



# Staples World

Wednesday, December 29, 2021

Staples, Minnesota

\$1

**Watch ended** Following the funeral service for Ron Smith held at the Free Methodist Church in Motley December 21, the officer's body was escorted through Staples on Hwy. 10 to the final resting place in Perham. Officers, police, marshalls, state patrol, national guard and emergency personnel from across the state traveled to honor Officer Smith. (Photo by Janice Winter)

## School board approves building levy but will look at payment options

By Mark Anderson  
Managing Editor

The Staples-Motley School Board approved the proposed budget and tax levy that includes \$14 million in additional taxes for building projects, but promised to look at extending the bond repayment period so the tax impact is not as large each year.

At the Dec. 20 school board meeting, Board Chair Bryan Winkels said due to community input at the Truth in Taxation meeting, the board will consider other repayment options for the project. Winkels said that the \$9.3 million bond has already been sold so it can't change, but the other bonds will not be sold until some time in 2022. The

board will consider other options that could extend the term of the debt and cost less per year.

"It will depend on the rates," said Superintendent Shane Tappe.

Also at the Dec. 20 meeting, updates were given by a representative from ICS, the facility planning company that is overseeing the building project. The project is still meeting deadlines. The project is likely to go out for bids in early February with a bid opening scheduled for Feb. 22.

Tappe said the high school's steam boilers have had issues with leaks, rusted pipes and broken valves. The Staples Fire Department was called to the school when a leak set off the fire alarm. "The amount of glycol and the

temperature of the steam can be very alarming," said Tappe. "We hope we can make it through the winter with the current system." He said Leroy Peterson, the school maintenance supervisor, is working through the issues and getting additional parts as they are needed.

In other news, the board learned that the school will get \$23,500 for staff planning time to implement their Farm to School grant for the school garden.

Personnel moves approved by the board included leave of absence requests from Amanda Weishair and Rebecca Rap away. The board approved the hire of Asharak White as custodian.



### Staples fire department tribute

The Staples fire department raised their flag over the overpass in Staples honoring fallen officer Ron Smith as the caravan passed below.



### SMES fourth grade Christmas Program fills the gym

The Staples-Motley Elementary School fourth grade Christmas Program was held Dec. 16 in the elementary gym. Four classrooms of students performed songs, opening with Happy Holidays and ending with A Christmas Wish. Above: Mrs. Sapp's Class (standing) with The Marvelous Toy. (Staples World photos by Janice Winter)



### Happy Holidays from SMES second graders

The Staples-Motley Elementary School second grade Christmas Program was held Dec. 16, in the elementary gym. The group sang six songs together including Happy Holidays, This is Christmas, Jingle, Jingle, Jingle, Zumba Zumba (Spanish folk song) and Sing of Christmas Joy. The closing number was Christmas Wish. The audience joined in singing along with Jingle Bells and Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer. The program was directed by Mrs. Moen, music teacher at SMES. (Staples World photos by Janice Winter)

### Public Notices

Fawn Lake: **9A**

### Obituaries

Larry Bybee  
Barbara Olson

### Weather

This Week's Forecast

	High	Low	Cond.
Dec. 29	2°	-10	
Dec. 30	8	-9	Cloudy
Dec. 31	8	-7	P. Cloudy
Jan. 1	-2	23	P. Cloudy
Jan. 2	5	-4	Sunny
Jan. 3	15	1	M. Cloudy
Jan. 4			M. Cloudy

Last Year, 2020-21

	High	Low	Cond.
Dec. 29	12°	8	Snow
Dec. 30	19	13	Cloudy
Dec. 31	20	12	M. Sunny
Jan. 1	23	6	M. Sunny
Jan. 2	31	19	Sunny
Jan. 3	30	15	Sunny
Jan. 4	35	24	Sunny

Average Temps:  
H = 22° Low = 6°  
Total snow: Varies from 9-13 inches  
Happy New Year

Compiled by  
Dale Hausmann,  
WCCO's Staples area  
Weather watcher



Thank you for subscribing!



# Motley's 2022 levy up 4.16 percent over last year's

By Dawn Timbs  
Staples World reporter

At their regular meeting Dec. 14, the Motley City Council approved the total levy for 2022 (\$406,198), an increase of 4.16 percent from last year's certified levy. The council also adopted the final budget for 2022 as presented.

The total certified levy includes sums of money for the following funds:

- General: \$228,974
- Fire: \$24,980
- Street Improvement: \$58,000
- Beaulieu Project Bond: \$40,000
- 2011A Street Improvement: \$22,244
- 2012A Street Improvement: \$32,000.

Prior to their regular meeting, a Truth in Taxation Public Hearing was held to discuss the proposed 2022 budget and levy. It was noted that a preliminary levy increase of 4.62 percent had been approved in September, and that the council has the ability to reduce the amount of the levy, but not to increase it before approving the final budget.

There were five members of the public in attendance at the public hearing, all of which reside at the Mill Pond Townhomes. Those that spoke up expressed concern that their Proposed Property Tax statement had gone up. They noted significant increases in both their Morrison County taxes and their Staples-Motley School District taxes. They also mentioned seeing a 17 percent increase in their city taxes. "Why?" they wondered.



## Privately owned street in Motley

Mill Pond Street in Motley (the portion from 3rd Ave. So. to Cemetery Rd.) is privately owned by the Mill Pond Association, which means its residents are responsible to keep it plowed.

Motley's Public Works Director Bruce Brotherton said that according to the blueprints supplied to the city when the development was started, the street through Mill Pond is 24' wide; and it notes

on those plans that the road Right of Way (R.O.W.) does not allow proper building setback for the city to assume ownership.

Brotherton said that the other streets in town have a minimum R.O.W. of 66' but the majority are 80' wide. The only portion of Mill Pond Street that is city owned is the one block between Hwy 10 and 3rd Ave. which has a 66' Right of Way (R.O.W.) (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Mayor Al Yoder asked them if their property values went up. If so, that is a big reason as to why there would be a tax increase. The group were advised to come back in April for the Local Board of Appeals meeting where these sorts of questions or objections related to market value are handled during a public meeting with the county assessor. A notice about this will be published in the paper prior to that date.

Mike Chapman, one of the Mill Pond residents at the public hearing, wondered why they have to pay a private contractor to plow their street. He also wondered why Mill Pond Street was a private road.

Council member Pat O'Regan said that they had had a discussion about that with the Mill Pond property developer years ago. The city had told the developer that the road was not wide enough to be a city street. O'Regan said that the developer basically told them that it was none of their business...he wanted the street to be a private one. "so that's what he got," O'Regan said.

When asked what they got for their taxes, the Mill Pond Group was told Fire Department and law enforcement services, as well as a discount on garbage and recycling.

Both Mayor Yoder and Council member Steve Johnson sympathized with the Mill Pond group, sharing that they, too, live in city

limits and have to pay extra for things. Johnson said he lives on a private road and has to pay for plowing services. Yoder said his proposed property taxes went up a total of 22 percent.

In other matters the council:

• APPROVED waiving the meeting room fee for the June Fest Committee, per their request.

• APPROVED the Motley Fire Department's recommendation for the following officers: Chief, Brad Olson; 1st Asst. Chief, Bryan Stevens; 2nd Asst. Chief, Jace Carlson; Medical Officer, Karyn Thiede.

• APPROVED a one-year leave of absence for fire fighter Chuck Gerads, due to his current workload and future movements in his Minnesota Army National Guard career.

• APPROVED the fire department's request to pay a truck expense of \$4,514.75.

• APPROVED, in a Roll Call vote, the police department going with the Axon Mobile and Body Worn Cameras (BWC) system, purchasing through the Morrison County Sheriff's Office plan. The annual cost is \$4,353; a bi-annual audit is estimated at \$125;

with the 10-year cost of the mobile and body worn camera system estimated to be \$44,780. Council members Jace Carlson, Amy Hutchison, and O'Regan voted 'aye'; and council member Johnson voted, 'no.' Mayor Yoder abstained.

• APPROVED Police

Chief Jason Borash attending the Chief's Conference April 4 - 7 in Duluth.

• HEARD positive comments about the Christmas lights in town, thanks to Bryan Stevens and Bruce Brotherton on the Public Works Department.

• APPROVED putting the Sourcewell rebate amount of \$3,007.22 into the truck fund.

• APPROVED having Schlenner Wenner & Co. conduct the annual audit of financial statements.

• APPROVED, with regrets, the resignation of Accounting/Administrative Assistant Karen Pogreba. She has agreed to stay and help train the new employee when hired.

• APPROVED posting the Administrative/Accounting Assistant position, for up to 26 hours per week; and,

• SET a hiring committee for this position, which will include council members Hutchison and Johnson; City Clerk/Treasurer Curt Bryniarski; Police Chief Borash; and Public Works Director Brotherton.

• APPROVED going with new Dell computers for the administration, with a total cost of \$2,086.08.

• ACCEPTED a \$300 donation from Unity Bank to go towards the truck fund; and a \$500 donation from the Motley Lions Club to be used for holiday lights in the parks.

• SET next regular council meeting for Monday, Jan. 10, 6:30 p.m.



## Pillager Lions deliver gifts

Pillager Lions recently purchased and delivered presents to the Pillager Schools. Pictured from left are Lion Cathy Johnson, Pillager Middle School Counselor Stacy Germundson, Lion John Driscoll, Lion Brenda Storing, Lion Nancy Hanssen. Not pictured: Pillager Elementary School Social Worker Ashley Ingman, Christmas Project Coordinator. (Submitted photo)

## Law enforcement reports, Motley area

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

Dec. 7 - The MCSO responded to a report of a domestic dispute at the 2000 block of 330th St., Motley. Subsequently, Robbie Rocheleau, 39, was arrested for probation violation.

Dec. 15 - The MCSO responded to a report of a semi truck that had rolled over on its side on Hwy 10 and Hwy 210 in Motley. State patrol handled the crash.

Dec. 11 - The MCSO responded to a possible domestic at the 34000 block of Auger Rd., Motley. While arriving, the subject, 47-year-old Robert Kilroy Galceran, fled and a pursuit was initiated. Galceran went off the roadway and was taken into custody without incident.

Dec. 16 - The MPD stopped a vehicle at Hwy

10 and Birch St., Motley, for expired registration. The driver, Robert Kilroy Galceran of Pillager, had four warrants out of Crow Wing County and was arrested. The MPD then met the Crow Wing County Sheriff's Office in Pillager to transport Galceran to them.

Dec. 16 - The MPD assisted state patrol with a jack-knifed semi truck at Azalea Rd. and Hwy 10 in Motley.

Dec. 20 - The MCSO responded to a report of a vehicle in the ditch on Dove Rd. and East Town Line Rd., Pillager. The vehicle had wrong license plates and no insurance. Due to icy roads and that the vehicle was in a dangerous location, it was towed. The driver did not have a valid license.

Dec. 17 - The MCSO assisted state patrol with a roll over at Hwy 10 in Cushing. Upon his arrival, the deputy made contact with the driver and there were no injuries.

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## INTERESTED?

MILEAGE REIMBURSED

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CONTACT

KATHERINE MACKEDANZ

320-732-4452

KATHERINE.MACKEDANZ@CO.TODD.MN.US

ESPAÑOL 320-732-2221



## Lutheran ladies bake Christmas cookies

A dozen volunteers gathered at First Lutheran Church in Pillager Dec. 11, to bake Christmas cookies for people in the community. They packaged and delivered 106 plates to residents of area nursing homes, apartments and neighboring

homes. Church members also received a taste of the goodies during fellowship time the next day. Pictured above, from left, are four of the volunteers: Joanne Groves, Linda Bentler, Rosemary Harmsen and Marlene Lindeman. (Submitted photo)

# New principal, teachers, at Sacred Heart Area School

Sacred Heart Area School in Staples welcomed six new staff members this year: William Liedl, principal; Shari Henrikson, kindergarten; Azure Hogate, 1st grade; Justin Edin, 2nd grade; Noah Han, Pre-K assistant; and Julie Orlando, Pre-K aide. Information about each is included below:

**WILLIAM LIEDL - PRINCIPAL**  
I grew up mostly in the Pequot Lakes area, graduated from St. John's University in 2012 with degrees in History and Asian Studies, then went on to the University of Notre Dame where I attained my Master's degree in Education in 2014.

I am an avid reader; from great classical works to the fantasy genre and



William Liedl

always have a great book recommendation. My nerdiness is supplemented with a healthy dose of strategy games, both board and computer-based. I balance that out with a passion for team sports; especially volleyball, basketball and football; am an active long distance runner and spend many fall weekends in a deer stand. My wife, Sean, and our two kids, Ireland and Ilias, live in Motley and can often be found in the third pew on the north side at St. Michael's for the 10:30 a.m. Sunday Mass.

**SHARI HENRIKSON - KINDERGARTEN**  
I am very excited to be the kindergarten teacher. I have a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education from St. Paul Bible College



Shari Henrikson

(now Crown College) and I'm licensed to teach Pre-K-6th grade. I've been an early childhood teacher for about 20 years, and the last two years I was a preschool aide here at Sacred Heart. I'm a Twin Cities native, but have lived in Wadena for nine years. I enjoy going to flea markets, auctions, movies and shopping. I also love collecting sports memorabilia of Minnesota teams.

**AZURE HOGATE - 1ST GRADE**  
I am excited and blessed to be the first grade teacher at SHAS. I graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education with a middle school science specialty in 2010. I have a lot of experience in various educational roles, working with ages birth through 8th grade. I'm



Azure Hogate

passionate about making a positive difference in my students' lives. When I'm not teaching, I'm a busy mom of two. We enjoy going to area parks, zoos and on walks. I look forward to meeting my students and their families as well as everyone in the wonderful SHAS community.

**JUSTIN EDIN - 1ND GRADE**  
I graduated from Staples Motley High School in 2007 and St. John's University in 2011 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications. I later received my K-12 A.B.S. Special Education License at Bethel University. I've worked with various levels and ages of students over the years and am excited for the opportunity to teach at my home parish Sacred



Justin Edin

Heart. I live outside of Staples with my wonderful wife Tamber and our two joy-filled kids Esther and Jasper. I'm looking forward to sharing my faith and helping students grow in theirs.

**NOAH HAN - PRE-K ASSISTANT**  
I'm originally from Staples. I grew up being involved in sports such as football and track and field. I continued running track when I attended St. Olaf College, where I studied music



Noah Han

and education, earning my Bachelor's of Arts degree in music in 2021. During my time there I sang in a semi-professional capella group called The Limestones. I really enjoy singing in choirs, from the St. Olaf Choir to Staples' very own Staples Area Men's Chorus. Aside from music, I spend

most of my time following the Green Bay Packers, playing chess online and playing the piano. In the meantime, I hope to pursue my Master's degree within the next few years in Education or Conducting.

**JULIE ORLANDO - PRE-K AIDE**  
I am excited to be working with the school as a Pre-K aide this year and running the Before-Care program. I've been a part of the school community for a while now, most



Julie Orlando

recently helping with lunches before taking this position. I love to garden and spend time watching my grandchildren play sports, especially volleyball. I'm excited for this year and can't wait to meet all of our new PreK kiddos.

## Looking back

### 75 YEARS AGO - 1946

• Dec. 26, 1946 - Edward E. Morey was host to several friends Wednesday evening, a week ago, when he entertained them to a moose steak dinner in his home. His guests included Gus Parsons and Harry Dunbar of Pillager; Alvah Nygren, Leader; Glenn Huntsley, Roy Thomson, George Thorn, Wallace Scruppie, Ray Jones and Dewitt Roberts. Following the dinner, Edward showed his guests movies of his hunting trip in Canada last fall, and also movies taken while in Alaska.

• Dec. 26, 1946 - Sgt. Otis Randall of Atlanta, Georgia, and Sgt. Isaac Powe

Compiled by Dawn Timbs

of Miami, Florida, were brought to the Staples Municipal hospital on Dec. 20, suffering with knife wounds inflicted by each other as the result of an altercation which developed on Northern Pacific train No. 2.

Just what started the fight could not be learned, but Randall was pretty badly cut up, and it took a good many stitches to close his wounds.

Both men remained in the Staples Municipal hospital until Monday.

• Dec. 26, 1946 - Stamp No. 53 in ration book four will become good for five pounds of sugar on Jan. 1, 1947, the office of temporary controls announced Monday of this week.

This stamp will remain valid through April 30, and another, also for five pounds, will be validated before No. 53 expires.

• Dec. 26, 1946 - On Dec. 15, Mrs. J. Hartman of Staples had the misfortune of breaking her left arm just above the wrist.

She had been outside and fell, but fortunately she was not injured in the fall except to be shaken up a bit. About an hour afterward, she again started outside. As she turned to reach for the door knob, their small son, not knowing that his mother was near the door, rushed up and slammed the door shut. Mrs. Hartman's arm was caught in the door. She suffered a great deal of pain, but when an X-ray was taken of her arm the pictures revealed that it was broken just above the wrist.

• Dec. 26, 1946 - For the past two weeks, according to Miss Mary Mraz, county nurse, Todd county has been without any new cases of polio, according to information received by The World.

This year has been by far the most serious in Todd county for the outbreak of polio cases and there have been 35 cases reported since the epidemic swept the state early in the fall.

### 50 YEARS AGO - 1971

• Dec. 30, 1971 - Bob Thorn, a senior at Motley

high school, is still hospitalized at the Staples Municipal hospital with injuries received in a snowmobile accident about 1 a.m.

Thorn was injured when the snowmobile he was riding apparently collided with a tree near the Hilmer Schweigert residence near Fish Trap Lake. Dec. 18. His injuries include a skull fracture, a broken wrist, a fractured pelvis, a badly bruised hip and a frozen hand.

Bob is the son of Robert horn of Motley. He was a starting guard on the Motley basketball team this season and was also an outstanding football player for Coach Bill Finn' Rockets this fall.

• Dec. 30, 1971 - The young people of the Christian Missionary Alliance Church will be sponsoring a city wide New Year's Eve service.

The evening will begin with sledding at Dower Lake and at 11:30 the film, "Riding the Pulpit" will be shown at the church. Lunch will be served at the church.

• Dec. 30, 1971 - A pre-New Year's dance will be held Dec. 30 from 8 - 12 p.m. at the Community Center.

All young people from grade seven to 20 years of age may attend. There will be a 25 cents admission charge for non-members and members will be admitted free.

• Dec. 30, 1971 - A Snowmobile Derby and Dance, featuring Daryl Larson and The Country Road, will be held Sunday, Jan. 2, at the Lake Simon Raceway six miles north of Staples. Free babysitting service available 12:30 - 8 p.m.

• Dec. 30, 1971 - Celebrate New Year's Eve at the River Inn in Aldrich. Famous for steaks! Music by The Vagabonds.

• Dec. 30, 1971 - Showing at the Staples Theatre Dec. 29 - Jan. 1, Dustin Hoffman in "Who is Harry Kellerman"; and Jan. 2 - 4, "Shaft" starring Richard Roundtree.

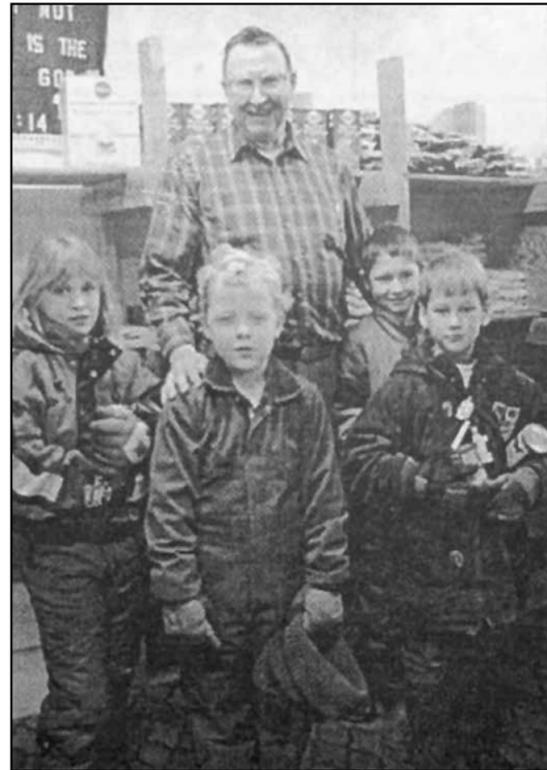
### 25 YEARS AGO - 1996

• Dec. 26, 1996 - Some folks in the Motley area want to put Motley on the map, but they're having a slight problem deciding how to go about that task.

The map in question is a snowmobile map. While many communities around the state are on snowmobile trails, Motley is not.

But things have changed in recent months. The Staples Area Chamber of Commerce in the past year extended out to serve Motley, adding Motley to its name. And new businesses, the Rodeway Inn and the Countryside Restaurant on the south side of town, would like to attract more snowmobilers to stay in Motley and spend money there.

• Dec. 26, 1996 - Minnesota motorists will find gasoline prices slightly lower this month than they were over Thanksgiving, according to AAA Minnesota. A recent survey shows the average price of unleaded self-service gasoline is \$1.33 per gallon,



### Mystery photo

Hello readers. This week's archive photo is from our Dec. 26, 1996 edition. Do you know who these people are and perhaps the context of the photo? Do you have a memory to share? Email your answers and where you are from to dtimbs@staplesworld.com by Friday, or call 218-894-1112. The answers will be published in next week's paper, as well as a new mystery photo.

almost two cents less than on Thanksgiving when the price was \$1.35.

• Dec. 26, 1996 - Cheryl Kolbe of Staples has just had her original poetry published in "Amidst the Splendor", a treasury of today's poetry compiled by The National Library of Poetry.

The subject of her poem entitled, "Only" is love. Kolbe has been writing for 25 years and her favorite subjects and ideas are about love and friendships.

### 10 YEARS AGO - 2011

• Dec. 29, 2011 - The Staples Fire Department responded to a call of a grass fire just west of Staples around 1:30 p.m. Dec. 26. With winds gusting near 20 mph and no snow on the ground, the flames swept through the prairie grass but fortunately did not burn any of the property recently purchased by Angel and Becky Napoles.

• Dec. 29, 2011 - Temperatures reached nearly 50 degrees over the Christmas weekend in Staples. There wasn't any snow for sledding, and instead of wearing snowmobile suits, kids playing outside were dressed in sweatshirts or light jackets.

• Dec. 29, 2011 - Instead of a gift exchange, the third grade students from Staples Elementary School collected items for the food shelf. As a part of their math lesson, they also weighed the food in all three classrooms. They donated a total of 149 pounds to the Staples Food Shelf.

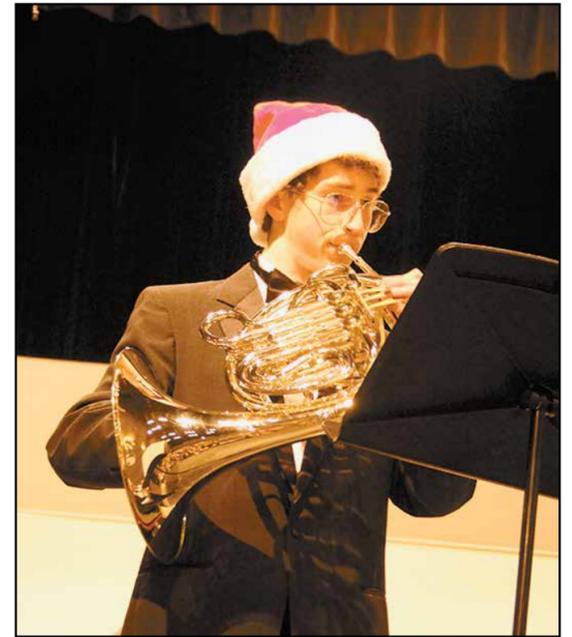
• Dec. 29, 2011 - A New Year's Eve Tradition Dec. 31, at Mr. Ed's in Motley. Featuring Prime Rib (served 4 p.m. until gone), Sirloin and Shrimp.



### Mystery solved

Last week's mystery photo, published in the Dec. 16, 1999 edition of the Staples World featured members of the Staples Motley FFA Forestry team that finished sixth in the Regional competition. They included front, from left, David Reichel and Matthew Wegscheid. Back, from left, Carrie Boelz and Jackie Bueckers. Bueckers was 10th highest individual and Boelz was 12th. The team competed in eight areas including wood identification, forestry tools, map interpretation, forest business management problem, pulpwood scaling, log scaling and a written exam on current issues on forest management.

There were no responses to this week's Mystery Photo.



### Sounds of the season

A variety of holiday music was performed at the recent 'Cardinal Christmas Concert', featuring Staples-Motley students (grades 6 - 12) that are a part of orchestra, band and choir. Above: Will Dolezal was part of a small ensemble that played, "Good King Wenceslas," a 13th Century Spring Carol. Below: Members of the 6th grade band, directed by Thomas Johnson (not pictured) performed "Jingle, Jolly Christmas." Kristina Haataja was the other director for the concert, held at Centennial Auditorium in Staples. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)

Looking for a gift idea? Consider a Gift Subscription to the Staples World newspaper. \*Gift cards available. 224 4th St. NE Staples, MN Staples World



## Time for some New Year's outdoors resolutions

One of our more familiar cultural traditions is the annual ritual of the New Year's resolution. We resolve to make life changes and improvements, to pursue new or revisited goals. Most of us have aspects of our lives that we might like to be more satisfied with. Some of the resolutions will be humdrum, others ambitious, or grand.

Despite good intentions—some resolutions will fall by the wayside. But coming up short on a resolution doesn't mean that making it is meaningless. Optimism and hopefulness—dreams—go a long way toward making a king life's obstacles and setbacks more tolerable. And all the better if what we hope for and aspire to actually comes true. As we're often told by psychologists and self-help gurus, things we desire are more likely to happen if we consciously focus on them, visualize them, and find ways to remind ourselves from time to time.

As the last few days of December trickle through the hourglass of 2021, I've been looking ahead to the coming year and reflecting on some hopes and goals. A few may be beyond my control, and could be thwarted by events or priorities I can't foresee. Others are mostly a matter of discipline and follow-through.

With this in mind, here are several resolutions that

I hope to keep in the year ahead.

I've been pretty much on the sidelines in recent years when it comes to active involvement in the conservation organizations that directly connect to my most avid outdoor interests. In years long past I was a member of fundraising committees for the Minnesota Waterfowl Association and the Ruffed Grouse Society, contributed "grunt" labor doing trout stream improvement, helped with Trout Unlimited, and was a local chapter officer for several of these groups.

But for too many years now I've rested on my laurels—rested on my wallet, you might say—paying membership dues in several organizations, but doing little more than that. At a time when hunters and anglers are a declining share of our population, and some—duck hunters, for example—are dropping dramatically in raw numbers, I know I could do more.

Things like raising my hand—clicking "reply" on that e-mail—when volunteers are being recruited to help with an event at my trap and skeet club. Or contacting a local or regional chapter of Delta Waterfowl, Ducks Unlimited, Pheasants Forever, Trout Unlimited, or the Lake Superior Steelhead Association, and asking "What can I do to help?" Or contacting the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources to see if there is a mentoring opportunity in their hunter recruitment programs. It's true that I may have been putting my money where my mouth is. But maybe it's time to get back to putting muscle—in the form of

time and energy—into such conservation opportunities.

Some of the other things I'm resolving to pursue may be more self-centered. But there's nothing wrong with becoming better at the things you enjoy doing, and being more contented or happier as a result. Joy and reward should not be bad words, as long as that's not all we're preoccupied with, and it doesn't come at the expense of others.

One is to get involved in a new dimension of fishing. It may seem like sacrilege—grounds for excommunication from the society of anglers—to admit that after all these decades of pursuing fish and game I'm a tenderfoot when it comes to ice fishing. I could count on one hand the number of times I've sat on a bucket or a stool inside a "shack" staring at a hole in the ice, or peering into a luminous rectangle of light—spear in hand, watching a wooden decoy swim in lazy arcs below—in a dark house.

But with ice covering our lakes for four to five months every winter, and having so many opportunities almost anywhere within the state, how can I call myself a Minnesotan if I don't at least give this virus that infects so many a chance to infect me? My new toboggan is ready to be loaded with the new pop-up shelter, an auger, portable heater, rods, and what-have-you. This will be the winter!

For others—during the open water months—a worthy resolution might be to try fishing for one or more species that in the past they have neglected. For someone who has been exclusive to a lake angler, consider spending time on a river for smallmouth or muskies, on

a smaller stream for resident trout, or a Lake Superior tributary for steelhead. In my case, I've long been almost entirely a stream fisherman, so the reverse would be true for me. There's probably a new fishing frontier waiting for all of us.

As avidly as I have hunted grouse and ducks for more than a half century, I've been anything but religious when it comes to the kind of shooting that keeps a hunter capable from one year to the next, or that improves his shooting skill. I do belong to a sportsman's club that offers the clay target games of trap, skeet, and five-stand. I've also shot several rounds of sporting clays, a game that presents clay targets in natural field and forest settings, and a wide range of angles and degrees of difficulty. But I haven't been dedicated enough to do it regularly, and my shooting during the hunting season often shows it.

From where I stand, one is never too old—physical condition permitting—to mend their ways and become more capable in the shooting aspects of the hunt. Not to mention the enjoyment of spending time with fellow shooters and hunters who share these passions. And, like so many other pursuits in the outdoors, it's a recreation that is well-suited to a time when there is so much uncertainty caused by the pandemic from which we're struggling to emerge.

Go ahead. Make some resolutions of your own, outdoors or otherwise. We might all be surprised at what we can accomplish and learn by having a New Year's worth of resolve.

Quote of the week

"Packaged inside of every mistake there lays a great lesson. And while I don't want to take the mistake into the New Year, I most certainly want to take the lesson that's packaged inside of it."  
— Craig D. Lounsbrough

## Minnesota outpaces nation on employment

From the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development

Minnesota gained 8,600 jobs in November, up 0.3 percent on a seasonally adjusted basis. The private sector gained 10,200 jobs, up 0.4 percent, according to numbers released by the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED).

The state unemployment rate ticked down two-tenths of a percentage point to 3.3 percent, due to people moving from unemployment to employment. The labor force participation rate declined slightly, to 67.7 percent from 67.8 percent in October, as 2,575 Minnesotans left the labor force.

Nationally, the U.S. gained 210,000 jobs in November, up 0.1 percent, with the private sector adding 235,000 jobs, up 0.2 percent. The U.S. unemployment rate fell four-tenths of a percentage point to 4.2 percent said DEED Commissioner Steve Grove. "Combined with significant wage increases, the job market in Minnesota is hot. We're reaching out every day to assist thousands of Minnesotans in finding meaningful careers that will help advance our economy at this critical point in our pandemic recovery."

Average hourly earnings for all private sector workers in Minnesota rose 42 cents to \$33.79 in November over the month. Over the year average hourly earnings rose \$1.73, up 5.4 percent and since November 2019 they are up 9.5 percent. Nationally private sector wages rose 4.1 percent over the year and 9.6 percent over two years. However, the Consumer Price Index, a measure of inflation, rose 6.8 percent over the year in November and 8.1 percent over 2 years.

Minnesota lost 416,300 jobs from February through April 2020 and has since gained 304,400 jobs, or 73 percent of the jobs lost on a seasonally adjusted basis. The private sector has regained 77 percent of the jobs lost.

In Minnesota, seven supersectors gained jobs and four lost jobs on a seasonal

adjusted basis in November. Gains were in Leisure & Hospitality, up 2,900 jobs, Professional & Business Services up 2,100 jobs, Educational & Health Service up 1,600, Construction and Manufacturing each up 1,500 jobs, Other Services up 1,200 jobs and Trade, Transportation & Utilities up 600 jobs. Construction employment is near an all-time high for this time of year. Losses were in Government down 1,600 jobs, Information down 700 jobs, Financial Activities, down 400 jobs and Mining & Logging down 100 jobs.

Over the year, Minnesota gained 114,609 payroll jobs, up 4.1 percent. The private sector gained 115,950 jobs, up 4.9 percent over the year. Eight supersectors gained jobs and three lost jobs. Information and Financial Activities continued to show over the year losses, down 1,265 (-3.1 percent) and 3,353 (-1.7 percent) respectively. Government also showed over the year losses, down 1,341 or 0.3 percent. U.S. employment grew 4.1 percent over the year with the private sector up 4.6 percent in November. All supersectors showed gains nationally over the year. Four Minnesota supersectors show strength over the year compared to the U.S.: Leisure & Hospitality, Construction, Professional & Business Services and Manufacturing. Employment rose over the year in all Minnesota Metropolitan Statistical Areas.

Many Minnesotans continue to be out of work, but the employment impact of the pandemic on workers has been difficult to measure. The pandemic caused some people to drop out of the workforce, lowering labor force participation, which resulted in an unemployment rate below what would be expected given job losses. The table below accounts for this by showing an adjusted unemployment rate, based on 12-month moving averages, that includes both Minnesotans who are looking for work now and who would have been expected to be working or looking for work if it wasn't for the impact of the pandemic.

## U.S. population at historic low point

By Luke Rogers  
United States Census

The U.S. population grew at a slower rate in 2021 than in any other year since the founding of the nation, based on historical decennial censuses and annual population estimates.

The U.S. Census Bureau Vintage 2021 Population Estimates released Dec. 21 show that population grew only 0.1 percent and that the COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated the slower growth the country has experienced in recent years.

The year 2021 is the first time since 1937 that the U.S. population grew by fewer than one million people, featuring the lowest numeric growth since at least 1900, when the Census Bureau began annual population estimates.

Apart from the last few years, when population growth slowed to historically low levels, the slowest rate of growth in the 20th century was from 1918-1919 amid the influenza pandemic and World War I.

Slower population growth has been a trend in the United States for several years, the result of decreasing fertility and net international migration, combined with increasing mortality due to an aging population.

In other words, since the mid-2010s, births and net international migration have been declining at the same time deaths have been increasing. The collective impact of these trends is slower population growth.

This trend has been amplified by the COVID-19 pandemic, resulting in a historically slow population increase in 2021.



Mike Rahn

Inside the Outdoors



# Staples World

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**Letters:** Readers are encouraged to express their views by writing letters to the editor. Letters are verified for authenticity, so please include a name, address and phone number. Only the author's name and city will be published. Letters may be edited for spelling and grammar errors, libel, length and other factors. Private thanks, solicitations and libelous letters will not be published. Letters are printed on a space available basis. The editor reserves the right to reject letters.

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

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Photo Tech/production.....Janice Winter jwinter@staplesworld.com  
Bookkeeping/Circulation.....Kathy Odden kodden@staplesworld.com  
Reporter.....Dawn Timbs dtimbs@staplesworld.com  
Front Office.....office@staplesworld.com

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## Gingerbread houses made at Staples Public Library

Children and adults were all smiles during the construction of their very own gingerbread houses, a project held at the Staples Public Library Dec. 6. "The program was a huge success," said Cathy Perish, Library Services Coordinator. Kids were given graham cracker pieces to assemble a house and then used various candies for decorations. The program was sponsored by the Staples Friends of the Library. (Submitted photos)



## Staples Library new hours, activities

The Staples Library announced new hours and activities for 2022. For more info contact: Cathy Perish, 218-894-1401.

Starting Jan. 3, the new hours will be Mondays and Wednesdays from 10 a.m.- 6 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays 1 p.m.-8 p.m., Fridays 1-5 p.m. and Saturdays 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Activities include:  
**1,000 Books before Kindergarten**

Enjoy a fun program encouraging reading and early literacy skills. For ages birth to kindergarten. Check out the new app available to record books read. Sponsored by the Staples Friends of the Library.

**D.I.Y. Fun Activity**

Check out our fun guessing game. Each week a new activity and prize winner. For ages 5-12. Sponsored by the Staples Friends of the

Library. Ongoing through January and February.

**Can you Escape from Paradise Island?**

Be the first to solve the puzzles and escape from Paradise Island before it sinks into the ocean. Challenge yourself with locks, puzzles and riddles. You can play as a family or as a group. The family/group that completes the challenge in the shortest amount of time will win a \$25 gift card to a local restaurant. The challenge will end Feb. 16. For teens and adults. Register at the library for a time slot. Limit five per group. Sponsored by the Staples Friends of the Library.

**Wednesdays, Jan. 5, 12, 19 and 26, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

**Thursdays, Jan. 6, 13, 20 and 27, 1 to 7 p.m.**

**Fridays, Jan. 7, 14, 21, and 28, 1 to 4 p.m.**

**Tech Time**

Trouble understanding your laptop, iPad, Kindle or other electronic device?

Would you like to download books from the library website or use eBooks, but aren't sure how? Tech help will be available the first Wednesday of each month from 10 a.m. to Noon. Registration is required. For teens or adults. Wednesday, Jan. 5, 10 a.m.-noon

**Warm Up with Storytime**

Join us for fun winter stories, flannel boards and craft activities. Children gain early literacy skills by listening to stories, singing songs and making crafts.

For preschool to grade 2. Registration required. Limit 10. Sponsored by the Staples Friends of the Library.

**Saturdays, Jan. 8 and 22, 10:30 to 11 a.m.**

**Virtual Lego Builders Challenge**

Follow our Facebook page or stop in the library each month for a new challenge. A chance to use your imagination. Using your Legos, post a picture of your Lego creation and you will get a free mini figure and

have your name put in for a prize drawing. Sponsored by the Staples Friends of the Library.

Runs for one week, starting Monday, Jan. 17

**Preschool Storytime**

Join us in Reading Roundhouse for singing, playing, and other age appropriate activities and crafts. We will engage their curiosity, while developing important literacy skills and fostering a life-long love of reading and learning. For preschoolers. Limit 10. Registration is required. Sponsored by the Staples Friends of the Library.

**Wednesdays, Jan. 19, 10:30 to 11 a.m.**

**Reversible Door Tag Signs**

Make seasonal tags to hang on your door or wall. Completed signs will be reversible, with different seasonal themes on each side. Blank signs, template, paint, and all required materials will be provided. Bring your creativity. For ages 17 and up. Class limit 12. A Legacy event.

**Thursday, Jan. 20, 6 to 7:30 p.m.**



## Gingerbread construction team

The gingerbread construction team at the Staples Library included, left to right: Melissa Jewison, Patty and Wally Huff and Angie Johnson.

## School board organizational meeting

The Staples-Motley School Board will hold their Annual Organizational Meeting Mon., Jan. 3 at 6 p.m. at the District Office, 905 4th St. NE, Staples.

Reorganizational items include election of board chair, election of other officers and appoint person(s) to perform duties of the office of the clerk and treasurer.

Organization items include designating 2022 legal counsel, official newspaper, official depositories, investment of funds, electronic transfers and signature approvals; appoint board members to serve on educational committees, set the school board meeting schedules, set school board salaries and approve the resolution allowing the school district to purchase supplies or services from a school board member.

## In Memory of Mitchell Koppes



"You" 12-27-84 to 7-12-08

I ran into an old friend of yours She was talking about you and I didn't mean to cry.

I wanted to ask more But then I didn't want to pry.

Usually just thinking back of you and how you're not here I would find myself heavy, choked up, holding back the tears.

It just brought me joy to meet somebody I didn't know that knew you.

I would love to ask her stories because she said you made her laugh. She said you were the first one to ever ask her to dance.

I know there must be so many stories of which I never knew. Pretty much all of your life was in a shadow. So very different than what you showed.

Shadow people never want to talk to me because they think they'll make me sad. But all of my life I never wanted more Than to just know the boy I had.

I know some of the stories might be sad and others very dark. I know it wouldn't have mattered to me, I just want to know the real you. I guess all I can do is keep simple my memories of you.

I saw you struggle, but I also saw what a great man you were. You took care of your mother even when there were more adventurous things to do.

I stopped your journey so many times, but because you were my son you came every time. I hurts my heart to know that you could have had a different life. But for each day I live and breathe, I'll never forget your sacrifice.

Please forgive me, I didn't know the short time I'd have with you. I took the time you had to grow, experiences that you wanted to do. To steal time, that was meant for you.

It was one of the most selfish things I ever did to you. I love you. Someday we'll see each other And this time, We'll make it all about you.

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

## Mark Your Calendar

### December 30

**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.

### December 31

**WOMEN'S OPEN AA RECOVERY MEETING** Every Friday in person, 10:30 a.m., Motley Free Methodist Church (lower level), 33 Wellwood St. E. Motley. All women welcome.

abortioncounters.com

w29-1p

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- Loan Admin Clerk - Clara City
- Compliance Specialist - Clara City
- Executive Admin Assistant - Clara City
- Marketing Specialist - Clara City

To view our job posting or **Apply Online** please visit:

[citizensalliancebank.com/careers](http://citizensalliancebank.com/careers)



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**On-Line: \$37**

**Print with on-line: \$65**

Staples World

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[www.staplesworld.com](http://www.staplesworld.com)

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**2022**  
Happy New Year

Staples World  
Mark Anderson, Kathy Odden, Dawn Timbs, Janice Winter



**Deadline** for classified ads, display ads, garage sale ads, letters to the editor and news items for the **Staples World is Friday noon.**

**Needing/Wanting a Granite Memorial FOR YOUR FAMILY?**  
I can help!  
**Diane M. Hahn**  
27 years serving our area!  
Rep. for Fergus Falls Monument Co.  
**Call 218-445-5685 or 218-640-2341**

## Hello World

**BIRTHS REPORTED AT LAKEWOOD HEALTH SYSTEM HOSPITAL IN STAPLES INCLUDED:**  
Born to Kripa and Bryan Reese of Staples, a baby boy, Israel Gregory weighing seven pounds, 11 ounces on December 16, 2021.  
Born to Kayla Johnson and Michael Sumser of Brainerd, a baby boy, Oaklee William weighing seven pounds on December 17, 2021.  
Born to Vanessa Fratzke of Wadena, a baby boy, RyLee Ray weighing six pounds, 10.5 ounces on December 17, 2021.  
Born to Kali Raph and Malachi Johnson of Motley,

a baby girl, Dani Jo weighing seven pounds, nine ounces on December 19, 2021.  
Born to Hailey and Tyler Muehler of New York Mills, a baby girl, Aurora Kay weighing seven pounds, 13 ounces on December 19, 2021.  
Born to Katie and Dustin Wiese of Pequot Lakes, a baby boy, Derek Ronald weighing seven pounds, 13 ounces on December 20, 2021.  
Born to Samantha and Tyler Bunn of Staples, a baby girl, Oaklyn Noel weighing six pounds, eight

ounces on December 21, 2021.  
Born to Kimberly Christensen and Justin Wicks of Hackensack, a baby girl, Mena Rose weighing seven pounds, three ounces on December 21, 2021.  
Born to Hannah and Nate Chaffin of Eagle Bend, a baby girl, Peyton Lynn weighing seven pounds, 14 ounces on December 22, 2021.  
Born to Andrea and Jonathan Doebler of Staples, a baby girl, Nora Maple weighing seven pounds, six ounces on December 22, 2021.

## Obituaries



### Barbara Olson

Barbara Ann Olson, 88, left her earthly house in Palmer, Alaska for her heavenly home on December 4, 2021, with several family members by her side.  
The oldest of three daughters, she was born August 29, 1933 to Robert and Ellen (Dickson) Batcher in Staples, where she grew up. During her teen years she put her faith in Jesus at a summer camp and was active in church throughout her life - playing the piano, singing alto and volunteering in various capacities. Barb was the Homecoming Queen of and graduated with the Staples High School Class of 1951. She attended St. Cloud State Teacher's College, majoring in Phys. Ed. and earning her Provisional Elementary Certificate. While there, she met Lloyd Olson, the man who would become her husband of almost 69 years. The couple moved often and daughter Karen was born in Washington, D.C. and sons Keith and Karl in Colorado Springs, CO.  
Barbara always had an enthusiastic zest for life and when job transfers took the family to Anchorage, AK and Kailua, Hawaii, she embraced each new opportunity wholeheartedly. In 1970, the Olsons moved back to Anchorage permanently. Always active, Barbara took up downhill skiing and joined the Sourdough Ski Patrol at Alyeska, where she served as secretary for many years. In her 50's she competed in a triathlon and took first place in her age group. Barb worked several part-time jobs over the years but her main focus was always her family. She also loved hiking, berry picking, her vegetable garden, tend-

ing flowers and her backyard raspberry patch, from which she made mouthwatering pies and delicious jelly. She enjoyed handwork - knitting, embroidery and Swedish weaving - often blessing others with gifts of her beautiful work.  
In 2017, Barbara had a terrible accident resulting in massive head injuries and a traumatic brain injury. Although doctors did not expect her to survive, she made a remarkable recovery with the prayers of family and friends across the country. She was left with substantial limitations, which she faced bravely and handled graciously, loving to say, "I'm a miracle."  
A year later, Lloyd and Barb made the daunting decision to move from their Anchorage home of 48 years to a smaller place in Palmer. Barbara sadly but determinedly faced it with her usual "Let's go!" attitude.  
Barbara will be most remembered for her dedicated love for her family and her Lord. She was vivacious and strong and she lived life to the fullest. She had a radiant smile that communicated God's love to those around her.  
She is survived by one daughter, Karen (Paul) Schindler; son, Keith (Sharon), grandson, Hunter, granddaughter, Emily; son Karl (wife, Amy Larson), granddaughter, Riley Olson; two sisters, LuJean Huffman-Nordberg and Joan Batcher Rhymers and their families.  
Her husband, Lloyd W. Olson, 92, went to his heavenly home on December 15, 2021, just 11 days after Barb passed away.  
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## Staples Area Church Directory

**Staples**  
**Staples Alliance**  
1512 8th St. NE, Staples ..... 218-894-2891  
Pastor Zach Jones  
Sunday Worship ..... 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday School ..... 11:00 a.m.  
WEDNESDAY  
AWANA ..... 6:00 p.m.  
**Assembly of God**  
914 3rd Ave. NE, Staples ..... 218-894-1081  
Pastor Roy Miles  
Small Groups (Bible classes for all ages) ..... 9:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship Service ..... 10:30 a.m.  
Children's Church (Kids start in main worship service) ..... 11 a.m.  
Prayer Meeting ..... 5 p.m.  
WEDNESDAY  
Sunlight (kids ages 4 yrs.-6th grade) ..... After school to 5:30 p.m.  
Youth Group (Teens, 7th-12th grade) ..... After school to 5:30 p.m.  
**Church of Christ**  
27343 490th St., Staples ..... 218-894-2609  
Pastor Barry Klein  
Facebook Live  
Bible School (youth and adult) ..... 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday Worship ..... 10:30 a.m.  
WEDNESDAY:  
Teen Youth/Adults Bible Study ..... 7-8 p.m.  
**First Congregational Church, UCC**  
firstcongoastaples@gmail.com  
204 5th St. NE, Staples ..... 218-894-2571  
Worship ..... 9:30 a.m.  
Fellowship, refreshments following service  
**Faith Lutheran**  
430 12th Street, NE., Staples ..... 218-894-1546  
Pastor Carl Larson  
Pastor Chris Mathiason  
Sunday Worship Service ..... 9:00 a.m.  
Sunday School and Coffee Fellowship ..... 10:05 a.m.  
**Sacred Heart Church**  
310 4th St. NE, Staples  
Church ..... 218-894-2296  
Pastor Fr. Aaron Kuhn  
Parochial Vicar, Fr. Gabriel Walz  
MASS:  
Thursday and Friday ..... 8:30 a.m.  
Sunday ..... 8:30 a.m.  
**Seventh Day Adventist**  
421 Dakota Ave. SE, Staples  
218-894-0033  
Saturday Worship ..... 9:30 am.  
Sabbath School ..... 10:45 a.m.  
**Thomastown Covenant**  
15940 251st Ave., Staples ..... 218-894-3923  
Pastor Scott Jorgenson  
Sunday Worship ..... 10:30 a.m.  
WEDNESDAY NIGHT YOUTH ..... 6:30 p.m.

**Trinity Lutheran**  
1000 4th St. NE, Staples ..... 218-894-2372  
Rev. Robin Collins  
Sunday Divine Service ..... 9:00 a.m.  
Sunday School & Bible Class ..... 10:30 a.m.  
**United Methodist**  
310 5th St. NE, Staples ..... 218-894-2248  
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**  
**Balsamund Lutheran**  
19550 490th Street, Aldrich  
Eric Clapp ..... 701-261-2394 (cell)  
Sunday Worship ..... 8:15 a.m.  
Sunday School ..... 8:30 a.m.  
**Cushing**  
**Bethany Lutheran**  
25430 Bison Rd. Cushing, MN  
320-749-2140  
Pastor Carl Larson  
Pastor Chris Mathiason  
www.bethanylutherancushing.org  
Sunday Worship ..... 9:00 a.m.  
Communion ..... 1st and 2nd Sunday of each month  
**Lincoln Evangelical Free**  
1354 320th Street, Cushing, MN 56443  
Phone: 218-575-2449  
www.lincolnefree.org  
Facebook Lincoln E Free  
Office Hours: Tues. - Thurs., 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.  
Senior Pastor: Don Reigstad  
Community Life Pastor: Jim Brown  
Associate Pastor: Joe Reigstad  
SUNDAY  
Church Worship Gathering ..... 10:00 a.m.  
YouTube Channel ..... 10:00 a.m.  
WEDNESDAY  
Community Meal ..... 5:30 p.m.  
Family Night ..... 6:00 p.m.  
**Cushing Baptist**  
26298 Bear Rd., Cushing  
Pastor Dan Holmes ..... 320-749-2583  
Sunday School ..... 9:30 a.m.  
Worship ..... 10:30 a.m.  
WEDNESDAY  
Bible study ..... 7:30 p.m.  
**Leader**  
**Swan Valley Lutheran**  
Leader ..... 218-397-2470  
Sandy Knight, Synodically Authorized Minister of Word and Sacrament  
Sunday Worship  
January - July ..... 9 a.m.  
July - January ..... 11 a.m.  
**Maple Hill Lutheran**  
Sandy Knight, Synodically Authorized Minister of Word and Sacrament  
Leader ..... 218-397-2470 (Rural Pine River)  
Worship and Sunday School ..... 9:00 a.m.

**Motley**  
**Motley Free Methodist**  
33 Wellwood St. E  
Motley 56466 ..... 218-352-6888  
Jim Johnson, Senior Pastor  
Charles Mallory, Associate Pastor  
Sunday Worship ..... 9:00 and 10:30 a.m.  
facebook live ..... 9 a.m.  
WEDNESDAY  
Youth Group ..... 6:00-8:00 p.m.  
**St. John's Lutheran**  
497 3rd Ave. S., Motley ..... 218-352-6399  
Pastor Vicar Paul Koehler  
Sunday School and Bible Class ..... 8:30 a.m.  
Sunday Worship ..... 9:30 a.m.  
**St. Michael**  
19550 490th St., Motley ..... 218-894-2296  
Pastor Fr. Aaron Kuhn  
Parochial Vicar, Fr. Gabriel Walz  
MASS:  
Tuesday ..... 6:30 p.m.  
Sunday ..... 10:30 a.m.  
**United Methodist**  
847 3rd Ave. S. Lane, Motley ..... 218-352-6466  
Pastor Greg Leslie  
www.motleyumc.net  
Sunday Worship Service ..... 9:00 a.m.  
Monday AA meeting ..... 8:00 p.m.  
**Oylen**  
**Oylen Alliance**  
City, Rds. 7 and 9, Oylen  
218-472-3440 or 218-472-3316  
Pastor Neal Malcore  
Sunday School ..... 10:00 a.m.  
Sunday Worship ..... 11:00 a.m.  
**Pillager**  
**First Lutheran Church**  
Pastor Mathew Sundquist  
717 River Street S, Pillager, MN  
218-746-3775  
Sunday Worship ..... 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday School ..... 8:30 a.m.  
**Casino Assembly of God**  
Pastor Dan Johnson  
N. of Motley, Hwy. 64, E. on Cty 34 to Cty. 104.  
Phone ..... 218-746-3839  
Sunday School ..... 9:30 a.m.  
Worship ..... 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday Worship ..... 7:00 p.m.  
WEDNESDAY ..... 7:00 p.m.  
**First Baptist**  
903 River Street South, Pillager  
Pastor Jake Anderson  
218-746-3768  
curious@fbcpillager.com  
Worship Gathering ..... 10:00 a.m.  
Connection Point ..... 9:30 a.m.

**Hewitt**  
**Church of the Nazarene**  
114 Front Street, P.O. Box 146 Hewitt, MN  
218-924-2028  
Pastor Wayne Hoffert  
Sunday School ..... 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday Worship ..... 10:45 a.m./6 p.m.  
WEDNESDAY PRAYER ..... 7:00 p.m.  
**Trinity Lutheran Church (LCMS)**  
524 Front Street, PO Box 116, Hewitt, MN  
Pastor Robin Fish  
Sunday Worship ..... 10:30 a.m.  
**United Methodist Church**  
Hwy. 210, Hewitt, MN  
Pastor Kenneth Uhren  
Sunday Services ..... 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday School ..... 9:30 a.m.  
**Verndale**  
**Verndale Alliance**  
109 NW Brown Street, Verndale, MN 56481  
218-445-5619  
Senior Pastor Tony Stanley  
Heath Belknap, Pastor of Student Ministries  
Sunday Worship ..... 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday Bible Fellowship Classes ..... 11-11:45 a.m.  
**Family Life Church**  
402 NE Clark Drive, Verndale 218-445-5568  
VerndaleFLC@gmail.com  
Pastor Amos Self ..... 218-371-7189  
Children's Pastor Kenneth Kjeldergaard  
SUNDAY  
Sunday School ..... 8:30 a.m.  
Worship Service ..... 10:00 a.m.  
Prayer Meeting ..... 5 p.m.  
WEDNESDAY  
Night Life Groups ..... 6:30-8 p.m.  
**Hope Chapel Alliance**  
18126 County Road 7, Verndale  
218-445-5643 or 218-472-3316  
Pastor Neal Malcore  
Sunday Worship ..... 9:00 a.m.  
Sunday School ..... 10:30 a.m.  
WEDNESDAY  
Family Night ..... 5:30 p.m.  
**Immanuel Lutheran Church of Bartlett Township (LCMS)**  
17097 460th St., PO Box 37, Verndale  
Pastor Robin Fish  
Sunday Worship ..... 9:00 a.m.  
WEDNESDAY  
Bible Study ..... 6:30 p.m.  
**Verndale United Methodist**  
10 3rd Ave. SW, Verndale  
218-445-5108  
Pastor Jill Pawlowski  
Sunday Worship ..... 9:00 a.m.  
**Central United Methodist**  
5 miles N on Cty Rd 26 (Nimrod tar)  
Pastor Chuck Horsager, 218-639-4225  
Sunday Worship ..... 9:00 a.m.  
Sunday School ..... 10:30 a.m.  
**Leaf River Township The Old Country Church**  
Leaf River Twp., Wadena County Rd. 6  
Info: 218-837-5690  
Sunday Service ..... 10 a.m.

## In the Bleak Mid-Winter

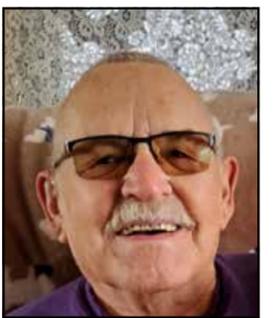
Rev. Scott Jorgenson, Pastor of Thomastown Covenant Church, Staples

Many of you may be familiar with this Christmas hymn depicting the birth of our Savior, Jesus. As the title implies it is a somber tune portraying the birth of our Savior, Jesus. And we Minnesotans certainly can relate to the second line, "frosty wind made moan." Who in the northern states doesn't look forward to Spring? Well, me, for one.  
Let me explain. First, I do look forward to spring. But not because of winter. Even as I grow older I have not outgrown my love for the "white stuff." Yes, I have a "Think Snow" lapel pin. I built a "crashed ice" skating rink in my back yard last winter. I can ice fish 100 yards from my home and I consider that a blessing. I ice skate, downhill ski, cross country ski and snowshoe. I have already started the sledding runs in the back yard for this coming year. I have jumped into a hole on a frozen lake (sauna nearby) and jumped into snowbanks in my swim suit (sauna and hot tub nearby). I have camped in January in the BWCA with twenty below weather and paddled the Rainy River in May snow squalls. I LOVE WINTER!  
My wife and I took a SCUBA trip a few years back to Bonaire (southern Caribbean). We experienced 87 degrees for a high temp and 78 for lows...every day. Boring! There was nothing to talk about...because we are Minnesotans and without weather...well, what else is there to talk about? The family spent one Christmas vacation in another tropical location...no snow. It

didn't FEEL like Christmas without the snow.  
Maybe you relate to the bleakness of winter better than I. In The Bleak Mid-winter lyrics may have had Psalm 147 verses in mind, "He gives snow like wool; He scatters frost like ashes. He hurls down His crystals of ice like crumbs; who can stand before His cold?"  
Looking at headlines today I can certainly empathize: new diseases, conflicted governments, genocide, human trafficking, December tornados in Minnesota and on and on and on. There is a lot of bleakness in our world.  
And that is the world that Jesus was born into. That is the reason Jesus was born. To be a light in the darkness: Savior, redeemer, friend. The Psalmist continues with the hope we have in our God and Savior, "He sends out his word, and melts them; He makes His wind blow and the waters flow." When Jesus was born, the iciness of this world melted a bit. With His giving us His Holy Spirit to live in our hearts we are His harbingers of warmth and light.  
The hymn closes reminding us that all that is needed is for us to give Him our hearts. Jesus was born for your bleak mid-winter. May Christ to be in the midst of your winter this year.  
Merry Christmas!  
Peace,  
Pastor Scott

### Larry Bybee

Larry LeRoy Bybee, 79, of Pillager, beloved husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather and great guy, passed away December 16 at Banned Desert Medical Center in Mesa, AZ.  
Services will be held Friday, May 13, 2022 at Brenny Family Funeral Chapel, 7348 Excelsior Rd, Baxter. A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. with a luncheon to follow, provided by the Pillager Lions Club.  
Interment will be held at the State Veteran's Cemetery at Camp Ripley at 3 p.m.  
Larry was born May 13, 1942 to Gilbert and Margaret (Madson) Bybee in Delaware. Larry graduated from Staples High School in 1960. Larry served in the United States Army from March 1964 to March 1966.  
Larry met and married Mary Johnson of Morris on September 18, 1965. He worked for Ferrellgas for 35 years until he retired. His hobbies included golfing, fishing, hunting, playing cards, playing marbles, an occasional casino trip, happy hours, traveling and most of all, spending time with his family. He was a



member of the Pillager Lions Club and the American Legion Post #100.  
Larry will be deeply missed by his children, two sons, Don Bybee of Mankato and David (Buddy) Brown of Pillager; one daughter, Danelle Bybee of Pillager; nine grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; one brother, Jerry (Joan) Bybee of Deer River; many nieces, nephews, cousins and his girlfriend, Sue McCargar, Moses Lake, WA.  
He is preceded in death by his parents; wife and one son, Tim Bybee.  
Arrangements are by the Brenny Family Funeral Chapel, Baxter.  
w1c A00006B2021DC29

**The Staples area Church Directory is sponsored by these businesses:**

<b>Longbella Drug Store</b> "The Prescription Store" 2nd Ave., Staples • 218-894-2242 Motley and Pillager	<b>Ernie's Food Market</b> Groceries - Gas - Convenience - more Staples, MN 218-894-1072	<b>Staples Veterinary Clinic</b> "Complete Animal Care" Staples, MN 218-894-1775	<b>Mid-Central National Bank</b> Fully Insured to \$250,000 Staples, MN 218-894-3900
<b>Central Building Supply</b> Hwy. 10 West, Staples, MN 218-894-3794	<b>Staples World</b> Your community newspaper since 1890 224 4th St. NE, Staples, MN 218-894-1112	<b>Tower Pizza</b> Pizza, Pasta, Salads, Sandwiches Staples, MN 218-894-3299	<b>Staples True Value</b> "Just Ask Rental" Open 7 days a week. Staples, MN 218-894-3263

The Church Directory is supported by the advertisers listed above and the Ministerial Association.  
\*\*\*To update your church information or to advertise on the Church Directory, call 218-894-1112 for Jan or email: [jwinter@staplesworld.com](mailto:jwinter@staplesworld.com). Please continue to email your Ministerial pastoral message or advertisement to: [jwinter@staplesworld.com](mailto:jwinter@staplesworld.com)

**Did you know...**  
81 percent of community newspaper readers read public notices?

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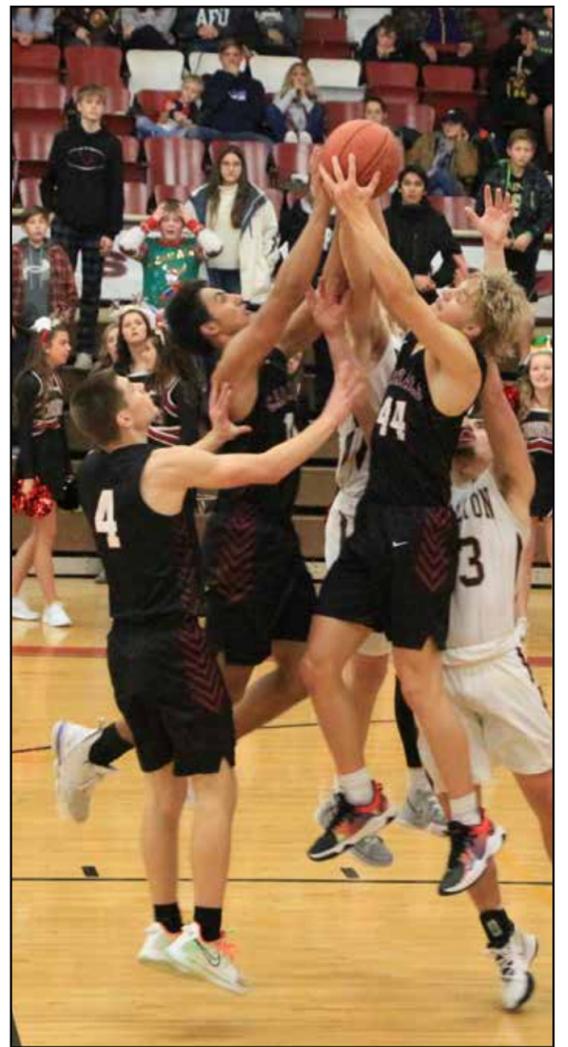
## Cardinal cheer show

Staples-Motley cheerleaders, including junior high and senior high, performed at halftime of the Dec. 21 basketball game. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)



## Cardinal boys basketball action

Left, the Staples-Motley crowd reacts as Josh Schimpp takes a three point shot. Above right, Chandler Braith (4), Sivert Klefsaas and Hunter Miller (44) converge for a rebound. Right, Isaiah Schultz drives to the basket to score inside. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



## Cardinals boys basketball team comes back only to fall in overtime

The Staples-Motley boys basketball team came back from an 11 point deficit to move ahead late in the game against Royalton on Dec. 21, but they ended up losing in overtime 58-53.

The game started out with both teams playing great defense. Eight minutes into the game, the score was tied 4-4. The Cardinals got some open three point shots but couldn't get any to

fall in the first half and fell behind by 11 at one point. But their defense remained strong. Right before halftime, Josh Schimpp collected a rebound and flipped it to Chandler Braith, who hit a three pointer as the buzzer sounded and the Cardinals were back within six.

In the second half, Braith broke the drought from the outside by draining a three point shot. That started a

comeback that included three point shots from Isaiah Schultz and Sivert Klefsaas. Late in the game Schimpp hit a three pointer from the corner, then collected an offensive rebound and got it to Hunter Miller, who scored for the only Cardinal lead of the game, at 48-47. Royalton made one free throw to send it into overtime.

In overtime, Royalton

started out with a basket and they hit three free throws. Two free throws by Miller and a three point shot by Klefsaas was not enough to keep up with Royalton's free throw shooting and the final score was 53-58.

The boys team will play in a holiday tournament at Warren/Alvarado/Oslo on Dec. 29 and 30.

## Girls hoops falls in final game of 2021

The Staples-Motley girls basketball team lost 61-43 at Rothsay on Dec. 21. The Cardinals will have a winter break before coming back with a home game against Pillager on Thursday, Jan. 6.



# Kobliska looks back on 42 years of banking

By Mark Anderson  
Managing Editor

Mary Kobliska has seen a lot of changes in the banking industry in her 42 years at Mid Central National Bank in Staples, but personal service has always been a cornerstone.

"Just to have the ability to come in and talk to someone goes a long way," said Kobliska.

She plans to retire at the end of the year. The bank will hold an open house on Thursday, Dec. 30, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. to celebrate Kobliska's retirement.

In 1980, Kobliska, a Staples High School graduate, was looking for a part time job. She had two sons, ages two and four, so she wanted reliable hours. "Banking was something that interested me," said Kobliska.

John Kopp and Peggy Hirschey were the only other employees at Mid Central Savings and Loan when Kobliska was hired. She started out as a teller and soon became loan processor and loan officer. "I just kept on doing it," she said.

In 2002, Kobliska became the branch manager, so she is also celebrating 20 years as manager.

The bank later became Mid Central Federal Savings Bank and recently was changed to Mid Central National Bank. It was originally a savings and loan that did mostly home mortgages and car loans but is now a full service bank that is also a commercial lender.

That is relatively few changes compared to the speed of change in the banking industry. Kobliska said regulations change constantly so she has to get used to doing things differently all the time.

When Kobliska started in 1980, loan interest rates were

at 18 percent and CD investment rates were around 14 to 16 percent.

"I've never seen interest rates so high as when I started and I've never seen them so low as now," said Kobliska.

### Community connection

Kobliska made sure she became involved in community activities and volunteered on local committees. She also has been involved in the local high school sports scene, as her children and now grandchildren go through the school.

"This is a great community to get involved, a great community to raise a family," said Kobliska.

The bank has been another way go get to know the community. She said it is easier to get to know a customer in a small town bank, where they are not just a number.

"The people I have gotten to know, you always have that connection with them. No matter where you go, you recognize people from the bank and from the community," she said.

After retirement, Kobliska plans to do some home projects like paint a room in her house, and do some more gardening in the spring. She might take a trip south next winter. She still plans to be active in the community and may have a chance to start a different job part time.

As her retirement gets closer, "I get a little emotional when people say they will miss me," said Kobliska. "They say it won't be the same without you."

She feels that the bank and the community are in a good position as she moves on to other things. "Someone else will take my role," she said, "the same stuff will keep going on."



## Preschool Christmas concert

Magic Forest Preschool held their Christmas concert on Dec. 16 at the Staples Community Center. Top photo, the toddler class rings bells during the first songs.

Below, the preschool class shows off their hats, mittens and scarves for a song. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



## 42 years at Mid-Central

Mary Kobliska in front of the building she has worked in for 42 years. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)



## Excited to see Santa Claus

Magic Forest Preschool students were interested in talking to Santa Claus after their concert. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)





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Your ad will appear Wednesday in the  
**Staples World**  
and online at [www.staplesworld.com](http://www.staplesworld.com)

Mailing address for checks:  
Staples World  
P.O. Box 100  
Staples, MN 56479

Payment must accompany the order.  
Use form below or click on [www.staplesworld.com](http://www.staplesworld.com)

**Deadline: Friday at Noon**

**Classified Ad Order Form**

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Add for number of words over 15	x25¢ = _____
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Add \$5 for bold type and/or CAPITALIZED indicate which word(s) is/are to be bold or capitalized	_____
Add \$10 for Blind Box	_____
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100 Events/Announcements	300 Antiques/Collectibles	501 Miscellaneous
101 Card of Thanks	301 Good Things to Eat	502 Livestock
102 In Memory	302 Lawn/Garden	<b>REAL ESTATE</b>
103 Lost & Found	303 Hay/Straw/Feed/Seed	601 Wanted to Rent
104 Give Away	304 Livestock	602 Apartments for Rent
106 Personals	305 Pets	603 Houses for Rent
107 Notices	306 Sporting Goods	604 Commercial for Rent
<b>SERVICES &amp; EMPLOYMENT</b>	307 Household Musical	605 Mobile Homes for Rent
201 Business Opportunities	308 Miscellaneous	606 Land for Rent
202 Childcare Providers	309 Health/Beauty	607 Houses for Sale
203 Childcare Wanted	310 Firewood	608 Farms for Sale
205 Help Wanted	312 Christmas Trees	609 Mobile Homes for Sale
206 Positions Wanted	313 Computers/Office Equip.	610 Land for Sale
207 Equipment for Rent	314 Farm Services	611 Business Property for Sale
208 Storage	315 Camper Trailer	612 Real Estate Wanted
209 Business Services	<b>VEHICLES</b>	<b>GARAGE SALES</b>
210 Animal Care/Supplies	401 Automobiles	701 Garage Sales
211 Work Wanted	402 Trucks/Vans	702 Flea Market/Crafts
	403 Recreational	
	404 Farm Equipment	
	405 Heavy Equipment	
	406 Parts/Repair	

**The Fine Print**

The publishers liability for errors in an advertisement or for failure to publish the ad shall be limited to publishing the ad in a subsequent issue or for the refund of any monies paid for an ad not run (and out of date for subsequent issues) providing the advertiser reports the error or omission immediately after it occurs.

All advertising copy is subject to the approval of the general manager. We will not accept ads from anyone with a past due account.

Regarding sex or age preference in help wanted advertising in accordance with the rules adopted by the Civil Rights Commission, the Staples World, Sunday Square Shooter and Heartland Market cannot accept help wanted advertising copy which in any way expresses a sex or age preference on the basis of a bona fide occupational requirement unless the advertiser files an affidavit with the newspaper justifying the sex or age preference on the basis of a bona fide occupational requirement.

All real estate and rental advertising in these publications is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which made it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex or national origin or any intention to make any such preference limitation or discrimination. These publications will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate or rental which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

**HEARTLAND MARKET**  
Display ads: **\$12.00** (per col. inch)  
Classified Reader **\$9.30** first 25 words;  
additional 35¢ each word (one week)

**Auction Directory = \$3 per line; \$15 minimum.**  
Inserts = **\$65 per thousand**  
\* Color rates available.

Heartland Market deadline: **5 p.m. Wednesday.**  
Reaching over 20,585 homes;

DISTRIBUTED in these paid NEWSPAPERS: Staples World; Barnesville Record-Review; Battle Lake Press; Clay County Union of Ulen; Northwoods Press; Nevis; Eagle Bend/Bertha/Clarissa Independent News Herald; Hawley Herald; Henning Citizens Advocate; Long Prairie Leader; Parkers Prairie Independent; Sebeka/Menahga Review Messenger; Verndale Sun.

**SERVICES & EMPLOYMENT**  
**205 Help Wanted**  
NOW HIRING: Multiple positions available. Good pay. Stop in for an application or send resume to Bjerga Feeds, PO Box 286, Motley, MN 56466. 49tfc

**Firefighters Wanted**  
*City of Motley*  
The Motley Fire Department is accepting applications for volunteer firefighters. Applicants must be a minimum of 18 years of age, have a valid Minnesota driver's license, live within an acceptable response time area and be able to pass a physical examination. Firefighters receive \$11.00 for each call, meeting, and training attended. Application forms are available at Motley City Hall located at 316 Hwy 10 S., online at [www.cityofmotley.com](http://www.cityofmotley.com) or by calling 218-352-6200. Applications will be reviewed on an ongoing basis. EOE

**REAL ESTATE**  
**602 Apartments for Rent**  
STAPLES: Downtown, 1 - 2 bdrm., recently remodeled, NO pets, non smoking, 218-894-3108. 6tfc  
STAPLES: 4 BR, 2 ba., 1,750 sq. ft. townhome, avail. immediately. No pets. \$850/mo. incl. all utilities except electric. 320-360-2880. 52-1p

**PHYSICAL THERAPIST**  
Freshwater Education District is seeking a full-time physical therapist beginning the 2022-2023 school year. The successful candidate will have experience and/or interest in working with students with special needs in the school setting and in early intervention settings. The position includes summer hours and hours outside of the typical school day at times.  
Initial Review of Applications: Noon on January 21, 2022  
Please send Letter of Interest, Resume' and 3 Letters of Recommendation 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](mailto:lmurdock@fed.k12.mn.us)

**208 Storage**  
**FOR RENT**  
Japke's North 8th Street Mini Storage, 894-1551  
6x20, 10x12, 10x20, 10x24

**209 Business Services**  
Your major appliance parts source. Parts for all major brands. One day service, Staples True Value, Staples. 218-894-3263. 26tfc

**603 Houses for Rent**  
VERNDALE, NICE COUNTRY HOME: 3 mi. south, 4 bdrm., 2 ba., dbl. car detached garage. Clean w/fully remodeled upstairs, \$1,100/mo. 1 yr.; \$1,000/mo. 2 yrs. + utilities. Lawn care/snow removal provided. Prior rental references, first/last mo. rent + security dep. required. 218-296-1530 for application. No pets/non smoking. May allow sm. pet w/additional info. 51-1p

**Help Wanted City of Motley**  
The City of Motley is accepting applications to fill the position of **PART-TIME ADMINISTRATIVE/ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT**. A high school diploma or equivalent is required. Coursework or experience in bookkeeping/accounting is required. Starting pay for this position is \$16.48 per hour. The position is 20-30 hours/week. A resume, cover letter and City application are required. Application forms and a full list of hiring requirements can be found online at [www.cityofmotley.com](http://www.cityofmotley.com), or at City Hall. Completed application materials can be emailed to [cityofmotley@brainerd.net](mailto:cityofmotley@brainerd.net), dropped off at City Hall during office hours, or mailed to City Hall, 316 Hwy. 10 S., Motley, MN 56466, Attn: City Clerk. Position is opened until filled. Contact Motley City Hall at 218-352-6200 or [cityofmotley@brainerd.net](mailto:cityofmotley@brainerd.net) with questions about the position or hiring process. EOE

**Sunny Pines Apts. in Motley**  
Tenant must be income eligible, 62 years or older, handicapped or disabled. Heat, water, sewer, electric provided.  
MOTLEY, MN. Call Rosie Talberg, Manager at: **320-468-2303**

**Central Todd County Care Center Dietary Positions**  
COOK: Clarissa Care Center is now Hiring for a cook position. No experience necessary-Will train on sight. Various shifts now available. Starting wage \$17.00/hr.  
KITCHEN STAFF: Clarissa Care Center is now hiring kitchen staff. Duties will include dishwashing, bussing tables, food delivery and cleaning. All kitchen positions carry the same great benefits and incentives. Starting wage \$15.00/hr. Shift differential, pick-up incentives, overtime and holiday pay additional. Central Todd County Care Center offers a full benefit package including:  
Affordable Medical Insurance plan with a \$3,000 contribution to your Health Savings Account, 401k retirement with matching up to 4%, Day care assistance, Clothing allowance, Dental/ Vision/Hospital/Life Insurance.  
On the job training available:  
Contact Patti Twardowski, 218-756-3636 ext. 17; or [ptwardowski@ctcccinc.com](mailto:ptwardowski@ctcccinc.com) or pick up an application in the Business Office, during business hours: Mon.-Fri., 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Central Todd County Care Center is located in Clarissa, MN EOE

**FRONTIER TOWNHOMES**  
FOR RENTAL INFO CALL 218-296-5031  
Under new ownership  
We are accepting applications for 2 and 3 bedroom townhomes in Staples, a community you can get attached to. Rent based on income. Now professionally managed by **BRUTGER EQUITIES, INC.** Income guidelines apply.

**EASTWOOD APARTMENTS**  
in Motley MN. is now accepting applications for FUTURE 2-3 bedroom apartments  
Laundry facilities available on site. garage included with apartment. All utilities paid. Applications are available at: **956 Hwy 10 S., Motley**  
For information and qualifications contact Nicole at 218-751-6881  
An Equal Housing Opportunity

**Staples World Advertising**  
(classified and display),  
copy, public notices,  
letters to the editor, etc.:  
**DEADLINE**  
**Friday noon**

**The Newspaper All Around Your World...**  
In the Classroom: current events, geography, vocabulary  
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At Home: comics, games, puzzles  
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**DONATE YOUR CAR**  
truck or boat to Heritage For The Blind. Free 3-day vacation, tax deductible, free towing, all paperwork taken care of 844/220-9501  
**DISH NETWORK \$64.99**  
for 190 Channels! Blazing fast internet, \$19.99/mo. (where available.) Switch & get a FREE \$100 Visa gift card. FREE voice remote. FREE HD DVR. FREE streaming on ALL devices. Call today! 855/562-4309  
**THE COVID CRISIS**  
has cost us all something. Many have lost jobs and financial security. Have \$10K In Debt? Credit Cards. Medical Bills. Car Loans. Call National Debt Relief! We can help! Get a FREE debt relief quote: Call 844/205-5439

**MISCELLANEOUS**  
**LOOKING FOR ASSISTED LIVING**  
memory care, or independent living? A Place for Mom simplifies the process of finding senior living at no cost to your family. Call 888/715-1720 today!  
**THE GENERAC PWRCELL**  
A solar plus battery storage system. Save money, reduce your reliance on the grid, prepare for power outages and power your home. Full installation services available. \$0 Down financing option. Request a free, no obligation quote today. Call 888/913-5895  
**ENJOY 100% GUARANTEED**  
delivered-to-the-door Omaha Steaks! Get 8 FREE Filet Mignon Burgers! Order the Delightful Gift this holiday season - only \$99.99. Call 888/858-0473 and mention code 65658PJL or visit [www.omahasteaks.com/thegift1192](http://www.omahasteaks.com/thegift1192)



# Freshwater Education District

**MINUTES**  
**FRESHWATER ED. DISTRICT #6004**  
**BOARD MEETING**  
**11/17/2021**  
 Wadena, MN

Called to Order by Chair VanDenheuvel at 5:04 p.m.

Board Present: R. VanDenheuvel- B-H; K. Howard-Menahga; C. Funk- Sebeka; C. Wolf- LPGE; B. Tumberg- W-DC; Board Absent: R. Thalmann- Henning; B. Lund- SM; S. Veronen- Verndale; J. Hillmer- Browerville. Supt.: L. Westrum- WDC & D. Fjeldheim- Sebeka. FED Admin: Supt. E. Weber; L. Murdock and J. Anderson.

**Agenda-** MOTION BY Howard and seconded by Wolf to approve the agenda as presented. VOTE-U/C

**Visitor Presentation-** T. Bruggeman, CPA, of Brady Martz & Associates presented the FY21 Audit Report.

**Old Business**  
 MOTION BY Funk and seconded by Tumberg to approve the 10/27/2021 min-

utes as presented. VOTE-U/C

MOTION BY Howard and seconded by Wolf to approve 10/26/2021 - 11/10/2021 voucher claims as presented. VOTE-U/C

**New Business**  
 MOTION BY Tumberg and seconded by Wolf to set the 2021 FED Board Organizational meeting for 5 p.m. at the FED Office, Wadena, 1/26/2022. VOTE-U/C

MOTION BY Howard and seconded by Funk to authorize E. Weber, J. Anderson, J. Ashbaugh, and S. DeMars as signers and to complete transactions at the Wadena State Bank on behalf of FED. VOTE-U/C

MOTION BY Funk and seconded by Tumberg to acknowledge receipt and review of the 2021 financial audit and direct the auditing firm to forward a copy to MDE. VOTE-U/C

**Department Reports**  
**ALC/TS-** MOTION BY Tumberg and seconded by Howard to approve a 1-year Extended-Time Coverage Agreement with Sebeka ISD #820 and FED as presented.

VOTE- Motion Carried w/C. Funk abstaining.

**ECFE/SR-** Reviewed ECFE and School Readiness Enrollment.

**Ex. Director-** Update of FED Legislative Forum to be held on 12/8/2021 with three House of Reps. attending; Reviewed the tentative Board Mtg. Dates for the 2022 Calendar Year.

**Personnel Consent Agenda-** MOTION BY Howard and seconded by Funk to approve the items as follows: Accept with regret and many years of good service the retirement of T. Kraemer, Physical Therapist and Hiring of K. Schalow, School Readiness Instr. VOTE-U/C

**Adjournment-** MOTION BY Tumberg and seconded by Wolf to adjourn the meeting at 5:39 p.m.

Pre-Approved Publication Summary

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:  
 Katie Howard, Clerk 1pnc

# Public Notices

## FAWN LAKE TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF FILING

FAWN LAKE TOWNSHIP WILL BE ACCEPTING FILINGS FOR:

One (1) Supervisor, three (3) year term  
 One (1) Clerk two (2) year term

The filing period for these offices will be open from December 28, 2021 until 5 p.m. January 11, 2022.

Please contact the clerk at 218-531-0287 to make an appointment for filing, cost to file is \$2.00.

Kelly Miller, Clerk  
 Fawn Lake Township  
 52-1pnp

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• SOURCE: 2011 Readership Survey by National Newspaper Association.

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# SERVICE DIRECTORY

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Student artwork



Riley Dabbs

# The Pomodoro Method approach to get things done

By Mireia Pablos

Is it hard for you to get things done and stop procrastinating? This method is perfect for you.

The Pomodoro Method works like that: you break your workday into 25-minute chunks separated by five-minute breaks. This helps you to work hard and be productive for a full straight 25 minutes, then you have your five minute break.

In this break what they recommend is not to look at your email or phone. They say that the best thing to do is go outside and take fresh air or make yourself a snack. The purpose of this five minutes is to disconnect from your work and charge more motivation for the next 25 minutes of productivity.

This technique is really effective and

proved by scientists. It helps you to be more concentrated and promises you a higher quality for your homework or whatever you need to do.

Also, you can take a long break once you have finished four of a series of 25 minutes of work. They recommend not to take a longer break than 15-20 minutes. This helps not to overwhelm your brain and take a longer break after a long productive time.

As a student, I really recommend the Pomodoro Method and it helps me to get things done. So, if you are having a hard time doing your homework, try this method

--<https://www.forbes.com/sites/bryanacollinseurope/2020/03/03/the-pomodoro-technique/?sh=2c4090833985>

--<https://todoist.com/productivity-methods/pomodoro-technique>

# Moving

By Coby Maitland

Being a new student has its ups and downs, with having to make new friends and to get used to a new school. But it isn't all bad.

Sure, leaving your friends isn't a fun thing to have to deal with, but making new ones is a journey I enjoyed. I got to meet new people, people with different personalities and interests. Also, having to get used to a new school is difficult at first, but believe me, it gets easy over time.

Learning the layout of a new town is also difficult at first, but you learn quickly. Sure, it may take a decent amount of gas to do so, but with enough practice, you'll get the layout down.

Classes are about as normal as it gets, but there have been a few changes.

But people always make it easier.

Making new friends can help when you get lost, and teachers will be very helpful getting used to new classes.

Now, I speak all this from personal experience. I moved from Milaca to Staples about a month ago.

Getting used to a new town and a new school was difficult at first, but it got very easy after about two weeks. I made friends quickly and all the teachers were very quick to help. I had friends help me get used to new classes, bringing me to and from each class and including me whenever possible. They made adjusting easier, which is always nice.

Getting used to the new town was difficult, with it having a different layout and new places to visit. But, using a good bit of gas and getting lost quite often, I was able to adjust relatively well.

But, even though I may have not wanted to move, it was easier than I thought.

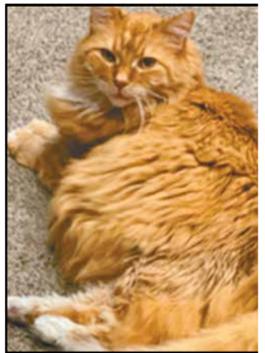
# Why cats are your best friend

By Sophie Albie

Cats. There's something about them that will give you comfort when you are around them. They always want to be by your side and want you to pet them.

I have two cats Noodles and Nellie. Noodles is pretty much my best friend. My family rescued them when I was about five years old. They were on my grandma's deck and we said that we would take them. Noodles always wants to lay with me and wants all the attention he can get.

Cats are also very good for therapy, they help reduce stress, they give



really good companionship, and when people need therapy 50 percent of people get a cat.

Whenever I am trying to do homework and I feel

stressed I bring him into my room and it's just a good reminder to not stress. Noodles is the most relaxing cat you'll meet. He eats and sleeps, that's about it.

# Holiday Treats

By Owen Carlson

Many of you loved when I rated common Thanksgiving foods, so now that Thanksgiving is over I will be rating popular Holiday treats.

•Number 1, peppermint bark.

Peppermint bark is so good and it's a must-have at any Holiday gathering. I love it so much, especially with candy cane chunks in it. So I'll give it a 9/10.

•Number 2, candy canes.

Candy canes are a classic holiday candy, they come in many flavors but I will just be rating the peppermint kind because that's the original. Candy canes are very good but they are kind of hard to eat.



-Submitted photo

They are very sticky and I always find myself taking off the bent part of it and eating it separately. Overall they are still a great candy and I'll give them an 8/10.

•Number 3, Gingerbread cookies.

In my opinion, gingerbread cookies are overrated, they are only good if you eat them shortly after they're baked and if not, they are not soft enough. Also I have never really

liked the taste of ginger. So I'll give them a 5/10.

•Number 4, eggnog.

Eggnog is a very controversial holiday tradition, most people either love it or hate it. I personally love it. I don't know how to describe it but it's just so good. I'll give it a 10/10.

•Number 5, sugar cookies.

Sugar cookies are so good and they are hard to stop eating. Especially the ones you buy at Walmart. But the homemade sugar cookies are also very good and are fun to decorate. So I'll give it a 9/10.

And that's my rating of holiday treats, Happy Holidays.



Paige Warren

# Black bears

By Austyn Oothoudt

Black Bears are interesting animals and not many people have the right idea on these animals. A lot of people think of bears as a big dangerous animal with a blood lust, but although they could toss you around like a ragdoll, black bear attacks are rare.

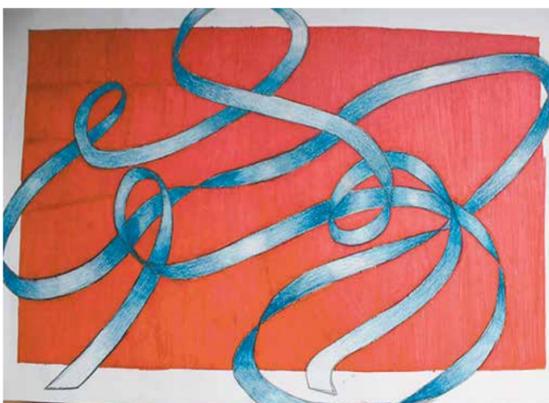
Bears prefer to eat berries, greens, pastries and such which bring me into the first way you can hunt black

bears. In Minnesota it is legal to hunt black bears over a bait station like most states. A lot of people think you can put a bait full of sweets and other goods and bears will show up; that's just not the case.

If you find a spot with lots of bear sign - scat, beat down wide trails, claw marks on trees and a natural food source - you will have more bears and higher success.

The second way you can hunt bears is a spot and stalk method which is most commonly a thing you do in

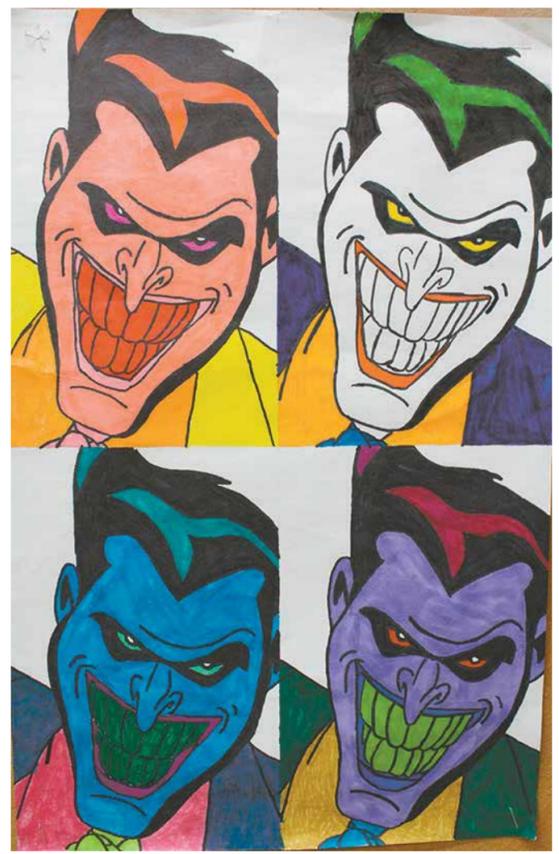
western states. You could try it in Minnesota but we don't have the landscape or the numbers for this to be effective. I don't have any experience spotting and stalking bears but from what I have seen you want to find a good vantage point to look with binoculars and now that you're not baiting, it is even more important to find bear signs and natural food. A water source would be good too.



Breanna Jasmer



Vance Vejtasa



Owen Winter

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### North Pole visitors bring gifts

Special visitors came to Staples-Motley Elementary School on Dec. 21, with a sleigh full of pillows, blankets, shirts and candy canes. "Smiles and excitement were had by all the third graders," said Jody Johnson (Mrs. J), a third grade teacher at SMES and organizer of this event.

Johnson said this was made possible by "Live Generously" grants that she writes

through Thrivent. Many volunteer hours are provided by Mrs. J and her friends to make this event for the third graders possible every year.

Pictured, from left, are Char Abbas, Mrs. J, Elaine Kenyon (elf), Taija Shequen, Lane Laney, Jean Balfanz (Mrs. Claus), Wyatt Nanik, Grace Halverson and Nathan Huwe. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



### Holiday lights in Staples

A home on Dakota Ave. featured santa and snowmen.



### Honors for Officer Ron Smith

Following the funeral services for Officer Ron Smith held Dec. 21, at the Motley Free Methodist Church in Motley, a Law Enforcement Honor service was held in the parking lot of the church. Well over 100 officers, law enforcement and national guardsmen gave their final salute to Officer Smith, a New York Mills police officer. Officer Smith was a member of the Alaska

National Guard and the Minnesota National Guard, worked for the Eagle Bend, Perham, Wadena, Motley and currently the New York Mills police departments as well as working with the Wadena and Todd County Sheriff's departments. Prior to that he was a probation officer. (Submitted photos by Jessica Judd)



### Color Guard salute

National Guard members gave their final salute as Officer Smith's body was carried from the church. They had provided the Color Guard honors before and after the funeral service.



### Individual class songs

Each fourth grade class (above and below) sang individual songs, including

sick's Class, Sleigh Ride, Mrs. Schmitz's Class and Silver and Gold, Mrs. Weite's Class.



### All decked out for the Christmas program



### Are my antlers on straight?

Last minute check of props before gathering around the Christmas tree for a song.

### Sweet sounds for Christmas

Second graders do their part in the program in front of the audience.



### Bells are ringing, students singing

Each second grade class at SMES sang individually. Selections included Christmas Bells by Ms. Aspros' Class, O

Christmas Tree by Mrs. Pantzke's Class and Father Christmas by Mrs. Wiegand's Class.

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