Inside this issue:

Five wrestlers qualify for individual state
State wrestling preview
Staples-Motley Beyond Poverty event
Kingdom Youth Conference March 1
Our Voice, Our Song March 2

8 10499 02493 3



Wednesday, February 28, 2024 **Staples World** Staples, Minnesota $1.25

Big basketball dance party Staples-Motley Special Olympics athletes, student helpers and Cardinal cheerleaders lead a snake dance around the Staples-Motley gym before their basketball event on Feb. 1. See more on page 12a. (Photo by Mark Anderson)



2024 is a Leap Year .
Leap Year comes every four years.
Celebrate Leap Day Feb. 29,
the extra day added to the calendar.

Motley City Council discusses kill trap restrictions in city limits, after a family's pet dog is killed

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

A Motley couple is hoping to protect other pets and perhaps even small children from dying as their dog did recently, the result of a baited kill trap at their neighbor's residence.

Amber and Miranda Frame were in attendance at the Motley City Council's regular meeting Feb. 12, and spoke during the public forum portion, sharing what had happened to their family's pet, and to ask the council to consider adopting an ordinance restricting kill traps within city limits.

The Frames shared how their dog, Wickett, had gotten out of their fenced-in yard Feb. 3, and after searching, they discovered he'd been killed in a kill trap at their neighbor's residence. They believe he was baited.

"It will always and forever be a traumatic thing for me because he was my baby," Amber Frame said of finding Wickett, who had been a part of the family for 11 of his 13 years. "He was my child before I had children."

Amber Frame showed the council members a photo of the deceased Wickett in the trap. The council members expressed their sympathy to the Frames, who were emotional. "My heart goes out to you," council member April Skeesick-Larson said.

Skeesick-Larson asked the Frames if they thought what happened to Wickett had been intentional, and Amber Frame said she felt that it was. She noted that they'd also had a cat go missing recently, and she wondered if that is what was used as bait in the kill trap. She didn't want any ill-will toward her neighbor, however, and said they didn't intend to press charges. They just want to make sure this doesn't happen to anyone else, Amber Frame said. They also want to make sure their family, which includes three children ages five and under, are safe.

Skeesick-Larson proceeded to make a motion that all kill traps be banned within city limits, but during the ensuing conversation it was clear more information was needed before an ordinance could be drawn up, so she later recanted her motion.

Miranda Frame indicated that live traps were not as concerning, but that kill traps "are another whole ball game." She went on to note the toddlers in their household, and thankfully they hadn't gotten out of the gate as Wickett had.

During the council's subsequent discussion, Mayor Pat O'Regan said he felt they needed to get more details and discuss the situation with Police Chief Al Yoder before drafting an ordinance.

Council member Dennis Erickson wondered about traps for gophers and other rodents, and where that would fit in. Chief Yoder acknowledged the need to deal with gophers, rats and mice. He went on to say that something else to consider would be land size, noting that residents with larger properties (two-and-a-half acres or more) who have chickens, rabbits, etc., may have the need to use kill traps to deal with predators. The ordinance could also allow for live traps, Chief Yoder said, noting that animals that turned out to be pets could be released.

Chief Yoder also said, in a later conversation, that he didn't think the Frames' neighbor purposely baited their dog. When he spoke with the neighbor about the situation, "...he felt terrible," Yoder said.

Mayor O'Regan stressed again the importance of getting all of the information before drafting the ordinance. "We don't want another trauma like this, or unintended consequences as well."

The council planned to discuss the matter further at a Planning and Zoning Commission meeting Feb. 20. From there, a proposed ordinance would be discussed and voted on at a subsequent council meeting.

In a later conversation, Amber Frame shared that Wickett was a Yorkipoo and "maybe 12 pounds, soaking wet." She added that his death was "a heartbreak we didn't expect."

In other matters the council:

- LEARNED from Fire Chief Brad Olson that the fire department's 13 new SCBA's (Self Contained Breathing Apparatus) will be delivered March 6. They were paid for with grant money.
- APPROVED Public Works Supervisor Bruce Brotherton's request to attend the MRWA (Minnesota Rural Water Association) Conference in St. Cloud March 5 - 7.
- APPROVED sending Maintenance Assistant Bryan Stevens to the upcoming Type IV basic (land application) operator training and testing.
- APPROVED signing a four-year contract with Town Web, for their services in setting up the city's new website, along with maintenance and unlimited support. The fee for the first

See **MOTLEY** on page 3a



Beloved pet

Wickett, a beloved Yorkipoo belonging to the Frame family of Motley, was killed Feb. 3, in a baited kill trap at their neighbor's residence. The Frames are hoping that an ordinance will be drafted to prohibit kill traps within city limits, ensuring that a tragedy like this does not happen again. (Submitted photo)

Weather

2024
This Week's Forecast

	High	Low	Cond.
Feb. 28	21	10	M. Sunny
Feb. 29	49	35	Sunny
Mar. 1	58	29	Sunny
Mar. 2	51	36	P. Sunny
Mar. 3	62	40	M. Cloudy
Mar. 4	42	25	Rain
Mar. 5	33	20	Snow

Last Year, 2023

	High	Low	Cond.
Feb. 28	30°	11	P. Sunny
Mar. 1	26	13	Snow
Mar. 2	14	1	M. Sunny
Mar. 3	38	25	Sunny
Mar. 4	34	17	P. Sunny
Mar. 5	35	20	M. Cloudy

Average Temps:
H = 33° Low = 14°

Compiled by Dale Hausmann, WCCO's Staples area Weatherwatcher

Public Notices

Cass County **9A**
Becker **9A**
Bullard **9A**
May **9A**
Meadowbrook **9A**
Moose **9A**
Motley **9A**
Staples **9A**
Todd Buget Summary **9A**
Freshwater minutes **10A**

Obituary

Tricia Jasmer



Speech team on the road

Staples-Motley speech team at Browerville, back row from left, Maddock Harvey, Lydia Tkalcich, Hailey Richardt, Lily Davis, Sarah Kroll, Lexi Ann, Maria Halvorson and Joshua Cushing; front row, Alex Tkalcich, Caleb Bestland, Addie Brenny, Molly Hoemberg, Jessi Bursch, Naila Mikhaeil, AJ Nienow, Walker Johnson, Raina Mikhaeil, Brynn Bestland, Jaden Johnson and Laken Hines. See story, page 2a. (Submitted photo)



Tackling the Tigers

With their medals and awards from the Talk of the Tigers Tournament at Browerville, Staples-Motley speech team members, top row from left, from left, Lily Davis, Lexi Ann, Hailey Richardt and Joshua Cushing; front row, Jaden Johnson, Maddock Harvey, AJ Nienow, Walker Johnson, Raina Mikhaeil, Brynn Bestland and Laken Hines. (Submitted photo)

Speech team first at Browerville tournament

The Staples-Motley competitive speech team traveled to Browerville on Feb. 17 for the Talk of the Tigers Tournament. The team competed to win, taking home the first place trophy in the 'big" school competition.

The Cardinals had two finalists in the category of Creative Expression, with AJ Nienow taking first and Joshua Cushing third.

In the category of Great Speeches, Staples-Motley dominated, with Brynn Bestland earning first place, Raina Mikhaeil taking third and Jaden Johnson taking 6th.

Joshua Cushing and Brynn Bestland teamed up to take 5th place in Duo.

Walker Johnson took first place in Extemporaneous Reading.

In the category of Storytelling, Laken Hines earned second place and Maddock Harvey earned third.

Lexi Ann took home third place in Prose and Walker Johnson took fourth in the same category. Hailey Richardt and Lily Davis took sixth place in their respective categories of Original Oratory and Humor.

Motley area law enforcement

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

Feb. 14 - 20

Feb. 20 - Motley Police received a report of a male that came into the Motley Hardware Store and stole a Milwaukee 18 volt impact drill and a 12 volt battery, valued at $270.

Feb. 15 - Motley Police and Morrison County deputies responded to BRICKS Travel Center in Motley after receiving a report of a theft in progress. The suspect was later located and the stolen items were recovered and turned over to the Motley Police, who reported that they were worth $1,032.19.

Feb. 14 - Motley Police received a report of a suicidal subject in Motley.

Feb. 14 - Motley Police received a call from Bjerga Feed Store reporting suspicious activity at their store.

Feb. 15 - Morrison County deputies responded to a report of a suspicious vehicle at the Dollar General Store in Motley.

SMBP to take on anxiety

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

Staples-Motley Beyond Poverty (SMBP) is bringing in a film for youth, parents and anyone else to learn about how anxiety affects students and find ways to deal with this common feeling.

The film, "Angst", will be shown to junior high students during the school day and there will be a public showing on Tuesday, March 19 at Faith Lutheran Church in Staples. SMBP will provide pizza starting at 6 p.m. before the movie at 6:30 the film is around an hour long and there will be a panel discussion afterwards.

Annual meeting

SMBP held their annual meeting on Feb. 8, where they reviewed their projects during 2023 and set new goals for 2024.

SMBP put their activities into three categories: education, collaboration and making connections.

Under education, in 2023, SMBP promoted positive mental health by bringing in a production of Fidgety Fairy Tales for school children and the commnity to view the play. The Angst film will be another piece in the mental health awareness project.

Also in 2023, SMBP worked with Todd County Health and Human Services to promote a new homeless grant for families. Homelessness will continue to be a focus for SMBP in 2024, the group decided.

Under collaboration, SMBP worked with the City of Staples on their spring cleanup day in May. They gathered 25 volunteers to help pikc up 19,000 pounds of garbage from city homes.

SMBP works with other agencies, including Staples Motley Ministerial, Meals on Wheels, Motley Food Shelf, Lakewood Health System and Staples-Motley Schools.

SMBP worked with the REACH class in Staples-Motley schools to put together and distribute conversation card packets. In 2024, SMBP is working with Todd County HHS to distribute parent handbooks to families.

Under the connect category, SMBP held Communities Connect again in 2023, after it had been paused during the pandemic. More than 35 service vendors interacted with 138 community members. The event also includes a meal and door prizes. The group is planning another Comunities Connect event in 2024.



Planning community projects

Members of Staples-Motley Beyond Poverty vote on the projects they would like to see continue in 2024 and what should be priorities for the group. The meeting was held at Sourcewell in Staples. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)

2024 Building Season is here!
We design and build shops, machine storage, shop houses ("shouses"), and commercial buildings across Minnesota.
Our experienced teams create quality structures & happy customers.
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CENTURY BUILDERS GENERAL CONTRACTORS
Check us out at... centurybuildersnd.com



New ready mix plant going up east of Staples

Construction is underway for C & K Ready Mix, a locally owned and operated concrete plant located just east of Staples on the north side of Hwy 10. Owners include Mike Case and brothers Jeff Kobliska and Jerry Kobliska, all of Staples, and all of whom are part of the construction crew. Pictured above Feb. 20, working on the main office building are Case (at right) and his girlfriend Lindsey Williams. Case said that he has done the concrete work, as well as construction of the building, with the Kobliskas doing the dirt work. Two 70-ft. tall silos will be going up in the near future. C & K Ready Mix expects to be open May 1. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



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Wadena Whirlaways square dance grads

Thirteen students completed Mainstream square dance lessons and celebrated their graduation on Feb. 8, at the Wadena Whirlaways Dance held at St. Michael's Church in Motley. Pictured from left, standing: Square dance caller/instructor Andrene (Andy) Flint, Amelia Johnson, Taylor Johnson, Zachary Meeks, Caron Ann Cleveland, Patsy Hoppe, David Freyholtz, Dale Porter, Tom Hendricks, Chauncey Hopp. Front row: Paige Johnson, Noelle Spicer, Katrina Waln, Martha Freyholtz. This class ranged in ages from 10 to 92, a great reminder that square dancing is great for all ages. (Submitted photo)



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

Looking back

75 Years Ago - 1949

• March 3, 1949 - A large crowd gathered at the Leader Community Hall Friday evening for a social evening sponsored by the Swan Valley Grange. Dancing and cards was the entertainment. Music was furnished by Mr. and Mrs. Al Berndts, Mrs. Orel Granby and Ellwood Moser and the Crackel boys from near Nimrod. Lunch was sold in the basement at midnight.

• March 3, 1949 - The Motley High School Basketball team is sponsoring a White Elephant sale at the Motley High School on Tuesday, March 8. The proceeds taken from the sale will be used in financing the teams trip to the state basketball tournament.

- o -

Compiled by
Dawn Timbs

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• March 3, 1949 - Yde Redecorators of Brainerd have remodeled the Highway Cafe, on Highway 210 in Motley. New booths have been added, counters moved, kitchen remodeled, making it a very attractive eating place.

The Cafe is owned by Lucian Kaiser and is located in the Greig Implement building.

• March 3, 1949 - Staples Fire Department is sponsoring a benefit dance at New River Inn at Aldrich on Thursday evening, March 17, with Don Magnuson and his orchestra furnishing the music. Proceeds from the event will go to purchase smoke masks for the department.

• March 3, 1949 - Scharf Chevrolet Company in Staples is observing its silver anniversary of the handling of Chevrolet automobiles this week, and the company has received congratulatory messages from officials.

Started by Gust Scharf, who is still active in the business, the company has grown from a small concern, to one of the largest distributors of automobiles in the city of Staples during the past 25 years. At the present time the company is operated by Mr. Scharf's two sons, Arnold and Gordon, who carry on the business, and who have made noted improvements to the buildings during the past year.

• March 3, 1949 - Reburial services were held at Fort Snelling National cemetery in St. Paul on Feb. 23, for Sergeant John Sklenicka, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Sklenicka of Motley.

Sgt. Sklenicka was killed in France on Oct. 23, 1944, and at the request of his parents, his remains were returned to this country for reburial. He was 26 years of age at the time of his death.

50 Years Ago - 1974

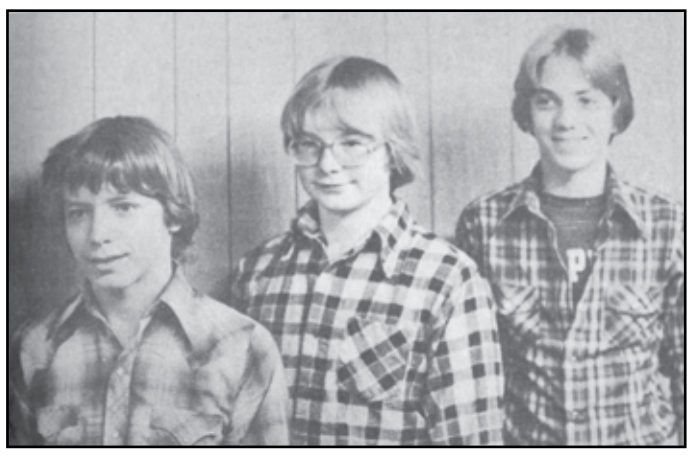
• Feb. 28, 1974 - The Cardinal Wrestlers of Coach Don Dravis added another championship to their collection last weekend as they conquered the foes and brought home the Region Six Wrestling title to SHS.

The four Cardinal matmen who will be entering the State tournament this week are Dave Roberts (98), Roger Madson (hwt.), Ron Kern (167), and Mark Bendson (119). In addition to Coach Dravis, other coaches include Norm Card and Greg Leifermann.

• Feb. 28, 1974 - Four doctors from Staples have been named diplomates of the American Board of Family Practice (ABFP) as a result of passing a certification examination offered by the ABFP.

The doctors receiving the diplomate status were Dr. T. J. Lelwica, Dr. John H. Muus, Dr. William I. Mennis and Dr. V. James Thompson.

• Feb. 28, 1974 - Five junior girls have been selected as finalists for Motley FFA sweetheart. They are: Roxanne Gallagher, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Gallagher; Stephanie Gold, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Don Gold; Deb Griffith, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Vivian Griffith; Coleen Swecker, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Swecker; and Roberta Wohlert, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. LaVern Wohlert.



Mystery photo

Hello readers. This week's archive photo is from 1979. Do you know who these people are and perhaps the context of the photo? Do you have a memory to share? Email your answers and where you're from to dtimbs@staplesworld.com by Friday, or call 218-894-1112. The answers will be published in next week's paper, as well as a new mystery photo.

• Feb. 28, 1974 - "A Thief in the Night," a new color film will be shown at Wadena Memorial Auditorium Saturday, March 2, at 8 p.m. - sponsored by the Mid-State Youth for Christ.

"A Thief in the Night" is a mighty motion picture about Bible prophecy. It shows what can happen when Jesus Christ returns.

• Feb. 28, 1974 - With the four sides nearly enclosed, workmen began this week putting the roof on the Staples Neighborhood Facility, which will house the swimming pool and the community center.

Following the completion of the roof, the construction crews will begin the interior work, with completion expected sometime this summer. Adolfson and Peterson of Minneapolis are the general contractors for the center, which was made possible by a bond approval vote of the City of Staples and a $150,000 federal grant.

25 Years Ago - 1999

• March 4, 1999 - Led by the efforts of their two-time defending state champ, the Staples Motley Cardinals re-wrote the school's wrestling record book for 1998-99.

Seniors Mark Carlson, Jeff Thompson and Jamie Carlson each won the state title. Fellow senior Chad Hoffmann wrestled to a fifth place finish in the state meet last weekend. Wayne Storry and Tony Johnson, also state entrants, lost on the first day and later lost a second match in wrestlebacks, eliminating them from further individual competition.

Mark Carlson, who overcame a severely twisted ankle early in the state tournament, wrestled seven matches at state and preserved his unbeaten record for the year.

• March 4, 1999 - Internationally known jazz pianist Butch Thompson will lay a solo piano show at the Centennial Auditorium in Staples March 13, at 7:30 p.m. This concert is part of the Centennial Auditorium Series.

• March 4, 1999 - Paul J. Ludovissie has been promoted to General Manager position with the Cracker Barrel Restaurant Corp. He assumed his position overseeing restaurant and retailing operations of the Cracker Barrel restaurant in Grand Raids, Mich., Feb. 1.

Paul and his wife, formerly Stephanie Brichacek and their children Jordan and Alexis, are making their home in Comstock Park, Mich. Paul is a 1990 graduate of Staples High School and the son of David and Arlene Ludovissie of Staples.

10 Years Ago - 2014

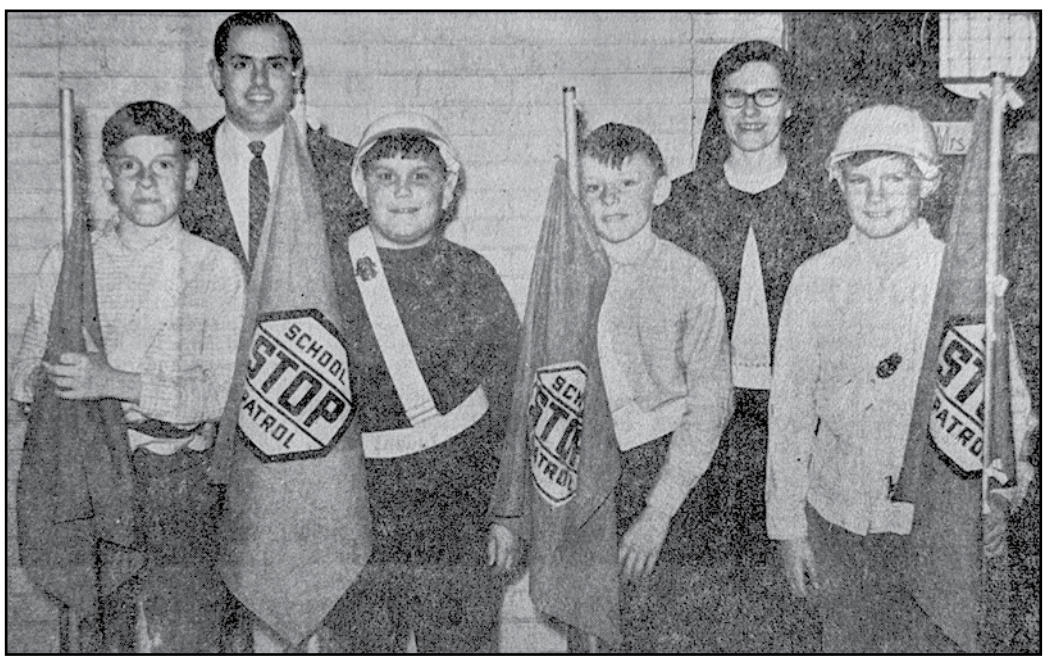
• Feb. 27, 2014 - The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources named Dave Bartylla of Motley its 2013 Snowmobile Safety Instructor of the Year. The award is given annually to a volunteer who significantly advances the cause of safe snowmobiling through extraordinary service in training and education.

• The Staples Motley National Honor Society welcomed guest speaker Dick Bremer as they inducted nine seniors and five juniors into their chapter on Feb. 19, at Centennial Auditorium.

Bremer, a 1974 graduate of Staples and now the television announce for the Minnesota Twins, told the students "The National Honor Society means the same now as it did for me in 1973."

Seniors inducted include Paige Becker, Emma Miller, Kayla Schmieg, Julia Fink, MacKenzie Holst, Kelli Klein, Emily Israelson, Brent Sterriker, Dominique Koppes.

Juniors inducted include Nicolette Edin, Colton Paskewitz, Megan Han, Kathryn DeGeest, Sarah Koopmann.



Mystery solved

Last week's mystery photo published in the March 27, 1969 edition of the Staples World featured four boys who would be attending the school patrol camp that summer at Legionville, located near Brainerd. The boys, from left: Douglas Kupitz, Jerry Rengel, Randy Snyder, Douglas Roberts. In the back row, from left: Norman Card, school patrol advisor at Staples Elementary School, and Sister Teresa, school patrol advisor at Sacred Heart School. Sponsors for the boys included the Ivan V. Sarff Post No. 70, Staples; the Knights of Columbus, Staples; and the Minnesota Police Association.

Brian Bates of Staples and Kevin Roline of Nisswa recognized all of the school patrol boys. Both recognized Norm Card, too, as did Brian's wife, Lori. Chuck Gillespie of Staples recognized Norm Card, and all of the boys, whom he said were his classmates and fellow 1976 grads from Staples High School.

Randy Snyder, one of the boys in the photo, now of Woodbury, recognized all, except for Sister Teresa. He thought she might be Sister Luanne, but as he didn't attend Sacred Heart School, he wasn't sure. Snyder said the picture brought back a lot of great memories, including going to camp for the first time at Legionville that year, and still being friends with some of these boys 50 years later. Snyder went on to praise teacher Norm Card, as well as the Staples Schools he attended, which he described as being excellent and providing a great educational foundation. "It was a great time to be a kid in Staples," Snyder said.

Thanks for participating in our Mystery Photo.

MOTLEY continued from page 1a

Research went into web site recommendation

year is $585, with the fee for the subsequent years being $2,015 per year. The city's contract with its current website host, GovWeb, ends May 31, 2024. City Clerk/Treasurer Kari Jacobson, said she was recommending this company based on her research, comparisons with other companies, and input from Police Chief Al Yoder and Public Works Supervisor Brotherton.

• HEARD from council member Skeesick-Larson during the council forum. She thanked the city for the opportunity to attend the League of Minnesota Cities Conference in Plymouth. She said it was a great experience, very informative, and well worth her time.

• SET next regular council meeting for Monday, March 11, at 5:30 p.m.



Court report Feb. 16

Long Prairie Police Department

Pedro Leonar Felix Felix, Long Prairie. Driver must carry proof of insurance when operating vehicle. Fine $200. Fee $85. Driving after revocation. Fine $200.

Noe Silva Marquez, Long Prairie. Driving without a valid license for vehicle class or type. Fine $100. Fee $85.

Brian Edmund Worms, Elrosa. Speed 40/30. Fine $40. Fee $85.

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Sara Ann Beuning, Sauk Centre. Open burning garbage by a person. Fine $100. Fee $85.

Jason Michael Pugh, Little Falls. Illegal length Northern. Fine $50. Fee $85.

Minnesota State Patrol

Kathy Colleen Wiirre, Hewitt. Speed 55/45. Fine $40. Fee $85.

Emma Charlotte Athmann-Driscoll, Brainerd. Speed 86/60. Fine $100. Fee $85.

Marcus Daniel Berning, St. Michael. Windshield tinted or glazed. Fine $50. Fee $85.

Tiffany Lee Brown, Alexandria. White light shown to the rear. Dismissed.

Kameron Douglas Carmichael, Hartley, Iowa. Speed 84/70. Fine $50. Fee $75.

Mercedes Elizabeth Eke, Sauk Centre. Speed 65/55. Fine $40. Fee $85.

Carlos Alberto Gonzalez Acosta, Long Prairie. Driving after suspension. Fine $200. Fee $85. No insurance driver. Fine $200. No insurance owner. Fine $200.

Alexis Javier Gutierrez Orozco, Long Prairie. Driver fails to stop for stop sign. Fine $50. Fee $85.

Joseph Otto Hadler, Zumbrota. Hands-Free Law- access video content, images, games software applications. Fine $50. Fee $85.

Marie Anna Jackob, Parkers Prairie. Speed 80/70. Fine $40. Fee $85.

Rachal Jean Johnson, Ramsey. Speed 89/70. Fine $60. Fee $85.

Richie Jung, Brooklyn, N.Y. Illegal use of license plates. Fine $300. Fee $85. No insurance driver. Fine $200. No proof of motor vehicle insurance. Fine $200.

Steven Nathan Leo, Sandy, Utah. Speed 81/70. Fine $50. Fee $85.

George Edward Moore, Little Falls. Speed 69/60. Fine $40. Fee $85.

Andrew Alan Reierson, Moorhead. Speed 82/70. Fine $50. Fee $85.

Luis Daniel Rivera Robles, Long Prairie. Speed 71/60. Fine $50. Fee $85.

Tanner Joseph Rosenow, Long Prairie. Hands-Free Law- initiate, compose, send, retrieve, read electronic message. Fine $50. Fee $85.

Deseray Real Lachanda Russell, Brooklyn Park. No proof of motor vehicle insurance. Fine $200. Fee $85. Child passenger restraint system- child under eight and under 57 inches not fastened. Fine $50.

Robert Douglas Zastre, Harwood, N.Dak. Speed 81/70. Fine $50. Fee $85.

Staples Police Department

Gabriella Marie Johnson, Staples. Wireless communications device-engage in cellular phone or video call. Fine $50. Fee $85.

Todd County Sheriff's Office

Ronaldo Garcia Chavez, Long Prairie. Speed 70/60. Fine $40. Fee $85.

Margaret Ann Hansen, Fargo, N.Dak. Drugs Fifth Degree, Possess Schedule I, II, III, IV- not small amount marijuana. Dismissed, conditions met or expired.

Robert Jimenez Jacinto, Long Prairie. Driving after revocation. Fine $200. Fee $85.

Jonathan Ulloa Jr., Long Prairie. Driver must carry proof of insurance when operating vehicle. Fine $200. Fee $85. Operate vehicle with expired registration. Fine $30. Driving without a valid license for vehicle class or type. Fine $100.

The following cases were heard before Judge Daniel Benson in Seventh District Court in Todd County Feb. 8, 2024

Jordan Lee Bruggenthies, Burtrum. Third Degree DWI- alcohol concentration 0.08 within two hours. Dismissed. DWI- alcohol concentration 0.08 within two hours. Sentenced. Fine $400. Fee $100. Local confinement 90 days. Stay 88 days. Credit for time served: two days. Supervised probation, two years. ATV- prohibitions on youthful operators/passengers- under 18- helmet required. Dismissed.

Trayton Michael Zanda, Staples. Third Degree DWI- blood alcohol content greater than 0.08 within two hours. Sentenced. Fine $50. Fee totals $455. Local confinement 365 days. Stay 350 days for four years. Credit for time served: three days. Enter into and successfully complete residential chemical dependency treatment. Supervised probation, four years.

The following cases were heard before Daniel A. Benson in Seventh District Court in Todd County Feb. 13, 2024

Jeremy Jerome Wisdo, Faribault. Speed 80/70. Continued for dismissal. Fine $200. Fee $75. Unsupervised probation, six months.

The following cases were heard before Judge Leonard Weiler in Seventh District Court in Todd County Feb. 14, 2024

Jon Richard Schroeder, Maple Grove. Speed 80/70. Dismissed, conditions met or expired.

The following cases were heard before Daniel A. Benson in Seventh District Court in Todd County Feb. 14, 2024

Jamie Matthew Segelstrom, White Bear Lake. Speed 80/70. Dismissed, conditions met or expired.

Staples Police report February 8-13

Recent reports takes by the Staples Police Dept.

Feb. 8, Staples Police responded to the 500 block of Wisconsin Ave. SE for a suicidal person. Officers ensured the individual was not in immediate danger and was transported to the Lakewood Health Sys-ytem(LHS) emergency room for evaluation.

Feb. 10, Staples Police were called to a break-in to a garage on the 300 block of 8th St. SE. Access was gained through a window AC unit. Only item taken from the garage was a set of keys.

Feb. 11, Staples Police received a call to respond to LHS Hospital emergency room for a behavioral health patient causing a disturbance. Police stood by until the patient eventually calmed down.

Feb. 11, Staples Police were requested to assist at LHS with a unruly patient. Police requested additional units. Once other officers arrived, subject complied with the orders without resistance.

Feb. 13, Staples Police spoke with a juvenile at the Staples Motley High School about criminal activity that was occurring. The activity did not involve the school system.



Many CLC students qualify for free tuition

By Dr. Hara Charlier
President, Central Lakes College

Big things are on the horizon as we introduce the North Star Promise (NSP) Scholarship program, set to launch in fall 2024. This marks a significant stride towards our commitment to providing an accessible, affordable, and transformative education at Central Lakes College.

The NSP Scholarship program is Minnesota's guarantee that finances should never be a barrier to education. NSP offers eligible Minnesota residents a tuition and fee-free pathway to higher education at Central Lakes College. This last-dollar initiative ensures that eligible students can pursue their academic aspirations without the burden of tuition costs, covering the remaining balance after other scholarships, grants, stipends, and tuition waivers have been applied.

Eligibility is straightforward - students must be Minnesota residents, have a family Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) below $80,000, attend a Minnesota public higher education institution or Tribal College, not be in default on a state or federal student loan, and meet other essential criteria outlined in the program guidelines.

Students just need to fill out the Federal Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to be considered for this new grant, said Mike Barnaby, CLC Director of Financial Aid.

And this is only one component of our commitment to you. The "CLC promise" ensures that each student has access to an extraordinary education that is affordable and accessible and enhances their quality of life. Further, we promise to be a highly supportive resource for students of all ages and walks of life and all their different college, career, and community dreams. CLC's programs help you meet your educational goals so you can meet your life goals.

We have layers of support to ensure that every student has what they need to meet those goals, including a tuition freeze through spring 2025 and scholarships available through the CLC Foundation. This creates an unparalleled opportunity for students to pursue their educational goals without financial barriers.

Our commitment to providing an exceptional education is evident in the array of resources available to our students. From integrated support services like campus food pantries, mental health resources, and housing assistance programs to engaged faculty and staff embodying our "culture of caring," Central Lakes College is more than an educational institution—it's a community dedicated to student success.

We take pride in offering over 70 academic programs, including trades, sciences, and liberal arts, both on campus and online. With the flexibility to accommodate various schedules, our commitment to student success extends to assigned academic advisors, free tutoring, and seamless transfer pathways to Minnesota State universities.

Central Lakes College and Minnesota State collectively stand as the embodiment of extraordinary education and exceptional value. We invite you to explore the North Star Promise Scholarship's possibilities and encourage all eligible students to take advantage of this unique opportunity.

For more details on the NSP Scholarship and the application process, please visit our website: https://www.clcmn.edu/central-lakes-college-promise/

Let's embark on this journey together, shaping a brighter future for our students and our community.

Wiener legislative update

By Mike Wiener
State Representative

I want to take a moment to honor and remember the three first responders who were tragically killed last Sunday in Burnsville. My prayers are with their families, with the community of Burnsville, and with the brave men and women who have taken an oath to protect and serve us.

2024 Legislative Session

The 2024 legislative session is officially underway, and it is good to be back in St. Paul fighting on behalf of you, your family, and our communities.

Minnesotans have seen and felt the consequences of one-party control with soaring inflation rates, billions of dollars in new taxes, and dozens of controversial policies that have divided Minnesota. It is more clear than ever that balance is needed in St. Paul.

That's why I am committed to bringing common-sense back to the legislature and to fighting against the reckless and irresponsible policies of House and Senate Democrats who continue to make Minnesota unaffordable for working-class families.

The will of the people

This week, many of our local county commissioners and sheriffs visited St. Paul to chat about issues impacting counties back home.

We are lucky to have local elected officials serving our communities who are willing to stand up, make their voices heard, and reflect the will of the people they represent. Many counties in our area have recently approved formal resolutions opposing Democrat efforts to change the state flag and others are considering resolutions opposing the proposed sanctuary state bill.

I share their concerns and am committed to continuing to push back against efforts to turn Minnesota into a magnet for illegal immigration, to change our state flag and other efforts that would effectively ban firearms in Minnesota.

These proposals do not reflect the values and priorities of our communities and would further push Minnesota down a dangerous path that minimizes personal liberty and freedom and maximizes the size of government.

Stay tuned to these important issues as I will be keeping you updated on them and many others as the legislative session unfolds—and remember, no bill is officially "dead" until the legislature adjourns for the year. Therefore, it is on all of us to remain vigilant and to continue pushing back on these reckless proposals.

Please communicate to me any thoughts, questions, or concerns you may have. Please never hesitate to reach out to me whether it's via phone or email. I can be reached at 651-296-4293 or via email at rep.mike.wiener@house.mn.gov. It would be an honor to speak with you.

Clay target could get more expensive

Submitted by USA/ Minnesota Clay Target League

The Minnesota State High School Clay Target League is one of Minnesota's most popular high school sports. With over 12,000 middle and high school students participating on more than 400 teams, it is a top-ten participation sport and larger than Boy's and Girl's High School Hockey combined. The Minnesota College Athletic Conference and the USA College Clay Target League hosts more than 25 Minnesota colleges in clay target shooting sports. These three leagues are all managed by the USA Clay Target League – a 501(c3) non-profit organization.

Recently a number of Minnesota State Representatives, and one Senator, have introduced legislation to ban lead-based ammunition in the state. Their proposed legislation specifically identifies that "...the league must adopt league rules that prohibit using lead ammunition and require using nontoxic ammunition at all shooting sport practices, competitions, training, and other events."

"Youth clay target shooting sports in Minnesota is NOT a public health issue," said John Nelson, President of the Eagan-based USA Clay Target League, the largest youth clay target shooting sports program in the country. "By specifically targeting youth shooting sports, it becomes clear that this is an attack on a school-approved activity that they don't like. The idea that there are over 50,000 Minnesota students that have participated in the League since 2001 that have never had an accident, never had an injury, despite shooting a shotgun over 100 million times, goes contrary to their preferred narrative. "

The proposed legislation would result in 12,000+ Minnesota students, their families, hundreds of shooting ranges, and the State of Minnesota, paying the price.

1. Non-Toxic Ammunition Will More Than Double Student Athlete Ammunition Costs.

Minnesota clay target student athletes would have to pay nearly $10 million in increased ammunition costs each year, an average increase of over $700 per student athlete. This is more than double current ammunition costs. The average team will face tens of thousands of dollars in increased costs, and low-income students and families will no longer be able to afford to participate due to this proposed law.

2. Non-Toxic Ammunition Supplies Are Very Limited Which Will Decrease Participation.

Since COVID, shotgun ammunition has already been difficult for teams and athletes to purchase due to severe shortages. Non-Toxic shotgun shells are even more difficult to find – particularly the type needed to shoot clay targets. The difficulty of finding and purchasing enough ammunition for students to participate will result in lower participation rates. Minnesota clay target student athletes will be prevented from participating simply because there simply wouldn't be ammunition available to them.

3. Clay Targets Are Not Wildlife.

Non-toxic ammunition laws exist to protect waterfowl and the hunters and predatory wildlife that consume them from the effects of lead poisoning. Not only are clay targets not consumed by anyone, clay target sports take place in controlled areas where lead contamination is limited and regularly removed from the environment through reclamation. The potential environmental dangers posed by clay target shooting sports are already mitigated by the hundreds of responsible shooting ranges in the state.

4. Less Clay Target Shooting Participants Will Shut Down Shooting Ranges.

After many decades of declining hunting and shooting sport enthusiasts, Minnesota shooting ranges, contractors, manufacturers, and retailers have experienced phenomenal economic and participant growth since the start of the Minnesota State High School Clay Target League in 2008. Since then, millions of taxpaying citizen dollars have been invested into these shooting ranges to help create the next generation of Minnesota outdoor enthusiasts. In addition to acquiring new younger shooting range participants, more than 84% of participating Minnesota league shooting ranges have experienced an overall increase of non-youth participants. Increased lead-free ammunition costs will dramatically reduce the amount of ammunition purchased at shooting ranges, clay targets thrown, and clay target shooting sport participants that will result in a dramatic decrease in shooting range revenue.

5. A Reduction In Clay Target Shooting Participants Will Decrease Minnesota DNR Funding.

The Minnesota DNR has received a substantial increase in Pittman-Robertson federal funding (excise tax on gun and ammunition sales) during the past two years. 78% of excise tax income comes from the recreational shooting sport industry - not hunting. Minnesota received $19.7 million in fiscal year 2021 from the Pittman- Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act. In FY 2022 and 2023, it increased significantly to $32.25 million and $34.4 million, respectively. Less clay target shooting sport participants will purchase less ammunition and shotguns therefore reducing Pittman-Robertson excise tax contributions.

6. Less Clay Target Shooting Sport Student Athletes Will Have A Negative Impact On Many Students.

According to the National Federation of State High School Associations, students who participate in a school-sponsored activity experience many benefits over students that do not. These benefits include higher test scores and G.P.A., more likely to go to college, lower drop-out rates, increased self-esteem and self-worth, develop more and lasting friendships, less likely to use alcohol, drugs and tobacco, and they are more likely to volunteer, vote and participate in the community. 39% of Minnesota clay target student athletes do not participate on any other school-sponsored activity. By dramatically increasing clay target participation costs, less single-activity students will participate which may negatively impact the rest of their lives.

If these bills pass, Minnesota families and businesses will experience the negative impacts of higher ammunition costs, lower ammunition availability, less clay target shooting sport participants, less shotguns and ammunition sold, shooting range closures, and less federal funding for Minnesota wildlife and conservation efforts.

The League encourages everyone that supports youth clay target shooting sports to make their opinions known. Please reach out to your own Minnesota State Senators and Representatives and let them know that you do not support HF3813 nor SF3792.

Coalition for home ownership

Submitted by the Start with Home Coalition

On Feb. 20, the Minnesota Capitol Rotunda was filled with a crowd of residents and housing advocates calling on their legislators to prioritize long-term housing solutions. Co-hosts and leaders hailed from many organizations including Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative, Bring it Home, MN, COPAL MN, Habitat for Humanity MN, Home Line, Metropolitan Consortium of Community Developers (MCCD), Minnesota Housing Partnership (MHP), Minnesota Public Health Association, and Our Future Starts at Home. Speakers were clear at the Start with Home Rally- the Minnesota Legislature must prioritize policies that:

• Advance statewide affordable home ownership, especially for marginalized communities

• Invest $500 million in Housing Infrastructure Bonds (HIBs)

• Fully fund the Bring It Home, MN state rental assistance program

• Fund services in supportive housing

• Give undocumented immigrants housing rights

• Enact family-friendly housing policies that allow us to build more homes of all types in all corners of the state.

• Pass Source of Income Protections for renters

• Pass the Minnesota Constitutional Amendment for Housing

Among the number of legislators that joined, Senate President Bobby Joe Champion helped kick off the rally by reassuring the crowd, " We are united that our future starts at home. We have more to do. If you think about home ownership, that is important to me. We need to close that homeownership gap. It is important to us that all Minnesotans live in dignity and in a home."

USDA wind energy grants

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) are launching a new initiative to help farmers cut costs and increase income using underutilized renewable technologies including smaller-scale wind projects. Through the Rural and Agricultural Income & Savings from Renewable Energy (RAISE) initiative, USDA is setting an initial goal of helping 400 individual farmers deploy smaller-scale wind projects using USDA's Rural Energy for America Program (REAP). This goal is only possible because of President Biden's Inflation Reduction Act which provided more than $144 million in grant funding for underutilized technologies through the REAP program.

Additionally, DOE is announcing a total of $4 million in related funding, including $2.5 million to support the testing, certification and commercialization of the latest distributed wind technologies including for the agricultural sector, and $1.5 million to support outreach and the identification and development of new business models for farmers to save money and earn income deploying these technologies.

"Today's announcement furthers the Biden-Harris Administration's commitment to rebuild our nation's economy from the middle out and bottom up by increasing income and opportunities for the small and mid-sized farmers that keep rural main streets vibrant," USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack said. "By strengthening our longstanding partnership with DOE through the RAISE initiative, USDA is ensuring farmers and hardworking Americans everywhere have the opportunity to save money and earn income from smaller-scale, distributed renewable energy technologies. These investments will create long-lasting economic benefits for their families, businesses and communities for years to come."

Staples World

Established in 1890. USPS 518-760
©2024 RMM Publications
Published Wednesdays by RMM Publications
Office located at 224 4th Street NE
Periodicals postage paid at Staples, Minnesota 56479.

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 100
Telephone: 218-894-1112 - Fax: 218-894-3570
Toll Free: 1-888-894-1112
www.staplesworld.com - E Mail: editor@staplesworld.com
Deadline: 12 noon, Friday

Official Newspaper for:
City of Staples,Todd County,
Staples-Motley School District, Freshwater Ed. District
and area townships.

Publisher .....RMM Publications LLC
Owners Rick Gail, Mike Kremer, Mark Anderson
Managing Editor.....Mark Anderson editor@staplesworld.com
Advertising Rep..... editor@staplesworld.com
Photo Tech/production.....Janice Winter jwinter@staplesworld.com
Bookkeeping/Circulation/
.....Kathy Odden kodden@staplesworld.com
Reporter.....Dawn Timbs dtimbs@staplesworld.com
Front Office..... office@staplesworld.com

Subscription Rates:
Local: (Todd, Wadena, Morrison, Cass Counties) $53 per year
Website: $50 per year
Minnesota: $58 per year - *Out of State:* $63 per year
Foreign: on-line only - *Student Rate:* (Sept. through Apr./in-state) $43
There is a $5 charge for address change from local to out-of-state.

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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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Staples Area Women's Chorus to perform at festival

The Staples Area Women's Chorus (SAWC) will host the 'Our Voice, Our Song' festival at Staples-Motley High School gym on Saturday, March 2. The event includes a concert at 7 p.m., which will feature several choirs, the Iverson Family, and guest soloists. (Submitted photo)

'Our Voice, Our Song' event March 2, Staples

The Staples Area Women's Chorus, under the direction of Rob Freelove, will host their annual 'Our Voice, Our Song' (OVOS) festival on Saturday, March 2, at the Staples-Motley High School gym. The concert begins at 7 p.m. and tickets will be available at the door.

This is an annual event that the chorus started in 2014. During 2020, they were able to hold this event virtually by creating an online performance. This year, the guest director is Therees Tkach Hibbard who serves as the director of the Manitou Singers and St. Olaf Chamber Singers, at St. Olaf College in Northfield. She is presently an Associate Professor of Music at St. Olaf, where she teaches choral conducting, choral literature, and voice lessons.

Several area schools are attending the all-day event, which includes rehearsals, sectionals and lessons from various music professionals.

The day will end with a concert for the public which will feature a combined choir of 200 voices, as well as performances by Colla Voce Choir, the Staples Area Women's Chorus, The Iverson Family, and selected soloists.

This event is made possible, in part, by the voters of Minnesota, through a grant from the Five Wings Arts Council, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.



Therees Tkach Hibbard (at left), professor at St. Olaf College in Northfield, is the guest director at this year's OVOS festival.

'Kingdom Youth Conference' at Motley Free Methodist, Mar. 1

A Kingdom Youth Conference, "The Wave," will be held at the Motley Free Methodist Church on Friday, March 1, beginning at 6 p.m. It's open to both youth and adults. There is no cost to attend, but a free will offering will be taken to help cover the group's expenses.

Ryan Edberg of Nashville, Tenn., will lead the event, along with other team members from Kingdom Movement, a national Christian organization. There will be worship, preaching and a time of prayer.

According to information at their website, www.KingdomYouthconference.com, "At Kingdom Youth Conference we provide a powerful time of worship, dynamic life-changing messages and the opportunity for youth leaders and their students to do ministry."

Edberg is a respected leader and consultant in the world of event-based entertainment and Christmas music. He has been featured on the Christian Broadcast Network, Moody Radio, American Family Radio, Point of View and in the Christian Post.

Motley Free Methodist Church is located at 33 Wellwood St. E., in Motley. For more information, call 218-352-6888.



Ryan Edberg



Author visits Staples Library



Author Frank Weber spoke at the Staples Library Feb. 15 on the writing of true crime, forensic work and his latest book, "The Haunted House of Hillman". Weber is a forensic psychologist specializing in homicide, sexual assault and domestic abuse cases. He uses his unique understanding of how predators think, knowledge of victim trauma and expert testimony in writing his true crime books and shared stories of victim survival that led to resolution of this true crime thriller.

Right: Weber giving a lie detector test demonstration.

This program was made possible with Arts & Cultural Heritage Funds from Minnesota's Clean Water, Land & Legacy Amendment and the Staples Friends of the Library. Weber's books are available at the library. (Submitted photos)



Accepts donation

The Lincoln Area Business Association (LABA) recently donated $1,000 to the non-profit organization, Staples-Motley Beyond Poverty. Pictured accepting the check is Kimberly Pilgrim, Staples-Motley Beyond Poverty Board Member. (Submitted photo)

Mark Your Calendar

February 28, 29

Free Tax-Aide Wednesdays, 1-4 p.m. and Thursdays, 10 a.m.- 4 p.m., through April 11, Staples City Hall. Must call for an appointment at 218-296-6616. For low to moderate income taxpayers.

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

March 1

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

March 3

Celebrate Recovery Group Meetings are held every Sunday at 6 p.m., at Motley Free Methodist Church, 33 Wellwood St. E., Motley.

March 4

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

March 5

Experience Strength And Hope AA group Mtgs In Staples are held at the Church of Christ, 27343 490th St., Tuesdays at 7 p.m. For info., call Dan at 218-640-7228.

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

Ruby's Pantry will be held Tuesday, March 5, from 4:30 - 6 p.m. at the parking lot of Central Lakes College in Staples.

March 6

Dementia Caregiver Support Group offered by Lakewood Health System of Staples, meets the first Wednesday of the month, 11 a.m. - noon, in the Burlington room, located through Door C at Lakewood's Senior Campus (401 Prairie Ave. NE), Staples. For info., 218-894-8851 or 218-894-8067.

Annual Hawley Art Show is April 11 - 14

Artists invited to enter their work

The 55th Annual Hawley Art Show will be held April 11 - 14 at the Community Center in Hawley.

All artists are welcome to enter their artwork to be displayed and judged. Entries will be judged in four classes: professional, amateur, student (grades 7 - 12) and student (preK - 6th grade). Entries are limited to original artwork only: paintings, drawings, printmaking and collages. Entry days are April 6 and 7, from 1 - 5 p.m.

For more information about the show call or text: Sandy Maydole, 218-329-9168; Jill Swanson, 218-790-1403; or Kat Glad, 701-388-0510.

Cardinal Calendar

SM school events

March

- **Our Voice, Our Song Concert** March 2, Staples-Motley High School Main Gym, 7 p.m.
- **MS/HS Concerts** March 7, 6 p.m., 7 p.m., Centennial Auditorium
- **Middle School Dance** March 8, 3:45 - 5:45 p.m.
- **Middle School Musical** March 15 - 16, Centennial Auditorium
- **Polar Plunge** March 20
- **Sadie Hawkins Dance (Grades 9 - 12)** March 23, 7:30 - 10:30 p.m.
- **Vocal Large Group Contest at Staples-Motley** March 27

State Forest Nursery Seedling Sales

Order today for a greener tomorrow!

Grow your woodlands with healthy native bareroot seedlings from our Minnesota State Forest Nursery.

Surround yourself with trees, increase wildlife, or just enjoy watching your woods flourish.

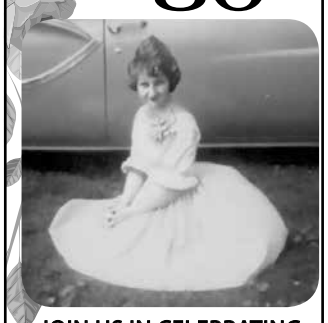
500 seedlings for as low as $195. Prices vary.

Visit mndnr.gov/forestry/nursery

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES



A Special Lady is turning 80



JOIN US IN CELEBRATING
Shirley Wegscheid
Sat., March 9, 2024
11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Sacred Heart Church
310 4th St. NE, Staples
w10-11p

Come, help us CELEBRATE
Ervin Bjerga's 85th
AND
Jeff Bjerga's 60th
BIRTHDAY'S!!
Sat., March 2, starting at 4 p.m. at Ten-Hi, Motley
w9-10c

Hello World

Online births removed at the request of Lakewood Health System.

Obituary

Tricia Jasmer



Tricia Jo Jasmer, 44, of Staples, passed away February 20, 2024, at the Lakewood Senior Campus after fighting a courageous battle with cancer.

Funeral services will be held Wednesday, February 28, at 11:00 a.m. at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Staples. Visitation will be held one hour prior to services at the church on Wednesday.

Tricia Jo was born June 4, 1979, to Henry and Joann (Heltemes) Schornack in New York Mills. She was welcomed home by her brother, Shannon and would later be joined by her sister, Becky. Her family moved to Staples in 1982 and she attended Staples Public Schools. Tricia graduated with the class of 1997. She earned her Graphic Arts degree from Central Lakes College and was on the golf team with her sister, Becky.

Tricia was united in marriage to Rob Jasmer on June 25, 1999. To this union, three children were born, Dylan, 24, Breanna, 18 and Alyson, 16. To anyone who knew Tricia, they knew that she was awesomely creative. It may have been designing a shirt, creating a flyer or a poster, decorating cookies or a garden box. If she looked at a pile of birch, her imagination would go wild and she could think of 101 things to do with it. Tricia always amazed people at Christmas time with her beautifully decorated Christmas trees and Christmas cookies. Tricia took great pride in seeing her creative thoughts come together. She envisioned Pine Grove Park to be lit up, for all to enjoy at Christmas time and with Rob's help it became a reality. It is still lit up each holiday season. Rob said that he loved to help make her ideas come to fruition - although sometimes she had more confidence in him than he did in himself.

Forever loved, Tricia is survived by her devoted husband and caregiver, Rob; one son, Dylan of Brainerd; two daughters, Breanna of Brainerd and Alyson of Staples; parents, Henry and Joann Schornack of Staples; one brother, Shannon (Miranda) of Green Bay, Wisconsin; one sister, Becky (Mitch) of Clear Lake, Iowa; paternal grandmother, Sue Schornack of Perham; mother-in-law, Candy Hacker, of Brainerd; four nephews, Jack and James Schornack of Green Bay, WI and Connor and Brody Plagge of Clear Lake, IA; one niece, Brinley Plagge of Clear Lake, IA; along with a host of aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

Tricia was preceded in death by her maternal grandparents, Norbert and Patricia Heltemes and paternal grandfather, Joe Schornack.

Arrangements are by the Brenny Family Funeral Chapel, Staples.

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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) .....After school to 5:30 p.m.
Youth Group (Teens, 7th-12th grade) .....After school to 5:30 p.m.

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

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

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
310 4th St. NE, Staples
Church.....218-894-2296
info@marysacc.org
Fr. Aaron Kuhn
Fr. Gabriel Walz
MASS:
Sunday.....8:30 a.m.

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

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

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

United Methodist
310 5th St. NE, Staples 218-894-2248
Sunday Worship.....10:30 a.m.
(Nursery Available for Sunday Worship)

Aldrich

Balsamlund Lutheran
19550 490th Street, Aldrich
Janet Eckman SMA.....218-837-5831
jre227@yahoo.com
Sunday Worship.....8:30 a.m.

Cushing

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

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

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
Casey Reynolds, Assistant Pastor
Sunday Worship..... 9:00 and 10:30 a.m.
facebook live..... 9 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
AWANA ..... 4:00-5:30 p.m.
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 Catholic Church
1st St. and Birch, Motley.....218-894-2296
info@marysacc.org
Fr. Aaron Kuhn
Fr. Gabriel Walz
MASS:
Saturday .....4:00 p.m.

United Methodist
847 3rd Ave. S. Lane, Motley.....218-352-6466
Pastor Greg Leslie
www.motleyumc.net
Sunday Worship Service.....10:00 a.m.
Monday AA meeting.....8:00 p.m.

Oylen

Oylen Alliance
Cty. Rds, 7 and 9, Oylen
218-472-3440 or 218-472-3316
Pastor Neal Malcore
Sunday School .....10:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship.....11:00 a.m

Pillager

First Lutheran Church
Pastor Mathew Sundquist
717 River Street S, Pillager, MN
218-746-3775
Sunday Worship.....9:30 a.m.
Sunday School, 2nd and 4th Sundays .....8:30 a.m.

Casino Assembly of God
Pastor Dan Johnson
N. of Motley, Hwy. 64, E. on Cty 34 to Cty. 104.
Phone 218-746-3839
Sunday School .....9:30 a.m.
Worship.....10:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship.....7:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY .....7:00 p.m.

First Baptist
903 River Street South, Pillager
Pastor Jake Anderson
218-746-3768
curious@fbcpillager.com
Worship Gathering .....10:00 a.m.
Connection Point.....9:30 a.m.

Hewitt

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

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

Hewitt Community Church
Hwy. 210, Hewitt, MN
Pastor Kenneth Uhren
Sunday Worship.....10:30 a.m.

Verndale

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

Family Life Church
402 NE Clark Drive, Verndale 218-445-5568
VerndaleFLC@gmail.com
Pastor Amos Self 218-371-7189
Tahna Rurup, Connections & Media Pastor
Tillman Phagan, Kid's & Food Shelf Pastor
Ryan Wolfenden, Youth Pastor
SUNDAY
Youth Prayer.....9:20 a.m.
Worship Service .....10:00 a.m.
Prayer Meeting ..... 5 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
Life Groups .....6:30 p.m.

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

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

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

Central United Methodist
5 miles N on Cty Rd 26 (Nimrod tar)
Pastor James Middendorf, 320-260-4950
Sunday Service ..... 9:00 a.m.
Bible Study ..... 10:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Seeds of Hope..... 7:00 p.m.

St. Frederick Catholic Church
20 Mason Avenue NW.....218-894-2296
info@marysacc.org
Fr. Aaron Kuhn
Fr. Gabriel Walz
MASS:
Saturday .....6:00 p.m

St. Hubert Catholic Church
Bluegrass.....218-894-2296
info@marysacc.org
Fr. Aaron Kuhn
Fr. Gabriel Walz
MASS:
Sunday.....10:30 a.m.

Leaf River Township

The Old Country Church
Leaf River Twp., Wadena County Rd. 6
Info. 218-837-5690 Call first.
Sunday Service .....10:00 a.m.

w10c

It's a Good and Important Question

By Pastor Barry Klein, Staples Church of Christ

We get the question from James Sire's 1994 book entitled "Why Should We Believe Anything at All?" It's obvious and basic, but we are all believing something all the time... and for better or worse, we are acting on it.

It is worth pondering the connection between what we think and what we do. It is a good place to start to realize and remember that the ability to think comes as a gift from God. It is a part of the images and likeness of God Himself that He put into creating each one of us, starting in Genesis 3:26-27 (NIV 2011) when we hear, "Then God said, 'Let us make mankind in Our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and birds in the sky, over the livestock and all wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.' So God crated mankind in His own image, in the image of God He created them; male and female He created them."

In some circles, those verses are described as "the dominion mandate." I like to think of it as "the stewardship entrustment."

Among other things, we see in Genesis 1 that God makes a distinction between the animal world and the people world. The animals are not crated in the way He creates people. The difference of course, is that people have God's likeness/image in a way that the animals do not have. Now, animals are to be properly cared for and even in some cases, enjoyed as one of God's gifts. But animals are NOT to be put on the same and equal level as people.

A part of being created with God's image is the mind that He has given each one of us. Our minds are full of thoughts and emotions as expressed and lived out in the spirit and body that He gave to us.

A lot is at stake in how we handle and use the thinking minds that God has entrusted to us. In some versions of the Bible, Proverbs 23:7a is rendered, "As a man thinks in his heart, so is he." Somewhere years ago, I remember coming across the thought, "A mind is a terrible thing to waste."

Sometimes we experience simply being mistaken about something. At other times, we are "taken captive by lies" as Dr. Del Tackertt in "The Truth Project" so helpfully exposes and explains.

The apostle Paul gives us a soaring bird's eye view of how important all of this is when we hear in II Corinthians 10:5 (NIV 2011), "We demolish arguments and every pretension that set itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ."

Wow. EVERY thought?? Yes, and that is the only way and place that we will find true life from the only One Who, as the wisest mind ever, can truthfully claim to BE "the way, the truth and the life" (John 14:6). King Solomon was extremely wise. Jesus is the wisest (Matthew 12:42). Think Jesus' thoughts. He guides us in what to believe and He will never lead us astray. He can be very trusted.

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Central Lakes College announces Fall Honors List

Central Lakes College, Brainerd and Staples, has announced its 2023 Fall Semester Honors List. The President's List includes students who earned a grade point average of 3.75 or higher while enrolled in at least 12 credits. The Dean's List includes students who earned a grade point average of 3.25 - 3.74 while enrolled in at least 12 credits.

The released honors list does not include students who have requested no release of information. Local students named includes:

Motley

Michael Becker, Riley Dabbs, Bridget Danielson, Nevaeh Fratzke, Morgan Kanten, LaRayne Kiser, Amanda Rossetti, **President's List**; Camden Anderson, Hank Bemlott, Eli Carlson, Solomon Epple, Keith Ferdon, Miranda Frame, Caden Mrazek, Kiyrrae Olson, Islay Peterson, Nevaeh Sykes, Odin Trif, Isaac Trout, **Dean's List**.

Pillager

Jocelyn Daniels, Adina Dosser, Joshua Freelove, Wyatt Glas, Reagan Kilibarda, Isabelle Krawiecki, Taisha Linder, Ivy Matejcek, Jacob Norr, Autumn Peterson, Blake Piette, Marian Williams, **President's List;** Kayli Dorn, Jennifer Fryer, Alayna Kavanaugh, Klare Lorentz, Alex Lund, Alexa Mudgett, Eva Mudgett, Ally Rakauskas, Rylee Rochel, Erin Stockeland, Andrew Sullivan, **Dean's List**.

Staples

Alex Black, Addisyn Cichos, Israel Ervasti, Emali Jimenez-Kloeckl, Landon Mertens, Sabina Moe, Lauren Rutten, Andrew Salcido, **President's List**; Brianna Adams, Connor Duff, Keegan Harvey, Dylan Jasmer, Samuel Norr, Samantha Ratajczak, Brayden Salcido, Kiara Stai, **Dean's List**.

Student Achievements

Michelle Boyer, Staples, recently graduated from The College of St. Scholastica, Duluth, with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology.

Bemidgi State University, has announced its Fall 2023 Dean's List. To be eligible, students must earn a grade point average of 3.5 or higher for the semester and be enrolled in at least 12 credits of coursework. Local students named include:

- Hailee Colgrove, Motley
- Avery Jones, Motley
- Sarina Huepenbecker, Staples

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Neelan, Carlson launch Cardinals to state

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

Blake Neelan stunned Holdingford with a throw for a pin, and Jack Carlson upset his opponent, two pivotal matches that helped the Staples-Motley wrestling team beat the state's second ranked team 32-25 in the Section 7A team final on Feb. 16, punching their ticket to the state meet.

The team state meet will be Thursday, Feb. 29, at the Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul with Staples-Motley starting at 11 a.m.

The Cardinals got to the championship match by beating Deer River 69-6 at home on Feb. 15, then winning their semifinal match against Royalton-Upsala 45-15 at Walker on Feb. 16.

In the championship match, the fifth ranked Cardinals needed to turn around a couple of matches from the last time they faced Holdingford, when they lost 32-22.

They started out with their first three winning big with bonus points. Gage Bjerga had a pin at 107 pounds, Caden Kramer came close to a pin, with several cradle holds resulting in near falls. He ended up with a technical fall.

Eli Greenwaldt was up next at 121 pounds. "I knew I could get a pin, I needed to tire him out first," said Greenwaldt, "the goal was to take him down a few times."

Once he got the lead, Greenwaldt felt it was time to go for the pin.

"I fake let him up and caught him in a front cradle," he said.

It was tight and he squeezed it down until he got the pin.

"I knew we were going to need it," Greenwaldt said about the six team points earned.

Coach Dan Bjerga said that just as important as the points on the scoreboard, the first three wrestlers set the tone for the rest of the team to follow.

"We start each dual very strong," said Coach Bjerga. "It helps gain momentum for the rest of the dual. They have done it all season and it builds confidence for the rest of the team to perform at the same level."

The upset

That confidence was needed in the next match, where Jack Carlson faced a wrestler he had never beaten before.

"I knew this needed to be won," said Carlson. His plan was to "be relentless" and keep driving through until the end of the match.

He started out by being patient and blocking shots from his opponent. "I had been working on my defense," said Carlson.

Coach Bjerga said it was more than that. "Jack works hard in practice. We watch the films and saw that (his opponent) shoots from space. I'm sure Jack watched the same video over and over, he was prepared for it and it worked."

After a scoreless first period, Carlson allowed an escape and went into defensive mode again in the second period. In the final seconds, he turned defense into offense and got a takedown as the clock ran out for a 2-1 lead. In the third period, Carlson got one point for an escape and finished the match with two more takedowns for an 8-3 win.

"For him to do what he did, it's crazy," said Bjerga. "That kid is a super wrestler. Jack didn't do anything fancy or tricky, he just flat out out-wrestled him."

"The moment stood out, I knew I needed to do this for the team," said Carlson. "It definitely felt good, it was one of the most memorable moments of my career."

That gave the team hope that they could win the match. Turner Beachy and Riley Reese lost to ranked wrestlers, then Neelan came up to face the state's third ranked wrestler at 145 pounds

The shocker

Neelan started the season wrestling at 160 and 152 pounds. He sacrificed to get down to 145 in the middle of the season. "The first time it was hard, then it was easy every week after that," he said.

Feeling healthy and comfortable at 145, Neelan slipped into the state rankings the week before the section meet and felt he could do well against any wrestler at that weight, including his opponent from Holdingford.

"I knew I could beat that kid, I had envisioned it a hundred times," said Neelan.

For the first two periods, it wasn't looking good as Neelan couldn't generate any offense and he fell behind 3-0 and 5-0, with two penalty points for stalling. Despite the trajectory of the match, Neelan wasn't worried.

"He is pretty strong, but I knew I had to weather the storm," he said. "I knew I could beat him, I had to go out and be safe and wait until the right time."

With 45 seconds left in the match and the score 5-0, Neelan got to his feet with an escape. "I definitely felt he was tiring out," said Neelan. But he got hit with another stalling call to make it 7-1.

The now or never moment came with about 15 seconds left in the match. "I wanted to wait until there was just enough time, so I didn't give up a major if it didn't work," he said.

He tied up his opponent, trapped one arm, then pulled backwards with the other arm, using his rotational momentum to flip him onto his back. "It was a lat drop, I felt confident I could do it," said Neelan.

With the score 7-1, Neelan got two points for the takedown and three more for a near fall, keeping his opponent on his back. But that still just made the score 7-6, he needed a pin for it to be successful.

"I wasn't sure if I would get the pin, but he wasn't going anywhere, he wasn't moving."

The referee noticed the same thing and slapped the mat quickly after the throw, sending the Staples-Motley crowd into a wild frenzy. Neelan said he heard the crowd.

"It was a big moment," he said, "I knew that's what the team needed. It definitely changed things."

It was a nine point swing, changing what was headed towards a 20-11 lead into a 26-8 lead.

"We were hoping he would keep that match to just a decision," said Coach Bjerga. "But a few days ago in practice, we were drilling his lateral drop and I told Blake 'in the finals, you're going to lat drop him and pin him."

"It changed the match," said Bjerga. "At that point I thought we still have some work to do here, but it became a realization that we might really do this."

The Holdingford team also appeared surprised by the sudden pin. "I knew they were shook," said Neelan. "Everyone felt the momentum sliding our way, the last time we met that's not how it went."

Section champions

Top ranked Colbe Tappe came up next against a ranked opponent. He had just gotten back after being out due to illness, but took care of business with a needed 7-2 win.

"We can depend on him," said Coach Bjerga. "He beat two very solid kids in the two matches." Tappe had pinned a ranked opponent against Royalton-Upsala.

From that point on, the Cardinals needed to limit the points given up to a slew of high level wrestlers. Owen Winter lost to a ranked opponent but was never in danger of getting pinned.

Sensing they needed to change things around, Holdingford bumped their second ranked 172 pounder up a weight, allowing Zachary Tabatt to take the mat instead of Dustin Converse.

"The coaches met on multiple occasions and went through all the possible lineups," said Coach Bjerga. "They had to show first, that's why we put Zach in. He did an outstanding job."

Tabatt lost 7-2, but limited the damage, never giving up any back points.

With their best wrestler moving up to 189 pounds, the Cardinals also bumped up Converse, who got pinned.

That made the score 29-21 with two weights left. Luke Bjerga was sent out to wrestle up a weight against the third ranked 215 pounder in the state. He needed to avoid a pin and did just that, never allowing back points and slowing his opponent down throughout the bout.

That left it up to Steven Petrich at heavyweight, with a directive to do anything except give up bonus points.

Petrich had beaten his opponent before and the team felt confident he could do it again.

"It all fell into place," said Coach Bjerga.

Petrich wrestled patiently, coming close to gaining an advantage in the first period, but cautiously backing off when it wasn't right.

In the second period, he started in the down position and gained a penalty point when his opponent was called for clasping. He eventually earned an escape and a takedown for a 4-0 lead.

His opponent started Petrich down again in the third period and he worked hard for another escape.

"We practice this and preach it," said Coach Bjerga, "if you stand up once and get stopped, do it again and again and again. Steven did exactly that and wore that guy down, it's hard to stop someone who keeps getting up."

Petrich got another takedown against a tired opponent for a 7-0 win, and Staples-Motley was headed to state.

Neelan's pin was the catalyst that sent the team to state. As a senior wrestling in his last team section match, he provided three more matches to wrestle with his teammates at state. "It felt pretty good, it doesn't get much better than that," Neelan said.

Greenwaldt noted that this is the first time in 25 years that the Cardinal wrestling team has gone to state. "This is what we have worked towards as a team for a long time," he said.

Greenwaldt placed as an individual at state last year and had some advice for his teammates who will be there for the first time.

"Relax, it's just a match, just do what we have been doing all season. Go out and have fun, there is no reason to do something different," said Greenwaldt.

Quarterfinals

Against Deer River, the Cardinals defeated several good wrestlers on their way to a clear victory. The biggest match was Caden Kramer pinning a ranked wrestler who had moved up a weight. On the opening whistle, Kramer shot in for a quick takedown and controlled the match until getting a pin in the second period. Kramer said he wasn't looking to be that aggressive right away, "I just felt it," he said.

Semifinals

Staples-Motley won the first nine matches against Royalton-Upsala with some lineup changes and some good wrestling.

"We did not expect that, we were afraid of not even winning six matches," said Coach Bjerga.

They accomplished it by inserting Beau Carlson at 121 pounds, where he won with a fall. Greenwaldt bumped up a weight and won with a major decision at 127 pounds.

With three tough wrestlers coming up, Coach Bjerga said the Cardinals were hoping to win one of the three, but Turner Beachy, Riley Reese and Neelan all came through with huge wins.

After Tappe and Owen Winter won to make the score 42-0 against the state's seventh ranked team, the match was out of reach and Staples-Motley was able to rest their starters in the top two weights, with Reece Headley and Jacob Becker facing two high level wrestlers.

"They went out and fought hard, they did everything they could," said Coach Bjerga. He said this is an example of all the varsity wrestlers, not just the stars and the starters, who have stepped up when the team needed them this season.

"This is how it has gone all season," said Bjerga. "Each kid has a role, they know what their job is and they've been doing it. It's been fun to watch."

By beating the seventh and second ranked teams in the state, Staples-Motley now has a chance to be seeded in the top three for the state tournament. Those seedings are expected to come out this week.

Team results

Section 7A quarterfinals

Staples-Motley 69, Deer River 6

107 Gage Bjerga W fall, 114 Caden Kramer W fall, 121 Elijah Greenwaldt W fall, 127 Jack Carlson W fall, 133 Turner Beachy W fall, 139 Riley Reese W 8-2, 145 Blake Neelan W fall, 152 Owen Winter W fall, 160 Colbe Tappe W fall, 172 Dustin Converse L fall, 189 Luke Bjerga W ff, 215 Adrian Gomez W fall, 285 Steven Petrich W ff

Section 7A semifinals

Staples-Motley 45, Royalton-Upsala 15

107 G. Bjerga W fall, 114 Kramer W 13-3, 121 Beau Carlson W fall, 127 Greenwaldt W 8-0, 133 Beachy W 8-0, 139 Reese W 3-2, 145 Neelan W 11-6, 152 Tappe W fall, 160 Winter W fall, 172 Converse L 4-0, 189 L. Bjerga W 4-1, 215 Reece Headley L fall, 285 Jacob Becker L fall

Section 7A finals

Staples-Motley 32, Holdingford 25

107 G. Bjerga W fall, 114 Kramer W 16-1 tf, 121 Greenwaldt W fall, 127. J. Carlson W 8-3, 133 Beachy L 6-2, 139 Reese L 19-2 tf, 145 Neelan W fall, 152 Tappe W 7-2, 160 Winter L 16-5, 19 Zachary Tabatt L 7-2, 189 Converse L fall, 215 L. Bjerga L 11-2, 285 Petrich W 7-0



Coming through in a big section match

Jack Carlson applies pressure during the Section 7A match. (Submitted photos)



Luke Bjerga



Steven Petrich



Big wins, big crowds

In the section semifinal against Royalton-Upsala, Turner Beachy, above, and Riley Reese, below, came through with big wins. (Submitted photos)



Freshwater Education District

FED continued from page 10a

MOTIONED BY VanDenheuvel seconded by Howard to approve and post the FY-24 SPED RVR Drivers Seniority list as presented. VOTE-U/C

The board reviewed the following as presented: Annual Admin Memo Regarding Probationary & Term Employee & Policy Employee first date of the Employment list.

MOTIONED BY Howard seconded by Tumberg to authorize the FED to advertise a request for proposal for Mental Health Services for the 24/25 SY for the Academy Program. VOTE: U/C

MOTIONED BY Tumberg seconded by Thalmann to approve the 2023 - 2025 Master Agreement between FED #6004 and the FED T/I EMFED No. 7335, as recommended by the Personnel Committee. VOTE: U/C

MOTIONED BY Tumberg seconded by Anderson to approve Policy #412 as presented. VOTE: U/C

MOTIONED BY VanDenheuvel seconded by Howard to approve the Regular Year TS/CR Services Agreement for the 23/24 SY between FED and Little Falls ISD #482, Tier 1 Option. VOTE: U/C

Department Reports

J. Anderson, Finance Mang. reviewed the following reports: Cash Balance, Fund Balance, Facility Reserve Balance, and OPEB Reserve Balances.

J. Wothe, SpEd Director reported the current enrollment of 38 students at the Academies; the Data Project is in full swing and will be presented to the Districts' Admin.; Offering additional 504 Training for District Staff.

E. Weber, Director gave an update on the 24/25 SY Menu Options; Repair of the school van; Academies researching what it takes to host a comfort dog; ALC's enrollment is currently lower than in the past but TS/CR enrollment continues to be consistent; Royalton School District is interested in offering T/S but no agreement at this time; Carl Perkins Cord. M. Kaluza is in the process of visiting school district programs; reviewed the ECFE & SR Spring Enrollment; the Tech Dept. is looking at Google Plus to reduce the number of servers needed.

MOTIONED BY Funk seconded by Howard to approve the following:

The hiring of A. Berg, ECSE Para; M. Moyer, SPED Para; K. Chenoweth, ECSE Para; B. Bursch, SPED Para; A. Zamzo, OT; K. Hemberger, OT; A. Montgomery, ECSE Inst.; M. Baymler, FT Teacher Sub; J. Ludovissie, Cleaner.

Increase in Hrs. for: P. Peterson, OT; M. Peeters, ECSE Inst.; M. Leone, ECFE Parent Educator.

Decrease in Hrs. for: H. Moore, ALC Para.

Lane Change Request of K. Keil, ECSE Inst.

Resignation of M. Pauly, SPED Para; D. Sunstrom, Help Desk Assist. /Cleaner. VOTE- U/C

MOTIONED BY Howard seconded by VanDenheuvel to adjourn the meeting at 6:01 p.m.

Pre-Approved Publication SummaryE-U/C.

Pre-approved Publication Summary

11pnc

Services & Employment

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WAGE RANGE: $15.63 to $19.00 per hour

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*Thomas Sellnow is a Real Property Law Specialist certified by Real Property Section of Minnesota State Bar Association.
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SW 2024 changed wk #2

NOTICE VILLARD TOWNSHIP ANNUAL MEETING

The Villard Township Annual meeting will be held Tuesday, March 12, 2024 at the Villard Town Hall immediately following the regular scheduled 7 p.m. meeting.

All township residents are encouraged to attend.

Mary Trantina Koenig,
Clerk
Villard Township
10-11pnc

NOTICE BECKER TOWNSHIP ANNUAL MEETING

The Becker Township Annual meeting will be held Tuesday, March 12, 2024, at 7 p.m. at the Becker Township Hall, with the regular meeting to follow.

In case of bad weather, the Annual meeting will be held on March 19, 2024, at 7 p.m. All township residents are encouraged to attend.

Mary Fitcher, Clerk
Becker Township
10-11pnc

NOTICE MAY TOWNSHIP ANNUAL MEETING

May Township will hold its annual meeting on Tuesday, March 12, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

In case of bad weather, the annual meeting will be held March 19, 2024 at 7:00 p.m

Bianca Wyffels, Clerk
May Township
9-10pnc

NOTICE BULLARD TOWNSHIP ELECTION AND ANNUAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given to qualified voters of Bullard Township, Wadena County, Minnesota, that the Annual Election of Officers and Annual Meeting will be held Tuesday, March 12, 2024, at the Bullard Township Hall. Election poll hours are 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., at which time voters will elect:

•One (1) Supervisor, three (3) year term;

•One (1) Clerk, two (2) year term.

The Board of Canvass will meet at 8:05 p.m., and the Annual Meeting will begin at 8:15 p.m.

In case of inclement weather, the election and meeting will be postponed until Tuesday, March 19, 2024, with the same times and location.

Janelle VanAlst, Clerk
Bullard Township
9-10pnc

NOTICE RESIDENTS OF MOTLEY TOWNSHIP ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Annual Election of Officers will be ehld on Tuesday, March 12, 2024. The polls will be open from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Motley Township Town Hall.

Positions to be filled are as follows:

One (1) Supervisor for a three (3) year term

One (1) Clerk for a two (2) year term

Absentee ballots are available by appointment at the home of the Clerk, 218-330-7887.

In case of inclement weather the Annual Election of Officers will be postponed until Tuesday, March 19, 2024.

The following will be held after the Annual ELection of Officers: The Board of Canvass, the Annual meeting and the Regular Monthly Meeting.

Ken Swecker, Clerk
Motley Township
10-11pnc

CITY OF STAPLES NOTICE OF HEARING ON 2024 2ND STREET NE STREET AND UTILITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: Notice is hereby given that the City Council of Staples will meet in the Council Chambers of the City Hall at 7:00 p.m. on March 12, 2024, to consider the proposed 2024 2nd Street NE Street and Utility Improvement Project, composed of the making of improvements on 2nd Street NE from the South Line of 413 2nd Street NE to approximately 270 feet north of Pleasant Avenue consisting of the replacement of streets, sidewalks, driveway entrances, storm drainage systems, sewer and water services, and sewer and water mains, pursuant to Minn. Stat. §§ 429.011 to 429.111. The area proposed to be assessed for such improvement is composed of the properties abutting these streets and properties directly served via these streets and utilities. The estimated cost of the improvement is $650,834. A reasonable estimate of the impact of the assessment and methodology used to calculate individual assessment will be available at the hearing. Such persons as desire to be heard with reference to the proposed improvement will be heard at this meeting.

Ron Murray, Mayor
City of Staples

Jerel Nelsen,
City Administrator
City of Staples
10-11pnc

NOTICE VILLARD TOWNSHIP PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION PRIMARY ELECTION

The Villard Township Presidential Nomination Primary Election will be held Tuesday, March 5, 2024, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Villard Town Hall, Philbrook, MN.

Mary Trantina Koenig,
Clerk
Villard Township
10pnc

NOTICE STAPLES TOWNSHIP ELECTION AND ANNUAL MEETING

The Staples Township Election and Annual Meeting will be held Tuesday, March 12, 2024 at the Staples Town Hall located at 25750 490th St., Staples, MN.

The Polling Hours are 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Positions to be filled are:

One (1) Supervisor, three (3) year term;

One (1) Clerk, two (2) year term.

Board of Canvass will follow the election with the Annual meeting immediately after.

In case of inclement weather, the Election and Annual meeting will be held one week later on Tuesday, March 19, 2024.

Bonnie Thoele, Clerk
Staples Township
10-11pnc

NOTICE MEADOWBROOK TOWNSHIP 2024 ANNUAL MEETING

Meadowbrook Township will hold its annual meeting on Tuesday, March 12, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. at the Leader Community Hall.

In case of inclement weather the annual meeting will be held the following Tuesday, March 19, 2024, same time and place.

Ty Peterson, Clerk
Meadowbrook Township
10-11pnc

NOTICE MOOSE LAKE TOWNSHIP 2024 ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

Moose Lake Township will hold its annual meeting on Tuesday, March 12, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. at the Leader Community Hall.

The township is now accepting bids for road maintenance and cemetery maintenance. Send bids to: Moose Lake Township Clerk, 5335 51st Ave. SW, Pine River MN 56474.

In case of inclement weather, the alternate meeting date will be held Tuesday, March 19, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. at the Leader Community Hall.

Karen Roubal, Clerk
Moose Lake Township
9-10pnc

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORCLOSURE SALE

THE RIGHT TO VERIFICATION OF THE DEBT AND IDENTITY OF THE ORIGINAL CREDITOR WITHIN THE TIME PROVIDED BY LAW IS NOT AFFECTED BY THIS ACTION.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: That default has occurred in the conditions of the following described mortgage:

DATE OF MORTGAGE: April 14, 2018

ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF MORTGAGE: $87,657.00

MORTGAGOR(S): Henry A. Youngvorst, an unmarried man

MORTGAGEE: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Quicken Loans Inc.

DATE AND PLACE OF FILING: Recorded on April 20, 2018 as Document Number A508910 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota.

ASSIGNMENTS OF MORTGAGE: Assigned to: Rocket Mortgage LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans, LLC, by assignment recorded on November 13, 2023 as Document Number A538905 in the Office of the County Recorder of Todd County, Minnesota.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY: That part of Government Lot 1, Section 9, Township 133 North, Range 33 West lying between the North line of said Lot 1 and a line parallel therewith and 150 feet southerly therefrom measured at right angles thereto and between two lines parallel with and distant respectively 184 feet and 359 feet westerly, measured at right angles, from the east line of said lot, Todd County, Minnesota .

STREET ADDRESS OF PROPERTY: 24709 THUNDER RD, STAPLES, MN 56479

COUNTY IN WHICH PROPERTY IS LOCATED: Todd County, Minnesota.

THE AMOUNT CLAIMED TO BE DUE ON THE MORTGAGE ON THE DATE OF THE NOTICE: $84,579.62

TRANSACTION AGENT: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc.

NAME OF MORTGAGE ORIGINATOR: Quicken Loans Inc.

RESIDENTIAL SERVICER: Rocket Mortgage, LLC

TAX PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 22-0007602

TRANSACTION AGENT'S MORTGAGE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 100039034015630181

THAT no action or proceeding has been instituted at law to recover the debt then remaining secured by such mortgage, or any part thereof, or, if the action or proceeding has been instituted, that the same has been discontinued, or that an execution upon the judgment rendered therein has been returned unsatisfied, in whole or in part.

PURSUANT, to the power of sale contained in said mortgage, the above described property will be sold by the Sheriff of said county as follows:

DATE AND TIME OF SALE: March 07, 2024 at 10:00 A.M.

PLACE OF SALE: Todd County Sheriff's Office, County Detention Center, 115 Third Street South, Long Prairie, MN 56347.

to pay the debt then secured by said mortgage and taxes, if any actually paid by the mortgagee, on the premises and the costs and disbursements allowed by law. The time allowed by law for redemption by said mortgagor(s), their personal representatives or assigns is six (6) months from the date of sale.

TIME AND DATE TO VACATE PROPERTY: Unless said mortgage is reinstated or the property redeemed, or unless the time for redemption is reduced by judicial order, you must vacate the premises by 11:59 p.m. on September 9, 2024.

THE TIME ALLOWED BY LAW FOR REDEMPTION BY THE MORTGAGOR, THE MORTGAGOR'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OR ASSIGNS, MAY BE REDUCED TO FIVE WEEKS IF A JUDICIAL ORDER IS ENTERED UNDER MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 582.032, DETERMINING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE MORTGAGED PREMISES ARE IMPROVED WITH A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING OF LESS THAN FIVE UNITS, ARE NOT PROPERTY USED IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND ARE ABANDONED.

MORTGAGOR(S) RELEASED FROM FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ON MORTGAGE: None

Dated: January 09, 2024

ROCKET MORTGAGE, LLC F/K/A QUICKEN LOANS, LLC
Mortgagee

TROTT LAW, P.C.
By:/s/
N. Kibongni Fondungallah, Esq.
Samuel R. Coleman, Esq.
Sung Woo Hong, Esq.
Attorneys for Mortgagee
25 Dale Street North
St. Paul, MN 55102
(651) 209-9760
(23-1256-FC01)

THIS IS A COMMUNICATION FROM A DEBT COLLECTOR

5-10pnc

LEGAL NOTICE
TODD COUNTY BUDGET SUMMARY STATEMENT
FOR BUDGET YEAR 2024

The Todd County Budget Summary Statement is Published in accordance with Minnesota Statute 375.169. The complete budget is available for public inspection at the Todd County Auditor/Treasurer's Office during normal business hours.

REVENUES	2023	2024
Property tax	17,260,754	17,930,898
State General Purpose Aid	1,793,093	2,417,179
Other taxes	1,331,520	1,476,043
Licenses & Permits	184,690	174,690
Federal Grants	3,541,131	5,029,908
State Aids	11,803,293	10,136,351
Local Grants	0	0
Charges for Service	2,967,322	2,611,030
Misc Revenue	2,421,701	3,419,735
Interest on Investments	100,500	175,500
Other Financing Sources	27,700	27,700
Transfers	5,000	39,939
Total Revenue & Other Source	**41,436,704**	**43,438,973**
EXPENDITURES		
General Government	6,306,815	6,774,210
Public safety	5,162,386	5,936,677
Highway/Construction	9,237,580	9,300,760
Streets & Highways (excluding Constr.)	4,149,640	4,452,920
Human Services	9,078,696	9,788,100
Health	3,060,580	2,682,800
Culture and Recreation	458,976	450,594
Conservation of Nat Resourses	1,288,747	1,453,702
Economic Development	86,800	93,200
Gen Debt Service	414,251	417,506
Capital Outlay	1,577,100	1,457,100
Transfers	615,133	631,404
Other Fiscal Charges	0	0
Total Expenditures & other uses:	**41,436,704**	**43,438,973**
Budget Balance	**0**	**0**

Todd County Auditor/Treasurer
Denise Gaida

CASS COUNTY
NOTICE OF PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION

Pursuant to M.S. 207A.11, a Presidential Nomination Primary will be held on March 5, 2024. Nomination primary voters must request the ballot of the major political party for whose candidate the individual wishes to vote. Polling place election judges must record in the polling place roster the name of the major political party whose ballot the voter requested. The county auditor must include the name of the major political party whose ballot the voter requested with the voting history of the nomination primary election. The voter's choice of a party will not be a part of a public information list but will be shared with the chair of the major political party that they select.

Polling place locations and hours of voting:

PRECINCT	POLLING PLACE	HOURS	PRECINCT	POLLING PLACE	HOURS
Townships			**Townships cont.**		
Bungo	Town Hall	10 a.m.- 8 p.m.	Trelipe	Town Hall	10 a.m.- 8 p.m.
Crooked Lake	Town Hall	7 a.m.-8 p.m.	Turtle Lake	Town Hall	7 a.m.-8 p.m.
Fairview	Town Hall	7 a.m.-8 p.m.	Wabedo	Town Hall	7 a.m.-8 p.m.
Hiram	Hackensack Community Bldg.	7 a.m.-8 p.m.	Wilkinson	Town Hall	7 a.m.-8 p.m.
Kego	Longville Fire Hall	7 a.m.-8 p.m.	Woodrow	Town Hall	7 a.m.-8 p.m.
Leech Lake	Town Hall	10 a.m.- 8 p.m.			
Maple	Town Hall	8 a.m. - 8 p.m.	**Cities**		
May	Town Hall	7 a.m.-8 p.m.	Cass Lake	City Hall	7 a.m.-8 p.m.
McKinley	Town Hall	10 a.m.- 8 p.m.	East Gull Lake	City Hall	7 a.m.-8 p.m.
Pike Bay	Town Hall	7 a.m.-8 p.m.	Hackensack	Hackensack Community Bldg.	7 a.m.-8 p.m.
Pine River	Town Hall	7 a.m.-8 p.m.	Lake Shore	City Hall	7 a.m.-8 p.m.
Ponto Lake	Town Hall	7 a.m.-8 p.m.	Pillager	City Hall	7 a.m.-8 p.m.
Powers	Town Hall	7 a.m.-8 p.m.	Pine River	City Hall	7 a.m.-8 p.m.
Shingobee	Town Hall	7 a.m.-8 p.m.	Remer	City Hall	7 a.m.-8 p.m.
Sylvan	Town Hall	7 a.m.-8 p.m.	Walker	Walker Fire Hall	7 a.m.-8 p.m.

Mail ballot precincts: All pre-registered voters in mail ballot precincts will receive ballots by mail.

MAIL BALLOT PRECINCTS			
Ansel Township	Bull Moose Township	Loon Lake Township	Slater Township
Backus	Byron Township	Meadow Brook Township	Smoky Hollow Township
Barclay Township	Chickamaw Beach	Moose Lake Township	Sucker Lakes Unorg.
Becker Township	Deerfield Township	Motley-part in Cass County only	Thunder Lake Township
Bena	Federal Dam	Ottertail Peninsula Township	Torrey Township
Beulah Township	Gould Township	Pine Lake Township	Wahnena Unorg.
Birch Lake Township	Hardwood South Unorg.	Poplar Township	Wabedo Township
Blind Lake Township	Homebrook Township	Remer Township	Walden Township
Boy Lake Township	Inguadona Township	Rogers Point Unorg.	Willow River Unorg.
Boy River	Lima Unorg.	Rogers Township	Wilson Township
Boy River Township	Longville	Salem Township	Winnie Portage Unorg.

Each voter registered by February 13, 2024, for the March 5, 2024, Presidential Nomination Primary Election residing in a mail ballot precinct will be mailed a ballot automatically. Registered voters will receive each major political party's ballot. Voters must choose the ballot of the party whose principles they generally agree with. Only one ballot can be voted and returned. The other blank ballots should be destroyed and discarded. Voters must record their party choice on the signature envelope. The voter's choice of a party will not be a part of a public information list but will be shared with the chair of the major political party that they select.

In additional to the normal business hours, extended hours for mail ballot voting (for in-person drop off, voter assist terminal access or absentee voting for non-registered voters) are: Presidential Nomination Primary: Saturday, March 2, 2024, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.; Monday, March 4, 2024, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; and Tuesday, March 5, 2024, from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Sample ballots are available online at myballotmn.sos.state.mn.us and are posted at each poll on election day. For more information, visit www.casscountymn.gov, or call 218-547-7210.

Public notices are a community's window into the government. You look for those notices in your newspaper. From zoning regulations to local budgets, governments have used local newspapers to inform citizens of its actions as an essential part of your right to know.

Keep public notices in newspapers!

Freshwater Education District

MINUTES

FRESHWATER ED. DISTRICT #6004
January 24, 2024

Wadena, MN

Call to order
Called to order by the 2023 Chair K. Howard at 5 p.m.

Board Present: L. Anderson- Staples-Motley; C. Funk -Sebeka; R. VanDenheuvel- Bertha-Hewitt; B. Tumberg- Wadena-Deer Creek; R. Thalmann– Henning; K. Howard -Menahga; Supt. S.Vedbraaten, Browerville. FED Staff: E. Weber, Ex. Director; J. Wothe, SpEd Director; J. Anderson, Finance Mang.; S. Thiel, Admin Assistant. Absent: S. Veronen- Verndale; J. Hillmer- Browerville; C. Wolf-Long Prairie-Grey Eagle; L. Westrum, Supt., -Wadena-Deer Creek. Guest: T. Burggeman, CPA of Brady Martz.

MOTIONED BY VanDenheuvel seconded by Anderson to approve the agenda as presented. VOTE- U/C

MOTIONED BY Thalmann seconded by VanDenheuvel to appoint the following officers for the calendar year 2024, per the current FED Bylaws; Chair: L. Anderson - SM; Vice Chair: C. Funk - Sebeka; Clerk: C. Wolf - LPGE; Treasurer; B. Tumberg - WDC. VOTE- U/C

At 5:01 p.m., L. Anderson, the 2024 Chair, took over the meeting.

FY23 Audit Report given by T, Bruggeman, CPA, of Brady Martz.

MOTIONED BY Funk seconded by Tumberg to approve the 10.25.23 minutes as presented. VOTE-U/C

Re-Organization of Board:

MOTIONED BY Howard seconded by Funk to authorize the use of a signature plate to sign documents. VOTE- U/C

MOTIONED BY Tumberg seconded by Thalmann to name the following as official depositories: 1st International Bank of Staples, MN, Wadena State Bank of Wadena, MN, 1st National Bank of Ottertail, MN and MN School District Liquid Asset Fund, and to authorize designated staff to invest funds in these institutions with evidence of sufficient collateral. VOTE-U/C

MOTIONED BY Funk seconded by Howard to Authorize the designated staff to make electronic fund transfers as outlined by State Statutes. VOTE-U/C

MOTIONED BY Tumberg seconded by Funk to approve to keep the Board per diem the same as 2023 calendar; for regular/special and committee meetings to be set at the rate of $70 and for meetings of four (4) hours or less and $130 for meetings over four hours. Mileage to be reimbursed at the current Federal rate. VOTE- U/C

MOTIONED BY VanDenheuvel seconded by Thalmann to set the Regular Board meeting dates as follows with a start time of 5 p.m.: 4/26/24, 6/26/24, 8/21/24, 10/23/24 and 1/25, in Wadena, MN w/Special Board Mtg. called as needed. VOTE- U/C

MOTIONED BY Thalmann seconded by Howard to name the Long Prairie Leader, Long Prairie, MN as the 2024 official newspaper. VOTE- U/C

Appointments by the 2024 Chair: Personnel Committee: S. Veronen, C. Funk, and R. Thalmann; Otter Tail Cty Collaborative: R. Thalmann; Todd Cty Collaborative: R. VanDenheuvel; 2 - Supervising Supt: L. Westrum and S. Vedbraaten, and acknowledge the annual associate membership in the MREA and full membership in MSBA.

MOTIONED BY Howard seconded by Howard to acknowledge the annual review of Policies and action to direct the Ex. Director to maintain the district Policy Manual per MSBA recommended legal revisions and/or legislative mandatory revisions. VOTE- U/C

MOTIONED BY VanDenheuvel seconded by Thalmann to name Hitesman & Associates, P.A., Maple Grove; Kennedy & Graven, Minneapolis; Pederson & Pederson P.A., Wadena, as well as Pemberton Law, Fergus Falls; as the 2024 Consulting Law Firms. VOTE-U/C

MOTIONED BY Thalmann seconded by Howard to name the designated staff as FED's E-Service contacts VOTE- U/C

Regular Board Mtg.

Old Business: MOTIONED BY Howard seconded by Tumberg to approve the 11/8/23 and 1/10/24 Supt. Advisory minutes as presented. VOTE-U/C

New Business

MOTIONED BY Funk seconded by Tumberg to acknowledge receipt and review of the 2023 Financial Audit and direct the auditing firm to forward a copy to the MDE. VOTE-U/C

MOTIONED BY Howard seconded by VanDenheuvel to approve the 10/1/23 - 12/31/23 voucher claims as presented. VOTE-U/C

The following resolution is hereby MOVED BY Funk and seconded by VanDenheuvel: To recognize that the Board of FED, #6004, gratefully accepts the following donations as identified as: New York Mills Lions Club, MN ~ $400; Verndale Lions Clubs, MN ~ $300; Wadena Lions Club, MN ~ $300 to the Elm Tree Classroom, and with the following donations identified for Reading for the Future: Lions Club of Long Prairie, MN ~ $2,000; Nelson Insurance Agency, Staples, MN ~ $75; Benning Printing & Publishing, Clarissa, MN ~ $25; Staples Eye Clinic, Staples, MN ~ $50; Long Prairie Dairy Queen, LLC, Long Prairie, MN ~ $100; Mayer, Porter & Nelson, LTD, Staples, MN ~ $25; American Legion Post 124, Motley, MN ~ $200; Faith Lutheran Church, Staples, MN ~ $25; Unity Bank, Staples, MN ~ $100; Lincoln Area Business Association, General Gambling, Cushing, MN ~ $2,500; American Legion Post 12, Charitable Gambling, Long Prairie, MN ~ $200; Shirley's Gas and Groceries, Eagle Bend, MN ~ $100; Long Prairie Packing Co., Long Prairie, MN ~ $150. VOTE on adoptions of this Resolution was as follows; ABSTENTIONS: None. AYE: Tumberg, Funk, Howard, Thalmann, VanDenheuvel, and Anderson. NAY: None. ABSENT: Veronen, Wolf, and Hillmer. WHEREUPON said Resolutions were declared duly adopted.

The following resolution is hereby MOVED BY Thalmann seconded by Howard Directing the Administration to make recommendations regarding the reduction and/or discontinuance of programs and positions and reasons therefore; BE IT RESOLVED, by the School Board of FED #6004, that the School Board hereby directs the Supt. and Admin to consider the discontinuance and/or reduction of programs or positions as a result of a reduction in enrollment and make recommendations to the School Board for the discontinuance of programs, reduction of programs, discontinuance of positions, or the reduction of positions. VOTE on adoptions of this Resolution was as follows; ABSTENTIONS: None. AYE: VanDenheuvel, Thalmann, Howard, Anderson, Funk, and Tumberg. NAY: None. ABSENT: Veronen, Wolf, and Hillmer. WHEREUPON said the Resolution was declared Adopted.

MOVED BY Howard seconded by VanDenheuvel the following resolution regarding 2023 Delegate Assembly Proposed Legislative Changes to Allow 12 Passengers or even 15 Passenger Vans to be classified as Type III Vehicles. BE IT RESOLVED, by the School Board of FED #6004 urges the Legislature to allow 12-passenger or even 15-passenger vans to be classified as Type III Vehicles. VOTE on adoptions of this Resolution was as follows; ABSTENTIONS: None. AYE: Howard, Thalmann, VanDenheuvel, Tumberg, Funk, and Anderson. NAY: None. ABSENT: Veronen, Hillmer, and Wolf. WHEREUPON said the Resolution was declared Adopted.

MOTIONED BY Howard seconded by Tumberg to approve Revision II Budget modification & Revision II Assessment Manual Summary of the current FY-24 financial budget as presented. VOTE- U/C

MOTIONED BY Thalmann seconded by Anderson to approve and post the FY-24 Teacher-Itinerant Seniority list as presented. VOTE-U/C

MOTIONED BY Funk seconded by Tumberg to approve and post the FY-24 Para Seniority list as presented. VOTE-U/C with Abstention of Howard.

See **FED** on page 8a

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
TODD COUNTY COURTHOUSE ROCK WALL AND EXTERIOR PLAZA LONG PRAIRIE, MN

Project Identification: Sealed proposals shall be received for the construction work for repairs to the Todd County Courthouse Rock Wall and Exterior Plaza, located in Long Prairie, Minnesota, in accordance with the Construction Documents prepared by BHH Partners Planners/Architects, 650 3rd Avenue Southeast, Perham, MN 56573.

Project Description: Repair and replacement of the existing stone rock retaining wall and plaza. Including phase one and phase two.

Basis of Bids: A single prime lump sum bid will be received for general construction as noted in the Construction Documents.

Bid Opening: Bids for the project will be received and will be publicly opened and read aloud on **March 6, 2024 at 10 a.m.** Location: Todd County Board room, 215 1st Ave. S., Long Prairie, MN 56347. Address sealed bids to: Denise Gaida - Auditor/Treasurer, 215 1st Ave. S., Suite 201, Long Prairie, Minnesota 56347. Note the name of the project on the outside of the bid envelope.

Pre-Bid Walk-Through: A pre-bid walk-through will be held at the site. All interested bidders shall attend or make special arrangements with the Owner at the Owner's convenience. The Owner is not obligated to meet times/dates requested. Date: **February 22, 2024, 10 a.m.,** 215 1st Ave. S., Long Prairie, MN 56347.

Examination of the Site: All interested bidders shall visit the project site to obtain firsthand knowledge of existing conditions, including existing utilities and services, obstacles that may be encountered and all other conditions relative to the Work to be performed that may or may not be shown within the Contract Documents.

Additional Compensation: Awarded Contractors shall not receive extra payments for conditions that can be determined by examining the site and the Contract Documents in their entirety.

Bid Opening: Sealed bids shall be received and opened at Todd County Administrative offices located in the Courthouse. All bidders who are not attending may mail their bid to:

ATTN: Mitch Johnson
Todd County Facility Supervisor 212 2nd Ave. S.
Long Prairie, MN 56347

Contractor shall be responsible for bids mailed or delivered to ensure receiver of bids has bid by the bid opening.

Responsible Bidder Requirement: Any prime contractor or subcontractor that does not meet the minimum criteria in Minnesota Statutes, Section 16C.285, subdivision 3 or fails to verify that it meets those criteria is not a responsible contractor and is not eligible to be awarded the construction contract for the project or to perform work on the project.

The term 'responsible contractor' as used in this solicitation document means a contractor as defined in Minnesota Statues, Section 16C.285, subdivision 3.

A contractor responding to this solicitation document shall submit to the county a signed statement under oath by an owner or officer verifying compliance with each of the minimum criteria in Minnesota Statutes, Section 16C.285, subdivision 3.

A false statement under oath verifying compliance with any of the minimum criteria shall render the prime contractor or subcontractor that makes the false statement ineligible to be awarded a construction contract on the project and may result in termination of a contract awarded to a prime contractor or subcontractor that submits a false statement.

A prime contractor shall submit to the owner upon request copies of the signed verifications of compliance from all subcontractors of any tier pursuant to Minnesota Statues, Section 16C.285, subdivision 3, clause 7.

Pre-construction Meeting: A pre-construction meeting will be scheduled on site upon contract award. Contractor in receipt of awarded bid along with any/all subcontractors shall attend.

Tentative Commencement of Work: Contractor in receipt of awarded bid and finalization of contracts shall begin work upon notice to proceed.

Examination of Documents: Drawings, Specifications and other Contract Documents may be examined at the following locations:

1. Electronic Files:

Complete digital project bidding documents are available at **www.widseth.com** by clicking on Bid Documents in the upper right hand corner or at **www.questcdn.com** by inputting Quest project #: . Please contact **QuestCDN.com** at (952) 233-1632. Or **infor@questcdn.com** for assistance in free membership registration, downloading and working with this digital project information. You may download the digital plan documents electronically for $30.

2. Exchange Rooms:

Fargo-Moorhead Builders Exchange, Fargo, ND
Grand Forks Builders Exchange, Grand Forks, ND
Duluth Builders Exchange, Duluth, MN
Minnesota Builders Exchange, Minneapolis, MN
Dodge Data & Analytics
St. Cloud Builders Exchange, St. Cloud, MN
Plains Builders Exchange, Sioux Falls, SD
Bismarck-Mandan Builder's Exchange, Mandan, ND

Procurement of Documents:

1. Printed Documents: Prime Bidders may secure one (1) printed set of the Contract Documents at the office of the Architect (BHH Partners Planners/Architects, PO Box 185, 650 3rd Avenue Southeast, Perham, MN 56573) upon deposit of $250 per set. This deposit will be refunded if documents are returned to the office of the Architect in GOOD CONDITION WITHIN TEN (10) DAYS after date of bid opening. Failure to submit a bonafide bid proposal or to return documents as indicated will result in forfeiture of deposit. Bidders that do not receive contract documents through the Architect's Office will not be listed on the official plan holders list.

Time of Completion: The completion date for phase one of this project shall be not more than eight (8) months from notice to proceed date. If the project is not complete at that time, the Prime Contractor shall pay to the Owner the sum of $500/day after this date for a period of thirty (30) days. After thirty (30) days, the General Contractor will pay the Owner $1,000/day until the project is substantially completed. There will be no benefits to the Contractors for early completion of the project prior to duration indicated.

Bonding and Bidding Requirements: Each Contractor shall be required to provide a Performance Bond and a Material and Labor Payment Bond in the amount of 100 percent (100%) of the Contract Amount.

Bid Security: Bids that shall be accompanied by Bid Security in the form of a certified check, cashier's check or bid bond in the amount of five percent (5%) of the Base Bid submitted, made payable to the Owner, as guarantee that the Bidder will, if awarded, enter into a Contract in accordance with Contract Documents and submitted bid.

Labor Standards and Wages: This project is subject to Minnesota Labor Standards and Wages requirements of Minnesota Statutes Chapter 177.

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 177.41 to 177.44 and corresponding Rules 5200.1000 to 5200.1120, this project contract is subject to the prevailing wages as established by the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry. Specifically, all contractors and subcontractors must pay all laborers and mechanics the established prevailing wages for work performed under the contract. Failure to comply with the aforementioned may result in civil or criminal penalties.

Bid Review: The Owner will not award the contract on the day of the Bid Opening and hereby reserves the right to award the contract pending bid review. All bids will be held until approval can be made for the lowest, qualified bidder.

Right to Reject Bids: The Owner reserves the right to reject any and all bids or parts thereof, to waive any informalities in bidding, and to award the contract to other than the lowest bidder if, in the discretion of the Owner, the interests of the Owner will be best served thereby. The Owner further reserves the right to hold all legitimate proposals for a period of thirty (30) days after the date fixed for the opening thereof without exception.

Bids Requested By:
Mitch Johnson
Todd County Facility Supervisor
212 2nd Ave. S.
Long Prairie, MN 56347

8-10pnc

STATE OF MINNESOTA COUNTY OF TODD DISTRICT COURT JUDICIAL DISTRICT: SEVENTH
Court File No. 77-CV-23-1016
Case Type: Contract

Civil Summons

Magnifi Financial Credit Union,
Plaintiff

vs

Matthew Rahn and Tamara Rahn, a/k/a Tamara D. Rahn, John Doe, Mary Roe and each other person unknown claiming any right or interest in any part of the real estate described in the complaint herein,
Defendants

This Summons is directed to (name of Defendants): Matthew Rahn and Tamara Rahn a/k/a Tamara D. Rahn; and John Doe, Mary Roe and each other person unknown claiming any possessory right or interest in any part of the real estate described in the complaint herein.

1. **You are being sued.** The Plaintiff has started a lawsuit against you. The *Complaint* is attached to this *Summons*. [Added for service by publication: the Complaint is not attached but is on file with the court in the above case.] Do not throw these papers away. They are official papers that start a lawsuit and affect your legal rights, even if nothing has been filed with the court and even if there is no court file number on this *Summons*.

2. **You must BOTH reply, in writing, AND get a copy of your reply to the person/business who is suing you within 21 days to protect your rights.** Your reply is called an Answer. Getting your reply to the Plaintiff is called service. You must serve a copy of your *Answer or Answer and Counterclaim* (Answer) within 21 days from the date you received the *Summons* and *Complaint*.

ANSWER: You can find the *Answer* form and instructions on the MN Judicial Branch website at **www.mncourts.gov/forms** under the "Civil" category. The instructions will explain in detail how to fill out the Answer form.

3. **You must respond to each claim.** The *Answer* is your written response to the Plaintiff's *Complaint*. In your *Answer* you must state whether you agree or disagree with each paragraph of the *Complaint*. If you think the Plaintiff should not be given everything they asked for in the *Complaint*, you must say that in your Answer.

4. SERVICE: **You may lose your case if you do not send a written response to the Plaintiff.** If you do not serve a written *Answer* within 21 days, you may lose this case by default. You will not get to tell your side of the story. If you choose not to respond, the Plaintiff may be awarded everything they asked for in their *Complaint*. If you agree with the claims stated in the *Complaint*, you don't need to respond. A default judgment can then be entered against you for what the Plaintiff asked for in the *Complaint*.

To protect your rights, you must serve a copy of your *Answer* on the person who signed this Summons in person or by mail at this address: Mark F. Uphus, Attorney at Law, 310 Main Street East - PO Box 158, Melrose, Minnesota 56352.

5. Carefully read the Instructions (CIV301) for the *Answer* for your next steps.

6. **Legal Assistance.** You may wish to get legal help from an attorney. If you do not have an attorney and would like legal help:

· Visit **www.mncourts.gov/selfhelp** and click on the "Legal Advice Clinics" tab to get more information about legal clinics in each Minnesota county.

· Court Administration may have information about places where you can get legal assistance.

NOTE: Even if you cannot get legal help, you must still serve a written *Answer* to protect your rights or you may lose the case.

7. **Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR).** The parties may agree to or be ordered to participate in an ADR process under Rule 114 of the Minnesota Rules of Practice. You must still serve your written Answer, even if you expect to use ADR.

8. **This lawsuit may affect or bring into question title to real property** located in Todd County, State of Minnesota, legally described as follows:

All that part of the Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter in Section 26, Township 127 North, Range 35 West of the 5th P.M., Todd County, Minnesota, lying Northeast of the Township Road, together with all hereditaments and appurtenances belonging thereto.

The object of this action includes, among other things: foreclosure of a mortgage and other security interests against the above described property and fixtures, improvements, and any unaffixed manufactured housing unit located on the described property; to obtain judgment that Plaintiff's mortgage, security and other interests and claims against said property have priority over any claim or interest of any herein named Defendants and any other person; and obtain and docket, as may be appropriate, a deficiency money judgment against the herein named Defendants.

Dated: December 14, 2023

/s/ Mark F. Uphus
Mark F. Uphus,
Minn. Atty. Reg. # 141136
310 Main Street E
PO Box 158
Melrose, MN 56352
Telephone: 320/256-7491
Facsimile: 320/256-7612
Email:
manager@uphuslaw.com

7-10pnc



State wrestlers

The five Staples-Motley wrestlers who qualified for the state meet, from left, Gage Bjerga, Caden Kramer, Elijah Greenwaldt, Colbe Tappe and Luke Bjerga. (Submitted photos)

Schultz, Kuhns lead boys in basketball win

The Staples-Motley boys basketball team lost to Pelican Rapids 62-43 on Feb. 20, then won against Menahga, 72-65 on Feb. 23.

Against Pelican Rapids, the Cardinals fell behind by double digits at halftime and were not able to get closer in the second half.

Against Menahga, Alex Schultz scored all of his 18 points in first half, leading Staples-Motley to a 42-30 lead. The game got closer in the second half, but Conner Kuhns hit a late three pointer before Rutten and Bestland made free throws to seal the win. Menahga only had four players in the scoring column, but one of them scored 41 points.

The boys finish their regular season this week with games at Crosby-Ironton and Aitkin.

They are currently in the sixth poosition in the Section 7AA standings, meaning they will start the playoffs with a home game on Monday, March 4, at 7 p.m.

Team results

Staples-Motley 43, Pelican Rapids 62

Scoring: Alex Schultz 14, Eli Rutten 12, Avandre Brandt 6, Conner Kuhns 5, Noah Larson 4, Elijah Blue 2

Staples-Motley 72, Menahga 65

Scoring: Kuhns 20, Schultz 18, Rutten 12, Bestland 11, Larson 9, Brandt 2

Cardinal girls basketball team ends season with win

The Staples-Motley girls basketball ended the regular season on a high note, beating Aitkin 64-56 on Feb. 23. They also lost to Crosby-Ironton 79-31 on Feb. 20.

The Cardinals finished the regular season with a 7-19 record and they were fourth in the final season of the Mid State Conference, with a 2-6 record.

Section playoffs

With the season finished, the Cardinals will be on the road for the Section 7AA playoffs, playing at Proctor on Thursday, Feb. 29, with the game scheduled for 7:30 p.m. The winner of that game plays again on Saturday, March 2, at 11 a.m. at Dulth Denfeld, against the winner of the Esko/International Falls game. The final two rounds are March 6 and March 8.



Eli Greenwaldt



Owen Winter



Passing skills

Above, Pam Lawrence drops a bounce pass to Izzy Olander in a game earlier this season. Below, Cami Anderson drives the lane and kicks the ball out to a teammate. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



Golf season in February

Dr. John Gorton enjoyed the 50 degree weather on Feb. 21 by driving a few golf balls at the driving range at The Vintage Golf Course. The course isn't open yet, but Gorton brought a few of his own balls to get an early start on the golf season. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)





Logan Serich



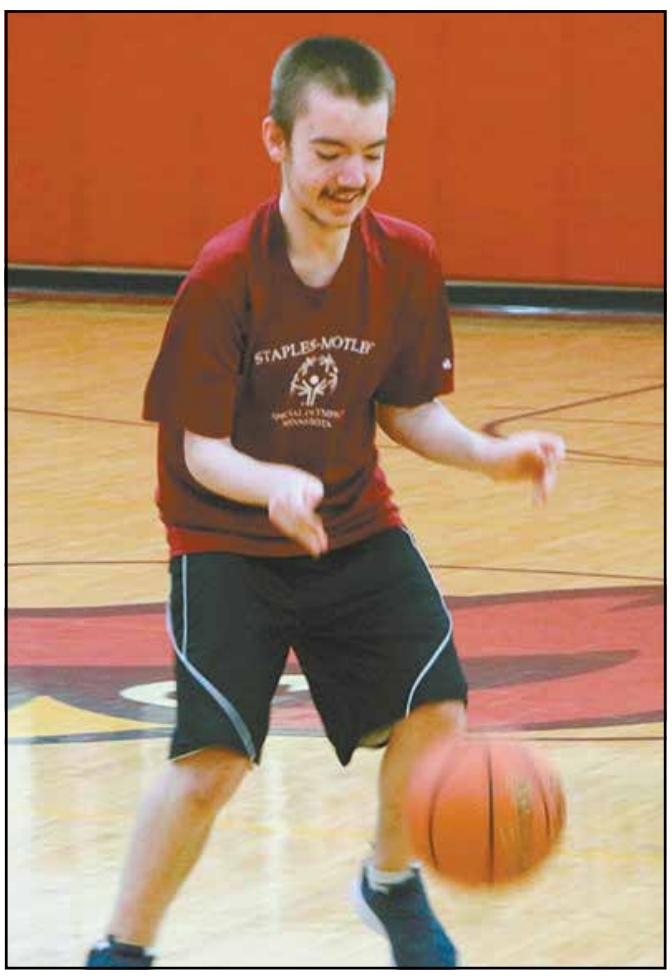
Jackson Vangsness gets an assist from Noah Larson and Logan Robben.



Cole Greenwaldt



Jackson Vangsness



Casey Kaaehn



Party atmosphere

Large crowds brought signs of support and cheered for the Special Olympics basketball players at the event on Feb. 1. Below, the Cardinal mascot helped lead the dance party



Fitness and skills

Staples-Motley student volunteers set up stations for Special Olympics basketball players to see how many pushups and situps they can do, and they recorded their basketball skills with dribbling and shooting contests.



Student helper Iain Sams with Lukas Jares







Get great service & great rates.

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

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Open water on Feb. 21

With 50 degree weather in February, the Crow Wing River has started to flow. With no snow on the ground, there isn't any flood water to fill the river, this is just natural melting. (Photo by Mark Anderson)