Inside this issue:

Lakewood welcomes first chiropractor
Veterans Day photos
Wadena County shooting sports state results
Terry Farber remembers cross country teams

Wednesday, November 20, 2024

Staples World

Staples, Minnesota $1.25

Headed to state football championship Staples-Motley flooded US Bank Stadium in Minneapolis on Nov. 15, and will do it again on Friday, Nov. 22, at 4 p.m., because the Cardinals won their semifinal game 36-24 against Chatfield. (Photo by Staples-Motley School District)

Council goes deeper on feral cat issue

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

Cheryl Hayes told the Staples City Council that getting feral cats spayed or neutered can be a better way to control the population than randomly killing the cats.

At the Nov. 12 council meeting, Hayes, a Staples resident and member of the PAWS animal rescue and adoption service, said that trapping the cats, getting them spayed or neutered, then releasing them back into the community allows them to occupy the habitat that might otherwise go to breeding cats.

"Trap and release is more effective than trapping and killing," said Hayes.

Hayes thought one reason there is a bigger issue now is that a mild winter allowed more kittens to survive, and noted one cat who had 13 kittens. She said 10 of those kittens were spayed and neutered. Hayes said some of the cats that have been trapped are tame enough to adopt.

The council asked about the costs of getting surgeries for the wild cats. With the death of veterinarian Dr. Bridget King, Hayes said she was not sure if the PAWS group would continue at the same level they had done in the past.

Council member Mary Jo Goff said the people who feed the wild cats should be more responsible, saying that she consideres people who feed the cats to be the owners of the cats.

"If you are outside feeding them, they're yours," said Goff.

Council member Doug Case also said there is a house full of cats in Staples and wondered if the Humane Society could be contacted to force some action.

Street assessments

The Council reviewed assessments for the street project on 2nd Ave. NE. A property assessment determined that the project increased the value of each home along the street

See **COUNCIL** on page 12a

SMES Veteran's Day program

Kindergarten and first grade students at Staples-Motley Elementary School opened their Veterans Day program Nov. 11 with song, the Presentation of the Colors and the Pledge of Alligiance. (Staples World photo by Janice Winter)

Staples-Motley unveils "The NEST"

Renovated gym, community fitness space and walking track

Shane Tappe,
Superintendent
Staples-Motley School District

Staples-Motley School District announces the grand opening of The NEST, a newly renovated gymnasium that now features a community walking track. Completed in partnership with Lakewood Health System, this state-of-the-art facility reflects the theme "Powered by Purpose," supporting both the school's athletic programs and the broader wellness of the community.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony will take place Monday, December 2, at 8:30 a.m. in The NEST at Staples-Motley High School, with key district leaders, project partners and community members in attendance to commemorate this momentous occasion.

"The NEST is more than just a space for athletics - it's a commitment to both student success and community health," said Shane Tappe. "This project reflects our dedication to providing top-tier facilities for our students while also offering a space where community members of all ages can stay active and healthy."

"Our partnership with the Staples-Motley School District, embodied in The NEST, reflects a shared purpose: empowering health, education and community well-being," said Lisa Bjerga, Lakewood President and CEO. "This project creates opportunities for brighter futures and a

See **NEST** on page 12a

Home entrance nearly complete

Finishing touches are being made to the entrance of The NEST on 3rd Street NE, which will become the varsity gym, formerly called the South Gym. A lighted sign is above the entrance, with a view to the second floor walking track. Also going up in the entry way are trophy cases and Staples-Motley Athletic Hall of Fame memorabilia. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

Weather

2024
This Week's Forecast

	High	Low	Cond.
Nov. 20	30	28	Snow
Nov. 21	34	22	Cloudy
Nov. 22	29	21	Cloudy
Nov. 23	30	24	M. Cloudy
Nov. 24	35	24	Cloudy
Nov. 25	30	20	Cloudy
Nov. 26	28	21	M. Cloudy

Last Year, 2023

	High	Low	Cond.
Nov. 20	39°	37	Rain
Nov. 21	33	31	M. Sunny
Nov. 22	45	27	Sunny
Nov. 23	22	16	Sunny
Nov. 24	21	15	Sunny
Nov. 25	19	11	Cloudy
Nov. 26	28	19	Cloudy

Average Temps:
H = 32° Low = 18°

Compiled by Dale Hausmann, WCCO's Staples area Weatherwatcher

Public Notices

Todd Cty Recount
9A

Obituaries

Connie Hoffert
Sherry Mueller
Bruce Quinn

Staples Police report

Nov. 4, Staples Police responded to Holiday for a report of shoplifting. Police cited Curtis Phipps, 47, for theft.

Oct. 4, Staples Police assisted Minnesota State Patrol with dispatching a deer on US Highway 10 and Frontage Road.

Nov. 5, Staples Police received a report of a restraining order violation. Police sent the report to the city attorney for charging and possible violations of release conditions.

Nov. 5, Staples Police assisted the Todd County Sheriff's Office on a traffic stop with an individual that had felony theft warrants out of Morrison County. The TCSO arrested Daniel Marsh, 41, and transported to a Morrison County deputy.

Nov. 5, Staples Police assisted the Minnesota State Patrol with a rollover crash near the intersection of Highway 210 and County Road 21. State Patrol made an arrest on an adult male for driving under the influence of an alcoholic beverage. Brandon Schultz, 38, was arrested.

Nov. 7, Staples Police were dispatched to Lakewood Care Center to take a report of possible threats. Police met with Lakewood Staff and followed up with the the reported person and ex-employee.

Nov. 7, Staples Police observed an open door at the Love Hotel. Building was searched, no one found inside.

Nov. 8, Staples Police responded to assist the Wadena County Sheriff's Department with a suspect reported to be fleeing in a motor vehicle. The suspect came to a stop at a residence on the 9000 block of 106th Street SW, Motley. Police assisted on scene until the suspect, Joseph Roggenkamp, 42, was taken into custody. The Wadena County Sheriff's Department transported the suspect to the Wadena County Detention Center to be held on charges of fleeing in a motor vehicle. Also responding to assist was the Todd County Sheriff's Department.

Nov. 10, Staples Police were dispatched to Lakewood Health System emergency room to take a report of a dog bite. Police met with the complainant who reported her daughter was bit by dog and it occurred in Cass County. Police spoke with Cass County Dispatch/Deputy and the information was forwarded.

Motley area law enforcement

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

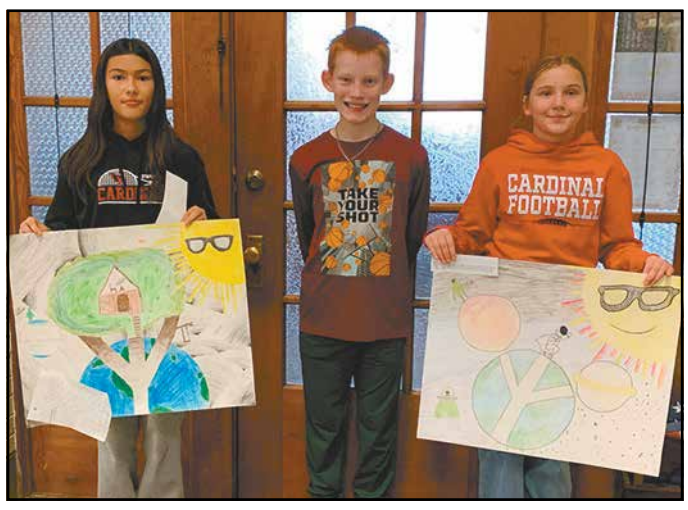
Nov. 12 - Motley Police received a report of an accident at 1218 Hwy 10 S, Motley.

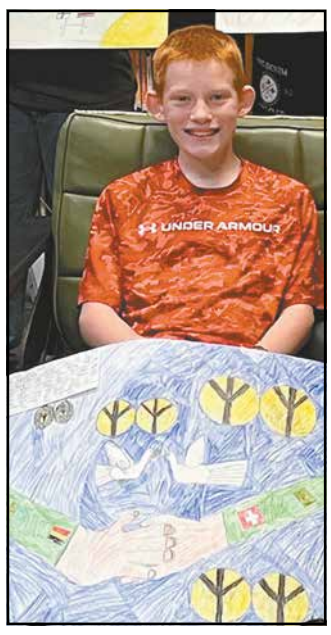
Nov. 11 - Motley Police received a complaint involving a juvenile at the 200 block of Hwy 10 W, Motley.

Sacred Heart Area School Peace Posters

Sixth grade students in Abbie Detloff's class at Sacred Heart Area School recently participated in the Lions Peace Poster contest. Students posed with their poster interpretation of the theme "Peace Without Limits." Front, left to right: Ali Reese, Emily Becker, Brynn Stevens, Porter Lehner. Back: Sherry Frisk, Motley Lions, Simon Uselman, Rita Uselman, Mavis Haehnel, James Uselman, Bently Pettit, Riley Lothson, Mary Kobliska, Staples Lions.

Right: Winning posters were announced to the students Nov. 12. Left to right: Ali Reese, second place; James Uselman, 1st place and Emily Becker, third place. James' poster (shown far right) was already sent into district competition. All students received Dairy Queen coupons with the winning posters receiving monetary prizes. (Staples World photos by Janice Winter)



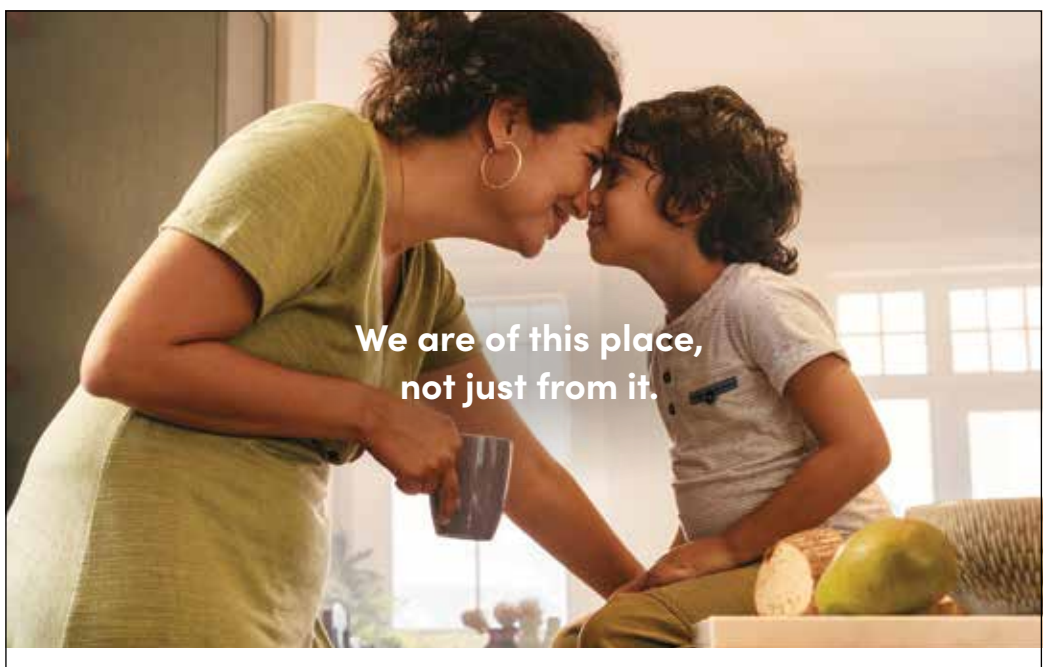


James Uselman with his poster.

Motley Area Food Shelf receives donation from 3M

The first Staples 3M Club Charity Golf Tournament was held Sept. 28, at The Vintage Golf Course in Staples, with all proceeds, after expenses, going to the food shelves in Motley and Staples. A total of $4,000 was raised (split between the two food shelves), which included matching funds from the plant.

Pictured at left, from left, are Jeff Booth, 3M Plant Manager; Reggy Thompson, plant supervisor; Bob Stracek; Sherry Frisk, Motley Food Shelf Director; Chris Erickson, Scott Lenk, Mike Serich, Darrell Hoemberg, 3M employees. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



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Jennifer Person is first chiropractor at Lakewood Health

Jennifer Person, DC

Lakewood Health System, Staples, welcomes Dr. Jennifer Person as the first chiropractor and acupuncturist to join the Lakewood Health System team.

Originally from Brainerd, Person has undergraduate degrees from Central Lakes College, Hamline University and Northwestern Health Sciences University, a Doctorate of Chiropractic Science degree from Northwestern Health Sciences University, a dry needling certification through Structure Function, and an acupuncture certification from Northwestern Health Sciences University. Dr. Person completed her residency at Northwestern Health Sciences University – Marty Chiropractic in Eagan.

As a chiropractor, Dr. Person is experienced in multiple chiropractic techniques, including activator (non-force) adjusting, drop table adjusting, traction and diversified techniques. She has extensive experience working with patients who have been in auto accidents, those needing workers compensation care, and she has additional education in pediatric and prenatal adjusting. She often uses natural techniques such as cupping, Kinesio taping, massage and ultrasound to accompany her care. Dr. Person has a certification in dry needling with a focus in sports medicine and she has been practicing acupuncture since 2009 and continues professional development in traditional Chinese acupuncture techniques. She is skilled in acupuncture for chronic pain, pregnancy, headaches and stress.

"Blending acupuncture and chiropractic care with traditional medicine will create a powerful integrative approach to care," said Dr. Person. "Chiropractic adjustments help with spinal alignment and musculoskeletal health, while traditional medicine offers diagnostic tools and medications. Together, this approach can address not just the symptom but the underlying causes of pain."

Dr. Person was featured in Central Lakes College's (CLC) alumni magazine, The Ripple Effect, and named one of CLC's 75 Outstanding Alumni. She was recognized in Minnesota Monthly magazine as one of the state's Top 100 Chiropractors for nine consecutive years and was featured in the Fall 2015 Issue of Her Voice. Dr. Person was featured in Lakes Country Journal, and she was inducted into the Brainerd High School Hall of Fame as a Legendary Woman in 2024.

Dr. Person contributes to the community as a member of the Brainerd Rotary, sings with The Legacy Chorale of Greater Minnesota, and is a piano accompanist for various churches and community organizations. She currently serves as Vice President of the Legacy Chorale. In addition to caring for people through chiropractic, Dr. Person's passions include piano, singing, family, cooking, and travel.

Dr. Person will be seeing patients at Lakewood's Pillager clinic. To schedule an appointment, call 218-894-8259. No referrals are necessary, and you do not need to be a Lakewood patient to receive chiropractic care.

Wilkins named to youth services post by LSS

Jaime Wilkins

Jaime Wilkins has been named associate vice president of Economic Opportunity & Youth Support Services for St. Paul-based Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota (LSS), among the largest human service organizations in Minnesota.

"I am thrilled to step into this new leadership role to advance our work in providing tools and support that empower Minnesotans to overcome obstacles and live full, abundant and self-reliant lives," she said. "We know that housing stability for youth and families, financial wellness, meaningful employment and supportive, healthy communities are all critically-important social determinants of health and we are focused on strengthening all of those important elements in people's lives."

With more than two decades of experience in housing and human services, she will provide leadership and direction in her new role for a wide range of services including Youth Services, Financial Services, Employment Services, Housing Services, and Refugee Services. She will work with leaders across the organization to cultivate and sustain commitment to the organization's mission and values.

Most recently, she served as senior director of Housing Services with Lutheran Social Service, expanding housing services to Minnesotans experiencing homelessness, supporting policy development for children and families, securing grants, creating new partnerships, empowering teams and developing emerging leaders. She also serves as a key leader on the Pan-African Employee Resource Group at Lutheran Social Service.

"Jaime has been instrumental in developing and expanding essential services to support housing stability, health and family wellbeing for Minnesotans across the state," said Alexis Oberdorfer, senior vice president of Services for Lutheran Social Service of Minnesota. "Her leadership and expertise have earned recognition from our state, county and city partners. She's an exceptional colleague and we're excited for the creativity, energy, compassion and leadership that she brings to her new role."

Wilkins is also a member of the HousingLink Board of Directors in Minneapolis and serves as vice president for the Suburban Metro Continuum of Care in the Twin Cities.

Wilkins earned her bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education, Child Development and Family Studies from Concordia University in St. Paul, and a master's degree in Human Services and Leadership of Organizational Management from Capella University in Minneapolis.

Wilkins resides in Staples, where she enjoys kayaking, living near the Crow Wing River and spending time with her grandchildren.

Mystery photo

Hello readers. This week's archive photo is from 1978. 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.

Looking back

75 Years Ago - 1949

∘ Nov. 24, 1949 - Staples' Male Chorus is the new name of the men's choral organization in Staples. By an unanimous vote of the members at the meeting Monday evening, Nov. 21, the group decided to change the name. The chorus had been known as the Staples Men's Civic Chorus.

∘ Nov. 24, 1949 - Workmen of the Staples City Water and Light Department have been busy the past week hanging the new overhead Christmas lights which will be turned on for the first time Thanksgiving night.

The committee of the Civic & Commerce Association, together with the water and light department, has purchased the lights which will be permanent holiday lighting for Staples, and which can be added to each year.

The 36" Santa face is of plastic, and faces either way along the route of Second Avenue. The lights start near the west end of Second Avenue, and extend to the alley between Sixth and Seventh streets this year. They will be lighted, circled with an evergreen wreath, and attached to rope which is lighted with colored bulbs.

∘ Nov. 24, 1949 - A total of 460 deer licenses were sold in Staples before Nov. 14. The breakdown of the licenses, and the places where they were purchased is as follows ;Dennehey Pure Oil Station, 250; Anderson Hardware, 210; Coast to Coast Store, 60; Haskin's Service Station, 40.

Very few deer were shot by local hunters, as seemed to be the case with most of the hunters.

Radio newscasters predicted before the season opened that only 25 percent of the people hunting would get a deer, and they were right, according to the reports coming through daily newspapers and radio commentators since the close of the season.

- o -
Compiled by
Dawn Timbs
- o -

50 Years Ago - 1974

∘ Nov. 21, 1974 - The Senior Class of Motley High School promises you a treat Nov. 22 and 23 when they will present a two-act western melodrama entitled "Blazing Guns at Roaring Gulch" or "The Perfumed Badge."

The cast includes Bruce Blake as the amazing hero, Harry Heartstone, and as the notorious Snipe Vermin. Sheriff Willie Lovelace, the sweetest lawman to ever wear a badge, will be played by Barb Hought. Sue Schull plays the evil Widow Black, and her good-hearted stepson Barney is played by Kim Jenkins. An admirable performance as a country hick with a guitar is given by Scott Rollins.

Other supporting cast members are Brian Alt, Coleen Swecker, and Janice Kristenson. Melodrama music is contributed by Elena Welle and the play is directed by Pamela Sachs.

∘ Nov. 21, 1974 - Bruce Paskewitz of A-1 4-H Club of Browerville, was elected President of the Todd County 4-H Leaders Council at its November meeting.

∘ Nov. 21, 1974 - The 1974 Speech contest winners in the Cass Soil and Water Conservation District are Brett Bacon of Leader; and Randy Rittenhouse, Julie Ackerson and Lesley Jones, all of Motley.

∘ Nov. 21, 1974 - Karen Stevens of Staples is a member of the newly formed Area Orchestra of Brainerd. Miss Stevens is a violinist. She is the daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Edward Stevens.

∘ Nov. 21, 1974 - Showing at the Staples Theatre Nov. 20-23, "What's Up, Doc?" starring Barbra Streisand and Ryan O'Neal.

∘ Nov. 21, 1974 - Letter to the Editor from Rueben Hasselberg of Rt. 2, Staples: After reading and hearing so many complaints about our fellowmen and the state of affairs, it was refreshing to hear this good news and I would like to share it with you.

On the weekend of Nov. 10, some 70 people came to the local Methodist Church from Wisconsin, Iowa. North and South Dakota to share what Christ meant in their lives. There were bankers, contractors, coaches, school teachers, nurses, secretaries, housewives, people from all walks of life.

Among these people was a former race car driver who had suffered a broken neck and was paralyzed from the chest down. Reservations for him and his wife and a couple who came along to help them were made at the Sunset Motel. When Stella Perry of the housing committee went down Sunday morning to pay the two units and two nights' lodging, the motel people refused to take any money.

This is to me a real witness of brotherly love and made me think of things Jesus might have said, like, "I needed a place to rest and you gave me a bed. Whatever you do for the least of these my children you do it unto me," and he might have added, "Seeing things like this makes my dying for humanity worthwhile."

25 Years Ago - 1999

∘ Nov. 25, 1999 - Now showing at the Staples Cinema Nov. 24 - 28, a New James Bond movie, "The World Isn't Big Enough." ages 1 - 10, $2.50 and Age 11 & older $3.50.

∘ Nov. 25, 1999 - Amy Verlennich and the Quance Family Singers will present "In the Spirit of Christmas," a special fundraising concert Sunday, Dec. 5, at 2 p.m., at Centennial Auditorium in Staples.

Proceeds for this "gift of talent" concert from ticket sales, intermission sales and all private donations will go to the lighting and rigging fund. Plans are being made to purchase new equipment in the first few months of 2000.

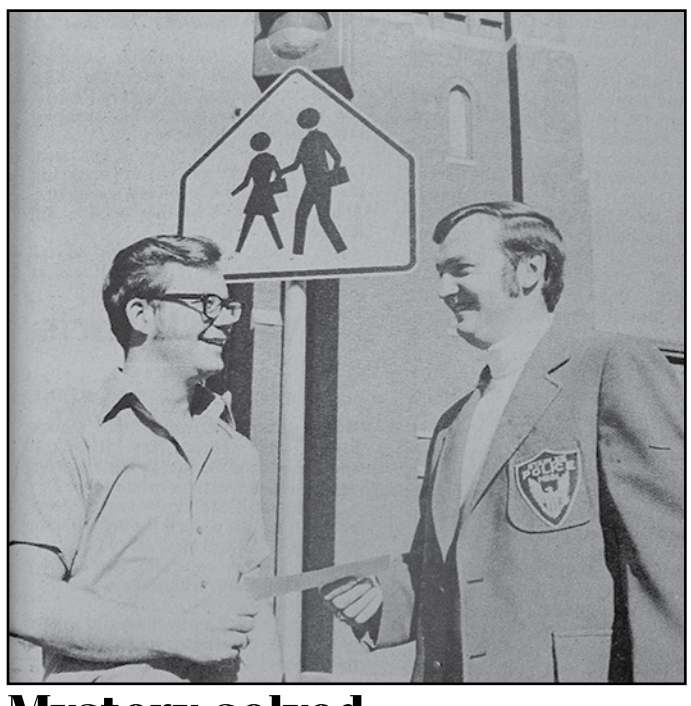
"In order to maintain the quality of performances we've had, such as the Gary Burghoff show of 'The Last of the Red Hot Lovers,' we need this equipment," said Margo Hoemberg, Centennial Box Office Manager and chair of the ISD #2170 Centennial Support Society, sponsor of the event.

∘ Nov. 25, 1999 - The first Festival of Trees event attracted young and young at heart to view the various styles and decorating ideas with 39 different trees displayed.

10 Years Ago - 2014

∘ Nov. 20, 2014 - The Lions Peace Poster is an international competition which invites students ages 11-13 to create a poster on the topic of world peace. The contest was sponsored locally by the Staples '93 Lions and the Motley Lions. Molly Reiffenberger and Kasey Odden, Motley Staples Middle School teachers, were project coordinators for the students. The 2014 winners were Ava Schneider - first; Nita DeWald - second; and Jasmine Braith. third.

∘ Nov. 20, 2014 - Staples Softball Association and the City of Staples Parks Department present - John Berry Christmas in America Tour, Saturday, Dec. 6, 7 p.m., at Town's Edge Event Center, Staples. The concert is a fundraiser for the Dower Lake Makeover.



Mystery solved

Last week's mystery photo published in the Oct. 31, 1974 edition of the Staples World featured Gary Mueller (left), commander of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1910 in Staples, handing a $50 check to H. Michael Carr, Staples chief of police. The contribution was toward the purchase of the school-crossing warning signs that had recently been erected at two school crossings on North Fourth Street.

Kathy Odden of Staples correctly identified both, as did John Kopp of Staples, who noted that Gary Mueller was a beloved employee at the Staples World for many years. Thanks for participating in our Mystery Photo.

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Letters to the Editor

Sports teams making us proud

What a great fall to be a Cardinal athlete, coach or fan.

Great seasons for all sports - tennis, volleyball, girls and boys cross country (Audrey Brownell is the girls state champion) and the football team who won three challenging games to put them in the state championship.

Congratulations to all teams and individuals who represented our communities and surrounding areas so well.

You made us proud.

Also kudos to Mark Anderson who tirelessly wrote and photographed Staples-Motley fall sport events

Bill Bates
Staples, Minn.

Inspiring the future

The Staples-Motley football team pauses before taking the field for their homecoming game earlier this year, to slap hands with Preston Paskewitz. (Submitted photo)

Tariffs are unnecessary burdens

Many of you know me as a Democrat, but this issue goes beyond party lines. Tariffs should concern all Americans, regardless of political affiliation, because they impact our everyday lives, our wallets, and our economy.

Let's clear up a common misconception: tariffs aren't paid by the country of origin. They're a tax on imports that ends up being passed on to American consumers. That means the price of goods we rely on - from electronics to appliances - rises, straining household budgets and forcing families to pay more out of pocket.

Take microchips, for example. Tariffs on these critical imports would increase costs across the board for products like phones, computers, and cars. Since we currently lack the capacity to produce enough chips domestically, we're left with few alternatives, which drives up prices even further. And while tariffs may seem like a quick fix, the reality is they only work if we have the local manufacturing power to replace imports, which, right now, we don't.

Additionally, tariffs can set off a dangerous cycle of "trade revenge," where other countries respond with tariffs on American goods. This retaliatory cycle hurts our industries and makes it harder for American companies to compete globally, putting American jobs and business growth at risk.

For all of these reasons, I urge you to contact your representative and ask them to appeal to President Trump to avoid tariffs as a trade strategy. The costs to everyday Americans are simply too high, and the long-term economic risks too great. Instead of tariffs, let's support policies that keep goods affordable and allow our economy to grow without unnecessary burdens.

Thank you for considering this bipartisan call to action.

A. John Peters
Browerville, Minn.

Voting is a Privilege

We are very fortunate that in our country we have the right to vote. It is disappointing when individuals disrespect that right.

This year, and in past years, a number of townships had ballots with write-ins listing unqualified family members such as young children and grandchildren, cartoon characters, ovals filled in but no name listed, etc. Election judges must go through all the ballots to find those write-ins and tally them for the county. This is very time consuming.

Please be considerate and remember that voting is a privilege that should not be disrespected.

Bonnie Thoele
Staples, Minn.

Project 2025

As a retired educator, I am very concerned about Project 2025 plans for eliminating the Department of Education, Title I programs and Head Start.

Please, be informed. Look it up.

Cheryl Koll
Motley, Minn.

Quote of the week

"A fool thinks himself to be wise, but a wise man knows himself to be a fool."
— William Shakespeare

Quote of the week

"Courage is the first of human qualities because it is the quality which guarantees the others."
— Aristotle

Staples featured in New York City

An acquaintance of Colleen Frost sent this photo from New York City, showing an entire wall of the Cabana Magazine that featured the Batcher Block Opera House, displayed at the Mulberry Iconic Magazine shop in lower Manhatten, New York City.

We cover elite, not elitism

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

Last week our newspaper devoted five of our 12 pages to two stories: the state football game and the Batcher Block Opera House being featured in an international magazine.

It is incredibly rare for any small town to have two such high level stories, especially in one week. One of the jobs of the newspaper is to point out when something reaches such an elite level. When something big happens in the community, we need to go big to point that out.

But also as a small town, I would like to point out that those stories aren't any more important than the other stories we cover every week, they just happen to be our opportunity to point out that living in a small town does not mean we have to be small minded.

This topic came up when my daughter Norah was being sworn in as a lawyer this fall, after passing the Minnesota Bar Exam. Her grandmother attended and asked if this puts her into elite status, and does that make her an elitist?

For some reason, I had this answer already in my head.

"If a person earns their way to a higher status, it makes them elite. They are not elitist unless they think this status makes them better than other people."

As long as people stay humble and true to their morals, the whole community should celebrate these triumphs, such as a state team, academic success, or rising to a level that gets attention around the world.

When small town people do great things, that is newspaper gold. It's fun when the world finds out how great we are, but it is more important for the local people to know about the great things our community is capable of achieving, and realize that they are one of us.

The people's seat in the legislature

Above, Norah Anderson with her mother Nicky and grandmother Pat Anderson, at the Minnesota Bar swearing in ceremony in October. The swearing in ceremony was conducted in the State Capitol by justices from the Minnesota Supreme Court. Just by random chance, our contingent sat in the seat of our own state representative, Mike Wiener, while attending the ceremony. Below, Staples World Editor Mark Anderson enjoys pushing Mike Wiener's buttons.

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Letters: Readers are encouraged to express their views by writing letters to the editor. Letters are verified for authenticity, so please include a name, address and phone number. Only the author's name and city will be published. Letters may be edited for spelling and grammar errors, libel, length and other factors. Private thanks, solicitations and libelous letters will not be published. Letters are printed on a space available basis. The editor reserves the right to reject letters. ***The deadline is 12 noon, Friday.*** Opinions expressed on this page do not necessarily represent the views of this newspaper.

Fairness: The Staples World tries conscientiously to report fairly and accurately. If you feel we fall short of this objective at any time, please direct your complaint to the manager whose name appears on this page.

Note to Advertisers: Advertisers should check their ad following first publication. This newspaper shall not be liable for failure to publish an ad or for the typographic error or errors in publication except to the extent of the cost of the ad for the first day's insertion. Adjustment for errors is limited to the cost of that portion of the ad wherein the error occurred. The publisher reserves the right to cancel any advertisement at any time.

Member: Minnesota Newspaper Association, MCAN Advertising

Mark Your Calendar

November 20

Women's AA Mtg Wednesdays, from 6 - 7 p.m., at Staples Church of Christ, on Hwy 210, south of Staples.

November 21

'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

November 22

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.

November 24

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

November 25

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

November 26

Wadena County Republicans Mtgs are held on the fourth Tuesday of the month at the Wadena VFW at 7 p.m. If you wish to eat early you may order from the menu prior to meeting.

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.

'GriefShare' Grief Support Group is held on Tuesdays from 6 - 8 p.m., at Motley Free Methodist Church basement, through Dec. 17. For more information, call 218-352-6888.

November 28

Free Thanksgiving Meals will be available at Timbers Event Center in Staples on Thursday, Nov. 28, from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Sign up online to attend this free in-person event at www.tinyurl.com/staples-community-meals

Cardinal Calendar

SM school events

November

º **HS Musical, "The Addams Family - Updated Dates** Thursday, Nov. 21, 7 p.m.; Saturday, Nov. 23, 1:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.; and Sunday, Nov. 24, at Centennial Auditorium, Staples. Tickets available at the door or via Facebook.

December

º **MS Christmas Concert** Tuesday, Dec. 10, 6-8 p.m., Centennial Auditorium, Staples.

º **HS Christmas Concert** Thursday, Dec. 12, 7-9 p.m., Centennial Auditorium, Staples. Band, Orchestra, Choir.

Updates on the Wetland Conservation Act

From Todd County SWCD

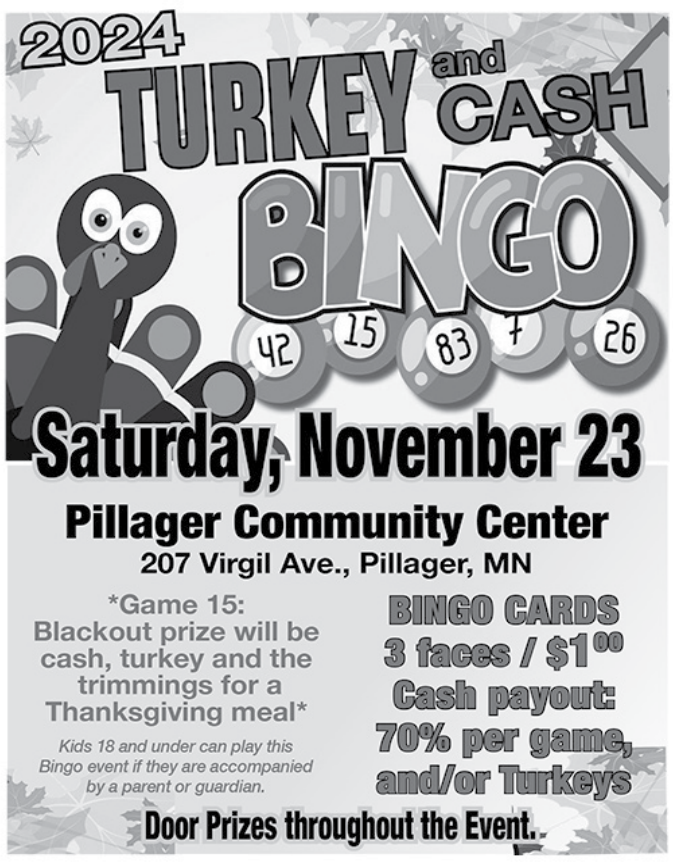
As of August 1, the Minnesota State Legislature implemented new statute changes to the Wetland Conservation Act (WCA) which regulates wetland impacts. Relevant statute changes that could affect Todd County landowners regarding WCA exemptions are briefly summarized below.

• Agricultural activities – The exemptions regarding wetlands on agricultural lands that were cropped in six of the last ten years prior to January 1, 1991 and wetlands located on pasture land meeting certain wetland type and acreage requirements was removed. New update – for wetland impacts on agricultural land authorized by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), a Certified Wetland Determination is required for the use of the Agricultural Exemption.

• Drainage – The exemption regarding wetlands on agricultural lands that were annually seeded or in a crop rotation with pasture grass, cover crop, or legumes for eight out of the ten most recent years prior to the impact was removed.

• De minimis (Wetland Fill) – Impactable wetland amounts (prior to requiring a replacement plan) were updated. New update – A replacement plan is not required for wetlands: located outside the shoreland protection zone up to one-tenth acre (4,356 square feet), wetlands located within the shoreland wetland protection zone, but beyond the shoreland building setback zone up to 100 square feet, and wetlands within the shoreland building setback zone (as defined in the local shoreland management ordinance) up to 20 square feet.

Note, the above statute updates are highlighted for relevancy, but are brief and summarized. Additional updates to the WCA were not included within this article. If you have any questions, need additional information regarding WCA updates, or have potential projects that could impact wetlands (fill, excavation, or drainage) call the Todd County Soil and Water at 320-732-2644.



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Long Prairie Area Chamber of Commerce

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Tues., Nov. 26
arrive 2 - 7:00 p.m.
Central Lakes College, Staples Campus Assembly Rm.
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Tammy Rick, 218-296-2795 for info.
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Hello World

ONLINE BIRTHS REMOVED AT THE REQUEST OF LAKEWOOD HEALTH SYSTEM.

Obituaries

Connie Hoffert

Connie Jo Hoffert, 73, of Staples, passed away the morning of November 3, 2024, after living with cancer for three years and three months. She was surrounded by her loving husband and six children.

Connie was born in Iowa City, Iowa on March 19, 1951, to Forrest and Margaret Bailey. She was their oldest surviving child and only daughter. She attended Olivet Nazarene University in Bourbonnais, Illinois where she met her husband, Wayne Hoffert. They were married on August 14, 1971, in Celina, Ohio.

Connie created a cozy home, raising six children with ingenuity and resourcefulness. She was also a surrogate mother to many others in need of comfort and support. Demonstrating a profound resiliency and ability to endure, Connie lived her life with grit, hope for another quilt or book to finish and faith in her eternal salvation.

Connie was gifted with a beautiful mezzo soprano voice, a generous heart, a passion for knowledge and the desire to share God's message of love. A woman with a pioneering spirit, Connie practiced the traditional skills of sewing, quilting, gardening, baking and letter writing. As an artist, she utilized her talents to enrich the lives of everyone around her. Lamplighter Community Theatre and Staples-Motley High School Theater benefited from her vision and creativity, as she spent hours sewing elaborate costumes for yearly productions. Connie also provided daycare in her home and later worked as a secretary at Staples-Motley High School.

Connie is survived by her devoted husband of 53 years, Wayne; her six children, Amy (Chris) Van Norman, Isaac (Michelle) Hoffert, Amanda (David) Rufledt, Bethany (Sheldon) Hoffert, Peter (Lorren) Hoffert and Jared Hoffert and her nine precious grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by one grandson, Henry Rufledt; her parents and two older brothers, Steven and Michael Bailey.

In remembrance of Connie's life and love, consider donating a book to a Little Free Library in your community.

Arrangements were by the Brenny Family Funeral Chapel, Staples.

w48c A00006B2024NV20

Bruce Quinn

Bruce Quinn, 94, of Motley passed away November 1, 2024, at Lakewood Health System hospital.

A Celebration of Life service will be held at a later date.

Bruce was born May 15, 1930 to Muton and Roseamay Quinn in Louisiana.

He is survived by his wife, Gayle, of Motley; five children, eight grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

w48c A00006B2024NV20

Sherry Mueller

Beloved mom, sister, aunt and grandma, Sherry Mueller, 73, passed away November 7, 2024, with her two children by her side.

A private funeral and burial were held in Grand Rapids.

Sherry's early years were spent in Randall, before moving to Staples and graduating in 1969. After her children were born, she was a homemaker. Reflections of growing up meant family dinners, laughter and love. She demonstrated and instilled kindness, humor, strength and strong morals. In 2002, shortly after the birth of her beloved grandchildren, she moved to Grand Rapids.

While faith and family were always the center of her world, Sherry also enjoyed reading, Bible study and was an avid researcher of many different topics from politics to home remedies. Although she is no longer here in body, Sherry's spirit will watch over us until the day she can once again hug us tight and hold our cheeks in her hands telling us she loves us.

Sherry is survived by one son, Scott Bachmann; one daughter, Darcy (Chris) Rau; two grandchildren, Brooks and Brady; two brothers, Gary and Randy (Shirley) Mueller and one nephew, Dan.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Melvin "Whitey" and Elaine Mueller.

Arrangements were with the Rowe Funeral Home and Cremation Services of Grand Rapids. To sign the online guestbook or send condolences visit www.rowefuneralhomeandcrematory.com.

w48p A00006B2024NV20

Staples Area Church Directory

Staples

Staples Alliance
1512 8th St. NE, Staples 218-894-2891
Pastor Zach Jones
Jonny Olson, Associate Pastor
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:
Adult Bible Study .....6:30 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 and Fr. Rick Aubol
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
Pastor Vicar Paul Koehler
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
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.

St. Michael
280 1st Ave S, Motley.....218-894-2296
Fr. Aaron Kuhn and Fr. Rick Aubol
MASS:
Sunday.....10:30 a.m. (May - Nov.)
Saturday ..... 4:00 p.m. (Dec - April)

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 Community Church
5 miles N on Cty Rd 26 (Nimrod tar)
Pastor James Middendorf, 320-260-4952
Sunday Service ..... 9:00 a.m.
Bible Study ..... 10:30 a.m.

St. Frederick Catholic Church
20 Mason Avenue NW
Vermda;e.....218-894-2296
info@marysacc.org
Fr. Aaron Kuhn and Fr. Rick Aubol
MASS:
Saturday .....6:00 p.m

St. Hubert Catholic Church
Bluegrass.....218-894-2296
info@marysacc.org
Fr. Aaron Kuhn and Fr. Rick Aubol
MASS:
Sunday Service..... 10:00 a.m. (Dec. - April)
Saturday .....4:00 p.m. (May - Nov.)

Leaf River Township

The Old Country Church
Leaf River Twp., Wadena County Rd. 6
Info. 218-837-5690 Call first.

Wadena

St. Helen's Episcopal Church
22 Dayton Ave. SW, Wadena, MN
218-631-3928
Sunday Worship.....10:00 a.m.

"Focus on Giving Thanks"

Pastor Chris Mathiason, Faith Lutheran, Staples and Bethany Lutheran, Cushing

November is a month to focus on Thanksgiving. If you are anything like me, that means many good organizations are sending mail asking for support to feed the hungry, care for the sick, house the refugee and even train dogs for the blind. All good things, but we also need to make choices about where we spend our money.

As we start to prepare for Christmas, where many feel pressure to give bigger and more expensive gifts, it's good for us in November to pause and give thanks for what we have. We give thanks for health, even when we are facing health challenges, we can see others in more difficult spots. We give thanks for home and family, even in the midst of housing challenges and family tension, we can see others in greater crisis or distress. We give thanks for our possessions. We try to be jealous of what others have, instead we remember that many others have less than we do.

As I give thanks I look to Psalm 121:

"I lift up my eyes to the hills-from where will my help come?

My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth."

May this November be a time where you give thanks to the one who gives us help in our time of need. Amen.

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Big plays send Cardinals to state championship game with 36-24 win over Chatfield

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

Staples-Motley will play in the state football championship after defeating Chatfield 36-24 in the state semifinal on Nov. 15. An offensive outburst in the first half turned into a defensive gem in the second half, as the Cardinals never trailed after getting out to a 16-0 lead.

Staples-Motley scored on their first four drives of the game, with clutch plays contributing to each score. After the Cardinals built up a 30-22 lead, the teams traded turnovers and stops for most of the second half.

Chatfield had been ranked number one in the state by MaxPreps and by MinnesotaScores.net. It was the second straight win against a top ranked team, after their first round win against Barnesville, ranked number one by the StarTribune.

The Cardinals were confident they could play with Chatfield.

"We knew we had a good chance if we went out and executed," said Drake Dukowitz, a Cardinal lineman.

Linebacker Luke Bjerga agreed. "The more film I watched, the more confident I got. I was not nervous by the time the game started," said Bjerga.

That confidence came down to preparation and willpower.

"I worked harder than they did," said Bjerga, "we desired it more."

Game summary

The Cardinals took the opening kickoff and started driving with Eli Rutten passing to Alex Schultz and Colbe Tappe gaining yards on the ground. They converted a short fourth down on a run by Tappe, then faced fourth and 13. Rutten hit Schultz for a 29 yard pass over the middle to the two yard line and Tappe ran it in from there. Rutten threw to Schultz for the two point conversion and an 8-0 lead.

When Chatfield got the ball, they ran four straight running plays and the Cardinals stuffed them on fourth and two for a turnover on downs. That stop was crucial because after that, Chatfield abandoned their game plan to run the ball on every play, mixing in passes for every drive.

Starting at the 39 yard line, the Cardinals earned a first down on a penalty, then Ben Tyrrell ran for 16 yards to the seven. Rutten hit Conner Kuhns for a touchdown and Turner Beachy caught a pass for the extra point and a 16-0 lead.

"They were the top ranked team, I think that hurt their pride a little," said Bjerga.

More importantly, it gave Staples-Motley an idea on how to win the game.

"They couldn't stop our offense, we just had to make one more stop and the game is over," said Bjerga. "But it took us a while to get that stop."

Chatfield responded. They passed for a first down and then two big run plays got them into the end zone to make the score 16-6.

The Cardinals went back to work with Rutten completing passes to Beachy and Schultz for first downs. They converted another 4th down play when facing 4th and seven at the 14 yard line. Rutten passed over the middle to Tappe, who dove into the end zone while making the catch for a touchdown. The Cardinals came up short on the extra point but still had a 22-6 lead.

The Cardinals were confident they could make the big plays on third and fourth down. "It's playing like we did back in recess, just 'I'll throw it up and you come down with it,'" said Bjerga.

Chatfield responded with another steady drive, scoring and converting the extra point to make the score 22-14.

The Cardinals responded quickly when Tappe burst through the middle on a run and weaved past defenders for a 51 yard touchdown run. Tyrrell caught the two point conversion to put Staples-Motley up 30-14.

Chatfield scored even quicker when they passed to an uncovered receiver who ran it in for a touchdown, making it 30-22.

Staples-Motley continued to move the ball with Beachy catching a pass and Tappe getting a big run into Chatfield territory. On third and eight, Rutten passed to Schultz on a deep pass and he fell down at the one yard line. The Cardinals were poised to score their fifth touchdown, but a fumble at the one gave the ball back.

Chatfield had a chance to tie the game before halftime. They made two big pass plays and got down to the 14 yard line. Drake Dukowitz knocked them back seven yards with a quarterback sack. On third down, Steven Petrich rushed the quarterback and forced a quick throw, where Beachy stepped in front of the pass for an interception, preserving the 30-22 lead.

At halftime, the Staples-Motley players felt they were in position to win the game.

"We were saying that this is the biggest half of our life," said Bjerga.

Second half

After both teams raced up and down the field in the first half, the Cardinals changed their defensive strategy.

"We knew what was coming, we just had to stop it," said Bjerga.

"Our coaches and defensive backs made some adjustments to what they were doing," said Dukowitz. We knew we could stop the run so they were going to throw more often. The defensive line could focus on getting to the quarterback."

On the first drive of the second half, Adrian Gomez and Bjerga blew up running plays and Chatfield missed on a pass, setting up the first punt of the entire game.

Staples-Motley moved downfield again, but a long pass by Rutten got picked off at the five yard line for a second turnover.

Chatfield started driving, but fumbled the ball and Dustin Converse recovered to get the ball back at the 39 yard line.

Staples-Motley gave it back with a fumble on their next drive.

Chatfield got backed up to the four yard line and tried to pass out of it. Beachy defended a pass play and on the next play, Dukowitz pressured the quarterback, who threw it downfield, where Schultz picked it off for an interception at the 13 yard line.

After turnovers ended their last three drives, the Cardinals made sure they got the score this time. Tappe had a 12 yard run, then punched it in for the touchdown late in the third quarter. They missed the extra point but were still up by two scores, 36-22.

Entering the fourth quarter, Chatfield started pulling out all the stops in an effort to crack the Staples-Motley defense. They drove to the Cardinal 33, but Sawyer Ferdon knocked them backwards with a sack. Tappe stopped a running play, then Dukowitz and Jacob Becker got to the quarterback for another six yard loss. On 4th and 23, Chatfield punted to the Cardinal eight.

Staples-Motley gained a few yards but were forced to punt. The snap flew past the punter and out of the end zone for a safety, making the score 36-24 and the Cardinals had to kick it back to Chatfield, who started with great field position.

Once again the defense came up big. Gomez and Converse made a stop on first down, Petrich blew up a running play on second down, and Gavin Chenoweth broke up a pass on third down. On 4th and six, Bjerga hurried the quarterback, who threw incomplete, giving the ball back to Staples-Motley.

After suffering from mistakes for much of the second half, the Cardinal offense took control of the game again, just as they had done in the first half. With 4:23 left in the game, the Cardinals were confident they could run out the clock.

"For sure we were going to run it out," said Bjerga.

Tappe gained a first down on an 11 yard run. Three plays later, Tappe gained 15 yards on 3rd and four. With Chatfield using up their time outs, the Cardinals were able to kneel down and run out the clock on their final three plays.

After an entire game of battling through tough plays, kneeling down gave the team a chance to realize they were going to the state championship.

"It didn't feel real," said Bjerga.

Playing at state

The Staples-Motley players said it was a very different feel to play at US Bank Stadium, with the Minnesota Vikings emblem on the field.

"Playing outdoors, you don't get tired at all," said Dukowitz. "In the dome, I was tired in the second quarter."

The players felt they had an advantage after playing their section final in the Fargo Dome, while Chatfield was playing their first indoor game of the season.

Another advantage for Staples-Motley was the large crowd cheering every play.

"It is super cool seeing the whole town there," said Dukowitz. "For Friday's game, there are places closing, it is great that they do that to support the team."

Team results

Staples-Motley 36, Chatfield 24

Rushing: Staples-Motley 192, Chatfield 159

Colbe Tappe 25-170, 3 TD; Ben Tyrrell 6-23, Eli Rutten 4-8, Conner Kuhns 2-2

Passing: Staples-Motley 195 yards, Chatfield 171

Eli Rutten 13-19, 195, 2 TD, 1 int.

Receiving: Alex Schultz 5-126, Turner Beachy 4-42, Tyrrell 2-6, Tappe 1-14, 1 TD; Kuhns 1-7, 1 TD

Defensive tackles (solo-assists): Luke Bjerga 4-3, Kuhns 3-6, Tappe 0-3, Steven Petrich 1-2, Noah Larson 0-2, Dustin Converse 0-2, Jacob Becker 2-2, Sawyer Ferdon 3-1, Peyton Mithun 0-2, Benet Robinson 4-1, Schultz 2-3, Beachy 3-3, Gavin Chenoweth 2-1, Tyrrell 0-2, Beau Carlson 0-1, Adrian Gomez 3-3, Drake Dukowitz 1-3, Ryan Neelan 0-1

Sacks: Dukowtiz 1.5, Bjerga 1, Ferdon 1, Becker 0.5

Interceptions: Schultz 1, Beachy 1

Tackle for loss: Ferdon 3, Dukowitz 1.5, Gomez 1, Bjerga 1, Becker 0.5

Pancake blocks: Petrich 2, Converse 2, Bjerga 1, Riley Reese 1, Dukowitz 1

Kickoffs: Schultz 5-223, Gomez 2-60

Kickoff returns: Tyrrell 3-40, Tappe 2-27

Celebrating the semifinal victory

Staples-Motley football players enjoy the win over Chatfield, before running over to get celebratory high fives from the fands in the stands. (Photos by Staples-Motley School District)

State title game Friday, Nov. 22

Staples-Motley will play for the Class AA state title on Friday, Nov. 22, at 4 p.m., at US Bank Stadium in Minneapolis.

Staples-Motley advanced with a 36-24 win over Chatfield in the semifinal. They will play Jackson County Central, who beat Kimball 34-26 in their semifinal. In that game, JCC was behind 26-20 in the fourth quarter before scoring the final two touchdowns for the win.

Walking the hallways of Staples-Motley High School while preparing for the state final is a new experience for the Staples-Motley team.

"It's surreal, almost," said player Drake Dukowitz.

"It's hard to believe," said player Luke Bjerga.

It is belief that has gotten the team this far, because they have been preparing for it for years.

"We've been talking about this for a long time," said Bjerga. "In middle school, Arden Beachy told us we were going to be the grade to do this."

Dukowitz said former coach Chris Kappler also told them they were going to be a state team.

That belief carried them through a two win season in 2021 and a winless season in 2022. They won eight games last year and are 12-0 so far this season.

After beating Barnesville and Chatfield in their first two state games, the Cardinals feel they can play with any team in the state.

"I don't think there is a team that can stop our offense," said Dukowitz. If they stop Ben, we give it to Colbe. If they stop Colbe, we can throw the ball."

The team's resiliency is another important factor in these state games.

"We have each other's backs," said Bjerga. "If we mess up one play, we will come back and make it up on the next play."

"We trust everyone is going to do their job on every play," said Dukowitz.

The team stays close off the field and they feel they are the best prepared team, watching film to find out what their opponents will be doing.

"JCC likes the dive play," said Bjerga.

"They also do a wildcat," said Dukowitz, in which a running back takes the snap and they have an extra blocker.

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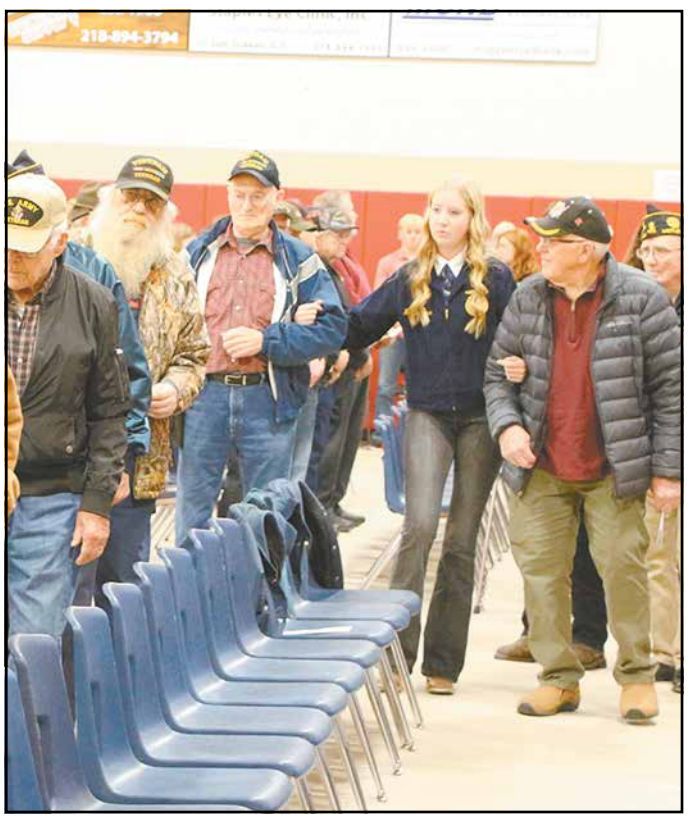
SW 2024 changed wk #41

Hands on your hearts and stand for the flag

SMES first grade students recited "I Stand" and "Dear Veteran" and sang "Your're a Grand Old Flag." Second grade students sang "God Bless America". (Staples World photos by Janice Winter)



Above, veterans are escorted into the Staples-Motley High School gym. Below, veterans listen to patriotic music by the high school choir. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)

SMES Veteran's Day program

Staples Motley Elementary School held their Veteran's Day program November 11 in the school gymnasium. Above: Third and fourth grade students saluted the military service branches providing a brief history followed by their military songs. Veterans of each branch were asked to stand for recognition. An introduction was given by Jackson Vagsness; Army, Edward Trout; Navy, Emily Bounds; Marine Corps, Brooks Twardowski; Coast Guard, Bristol Hafften; Air Force, Lizzy Potter and Space Force, Cygnus Walz.

The Presentation and Retrieval of Colors by color guard students.

State-bound football team send-off Nov. 15

The Staples-Motley football team and coaches streamed out Door #18 to an excited group of parents, grandparents and family members Nov. 15 as they entered the bus headed first to Motley and then on to US Bank Stadium.

Cardinal fans lined 4th Street in front of the Staples Community Center as the bus carrying the team is cheered on.

Below: Sacred Heart Area School students cheered on their football team from the sidewalk in front of the school. (Staples World photos by Janice Winter)

Public Notice

TODD COUNTY, MINNESOTA
— NOTICE OF RECOUNT —

Date of Notice: November 13, 2024

Notice to Candidates: Barbara Becker
Sharon Thiel

Date of Recount: Thursday, November 21, 2024

Starting Time: 9:00 A.M.

Location: Commissioner's Boardroom
Todd County Historic Courthouse
215 1st Avenue S,
Long Prairie, MN 56347

Office to be Recounted:
County Commissioner District 1

Recount Official: Denise Gaida,
Todd County Auditor/Treasurer

This recount is open to the public.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ on file
Denise Gaida
Todd County Auditor-Treasurer

48pnc

Telling stories of the great CC teams

From left, Gene Mattila, Chad Brever, Terry Farber and Dan Huebsch. (Submitted photo)

Farber was valued volunteer for Cardinal CC teams

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

After the 1998-99 Staples-Motley cross country teams were inducted into the school's athletic hall of fame, some of the team members met up with Terry Farber, to honor the many hours of volunteer work that Farber put into the team.

Coach Gene Mattila was joined by runners Chad Brever and Dan Huebsch to reminisce with Farber on Oct. 6.

Mattila said when he took over the program from Jerry Riewer, he noticed that Coach Riewer always said "we" and never said "I" when talking about the team. That was one thing he continued with the program.

Although there is no "I" in "team," there is an "I" in "winner," said Mattila, meaning that the individuals like Farber were a large part of the program.

"Terry was a part of that system, he was our go-to guy," said Mattila. "When kids got upset, I would tell them to 'go talk to Farber,'" said Mattilla.

Farber took fundraising to the community to support the teams as they were climbing in the state rankings and started winning championships. He got donations locally and as far away as some casinos in Minnesota.

Huebsch said because of the fundraising, the teams got warmup suits that made them appear to be on the cutting edge of athletic style. In addition, they had one of the largest teams among small schools in Minnesota.

"When we showed up, the other teams were intimidated," said Huebsch.

Farber said they started getting a reputation around the country. When they would go to events out of state, he would talk to people who knew about the Staples-Motley teams.

Farber was known for cheering loudly as the runners competed, while Mattila was taking notes on how to improve for the next meet. Farber remembered one time they gave him the job to read split times to the Cardinal runners, but he got reprimanded because he was yelling it too loudly and telling everyone in the race.

"I never got mad at Terry," said Mattila.

Farber was also an off-season coach, making sure the summer workouts were done correctly. Huebsch remembers doing two-a-day workouts in the summer with Farber always there because rules did not allow team coaches to be at the practices.

Huebsch said those workouts might be 12 miles in the morning and another 12 or 13 in the afternoon, meaning they ran almost a full marathon in one day and Farber was there for them.

Farber would do potato feeds for the team, getting the potatoes from area farmers and hosting meals at his house. He also brought bananas and other foods to meets so runners had nutrition after their runs.

Although Farber now sometimes struggles with memory, he said he still remembers the races that his son Charlie ran for the team.

Farber became involved in the intracies of the Staples-Motley cross country system. He remembers one year when Charlie was doing great in workouts but couldn't finish the races well. As they did with every runner on the team, Mattila and Farber started investigating what was going on with the races and found out that his heart rate was too high before the races. "He was too pumped up before the meet," said Mattila.

Terry remembers that once they figured out the issue, Charlie went out and won his race.

Farber remembers some of the legendary stories that came from that era, such as the time Jason Tholl came back and beat everyone while wearing combat boots.

Huebsch remembered road trips with Farber and his son Charlie. One year they drove to Buffalo, NY, to run in a U.S. Track and Field national event. While there, they attended a rap concert by 50 Cent and JayZ, which they thought Terry wouldn't enjoy, but he remembers having a good time.

Farber was also known for his Cardinal van, decorated with team stickers.

Huebsch and Mattila also said that Farber was not just helpful to the boys team, he felt the girls team was just as important.

While Farber reminisced with the former team, he said he could tell a lot more stories about what made his volunteer hours worthwhile.

Wadena County shooting sports teams earn medals at state tournament

The Minnesota State shooting sports & wildlife invitational was held in Alexandria in September, with 723 Minnesota youth from 59 counties attending. Minnesota youth participated in a multiple of disciplines from Archery, Air Rifle, Air Pistol, Trap, .22 Rifle, muzzleloader, silhouette, wildlife calling and skillathon.

Wadena County was well represented with 29 youth attending, bringing home a total of 49 medals.

Every county, after a designated number of educational hours, is required to present a wildlife project before a judge at the state shoot. They present their chosen project and are judged together in an oral interview.

The main focus for shooting sports is to teach youth the safe handling and keeping of firearms and archery equipment and about wildlife. To compete at state, 4-H members had to complete a specific number of hours in the disciplines of their choosing and eight hours of wildlife education. Depending on how you at the invitational, you are given an opportunity to represent the state of Minnesota at the National 4-H Shooting Sports Championships.

Team results

Wadena County Shooting Sports 2024

ARCHERY TEAMS

Senior Archery Class C Team - 3rd : Emma Malone, Coleen Malone, Ethan Snorek, JD Roggenkamp

Intermediate Archery Class C - Team 1 - 1st : Alex Leach, Asher Hoeper, John Walter, Sam Hoeper

Intermediate Archery Class C - Team 2 - 6th : Caleb Shingledecker, Hallie Wegscheid, Hazel Roggenkamp, Logan Shingledecker

Junior Archery Class C - Team 1 - 1st : Colton Huwe, Ivy Hoeper, Reed Leach, Zane Leach

Junior Archery Class C - Team 2 - 2nd : Bennett Sonenstahl, Brennen Sonenstahl, Garrett Yungbauer, Gunner Wegscheid

Junior Archery Cclass C - Team 3 - 10th : Beth Lustila, Cole Malone, Mitchel Malone, Olivia Shingledecker

TRAP TEAM

Senior trap team - 10th : Asher Hoeper, Braden Koons, Chauncey Hopp, JD Roggenkamp, Sam Hoeper

AIR RIFLE TEAMS

Junior 3 position Air Rifle Team - 7th : Bennett Sonenstahl, Brennen Sonenstahl, Beth Lustila, Ivy Hoeper

Intermediate 3 position Air Rifle Team - 4th : Alex Leach, Garrett Yungbauer, Reed Leach, Zane Leach

Intermediate Air Pistol (2 hand) Team - 2nd : Asher Hoeper, Reed Leach, Sam Hoeper, Zane Leach

Individual Medal winners

Junior Archery Class C: Brennen Sonenstahl 4th, Ivy Hoeper 6th, Colton Huwe 7th

Intermediate Archery Class C: Sam Hoeper 2nd, Asher Hoeper 3rd, John Walter 5th, Caleb Shingledecker 7th, Alex Leach 10th

3 Position Air Rifle: Alex Leach 1st (intermediate), Reed Leach 4th (Junior)

Junior Air Pistol (2 hand): Reed Leach 1st, Zane Leach 6th, Bennett Sonenstahl 9th

Intermediate Air Pistol (2 hand): Asher Hoeper 7th, Sam Hoeper 10th

Senior Air Pistol (2 hand): JD Roggenkamp 9th

Standard Air Rifle: Alex Leach 3rd (intermediate)

Air Pistol (1 Hand): Alex Leach 1st (Intermediate)

Silhouette Pistol: Sam Hoeper 3rd (intermediate)

Silhouette Rifle: Alex Leach 1st (Intermediate), Reed Leach 3rd (junior), Zane Leach 6th (junior)

Wildlife Calling: JD Roggenkamp 4th (Senior), Garrett Yungbauer 9th (Junior)

Skillathon: Garrettt Yungbauer 8th (Junior)

Junior archery team 1st place at state

From left, Ivy Hoeper, Reed Leach, Zane Leach; Missing from photo, Colton Huwe.

Intermediate archery state champions

Intermediate archery team photo, from left, Alex Leach, Sam Hoeper, John Walter and Asher Hoeper.

Hoops season started

Staples-Motley girls baskeball team started practice Nov. 11, wrestling and boys basketball practices started Nov. 18.

Wadena County shooting sports team at state

Front row: Mary Roggenkamp (wildlife coach) Zane Leach, Reed Leach, Bennett Sonenstahl, Cole Malone, Garrett Yungbauer, Gunner Wegscheid, Mitchel Malone, Beth Lustila, Macey Hoeper (wildlife coach); Middle row: Tim Leach (Archery coach) Ivy Hoeper, Brennen Sonenstahl, Alex Leach, Sam Hoeper, John Walter, Anita Hoeper (Archery, wildlife coach) Kevin Hoeper (Archery coach); Back row: Hazel Roggenkamp, Isaac Johnson, JD Roggenkamp, Emma Malone, Coleen Malone, Asher Hoeper.

Not Pictured: Steve Benson (shotgun, air gun coach) Logan Shingledecker, Caleb Shingledecker, Olivia Shingledecker, Hallie Wegscheid, Colton Huwe, Ethan Snorek, Chauncey Hopp and Braden Koons. (Submitted photos)

Gratitude on the field

As the clock ticks down to victory, Staples-Motley coaches give hugs to Eli Rutten (5) and Turner Beachy (18), both of who played a big role in the passing game. (Photos by Staples-Motley School District)

Colbe Tappe breaks a tackle as he emerges into the secondary for a big run.

Tappe tips a player upside down for a tackle.

The Staples-Motley offensive line controlled the line of scrimmage, knocking defenders back on many plays.

Eli Rutten tosses a pass.

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Conner Kuhns concentrates on a catch in the end zone.

Ben Tyrrell squeezes the ball as he scores a two point conversion in the purple end zone.

Schools honor veterans

The Motley American Legion carries in the flags for the Veterans Day program at Staples-Motley High School/Middle School on Nov. 11, as the crowd stands at attention. Below, veterans are escorted into the gym by Staples-Motley FFA members. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)

NEST continued from page 1a

Open Dec. 2

stronger community, benefiting generations to come."

The renovation includes modernized athletic equipment and a community walking track designed for year-round use, underscoring the district's purpose-driven mission to foster both physical and community wellness.

Community members are invited to join the ribbon-cutting ceremony and take part in a tour of the updated facilities. To RSVP, visit our event website at https://www.eventcreate.com/e/thenest.

The NEST is located ajacent to the Staples-Motley High School gymnasium, now the Legacy Gym (corner of 3rd St. NE and 3rd Ave. NE), in Staples. The NEST signage was completed Nov. 8.

An even bigger sign announces The NEST on the south side of the newly renovated gymnasium.

COUNCIL continued from page 1a

Council making sure of assessment

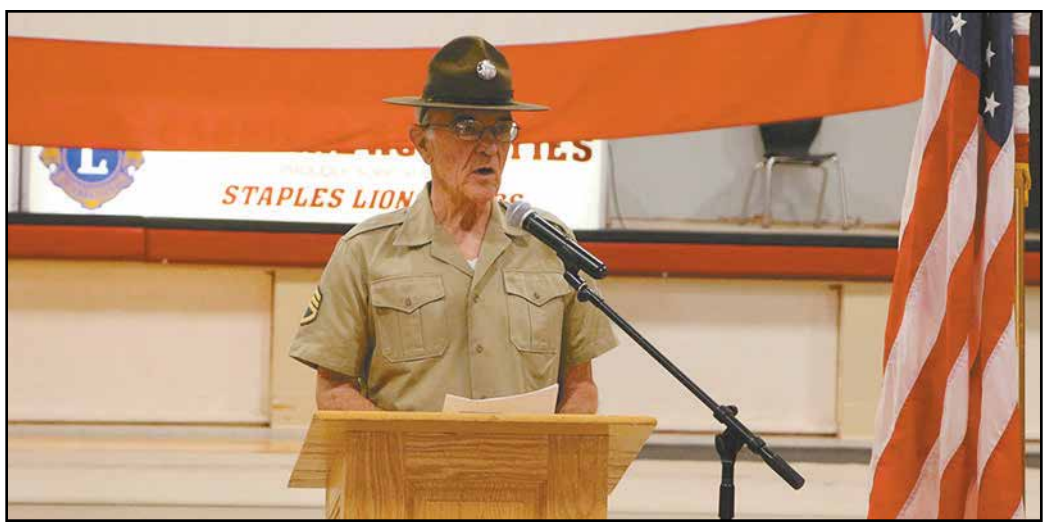
by $10,000 to $13,000. The benefit to the Staples-Motley High School was estimated at 25 cents to 35 cents per square foot because the project increased fire suppression for the entire school site.

The final tax assessment matched the rates of the assessment. The project also came in slightly less than the original estimate.

The council agreed to remeasure the driveway of one of the homes before finalizing the assessment. Gary Paskewitz questioned the square footage that was assigned to the driveway portion of his property. The council passed the resolution contingent on the measurements of the property.

In other news, the council

- Accepted $5,000 donation from Koch Industries for fire equipment
- Approved Ottertail Ducks Unlimited to hold a raffle at Beck's Burger Co. On Dec. 5.
- Approved engagement letter with CarlsonSV to do city's audit services.
- Approved purchasing vacuum truck to clean sewer mains. The purchase is in the 2025 budget, but the city crews found a truck for sale that meets their needs. The purchase will be made now and the fund will be paid back in 2025 using the allocated dollars.
- Approved Chad Longbella to serve on the Public Works Commission.



Veterans Day speakers

Above, Larry Knosalla speaks to Staples-Motley High School and Middle School students at the Veterans Day program on Nov. 11. Right, Addison Potter reads her essay that won first place in the VFW Voice of Democracy contest. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)

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Jennifer Person, DC

CHIROPRACTOR

Lakewood is pleased to welcome the newest member of its medical staff, Doctor of Chiropractic, Jennifer Person. Dr. Person provides multiple chiropractic techniques, including activator (non-force) adjusting, drop table adjusting, traction, and other specialized techniques including acupuncture, dry needling, and cupping. She will be seeing patients at Lakewood's Pillager clinic. No referrals are necessary, and you don't need to be a Lakewood patient to receive chiropractic care.

TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT, CALL 218-894-8259

Lakewood HEALTH SYSTEM

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