



Wednesday, October 6, 2021

Staples, Minnesota

\$1

Fall colors at Old Wadena Park's Bog Walk (Photo by Janice Winter)

Weather

This Week's Forecast

	High	Low	Cond.
Oct. 6	74°	58°	Sunny
Oct. 7	74	57	P. Cloudy
Oct. 8	76	60	P. Cloudy
Oct. 9	75	51	M. Cloudy
Oct. 10	64	47	P. Sunny
Oct. 11	65	49	P. Cloudy
Oct. 12	64	50	M. Sunny

Last Year, 2020

	High	Low	Cond.
Oct. 6	73°	45°	P. Sunny
Oct. 7	75	46	Sunny
Oct. 8	77	48	Sunny
Oct. 9	81	50	Sunny
Oct. 10	62	41	Sunny
Oct. 11	75	48	M. Sunny
Oct. 12	63	47	Sunny

Average Temps:

H = 60° Low = 40°

Compiled by

Dale Hausmann,

WCCO's Staples area

Weatherwatcher

Public Notices

Todd Commissioners : 8A

Obituaries

Richard Perry

Patricia Wickham



Thank you for subscribing!

City council approves Lakewood bid over Essentia

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

By a 3-2 vote, the Staples City Council approved selling the city owned lot on Highway 10 next to Ernie's Food Market to Lakewood Health System.

At the Sept. 28 council meeting, both Essentia Health and Lakewood presented their proposals for purchasing the lot and building health care facilities on it.

The Essentia proposal was to build a new clinic in Staples, similar to their new clinic at Pine River. Mike Larson of Essentia said their bid would have a higher economic impact for the city. They proposed to pay more for the lot, \$200,000 compared to Lakewood's \$180,000 bid, and they would build a larger building, which would be taxed at a higher level.

Larson said Essentia has evaluated other sites in Staples, but this is the one they wanted. "We could be seeking an alternative site outside the city," he said.

The Lakewood proposal was given by CEO Tim Rice and CFO Lisa Bjerga. Rice

mentioned the history of Lakewood and the City of Staples working together to grow.

Bjerga said Lakewood is the largest employer in Staples and does more than just health care by helping with community needs. She gave an example that Lakewood is helping Magic Forest Preschool expand. The new building proposal includes an option for building apartments over the health care offices, which would help the city meet housing needs.

Lakewood's proposal is to have two anchor tenants in the building, Twin City Orthopedics and Engage community health. TCO would expand to include to athletic performance services which Bjerga said would be a regional draw for Staples. The community health portion would include health programming and space for community health workers. An additional portion will be available to retail stores. Bjerga said they are working with Longbella Drug

See **COUNCIL** on page 12a

Staples featured in new Jon Hassler memoir

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

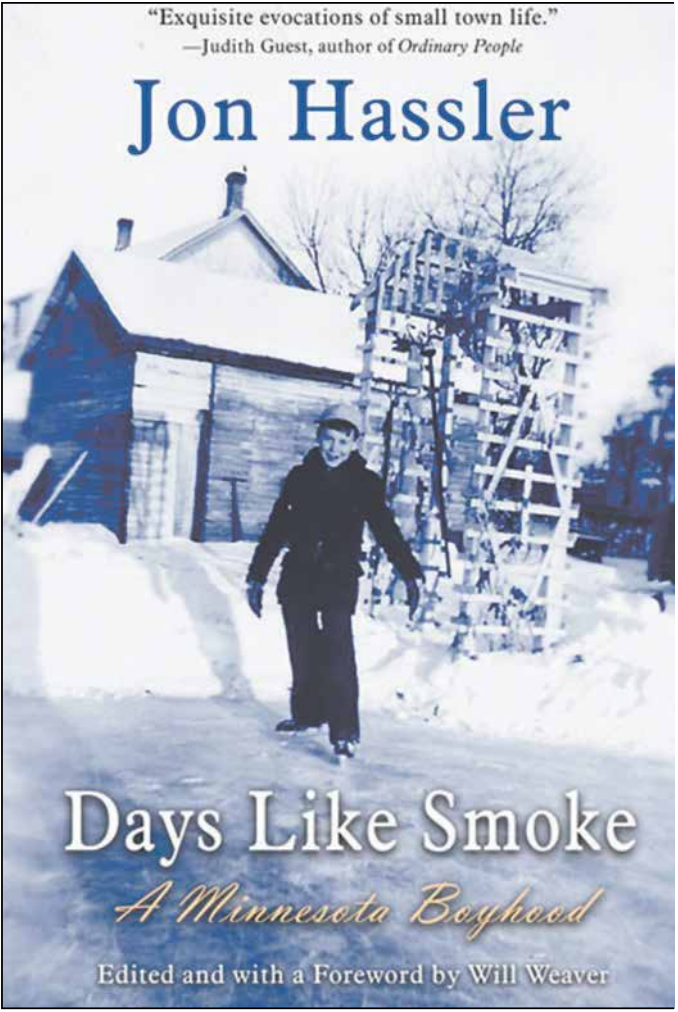
"Days Like Smoke - A Minnesota Boyhood" is a new and unexpected book by author Jon Hassler. The book is a memoir containing stories from his early days growing up in Staples and his later childhood and teen years in Plainview.

Hassler is famous for his novels about fictional small towns in Minnesota, including Staggerford, A Green Journey, Grand Opening, Simon's Night and The Love Hunter.

The new memoir is unexpected because Hassler died in 2008 after being diagnosed with supranuclear palsy, similar to Parkinson's disease. Afton Press revived the memoir manuscript that had been written by Hassler. Editor Will Weaver said he lightly edited some passages and arranged it to be more readable, but it is almost all original writing by Jon Hassler.

In his foreward, Weaver found humor in the ordinary sounding names of the towns where Hassler grew up, Staples and Plainview.

"The names of these towns prove that the Gods of Writing have a sense of humor," wrote Weaver. "... But plain is not to be confused with simple ... Hassler's novels plumb a richness of humanity bub-



bling just below the surface of normal."

In the new book, Hassler writes about his education at Sacred Heart School in Staples, where Sister Simona and Sister Con-

stance were his teachers and Father Donnay was the church leader. One memory of Staples is the Scrap Metal Parade in 1942, when children were encouraged to

See **HASSLER** on page 12a

Staples preliminary budget includes 2.8 percent increase

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

The Staples City Council approved a 2.8 percent budget increase, which could mean a 1.8 percent tax increase for the city portion of property taxes. City Administrator Jerel Nelsen said that would mean about \$15 per year more for a home valued at \$140,000. Nelsen said health insurance numbers

have come in with a nine percent increase, but the city is also scheduled to get more in Local Government Aid (LGA) from the state. Community growth will also lessen the tax impact with more properties on the tax roll.

Mayor Chris Etzler said most cities in Minnesota had larger budget increases. "I could only find two cities that were less than us" on tax increase, he said.

Community foundation fall grant round started

The Staples Motley Area Community Foundation (SMACF) announced the 2021 fall grant round. The SMACF is a Partner Fund of the Initiative Foundation, established with the mission to develop and strengthen community resources and to enhance the quality of life of individuals, families, and organizations in the Staples-Motley School District. Through local dollars, the SMACF provide direct grants to projects within the community that:

- Strengthen Youth and Families: Supplementing the endeavors of others in developing and implementing positive opportunities for youth and families.
- Improve Community Appearance: Making our

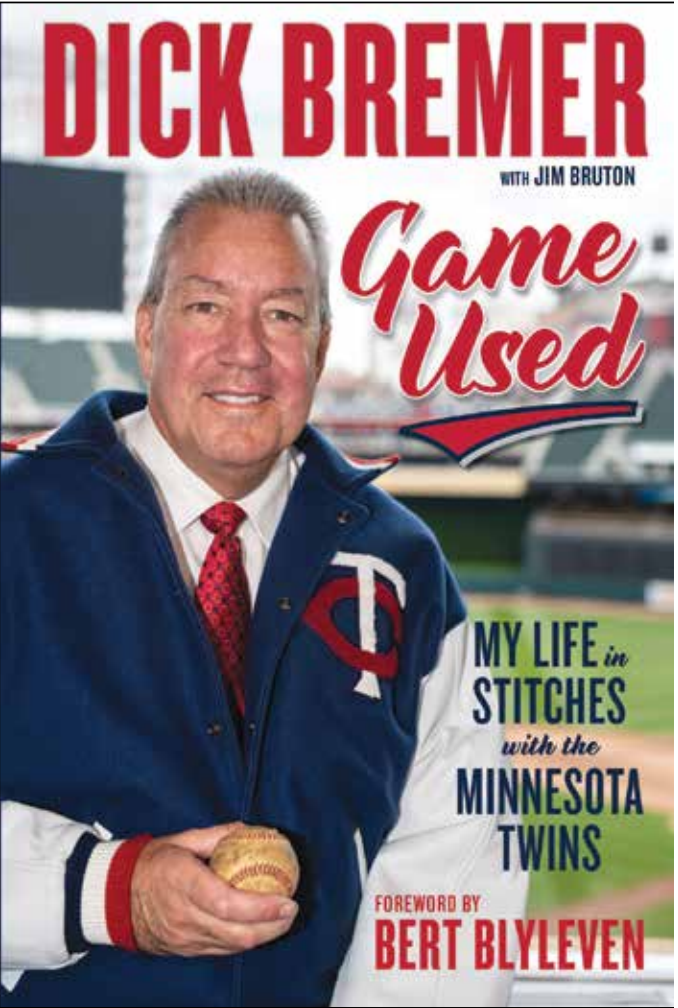
community attractive and inviting to visitors and improving the appearance of the community to make residents proud to live here.

- Increase Community Involvement and Leadership: Promoting citizen community involvement by developing and identifying leaders within the community in order to instill a sense of solidarity based on the assets of our community.

Grant opportunities are available to public, academic, and nonprofit organizations that serve residents living and/or working in the boundaries of the Staples-Motley School District, ISD #2170. For full eligibility requirements, visit www.staplesmotleyfoundation.org.

To start an application, visit www.staplesmotleyfoundation.org/how-to-apply.html and click "Start a New Application." This will redirect to an online grant system operated by the Initiative Foundation. Through this system, applicants can create an account, complete an eligibility quiz, submit proposals, review application history, and submit grant reports. The deadline to submit applications is October 15, 2021.

Questions about the grants available or the application process, can be directed to the SMACF Grants Committee Chair, Nick Trout, by phone at (218) 296-2565 or email at troutnicholas@gmail.com.



Bremer book signing

Minnesota Twins television announcer Dick Bremer will be in Staples for a book signing on Saturday, Oct 9, at Pine Grove Park from 1-4 p.m. The event is sponsored by the Staples-Motley Diamond Club and the Staples-Motley Athletic Hall of Fame. His book, "Game Used - My Life In Stiches," includes stories of attending Staples High School and 37 years as the Twins broadcaster.

Pillager's CTC Center opens Oct. 14

New auditorium one of several upgrades at ISD#116

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

Music enthusiasts will have the opportunity to hear some stellar vocals next week at the new 400-seat CTC Center in Pillager...just one of several impressive upgrades at the Pillager School, thanks to the district's referendum bond that passed in 2019.

Kat Perkins, Minnesota native and runner-up on *The Voice*, will perform at the new auditorium Thursday, Oct. 14; and Grammy and Emmy award-winning recording artists Tonic Sol Fa will take the stage on Saturday, Oct. 16. Both concerts begin at 7:30 p.m.

It's an exciting way to kick off the grand opening of the CTC Center, says Superintendent Mike Malmberg of the upcoming shows. Ticket sales and other information is available at www.ISD116.org.

The auditorium is so named, due to a partnership with CTC, which offered financial support for the naming rights. In addition to the 400 seats, the CTC Center boasts of a spacious lobby, ticket office, orchestra pit, a grand piano with a storage room, makeup room, dressing rooms, costume storage room, set storage area, restrooms (including a family restroom), state-of-the-art sound booth and lighting booth and a good-sized stage.

Widseth was the architect for the project, and Nor-Son was the construction manager. With the City of Pillager being at the very center of the state, circular symbols were incorporated into the design of both the inside and outside of the new space. An image of a majestic husky, the school's mascot, graces one of the lobby walls.

It's one of the neatest projects he's been a part of, said Adam Helmricks, a Nor-Son Superintendent who was working at the auditorium Sept. 24. "You have something special here," he told Malmberg.

Their goal is to hold at least three to four special events each year for the community at the new auditorium, Malmberg said. "As long as they are supported and it remains financially

feasible," he added.

Down the road, expect to see performances from the community theatre group that's been organized, as well as concerts and plays by Pillager students.

Both Rob Freelove, who teaches middle and high school music at Pillager, and Adam Tervola-Hultberg, the elementary school teacher, are excited to have their students perform in the auditorium.

Previously, concerts were held in the gymnasium, and school plays and musicals performed on the stage of the 1919 cafeteria. Cast members put on makeup and changed costumes in the locker room (occasionally getting ready in the school kitchen if they got locked out, as happened on at least one occasion), and attendees sat on metal chairs without the comfort of air-conditioning in that often-hot cafeteria.

Yes, the CTC Center is a dream come true for staff and students involved in music and theatre at Pillager Schools.

John Gordon, the Director of Facilities and Events, will manage the CTC Center. He is highly qualified, Malmberg said, noting that Gordon's past experience includes running facilities such as the Fargo Dome, Orlando Arena, and at Northern Illinois University.

Other upgrades

In addition to the new auditorium, there have been several other changes at ISD #116 since the passing of the district's referendum bond in 2019, a \$14.7 million project.

Superintendent Malmberg said that when the referendum bond failed in 2018, "it was really a blessing, in hindsight." He went on to explain that it gave the district the opportunity to go back and listen to the residents. It also gave them the opportunity to evaluate the need for additional vocational spaces, "which ended up being greatly needed as we added additional programming," Malmberg said.

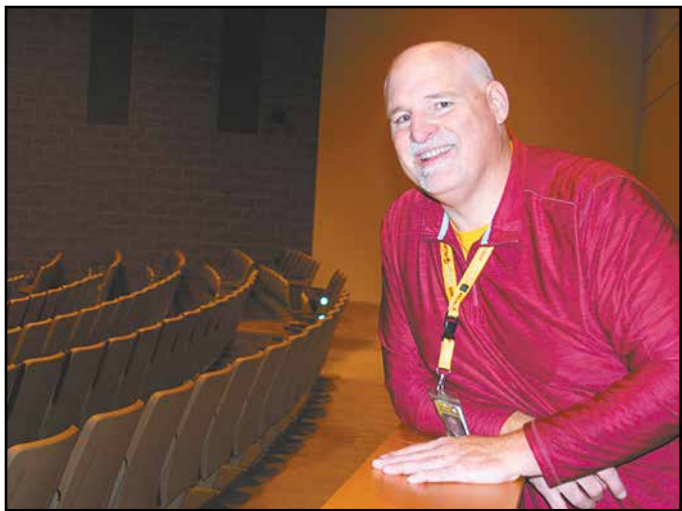
The district learned two things during that time. First, the residents did not support an expansion of early childhood; and secondly, they wanted the district to expand vocational



New auditorium seats 400

The new 400-seat CTC Center at Pillager School will celebrate its grand opening with two concerts next week. They include Minnesota native and *The Voice* runner-up Kat Perkins on Thursday, Oct. 14; and Grammy and Emmy award winning recording artists Tonic Sol Fa on Saturday, Oct. 16. Both concerts begin at 7:30 p.m.

At right, Pillager Superintendent Mike Malmberg offered a tour of the new facility Sept. 24, a project made possible with the school district's passing of the referendum bond in 2019, as well as financial support from CTC. The district's plan is to hold at least three to four special events for the community each year at the CTC Center. In addition, the space will be used by the music and theatre departments at Pillager School for their performances. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



classes.

So, in listening to the public, when the 2019 referendum passed, the district added or remodeled spaces for vocational programming, including a separate wood shop building, a robotics lab, a Pro-Start kitchen and a video broadcasting area. They also brought back the agricultural department, to the delight of many in the community.

Other new spaces built as part of the 2019 referendum bond include five extra classrooms, new elementary special education areas and a new elementary music room. Several classrooms were remodeled during this time as well, including three kindergarten classrooms, special education areas, elementary technology lab and the vocational area.

School growth

For the past several years, Pillager School District #116 has experienced, on average, a two-percent gain each year. There are currently over 1,200 students enrolled at Pillager, up 120 students from last year.

"We had our last smallest class last year," Malmberg said, referring to the Class of 2021, which had 59 graduates. Today, there are an average of 90 students per class. Prior to the recent remodel and building project, the elementary school, in particular, was very crowded. Several staff members shared spaces, and others, without a home-room, taught from a cart.

Malmberg credited his predecessor, Chuck Arns, for helping pave the way toward positive growth measures within the district. He noted two things in particular that Arns (who retired as superintendent in 2014) had done really well. First, he created an atmosphere of relationships; and secondly, he upgraded facilities, including the Early Childhood Center (with space that is rented out to the Pillager Family Center), which provides a 'one-stop shop,' Arns would always say.

The 'one-stop shop' is something that parents really appreciate, Malmberg said, noting that all of the district's facilities... from early childhood to high school...are all located on the same campus. However, there are clear and

age-appropriate dividers between each of the schools.

He's proud to be a part of the Pillager School District, Malmberg says, going on to note that they were recently voted 'Top School in the Brainerd Lakes Area,' by the Brainerd Dispatch.

No doubt, the new upgrades to their buildings played a part in the district's being named a top area school.

"The functionality is good," Malmberg said of their facilities. "And it's also a beautiful building."



New music classroom

Substitute teacher Gayle Mortenson (at left) led a class in the new music room at Pillager Elementary, one of several newly built or remodeled rooms at Pillager Schools.



New wood shop

A new wood shop was built at Pillager School as part of the district's 2019 referendum bond. The wood shop used to share space with the school's metal shop. The metal shop (not pictured) is housed in the school's vocational area which was remodeled with expanded programming as the result of the referendum bond's passing.



Spacious lobby

The lobby of Pillager School's newly constructed CTC Center provides plenty of space for event attendees. There is also a ticket office and restrooms (including a family restroom). Included in the design is the school's Husky mascot on one of the lobby walls, as well as circular fixtures which represent the City of Pillager being in the center of the state.

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Looking back

75 YEARS Ago - 1946

• Oct. 3, 1946 - A great deal of excitement was caused at the Northern Pacific round-house in Staples Thursday of last week, when a 225,000 pound freight engine crashed into the turntable pit, causing a great deal of damage to the engine, and forcing a crew of 20 men to work for many hours to get the engine back on the tracks.

o Oct. 3, 1946 - A front page photo featured Mrs. Enos Thorn of Staples and her daughter Mrs. Art Tetrud of St. Cloud, standing in front of the tall sunflowers growing on the Enos



Mystery photo

Hello readers. This week's archive photo is from our Sept. 24, 1992 edition. Do you know who these people are and perhaps the context of the photo? Email your answers and where you are

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

Thorn home southwest of Staples.

The tallest sunflower measured a little over 14 feet in height, and the plants next to it measured over 10 feet tall.

Mrs. Thorn stated that she had planted her flowers for her garden and "just happened" to run across these sunflower seeds and planted them. The flowers are located on the south side of the Thorn home along the fence next to the road and are really a beautiful sight to look at.

Mrs. Thorn is proud of her sunflowers, as a person can tell by the smile on her face.

• Oct. 3, 1946 - Miss Patsey St. Pierre, 14 year old daughter of Dr. and Mrs. E. A. St. Pierre of Staples, was stricken with polio Sunday evening of last week.

She was at first taken to the Staples Municipal hospital, and on Tuesday of this week was rushed by ambulance, to the university hospital, where she has been placed in the isolation ward, and will remain there for two or three weeks.

The six-year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bates, who has been in hospitals in the Twin Cities for over two months, is slowly improving, according to his par-

ents, but they do not know just when he will be able to return to his home in Staples.

• Oct. 3, 1946 - Staples and this community was shocked early Tuesday morning, Oct. 1, to hear of the death of H. J. (Bert) Dower, prominent resident of this city since 1902, who died from a heart attack at his home on Fifth Street about 4:30 that morning.

Mr. Lewis was born the son of Sampson and Mary Ann Dower, in Duluth, on Sept. 5, 1872, being one of 14 children.

50 YEARS Ago - 1971

• Oct. 7, 1971 - The Staples fire Department, under the direction of Chief Leo Fahnlander, recently completed the third course in Firemanship Training as provided by the Field Services Unit of the Vocational Technical Division, State Department of Education.

Competing the course were Leo Fahnlander, Thomas Trana, John E. Nelson, Dean Fearing, Charles Williams, William Goff, Wally Anderson, Preston Dean, Rod Zettergren, Darwin Peterson, Bob Archer, Gerald O'Keefe, Lawrence Huff, Clyde

Japke, Lloyd Nelson, Douglas Bates, Warren Gaulke, Fred G. Heier, Mike Carr, K. Beaston, Robert Medred and Wayne Bramer. Roy Makowski was their instructor.

• Oct. 7, 1971 - Two Staples area juveniles are being held in the Morrison County Jail at Little Falls, charged with burglary of three cabins in the Lake Shamineau area.

Both are 16, and one is from Staples, the other resides on Star Route, Staples, south of Leader. Names of the two were not released by the Morrison county sheriff's office.

Burglaries of three cabins were disclosed upon investigation by the sheriff's office. The cabins belong to Bert Lindvall, Reuben Hanson and Harry Earle.

Sheriff Fred Pelzer told the World that guns, ammunition, clothing and food had been taken from the three cabins and that most of the items had been recovered following the arrest of the two youths.

Arresting officers were Louis Chalich, Cass county deputy sheriff; Herb Beckner, special Cass county deputy, and Forrest Skeesick, Motley chief of police.

• Oct. 7, 1971 - Brad Macheel, a junior at Motley high school, has been named Cross Country runner of the week by Coach Charles Funk. Brad earned this honor on the basis of his seventh place finish in the Long Prairie Invitational cross country meet Sept. 28.

• Oct. 7, 1971 - Lynn Dyer and Kevin Crocker were named as the Staples Cross-Country Runners of the Week for their performances in the Fergus Fall, Park Rapids, and Moorhead Invitational meets..

25 YEARS Ago - 1996

• Oct. 3, 1996 - Gary Emfield and Norb Johnson are the new owners of Pine County, Inc. in Staples. They have already doubled employment to over 40 people since taking over from former owner Harold Moffett in May, and hope to add another 20 workers by Jan. 1.

• Oct. 3, 1996 - 'Long time civic leader Bob Belling dies at 76,' was one of the front page headlines. Belling moved to Staples in 1948 and operated the Belling Funeral Home for many years. He retired May 1, 1977, from ownership, but continued to be active in the business until the time of his death.

Bob Belling was an active member of the Staples community. He was a member of Faith Lutheran Church, the Masonic Lodge, VFW and American Legion. He served for many years as secretary and treasurer of Evergreen Hill Cemetery Association, a post he held until the time of his death.

Bob's first wife, Helen, died in 1984. In 1986 he married Betty Odden.

• Oct. 3, 1996 - A Staples firm has a new president as of Monday.

Tom Moore, who joined McKechnie just this past spring, has taken over as president, succeeding John Tacheny, who left to head a Brainerd area firm, Acrometal.

Moore has some 35 years experience in engineering and management. He grew up in New York state, where he graduated from high school at Pleasantville, N.Y. He then attended the University of Arkansas, graduating in 1961 with a degree in mechanical engineering.

10 YEARS Ago - 2011

• Oct. 6, 2011 - At the Staples Motley High School Homecoming coronation, Jenna Ziegler was crowned queen, and Arnie Dvorak, king.

• Oct. 6, 2011 - Tire tracks through a burned field were visible on Oct. 3, the day after a fire burned approximately 40 acres of a State Wildlife Management Area, also known as the Rice Lake wildlife area, about three miles straight south of Staples. Staples Fire Chief Scott Braith said firefighters battled the blaze for four hours on Sunday. They were assisted by the Motley Fire Department, DNR crews and the DNR helicopter, which dumped water on the blaze.

• Oct. 6, 2011 - Connie Evingson's Fever - The Life and Music of Peggy Lee, will be presented by the Staples Motley Area Arts Council at Centennial Auditorium in Staples on Friday, Oct. 14, at 7:30 p.m.

Federal warrant initiated in Clarissa; meth seized

Todd County Deputies assisted the West Central Drug and Violent Crime Task Force Sept. 21, with an investigation that occurred in the city of Clarissa and a residence in Ward Township.

As part of the investigation task force agents identified Frank Stewart from Sisseton SD. Stewart was wanted out of South Dakota and had a federal warrant for his arrest. Deputies located Stewart at the Eagle Valley Truck Stop in the city of Clarissa where

he was placed under arrest without incident.

A subsequent search warrant was conducted on a recreational vehicle that Stewart had been staying in at a residence in Ward Township. During that search deputies and task force agents seized approximately one half pound of methamphetamine and a large sum of currency.

Cary Getzlaff of Minneapolis was arrested at that residence.

The investigation remains ongoing.

Law enforcement reports, Motley area

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

Sept. 23 - 29

Sept. 28 - The MPD received a report of a gas drive off at the Holiday Gas Station in Motley in the amount of \$50.46.

Sept. 28 - The MPD issued a citation to Zechariah Thompson, 27, for no proof of insurance.

Sept. 28 - The MPD received a request from the MN Power linemen that they be escorted to the Eastwood Motel property in Motley, as they were going to disconnect the power there in order for it to be torn down at the owner's request. The linemen were afraid that the squatters living there may become violent. The MPD responded with a personal owned vehicle (POV) as the squad car was in the shop for repairs and stood by to keep the peace. The squatters did come out of one of the units and were very angry and yelling about the power being shut off, but eventually left and returned to where they came from. Once the linemen were finished with their job they cleared and the owner arrived on scene. The owner stated that he is planning on tearing the building down this fall yet, as he feels it is a hazard and should be condemned.

Sept. 27 - The MPD received a report of damage done to the former middle school building in Motley. The maintenance supervisor said he believed it happened on Sept. 25 as he responded to an alarm that day but did not have the alarm company dispatch police. The suspects broke in through the roof access and made entry into the school's main level through ventilation ducts. The MPD collected evidence and will continue investigating.

Sept. 27 - The MPD received a report of a gas drive off in the amount of

\$46.75 from Holiday Station in Motley.

Sept. 25 - While sitting at a red light at the stoplights in Motley heading west on Hwy 10, the MPD noticed a vehicle pulling a pontoon boat heading east on Hwy 10 and turning onto eastbound Hwy 210. While making his turn, the driver's pontoon boat rolled off the trailer onto the roadway. The vehicle directly behind the subject vehicle was traveling with the subject vehicle and the occupants got out and helped lift and put the pontoon back on the trailer. Once the roadway was clear, the vehicles pulled off to the side to allow traffic to pass. The MPD spoke with the driver and advised him he was required to have the boat securely strapped down to the trailer. He eventually found some straps to put on the boat and got it secured.

Sept. 23 - The MPD issued a citation to Batmunkh Tsedevsuren for driving while talking on a cell phone that he was holding up to his ear.

Sept. 23 - The MPD issued a citation to Jason Hofer, 37, for driving without proof of insurance.

Sept. 29 - The MCSO assisted state patrol with a crash involving two semi trucks at Hwy 10 and Bison Rd., Cushing. There were no injuries.

Sept. 29 - The MCSO arrested Lester Tienter, 42, for theft of a motor vehicle. The incident took place at the 3600 block of 270th St., Cushing.

Sept. 29 - The MCSO responded to a report of a truck hitting a cow on 330th St., near Bugle Rd., Motley.

Sept. 29 - The MCSO received a report from a resident at the 26000 block of Hwy 10 in Cushing, who said he was awakened by windows being broken at his residence. He believes it's about \$550 in damages.

Sept. 23 - The MCSO paged out Motley Fire Dept. for a grass fire in Cass County, at the 9000 block of Hwy 64 SW in Motley.



Mystery solved

Last week's mystery photo, published in the Sept. 30, 1971 edition of the Staples World, featured Motley homecoming queen Mary Dvorak flanked by her junior royalty during the halftime activities. At Mary's right is Brenda Martin, 6, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dave Martin; and at her left is Richard Swartz, Jr., 5, son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Swartz, Sr.

Robin (Thorn) Kramer of Motley, a classmate of Mary Dvorak at Motley High School, correctly identified the Homecoming queen and the junior royalty, as did MHS grad Kelly Boldan of Willmar. David Widhalm of Motley and Kathy (Zetah) Kobliska of Lincoln, both MHS grads, correctly identified Queen Mary Dvorak. Kramer also shared an old yearbook photo (at right) which shows first-graders Mary Dvorak and Jack Tangen as MHS Homecoming crownbearers. Mary (whose last name is now Gallagher) currently lives in Long Prairie.

Mary Sperley and Gary Schimpp, both of Staples, and Lana Hansen of Motley, all thought the photo was of the 1971 Staples High School homecoming queen Karen Pipek, along with crownbearers Renee DesMarais and Trevor Lundgren (based on information that had been included in last week's Looking Back article).

Contrary to a rumor about town, there are no free toasters given to those with correct answers. Thanks for participating in our Mystery Photo.





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We need to make bold statements if we want to save the opera house

When the Minnesota House of Representatives Capital Investment Committee left the Batcher Opera House in Staples, they might have been thinking that we want to turn it into a roller skating rink because we like old things.

During the presentation, several of our local committee mentioned that there had once been roller skating there. Hardly anyone talked about the vision of the future, where the Batcher Block Opera House will become a shining beacon for the arts in central Minnesota.

The House of Representatives didn't come here to learn about the history of the building, or about the repair needs. They came to

find out what this project will do for Minnesota and why the state should fund it. They were given written materials explaining the project but they needed to hear it from our mouths.

There was lower local turnout for this showing of the Opera House than for previous events. In order to keep interest high, the project needs to keep showing its value to the community. The non-profit that will operate the Batcher Block has been formed, but so far they are only functioning to raise funds. I believe that is a mistake. Nobody wants to raise money just for a building, there has to be signs of a great future. After watching the presentation to the House of Representatives, I am even more convinced that the committee needs to start facilitating the arts community if they want to save the building.

Last year, I offered a vision for what the community could be working on to assist the Batcher Opera House project, but the committee said they want to just do the building first, then work on what will go into the building.

Here is what I suggested:

1. Partner with Five Wings Arts Council and Staples Motley Arts Council to get regional and local ideas.

2. Don't limit the scope to music and plays. Include all arts and all media in the scope of the project.

3. Focus all efforts back to our small town culture. What does this mean to our lives in rural Minnesota? If this is the focus, the non-profit will become a knowledge hub and an exporter of small town culture. It can partner with the other knowledge exporters based in Staples: Sourcewell, Region Five, Five Wings Arts Council, Central Lakes College, Staples-Motley School District and Lakewood Health System.

I wrote "This could be the missing link that all those entities are lacking: a personal, human connection to the purpose of the lives of every resident in rural America."

Instead, they decided they wanted to get \$16 million to fix up the building first, before they would work on all that community building stuff. To me it is the other way around:

if we build the community around this concept, it will greatly increase the chances of getting major funding for the building. Even if the building never gets financed, at least it will have done something for the community.

The project is relying on the history of arts and music in the Staples community, but because of COVID and community changes, the music scene in the area is slipping into a lull. The Opera House project could be a catalyst to reinvigorate local music, but with the projected completion of the building still several years away, the music scene could dry up in the meantime.

The Batcher Block committee is missing opportunities to make bold statements, and instead are relying on the history of the building, the grandeur of the Opera House and platitudes about something great going on. If there really is something great going on, they should show it to the community and to the House of Representatives.

October is fire prevention month

According to the National Fire Protection Association, seven people die every day from home fires on average, taking more lives each year than all other natural disasters in the U.S. Fire Prevention Month helps educate families about the dangers of fires, how easy it can be for fires to start and how much easier it can be to prevent them.

As a popular holiday, Fire Prevention Month gives people the chance to learn how they can make their lives safer while also learning about the history of national fire emergencies.

History of Fire Prevention Month

Similar to Fire Prevention Week (this year Oct. 4-10), Fire Prevention Month memorializes the Great Chicago Fire, a fire that desolated the city of Chicago and left over 100,000 homeless in October of 1871.

The National Fire Protective Association sponsors this month-long observance as a way to teach parents and children how to prevent fires in their own homes and learn what to do when a fire occurs.

Chicago has made improvements on fire prevention policies throughout the city since that incident, including more full roads, easier access to the fire hydrants and better home conditions.

During October, families get to learn about better ways to prevent fires, including methods such as inspecting your heat sources, maintain your electrical cords and updating your smoke alarms.

This monthly holiday began during the early 1900s, where in 1922 the National Fire Protection Association sponsored Fire Prevention Week as a way to prevent events like this from happening. This sister holiday was approved by President Calvin Coolidge, who proclaimed Fire Prevention Week a national observance in 1925.

How to celebrate Fire Prevention Month

Some ways that you can participate in Fire Prevention Month include:

- Develop a fire escape plan with everyone in your household and practice it at least twice a year.
- Install smoke alarms in your home, on every level, and outside each sleeping area. Test them once a month and replace the batteries at least once a year if required.
- Teach children what smoke alarms sound like and what they should do if they hear one. Make sure all household members know two ways to escape from every room.
- Establish a family meeting spot outside.

You can also help others understand these tips by sharing ton your favorite social media websites using the hashtag #firepreventionmonth. (daysoftheyear.com)

"The grass is always greener around the fire hydrant."

--Jeff Rich

Rural Minnesota becoming known for resident recruitment

By Ben Winchester, Research Fellow, University of Minnesota Extension Center for Community Vitality and Chet Bodin, Northwest Minnesota Workforce Strategy Consultant

Did you know that Minnesota communities are recognized around the country for their resident recruitment efforts? It's true!

Minnesota is a leader in rural resident recruitment thanks in part to the University of Minnesota Extension's pioneering rural movers research, which is focused on finding out why people move to rural areas. Extension has worked for over a decade to disseminate those findings to rural communities throughout Minnesota and across the country. Those communities used the findings to expand and coordinate their local and regional econom-

Resident Recruitment Advantage

People choosing to move to communities in rural Minnesota are motivated by factors beyond jobs, such as community amenities, opportunities for social life and many others. The evidence compiled by the University of Minnesota Extension and demonstrated by communities across the state is far more compelling than the anecdotal arguments that informed industrial recruitment strategies of the past. As the competition for labor heats up across the nation, resident recruitment efforts and innovative practices will help communities and regions of Minnesota – as well as the state as a whole – stand out as great places to work and live.

ic development efforts with community development and tourism – resulting in today's comprehensive resident recruitment initiatives. Since Extension first shared this information a decade ago, many such resident recruitment initiatives have sprung up organically across the state. No other state has a network of resident recruitment initiatives like those in Minnesota.

Resident recruitment efforts have received special attention over the past several years due in large part to a tightening labor market across the country and here in Minnesota. As baby boomers move into retirement, there are fewer younger workers to replace them. This can be a particular challenge in rural communities, which tend to see more of their youngest

working age residents move away for education or other opportunities. That's only part of the story, though. There's also a trend toward a "brain gain" or movement of people in their prime working years to rural communities not just for jobs, but for lifestyle reasons – like living in a place that's great for raising children, being closer to family or facing less traffic and congestion. Resident recruitment efforts focus on that whole story of why working – and living – in a community is the right choice for a person. After all, it's not just about jobs!

See examples of successful resident recruitment efforts in Minnesota, learn about the University of Minnesota Extension's research and more in the article Greater Minnesota's Resident Recruitment Advantage in the September 2021 edition of Minnesota Economic Trends.

Townships urged to apply for ARPA funds

From the Minnesota Association of Townships

The Minnesota Association of Townships is reminding and urging every township and township official to apply for their share of the "American Rescue Plan Act" funding, which is due by October 4, 2021. Townships then will have around three years (until December 31, 2024), to make spending decisions on the allocation of funds.

ARPA was signed into law on March 21, 2021, by President Biden to provide

stimulus and funding for COVID-19 responses for individuals, businesses, and government entities. Minnesota's townships will receive a portion of the \$350 million provided to the state's towns and cities with a population under 50,000, but not more than 75 percent of their 2019 budget.

Minnesota Association of Townships Executive Director Jeff Krueger said, "Every township should make sure to apply for these funds ASAP - and the Minnesota Association of Townships is here to help. These dollars are meant to help your communi-

ty and it is wise to apply now, as spending decisions can then be determined in the coming years."

Permitted spending categories include responses to COVID-19 pandemic, premium pay to essential employees, lost revenue replacement, and infrastructure investment.

For more information and to apply, townships officials should visit the Minnesota Association of Townships website at www.MNTOWNSHIPS.org for the special "ARPA" page with details, call the MAT office at (800) 228-0296, or email info@mntownships.org.

By Becky McCray
SaveYour.Town

You're familiar with the traditional way of handling community engagement.

Once every few years, an outside consultant comes in and leads a community engagement planning meeting. There are lots of flip charts and post it notes.

Most of the people who attend hold official titles or formal leadership roles. Almost all are professional middle class white people, in their 30s to 60s. The Same Ten People who seem to be on every committee and board are there. Not many other people outside those groups attend.

The consultant leads a discussion of the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats as these people see them. The usual people bring up their usual topics.

Several ideas are written on big pieces of paper and mounted on the walls. Everyone gets some sticky dots they can use to vote for the ideas they like best. The ideas with the most dots are the winners.

Maybe a survey is printed in the paper to gather more input.

The consultant gathers up all the papers, goes away and writes up a plan. It more or less reflects what was on the papers.

The resulting plan is submitted to the town government several weeks later in a really nice binder. It goes on the shelf in city hall.

Who is missing from this view of "community"?

When we get these same people together, who speaks for those outside the professional middle class: the wait staff, the retail clerks, the nurse aids, the mechanics, the truck drivers, the

office staff? Who brings the perspective of different ethnicities and cultures? Who speaks with a younger voice about the future?

Idea Friendly community engagement

Here's an Idea Friendly version of community engagement. It doesn't start with a meeting.

People from throughout the community are encouraged and supported in trying their own ideas all year long.

Small spaces are available to try micro business ideas. People are able to connect with each other at frequent networking and learning events so they can work on even bigger ideas. The whole town is idea friendly.

Throughout the year, the officials are engaged in helping with and watching the experiments.

When someone brings an idea to a city official anytime, they are met with, "Great! What would you need to test that out?"

The existing plans are revisited and revised throughout the year based on the exciting experiments and developments going on throughout the community.

During the next planning cycle, lots of people are personally invited to attend and participate, and ideas that are being actively tried and proven right now are incorporated into the plans.

Before you write your next plan this way, there are more alternatives. You can use a calendar, a few sheets of blank paper or even a big mock up in a parking lot. You have lots of alternatives to inviting the Same Ten People to write the same old plan.

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

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Mark Your Calendar

October 7

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.

October 8

ATTENTION STAPLES SENIORS (55+) 'Coffee, Cookies and Conversation' at Staples United Methodist Church basement on Fridays, 9 a.m. - noon. For more info., call 218-894-2256 or 218-640-6477.

October 9

WADENA COUNTY REPUBLICANS FALL FESTIVAL Saturday, Oct. 9, 5 p.m., at the Pizza Ranch in Wadena. For info., call 218-894-1899.

October 11

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

October 14

TODD COUNTY REPUBLICANS Mtg Thursday, Oct. 14, 7 p.m., Thunder Lodge, 22056 US 71, Long Prairie. For info., Facebook at Todd County Minnesota Republicans, 401-632-7849.

Cardinal Calendar

SM school events

October

- **M/HS BAND/ORCHESTRA CONCERT** Oct. 9, 7 p.m.
- **No SCHOOL - CONFERENCES** Oct. 18
- **No SCHOOL - MEA** Oct. 21 - 22
- **MS/HS CHOIR CONCERT** Oct. 25, 7 p.m.
- **MS DANCE** Oct. 29, 3:05 - 5:30 p.m.

November

- **No SCHOOL - PLC/STAFF INSERVICE** Nov. 8
- **HS FALL PLAY, "THE MAD TEA PARTY"** Nov. 12-13

All Staples-Motley Upcoming Events are subject to change. Go to www.isd2170.k12.mn.us for up to the minute information.

Thank you
for reading
the
Staples World



Community Breakfast



making pancakes in the church kitchen are, from left, John Rardin and Mike Rosvold.

The next Community Pancake Breakfast will be held Saturday, Oct. 30. The Motley United Methodist Church is located at 847 3rd Ave. S. For more information, call 218-352-6466. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



A free Community Pancake Breakfast will be offered at Motley United Methodist Church on the last Saturday of each month, from 8 - 10 a.m.

Pictured above, on Oct. 2, church member Sharon Sandberg serves pancakes to (from left) Rob in Kramer, Linda Bettis and her grandson Joel Bettis. At left, nine-year-old Joel enjoys eating a hot-off-the-griddle pancake. Below,

COVID-19 outbreaks in area communities

COVID-19 outbreaks are showing up in area communities. Weekly totals by zip code were released Sept. 30, showing the Wadena area with 58 new cases during the week, Staples 34, Pillager 29 and Browerville 20. Long Prairie was the only area community with fewer cases than the previous week, with 21. Verndale had

14 new cases and Motley 10.

As of Sept. 30, the Staples-Motley School District was not on the state list of schools that had experienced an outbreak of COVID-19, which means five or more cases in one building. The only local school district on the list was Long Prairie-Grey Eagle.

Commemoration Mass to be held in Staples

From Sacred Heart Catholic Church

Do you have cremated remains of a family member in your possession that you would like to have laid to rest in a sacred place? Proper burial helps us grieve and find closure while we show respect for the life and remains of our beloved dead.

As a free service to our community and those who have died, the Churches of St. Ann in Wadena, and Sacred Heart in Staples, Minnesota, are collecting cremated remains of deceased family members who have not yet been buried. On Nov. 2, 2021 at 8:30 a.m. at the Church of St. Ann in Wadena, and at 6 p.m. at the Church of Sacred Heart in Staples, we will have a public Mass of Commemoration of the Dead, and later

a private burial of the remains at our cemetery. Our church will absorb the cost of burial, so this service is free to you. Cremated remains must be more than 18 months past the date of

death, need not be Catholic or from the area, and must be accompanied with paperwork. For more information contact Barb Piecek at our church offices 218-632-7309 or bpiecek@marysacc.org.

**Staples Fire Dept.
Open House**
Friday, Oct. 8th 5-7pm
**Join us for food, fun,
& demonstrations!**
Staples Fire Hall, 831 4th St. NE, Staples

**LEADER LIONS CLUB
Pancake Breakfast**
Sun., Oct. 10
Leader Community Hall, Hwy. 64, Leader
Serving **10 a.m. to 1 p.m.**
Pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, juice, coffee
FREE WILL OFFERING PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT LOCAL COMMUNITY PROJECTS

DEADLINE
for all classified ads and copy is 12 noon Friday
For the Staples World

Bingo!
IT'S BINGO TIME AGAIN!
STARTING
Sunday, Oct. 3 1 p.m.
TEN HI IN MOTLEY
Come, join the fun, Oct.-April.
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THE ORIGINAL

Community Forum

NATIONAL NEWSPAPER WEEK OCT. 3-9 2021

Staples World
DEADLINES
Newspaper deadline for copy and advertising:
12 noon Fridays



Congratulations

on your retirement,
Kathy!
Thank you
for your many years of service at DQ.

Hello World

BIRTHS REPORTED AT LAKEWOOD HEALTH SYSTEM HOSPITAL IN STAPLES INCLUDED:

Born to Kim and Luke Hansen of Park Rapids, a baby girl, Mia Rose weighing five pounds, 15 ounces on September 24, 2021.

Born to Jordyn and Dillon Card of Verndale, a baby girl, Blair Eden weighing seven pounds, 11 ounces on September 27, 2021.

Born to Nicole Larson and Nathan Kist of Cushing, a baby girl, Lily Lyn weighing seven pounds, 12 ounces on September 28, 2021.

Born to Devon and Ben Brichacek of Browerville, a baby boy, Clay Benjamin weighing six pounds, six ounces on September 29, 2021.

Born to Morgan and Andrew Burgstaler of Fort Ripley, a baby boy, Conner Andrew weighing nine pounds, seven ounces on September 30, 2021.

Obituaries

Patricia Wickham

Patricia Jo (Dailey) Wickham died September 25, 2021, unexpectedly at her home due to health complications. Funeral services were held Oct. 1 at Casino Assembly of God Church in Pillager with Pastor Jim Johnson officiating. Her final resting place will be Poplar Cemetery in Leader.

Patricia (Patty) was born to Laurence and Josephine (Siss) Dailey on December 18, 1962, in Wadena. Patty grew up on a farm in the Leader area. She graduated from Staples High School in 1981 and from Bemidji State University in 1997 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing.

Patty worked most of her life at Lakewood Health System, Staples. She began her career as an LPN and worked her way up to Director of Home Care/Hospice and Palliative Care. After 20 years at Lakewood, she stayed home and helped raise her grandchildren. In recent years, she discovered a love for teaching. She was able to reach students in other countries from the comfort of her own home.

In 2004, Patty married David Allen Wickham. They resided in the Leader area, not far from where she grew up. Patty enjoyed being outdoors, gardening, tending to the lawn and flowers, taking walks and spending time with family, especially her grandchildren.



She embraced anyone that walked through her door and was always referred to as “Grandma Patty” by children who entered her home.

Patty is survived by her husband Dave; one son, Shawn (Bonnie) White; one daughter Josi Longbottom; five grandchildren, Cassidy White, Jason White, Joshua White, Keith White and Alaina White; six brothers, Robert (Joyce) Dailey, Raymond (Joan) Dailey, Richard (Rosemary) Dailey, Thomas (Debbie) Dailey, Laurence Jr. (Dawn) Dailey, Jack Dailey; three sisters, Carol Dailey, Sandy (Robert) Knoll, Marsha (Mike) Horan; many nieces, nephews and other relatives.

She is preceded in death by her parents; one brother, Jerry Dailey and two sisters Linda Swanson and Mary Dailey. Arrangements were by the Brenny Family Funeral Chapel, Staples.

w41c A00006B2021OC06

Richard Perry

Richard “Butch” Perry, 77, of Bertha, formerly of Superior, Wisconsin, passed away at his home on October 1, 2021.

Visitation will be held Weds., October 6 at 4:00 p.m. at the Brenny Family Funeral Chapel in Staples with the funeral service beginning at 5:00 p.m.

Richard was a family man; always making sure that his family was well cared for and doing what needed to be done for his family. He was always concerned about everyone else first, before himself. He will

be greatly missed. Richard is survived by his wife of 53 years, Hjaris; two daughters, Melanie (Dave) Sanderson and Christine (Doug Poshek) Kolp; one daughter-in-law, Kathy Perry; eight grandchildren; four great-grandchildren and two sisters, Darlene Burger and Maxine Monti.

He is preceded in death by his parents; two sons, Joseph and Walter and three brothers, Tom Perry, Willard Perry and Robert Perry.

w41c A00006B2021OC06



Turkey crossing

Wild turkeys trotted across a rural road seeking a protective hiding spot. The fall wild turkey hunting season is currently open. (Staples World photo by Janice Winter)

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Student Achievements

DEL ECKMAN, Staples, was recently awarded a \$2,000 Fred Breen scholarship from the Northwest Technical College (NTC) Foundation in Bemidji. Eckman is majoring in electrical construction & maintenance at NTC.



Steve Fields
Minnesota Attorney

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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
Sonlight (kids ages 4 yrs.-6th grade) 10:30 a.m.
After school to 5:30 p.m.
Youth Group (Teens, 7th-12th grade) 5:30 p.m.
After school to 5:30 p.m.

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

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

Faith Lutheran
430 12th Street. NE., Staples 218-894-1546
Pastor: Carl Larson
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 a.m.
Sabbath School 10:45 a.m.

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

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

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

Aldrich

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

Cushing

Bethany Lutheran
25430 Bison Rd. Cushing, MN
320-749-2140
Pastor Carl Larson
www.bethanylutherancushing.org
Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.
Communion 1st and 2nd Sunday of each month

Lincoln Evangelical Free
1354 320th Street, Cushing, MN 56443
Phone: 218- 575-2449
www.lincolnefree.org
Facebook Lincoln E Free
Office Hours: Tues. - Thurs., 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Senior Pastor: Don Reigstad
Community Life Pastor: Jim Brown
Associate Pastor: Joe Reigstad
SUNDAY
Church Worship Gathering 10:00 a.m.
YouTube Channel 10:00 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Community Meal 5:30 p.m.
Family Night 6:00 p.m.

Cushing Baptist
26298 Bear Rd., Cushing
Pastor Dan Holmes 320-749-2583
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Bible study 7:30 p.m.

Leader

Swan Valley Lutheran
Leader 218-397-2470
Sandy Knight, Synodically Authorized Minister of Word and Sacrament
Sunday Worship
January - July 9 a.m.
July - January 11 a.m.

Maple Hill Lutheran
Sandy Knight, Synodically Authorized Minister of Word and Sacrament
Leader 218-397-2470 (Rural Pine River)
Worship and Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

Motley

Motley Free Methodist
33 Wellwood St. E
Motley 56466 218-352-6888
Jim Johnson, Senior Pastor
Charles Mallory, Associate Pastor
Sunday Worship 9:00 and 10:30 a.m.
facebook live 9 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Youth Group 6:00-8:00 p.m.

St. John's Lutheran
497 3rd Ave. S, Motley 218-352-6399
Pastor Vicar Paul Koehler
Sunday School and Bible Class 8:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.

St. Michael
1st St. and Birch, Motley 218-894-2296
Pastor Fr. 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.

Hewitt

Church of the Nazarene
114 Front Street, P.O. Box 146 Hewitt, MN
218-924-2028
Pastor Wayne Hoffer
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m./6 p.m.
WEDNESDAY PRAYER 7:00 p.m.

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

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

Verndale

Verndale Alliance
109 NW Brown Street, Verndale, MN 56481
218-445-5619
Senior Pastor Tony Stanley
Heath Belknap, Pastor of Student Ministries
Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Bible Fellowship Classes 11-11:45 a.m.

Family Life Church
402 NE Clark Drive, Verndale 218-445-5568
VerndaleFLC@gmail.com
Pastor Amos Self 218-371-7189
Children's Pastor Kenneth Kjeldgaard
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.

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.

Hope Chapel Alliance
18126 County Road 7, Verndale
218-445-5643 or 218-472-3316
Pastor Neal Malcore
Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Family Night 5:30 p.m.

Immanuel Lutheran Church of Bartlett Township (LCMS)
17097 460th St., PO Box 37, Verndale
Pastor Robin Fish
Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Bible Study 6:30 p.m.

Verndale United Methodist
10 3rd Ave. SW, Verndale
218-445-5108
Pastor Jill Pawlowski
Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.

Central United Methodist
5 miles N on Cty Rd 26 (Nimrod tar)
Pastor Chuck Horsager, 218-639-4225
Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School 10:30 a.m.

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

"You Are Significant"

Submitted by Pastor Roy Miles, Staples Assembly of God Church

-Clancy Hayes (God's Word For Today)

Abraham Maslow argued that one of the five basic needs all humans have is to feel secure. A part of the security people seek is to feel accepted and to have a purpose in life. Many people fail to find their purpose and therefore feel insecure.

Insecurity should not be a part of the Christian's life. God has given each person a purpose. He has designed every individual with gifts and talents that He wants them to use to further His kingdom. Not everyone will have a task that places them on stage or results in fame. But

every task is important because it is assigned by God.

"On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable." (1 Corinthians 12:22 NIV)

Christians must not compare themselves to others. They must focus on the task God has given them and do it with passion and excellence. Every role is essential if the kingdom of God is to expand as God desires. You have an important part to play in accomplishing this goal.

Challenge for today: Ask God what He wants you to do to expand His kingdom and then do it.

The Staples area Church Directory is sponsored by these businesses:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



Maybe hunter recruitment is our job, too

We hear a lot these days about the dramatic downturn in the number of Minnesota residents who hunt. This is especially true of duck hunters, whose numbers have declined from about 140,000 in the 1970s, to just over 80,000 today. The fall-off may not be as dramatic among deer and upland bird hunters, but in the big picture, hunter representation in the Minnesota population is trending downward.

Why is that important? Its significance is greatest to those who hunt, for the simple reason that there are other forces—economic, social, political, for example—whose interests are often at odds with the interests of hunters. Minnesotans by and large are not anti-hunting. But the viability of hunting as a recreation depends on habitat, access to these lands and waters, and game to be found there. When it comes to protecting and managing the natural resources vital to hunting—our forests, wetlands, lakes, rivers, and grasslands—priorities may clash.

Often it takes political muscle to have our priorities given the consideration we think we deserve; muscle to influence politicians and policy makers to legislate and regulate in a manner that favors protecting and enhancing wildlife habitat, water quality, public access, and pursuing goals that are compatible with maintaining our hunting traditions.

Think back to the Clean Water, Land, and Legacy amendment to the Minnesota state constitution. It was passed by voters in 2008 and dedicates 3/8ths of 1 percent of state sales tax revenues to conservation and arts purposes. It took years, and a herculean effort in the form of ral-

lies, petitions, testimony and pressure applied by state conservation forces—primarily hunter, angler and general conservation groups, as well as many dedicated individuals—to get the amendment on the general election ballot and approved. Without a doubt, it took muscle.

Unfortunately, political muscle is a numbers game. Without constituent numbers, political muscle atrophies, as our own muscles atrophy with lack of exercise. That's why hunter numbers matter. The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has been attempting to address the decline in hunter numbers—and to boost angler numbers, too—through its Recruit, Retain, Reactivate program—called R3 for short.

One of its components is mentor coordination, which in this case means pairing volunteer hunters and anglers—the mentors—with adults or families that want to experience the rewards of hunting or fishing, and need guidance. R3 also provides grant funding through a sub-program called No Child Left Inside, funds that are awarded to groups that develop and offer natural resource-based education and outdoor recreation programs. One element of this initiative is specifically targeted to retaining our existing hunters and anglers, and recruiting new ones.

Hunting regulations have also been used to encourage greater participation. Specific to waterfowl hunting, the Minnesota DNR has in several stages over recent years loosened up the harvest rules, hoping to stanch the hemorrhaging of duck hunter numbers. Things like the special Youth Waterfowl Hunt before the start of the general waterfowl season, first held in 1996 and expanded from one day to a full weekend. Also bag limit changes that allow hunters to harvest more wood ducks and hen mallards, eliminating the mid-day start on opening day, eliminating the 4 p.m. early season closing hour, eliminating restric-

tions on motorized decoys, and this year adding a special early teal-only season at the beginning of September.

So far there are few signs that these changes have had great effect. On the other hand, a positive thinker might suggest that—if not for some of these changes—the number of waterfowl hunters could have dropped even more. At the end of the day, there is only so much the DNR can do to encourage today's hunters and anglers to continue their involvement, and to entice those on the sidelines to join the party.

A recent column by Minneapolis Star-Tribune outdoors columnist Dennis Anderson celebrated four decades worth of dedication by one Southern Minnesota sportsman who has been a mentor to youth hunters. This individual took young hunters under his wing, “showed them the ropes” of the hunt, how to be safe in an activity that is not without some risk, and in the process hopefully instilled in them a conservation ethic and a sense of responsibility to be good stewards of our natural resources.

That this is so noteworthy as to merit celebration is a statement about how self-oriented most of us are. Most of us are absorbed with our own participation in hunting passions. When it comes to mentorship, maybe we have introduced our own children, or the child of a hunting partner, to the sport we love. But at best, most of us have instructed and guided a replacement for ourselves when we eventually stow our decoys and oil our shotguns for the last time. Quite a few avid hunters do not have offspring that will carry on their parent's tradition of hunting and participation in the shooting sports, and for them the tradition could dead-end.

A positive development is the recent explosion of youth interest in school-sponsored clay target shooting leagues. It's become the fastest growing youth sport in Minnesota, and has grown beyond our state's boundaries to

include well over 30,000 participants on more than 1,000 teams nationwide. Only a minority of these athletes are likely to become avid hunters, but they do represent fertile ground for recruitment to the ranks of hunters.

Many of us support Ducks Unlimited, Pheasants Forever, the Ruffed Grouse Society, and similar organizations. But odds are that our support is limited to membership, to attending a fundraising banquet, or perhaps buying raffle tickets to help fund the missions of these worthy conservation organizations. This is important, but it can lead to a sense that “I've done my part.” But could we do more?

The 2000 film Pay it Forward portrays a junior high school English teacher's challenge to his students to imagine an idea that could change the world for the better. One student proposed the idea of responding to a favor or a kindness not only with gratitude, but to also “pay it forward” with a good deed done for someone else.

Could this be where we come in? Could we look for an opportunity to mentor someone, either through our local sportsman's club, a mentoring opportunity with our local chapter of a major conservation organization, or by making ourselves available to participate in the DNR's Certified Volunteer Mentor Network?

Most of us are busy with events in our own lives. Most everyone—including the youth or adults we might mentor—will likely have many things competing for limited recreational time. But nothing is accomplished if we assume that the effort won't be successful. A quote from a first century religious scholar seems to fit here: “If not you, then who? If not now, when?”

(More information on the DNR's Certified Volunteer Mentor Network is available from coordinator Ben Kohn, at benjamin.kohn@state.mn.us, or at 651-259-5178.)

Volleyball team wins two in straight sets

The Staples-Motley volleyball team won in straight sets at Pillager on Sept. 28, then won in straight sets at Park Rapids on Sept. 30.

Team results

Staples-Motley 3, Pillager 0; 25-21, 25-13, 25-17

Leah Bestland: aces-3, assists-27, digs-7, kills-3

Morgan Becker: kills-11, digs-25, block-1

Maggie Claussen: aces-1, kill-1, digs-33

Klaire Storry: aces-3, kills-4, blocks-3, digs-5

Emilya Case: kills—6, block-1, digs-2

Grace Jennissen: blocks-3, digs-2

Jayce Kobliska: digs-10, aces-2

Ellie Moulton: aces-3,

digs-2

Steffany Sullivan: digs-10, Bo Erholtz: kiills-10, blocks-5, digs-2

Staples-Motley 3, Park Rapids 0; 25-17, 25-22, 25-17

Bestland: aces-1, assists-24, digs-18, kills-3

Claussen: aces-2, kill-1, digs-39

Becker: kills-13, block-1, digs-22

Erholtz: aces-2, assist-1, kills-3, blocks-4, digs-5

Storry: aces-1, assists-1, kills-4, blocks-3, digs-3

Case: kill-1, block-1, dig-2

Kobliska: aces-1, assists-1, kill-1, digs-13

Moulton: Ace-1

Sullivan: digs-10

Jennissen: kills-4, block-1

Tennis team keeps winning

The Staples-Motley girls tennis team continued winning this season with a 6-1 win at Melrose on Sept. 27.

The Cardinals have one more match on Tuesday, Oct. 5 before they begin postseason play Oct. 7 and Oct. 11.

Staples-Motley 6, Melrose 1

Singles: Lauren Rutten W 6-1, 6-0; Allison Knosalla W 6-1, 7-5; Ronnie Noska W 6-1, 6-1; Elizabeth DiGiovanni W 6-0, 6-0

Doubles: Georgia Kruchten/Kenzie Erickson W 6-2, 6-7 (5-7), (10-4); Amy Rollins/Corinne Olson W 6-4, 6-1; Heidi Zimmerman/Maddison Perius L 2-6, 2-6.

Cardinals fall at Hawley

The Staples-Motley football team was unable to stop the Hawley offense in a 54-20 loss at Hawley on Oct. 1.

Staples-Motley fell behind 21-0 before Sivert Klefsaas scored on a 60 yard run for a touchdown. Isaiah

Schultz threw a touchdown pass in the second quarter, but the Cardinals were still beind 13-41 at halftime. Schultz added a score in the fourth quarter on a 13 yard run to make the final score 20-54.



Flag football action

Staples-Motley third and fourth graders put on a display of flag football during the Football Under The Lights event on Sept. 21. Four Cardinal teams played while family and friends watched. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)





Todd County Commissioners Minutes

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TODD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS August 3, 2021

Call to Order
The Todd County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Board Room in the City of Long Prairie, MN on the 3rd day of August, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Becker. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. All Commissioners were present.

Approval of Agenda
On motion by Erickson and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the agenda as presented.

Consent Agenda
On motion by Kircher and seconded by Kneisl, the following motions were introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

To approve the Todd County Board of Commissioner's Meeting Minutes for July 20, 2021 as presented.

To approve a one day On Sale Temporary Liquor License for the Long Prairie Lions Club at the address of 24257 Riverside Drive (Long Drive In), Long Prairie, MN in Long Prairie Township effective August 28, 2021 replacing the previous approved event date of August 21, 2021.

To approve the resignation of Nicholas Miller, Correctional Officer, effective 07/31/2021.

Auditor-Treasurer
On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve the July 2021 Auditor Warrants number (ACH) 901626 through 901691 in the amount of \$1,115,050.38, (Manual) 640 through 647 in the amount of \$53,939.09 and (Regular) 237836 through 237994 in the amount of \$358,389.48 for a total of \$1,527,378.95.

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve the Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 401376 through 401396 in the amount of \$14,047.18 and (Regular) 55041 through 55077 in the amount of \$134,625.10 for a total of \$148,672.28.

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve the Health & Human Services Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 801862 through 801877 and (Regular) 708046 through 708070 for a total amount of \$17,392.08.

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve the Health & Human Services SSIS Warrants number (ACH) 600441 through 600445 and (Regular) 516463 through 516469 for a total amount of \$40,714.51.

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

TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM COUNTY DITCH FUND TO GENERAL REVENUE FUND

WHEREAS, The County Ditch Authority has approved to have the hours worked by the County Ditch Inspector charged back to that ditch, and;

WHEREAS, the calculations have been made for the County Ditch Inspector's time for the period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 per attached copy;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners approve the transfer of \$5,355 from the Fund 40-County Ditch Fund to the Fund 01-General Revenue Fund per the attached list.

County Ditch/Ag Inspector

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Acting as Ditch Authority, set the date of the seconded CD41 Hearing for Tuesday, August 31, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. The meeting is to be held at the Todd County Commissioners Board Room.

County Sheriff
On motion by Erickson and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve Elizabeth Muchow's employment status change from FT to PT Correctional Officer effective 08/06/2021.

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the contract with the Long Prairie Police Department for redaction of Watch Guard videos.

Soil & Water
On motion by Kircher and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve creation of the Resource Conservationist - Riparian Position and begin the recruitment process.

Todd County Ag Society

An update was provided by Todd County Ag Society President Mike Wielenberg and Treasurer Garhard Hendricks of the 2021 Fair Activities with record attendance and overall good year of activities.

County Auditor-Treasurer's Report
The County Auditor-Treasurer had nothing to report.

County Coordinator's Report

The County Coordinator reported that there were meetings scheduled with Todd County's Cities and Townships to support ARP Funding education.

County Commissioner's Report

The Commissioners reported on meetings attended.

Recess
Chairperson Becker recessed the meeting until August 17, 2021.

AUDITOR WARRANTS	
Vendor Name.....	\$ Amount
1 PAYMENT LESS	
THAN \$2,000	\$279.00
MN DEPT OF REVENUE	4,379.14
MN DEPT OF REVENUE	4,733.62
1 PAYMENT LESS	
THAN \$2,000	26.77
MN DEPT OF REVENUE	32,333.76
1 PAYMENT LESS	
THAN \$2,000	795.40
1 PAYMENT LESS	
THAN \$2,000	66.43
US BANK	11,324.97
CELLEBRITE USA CORP.....	4,300.00
DOHERTY STAFFING SOLUTIONS	4,646.93
EBSO INC	223,244.33
GREELEY/PATRICK	9,745.00
HEALTH PARTNERS DENTAL	5,383.72
KNIFE RIVER CORP	590,584.78
LONG PRAIRIE SANITATION INC	4,803.49
PRAIRIE LAKES MUNI. SOLID WASTE AUTH.....	82,386.00
STAPLES ADVANTAGE	3,137.64
TODD CO AUD-TREAS	5,794.16
WATERGUARDS, LLC	20,729.33
WIDSTETH SMITH NOLTING INC	3,220.00
36 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000	14,280.59
BOYER FORD TRUCKS	130,957.49
CENTRA CARE	10,983.33
DOHERTY STAFFING SOLUTIONS	3,935.30
GALLAGHER BENEFIT SERVICES INC.....	2,000.00
GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT GROUP.....	5,000.00
MINNESOTA POWER & LIGHT	16,886.30
MN DEPT OF FINANCE	8,636.50
MORRISON COUNTY	44,799.23
PETERS LAW OFFICE, P.A.	3,400.00
SALAM INTERN'L, INC.....	2,032.78
SHIRLEY'S GAS & GROCERIES INC.....	4,430.14
VEOLIA ENVIRON. SERVICES LLC.....	2,711.79
51 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000	22,033.33
BHH PARTNERS	6,584.32
DOHERTY STAFFING SOLUTIONS	2,001.78
LONG PRAIRIE OIL CO.....	22,377.44
NELSON/GERALD & PATRICIA	11,500.00
ROLYAN BUOYS	3,918.82
SAFE RESTRAINTS, INC.....	2,384.12
SCHOOL DISTRICT 213	6,452.01
SCHOOL DISTRICT 2170	2,071.11
SCHOOL DISTRICT 2753	3,444.31
SCHOOL DISTRICT 787	6,832.52
TOWN OF GORDON	4,107.23
TOWN OF STAPLES	2,082.87
TOWN OF TURTLE CREEK.....	2,438.59
TOWN OF WARD	3,528.97
52 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000	17,851.11
AAA STRIPPING SERVICE CO	2,738.86
BRAATEN SAND & GRAVEL	84,231.00
CLIFTON LARSON ALLEN, LLP	3,675.00

COUNTIES PROVIDING	
TECHNOLOGY	5,323.00
COUNTY/SIDE REST	4,041.50
FLEET SERVICES/ WEX BANK	7,606.79
LONG PRAIRIE OIL CO.....	6,478.69
USPS-POC	2,805.57
VERIZON	4,872.73
VOYANT COMMS, LLC.....	3,716.44
WONDERLICH/SCOTT A	7,160.00
37 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000	13,152.92
Total	\$1,527,378.95

COMMISSIONERS WARRANTS	
Vendor Name.....	\$ Amount
CENTRAL APPLICATORS INC	3,826.09
CENTRAL STATES WIRE PROD INC	3,303.25
MENCH/JAMES	2,740.00
MORRISON CO PUBLIC HEALTH SERV	5,923.98
TODD SOIL & WATER CONS DIST	117,045.00
53 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000	15,833.96
Total	\$148,672.28

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES WARRANTS	
Vendor Name.....	\$ Amount
PATTON SCHAD FUNERAL SERV - SAUK CENTRE.....	\$4,200.00
PERISH/ALAN	3,232.69
39 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000	9,959.39
Total	\$17,392.08

Vendor Name.....	\$ Amount
CARLSON/BARBARA J.....	\$3,600.00
DHS - MSOP - MN SEX OFFENDER PROGRAM.....	5,895.00
DHS - ST PETER RTC - 472.....	2,631.00
NORTH HOMES CHILDREN & FAMILY SRVS	14,034.90
PINEHAVEN YOUTH & FAMILY SRVS INC	11,339.51
PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000	3,214.10
Total	\$40,714.51

On a motion by Kneisl and seconded by Erickson, the preceding minutes of the County Board meeting held August 3, 2021 were duly approved by unanimous vote at the Todd County Board of Commissioners at the Regular Board Meeting held on August 17, 2021.

Witness my hand and seal:

Barbara Becker,
Todd County Board Chairperson

Denise Gaida, Todd County Auditor-Treasurer 41pnc

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TODD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS August 17, 2021

Call to Order

The Todd County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Board Room in the City of Long Prairie, MN on the 17th day of August, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Becker. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. All Commissioners were present.

Approval of Agenda
On motion by Erickson and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the agenda as presented.

Consent Agenda
On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Erickson, the following motions were introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

To approve the Todd County Board of Commissioner's Meeting Minutes for August 3, 2021 as presented.

To approve Corey Heid, Road Deputy retirement, effective 07/30/2021.

To approve the resignation of Joshua Cridler, PT Dispatch, effective 08/01/2021.

To hire Shayla Baken, FT Correctional Officer, effective 08/29/2021.

To approve the resignation of Erin Guenther, PT Road Deputy, effective 07/16/2021.

To hire Tyler Schwartz for PT Road Deputy, start date 08/17/2021.

To approve Autumn Pundsack-Nelson to fill the open Social Worker position.

To approve Jennifer Panuska to fill the open Registered Nurse position.

Auditor-Treasurer
On motion by Neumann and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve the Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 401397 through 401425 in the amount of \$14,167.75 and (Regular) 55078 through 55137 in the

amount of \$49,879.78 for a total of \$64,047.53.

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve the Health & Human Services Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 801878 through 801949 and (Regular) 708071 through 708131 for a total amount of \$105,981.27.

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous Roll Call vote: To approve the Health & Human Services SSIS Warrants number (ACH) 600446 through 600456 and (Regular) 516470 through 516497 for a total amount of \$56,706.60.

Great River Regional Library

Karen Pundsack, Executive Director and Amy Anderson, Accounting Coordinator provided the County Board an update of Great River Regional Library's 2022 Budget and recent initiatives.

Public Works

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

FINAL PAYMENT AUTHORIZATION - 2021 DUST CONTROL CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT

WHEREAS, the contract with Knife River Corporation for a 2021 Dust Control Construction Contract known as CP 77-21-08 located on various county roads in Todd County in all things been completed, and;

WHEREAS, construction work on this contract was scheduled and completed in 2021 with the value of the total work certified being \$114,112.95, and;

WHEREAS, partial payments amounting to \$108,407.30 have been previously been made to the contractor as work progressed, and;

WHEREAS, it has been determined that \$5,705.65 still remains to be paid to Knife River Corporation.

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

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To set the 2021 Fall Road Meeting for October 28, 2021 at 9:00 a.m at the Long Prairie Public Works building.

County Ditch/Ag Inspector

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: Acknowledge receipt of a Hold Harmless Agreement petition from Chad Bosl, to clean part of County Ditch 3 on parcel 17-0002500, Little Sauk Twp Section 3.

Facilities Committee

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Kircher, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the budgeted request to redo the roof of Annex 1 along with the small adjacent roof for the low bid of \$103,730 by Buttweilers Do All Roofing.

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the request for new roof top units from H & S Heating for the low bid of \$29,496 with funds sourced from the ARP/SLFRF to improve air quality as a COVID-19 mitigation effort.

County Sheriff

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

RESOLUTION APPROVING WEST CENTRAL MINNESOTA DRUG AND VIOLENT CRIMES TASK FORCE JOINT POWERS

AGREEMENT
WHEREAS, Todd County wishes to be a participating member of the West Central Minnesota Drug and Violent Crimes Task Force, a Joint Powers Entity formed pursuant to Minn. Stat. 471.59, and;

WHEREAS, to provide coordinated enforcement, it is beneficial for neighboring governmental units to share their resources in apprehending and prosecuting drug-related offenders, pursuing drug-related asset forfeitures, and;

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board acknowledges and agrees to all the rights and responsibilities contained in the current West Central Minnesota Drug and Violent Crimes Task Force Joint Powers Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the County Board of Todd County, Minnesota, that the Board Chair is authorized to sign the West Central Minnesota Drug and Violent Crimes Task Force Joint Powers Agreement attached hereto and made part hereof.

Soil & Water

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the job description for the Resource Conservationist - Riparian position as presented.

Planning & Zoning

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: to grant a Conditional Use Permit with no conditions for lumber storage on parcel 26-0049700.

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To extend the application deadline by an additional 60 days (120 days total) to allow for additional review of the Grey-stone First Addition Preliminary Plat.

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To amend section 6.03B of the Planning and Zoning Ordinance to reference Section 9.03 Cluster Development instead of Section 713 which does not exist any longer.

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by majority vote with Neumann against: To amend Section 6.03E of the Planning and Zoning Ordinance to increase the peak height of accessory structures in shoreland zoning from 18' to 25'. Accessory buildings not meeting all setbacks would still be subject to a maximum peak height of 18'.

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Kircher, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To amend Section 6.04B of the Planning and Zoning Ordinance to update the use tables to a permissible use and create a footnote that it's allowed as long as the property and home are meeting the requirements of Section 7.04(E) - Guest Cottage.

Health & Human Services

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by majority vote with Kircher against: To approve FFY2022 Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program and Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program Grant Contract.

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Kircher, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To authorize the hiring of a Team Lead Social Worker.

Administration

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Kircher, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve reappointment of

Pete Berscheit, County Veterans Service Officer for a term of four years.

Closed Session

Chair Becker closed the session at 10:10 a.m. pursuant to MN Statute §13D.03 to consider strategies for labor negotiations.

Chair Becker reopened the session at 10:57 a.m.

County Auditor-Treasurer's Report

The County Auditor-Treasurer had nothing to report.

County Coordinator's Report

The County Coordinator had nothing to report.

County Commissioner's Report

The Commissioners reported on meetings attended and acknowledged an invitation to the Todd County All-Township Meeting coming up in September.

Adjourn

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

COMMISSIONER WARRANTS	
Vendor Name.....	\$ Amount
BIG STONE THERAPIES, INC.....	\$3,093.16
BROWERVILLE TRUCK-WASH/BIG BOYZ.....	5,401.97
CENTRAL APPLICATORS INC.....	2,562.07
CENTRAL SPECIALTIES INC.....	2,383.05
COMMISSIONER OF TRANSPORTATION	2,630.08
JMD MANUFACTURING, INC.....	4,885.00
LONG PRAIRIE LEADER	4,221.15
NORTHERN BUSINESS PRODUCTS.....	3,135.92
STAPLES WORLD	7,302.36
TIERNY BROTHERS INC	2,474.38
79 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000	25,958.39
Total	\$64,047.53

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES WARRANTS	
Vendor Name.....	\$ Amount
CREMATION SOCIETY OF MN - MPLS	2,607.00
DHS - SWIFT	28,917.28
NOW MICRO INC.....	4,382.68
RURAL MN CEP INC	13,222.22
129 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000	56,852.09
Total	105,981.27

Vendor Name.....	\$ Amount
#16413	\$2,353.52
#16713	2,146.44
#14593	4,052.32
HOLISTIC FAMILY ED. SRVS	4,810.59
MID MINNESOTA DRUG TESTING INC	2,032.00
NORTHERN PINES MENTAL HLTH CTR INC.....	3,612.00
#16668	4,086.42
S.N. CORPORATION	2,000.00
STEP	4,917.76
PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000	26,695.55
Total	56,706.60

On a motion by Erickson and seconded by Kircher, the preceding minutes of the County Board meeting held August 17, 2021 were duly approved by unanimous vote at the Todd County Board of Commissioners at the Regular Board Meeting held on September 7, 2021.

Witness my hand and seal:

Barbara Becker,
Todd County Board Chairperson

Denise Gaida, Todd County Auditor-Treasurer 41pnc

Public Notice

NOTICE LAKE SHORE AERATION WARNING LAKE SHAMINEAU

Aeration system will be in operation, shoreline of Lake Shamineau, Lot #2196 from ice cover 2021 to ice out 2022. Purpose: to prevent shoreline damage due to ice expansion. Be aware of open water or thin ice.

41-42pnp

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Classifications

NOTICES	FOR SALE	WANTED TO BUY
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	REAL ESTATE
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
SERVICES & EMPLOYMENT	307 Household	605 Mobile Homes for Rent
201 Business Opportunities	308 Musical	606 Land for Rent
202 Childcare Providers	309 Miscellaneous	607 Houses for Sale
203 Childcare Wanted	310 Health/Beauty	608 Farms for Sale
205 Help Wanted	311 Firewood	609 Mobile Homes for Sale
206 Positions Wanted	312 Christmas Trees	610 Land for Sale
207 Equipment for Rent	313 Computers/Office Equip.	611 Business Property for Sale
208 Storage	314 Farm Services	612 Real Estate Wanted
209 Business Services	315 Camper Trailer	
210 Animal Care/Supplies	VEHICLES	GARAGE SALES
211 Work Wanted	401 Automobiles	701 Garage Sales
	402 Trucks/Vans	702 Flea Market/Crafts
	403 Recreational	
	404 Farm Equipment	
	405 Heavy Equipment	
	406 Parts/Repair	

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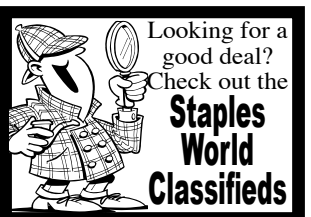
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Todd County works on staffing issues

By Karin L. Nauber
Todd County correspondent

The Solid Waste Department continues to be impacted by the reduction in contracted third party staff (STEP and Sentenced to Serve, hereafter referred to as local partners) due to COVID-19.

In May of 2020, the commissioners approved Solid Waste to retain the Doherty Staffing Agency as an alternative staff resource to process recycling to make up for staff shortages from local partners.

In the past 12 months the Solid Waste Department has typically had two Doherty staff working four to five days per week sorting recyclables. They are paid by Doherty directly at \$12/hour.

Recently, both of those individuals found work elsewhere, and the Solid Waste Department needs to find a way to replace these two individuals.

While STEP has increased the number of employees that are available to work at Solid Waste—between six and eight—this is not back to pre-pandemic levels (consistently eight).

According to Supervisor Jeremy Clasemann, “They do not anticipate returning to their previous consistency in the near future.”

Solid Waste’s request to continue with temporary staff from Doherty (two people) was approved. The board also increased the hourly pay from \$12 to \$15/hour as advised by Doherty who told them that it would be difficult to retain replacement staff without better compensation.

Staffing with Doherty would continue until the contract agency can demonstrate a consistent ability to provide eight staff each day. It was further approved to al-

low Solid Waste to use of America Rescue Plan (ARP) Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (CSLFRF) funding when qualified for this expense.

Even though the contracted cost with Doherty is \$23.70 per hour (with the \$15/hour increase) it is still lower than wages to a county staff member.

In other board business

- Approved the resignation of Katie Nelson from her position as eligibility worker effective Sept. 20.

- Approved the hire of Brian Thorstad as a full-time road deputy with a start date of Oct. 13.

- Approved the hire of Allyssa Engfer as a full-time road deputy with a start date of Oct. 5.

- Approved the hiring of Kevin Brown as resource conservationist with a riparian focus.

- Due to the Association of Minnesota Counties conference, the commissioners will not be available to attend the regularly scheduled board meeting on Dec. 7. It was rescheduled for Friday, Dec. 10 at 9 a.m.

- Todd County became a member of the South Country Health Alliance (SCHA) as of January 1, 2007 and resolved to withdraw from that alliance as of Dec. 31, 2019.

As part of the exiting terms, capital payments with interest were scheduled to be returned to Todd County. The Finance Committee recommended transferring those funds to the general fund to assist with the budgetary essentials of the county. The board approved the transfer of \$603,068.

- Received notice from the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) that the 2022 County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 21 Bridge Project Funding had been

awarded in the amount of \$246,999.

- County Engineer Loren Fellbaum announced that the MnDOT State Aid for Local Transportation county portion of the Federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) will be available to the county in the amount of \$202,918.

- Acting as the Ditch Authority, the board approved a Hold Harmless Agreement (HHA) petition from Richard Zunker, to clean approximately 1320 feet of County Ditch 33 in Reynolds Township, Section 33. This project will be done on his own property and at his own expense.

- Acting as the Ditch Authority, approved an HHA petition from Prairie Lakes Farm LLC/Amthor Cattle, to clean 1700 feet of County Ditch 19 in Ward Township, Section 24. This will be done at their own expense.

- The board received and acknowledged receipt of the Order Authorizing the Use of Todd County Ditch 41 as an Outlet. The Order will be reviewed by the commissioners for accuracy of the conditions approved at the Outlet Petition Hearing held on Sept. 14. This has to do with Lake Shamineau.

- Approved the request of Road Deputy Joshua Nice to change his employment status from full-time to part-time, effective Oct. 14.

- Approved Correctional Officer Lori Mielitz’s employment status change from full-time to part-time, effective Oct. 8.

Commissioner David Kircher asked how these changes will or could affect their severance packages.

Since they will not be paid out their sick or vacation time, those hours will still be available for Nice and Mielitz to use.

- Lutheran Social Service was

approved for funding for a grant term of Oct. 1, 2021 to Sept. 30, 2023, by the Minnesota Housing Board to assist households to obtain and maintain permanent housing.

The board approved the resolution authorizing the application and for LSS to administer the funds.

Kircher asked to whom this money would be available. It would be available to any Todd County resident who has been in the county for 60 days with proof of residency.

- A request from Jason Ehnes for a conditional use permit (CUP) to establish a diesel fuel bulk storage tank in Long Prairie Township was tabled and granted a 60 day extension to the application to allow for additional time to review the application.

- A request for a CUP for temporary family housing in Reynolds Township by Moses Borntrager was granted an additional 60 day extension.

- Greystone First Addition Preliminary Plat in Kandota Township was granted with the creation of an access easement across the neighboring property to allow access to the proposed development. No new access will be allowed for Highway 71.

- Maple Views Preliminary Plat in Little Sauk Township was granted with six conditions.

- A request to rezone a parcel in Staples Township from Commercial to R-2 was approved for Brian and Tricia Niemann with no conditions.

- A request for a CUP for CHS, Inc. to establish a 6500 gallon diesel fuel bulk storage tank on in Round Prairie was approved with the condition of additional permitting from other governmental agencies including but not limited

to the MPCA.

- A request for a CUP by Daniel Waldoch to establish a custom woodworking shop in Turtle Creek Township was approved with the condition all waste materials such as paints, stains, and solvents must be disposed of according to applicable state and local requirements.

A neighbor spoke out against approving this request during the public comment section of the meeting. He cited noise and traffic as two reasons that the CUP should not be granted.

The commissioners noted that much of the transactions would happen offsite, not on site and that the traffic on the township road should not be greatly impacted.

- An application for a CUP by Moses Borntrager to establish a sawmill/wood processing facility in Reynolds Township was approved with six conditions, including a temporary two-sided structure on the west and north sides of the operation and placement of a structure to contain the entire operation within one year.

- The board met briefly in a closed session for strategies for labor negotiations.

- The board held a work session at which several items were discussed including:

- 2022 county fee schedules
- the need for an additional eligibility worker
- Todd County daycare discussion with a representative from Sourcewell
- 2022 Todd Soil and Water Conservation District budget presentation
- 2021 violation assessment review, and
- discussion of the replacement of the dispatch office furniture and desks.

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Trip to U.S. Open was a thrill for tennis fan Samuelson

By Mary (Riewer) Samuelson

My husband (John Samuelson) and I spent two days at the U.S. Open Tennis Tournament in Flushing, NY, Thursday and Friday, Sept. 2 and 3. We purchased the tickets from a School Silent Auction.

Thursday we had tickets for the evening matches at Arthur Ashe Stadium, where we saw world #1 ranked Novak Djokovic take on an unranked player. Our seats were next to where the players enter the court so we had a great vantage point when they entered and exited the court.

After the Djokovic match, he was interviewed at center court and then he allowed some fans to take pictures before he began to leave the court. I had some notecards and a Sharpie, so I thought I would try to get his autograph as he left. My husband was taking pictures with his phone as Djokovic came over to me and took my Sharpie and scribbled his name. I could hear fans around us gasp as he signed because, as I learned later, the players were not supposed to sign autographs. So I was the only person to get a Novak Djokovic autograph that night that we are aware of.

The second match of the night was an exciting one because it was almost a big women's upset between #4 ranked Karolina Pliskova of the Czech Republic and unranked American Amanda Anisimova. It went to a third set tie-breaker before Pliskova pulled it off.

The Friday afternoon matches were equally exciting, especially watching #55 ranked Carlos Alcaraz upset #3 ranked Stefanos Tsitsipas of Greece. The

crowd was going crazy. Our seats were so close, we were able to get many photos of the players to treasure.

We stayed at the Millennium Hilton New York One UN Plaza (next to the United Nations Headquarters). Our bellhop, Frank, is a born-and-raised New Yorker, so he filled us in on some history of the hotel we stayed at. He told us that many years ago, players like Steffi Graf stayed at the hotel and practiced on the tennis court on the 39th floor. We happened to stay on the 29th floor, so of course we had to go up and see the indoor court. We had to peek through a window because the door was locked, but we at least got to see it. Frank also informed us that on the corner, about a block from our hotel, Martina Navratilova, would have breakfast at John's Coffee Shop. We also did some site seeing in New York spending time at: Times Square, Bryant Park, NBC News, Rockefeller Plaza, Ground Zero, Central Park, Grand Central Station, etc. New York is truly a fun city.

We also experienced the flooding in New York due to Hurricane IDA on Sept. 1. We had spent about an hour at Times Square when it started to rain. We went to eat at Tony's Italian restaurant in Times Square, and it just wouldn't stop raining. It rained 3-5 inches in an hour! We had walked from our hotel to Time Square, but we decided we'd better try and get a Lyft Driver to bring us back. Luckily, we didn't have to wait long and got back to our hotel safely. We were watching the U.S. Open and the news from our hotel room. We learned the subway system had been flooded and shut



down. We were concerned how we would get to the U.S. Open for the next day. At that time, we were not sure we would even make it at all. Luckily by morning, Train 7 (the Subway train we needed) was the only one running. The sun came out and we had a spectacular time at the U.S. Open.

Lastly, when I was at the US Open I knew my high school tennis coach, Tom Wolhowe, was soon to be inducted into the Staples

Sports Hall of Fame the following weekend. I made sure to buy him some US Open souvenirs. Coach Wolhowe has touched so many lives, and he is like a second dad to me. Our families are close (my dad and Tom grew up together in Bagley). It was wonderful being at the Hall of Fame Banquet to see so many deserving coaches, athletes, and sports teams being inducted. I will also treasure that I grew up in Staples, Minnesota.



Tennis fans

Mary Samuelson with her former high school tennis coach Tom Wolhowe at the Staples-Motley Athletic Hall of Fame ceremony. Wolhowe was inducted as a coach Samuelson's father Jerry Riewer is a member of the hall and one of his cross country teams was inducted.



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Certified by the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants



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Medical Education
University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN
Residency
University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN - Orthopedics
Board Certified in Orthopedic Surgery



Ashley Nord, MD
Medical Education
University of Minnesota Medical School, Minneapolis, MN
Residency
Grand Rapids Medical Edu & Res, Grand Rapids, MI - Orthopaedic Surgery
Fellowship
Mary S. Stern Hand Fellowship, TriHealth, Cincinnati, OH - Hand Surgery
Board Certified in Orthopedic Surgery



Paul Thompson, MD
Medical Education
University of ND School of Medicine & Health Sciences, Grand Forks, ND
Residency
Grand Rapids Orthopedic Surgery Residency Program, Grand Rapids, MI - Orthopedic Surgery
Board Certified in Orthopedic Surgery



Megan Kempf, PA-C
Medical Education
Master's Degree, University of St. Francis, Albuquerque, NM
Certified by the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants



Christopher Metz, MD
Medical Education
University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN
Residency
University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN - Orthopedics
Board Certified in Orthopedic Surgery



Paul Rud, MD
Medical Education
University of Minnesota Medical School, Minneapolis, MN
Residency - Grand Rapids Orthopedic Surgery Residency Program, Grand Rapids, MI
Board Certified in Orthopedic Surgery



Andrew Zhao, MD
Medical Education
Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, Buffalo, NY
Residency
St. Francis-Mayo Family Practice Residency Program in LaCrosse, WI - Family Medicine
Fellowship
Sports Medicine, Indiana University School of Medicine in Indianapolis, IN
Board Certified in Family Medicine and Sports Medicine



Amy Lelwica, MD
Medical Education
University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN
Residency
University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN - Orthopedics
Board Certified in Orthopedic Surgery



Tamara Muesing, PA-C
Medical Education
Bachelor's Degree, Des Moines University College of Osteopathic Medicine, Des Moines, IA
Certified by the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants



Lisa Sand, PA-C
Medical Education
A.T. Still University School of Osteopathic Medicine, Mesa, AZ
Certified by the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants

Private funding for Batcher Building could be less than goal

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

At the Sept. 28 Staples Economic Development Authority (SEDA) meeting, Economic Development Director Melissa Wyman said the study to determine the ability to raise private funding for the Batcher Block Opera House has found that the amount available could be short of their goal of \$7 million.

“The feasibility study for the capital campaign shows we don’t have as high of an ability to raise the \$7 million,” said Wyman. “We have a vision, we have a programming plan that we know will work, there is a ton of support and a lot of programming support, but that doesn’t help with the financing.”

Wyman said she received a lot of positive feedback from the House of Representatives Investment Committee after they visited the Batcher Block Opera House on Sept. 23.

“They really did enjoy their visit here, it sounded like they were really trying to help,” said Wyman. “Everybody who was there taking on leadership roles did an amazing job. They’re going to remember that stop, they got a performance, it felt good, we’re going to be a memorable project.”

Wyman said the committee will continue to work on the project and start doing more to build momentum with the general public. She said Representative John Poston is

trying to get the governor to visit the Opera House, which could be the next opportunity to get higher on the state funding list.

Downtown development

The University of Minnesota Extension’s downtown redevelopment project for Staples has started organizing. Wyman said they are putting together a committee to be the basis of the community project.

Wyman said the Creating Entrepreneurial Communities (CEC) conference in Staples went well, despite lower participation than was expected. Some people attended online.

“I talked to a lot of people who have driven through Staples but didn’t know everything the town had to offer,” Wyman told the SEDA Board. “It is nice for our town to get some recognition.”

Staples could become eligible for another round of Small Cities Redevelopment Grants, Wyman said they are looking at the next focus, which could be rental homes, downtown, single family homes on the south side or older homes on the north side.

In other news, the SEDA Board agreed to fund a portion of the Economic Alliance of Wadena County, contributing \$1,500. The Economic Alliance provided a housing study for the entire city of Staples, not just the Wadena County part, and has included Staples in other services. Director Katie Heppner had asked for \$5,000 but the SEDA board decided to fund it at the same level as the Todd County Development Commission.

Carder family increases CLC Foundation fund

By Jessie Perrine
Central Lakes College

The Dick and Lynn Carder Family Fund at the Central Lakes College Foundation will impact even more college students, thanks to an additional gift from their children, Coleen (Ann Turnbull) Carder, Steven (Karen) Carder, Brian (Carol) Carder, and Roxanne (Robert) Lueck.

The fund was first established in 2015 in memory of Lynn Carder, awarding a scholarship to a non-traditional CLC nursing student. Following Dick Carder’s recent passing, the family made an additional gift of \$21,000, and amended the scholarship to include an additional recipient for a horticulture student. From the beginning, education was important to both Dick and Lynn. All four of their children graduated from Brainerd Public Schools and continued their education at Brainerd Junior College (Central Lakes College).



Carder donation

CLC President Dr. Hara Charlier, Coleen Carder (daughter of Dick and Lynn Carder) and Kate Adornetto, CLC Foundation Director.

“When individuals, and families, decide to create a scholarship in memory of a loved one, such as the Dick and Lynn Carder Family Fund, it becomes an extremely meaningful process,” said CLC Foundation Director Kate Adornetto. “We become connected to the family and their stories, and ultimately, we get the opportunity to share their legacy through the gifts they leave.”

For the Carders, passion for education and personal growth has always been a part of their lives. When Lynn was in her 50s, she earned her LPN degree at CLC. She had been working in a clinic since her 20s, preparing patients to see the doctor and had the skills required. But it was import-

ant to her to acquire the knowledge and understand the “why” of the treatment for the illness.

Dick’s passion for horticulture stemmed from his friendships with the Crow Wing County Master Gardeners. Over the years, he grew an abundance of plants and exhibited his vegetables and flowers at the Crow Wing County Fair, winning many blue ribbons.

Scholarships have a tremendous impact on students. It teaches students early on about community, philanthropy, and the mission behind the Central

Lakes College Foundation. It also creates a unique opportunity for students to be able to one day pay it forward.

“Many of our fundholders are alumni or have strong connections to CLC,” Adornetto said. “Donors can also choose to fund a scholarship already in existence that holds personal meaning, so there is opportunity for past recipients and community members to give at any level.”

For more information about the CLC Foundation, please visit www.clcmn.edu/scholarships/.

HASSLER continued from page 1a

Parents moved back to Staples

collect metal to be sent to factories to support the war effort.

Staples residents might be interested in the descriptions of the house and downtown apartment where Hassler and his parents lived in Staples.

The memoir also points out some of the incidents and people from Hassler’s childhood that ended up as scenes or characters in his novels.

Hassler gives some hints on why his family left Staples and moved to Minneapolis when he was nine. His father had worked at the Red Owl grocery store, but when they backed out

of a plan to move to a larger building, he decided it was time to leave the company. They were in Minneapolis a short time before moving to Plainview, where Hassler graduated from high school.

Hassler’s parents, Ellen and Leo, moved from Plainview back to Staples in 1951, where they lived the rest of their lives. Leo died in 1984, Ellen died in 1991.

In the new book, Hassler said he visited his parents in Staples frequently. He had various jobs as a high school teacher, including at Park Rapids, and as a college professor at Brainerd Community College. When his books gained a national

following, he became a resident author at St. John’s University.

“‘Days Like Smoke’ will only deepen his reputation as one of Minnesota’s leading writers,” wrote Weaver, “one who could compete with luminaries such as F. Scott Fitzgerald and Sinclair Lewis - but who chose not to.”

COUNCIL continued from page 1a

Mixed use building proposal approved

to include a drive-up pharmacy and with the Stomping Grounds Cafe to open another coffee shop on the location.

“We are very committed to this project and committed to this community,” said Bjerga.

The council went into a closed session to discuss the offers and reconvened to approve the Lakewood proposal by a 3-2 vote. Mayor Chris Etzler and council members Roy Miles and Thomas Toepper were in favor of the proposal, with Doug Case and John Jewison opposed. Council member Ron Murray abstained as an employee of Lakewood and Council member Mary Theurer abstained as a Lakewood

Board member.

Following the meeting, Etzler said he voted in favor of the Lakewood proposal because of the mixed use options for their building.

“It was more than a clinic,” said Etzler. “It would be cool to welcome another health care option to town but the Lakewood proposal was unique, it was more of an exciting idea.”

Etzler said the discussion in opposition to the motion focused on whether either proposal was the best use for the lot. That discussion was also held at the Staples Planning and Zoning Commission meeting, but there it was determined that both proposals aligned with the city’s comprehensive plan.



Cross country Hall of Famers identified

The Cardinal cross country team from 1982 and 1983 were recently inducted into the Staples-Motley Athletic Hall of Fame. Pictured above, at the awards ceremony Sept. 11, are, from left: Pat Bienusa, Greg Gorton, Greg Ziegler, John Gorton, Jr., Ken Johnson, Randy

Reichel, Coach Jerry Riewer, Darrel Crocker, Troy Bates and Paul Howard. Their photo was included in the Sept. 22 edition of the paper, along with all of the 2021 Athletic Hall of Fame inductees, but their names had inadvertently been left out. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

Community Forum

Compound Noun

A dedicated gathering place for local community members to congregate for the purpose of engaging with politics, governance, education, and commerce despite their private affiliations or relationships.

Origin:

The Forum Romanum, a site in Ancient Rome and location of important religious, political, commercial, and social activities where people met to discuss matters of the day.

EXAMPLE:

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NEWSPAPERS

NATIONAL NEWSPAPER WEEK OCT. 3-9 2021

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