



Photo by Dawn Timbs

Wednesday, February 17, 2021

Staples, Minnesota

\$1

Staples World

NYC food crew

Staples Alliance Church youth group will be attending NYC Culture Camp July 10 - 15, a cross-cultural experience for high school students. The group held a 'sweetheart lunch' on Valentine's Day as a fundraiser. Pictured from left, Brad Anderson, Keller Anderson, Staci Schultz, Isaiah Schultz, Ashley Robben, Corey Robinson (cook), Aften Robinson, Alina Robinson, Kathy Robben, Bobbe Anderson, Gretchen Bestland. Missing from the photo are Leah Bestland and Grace Jennissen.

Weather

This Week's Forecast

	High	Low	Cond.
Feb. 17	9°	-5°	Cloudy
Feb. 18	15	-8	M. Cloudy
Feb. 19	14	-4	M. Sunny
Feb. 20	18	8	Sunny
Feb. 21	25	15	P. Cloudy
Feb. 22	35	25	M. Sunny
Feb. 23	32	17	M. Sunny

Last Year, 2020

	High	Low	Cond.
Feb. 17	29°	18°	Cloudy
Feb. 18	10	6	P. Cloudy
Feb. 19	9	-17	Sunny
Feb. 20	17	-25	Sunny
Feb. 21	38	11	Sunny
Feb. 22	40	4	Sunny
Feb. 23	37	27	Sunny

Average Temps:
H = 28° Low = 9°
Total Snow:
For week: 0"
For year: 32.25"

Compiled by
Dale Hausmann,
WCCO's Staples area
Weatherwatcher

Family loses home in fire

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

Fire destroyed the home of Tracy Thompson and her son, Travis Eisel, of Staples, the night of Feb. 10. Thankfully, the two were able to escape the blazing inferno. "It's surreal," Eisel, 20, said the next day, as he looked at the shell of their house on Wisconsin Ave. SE, the place they'd called 'home' for the past 15 years or so. He was the one who was alerted to the fire, Eisel went on. It was around 10:30 p.m. and he'd only been home from work a short while. His mom was asleep downstairs and he decided to make some pizza rolls. That's when he heard the alarm. Eisel remembers looking over the balcony of their split-foyer home and seeing the flames in the basement where his mom's room was. He yelled for his mom and proceeded to call 911, while holding one of their dogs, Sparky, in his arms. Thompson wonders what would have happened if Travis had not gotten home when he did, because she was sound asleep and hadn't heard the alarm at all. She recalls hearing her son yell, "Fire, fire!" which woke her up. It all happened so fast, See **FIRE** on page 10a



Soldiers part of the Quick Response Force in D.C.

Minnesota National Guard members of the 682nd Engineer Battalion from Camp Ripley are pictured in front of the Capitol in Washington D.C. The soldiers were deployed to the Capitol City during the inauguration of President Joe Biden. Motley native Blayne Dumpprope (front row, 6th from left) spent nearly three weeks in D.C., part

of the Quick Response Force (QRF). Others pictured are (last names only) Wells, Stommes, Rosckes, Beckman Harelson, Robb Phillips, Minor, Boser, Houser, Howard Clark, Haligan, Kulla, Ellingson. (Submitted photo)

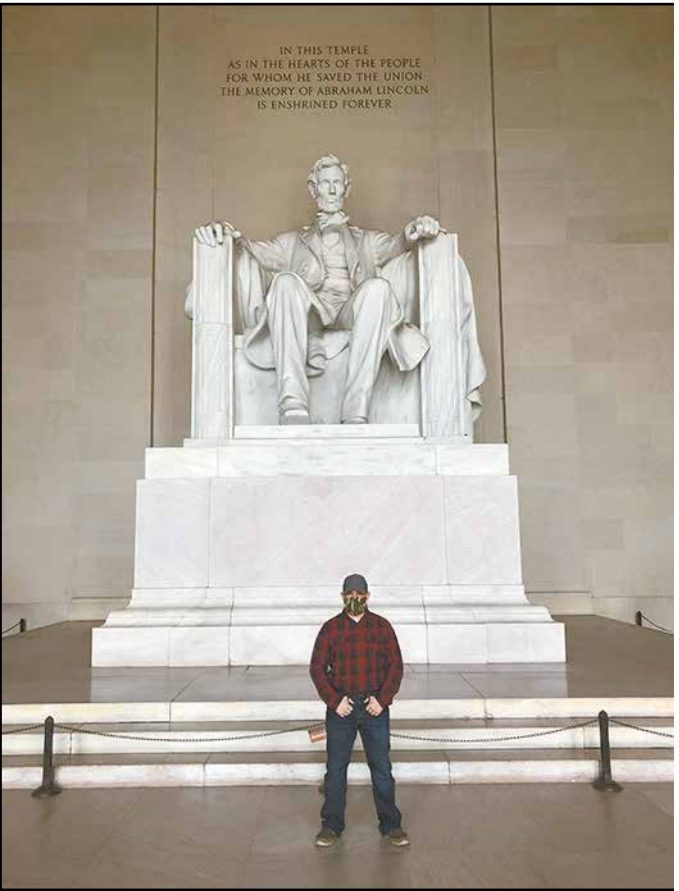
Motley soldier home after deployment to Washington D.C.

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

Minnesota Army National Guard soldier Blayne Dumpprope, Motley, recently returned after a nearly three-week deployment to Washington D.C., providing support during the inauguration of President Joe Biden. Dumpprope, 20, spoke with the Staples World shortly upon returning to Minnesota Feb. 7. A member of the 682nd Engineer Battalion from Camp Ripley, Dumpprope was part of the Quick Response Force (QRF), he said. That means the soldiers have riot gear on and are ready to go within a few minutes notice, Dumpprope said. His battalion flew into Washington D.C. on Jan. 18, two days before the Inauguration ceremony, joining soldiers from around

the nation. In total, there were 26,000 Army National Guard Members deployed, with 2,400 being from Minnesota. As part of the QRF, soldiers were typically scheduled for 12-hour shifts each day. Sometimes it entailed pulling night shifts as well. Dumpprope described sitting on a bus dressed in his riot gear, ready to jump into the midst of things if trouble started. Every few hours, their battalion would do training exercises. He did not witness any riots during his deployment, Dumpprope said. After their first week in D.C., the majority of soldiers were sent home, he went on. Those who volunteered to stay on for two more weeks had the opportunity to do some sightseeing. Dumpprope was one who volunteered to stay on and shared that he appreciated the opportunity to see

a number of historic sites, including the Lincoln and George Washington Memorials, the Capitol Building and Arlington National Cemetery. "It was a very cool experience," he said. As he reflected on his time in Washington D.C., Dumpprope said he is grateful for the good leadership that was in place. He mentioned two that stood out to him including Capt. Aldrich and First Sgt. Wells. Dumpprope went on to say that his unit was able to stay at a Holiday Inn, which he felt fortunate about. He credited this to the pandemic and social distancing measures in place. Now back home, Dumpprope recently began a new job at Fort Ripley as a mechanic. He is a 2019 graduate of Staples-Motley High School and the son of Lonny and Cathi Dumpprope of Motley.



By the Lincoln Memorial

Motley native Blayne Dumpprope was able to do some sightseeing following his recent deployment to Washington D.C. He is pictured in front of the Lincoln Memorial. (Submitted photo)

Public Notices

Todd Invasive Species: 9A

Obituaries

Louise Borstad
Randy Jenkins
Louise Wiebesick



Thank you for subscribing!

Vaccinating the hopeful: the drive-through process at Lakewood Health System

From Lakewood Health System

Only in rural Minnesota will you find a fish house being used in the middle of winter, in the middle of a clinic parking lot, for something far from ice fishing. But desperate times call for desperate, or rather, innovative, measures. Since early fall of 2020, Lakewood Health System has used a parked fish house as a drive-through COVID-19 testing site in their Staples and Browerville clinic parking lots. Clinic nursing and patient access staff work out of the fish houses, so patients can drive up for their scheduled test and not have to leave their vehicle.

While the fish houses are still being used for COVID testing, since mid-January 2021, the Staples fish house has also been repurposed to distribute the COVID-19 vaccine to essential caregivers and those 65 years of age and above, who are part of the Minnesota Department of Health's priority list. As of Feb. 4, Lakewood has had the opportunity to give approximately 950 people their first dose of the COVID vaccine.

Allocation and distribution of the vaccine from the federal and state governments has been slow and disorderly, causing frustration for healthcare facilities as well as patients and community members. In contrast, Lakewood has created a well-planned and facilitated process for distributing whatever allocated vaccine doses we receive. And according to patients and staff alike, it's working very well.

"This is only the third day we're giving the vaccine, but the response we've been getting from patients is overwhelming," said Lakewood clinic lead

RN, Amanda Wensmann. "Some people have brought us hand and foot warmers because they think we're cold when they see us running around outside. They don't know that seeing them so grateful and happy keeps us all warm," said clinic LPN, LaManda Nurnberger.

"And the cookies," chimes in clinic LPN, Jody Yeager. And sure enough, on the counter in the fish house are packages of both store-bought and homemade cookies, given in appreciation of what this clinic team has been doing for patients and the community. Between cars, the fish house team chats and grabs a cookie (or two) as they sing aloud to music and prepare the information packets and supplies for the approximately 150 people they will vaccinate in the next two hours.

In preparation for each vaccination day, patient access staff call patients on Lakewood's wait list to ask a few questions and schedule their appointment time. The process takes about 10 minutes per patient, and with approximately 300 people to schedule each day, the team is busy. Once the appointments are scheduled, the team prepares a packet for each patient with consent forms and information about the vaccine. (Lakewood has distributed both the Pfizer and Moderna vaccine.)

The day of the vaccinations, all the patient packets, along with vaccine supplies are brought out to the fish house, which accommodates roughly six nursing and patient access team members (and one writer). All are dressed for the Minnesota winter with hats, boots, coats and smiles, the latter of which are hidden beneath their prerequisite

masks.

Two Rural Physician Associate Program (RPAP) students in their third year of medical school at the University of Minnesota – Duluth wear bright orange and black insulated jumpsuits along with their winter accessories. Their job during the vaccination process is to help direct cars and answer patient questions.

"We get a lot of questions about the vaccination process, and a few about the vaccine itself, but overall, it feels like the underlying feeling behind everyone's questions is 'hope'," said RPAP students Kaitlyn Anderholm and Cassidy Peterson. "People want to leave their homes once in a while; they want to feel a little safer, and just hug their families. While we can't tell them exactly when they'll be able to do any of those things, they're happy to be getting the vaccine because it's kind of the next step in the right direction."

Staff in the fish house keep an eye out the window and when they see cars in line, a patient access member steps out the door and waves them ahead. Once patients arrive in front of the fish house, staff identify them, ask in which arm they'd like the shot, and then return to the fish house for their packet. Next, one of the three LPNs grab the packet, along with the pre-prepped alcohol swab, needle and Band-Aid, and head out the door.

"The driver is Larry and he wants the shot in his left arm. The passenger is Julieann and she wants her shot in the left arm too, so she's rearranging to get ready for you," is, with name substitutions, a commonly heard exchange between staff in the fish house. While most patients



Outdoor health service at LHS

Left, Lakewood Health System Patient Access Supervisor Jen Hjelmstad gets information from Larry and Juliann Fleisher as they check in to the drive through vaccine clinic. Right, LPN Jody Yeager gives Larry his vaccine. Medical students from the Rural Physician Associate Program (RPAP) help direct customers to through the process. (Submitted photos)

receive their vaccination without leaving their vehicle, some prefer to get out to remove a coat or just for comfort; the choice is theirs.

While the vaccinations are being done outside, inside, the patients' vaccine information is being added to their chart in Lakewood's electronic medical record (EMR) by the lead RN. If anything in the process is missing or needs to be changed, a patient access team member inside the clinic is an instant message or phone call away. They will print whatever is needed and someone from the fish house runs in to grab it. Even the potential issues in the process have a plan.

After receiving their vaccination, patients are told to pull around to a designated parking area and wait 15 minutes before leaving the grounds. If they have

any questions or concerns during that time, they're directed to honk their horn and one of the RPAP students will come over. From start to finish, the process takes about 20 minutes, with the 15-minute waiting period at the end taking the most time. Everything is overseen by emergency medical services (EMS) staff, sitting nearby in an ambulance, should an emergent situation arise.

"We're excited to be here!" said community members Larry and Juliann Fleisher as they waited their turn in line. One of many common statements heard from patients, along with smiles, waves, and of course, their thanks. "We're taking care of our community, not just our patients. Our mission is to provide healthcare to everyone, not just those who normally receive care from us," said Lakewood

Director of Clinics and Access, Missy Lindow.

For those 65-plus who have not received their vaccination but would like to be added to the wait list, call 218-894-1515 and choose option #2. As Lakewood is allocated more doses, we will continue to schedule those on the wait list, which sits at about 900 people as of Feb. 2, and increases daily.

Excitement, thankfulness, and ultimately, hope, are shared by both patients and staff as the vaccination process continues at Lakewood. It's a bright spot in the midst of the winter cold and gloom, and the nearly year-long pandemic which has hit so many. We don't know when things will be back to 'normal', but until that time comes, Lakewood's team will happily continue to vaccinate the hopeful.

Motley Police Department, Morrison County Sheriff's Office

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

Feb. 4 - 10

Feb. 9 - The MPD responded to a structure fire at 161 Harrison St. W., Motley, assisting with extinguishing flames until the officer's extinguisher was empty. The Motley Fire Department arrived on scene shortly after and extinguished the rest. The building owner and renters were all on scene. No people

or animals were inside. The fire was likely to have started from an electrical source in the living room.

Feb. 9 - The MPD stopped by three residences in Motley in regard to Ordinance violations.

Feb. 8 - The MPD assisted state patrol with a one vehicle accident that occurred on the Crow Wing River bridge on Hwy 210 just east of Motley. The vehicle had hit the guardrail and was

longer operable and the airbag had deployed. The driver was not located on scene and after checking local businesses, the MPD was not able to locate the driver.

Feb. 5 - 8 - The MPD issued hands-free citations to Alan Berglund, 54; Debbie Mertens, 54.

Feb. 5 - 6 - The MPD issued speeding citations to Halle Elliott, 19; Stacey Heising, 49; Tanya Landwehr, 47.

Feb. 4 - The MPD responded to a report of a stop sign that had been knocked over at the intersection of Beaulieu St. and Hwy 10 in Motley. It appeared to have been hit by the trailer tires of a semitruck. The MPD moved the sign off of the roadway and notified MnDOT that the sign needed to be re-erected.

Feb. 4 - The MCSO received a call from Todd County requesting Motley

Fire to provide mutual aid at a house fire at 122 Wisconsin Ave SE in Staples.

Feb. 7 - The MCSO received a report of a house that was fully engulfed in fire at 30080 Birch Ln., Motley. The responding deputy said there was not much left of the trailer house. Scandia Valley Fire responded and put the fire out. The cause of the fire is unknown.

WELCOMING HOME TO MOTLEY...



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Beautiful daughter of Lacole & Gavin
Born 1/16/21 in Staples.

TO STAPLES...



River
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Looking back

75 YEARS Ago - 1946
• Feb. 14, 1946 - Today, and during the balance of this weekend, Red Owl will celebrate the Grand Opening of its new super food market in the remodeled Hoernberg building located at the corner of Fourth Street and Second Avenue. The reconstruction of this property has been under way for some time and since it involved the remodeling of two buildings in order to accommodate Red Owl's requirements for a new 50 by 80 super market, many architectural changes were

Compiled by Dawn Timbs

necessary.
This new super food market will open at 9 a.m. Feb. 14, and the Red Owl folks predict that you will not recognize the former buildings. Willis Fuder is the manager of Red Owl.
• Feb. 14, 1946 - The monthly meeting of the Staples Civic and Commerce Association will be held at the banquet room of the St. Charles hotel Tuesday evening, Feb. 19, at 6:30. A fine program has been arranged for the evening.
• Feb. 14, 1946 - Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Johnson returned to Staples Saturday, Feb. 9, after having spent two weeks visiting their son, Lt. Wesley R. Johnson, and Mrs. Johnson, at Boca Raton, Florida since Jan. 21.
Lt. and Mrs. Johnson accompanied them on their return trip and will be in Staples about 20 days visiting relatives and friends.
A total of over 4,000 miles was made, and Mr. and Mrs. Johnson state that the climate was very wonderful, but that they were glad to get back to Minnesota, and especially to Staples again.

50 YEARS Ago - 1971
• Feb. 18, 1971 - The Cardinal Wrestlers of Staples high school annexed the championship of the Mid-State Conference at the mat tourney held in Aitkin last

Saturday.
It was the fourth consecutive year that the Cardinals have dominated the field in the conference.
Staples finished with four individual champions, Mike Roberts, Gordy Thompson, Loren Bendson and Wayne Shequen. Staples had a team total of 125 points; Wadena placed second with 101.
• Feb. 18, 1971 - Seventeen young people from the area filled out applications last Sunday to become Staples First Cadet Squadron in the Civil Air Patrol, Dr. R. H. Watkins, squadron commander, said following the meeting attended by nearly 50 persons at the Staples Municipal Airport.
Those enrolled as Cadets are Scott Case, Jeffrey Nagel, Terry Guelker, Curtis Neal, Leigh Mayer, Robert Polley, Scott Miller, Dean Schroeder, Mike Thelen, Cliff Thelen, Elliot Yeske, all of Staples; Peggy Hutchison, Dee Ann Hutchison, June Hutchison, Douglas Gold and Curt Jorgenson of Motley; and Ron Salber, Browerville.
These Cadets, under the leadership of Ken LeVasseur, held their first meeting Feb. 16.
• Feb. 18, 1971 - Fourteen members of the Class of 1971 at Staples high school were honored Thursday morning, Feb. 11, through their initiation into membership of the National Honor Society.
The new members initiated into the society were John Kirk, Patricia Nagel, Linda Worden, Carol Lenk, Julie Germann, Dianna Rudolph, Curtis Neal, Deborah Adamek, Bruce Dyer, Ronald Motl, Mark Penfield, Linda Winter, Kay Schroeder and Herb Greenwood.
The seven members of the NHS who were initiated last May, performed the induction ceremonies, namely Stephen Van Buren, Rhea Weber, Audrey Dickman, Ronald Salber, Julie Miller, Julie Bredemeier and Guy Doud.

25 YEARS Ago - 1996
• Feb. 15, 1996 - The Staples Motley High School National Honor Society



Mystery photo

Hello readers. This week's archive photo is from our March 16, 1978 edition. Do you know who these people are and perhaps the context of the photos? Email your answers and where you are from to dtimbs@staplesworld.com by Friday morning, or call 218-894-1112. The answers will be published in next week's paper, as well as a new mystery photo.

chapter held its annual induction ceremony Feb. 7, selecting 13 new seniors as members and 9 juniors.
The eight current NHS members, who were inducted a year ago as juniors, conducted this year's induction ceremony. They include Lori Rothstein, Sarah Aufer, Chris Lorentz, Mindy Olander, Craig Kaste, Leif Storbakken, Erin Garey and Jason Becker.
New seniors inducted this year are Eric Kramer, Bonnie Haehnel, Corey Henrickson, Skip Brenny, Carrie Honek, Nancy Holm, Christina Gallant, Kari Baker, Krista Hayenga, Rachel Jackson, Mike Rollins, Tom Brichacek and April Jares.
New juniors announced last Wednesday included Chris Schock, Lori Pierce, Malcolm Gold, Lisa Detloff, Erik Kelly, Steve Hoernberg, Julie Vogel, Penny Knosalla and Jeff Joerger.
• Feb. 15, 1996 - Winners of excellent and superior ratings at the Dilworth, Glyndon Felton speech meet last weekend included Maria Brenny, Chris Schock, Monica Weber, Scott Smith,

Melissa Miles and Brandi Hoppenrath.
• Feb. 15, 1996 - Fifteen-year-old Jennifer Tepley of Sylvan Shores, a sophomore at Staples Motley High School, was in Los Angeles Jan. 20 - 27 pursuing her dream of becoming an actress and dancer. She was invited to go with a group of 20 young people after a Minneapolis audition.
Included in a report she submitted to the World, Jennifer shared that "What a shock to us Minnesota natives arriving in California with sunny skies and a temperature of 70 degrees! At home we were cleaning out from the worst winter storm of '96.
We had to adjust rather quickly for our days were spent in a fast-paced schedule of early rising, breakfast, preparation and a meeting with our agents before heading to our five-to-eight interviews, auditions, workshops and training seminars...on our last night in Los Angeles were surprised with a speaker and personal audition with casting director Donald Finn, who is known for movies like John Grisham's "The Client."
10 YEARS Ago - 2011
• Feb. 17, 2011 - Mark Alan Woodworth has been charged in a series of recent burglaries in the Staples area. Woodworth, 47, lists his address as Champlain, but police said he has been living in Staples.
• Feb. 17, 2011 - A trip to Morocco gave Staples Motley High School graduate Britta (Binek) Kolodziej a chance to experience the language and culture of the North African country. As a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar, she was able to stay with a host family for three months last summer and travel to different parts of the country.
• Feb. 17, 2011 - Three Jewish widows celebrate their friendship in "The Cemetery Club," presented by Lamplighter Community Theatre Feb. 25 - 26 and March 3 - 5 at Landmark Inn, in Staples.
Cast members include Pam Collins, Jean Hayenga, Dawn Timbs, Lee Paskewitz and Cassandra Magers. The play is directed by Amy Hunter.



Mystery solved

Last week's mystery photo, published in the Feb. 8, 1996 edition of the Staples World, was taken at the Staples Area Health Foundation Dinner Auction. Pictured standing are Jayme Hajek (left) and Sarah Bach offering guests a close-up view of a print by Rose Edin, one of many items auctioned off that evening. Seated at the table, from left, are Dr. Bill and Helen Mennis; and Delores and Art Manning. A total of just over \$10,000

was raised that evening.
Sally Grove of Staples correctly identified Dr. Bill Mennis and his wife, Helen Mennis. Judy Wolak and Lori Bates, both of Staples correctly identified both the Mennis and Manning couples, as well as the Rose Edin painting being auctioned off. Bates thought it might be a Dollars for Scholars event. Thanks for participating in our Mystery Photo.

Vehicle hits horse, juvenile driver injured

On Feb. 9, at approximately 10:10 p.m., the Wadena County Sheriff's Office received a report of a one vehicle crash with injuries. The 911 caller indicated that a vehicle had hit a horse and the driver of the vehicle was injured.
Deputies responded to the area of County Road 23 near County Road 4 in Aldrich Township. A Pontiac Grand AM that was northbound on County Road 23 had struck a horse that was in the roadway. The juvenile driver of the

car received injuries in the crash and was transported to the hospital by ambulance.
The juvenile driver was wearing a seat belt at the time of the crash. The horse that was struck was deceased upon the arrival of deputies.
The Wadena County Sheriff's Office was assisted on scene by the Verndale Police Department, Verndale Fire Department, Tri-County Ambulance and John's Car Care Towing.

Todd County Health & Human Services

is currently scheduling Todd County residents aged 65 and over for COVID-19 vaccine appointments.

Residents who would like to schedule an appointment should call 320-732-4500, and press option 1, on Fridays between the hours of 12 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Understand that there is limited vaccine available each week. Residents are encouraged to call in on Friday afternoons to verify the status of Todd County's vaccine clinic schedule.

School board prepares for referendum meetings

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

The Staples-Motley School Board discussed the school's communication strategy for the building referendum. The plan will start with information packets to be mailed out and continue with community meetings Feb. 23 and 24, 2021.

The board is asking taxpayers to approve a \$64.4 million building referendum, with the vote to be held April 13.
At a work session held Feb. 8, the board made plans to have at least two board members at each of the open house meetings, Tuesday, Feb. 23 from noon-1:30 at Scandia Valley Town Hall and 6-7:30 p.m. at the Early Education Center in Motley. Wednesday, Feb. 24 meetings will be held from noon-1:30 p.m. at Leader Community Hall and 6-7:30 p.m. at Staples-Motley High School. The public is invited to attend any of the meetings at any time, as it will be an open house style of meeting. Several displays will be set up to highlight different aspects of the school's building proposal.

At the work session, the board heard from Todd Rapp, the communications specialist who works with ICS, the building consultants hired by the school for this process.
Rapp went over some of the common questions the board members are likely to hear at the community meetings. Typically, the meetings bring up questions about what new buildings will do to improve education, said Rapp. He also said the school will want to explain the value the school has gotten from past investments, including operating levies and building investments.
Rapp said the public will want to know how the proposal is in the best interest for the students in the district and how it will be fair for taxpayers.

The project will have many questions about cost. Rapp said many people ask why a school building costs this much to build or renovate. The answer is that a school has more building standards for education, health and safety.
One of the questions the public will likely ask is if the school should have spent more to maintain the old buildings. He said the school has made those investments, but there also is a point where major investments are needed to meet educational and safety needs.
Rapp said people could ask why there isn't a final design, as the project is presented in drawings and proposed changes. He said the referendum has to pass before the school can pay an architect for the final drawings.
The amount of tax increase is also a common question. District residents can look up their tax increase at the school's web site, SMTIMEtoRISE.com, or learn more at the informational meetings.

Rapp said there could be questions about what the pandemic has done to the building discussion, including asking why are new buildings needed when students were able to work from home for part of the year? What the pandemic actually revealed is the opposite, said Rapp. "It has shown that we need buildings now more than ever before, face to face has become that important," he said.
Since the school board is proposing the building referendum, Rapp said they are the ones the public wants to hear from while deciding on how to vote. "They have more knowledge, they have an obligation to explain why this is needed," said Rapp.

COVID-19 bouncing back in Staples, Wadena

COVID-19 has increased in Staples the past two weeks, according to statistics from the Minnesota Department of Health. Ten new cases were reported in the Staples zip code for the week before Feb. 11, after recording six new cases the previous week. The Staples area had gotten down to two cases in the week of Jan. 28.
The Wadena area also is increasing with six new cases, and Browerville went from one to four in consecutive weeks.
Other area communities recorded lower numbers,

Motley had three and Long Prairie had one. There were no new cases detected in Pillager or Verndale. This was the third straight week that Verndale showed no new cases.
County numbers show the same trend, with Wadena County and Todd County increasing in new cases, while every other county in the area was lower than the previous week.
Wadena County recorded 29 new cases in the past week, while Todd County had 20.

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Due North - Minnesota's new education plan

Minnesota Governor Tim Walz announced the Due North Education Plan, an agenda for the future of education in Minnesota.

“As a former classroom teacher for over 20 years, I’ve seen firsthand how a high-quality education shapes students’ lives for years to come,” said Governor Walz. “The Due North Education Plan guides us toward a future where every child receives a high-quality education, no matter their race or zip code.”

Components of the plan includes:

Meet the Needs of Students During and After the COVID-19 Pandemic

- Continue to support schools as they navigate the pandemic while prioritizing in-person learning for as many students as safely possible.
- Expand academic opportunities and mental health services to support every student in summer 2021 and through the following school year.
- Provide a one-time investment to ensure pandemic enrollment loss does not negatively impact students’ priorities.

Every Student Receives a World-Class Education

- Ensure academic standards address the modern needs of the workforce, are inclusive of ethnic studies, and are reflective of students of color and Indigenous students.
- Expand early learning

opportunities and ensure the social-emotional and academic needs of early learners are met.

- Expand access to out-of-school opportunities.
- Reimagine the high school experience to increase career and college readiness.

Every Student Learns in a Safe and Nurturing Environment

- Focus on student relationship-building and center discipline on growth, not punishment.
- Build the necessary supports for students around mental health and social and emotional learning.
- Strengthen community and school partnerships to meet the needs of the whole child.
- Launch a statewide family engagement model to support schools.

Every Student Learns in a Classroom with Caring and Qualified Teachers

- Build the best teaching workforce in the nation by ensuring the profession is valued and prepared.
- Expand educator career pathway programs.
- Launch statewide mentor program to support the retention of teachers.
- Launch and expand programs to specifically recruit, retain and support teachers of color and Indigenous teachers.

Expand Access to Opportunities for Students of Color and Indigenous Students

- Establish an Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Center at the Minnesota Department of Education to address systemic racism.
- Provide educational experiences that value student culture and identity.
- Ensure students receive an accurate history of Minnesota’s Indigenous people.
- Develop and provide training for all school staff on anti-bias practices.

Expand Access to Opportunities for Students in Greater Minnesota

- Expand rigorous coursework options, including Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate and concurrent enrollment.
- Increase the full-service community school model statewide.
- Prioritize geographic equity in our school finance system.
- Expand career and technical education pathways.

Fund a 21st Century Education

- Prioritize school funding to the students who need it the most.
- Freeze the cross-subsidy for special education and buy down English Learner services cross-subsidy to ensure students receive necessary services.
- Guarantee that compensatory aid funding is supporting students historically left behind.
- Link funding categories to the general education formula to ensure necessary resources are provided over time.



After attack, nurses speak out for safety

From the Minnesota Nurses Association

Minnesota Nurses are again shocked and saddened by the news of another incident of workplace violence at a healthcare facility in the state. As caretakers of victims of gunshots and other violent injuries, nurses and healthcare workers are acutely aware that violence could easily come to the doors of their workplace too. Seeing other workers become victims shakes any hospital worker to their core. When nurses reflect on the increase of violence in the healthcare setting, tragic

incidents such as the one at St. John’s Hospital in 2015, plague their thoughts and often result in nurses leaving the bedside.

Healthcare facilities should be safe places - for patients, health care workers, and visitors. A 2019 survey of Minnesota Nurses Association membership showed that 95 percent of MNA nurses say they do not feel safe from violence at work. Nurses urge policy makers to determine the causes of this incident and all other reports of workplace violence and prioritize sweeping changes to ensure safety in these places. Workplace violence in-

cidents in healthcare facilities should be flagged and reported in a central location and healthcare workers should have the ability to process and recover from these types of incidents without penalty. Protecting frontline workers from violent incidents, whether from visitors, patients, or colleagues, needs to be a priority of policy makers.

The Minnesota Nurses Association offers our commitment and pledge to the healthcare workers and patients involved in today’s incident that we will not stop until healthcare facilities become a safe place for both workers and patients.

Lakewood joins COVID-19 vaccination message

The slower than anticipated rollout of COVID-19 vaccines, delayed deliveries, receiving fewer doses than expected and difficulty scheduling vaccination appointments, has led to frustration for many. As your trusted healthcare providers, our goal is to vaccinate everyone in the community as quickly as possible.

Decisions about our vaccination process are based on the information we receive from the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH). As their distribution models change, our plans and processes are adjusted to best accommodate vaccine distribution for our patients and community. Understandably, this has caused frustration for our patients.

When a facility receives a vaccine allocation, MDH requires that 90 percent of the doses must be used within 72 hours and 100 percent within seven days. This requirement does not allow any facility to hold onto the vaccine to be used specifically for second doses. If doses are not used within that time frame, they can be taken back by the state and used elsewhere. Essentially, if you don’t use it, you lose it.

As we reach the first round of second doses, we will need to inform some patients that they will not get their second dose within the prescribed time frame of 21 or 28 days. While we did receive an allotment of vaccine, it was not enough to cover everyone. Each of our facilities plans to communicate directly with the patients impacted by the delay in receiving their dose. To set expectations throughout the vaccination

process, we informed patients during their first dose appointment that we cannot guarantee them a second dose. However, we continue to advocate for doses on their behalf.

When we receive another allocation of the vaccine, patients needing their second dose will be prioritized in the order they received their first dose. Our teams will speak directly with each patient to schedule their second dose when that time arrives.

While potentially worrisome, health experts across the county agree there’s no cause for concern. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) states that patients can receive their second dose up to six weeks (42 days) after their first dose.

While we share in the frustration and confusion of the COVID-19 vaccination process, we truly appreciate the patience and understanding of our patients and communities. We have been fortunate to provide a first dose of the vaccine to thousands of people and we look forward to continuing that process.

As always, our priority is the safety and wellbeing of our patients, staff and the communities we are privileged to serve.

CHI St. Gabriel's Health
Crow Wing County Health Department
Cuyuna Regional Medical Center
Essentia Health
CHI St. Gabriel's Health
Lakewood Health System
Riverwood Healthcare Center
Tri-County Healthcare Care

Quote of the week

“Most people live and die with their music still unplayed. They never dare to try.”

— Mary Kay Ash

COVID-19 takes heavy toll on rural mental health

By American Farm Bureau

A strong majority of farmers/farmworkers say the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted their mental health, and more than half say they are personally experiencing more mental health challenges than they were a year ago, according to a new American Farm Bureau poll.

The survey of rural adults and farmers/farmworkers explores how the pandemic has affected their mental health personally and in their communities, as well as how attitudes and experiences around mental health have changed in rural and farm communities since AFBF conducted its first rural mental health survey in 2019.

“My takeaway from this survey is that the need for support is real and we must not allow lack of access or a ‘too tough to need help’ mentality to stand in the way,” said AFBF President Zippy Duvall. “We are stepping up our efforts through our Farm State of Mind campaign, encouraging conversations about stress and mental health and providing free training and resources for farm and ranch families and rural communities. The pandemic added a mountain of stress to an already difficult year for farmers and they need to know that sometimes it’s OK not to be OK, that people care, and that there’s help and hope.”

The results of the new poll clearly demonstrate that the COVID-19 pandemic is having broad-ranging impacts among rural adults and farmers/farmworkers. Key findings include:

- Two in three farmers/farmworkers (66%) say the pandemic has impacted their mental health.
- Rural adults were split on COVID-19’s impact. Half of rural adults (53%) say the pandemic has impacted their mental health at least some, while 44% say it has not impacted their mental health much or at all.
- Younger rural adults were more likely than older rural adults to say the pandemic has impacted their mental health a lot.
- Farmers and farmworkers were 10% more likely than rural adults as a whole to have experienced feeling nervous, anxious or on edge during the pandemic (65% vs. 55%).
- The percentage of farmers/farmworkers who say social isolation impacts farmers’ mental health increased 22% since April 2019, a significant finding given the long hours many

farmers work alone.

- Half of rural adults (52%) aged 18-34 say they have thought more about their mental health during the COVID-19 pandemic, more than other age groups.
- Three in five rural adults (61%) say the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted mental health in rural communities. Farmers/farmworkers were more likely than rural adults to say COVID-19 has impacted mental health in rural communities a lot (37% vs. 22%).

The survey of 2,000 rural adults was conducted by Morning Consult in December. It also identified the main obstacles to seeking help or treatment for a mental health condition, the most trusted sources for information about mental health, impressions of the importance of mental health in rural communities and the importance of reducing stigma surrounding mental health. A presentation with additional detail on the full survey results is available here.

AFBF hosted a session at its 2021 Virtual Convention titled Farm State of Mind – Responding to the Challenges of Rural Mental Health on Jan. 12. The session had diverse perspectives on the issue of rural mental health and highlight Farm Bureau’s efforts to respond to this key moment in agriculture. Visit <https://annual-convention.fb.org>.

If you or someone you know is struggling emotionally or has concerns about their mental health, visit the Farm State of Mind website at farmstateofmind.org where you can find crisis hotlines, treatment locators, tips for helping someone in emotional pain, ways to start a conversation and resources for managing stress, anxiety or depression.

StaplesWorld

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

Fairness: The Staples World tries conscientiously to report fairly and accurately. If you feel we fall short of this objective at any time, please direct your complaint to the manager whose name appears on this page.
Note to Advertisers: Advertisers should check their ad following first publication. This newspaper shall not be liable for failure to publish an ad or for the typographic error or errors in publication except to the extent of the cost of the ad for the first day's insertion. Adjustment for errors is limited to the cost of that portion of the ad wherein the error occurred. The publisher reserves the right to cancel any advertisement at any time.

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Programs and activities at Staples Public Library

February is 'I Love to Read' month

Race to the Library
This February, the Staples Public Library is challenging all students to see how many visits they can make to the library during February, 'I Love to Read' month. Each time a student visits, they get a sticker to put on a cutout car. Prizes will be given to participants. This event is sponsored by the Staples Friends of the Library.

TumbleBook Library
The Staples Public Library subscribes to Tumblebook Library. Get access to animated, talking picture books, read-along chapter books, graphic novels, non-fiction stories and more. For more information about e-books for e-kids, visit www.griver.org/services/e-books

WiFi2Go
Those who have a current Great River Regional Library account and are in good standing are eligible to borrow a mobile hotspot

for up to seven days at select locations. These mobile hotspots are available on a first-come/first-served basis.

Beanstack Tracker app
Download the free Beanstack Tracker app in your app store. Touch 'Get Started' and select "Yup!" when asked if your library uses Beanstack. Type in "Great River Regional Library" and then touch "Sign up!" Why Beanstack? Keep track of your reading; earn online badges; get book recommendations; and make reading a habit.

1,000 Books Before Kindergarten
The Great River Regional Library (GRRL) invites you to participate in this free program that encourages families and caregivers to read 1,000 books with their children before they enter kindergarten. Reading aloud with children builds

vocabulary and language skills. Research shows that children who enter kindergarten ready to read are more likely to be successful readers.

To participate, sign up at the library, at griver.beanstack.org, or on the Beanstack Tracker app. Then, stop by the library to get your child's tracking booklet and free book bag. Prizes are given for each 100 books read, with the final prize being a stuffed animal with a matching book. This program is sponsored by the Staples Friends of the Library.

Library hours
The Staples Public Library is located at 122 6th St. NE, Staples. Hours: Mon. 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Tue. 2-8 p.m., Weds. 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Thurs. 2-8 p.m., Fri. 1-5 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. For more information contact the library at 218-894-1401.

Masks must be worn at all times at the library.



Reading is fun

Greyson Winter, who turns three in April, enjoyed stopping by the Staples Public Library recently to read books with his daycare provider, Deb Jordan of Staples. Jordan (along with their parents) has helped three children in her care read '1,000 Books Before Kindergarten' a free program offered at the library. As part of the program, upon reaching the 1,000-book goal, children receive a free book and stuffed animal, provided by the Friends of the Staples Public Library.

Cathy Perish, library manager, is encouraging parents and caregivers to participate in this program by signing up at the library, or online at www.griver.beanstack.org, or on the free Beanstack Tracker app. To get started, stop by the library to get your child's tracking booklet and a free book bag. The Staples Public Library is located at 122 6th St. NE. For more information, call 218-894-1401, or visit them online at www.griver.org. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

AA Winter BARBEQUE

TUES., FEB. 23

***POTLUCK 5:30**

***MEETING 7 P.M.**

Staples Serenity Group

Staples Assembly of God Church

914 3rd Ave. NE, Staples

For info: 320-874-0979

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Staples-Motley school board agenda

The Staples-Motley School Board will meet in regular session Monday, Feb. 22, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. at the District Office, 905 4th St. NE, Staples.

The agenda includes a resolution appointing election judges for the April 13 Bond Referendum Special Election and a resolution authorizing the absentee ballot board for the same.

Any individual or groups who wish to be on the Community Forum at the meeting, contact the board chair or superintendent by noon the Friday prior to the board meeting date.

Upcoming dates and meetings include:

Community Meetings:
Tues., Feb. 23: Scandia Valley Town Hall, noon - 1:30 p.m.; Early Education Building/Motley Cafeteria 6 - 7:30 p.m.

Feb. 24: Leader Community Hall: noon - 1:30 p.m.; MS/HS Auditorium Lobby, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

School Board:
Mon., March 8: Board Work Session; 6:00 p.m., District Office

Mon., March 22: Regular Board Meeting, District Office, 6:00 p.m.

Mon., April 5: Board Work Session, District Office; 6:00 p.m.

Tues., April 13: Election Day.

Mark Your Calendar

February 18

THE MOTLEY AMERICAN LEAGION POST will hold its regular meeting, Thursday, Feb. 18, at 7 p.m., at Motley City Hall.

February 18, 23

STAPLES SERENITY AA GROUP MTGS are held at the Staples Assembly of God Church on Tuesday and Thursday evenings beginning at 7 p.m. Masks required. For more info., 320-874-0979.

Thank you... for reading the Staples World

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Todd County Commissioners Minutes

TCC continued from page 9a

officials, appointed officials and board members, and;

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners considered the duties and responsibilities of each individual position; and

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners considered the salaries of elected officials in other comparable counties; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners approve setting the County Auditor/Treasurer salary at \$94,430 in 2021.

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Becker, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by majority vote with Kircher against:

2021 COUNTY RECORDER SALARY
WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners is responsible for setting compensation of county employees, elected officials, appointed officials and board members, and;

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners considered the salaries of elected officials in other comparable counties; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners approve setting the County Recorder salary at \$70,570 in 2021.

On motion by Becker and seconded by Neumann, the

following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

2021 COUNTY SHERIFF SALARY
WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners is responsible for setting compensation of county employees, elected officials, appointed officials and board members, and;

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners considered the duties and responsibilities of each individual position; and

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners considered the salaries of elected officials in other comparable counties; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners approve setting the County Sheriff salary at \$101,714 in 2021.

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

2021 NON-UNION EMPLOYEE/APPOINTED OFFICIALS SALARY
WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners are responsible for setting compensation of county employees, elected officials, appointed officials and board members, and;

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners has previously followed the same pattern bargained with unions for the non-union county employees and appointed officials, and;

WHEREAS, collective bargaining agreements for 2021 have not been settled as

of this date, December 29, 2020.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners authorize a two percent (2.0%) general increase effective the first full pay period worked in January, 2021, pay date January 27, 2021, and a three percent (3%) step increase effective the first full pay period worked in July 2021, and pay date July 28, 2021 for eligible staff. Staff currently over the maximum of the salary grid shall receive a one percent (1%) (one-half general increase) effective the first full pay period worked in January, 2021 pay date January 27, 2021 in accordance with county policy.

County Auditor-Treasurer's Report
The Auditor-Treasurer reported that Township Election Office filing opens December 29, 2020 and closes on January 12, 2021.

County Commissioner's Report
Commissioner Kneisl reported on an update regarding MCIT Insurance for Solid Waste/Prairie Lakes.

Adjourn
Chairperson Kircher adjourned the meeting for December 2020.

COMMISSIONER WARRANTS
Vendor Name.....\$ Amount
AMERICAN SOLUTIONS
FOR BUSINESS\$5,269.79
ARNZEN CONST. INC.....105,820.01
ARNZEN CONST. INC.....39,193.65
BIG STONE THERAPIES, INC.....5,113.17
BLOMBECK CONST. CO INC2,144.00
CARGILL SALT DIVISION.....20,844.10
CDW GOVERNMENT INC7,478.45
EMERGENCY AUTO. TECH 2,657.02
FARM-RITE EQUIP, INC.....5,737.12
FRIEDRICH'S TIRE & OIL CO10,411.70
HEARTLAND TIRE INC.....2,319.16

LITTLE FALLS MACHINE INC.....	6,778.80
MENCH/JAMES.....	2,450.00
MONSISO, INC.....	3,300.00
MOTOROLA.....	4,553.65
NOW MICRO INC.....	10,990.00
SHI CORP.....	3,053.00
TRITECH SOFTWARE SYSTEMS.....	25,560.34
WATCHGUARD VIDEO.....	11,830.00
ZIEGLER INC.....	4,556.45
78 PAYMENTS LESS THAN \$2,000.....	29,732.99
Total.....	\$309,793.40
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES WARRANTS	
Vendor Name.....\$ Amount	
DHS - MSOP - MN SEX OFFENDER PROGRAM.....	5,895.00
DHS - ST PETER RTC - 472.....	9,660.00
#14593.....	3,742.80
GREATERN MN FAMILY SRVS INC.....	2,000.00
NORTH HOMES CHILDREN & FAMILY SRVS.....	23,882.79
NORTHLAND COUNSELING CTR.....	7,710.00
PINEHAVEN YOUTH AND FAMILY SRVS INC.....	3,592.50
WEST CENTRAL REG JUVENILE CTR.....	4,114.00
PAYMENTS LESS THAN \$2,000.....	9,868.45
Total.....	\$70,465.54
VENDOR NAME	
Vendor Name.....\$ Amount	
DHS - SWIFT.....	12,401.27
INFORMATION SYSTEM CORP.....	23,319.00
PERISH/ALAN.....	2,297.11
RURAL MN CEP INC.....	14,035.07
41 PAYMENTS LESS THAN \$2,000.....	7,826.70
Total.....	\$59,879.15
On a motion by Kneisl and seconded by Kircher, the preceding minutes of the County Board meeting held December 29, 2020 were duly approved by unanimous vote at the Todd County Board of Commissioners at the Regular Board Meeting held on January 5, 2021.	
Witness my hand and seal:	
Barbara Becker, County Board Chairperson	
Denise Gaida, Todd County Auditor-Treasurer	
8pnc	

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Wadena County

CITY PUBLIC WORKS DEPT. SEEKING FULL-TIME EMPLOYEE

The City of Kerkhoven, Public Works Department, seeks FT maintenance worker immediately. Complete job description is available upon request.

Minimum requirements: Possess or obtain a MN Class D Water Operator's and Class C Sewer Operator's License within 2 years of employment; Valid MN Class D Driver's License and a satisfactory driving record. All applicants will be required to have a physical and are subject to a drug test. Starting wage: \$17.27-\$20.00 per hour, plus excellent benefits. This is a non-union position.

TQ APPLY: Complete and submit an application packet by 12:00 (noon) p.m. on Friday, February 26, 2021. Application forms can be obtained at City Hall Monday-Thursday from 8am-5pm and Fridays 8am-noon, or by calling 320-264-2581.

Submit completed applications in drop box or by mail to: City of Kerkhoven, PO Box 116, Kerkhoven, MN 56252. The City of Kerkhoven is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

CITY OF KERKHOVEN

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Hello World

BIRTHS REPORTED AT LAKEWOOD HEALTH SYSTEM HOSPITAL IN STAPLES INCLUDED:

Born to Jimi Huber and Cade Smart of Brainerd, a baby boy, Rilan Joseph weighing nine pounds, 11 ounces on February 8, 2021.

Born to Amy and Danny Cairns of Pequot Lakes, a baby boy, Jameson Walter weighing seven pounds, three ounces on February 11, 2021.

Happy 60th Anniversary

LeRoy and Doris Dumpprope



Feb. 20

With love, Your Family

We are overwhelmed with gratitude for all the prayers, words and acts of kindness by so many people in our community at the loss of our son and grandson, **Jonah Kletsch**. Our Faith, Family and Friends have given us unimaginable peace and comfort.

With our thanks and God's Blessings,
Joel and Jodi Kletsch
Stan and Jan Tyrrell

Leona Wiebesick

Leona Mae Wiebesick, 97, of Verndale, passed away February 8, 2021.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. on Sat., Feb. 20 at the Verndale Alliance Church. Visitation will be one hour prior to the service at the church.

Leona was born in Oylen to Willis and Arvilla (Davisson) Chumley.

She married Charles Wiebesick on May 16, 1943. They had four children of their own, but you could always count on having a neighbor kid at their house as well. Charles and Leona traveled to 38 states and Canada. Leona had many talents including writing beautiful poems and crocheting many crafts. She was also interested in Genealogy.

Leona is survived by three sons, Eugene and



Darrell, both of Golden Valley, and Al of Colorado Springs, CO.

She is preceded in death by her parents, husband and one daughter, Myrna Lee.

Arrangements are by the Brenny Family Funeral Chapel, Staples.

w8c A00006B2021FB17

Louise Borstad

Louise "Cookie" Marie Walz Borstad, 77, passed away February 2, 2021, at the St. Cloud Hospital in St. Cloud with her children by her side during her last days. She left this earth and met Jesus face-to-face to spend eternity in heaven.

Services will be held in the early summer in Detroit Lakes at a date to be determined.



Louise was born in 1943 to Norman and Katherine Walz in Detroit Lakes. She attended Holy Rosary Catholic School and graduated from Detroit Lakes High School in 1961.

She graduated from Moorhead State College in 1965 and married Hans Borstad, also from Detroit Lakes. Together they raised their family in Staples. After their divorce in the late 1980s, Louise moved to St. Cloud where she obtained her Masters in Arts degree from St. Cloud State University and split her time between Arizona and her beloved lake home on 3rd Crow Wing Lake in northern Minnesota where she felt blessed to be able to spend her summers.

She became the English and Drama teacher at Nogales High School in Nogales, Arizona. She moved to the San Francisco Bay Area in 1995 and survived a bone marrow transplant (for cutaneous T-cell lymphoma) at Stanford University in 1997.

She moved back to Minnesota permanently, retiring to 3rd Crow Wing, eventually settling in Annandale. She had many dear friends in that community and at the St. Ignatius Parish.

She will always be remembered by her loving smile, her love of friends and family and her enjoyment of the simple pleasures of life. She enjoyed traveling, reading, skiing,

boating, parties, cooking for her friends, chocolate goodies with extra whipped cream on top and showering those around her with "hearts, flowers and presents."

Louise is survived by two daughters, Sandy Borstad (Bill) Alter of Tucson, AZ and DeeDee Borstad of Barnum; one son, Greg (Stacy) Borstad of Wilmington, NC; six grandchildren, whom she dearly loved, Cody Luchs, Jessica Borstad, Grant Alter, Gwen Alter, Alexa Borstad, Jacob Borstad and Taylor Borstad; two sisters, Mary Kay (Vern) Isaacson of Pelican Rapids and Pauline (John) Morris of Fountain Hills, AZ; three brothers, Frank (Alice) Walz of Andover, Tom (Betty) Walz of Forest Lake, and Bill (Cindi) Walz of La Quinta, CA; many, many, beloved nieces and nephews and her best friends, Keith, Donna, Deb and Michael, in Annandale.

She is preceded in death by her parents; one sister, Margaret (Don) Wallace of Frazee; and an infant brother, John.

The family is asking for donations in her name to be made to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society at <https://donate.lls.org>. Blessings to all. Love, Louise's family.

w8c A00006B2021FB17

Randy Jenkins

Randy W. Jenkins passed away peacefully at his home in Motley on February 9, 2021, two days before his 72nd birthday.

Randy was united in marriage to Sandra Hanson on December 17, 1966. Their marriage was blessed with two children, Randy (Karla) and Deanne (Troy). They made their home in Motley where Randy was a truck driver until his retirement in 2017 due to health reasons. He will be dearly missed by family and friends.

Randy is survived by his wife, Sandy; one son, Randy (Karla) of Motley; one daughter, Annie (Troy) of Brainerd; six grandchildren, Jacob, Anthony, Nikki, Jordon, Michaela and Tori; three great-grandchildren, Jackson, Jenessa and Immanuel; two sisters, Linda (Gary) Duncan, Ottetail and Brenda (Richard) DeLeon, Motley and many other relatives and friends.

Preceding Randy in death are his parents, LaVern and Hulda Jenkins; one sister, Vicky; father-in-law, Herb Hanson and brother-in-law, Harlin Hanson.

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

Arrangements are by Karvonen Funeral & Cremation Service of Wadena, Minnesota.

w8c A00006B2021FB17

Student Achievements

NORTHWEST TECHNICAL COLLEGE, BEMIDJI has announced its Dean's List. To qualify, students must be enrolled for at least 12 credits and earn a minimum of a 3.5 grade point average during the semester. Local students named include:

- Sawyer Kallroos, Pillager
- Del Eckman, Staples

ST. CLOUD STATE UNIVERSITY has announced its 2020 Fall Semester Dean's List. To qualify, students must earn a grade point average of 3.75 or higher. Local students named include:

- Krystal Yoder, Motley
- Jacob Siefkes, Pillager
- Jamie Smith, Pillager
- Sarah Marte, Staples.

Staples Area Church Directory

Staples

Staples Alliance
1512 8th St. NE, Staples218-894-2891
Associate Pastor Zach Jones
Sunday Worship9:30 a.m.
Sunday School11:00 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
AWANA6:00 p.m.

Assembly of God
914 3rd Ave. NE, Staples218-894-1081
Pastor Roy Miles
Small Groups (Bible classes for all ages)9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship Service10:30 a.m.
Children's Church (Kids start in main worship service)11 a.m.
Prayer Meeting5 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., Staples218-894-2609
Pastor Barry Klein
Facebook Live
Bible School (youth and adult)9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship10:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY:
Teen Youth/Adults Bible Study7-8 p.m.

First Congregational Church, UCC
firstconougccstaples@gmail.com
204 5th St. NE, Staples218-894-2571
Worship9:30 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, Staples218-894-2296
Church.....
Pastor Fr. Gabriel Walz
Youth and Young Adult Ministry Coordinator:
Monica J. Simmons218-414-0081 cell/text
MASS:
Thursday and Friday8:30 a.m..
Saturday5:00 p.m..
Sunday8:30 a.m..

Seventh Day Adventist
421 Dakota Ave. SE, Staples
218-894-0033
Saturday Worship9:30 am.
Sabbath School10:45 a.m.

Thomastown Covenant
15940 251st Ave., Staples218-894-3923
Pastor Scott Jorgenson
Sunday Worship.....10:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY NIGHT YOUTH6:30 p.m.

Trinity Lutheran
1000 4th St., NE, Staples218-894-2372
Rev. Robin Collins
Sunday Divine Service9:00 a.m.
Sunday School & Bible Class.....10:30 a.m.

United Methodist
310 5th St. NE, Staples218-894-2248
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 Clapp701-261-2394 (cell)
Sunday Worship8:15 a.m.
Sunday School8:30 a.m.

Cushing
Bethany Lutheran
25430 Bison Rd. Cushing, MN
320-749-2140
Pastor Carl Larson
Associate Pastor: Carleton Smee
www.bethanylutherancushing.org
Sunday Worship10:45 a.m.
Sunday School and
Coffee Fellowship.....9:30 a.m.
Pancake Breakfast11:45 a.m.
2nd Sunday, each month

Lincoln Evangelical Free
1354 320th Street, Cushing, MN 56443
Phone: 218-575-2449
www.lincolnefree.org
Facebook Lincoln E Free
Office Hours: Tues. - Thurs., 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Senior Pastor: Don Reigstad
Community Life Pastor: Jim Brown
Associate Pastor/Youth Joe Reigstad
SUNDAY
Church Worship Gathering.....10:00 a.m.
Facebook Live.....10:00 a.m.
YouTube Channel10:00 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Praise & Prayer6:30 p.m.

Cushing Baptist
26298 Bear Rd., Cushing
Pastor Dan Holmes.....320-749-2583
Sunday School9:30 a.m.
Worship.....10:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Bible study7:30 p.m.

Leader
Swan Valley Lutheran
Leader218-397-2470
Sandy Knight, Synodically Authorized Minister of Word and Sacrament
Sunday Worship
January - July9 a.m.
July - January11 a.m.

Maple Hill Lutheran
Sandy Knight, Synodically Authorized Minister of Word and Sacrament
Leader218-397-2470 (Rural Pine River)
Worship and Sunday School9:00 a.m.

Motley

Motley Free Methodist
33 Wellwood St. E
Motley 56466218-352-6888
Jim Johnson, Senior Pastor
Charles Mallory, Associate Pastor
Sunday Worship9:00 & 11:00 a.m.
facebook live9 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Youth Group6:00-7:30 p.m.

St. John's Lutheran
497 3rd Ave. S, Motley218-352-6399
Pastor Vicar Paul Koehler
Sunday School and Bible Class8:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship9:30 a.m.

St. Michael
1st St. and Birch, Motley218-894-2296
Pastor Fr. Gabriel Walz
MASS:
Tuesday.....6:30 p.m.,
Wednesday.....8:30 a.m..
Saturday7:00 p.m..
Sunday10:30 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 School10:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship11:00 a.m.

Pillager

First Lutheran Church
Pastor Mathew Sundquist
717 River Street S, Pillager, MN
218-746-3775
Sunday Worship9:30 a.m.
Sunday School8:30 a.m.

Casino Assembly of God
Pastor Dan Johnson
N. of Motley, Hwy. 64, E. on Cty 34 to Cty. 104.
Phone218-746-3839
Sunday School9:30 a.m..
Worship.....10:30 a.m..
Sunday Worship7:00 p.m..
WEDNESDAY7:00 p.m..

First Baptist
903 River Street South, Pillager
Pastor Jake Anderson
218-746-3768
curious@fbpillager.com
Worship Gathering10:00 a.m.
Connection Point.....9:30 a.m.

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

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

"Church Sign Sayings"

Good or bad, your past will live on as long as you choose to recall it.

Do not ask GOD what He can do for you, but Ask GOD what you can do for Him.

GOD can open doors that no other man can, our doors are open to all come have a seat.

Faith is like a rubberband, it must be stretched
Try Praying Instead Of Texting

HUNTING FOR GOD'S GRACE? HUMILITY IS THE AMMUNITION, SEASON IS ALWAYS OPEN.

JAMES 4:6 WISE MEN STILL SEEK HIM
Looking For a Sign? Here it Is.

You may be the Hope someone finds today
Walk with Honor a Path through the Wilderness

Feel Puzzled? Is God Your Missing Peace?

IT'S HARD TO GET INTO SHAPE SPIRITUALLY IF YOU ONLY WORK OUT ON SUNDAY.

Pleasant words bring encouragement to the soul
LABOR FOR THE LORD INVESTMENT IS THEFT

PROOF RETURNS ARE ETERNAL. MATTHEW 6:19-
An apology is the best way to have the last word

HOPE = Hanging On Patiently Everyday

Tired of your religion, try a relationship. Details inside
Jesus gives you a new life, when you trade in the old one

God Loves Us To the Moon and Back
Celebrate Today! God is with us wherever we go

Swallowing your pride won't give you indigestion.
Start your day with gratitude.... End your day with thanks.

Never get so busy making a living that you forget to make a life.

Today never happened before!
Let the Son shine in!

If you worry, it means you're not sure God will get it right.

A true friend is the one who walks in when others walk out.

If the devil is knocking at your door, let Jesus answer it.
When you are willing, GOD is Able

If the devil is knocking at your door, let Jesus answer it.
Kindness is a language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see.

When we are crushed, our lights burn the brightest.

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For the Staples World



Pick and roll accomplished

Isaiah Schultz tosses a pass to Adam Oberlander, who turned it into a score against Detroit Lakes. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)

Competitive losses

The Staples-Motley boys basketball team is showing they are competitive with area teams, but only have one win on the season, with nine losses. In two games against Frazee and Detroit Lakes, the Cardinals ended up on the short end of scoring runs and had to play from behind in the second half.

Against Frazee, Max Strickland scored seven points in the first half to keep the team in the game, as they were down 22-26 at halftime. Isaiah Schultz stepped up in the second half with 11 points, but Frazee also increased their scoring to stay ahead.

Against Detroit Lakes, the Cardinals started out strong, taking a 14-9 lead early on, but a 10-0 DL run late in the half put them behind for the rest of the game. Adam Oberlander took advantage of good offensive movement by the Cardinals, finding himself open and knocking down shots. He scored 11 points in each half. Schultz was hitting from the three point line in the first half with three long range shots. But DL kept pace with balanced scoring, ending with four players in double figures while Staples-Motley had a

total of four players in the scoring column.

Team results

Staples-Motley 60, Frazee

68

Scoring: Adam Oberlander

14, Sivert Klefsaas 13, Max

Strickland 11, Isaiah Schultz 11, Chandler Braith 6, Dakota Hennigar 5

Staples-Motley 48, Detroit Lakes 68

Scoring: Oberlander 22,

Schultz 16, Klefsaas 8, Braith 2



Hustle plays

Max Strickland spent most of the DL game keeping a bigger player out of the lane. Here he reaches out for a rebound after doing the hard work under the basket.

In search of a pandemic silver lining

It would be difficult for anyone but the most isolated hermit to be unaware of the damage that has been done over the past year by the COVID-19 pandemic. The toll has been staggering in deaths, long-term health impairment, lost jobs, business failures, disruption to education, and social isolation. It's probable that the pandemic and its effects present the most widespread disruption of human life short of actual warfare that anyone who is alive today has seen; more than the polio epidemic of the mid-20th century, or the so-called Spanish flu following World War I.

Progress has been made in developing and deploying vaccines, but the pace at which Americans are being vaccinated and the evolution of new strains of the deadly virus continue to give medical experts and the average citizen reasons to be anxious. It's hard under these circumstances to be one of those optimists who thinks life's glass is half full, rather than half empty. It can be tough at times to believe that this dark cloud hanging over our world has a silver lining.

One hint of a silver lining in this year of distancing, loss of socializing opportunities, and cancelled activities, has been a closer embrace of activities in the out-of-doors. That's saying something in a state that has few equals in outdoor-mindedness. Recent evidence was an announcement by Lund Boats, the iconic watercraft manufacturer in New York Mills, Minnesota, that it has hired more than 100 new employees, and intends to hire more.

While this is undeniably an employment lifeline for some who are unemployed or under-employed, it also speaks to an upsurge in demand for fishing boats and other watercraft, as its president recently revealed. Lund manufacturers not only its own line of boats, but also the Crestliner brand, which had a decades-long presence as an independent manufacturer in Little Falls, Minnesota.

It might seem contradictory that more boats would be purchased in the middle of a pandemic that has harmed many businesses and individuals financially. But being outdoors and on the water with family or a fishing buddy is one of the safer ways to spend one's recreational time. Obviously, many have continued to have the means, or have reordered spending priorities, in order to make their on-the-water dreams a reality.

Parallel evidence of a

blooming preoccupation with the outdoors has been reported since late spring and early summer, in statistics on fishing license sales reported by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Individual fishing license sales in 2020 were the highest in more than 20 years.

Especially encouraging was the increase in youth fishing licenses, which were up more than 30 percent from 2019. With the DNR's emphasis on recruitment of youth anglers and hunters, this was especially good news. The pandemic-curtailed spring school sports seasons, coupled with cancellation of some summer recreation opportunities, may have been the motivator that influenced this welcome uptick in youth angling interest.

Trail use by hikers and cyclists also set records, based on data from the DNR and Minnesota Department of Transportation. In mid-March of 2020, when restrictions on gathering were put in place and bars and restaurants were closed, recorded trail use immediately jumped 35%. A week later when Governor Walz issue a stay-close-to-home order, trail use surged by more than 70%. High trail use by hikers and cyclists continued throughout the summer and fall.

When winter arrived, the same demand for outdoor recreational options during these pandemic times continued, expressed in higher



Swarming defense

Pictured, Allison Knosalla, Aften Robinson and Lauren Rutten surround a player who dared to go into the lane against them. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)

Close game turns after second half run

The Staples-Motley girls basketball team had a short defensive lapse to fall behind in a close game against Park Rapids on Feb. 8, and ended up with a 77-62 loss. The Cardinals also lost 73-42 against Detroit Lakes on Feb. 12.

Against Park Rapids, the Cardinals never led but were close until late in the second half. Ashley Robben scored on a fast break right before the halftime buzzer to bring the Cardinals within four.

The teams traded scores for most of the second half, but in rapid succession, Park Rapids scored two three pointers and two inside baskets for a quick 10-0 run, and Staples-Motley could only get back within 10 points once again.

"We played well offensively to score 60 plus points. Defensively, we gave up too many baskets on their high screen, pick and

roll. They beat us tonight by using basic, fundamental basketball. Players who set great screens, then roll to the basket, are routinely your highest scorers," said Coach Bruce Fuhrman.

Park Rapids had eight different players scoring

around 10 points each.

Team results

Staples-Motley 62, Park Rapids 77

Scoring: Tabettha Allen 16, Lauren Rutten 14, Haley Cichos 11, Aften Robinson 10, Alli Olander 5, Ashley Robben 3, Allison Knosalla 3



All the way to the basket

Haley Cichos breaks free for a layup.



Hand up

Kyanna Burton stops a drive.

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for all classified
ads and copy is
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For the
Staples World

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Staples World

SERVICES & EMPLOYMENT

205

Help Wanted
PART-TIME CASHIER:
30-35 hrs. every 2 weeks.
Must be 21-years-old. Don & Dave's Store, 218-894-2014.
7-9p

TODD COUNTY EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES: Todd County Public Works is looking for reliable, service oriented individuals to serve the citizens of Todd County in a full-time capacity for the following positions:
Resource Conservationist, *Land Use Planner.*
To learn more about these openings and how to apply visit the official Todd County website at <https://www.co.todd.mn.us> or <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/cotoddmn>. Questions can be directed to Todd County Administration, 320-732-6155.
8c



HELP WANTED: Staples-Motley School is taking applications for a Full Time Custodian at the Middle/High School

PM/evening shift. Must be able to stand for extended periods of time; background check is required. Benefits include insurance, vacation and sick leave.

Applications may be submitted to:
District Office, 905 4th St. NE, Staples
EOE/E

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Contact Amanda Rickbeil, arickbeil@ctcccinc.com or call 218-756-3636 ext. 12

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Houses for Sale

ONE BDRM. for sale by owner, 603 7th St. SE, Staples, \$54,500. 218-296-1535. 8-10p

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GARAGE SALES

701

A/G YOUTH: Now accepting donations for upcoming garage sale. Call Kathy at 218-296-1647 for drop off or pick up. 6-13c

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Freshwater Education District is seeking an assessment/program specialist. The position will be a combination of completing assessments, scoring, writing reports, and assisting staff with due process requests, programming, and overall education district projects. A MN Special Education licensure is required and at least three years of teaching experience is preferred. The position will be a 200 day contract.

-- Application deadline: Noon on March 12, 2021

Send Letter of Application, Resume and 3 Letters of References to:
Lori Murdock, Director of Special Education
Freshwater Education District
2222 Industrial Drive, Wadena, MN 56482
218.631.3505, ext. 1042
lmurdock@fed.k12.mn.us

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Todd County Commissioners Minutes

MINUTES OF THE TODD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS Dec. 29, 2020

Call to Order
The Todd County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner’s Board Room in the City of Long Prairie, MN on the 29th day of December, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Kircher. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. All Commissioners were present.

Approval of Agenda
On motion by Neumann and seconded by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the agenda as presented with the removal of item 12.8 Changes to Group Health Insurance Contributions and addition of 12.0 HHS Withdrawal from MN Merit System.

Consent Agenda
On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Neumann, the following motions were introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:
To approve the Todd County Board of Commissioner’s Meeting Minutes for December 15, 2020 as presented.

To approve a One-Year On & Off Sale 3.2 Malt Liquor License for Don & Dave’s Store at the address of 26762 County 26, Browerville, MN in Moran Township effective January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021.

Auditor-Treasurer
On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve the Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 400979 through 401003 in the amount of \$41,849.02 and (Regular) 54271 through 54343 in the amount of \$267,944.38 for a total of \$309,793.40.

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve the Health & Human Services Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 801284 through 801298 and (Regular) 707401 through 707430 for a total amount of

\$59,879.15.
On motion by Neumann and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve the Health & Human Services SSIS Warrants number (ACH) 600317 through 600320 and (Regular) 516126 through 516142 for a total amount of \$70,465.54.
On motion by Erickson and seconded by Kneisl, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

TRANSFER OF FUNDS - CARES ACT CRF FUNDS
WHEREAS, Todd County received \$3,000,085 on July 31, 2020 via the Federal CARES Act CRF (Coronavirus Relief Funds) and;

WHEREAS, Todd County has used/expensed all of these funds within the allotted timeframe indicated in the federal guidance terms and;

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

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners hereby authorize the transfer of funds in the amount \$573,852.46 from Fund 19-CARES to Fund 01-General Fund \$361,298.20, Fund 03-Public Works \$874.67, Fund 21-Public Health \$181,475.89, Fund 37-Building Improvement \$5,904.74, Fund 51-Solid Waste \$18,504.11 and Fund 75-Community Corrections \$5,794.85 to finalize the realignment of eligible CARES Act CRF expenses to the County Departments.

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

TRANSFER OF FUNDS - 2020 TODD COUNTY EXPO BUILDING RENOVATION PROJECT
WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners approve the 2020 Todd County Expo Building Renovation Project for \$708,454 via BA #20200317-

18 with a funding plan to source monies from Fund 01-General Revenue/Bldg Improvement Fund, and;

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners authorized the transfer of funds via BA #20200407-09 in the amount \$708,454 from Fund 01-General Revenue to Fund 37-Building Construction to cover the expenses of the project, and;

WHEREAS, the 2020 Todd County Expo Building Renovation Project has been completed and expenses have been tallied in the amount of \$799,688.58, and;

WHEREAS, the difference of \$91,235.58 is being requested to be provided by Fund 01-General Revenue/Bldg Improvement Fund to complete this project’s funding needs and zero out the balance on the books of Fund 37-Bldg Construction.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners hereby authorize the transfer of funds in the amount \$91,235.58 from Fund 01-General Revenue/Bldg Improvement Fund to Fund 37-Bldg Construction for reimbursement of the overage of expenses incurred for the 2020 Todd County Expo Building Renovation Project.

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

COMMIT FUND BALANCE FOR FUTURE RETIREES’ SEVERANCE FUND

WHEREAS, beginning in FY 2020, the Finance Committee recommended taking a proactive budget approach for future retirement severances within Fund 01-General Revenue, and;

WHEREAS, there were no significant financial impacts realized due to retirement within Fund 01-General Revenue during FY 2020, and;

WHEREAS, the balance of \$50,000 remains within this account as of December 29, 2020 and the Finance Committee recommends that this balance be utilized to establish a Committed Fund Balance account for future retirement severances to be reevaluated on an

annual basis for transparent financial reporting.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners hereby authorize the County Auditor/Treasurer to create a Committed Fund Balance account in Fund 01-General Revenue with a balance of \$50,000 to track the funding plan for the Committed Fund Balance for Future Retirees’ Severance Fund.

Public Works
On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the 2020 Budget Rollover Request for Retiree Severance within Road and Bridge for \$30,800.

County Extension
On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To appoint Amy Allen, member at large and Kevin Ehnes, District 2 to the Extension committee for a term of January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2023.

County Sheriff
On motion by Neumann and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the updated contract with CentraCare Clinic.

MIS
On motion by Erickson and seconded by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the 2020 Budget Rollover Request for Computer/Equipment Maintenance within the MIS Budget for \$7,000.

Planning & Zoning
On motion by Erickson and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by majority vote with Neumann against: To grant the rezoning of parcel 06-0045600 from AF1 to AF2 zoning based on the creation of spot zoning.

On motion by Becker and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To take no action, by doing so, a \$1,000 assessment would remain in place for failure to complete the restoration order on parcel 25-0046200 owned by Marianne Gerving.

On motion by Becker and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To take no action, by doing so, a \$1,000 assessment would remain in place for failure to complete the restoration order on parcel 08-0036300 owned by Linda Jean Hansen.

On motion by Becker and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To take no action, by doing so, a \$1,000 assessment would remain in place for failure to complete the restoration order on parcel 25-0007500 owned by Harold G Harkcom.

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To take no action, by doing so, a \$1,000 assessment would remain in place for failure to complete the restoration order on parcel 21-0040200 owned by Jeffrey J. and Kristine Kuhlmann.

On motion by Becker and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To take no action, by doing so, a \$1,000 assessment would remain in place for failure to complete the restoration order on parcel 19-0024700 owned by August Langseth.

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To take no action, by doing so, a \$1,000 assessment would remain in place for failure to complete the restoration order on parcel 20-0030703 owned by Georgann M. and David W. Larson.

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To remove the \$1,000 assessment on parcel 06-0051300 & 06-0051500 owned by Jack

E. McCoy due to improvements to the property and some contact with the PZ office.

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To remove the \$1,000 assessment on parcel 10-0006400 owned by Gerald and Patricia Nelson due to submission of a septic design, loan application and fees paid for the septic to be installed in the spring.

On motion by Becker and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To take no action, by doing so, a \$1,000 assessment would remain in place for failure to complete the restoration order on parcel 22-0007001 owned by William J. and Marsha K. Owen.

On motion by Becker and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To remove the \$1,000 assessment on parcel 13-0002200 owned by Wayne V. and Belinda Prather due to the good effort to clean up this property and a plan in place to finish the clean up to fully resolve.

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To take no action, by doing so, a \$2,000 assessment would remain in place for failure to complete the restoration order on parcel 15-0079700 owned by Timothy Forcier.

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To remove the \$2,000 assessment on parcel 22-0007500 owned by Steven and Daniel Owen due to significant progress in cleaning up this property and continuing clean up efforts.

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To take no action, by doing so, a \$2,000 assessment would remain in place for failure to complete the restoration order on parcel 27-0007201 owned by James E. Stemig.

Solid Waste
On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Neumann, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE 2021 SOLID WASTE ENTERPRISE FUND BUDGET

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners are required to adopt an annual budget and certify it to the County Auditor, and;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Todd County Board of Commissioners hereby approve the following as the 2021 Budget for the Solid Waste Enterprise Fund of the County of Todd, Minnesota and directs that it be forwarded to the County Auditor:

SOLID WASTE ENTERPRISE FUND 2021 BUDGET	
Description of Revenue Source	2021 Proposed Budget
Property Taxes and Penalties	\$1,038,220
Licenses and Permits	\$960
Intergovernmental	\$1,654
State Grants	\$82,500
Charges for Services	\$1,680,000
Recyclables	\$120,000
Subtotal Revenue	\$2,923,334

DESCRIPTION OF EXPENSE	2021 PROPOSED BUDGET
Personnel Services	\$544,460
Services and Charges	\$1,580,000
Supplies and Materials	\$411,750
Capital Expenditures	\$250,000
Other Expenditures	\$92,000
Subtotal Expenditures	\$2,878,210
BALANCE REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES	\$45,124

Administration
On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To submit intent of Health & Human Services to withdraw from MN Merit System and have Chairman Kircher sign the letter of intent, effective January 1, 2022.
On motion by Erickson and seconded by Kneisl, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

FINAL PAYMENT AUTHORIZATION - 2020 ARNZEN CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT

WHEREAS, the contract with Arnzen Construction for the Expo Building Construction Contract, has in all things been completed, and;

WHEREAS, construction work on this contract was scheduled and completed in 2020 with the value of the total work certified being \$1,377,859.70, and;

WHEREAS, partial payments amounting to \$1,232,846.04 have previously been made to the contractor as work progressed, and;

WHEREAS, it has been determined that \$145,013.66 still remains to be paid to Arnzen Construction.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners does here accept said completed project for and on behalf of the County of Todd and authorize final payment as specified.

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

2021 COUNTY COMMISSIONER SALARY

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners is responsible for setting compensation of county employees, elected officials, appointed officials and board members, and;

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners considered the duties and responsibilities of each individual position; and

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners considered the salaries of elected officials in other comparable counties; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners approve setting the County Commissioners salary at \$32,579 plus \$1,800 supplemental pay for Board Chair and \$1,200 supplemental pay for the Board Vice-Chair in 2021.

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

2021 COUNTY ATTORNEY SALARY

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners is responsible for setting compensation of county employees, elected officials, appointed officials and board members, and;

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners considered the duties and responsibilities of each individual position; and

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners considered the salaries of elected officials in other comparable counties; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the

NOTICE BULLARD TOWNSHIP ELECTION AND ANNUAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given to qualified voters of Bullard Township, Wadena County, Minnesota, that the Annual Election of Officers and Annual Meeting will be held Tuesday, March 9, 2021, at the Bullard Township Hall. Election poll hours are 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., at which time voters will elect:

- One (1) Supervisor, three (3) year term;
 - One (1) Treasurer, two (2) year term.
- The Board of Canvass will meet at 8:05 p.m., and the Annual Meeting will begin at 8:15 p.m.

In case of inclement weather, the election and meeting will be postponed until Tuesday, March 16, 2021, with the same times and location.

Janelle VanAlst, Clerk
Bullard Township
218-472-3165

8pnc

NOTICE FRESHWATER ED. DISTRICT NO. 6004 REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Notice is hereby given that the Freshwater Ed. Dist. No. 6004 of Wadena, MN hereby requests proposals for CTSS Service in Wadena, MN, for students attending a Level IV site until 3 p.m. on February 26, 2021.

All proposals shall be clearly identified as a CTSS Proposal for the Freshwater Education District. The proposals must be presented to the designated contact for Freshwater, Lori Murdock, at the following address:
Lori Murdock
Freshwater Education District
2222 Industrial Drive
Wadena, MN 56482

No formal proposal opening will take place.

Proposals will be evaluated on the criteria as set forth within the RFP. Details/requirements for proposals are available on the Freshwater website www.fed.k12.mn.us.

The Freshwater Board reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, waive formalities, and to select the agency and options that best meet the needs of the board and its employees.

Inquiries and clarifications should be directed by telephone or email to Freshwater’s contact as follows:

Lori Murdock,
218-631-3505, Ext. 1042
lmurdock@fed.k12.mn.us
Clerk of District #6004

7-8pnc

(ABBREVIATED ADVERTISEMENT)

TODD COUNTY 2021 BRIDGE PROJECT Closing date: March 9, 2021

Sealed bids will be accepted until 10:00 a.m., March 9, 2021 by the Todd County Public Works Director/Engineer and County Auditor/Treasurer at 44 Riverside Drive, Long Prairie, Minnesota 56347 for the following construction project:

SAP 077-611-034

This is an abbreviated advertisement. A full advertisement can be viewed by going to the Public Works website at <https://egram.co.todd.mn.us/oneoffice/bidding>.

Loren Fellbaum
Todd County Public Works Director/Engineer

7-9pnc

TODD COUNTY PUBLIC NOTICE AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES (AIS) 2021 RFP

Todd County is the recipient of County Program Aid grant funds for Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) prevention from the state of Minnesota as a result of 2014 Session Law Chapter 308. The purpose of these funds is to “prevent the introduction or limit the spread of aquatic invasive species at all the access sites within the county” (MN Statutes 477A.19).

The objective of this RFP is to facilitate the disbursement of these funds to parties interested in conducting work to this purpose.

Todd County is soliciting Local Government Units (LGU), private businesses and/or others who qualify for proposals for the Todd County AIS Program in 2021.

The details of this RFP can be found on the Todd County website: <https://www.co.todd.mn.us/divisions/soil-water-conservation-and-development/aquatic-invasive-species/> or contact the Todd County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) at 320-732-2644. Applications are due March 19, 2021.

8pnc

NOTICE MAY TOWNSHIP REQUEST FOR BIDS

May Township (Cass County) old shop building is for sale. Removal includes: building, 300 gallon fuel tank and stand. If interested contact Mark Breneman, 218-232-4944 for more information and project quote form.

Bianca Wyffels, Clerk
May Township

8pnc

FIRE continued from page 1a

Neighbors brought warm clothes as fire burned

Thompson went on, adding that after she heard him yelling for her, she jumped out of bed. They met each other on the stairs.

Shortly after Eisel had left the kitchen in the upstairs portion, the floor caved in. He recalled feeling the burning heat on his feet shortly before that happened.

At that point, Thompson was going to get some water from the utility room to try and help put out the flames, but recalls her son saying, “No, mom, we gotta go NOW.”

They made it out the front door along with their two dogs Sparky and Rocky. Three family cats did not survive. Eisel shared that they had their cell phones in their pockets, but that was about it. No wallets, no car keys, nothing saved. But they had their lives. “You can replace things,” Eisel said.

It was nearly 20 degrees below zero as they waited outside with only socks on their feet. Eisel recalled watching their house totally engulfed in flames. “It was like tree bark on a summer bonfire,” he said.

The first to arrive at the scene were the police, Eisel said. They were followed by the fire department about five or 10 minutes later.

Thompson and Eisel said they are grateful to their neighbors, Jessie Mertens and Pat Neelan, who brought them warm clothes and shoes, and let them spend the night at their place, along with their

dogs. Staples Fire Chief Cole Yungbauer said they were at the scene about five hours, with the Motley and Verndale Fire Departments providing mutual aid. The house was fully engulfed by the time they arrived.

With the extreme cold, their equipment wasn’t working the best. “Pumps freeze,” Chief Yungbauer said, adding, “luckily we have three trucks capable of pumping.”

The firefighters were all working outside, as it had been deemed too dangerous to go inside the house, Chief Yungbauer said. They returned to the scene the next morning for a short while to extinguish a piece of chip board that had ignited.

Yungbauer said that in speaking with the fire marshal, the fire started in the northeast corner of the basement. The cause was electrical, traced to a source plugged into a power strip.

The day after the fire, Thompson said she’d been busy trying to work out insurance details. She went on to note that the house is owned by her father, Roger Thompson, but she has been in the process of purchasing it.

This is a tough month for their family, Tracy Thompson said. She noted that four years ago to the date, her brother Michael and his wife Tara lost their home to fire. And three years ago, on Feb. 12, her mom, Kevette (Pride) Thompson passed



Nothing left to salvage

Travis Eisel looks at his family’s house on Wisconsin Ave. SE in Staples that was destroyed by fire the evening of Feb. 10, 2021. Although they lost everything except

away. They’ll take it one day at a time, just as they’ve done in the past, Thompson said, adding that they plan to be back working as they are able. Travis is the Asst. Manager at Casey’s in Staples and she works in the billing department for a company out of Brainerd. She’s been working from home during the Covid pan-

demic and unfortunately, her work computer melted in the fire. So, that is an added stress, Thompson said.

The whole thing is surreal, Eisel says again. Thompson went on to share that she and her son had just been talking about making a fresh start. This isn’t what they had in mind.

for their cell phones and two dogs, Eisel said he and his mom, Tracy Thompson, are grateful to be alive. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



SM Speech team places first at DGF tournament

The Staples-Motley Speech team has participated in two virtual speech tournaments this season.

The first was the Fergus Falls Otter Orations Tournament, held Jan. 29. “Due to technical issues, we did not fare very well,” said coach Brian Sams. “We did have a few speakers stand out despite being severely handicapped in the first round.” Staples-Motley individual placings included: 3rd in Finals, Micah Larson, Creative Expression; Honor Finals, Caden Mrazek, 1st in Humor and 3rd in Storytelling; Connor Judd and Cy Johnson, 1st in Duo; Keegan Harvey and Keegan Bestland, 2nd in Duo and Alex Brings, 5th in Great Speeches.

The Staples-Motley Speech team earned first place honors at the DGF invitational tournament on February 6. Tournament champions in their categories were: Caden Mrazek, Humor, Torii Nienow, Informative and Connor Judd and Cy Johnson, Duo. Placing 2nd in Humor, Laken Hines; 3rd, Brooke Ferdon, Discussion, Keegan

Bestland and Keegan Harvey, Duo, Micah Larson, Creative and Torii Nienow, OO. Placing 4th, Alex Brings, Great Speeches, Grace Allen, Poetry and Keegan Bestland, Storytelling. Earning 5th place awards were Caden Mrazek, Storytelling, Cy Johnson, Ex. Speaking and Grace Allen, Ex. Reading. Placing 6th, AJ Nienow, Humor and Brynn Bestland and Cecily Moe, Duo. Earning honorable mention, Iain Sams, Creative and Addy Toepfer, Drama.

Front row, left to right: Alex Brings, Brynn Bestland, Laken Hines, Jaden Johnson, Bella Hines, Maria Stumbo. Middle row: Emily Olson (Coach), Adelaide Toepper, Cecily Moe, Grace Allen, Torii Nienow, Brooke Ferdon, Walker Johnson, Estella Bock, Olivia Opheim. Back: Travis Chaput (Coach), Micah Larson, Iain Sams, Caden Mrazek, Connor Judd, Cy Johnson, AJ Nienow, Keegan Bestland, Tammy Johnson (Coach), Samantha Mrazek (Coach), Brian Sams (Coach). (Submitted photo)

Ehnstrom joins Lakewood staff

Anna Ehnstrom, physician assistant, joins Lakewood Health System’s medical staff, Staples.

Originally from Aitkin, Ehnstrom received her undergraduate and master’s degrees from Bethel University in St. Paul. She is a member of the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants.

As a physician assistant, Ehnstrom is interested in the full spectrum of family medicine with a special focus in women’s health and preventative care.

“I look forward to being part of the great community Lakewood Health System has established for its employees, patients and students,” said Ehnstrom. “I got to experience that as a student here during my clinical time. I’m excited to be part of a team approach and continue learning how to best serve my patients.”

Ehnstrom enjoys spend-

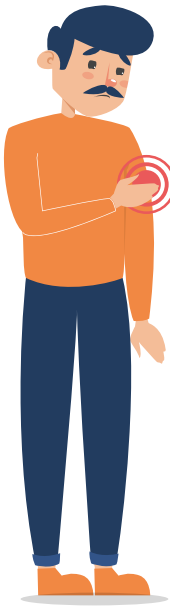


Anna Ehnstrom, PA-C

ing time with her husband, Nathan, and their dog, Jellybean. They love all things outdoors, including paddleboarding, surfing, biking, and hiking. In addition, Ehnstrom enjoys traveling, photography and spending time with friends and family.

Ehnstrom will see patients in the Staples clinic. To schedule an appointment, call 218-894-1515.

The Lakewood Pain Clinic is here!



To schedule with one of our providers and discuss if a referral to Lakewood’s Pain Clinic is right for you, call **218-894-1515**. lakewoodhealthsystem.com

The best place to bring your worst pain is now the Lakewood Health System Pain Clinic. This new service provides a personalized, effective approach to pain management and treatment for a full range of conditions.

You will receive:

- Coordinated care with your provider
- Full imaging and lab work
- Proven treatment options including injections, physical therapy and patient education
- Long-term follow up
- Nurse hotline access

