing, Morrison, Todd and Wadena to collaborate with a professional non-profit organization that will build capacity within our communities to support families and children in need.

On motion by Kircher and sconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To authorize the hiring of one social worker to provide Children's Mental Health-Targeted Case management.

Jackie Och, HHS Director and Katherine Mackedanz, Community Health Manager provided an update to the County Board on the COVID-19 situation and vaccination availability.

Administration

On motion by Erickson and sconded by Kircher, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

ADOPTION OF CHANGES TO TODD COUNTY AWAIR MANUAL

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners has recognized a need for a strong, up to date safety policy, and;

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners and safety subcommittee have had an opportunity to review the policy revisions put forth in the AWAIR Manual and find the implementation to be in the best interest of the sound administration of the County;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Todd County Board of Commissioners adopts the attached changes to the Todd County AWAIR Manual and directs the County Coordinator to begin administration of said policy as of April 20, 2021 and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that it is understood that this Resolution replaces and supersedes all prior County Board actions, oral or written, relating to the subject matter hereof.

On motion by Kircher and sconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To authorize the grade adjustment for Chief Deputy Sheriff's Job Grade to Grade 16, Step 5 effective April 25, 2021.

Closed Session

Chairperson Becker closed the session at 10:14 a.m. pursuant to MN Statute §13D.05 Subd. 3(a) for the purposes of evaluating the performance of an individual subject to the Board's authority.

Department heads meeting with the County Board include:

Chris McConn, Solid Waste Director

Loren Fellbaum, Public Works Engineer

Adam Ossefoort, PZ/SWCD Division Director

Chris Odden, Assessor

Mitch Johnson, Facilities Supervisor

Pete Berscheit, Veterans Services Officer

Jackie Och, HHS Director

Chairperson Becker reopened the session at 1:10 p.m. and informed that all department head reviews were found satisfactory.

County Auditor-Treasurer's Report

The County Auditor-Treasurer reported that the ISD 2170 Staples Motley Special Election held on April 13, 2021 resulted in the unsuccessful passage of a bond referendum.

County Coordinator's Report

The County Coordinator provided an update regarding the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Federal Funding and that the county is waiting for guidance from the US Treasury to move forward. A message was also shared with the Townships what an estimated amount of this funding may be.

Adjourn

On motion by Neumann and sconded by Kneisl, the meeting was adjourned for the month of May 2021.

COMMISSIONER WARRANTS

Vendor Name	$ Amount
ALLIED 100	$2,490.00
AMERICAN SOLUTIONS FOR BUSINESS	5,847.62
ARC ELECTRIC SERVICE	6,910.25
CARGILL SALT DIVISION	25,905.17
MCIT	2,500.00
MORRIS ELECTRONICS	2,191.45
MORRISON CO DEPT OF PUB WORKS	16,114.95
QUALITY LOGO PROD.	4,188.79
STAPLES WORLD	4,867.62
STREICHER'S	2,569.99
67 PAYMENTS LESS THAN $2,000	19,076.02
Total	**$92,661.86**

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES WARRANTS

Vendor Name	$ Amount
V #15478 - COST EFF. HEALTH INSURANCE	$2,968.38
ITEN FUNERAL HOME - BROWERVILLE	3,850.00
RURAL MN CEP INC	14,786.59
TODD COUNTY SHERIFF	3,132.98
127 PAYMENTS LESS THAN $2,000	57,983.87
Total	**82,721.82**

Vendor Name	$ Amount
#16413	2,311.36
CENTRAL MN MENTAL HEALTH CTR	2,500.00
#15998	4,346.51
COMMUNITY AND FAMILY SRVS LLC	3,510.00
#14593	3,867.56
GERARD TREATMENT PROGRAMS	12,485.18
HOLISTIC FAMILY EDUCATION SRVS	2,271.05
NORTHERN PINES MENTAL HLTH CTR INC	19,644.00
#16668	4,013.26
STEP	6,078.92
#16109	2,036.08
PAYMENTS LESS THAN $2,000	25,804.86
TOTAL	**$88,868.78**

On a motion by Neumann and seconded by Erickson, the preceding minutes of the County Board meeting held April 20, 2021 were duly approved by unanimous vote at the Todd County Board of Commissioners at the Regular Board Meeting held on May 4, 2021..

Witness my hand and seal:

Barbara Becker,
County Board Chairperson

Denise Gaida, Todd County Auditor-Treasurer

27pnc

Staples World

Staples World newspaper advertising and copy **DEADLINE** is **Wednesday, June 30 by 4 p.m.** for the **July 7** issue (4th of July week)



Classifieds: office@staplesworld.com
Copy: editor@staplesworld.com
224 4th St. NE, Staples, MN, 218-894-1112



Motley Lions' parade float

Konrad Alexander of Motley gave the Motley Lions a lift with his restored tractor at the June Fest Parade in Motley June 19. The Lions were one of several organizations that had a float at the annual event.



Memories of Motley High School Rockets

Members of the Motley Historical Society (MHS) participated in the June Fest Parade, with their float featuring memorabilia from Motley High School. MHS members pictured includes Gayle and Bruce Quinn, Marinell Philipp and Florence Berndt.



Grand Marshals

Motley Mayor Al Yoder and his wife, Hope Yoder, served as Grand Marshals at this year's June Fest Parade in Motley. There were dozens of entries at the parade, including firetrucks, vintage vehicles, horses; and community service groups aboard floats.



Monkeying around

There were plenty of fun activities available to young people at Converse Park during Motley's annual June Fest celebration, June 19. Pictured at the park's monkey bars are Josiah Gold (left) and Ezra Amundson, both of Motley.



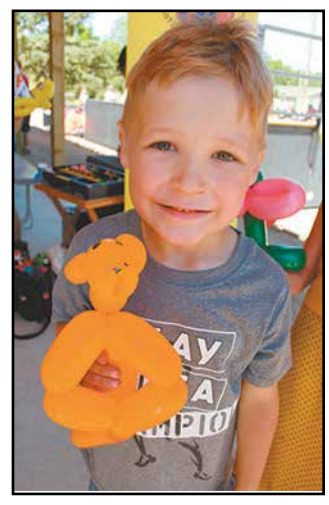
Fun at the Motley Fair

Finn Skerrett of St. Paul, seven, enjoyed walking through the animal barn at the Motley Fair June 19. The hot weather seemed to have made the pigs a bit sleepy.

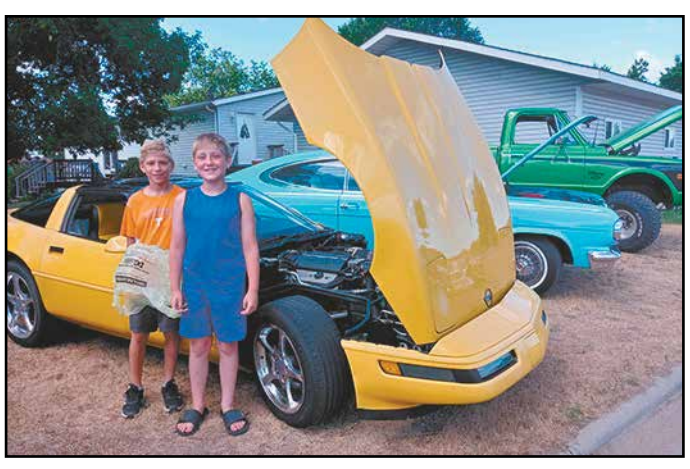
Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs



With their balloon creations



The Decker cousins from Motley each took home a balloon creation from the June Fest celebration, the handiwork of balloon artist David Olson (BalloonArtist.net) who entertained children at the event. Pictured above, from left, are Unity, Rachel, Sierra, Renae and Abigail Decker. At left, holding his monkey balloon, is Christopher Decker.



Vintage car fans

Cousins Matthew Watson of Mississippi (left) and Owen Dahlvang of Ft. Ripley enjoyed looking at some vintage vehicles on display on their way to the recent June Fest parade in Motley. The boys were visiting their grandparents, Don and Mary Duberowski of Motley.

Mark Your Calendar

July 6

Ruby's Pantry is held on the first Tuesday of each month at the parking lot of Central Lakes College in Staples beginning at 6 p.m.

Old Time Dance is held the first Tuesday of every month at the Wadena VFW. For information, call 218-639-0132.



Daniel Douts, Agent
812 4th Street NE
Staples, MN 56479
Bus: 218-894-1717
daniel.douts.f27q@statefarm.com

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Do you enjoy helping others? Would you like to earn money while doing so? **The Swift County DAC is currently seeking full time Direct Support Professionals (DAC) to join our team** working with individuals living with intellectual/developmental disabilities. We offer rewarding work, weekday hours, and a benefit package. At the Swift County DAC we train people just like you to support others in living full and productive lives through work and daily enrichment activities at our center and throughout our community. Must have a valid drivers' license and pass a background study.

Call (320) 843-4201 with questions, stop by 2105 Minnesota Ave, Benson, MN 56215 or email alethea@swiftcountydac.org for an application.



