

Inside this issue:

Hall of fame wiffleball tournament
Volleyball, tennis wins
Cross country home meet
England Prairie Pioneer Days



SEDA asks if Staples needs rebranding

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

Does Staples still want to be known as a railroad town, even though our lives don't revolve around freight any more?

At the Aug. 27 Staples Economic Development Authority (SEDA) meeting, Economic Development Director Lucas Wakefield said he would like to develop a unique economic brand for Staples, an identity that can be used to promote the community.

Wakefield showed the board some examples of brand identity from communityplaymaker.com. Crosby, Minn. was the first example, how they turned the state's first mountain bike park into economic growth. Other examples included outdoor recreation, a fishing village turned into a tourist destination and Rock Hill, South Carolina that created a 68-acre sports complex for softball, tennis, soccer and BMX.

Another article from Town & City Magazine showed that the communities that succeed always have a vision for the future

and build their plans based on the enhancement of local assets.

Wakefield said after taking a driving tour around Staples, he noticed one local asset that hasn't been talked about extensively.

"I'm pretty confident we have more precision machining and tooling per capita than any place in the country," he said, "we should lean into that, we could be a premiere center and hub for tooling and machining."

Making that a community purpose could make grants and funding available, perhaps to buy machines and use them as start-ups.

Whatever direction the community wants to take, "we need some part of the community behind that vision," said Wakefield.

"If we are going to be something, let's really get into it," said Wakefield.

He added that the identity does not have to be tourism related.

Board member Lisa Bjerga, Lakewood Health System CEO, agreed that the tourism side is being

done by Discover Staples. She said for the SEDA to be more impactful, they could work on an identity to help get more people to move to Staples. She said the two biggest items people look for in a place to live are education and health care.

Bjerga said a branding expert who worked with Lakewood said there was no more railroad industry in Staples, so that identity is no longer pertinent.

Board member Blake Gerard pointed out that the entry signs into Staples all have "Historic Staples" written on them.

"What historic are we looking for?" asked Gerard.

Wakefield said from the viewpoint of an economic developer, he sees that "historic" branding as a negative, because it indicates the community is living in the past.

City Administrator Jerel Nelsen said that debate was raised when the city's logo was created in 2007. Board member Steve Gertken noted that the 2007 logo itself can now be considered historic.

See **SEDA** on page 12a

Showing support for CLC colleague Several staff members at Central Lakes College attended a bench dedication for their fellow colleague Vickie O'Brien who passed away unexpectedly in June of 2023. O'Brien was a nursing instructor at CLC. Pictured in front, from left, are Vickie's daughter Katya O'Brien, Alexandria; her best friend and fellow (retired) nursing instructor Karen Treangen, Hewitt; and Vickie's daughter Randee O'Brien, Buhl, Idaho. The bench was made by Randee's boyfriend, Alex Wagner of Buhl; and powder-coated by their friend, Brandon Ochsner of Wendell, Idaho. (Photo by Dawn Timbs)

Beloved nursing instructor remembered at CLC

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

A blue, handcrafted iron bench in memory of nursing instructor Vickie O'Brien is now situated near the entrance of Central Lakes College in Staples. With images of animals engraved on the back, it bears the phrase, "Make a Positive Impact on Every Life, Every Day."

"The bench is beautiful and is a perfect symbol of her," said Randee O'Brien, one of Vickie's daughters. "Blue was her favorite color and she loved animals," Randee went on, adding, "She raised many orphans over the years and would always say, 'Everything deserves a chance,' and her e-mail sign-off was, 'Make a Positive Impact on Every Life, Every Day.'"

Randee and her sister, Katya O'Brien, along with other family members, friends, and CLC employees, were at the Staples campus Aug. 19, to dedicate the bench and remember someone they all loved. Someone who'd left this world too soon.

A longtime nursing instructor at CLC, Vickie had tragically lost her life in June of 2023.

"We were very fortunate to have had her as part of the CLC family," said Sheila Hoehn, Dean of the Staples CLC Campuses. Hoehn noted that Vickie had been a Nursing Faculty member. For many years she taught primarily for the Staples Practical Nursing program. She was also involved, as needed, with the Associate Registered Nursing Program in Brainerd.

Hoehn went on to say that Vickie "was very beloved by her students and the team," noting that the popular instructor had previously been nominated for 'Faculty Member of the Year.' "I shared an office with her while I was the Director of the Nursing Program and she continued as my faculty when I moved to the Dean position," Hoehn said.

Randee noted that her mom had her Master's in Nursing degree with a nurse educator option. "She taught LPNs and RNs in the classroom and in the clinical setting. She loved the elderly, so she enjoyed teaching clinicals at the care center the most," Randee said.

In addition to her love for the nursing profession, See **O'BRIEN** on page 12a

Koenigs stresses the Cardinal Way as new elementary principal

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

The new Staples-Motley Elementary School Principal Ryan Koenigs has spent his career in elementary education, where he learned to focus on the positives.

"Developing positive relationships and a positive culture, making kids feel successful," he said about what he wants to see in a school.

When he saw what Staples-Motley Elementary was doing with their Cardinal Way program of pride, excellence, integrity, relationships and respect, he felt it was something he understood and could continue to improve on.

Koenigs is from Clearwater and attended Annandale schools. He got his education degree at Minnesota State-Mankato, then taught five years at Norman County West and six years at Sauk Rapids. While there, he earned a masters degree in educational leadership



New principal buys into the Cardinal Way

Staples-Motley Elementary Principal Ryan Koenigs came to the school understanding the Cardinal Way, which works on pride, excellence, communication, integrity, relationships and respect. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

and his administrative license. He next spent three years as principal at Ogilvie. While at Ogilvie, Koenigs said one piece that was missing was that his family was not able to be together at the same time, so he started looking for another community.

"My heart is in a small community," said Koenigs. "I wanted to invest in a small community."

See **KOENIGS** on page 12a

Weather

2024
This Week's Forecast

	High	Low	Cond.
Sept. 4	80	58	P. Cloudy
Sept. 5	77	54	P. Cloudy
Sept. 6	72	50	M. Sunny
Sept. 7	71	53	Sunny
Sept. 8	74	54	Sunny
Sept. 9	77	57	Sunny
Sept. 10	80	54	M. Sunny

Last Year, 2023

	High	Low	Cond.
Sept. 4	95°	69	Sunny
Sept. 5	75	71	Rain
Sept. 6	67	56	M. Sunny
Sept. 7	71	44	Sunny
Sept. 8	78	50	Sunny
Sept. 9	70	54	Cloudy
Sept. 10	72	51	M. Sunny

Average Temps:
H = 72° Low = 52°

Compiled by
Dale Hausmann,
WCCO's Staples area
Weatherwatcher

Public Notices

Leader Brd. 9A

Todd Cty. Commissioners 9A

Notice of Expiration of Redemption 9A

Staples council puts on brakes for generation plant

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

As the Staples City Council reviewed their Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for the next five years, they did not want to include expenditures for a generation plant until they learned more about the project.

City Administrator Jerel Nelsen told the council that even though it is in the CIP, the city would not commit any money to the project until it is approved by the council.

Nelsen said Missouri River Energy Services (MRES), the city's main electricity supplier, is asking customers about building a diesel electricity generation plant. A MRES representative did give a preliminary presentation to the council at a meeting earlier this year, but the council still was not sure if it is something they wanted to do.

Council member Doug Case said he would want more information before putting it into the CIP. He also pointed out that most of the homes north of Warner Road get their electricity from Todd-Wadena Electric Cooperative, not from the city. Case said there are better places the city could use the money, even if most of it is covered by grants.

Council member Mary Theurer said that the Public Works Board has not talked about it very much the generation plant, which would be mainly used for backup electricity in times of emergency.

The cost for the project would be around \$6 million, with MRES covering between 70 and 90 percent of the cost. Nelsen said he would like to have a more specific number, for MRES to let them know if it would be closer to 70 or 90 percent.

A second concern, Nelsen said, is whether it would fit in with Minnesota's new clean energy program. He said right now it would be included as a backup gener-

ator, but that doesn't mean it will continue to be allowed in the future.

Council member John Jewison suggested they talk to other communities that do have similar backup electric generators and ask how it is working for them.

After discussion, the council decided to take the item off of the 2025 CIP list and use that year to learn more about the proposed project.

Other big items in the CIP included building a new building for the city's light shop, which is currently scattered in different buildings, and updating the Dower Lake softball fields. A plan for Dower Lake expansion is scheduled for 2027, so the recreation area can be eligible for state funding

In other news, the council

- Approved authorizing sale of lots in Valley View subdivision, to follow the prices set by the city. This will allow the city to sell lots if a potential buyer comes along and meets the criteria.
- Approved first reading of ordinance allowing city nuisance inspector to contact owners of a home in violation, either by coming to their door or if they are not home two times in a row, post the notice on the front door or other conspicuous location.
- Approved school resource officer agreement with Staples-Motley schools
- Approved permit for Wahoo Valley Area Deer Hunters Association to hold a raffle on Oct. 12
- Learned that the Staples Economic Development Authority is now required to pay taxes on a parcel of wetland property near Ernie's Food Market. It is not available for building so they plan to transfer it to the city.
- Talked about warning siren plan to replace the tree sirens currently used and to put another one at the south substation so it reaches the Ernie's and Timberlake Hotel area.



Mobile coffee and treats at Something Good

Elizabeth Cory and Jenna Niemann opened Something Good mobile coffee business in May, selling drinks and treats. The trailer is usually out in the community three times a week or more, often at farmers markets in Staples or Perham or at the Browerville Clinic. This year they are also doing community celebrations such

as Staples Railroad Days and the Crow Wing County Fair. Pictured from left, Abigail Brown, Jamie D'Ambrogio, Marlo Corona, Zoe Stevens, Niemann and Cory, Josi Longbottom and Bill Haugan. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

CCY working on school truancy upswing

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

Haley Buhl of the Community Concern for Youth (CCY) told the Staples City Council that school truancy has become a big issue since the pandemic in 2020. She said the county is trying new ways to get students to go to school, including mediation meetings.

"Some kids don't want to go to school and some parents don't care," said Buhl. She said that the CCY will work with parents who do care, but have to take a different approach when parents do not want to get involved.

Council member Doug Case asked if there were any laws that require parents to send their children to school. Buhl said that there is a responsibility, but they usually don't take that

path. She said if a student is not doing well, they can be placed on probation. She said it takes a long process for the student to be placed out of the home, which is the main consequence for the parents.

Buhl also talked about mentoring activities by CCY throughout the summer, including attending Twins games, Valleyfair and kayaking in Duluth. The other big activity they do every summer is grow produce at their community garden plot at CLC in Staples. Buhl said the students have indicated that without the activities, they would likely be sitting at home playing video games or going on their phones.

She said of the 62 cases that CCY took up in 2023, 56 of them were successfully completed.

The council voted to approve funding for CCY at

an earlier meeting.

Nuisance properties

The council adopted a new public nuisances ordinance to allow posting notices at nuisance property after no response to mailings and personal visits.

Case said the city's current plan of complaint-based nuisance reporting isn't working. He suggested having police or other personnel check homes for nuisance violations at least once a year.

City Administrator Jerel Nelsen said they are thinking of redoing their nuisance ordinance procedure. He said they shifted more to utilizing the court system, but that gets bogged down and the courts don't want to deal with it. He said cities are starting to revert back to issuing a two week notice before the city goes in to clean it up themselves.

Council member Mary Jo Goff suggested anybody who sees nuisance violations to call the city.

In other news, the council

- Learned that Dower Lake campground fire pits will be inspected because campers are still burying garbage in the fire pits.
- Approved Sacred Heart Catholic Church to conduct bingo and a raffle on Oct. 27.
- Learned that Planning and Zoning is looking at a new sign ordinance to allow dynamic display (electronic) signs on buildings, but regulate the size and brightness.
- Approved selling an adjoining lot to a Valley View homeowner, because it was found that the property line was just inches away from where the home was built, as one of the first homes in the subdivision.

Motley area law enforcement

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

August 21 - 27

Aug. 21 - A citizen who had found a wallet at the Motley Dairy Queen turned it in to the MPD. Subsequently, Motley Police found the owner of the wallet and returned it to him.

Aug. 27 - The MCSO received a report of suspicious activity at the 33000 block of Elm Ln., Motley.

Aug. 26 - A Morrison County deputy responded to a report of a tree that was down and blocking almost

the entire road at 6573 Bear Rd., Cushing. Upon arriving at the scene, the deputy pulled the tree off the roadway with his squad car and cleared the road of debris.

Meeting date correction

The City of Motley's next Planning and Zoning Commission meeting will be held Monday, Sept. 16, at 4 p.m. An incorrect date was printed in last week's paper. The Staples World regrets the error.

Recent reports taken by the Staples Police Dept:

Aug. 7, Staples Police arrested Ian McMahon, 30, for disorderly conduct. Subject continued to swear and scream in hotel lobby and behind TCO building.

Aug. 9, Staples Police received a report of a dog bite that occurred in the 600 block of 2nd St. SW. resulting with a minor child having severe injuries.

Aug. 9, Staples Police assisted a suspicious male at the Todd County Government Center, assisting him getting a train ticket. On Aug. 10, the police assisted the male getting onto the train.

Aug. 10, driver was pulling into park in front of Longbella Drug, driver stated when he pressed on the brake the vehicle didn't stop and ran into the building. A witness stated she heard a clicking sound as he was trying to stop. Vehicle hit a

window, shattered the glass and bent the middle beam that separates the two windows. Photos were taken. Scott's Southtown towing service responded per the drivers request to make sure the vehicle was safe to drive.

Aug. 10, Staples Police assisted Morrison County with an individual that was choking in Motley.

Aug. 11, Staples Police received a report of a vehicle that was egged in the area of the 800 block of 2nd Ave. NE. Police will be checking cameras in the area to identify the suspect.

Aug. 11, Staples Police responded to an assault call at the 400 block of 4th St. NE. Party stated an individual choked their brother and left the scene.

Aug. 11, Staples Police responded to 8th St. NE and 3rd Ave. NE intersection for a bicycle that crashed with a pickup truck.

Aug. 11, Staples Police were dispatched to a semi and trailer swerving all over the road. Police found the vehicle, stopped it after witnessing failure to maintain lanes and issued a verbal warning.

Aug. 11, Staples Police were

advised over radio that an individual in a blue Hyundai was driving north, possibly impaired. Police located the vehicle in the 100 block of 4th St. NE and arrested Christopher Golly, 38, for DWI.

Aug. 12, Staples Police were contacted on a possible criminal sexual conduct that took place in May, 2024 at the hospital. Police found that nothing could be charged per Minnesota State Statute.

Aug. 12, Staples Police issued a reckless driving citation to a juvenile for driving 55 in a 30 mile per hour zone. The juvenile was also cited for failure to stop at a stop sign and window tint.

Aug. 13, Staples Police responded to assist a resident who had a bat inside of their residence.

Aug. 13, at 2:30 a.m., Staples Police located a group of juveniles in the Lakewood Community Park after curfew. The juveniles ran away from police but were later found and identified.

Aug. 14, Staples Police received a public nuisance complaint regarding a property which the owner is reported to be feeding feral cats on the 500 block of 3rd St. SW. Police will

attempt to make contact with the homeowners.

Aug. 14, Staples Police received a call of a male party unsteady on his feet, twitchy and jumpy. Police spoke with the individual who stated he is waiting for the Amtrak train. He was advised to call if he needs any assistance until the train arrives.

Aug. 14, Staples Police responded to a public assist at the 900 block of Michigan Ave. NE. Vehicle was locked with children inside. Vehicle was unlocked by Scott's Southtown.

Aug. 15, Staples Police were dispatched to take a report of an adult male who purchased tobacco products for his underage nephew.

Aug. 16, Staples Police were dispatched the Evergreen Hill Cemetery for a report of three juveniles playing on headstones. The juveniles were advised to pick up their trash and move along.

Aug. 16, Staples Police received a report of a restraining order violation.

Aug. 16, Staples Police were called to respond to the Lakewood Health System (LHS) regarding an out of control patient. Police assisted medical staff with the individual who had assaulted the staff. Police stood by until the patient was no longer a threat to themselves or others.

Aug. 17, Staples Police responded to an infant in a stroller that was left without supervision. Police located the mother and contacted child protective services.

Aug. 17, Staples Police responded to a report of an assault on the 1100 block of 4th St. NE. Police learned that an intoxicated subject had assaulted a minor, and had fallen in a drainage ditch. The intoxicated subject was transported by ambulance to the LHS by the Staples Ambulance. Also responding was the Todd County and Wadena County Sheriff's Departments.

Aug. 18, at 2:45 a.m., Staples Police received a report of a suspicious person walking near the intersection of 6th St. NE/Summit Ave. NE. Police located a subject walking on Pleasant Ave. and 7th St. NE, who appeared to be intoxicated. Police gave the subject a ride to a friend's residence.

2024 Minnesota Renaissance Festival

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Pine River man drowns

Cass County Sheriff Bryan Welk reports that on Aug. 26, at 5:31 p.m., the Cass County Sheriff's Office received a report of a missing adult male in the City of Pine River. The Pine River Police Department responded and learned that an adult male, age 54, had left a residence and gone swimming in the Pine River and had not returned. A search of the area was conducted and the victim was located in the Pine River at 7:13 p.m., deceased. An autopsy is scheduled with the Ramsey County Medical Examiner's Office. Assisting at the scene was the Pine River Police Department and the Pine River Fire Department.

Court report Aug. 28

Long Prairie Police Department

Swameli Ojeda Ambert, Long Prairie. Driving without a valid license for vehicle class or type. Fine \$100. Fee \$85.

Walter Antonio Arauz Carrasco, Sauk Centre. Driving without a valid license for vehicle class or type. Fine \$100. Fee \$85.

Josuel Otiz Ortiz Abreu, Long Prairie. Speed 62/30. Fine \$150. Fee \$235. Driving without a valid license. Fine \$100.

Zenen Arnulfo Romero Roque, Swanville. Driving without a valid license. Fine \$100. Fee \$85. Speed 40/30. Fine \$40.

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Thomas Ivan Shafer, Elmwood. Aquatic Plant Control- fail to display APM permit sticker. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Minnesota State Patrol

Joshua Edward Shesta, Menahga. Record of duty status not current (log book). Sentenced. Fine \$50. Fee \$125.

Gerardo Apol Vazquez Villafana, Big Lake. Speed 75/65. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Ronda Marie Anderson, Long Prairie. Speed 70/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Tyler Michael Beck, New London. Speed 65/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Peter Lester Berscheit, Grey Eagle. Hands-Free Law- engage in cellular phone or video call. Fine \$50. Fee \$85. Seatbelt required. Fine \$25. Cracked windshield. Fine \$40.

Rachel Ann Bowen, Alexandria. Speed 70/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Andrew Thomas Buirge, Fridley. Speed 74/55. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.

Adolfo Cantu, Eagle Bend. Speed 71/50. Fine \$70. Fee \$155. No motorcycle endorsement. Fine \$50. No proof of motor vehicle insurance. Fine \$200.

Austin James Clifford, Chanhassen. Speed 79/60. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.

Jefferey Scott Fox, Saint Michael. Speed 65/55. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Jack Porter Hansen, Eagan. Speed 80/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Jennifer Leigh Howard, Vining. Speed 65/55. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Ralph Todd Hubbard, Long Prairie. Seatbelt required. Fine \$25. Fee \$85.

Anna Joann Joy, Alexandria. Window tint less than 50 percent light transmittance. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

James Robert Kruse, Gillet, Wis. Hands-Free Law- initiate, compose, send, retrieve, read electronic message. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Jesse Dalton Lambrecht, Long Prairie. Fail to display current registration. Fine \$30. Fee \$85.

Suzanne Ruth Lillyblad-Larson, Minneapolis. Speed 80/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Dillyn Robert Lucksinger, Elrosa. Window tint less than 50 percent light transmittance. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Andrew Gregory Magrum, Bozeman, Mont. Speed 75/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Randy Allan Marsh, Champlin. Speed 87/70. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.

Edinson Medina Matos, Long Prairie. Speed 65/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Logan Leander Meyer, Sauk Centre. Speed 65/55. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Emily Jane Newman, Fergus Falls. Speed 99/70. Fine \$100. Fee \$185.

Dylan James Olson, Sauk Centre. Window tint less than 50 percent light transmittance. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Katherine Marie Preszler, Grand Forks, N.Dak. Speed 99/70. Fine \$100. Fee \$185.

Maria Esther Rodriguez Madrigal, Long Prairie. Speed 75/60. Fine \$60. Fee \$85.

Francisco Emmanuel Sanchez, Orlando, Flor. Driving after revocation. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.

Jackson Patrick Saueressig, Rochester. Speed 82/70. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Aliss White Smith, Buffalo. Speed 75/70. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Brian Raymond Terhaar, Long Prairie. Speed 74/60. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

David Michael Van Schepen, Hull, Iowa. Speed 65/55. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Nicolas David Varner, Long Prairie. Speed 73/60. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Miguel Angel Villarreal Fermin, Sauk Centre. Instruction permit violation (18 years or older). Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Hanwakan Blaikie Whitecloud, Winnipeg, Manitoba. Speed 84/70. Fine \$50. Fee \$85.

Troy Jason Zarns, Swanville. Speed 65/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Naomi Joy Ziegler, Northfield. Speed 70/60. Fine \$40. Fee \$85.

Osakis Police Department

Nicklas Andrew Davey, Brow-

erville. Speed 112/60. Fine \$150. Fee \$235.

Staples Police Department

Devon Anthony Brusewitz, Staples. Unlawful parking/storage. Dis-

missed. Failure to provide garbage collection. Dismissed. Failure to provide garbage container. Dismissed.

Tina Marie Lessard, Bemidji. Careless driving. Fine \$100. Fee \$85.

Todd County Sheriff's Office

John Alan Branch, Browerville. Disorderly conduct. Dismissed, conditions met or expired.

Jesus Daniel Garcia Montanez, Long Prairie. Speed 84/55. Fine \$100. Fee \$85. Driving after revocation. Fine \$200.

Spencer Jon Hayes, Clarissa. Threaten crime of violence. Dis-

missed, conditions met or expired. Lawrence Joseph Kleinschmidt, Bertha. Hunting- discharge firearm/

bow public highway. Dismissed. Micahel Javier Llopiz Rivera, Cla-

risa. Fifth Degree possession of a controlled substance. Dismissed, conditions met or expired.

Edgar Osvaldo, Long Prairie. Driving after suspension. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.

Joe Allan Miller, Brainerd. Driving after revocation. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.

Sean Joseph Wessel, Sauk Centre. Driving after revocation. Fine \$200. Fee \$85.

The following cases were heard before Judge Daniel A. Benson in Seventh District Court in Todd County Aug. 15, 2024.

Elengoi Iyekar, Staples. DWI- Fourth Degree. Dismissed. DWI- operate motor vehicle under influence of controlled substance. Dismissed. DWI- operate motor vehicle- body contains any amount Schedule I, II drugs. Dismissed. Cannabis open package-cannabis use in motor vehicle on street or highway prohibited. Dismissed. Careless driving. Sentenced. Fine \$400. Fee \$75. Local confinement 90 days. Stay 90 days for one year. Supervised probation, one year.

Nicholas Lee Werder, Delano. Speed 65/60. Stay of adjudication. Fine \$40. Fee \$75. Unsupervised probation, on year.

The following cases were heard before Judge Daniel A. Benson in Seventh District Court in Todd County Aug. 16, 2024.

Joshua Remington Luloff, Osakis. School bus stop signal. Dismissed, conditions met or expired.

The following cases were heard before Judge Daniel A. Benson in Seventh District Court in Todd County Aug. 20, 2024.

Jorge Escalera Garcia, Long Prairie. Third Degree DWI-alcohol greater than 0.08 within two hours. Fine \$50. Fee totals \$155. Sentenced. Local confinement 365 days; stay for 335 days for four years. Credit for time served: two days. Supervised probation, four years.

Justin James Cook, Minneapolis. Duty to drive with due care. Continued for dismissal. Fee totals \$75. Unsupervised monitoring without conviction, six months.

Nicholas Galen Andvik, St. Michael. Speed 64/60. Continued for dismissal. Fee totals \$75. Unsupervised monitoring without conviction, six months.

J. Brockford Smith, Long Prairie. Driver approaching intersection fails to yield right of way. Continued for dismissal. Fee totals \$75. Unsupervised monitoring without conviction, six months.

Adrianna Rose Waugh, Browerville. Disorderly conduct. Sentenced. Fine \$75. Fee totals \$150. Local confinement 90 days. Stay 89 days for one year. Credit for time served: one day. Unsupervised probation, one year.

The following cases were heard before Judge Daniel A. Benson in Seventh District Court in Todd County Aug. 21, 2024.

Justin Lee Paquette, Maple Grove. Speed 74/60. Continued for dismissal. Fee total \$75. Unsupervised monitoring without conviction, six months.

Trisha Nicole Bierwerth, Long Prairie. DWI-operate motor vehicle under influence of alcohol. Dismissed. DWI- operate motor vehicle-alcohol concentration 0.08 within two hours. Sentenced. Fine \$400. Fee \$100. Local confinement 90 days. Stay 90 days for two years. Supervised probation, two years. Operate motor vehicle after license suspension, revocation, cancellation. Dismissed.

Derek Frances Moats, Hewitt. Issuance of worthless checks. Continued for dismissal. Restitution \$77.62. Unsupervised monitoring without conviction, six months.

75 YEARS Ago - 1949

Sept. 8, 1949 - The Motley Study Club has resumed its regular meetings after a summer vacation, with Mrs. Rudy Topp entertaining the Club in her home Saturday afternoon, Sept. 3. Twelve ladies were present. Mrs. Frank Holm gave an interesting topic on 'Women's Contribution to Progress.' Following the business meeting, a dessert luncheon was served by the hostess.

Sept. 8, 1949 - Editor Jackie Ellefson of the Staples high school Kardinal Kronicle, stated Wednesday of this week that the

- O -
Compiled by
Dawn Timbs
- O -

first edition of the Kronicle would be published in The Staples World on Thursday, Sept. 29.

Again the World will carry the Kronicle as a part of its paper throughout the 1949-50 school year.

Miss Helen Jackson is assistant editor of the Kardinal Kronicle this year, and the two have made plans for an excellent paper again this season.

Sept. 8, 1949 - Not to be out done by other communities, Peaceful Valley has its own "Snoopy" according to Mrs. S. S. Grondahl, correspondent from that community.

One day last week when the Wilson families were away, the cow got in the well.

It seems that the current drought has dried the well

up on the Charles Wilson farm until the water had to be dipped out from the well instead of being pumped out. Hense the well cover was left off. The heifer belonged to Charles Wilson Jr., who was pasturing his cattle at his father's place.

A business caller found the heifer in the well and as no one was at home, hunted up the family to inform them there was a cow in the well.

It was some five hours later that a wrecker was summoned from Staples and with the aid and encouragement of neighbors, "Snoopy" was hoisted from the well. She was stiffened slightly from the accident, but otherwise in good shape.

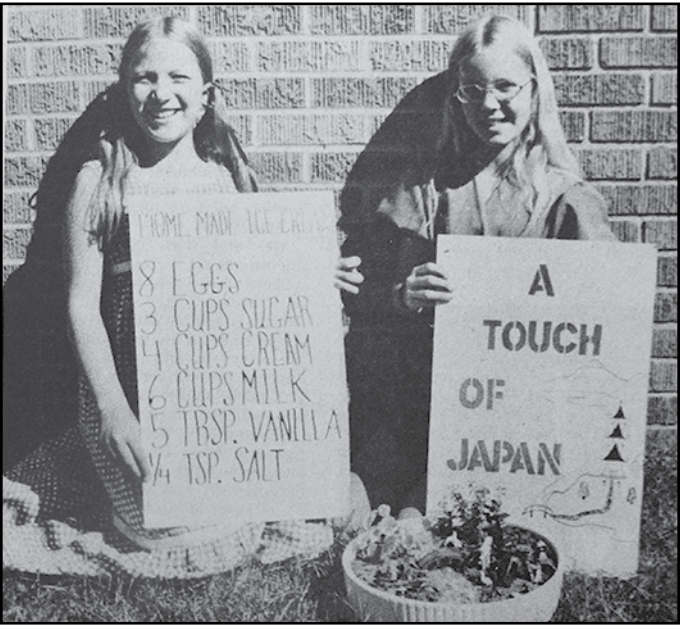
Sept. 8, 1949 - The first grade enrolment in the Staples schools this fall is the largest it has been in many years, according to officials of the school.

50 YEARS Ago - 1974

Sept. 5, 1974 - The Staples Historical Society now has a home as a result of much community cooperation. The mobile unit which will house the museum was secured through the financial cooperation of the Minnesota State Historical Society. It is situated across from city hall.

The site was leased to the Historical Society free of charge by the Staples Federal Credit Union and the site preparation was accomplished by the City of Staples. The lettering was painted by Stan Kaste, a local artist.

"Involvement of the community in this program is needed to preserve the his-



Mystery photo

Hello readers. This week's archive photo is from 1974. 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.

tory of the Staples area. Hopefully, the total community will get behind this most worthwhile project by volunteering artifacts, time and energy," said Richard Hegre, Historical Society director.

Sept. 5, 1974 - Rural residents served by the Staples, Motley and Pillager Fire Departments will soon be issued fire numbers by their townships for use if reporting emergencies.

A meeting of the three fire departments was held last Thursday evening in the Staples Fire hall with township officers from the 19 townships involved in the change to fire numbers.

Sept. 5, 1974 - Listen to Lynn Thornton from Staples on KKWS/FM (105.9) Monday thru Friday, from 8:30 to 10 a.m., beginning Monday, Sept. 2. Featuring Staples area news, sports, public affairs, and easy-to-listen-to music. Also, Staples Cardinal football Friday nights.

Sept. 5, 1974 - Showing at The New Continental Cozy Theatre in Wadena Sept. 4 - 5, "The Sting," starring Paul Newman, Robert Redford and Robert Shaw.

Showing Sept. 6 - 12, "Blazing Saddles," A wildly funny film that will have you crying with laughter. Mark your calendar!

Sept. 5, 1974 - State Representative Joan Grove, DFL endorsed candidate for secretary of state, was in Staples last Thursday to meet with Todd county residents. She was accompanied on her tour of the city by Margaret Erbe, Todd county DFL chairwoman.

"I enjoyed the opportunity to get out and meet the people of Staples," Mrs. Grove said. "I grew up in Buffalo, where my father, Art Anderson, was mayor for 10 years, so I feel right at home here in Staples."

25 YEARS Ago - 1999

Sept. 9, 1999 - The doors are locked and windows coated with paper and "closed" sign at the Cardinal Cafe in Staples. Although the cafe is closed, it could have new owners if enough interest is shown in a tax forfeit auction sale to be held Friday, Sept. 17, 10:30 a.m. in the county board meeting room at the courthouse in Long Prairie.

Sept. 9, 1999 - Frank Wright, former editor and foreign correspondent for the Star Tribune, is the key-

note speaker for the Staples Motley Area Chamber of Commerce annual meeting Thursday, Sept. 16, at Central Lakes College in Staples.

Wright's topic is "International Relations and the Impact on Local Communities." He will talk about why people in rural areas and small towns need to learn about the rest of the world, noting that America's ability to compete in a global economy will depend on a knowledge of foreign markets.

Sept. 9, 1999 - Students at Sacred Heart School this year are seeing a new face in the principal's office.

George Heroux arrived in mid-July as principal at Sacred Heart Church's parochial school for grades kindergarten through sixth grade.

A resident on Fishtrap Lake for the past three years, Heroux has over 36 years of experience in a variety of educational pursuits, both public and parochial.

10 YEARS Ago - 2014

Sept. 4, 2014 - Hailey Roberts, Staples, received her white coat marking the entering of medical school Aug. 23, at the University of Minnesota Medical School - Duluth campus. The ceremony signified the responsibilities and obligations of the physicians who wear the white coat and the importance of embracing compassion and character along with knowledge of science and medicine. Hailey is a 2009 graduate of Staples Motley High School, and the daughter of Dave and Lani Roberts, Staples.

Sept. 4, 2014 - Martin Zellar and his band The Hardways will perform at Centennial Auditorium in Staples on Saturday, Sept. 13, at 7:30 p.m., part of the Staples Motley Area Arts Council's regular season. The concert is underwritten by Unity Bank.

Sept. 4, 2014 - New teachers in the Staples Motley schools include Peter Belde, technology at Motley Staples Middle School; April Denny, kindergarten at Motley Elementary; Kasey Odden, middle school math; Melissa Holey, Motley Elementary and middle school; Rachel Sanders, high school math; Steve Fligge, high school social studies; and Brian Schornack, high school agriculture.

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Minnesota’s 2024 breeding duck data is disappointing

On August 9th the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) posted at its web site a report revealing the results of its 2024 Waterfowl Breeding Population Survey. This report is issued annually, and provides estimates of the number of Minnesota breeding ducks and geese of various species, many of which—

not coincidentally—are important to hunters. In light of the fact that much of the state has experienced either adequate or surplus rainfall this summer—to mention flooding in many areas, and high lake and river levels—the pictures painted by the 2024 report might have been expected to be positive. Water equals waterfowl, right? But that expectation has not been met, if the numbers revealed in this DNR report are accurate.

It should be noted that the number of ducks and geese in such reports are typically an estimate, not an actual head count, which would be logistically impossible. Tallies are based on the number of birds seen in aerial and ground observations, adjusted by “multipliers” that are believed to lead researchers to reasonable estimates of overall

population numbers. In a much-oversimplified way, it’s sort of like: “If we’ve seen this many, then there must be this many we didn’t see.”

Add them together and you get a population estimate. For this reason, reports like this one might be more accurately described as revealing trends and fluctuations in wildlife abundance, rather than precise numbers from one year to the next.

So what are these numbers that are proving disappointing? The DNR report estimates that this year’s breeding population of mallards is down some 37% from the 2023 estimate, or an estimated 141,000 this year compared to 222,000 in 2023. Mallards have historically been a “bread and butter” duck among Minnesota waterfowl hunters. Also down, according to the report, are the combined total breeding ducks of other common Minnesota species; down by 20% from 2023. Breeding Canada geese are reported down by 7% from last year.

The most notable bright spot was blue-winged teal, whose breeding numbers were estimated to be 26% above 2023, or 160,000 compared to 126,000. Teal are historically one of the “big three” ducks most harvested by Minnesota hunters, especially during the early part of the season, before these early migrants leave the state heading south.

So how can these numbers, if close to being accurate, be explained? How, given the wet year that it’s been? This DNR report,

like others before it, did not cross reference spring breeding numbers with hunter harvest from the prior fall. It did not suggest that other mortality factors, like predation, could play a part in a survey finding of a waterfowl population’s decline. As one former DNR waterfowl biologist has put it, “Biologists have adopted a culture where neither hunter harvest nor predators have an additive or cumulative effect on populations.” He believes it can be otherwise.

His comment may seem cynical, but the recent history of waterfowl management in Minnesota has been one of promoting increased harvest at nearly every turn. Some fear this will be to the detriment of the resource. Start the season earlier and earlier, liberalize the harvest of mallards and wood ducks, lengthen shooting hours, eliminate the early season 4:00 p.m. closure that was intended to protect locally breeding birds, and last, create a special early teal season. As this retired waterfowl biologist went on to say, and believes, “We are not maintaining an adequate recruitment of hens. This will accumulate like the interest on a bad loan.”

Be that as it may, there may be a more benign explanation for this year’s reported declines in breeding waterfowl. The report notes that the seasonal conditions that coincided with the arrival of northward migrating waterfowl this spring were actually unfavorable for early nesters; mallards and pintails, for example.

Uncharacteristically early ice-out statewide may have accelerated the northward migration. Then, when early migrants arrived, they found most of Minnesota in moderate to severe drought.

The DNR suggests in its report that these early nesting ducks may have kept moving to wetter pastures, so to speak. In one outdoor media outlet, an official in the DNR’s Wetland Wildlife Research Group, based in Bemidji, suggested that prairie or parkland locations in the Canadian provinces—or even Alaska—could have been their ultimate nesting destination. When the rains did arrive in Minnesota in late April and into May they improved nesting conditions dramatically, which may have benefitted the later nesting blue-winged teal.

If there is any silver lining to this DNR theory, the southward migration of birds that shunned Minnesota on their way north to nest may come through Minnesota on their southward migratory journey. Whether they stop or tarry here on that leg of their migration is an open question. Also open is the question of where those young birds hatched in such “Plan B” locations outside of Minnesota will settle and breed as adults. Waterfowl are guided by both instinct and learned behavior, and understandably develop ties to the place of their birth. Will they stop in Minnesota to breed next spring, as we would hope? Only time will tell.

Quote of the week

“What does labor want?
We want more schoolhouses
and less jails; more books and
less arsenals; more learning
and less vice; more leisure and
less greed; more justice and
less revenge; in fact,
more of the opportunities to
cultivate our better natures.”
— Samuel Gompers
(Founder of the American Federation of Labor)

State to study CWD in streams

From the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR)

In July, Governor Walz approved a recommendation from the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) for \$164,000 in funding from the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund (ENRTF) for a project to research how far and fast chronic wasting disease (CWD) prions move through Minnesota’s streams and rivers. This research, made possible through the LCCMR’s Emerging Issues Account, will help inform water quality management agencies about the spread of CWD in Minnesota and beyond.

In approving the request, Governor Walz wrote, “Minnesota has a long history of taking bold and innovative action on environmental and conservation issues. Sometimes it requires unique, outside-the-box thinking and ideas. I am thankful to live in a state that is ready and willing to act.”

LCCMR co-chairs Rep. Rick Hansen, Sen. Foung Hawj, and Nancy Gibson, said in a statement, “Minnesota’s response to CWD will only be as strong as our understanding of the disease itself. We need more efforts like this, which build on previous ENRTF-funded research, to provide critical Minnesota-specific information about the spread of CWD.”

The approved funding will allow researchers from the Minnesota Center for Prion Research and Outreach (MNPRO) at the University of Minnesota to evaluate CWD prion movement downstream of known CWD hot spots. CWD is a contagious, 100

percent fatal neurological disease affecting deer, the prions of which are resistant to degradation and can remain infectious in the environment for years. Led by Dr. Diana Karwan, this effort builds on recent MNPRO research, supported by funding from the ENRTF and the Clean Water Fund, that helped illuminate how CWD prions associate with fine sediment suspended in water, with preliminary results indicating prion-positive sediments can be found downstream of some CWD-positive cervid farms even after the farms have been depopulated.

The LCCMR’s Emerging Issues Account is intended to be used for efforts addressing an unexpected and urgent need in an expedited manner, including to address environmental or disease issues where delay will threaten the viability of segments of the State’s natural resources or human health. Requests for funds from the Emerging Issues Account follow a different process than the LCCMR’s RFP and funding recommendation process. After recommendation by the commission on June 28, 2024, this request was sent to the Governor for approval.

The Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund is a permanent dedicated fund in the Minnesota state treasury that was established by 77 percent voter approval of a constitutional amendment in 1988. The amendment directs forty percent of the net proceeds of the Minnesota State Lottery into the Trust Fund until the year 2025. Since 1991, approximately \$1 billion from the ENRTF has been spent on over 1,600 projects that protect and enhance Minnesota’s environment and natural resources in every county of the state.

Rural towns face public sector worker shortages

By Heather Close
The Rural Blog

Small towns across the United States are short on people, money and a younger workforce, which leaves many older rural residents doing the work of two or three people. When older residents retire, rural communities are hard-pressed to “find and afford” new workers for a range of public-sector positions, reports Jon Kamp of The Wall Street Journal. “The challenge. . . faces small governments scattered around the U.S., and often leaves those still there to pick up the slack.”

The rural labor conundrum affects states as big as Texas and as small as Maine. “In Texas, roughly two-thirds of cities with 3,000 to 5,000 residents are missing a finance director. . . Other city employees who might not have financial-management experience often end up filling in, said Bennett Sandlin, the Texas Municipal League’s director,” Kamp writes. “Cities [may then] go without audits, raising the chances of uncorrected bookkeeping errors, he said.” In tiny Ashland, Maine, one 65-year-old resident “runs the town’s sports programs, drives Lit-

tle Leaguers to away games, cleans the town office, takes seniors out for meals. . .”

Since rural populations tend to be older, the pressure to attract and keep younger residents will only increase as baby boomer employees age into retirement. “Local officials and government associations in many states say they face a persistent challenge to find qualified employees who want to work in a small town’s office,” Kamp explains. “Small-town officials say they face particular hurdles when it comes to offering competitive salaries to compete for workers.”

Rural labor shortages can mean loads of work for older residents still wanting to work, but it can also mean services close or consolidate. “Limestone, Maine, is a small town abutting Canada’s New Brunswick border, closed its ambulance service many years ago, contracting it out to the nearby city of Caribou for less money. Last year, the police department closed,” Kamp reports. “Limestone’s interim town manager, Alan Mulherin, said that without police regularly nearby, there is more speeding and drug activity.” Maine state and county police now answer calls in Limestone.

From North Star Policy Action

North Star Policy Action has released the State of Working Minnesota, providing a new analysis of the status of working people in Minnesota. The inaugural edition of this annual report delves into working Minnesotans’ recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, revealing significant achievements alongside persistent disparities facing women and people of color in the North Star State.

The report finds that Minnesota workers have rebounded strongly from the pandemic, achieving nearly 3 million jobs statewide in 2023 – a record high in the state’s history. With an unemployment rate of 2.9 percent, one of the lowest in the country, Minnesota’s labor market has showcased remarkable resilience.

Wages in Minnesota have also seen a substantial increase. The median wage climbed to \$26.43 in 2023, the highest in the Midwest. Coming out of the pandemic, low-wage workers experienced the largest gains, with

their wages growing 12.5 percent since 2019, while wages for wealthier Minnesotans increased by 9.6 percent. Lending further evidence to widespread gains, the proportion of Minnesota workers earning poverty wages has been nearly halved over the last ten years, dropping from over 24 percent in 2013 to 13.1 percent in 2023.

“Our research indicates that Minnesota workers, and particularly lower wage Minnesota workers, are in a better position today than they were before the pandemic in terms of jobs and wages” said Aaron Rosenthal, Research Director of North Star Policy Action. “The robust recovery we’ve seen is a testament to the many pro-worker policies that have supported the strength and adaptability of our workforce.”

Health benefits are another area where Minnesota stands out. The state ranks second nationally for employer-provided health coverage, with 68.2 percent of the workforce receiving health insurance through their employers. This

widespread access contributes to high-quality health outcomes, including the third-highest life expectancy in the country.

One possible reason for Minnesota workers’ achievements can be found in the North Star State leading the Midwest in union membership for the fourth consecutive year. While remaining the highest in the region, the state’s 13.2 percent union membership rate reflected a drop from 2022, continuing a decades-long slide. From this perspective, Minnesota’s regional leadership stems from a relatively slow decline, with organized labor falling faster in neighboring states.

Amidst many positive trends, the report identifies significant and persistent gender and racial disparities. Women in Minnesota earn 83 cents for every dollar earned by men, and the racial gap in employer-provided health insurance is the largest in the country. Black Minnesotans are less than half as likely as their white counterparts to have employer-provided health care. “While we celebrate

our progress, we must also confront the persistent inequalities that exist,” said Rosenthal. “Addressing these disparities is crucial for ensuring that all working Minnesotans benefit from our state’s economic growth.”

North Star Policy Action encourages policymakers, employers, and community leaders to use the report’s findings as a guide for fostering a more inclusive and equitable workforce. “This report is not just a snapshot of where we stand, but a call to action for building on our progress and lifting up all of Minnesota’s working people,” said Jake Schwitzer, Executive Director of North Star Policy Action.

The full “State of Working Minnesota” report can be found at northstarpolicy.org/state-of-working-mn-2024.

North Star Policy Action is an independent research and communications institute that is dedicated to improving the lives of everyday Minnesotans

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Annual service at Lincoln Community Church is Sept. 10

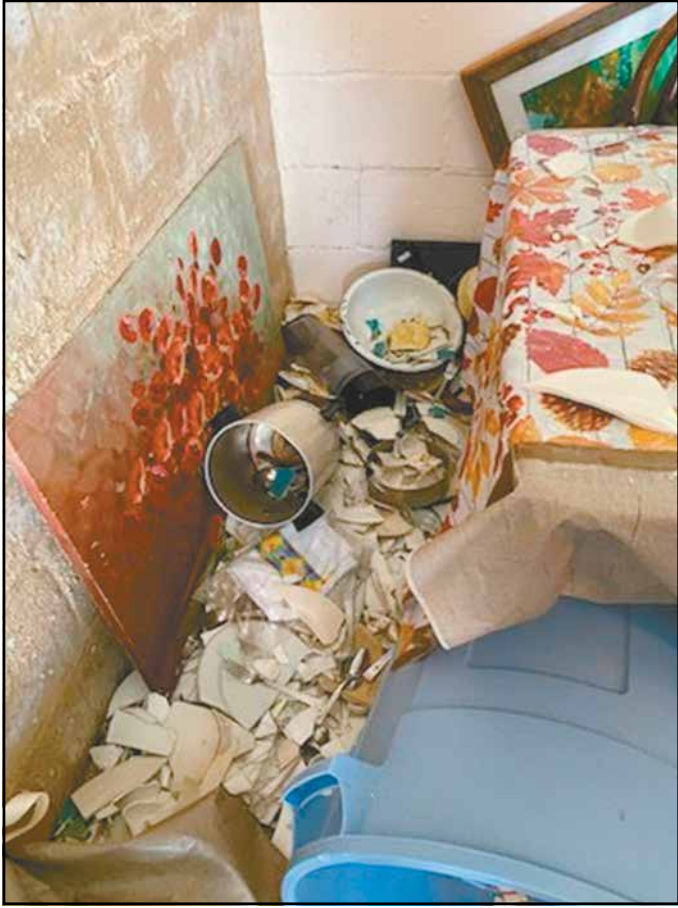
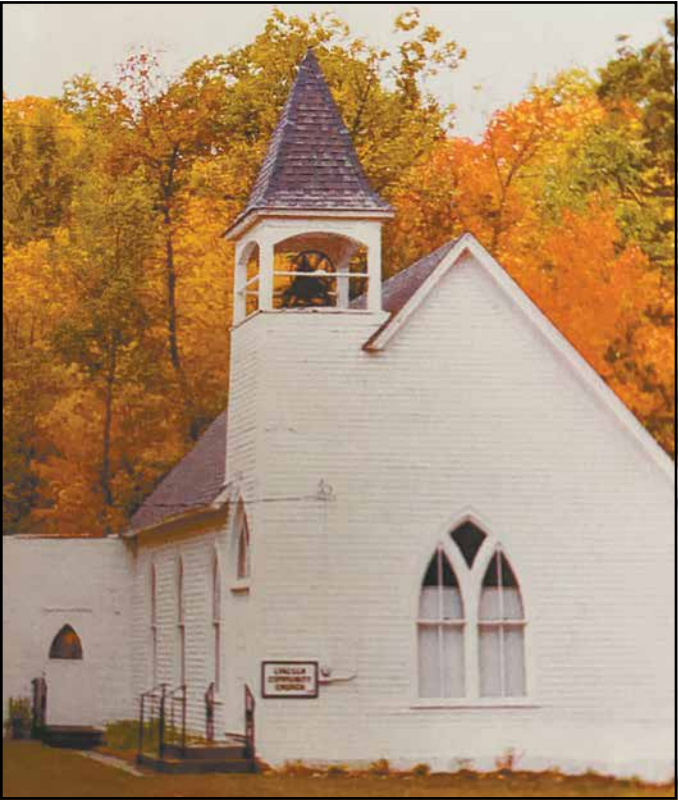
The Lincoln Community Church will hold its annual ecumenical service Tuesday, Sept. 10, at 1:30 p.m. The historic church is located at 31177 Aster Rd., in Cushing.

All are welcome to attend this event, which is sponsored by the Lincoln Ladies Aid. Pastor Donald Reigstad, pastor at Lincoln Evangelical Free Church, will lead the service. Refreshments will follow.

The beautiful church is maintained by the Lincoln Ladies Aid, a group of about 10 - 12 members. Recently, the women discovered the church had been vandalized, and reported the incident to

the Morrison County Sheriff's Office on July 19. As the result of the vandalism, four large windows had to be replaced, and the women spent several hours cleaning up the mess that had been caused.

The church is over 100 years old, and the women are not aware of anything like this happening to it in the past. They're hoping it doesn't happen again. They're also hoping that many people will join them on Sept. 10, for the annual service at the church they care deeply about, and continue to faithfully maintain.



Historic church in Lincoln Lakes Area vandalized

The Lincoln Ladies Aid, which maintains the Lincoln Community Church, discovered it had been vandalized this past July. They have since cleaned it up, and it is

ready for the annual service scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 10, at 1:30 p.m. (Submitted photos)



New location for SwitchTrack Nutrition

Cyeryl Holmquist has moved her SwitchTrack Nutrition business to 308 2nd Ave. NE in Staples, the former Chamber of Commerce building. The chamber celebrated the new location with a ribbon cutting on Aug. 6. From left, Josi Longbottom, Marlo Corona, Bill Haugan, Zoe Stevens, Holmquist, Jamie D'Ambrogio and Abigail Brown. Holmquist said even after being closed for seven months, her customers came back right away. More about the business can be found at cherylmholmquist.goherbalfife.com. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

Mark Your Calendar

Sept. 10
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.

September 11
ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL EVENT AT MOTLEY FREE METHODIST CHURCH Wednesday, Sept. 11, 5 - 7 p.m., 33 Wellwood St. E., Motley. Taco supper, fall desserts, prize drawings, games, hayrides, candy, Awana registration. Free event for the entire family. Everyone is welcome.



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Small Business 101 sessions from SBDC

The North Central Small Business Development Center (SBDC) at Central Lakes College announces that they will be hosting four sessions of their Starting a Small Business 101 workshop throughout the region this fall. The workshop is an interactive, two-hour session designed to help entrepreneurs and new business owners turn their small business dreams into reality.

Each session of Starting a Small Business 101 will cover an introduction to entrepreneurship; business planning basics; legal structures overview; financing your business and developing a marketing plan. Participants can choose the date and location that works best for their schedule. The options include:

- Sept. 10, 5:30-7:30 p.m. – Brainerd
- Sept. 17, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Staples
- Oct. 1, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Wadena
- Oct. 17, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Long Prairie

There is a registration fee for the Brainerd, Staples and Long Prairie workshop. A discounted price applies to the Wadena workshop only; see the registration page for more details. Central Lakes College students, alumni and employees are eligible to attend any of the Starting a Small Business 101 workshops at no cost through the Raider Family Discount. "We're proud of our strong relationship with Central Lakes College and want to do our part to build futures through the power of entrepreneurship," stated Katie Heppner, Regional Director of the North Central SBDC.

To register and learn more about Starting a Small Business 101, visit: https://mnscu.rschooldto-day.com/public/getclass/category_id/1672/program_id/40. A link can also be found on the North Central SBDC's Facebook page.

To learn more about the North Central SBDC and to register for services visit www.clcmn.edu/small-business-development-center or contact Katie Heppner, Regional Director, at katherine.heppner@clcmn.edu.

All eligible voters are invited to attend:

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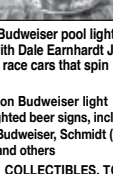
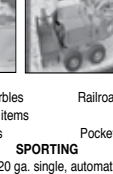
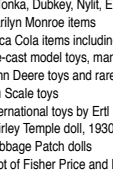
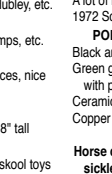
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Love, Greg and Stephanie Leslie, Karrie Carlson, Morgan Orloff, Olivia Berg, Ava, Parker, and Thea Carlson.

Quilts of Honor presentation at care center

Veterans at the Lakewood Health System Care Center in Staples were recently presented with quilts made and provided from the Quilts of Honor of Brainerd, along with the Piecemakers Quilting Club of Staples. All of the quilts were hand made and numbered by the Quilts of Honor. Each of the veterans received a pillow case as

well. The presentation was provided by Mary Theuer, Bob Hamann and Huck Holst. Pictured, front row from left, are veterans George Newton, Ron Anderson, Steven Schively, Anthony Young, Donald Heimer, Marion Beller. In the back row are members of the Piecemakers Quilt Club and the American Legion. (Submitted photo)

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 MASS: Fr. Gabriel Walz 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 Classes.....11-11:45 a.m.	Family Life Church 402 NE Clark Drive, Verndale 218-445-5568 VerndaleFLC@gmail.com Pastor Amos Self.....218-371-7189 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.)
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Trinity Lutheran to SPARKS

Alina Robinson, SPARKS program consultant, accepts a check for \$812 from Kurt Wilson, proceeds from the Trinity Lutheran Church pancake breakfast held during Railroad Days. SPARKS Mentoring connects community volunteers with local students to support academics and social/emotional needs.

SPARKS Mentoring looks to expand

SPARKS Mentoring of Staples-Motley, formed in 2022, by a group of former educators, who believe that “Every student needs a mentor.” SPARKS stands for Special People Are mentoRing Kids in School. They’ve grown into a non-profit that connects community volunteers with individual students and classrooms at Staples-Motley Elementary and Sacred Heart Area School. SPARKS has two programs that were running strong last year and will continue again. Reading Buddies, which allowed community volunteers to work with students in a one hour time frame and read short stories. Meal-time Buddies is the other program, which matches volunteers with one child, and they pick a day once a week (or twice monthly) to have breakfast or lunch together. SPARKS hopes to have enough volunteers to add another program this year, allowing volunteers to support students in their

math learning too. SPARKS is funded by donations and events, such as Meals For Mentors, which will be held October 1-15. SPARKS has participation from local businesses and organizations also. Trinity Lutheran Church held a pancake breakfast during Railroad Days, with the support of Thrivent seed money and raised over \$800 from free will donations. Lakewood Health System staff fill one day a week with Reading Buddy volunteers and new this year Dan Douts Insurance Agency is coming on board with some of their employees too. SPARKS Mentoring offers a short training to prepare volunteers and allows for a wide range of time commitments from volunteers. If you have interest in joining SPARKS and being a SPARK in the life of a child in SM reach out to mentoring2170@gmail.com.

“That Pesky Plank”

Pastor Barry Klein, Staples Church of Christ

Have you noticed that we can see other people's shortcomings better than we can see our own? It's true in my life. It brings to mind Romans 2:1 (NIV) when the Apostle Paul says, "You, therefore, have no excuse. You who pass judgement on someone else, for at whatever point you judge another, you are condemning yourself, because you who pass judgement do the same things." One of the classic old adages is "People who live in glass houses shouldn't throw stones." In other words, we need to be careful in criticizing another person when we haven't done our own homework of self-examination before God first. We assume that it's all well with us when in fact it may not be. Yes, that's where examination needs to take place for all of us. But be careful. We can make an error on both ends of these thoughts, misrepresenting Scripture (and God) in either one. The call of God is to neither be self-righteously judgemental or, equally dangerous, is to throw out all of God's wise design and conclude we never have a responsibility to speak into another person's life. Yes, we need to be humble, but when a person is on fire, just watching is not a loving thing to do. The Scripture that's often run to in order to throw out all engaged discernment is Matthew 7:1 (NIV) "Do not judge, or you too will be judged." But it goes on to say in verse two, "For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the same measure you use, it will be measured to you." So, Jesus isn't throwing out all "measuring."

What He is calling us to is a perspective of humble dependence upon God that seeks to bring people to the One Who is "the Way, the Truth and the Life." Often followers of Jesus are criticized for being judgemental with our "opinions." Now, that criticism is justified if we're trying to place on others OUR opinions. Followers of Jesus, we need to be careful. We can slip into accusations toward another person that's human based and then sugar coat it with a God-language that seeks to justify our assessment of another person. That is wrong. Jesus is the only perfect person that's ever walked this planet...and His compassion is unmatched. But His compassion is NEVER a spineless compassion. It's strong and with the content of absolute truth. As the Great Physician, He is not timid in calling out our spiritual cancer or a direction where we are careening out of control and down a cliff. He loves us too much to go passive with us. Yes, as Jesus goes on in Matthew 5, we do need to, in self-examination, "take pesky planks out of our own eyes before we attempt to take the speck of sawdust out of other people's eyes" (Matthew 5:4-5). But caring about what is right and life-giving for everyone is what chapter five is all about. Going on further in Matthew 5, Jesus uses vivid language of universal truth with imagery life "the narrow and wide gate," "true and false prophets," and "wise and foolish builders." So, folks, let's indeed be humble... but ALSO discerning as we mutually seek what God thinks, passing it along as "one beggar, telling another beggar, where to find fresh bread."

THE STAPLES AREA CHURCH DIRECTORY IS SPONSORED BY THESE AREA BUSINESSES:

To become a Church Directory supporter, call 218-894-1112.

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

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

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

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DEADLINE

for all classified ads and copy is 12 noon Friday

For the Staples World

Life Currents Policy
To request that an obituary, anniversary or other event (including benefit events) be placed word for word, personalized, contain more than one photo, or to run for more than one week, it may be placed as a display advertisement at the regular advertising rates (\$10.75 /col. inch). The item will be placed in our newspaper with a border around it and must be paid for at the time of placement. Deadline for advertising copy is noon on Friday.
Obituaries received from private parties, funeral homes, will be edited to our format and paid for prior to running at our obituary rate (\$10.25 pci) plus \$5 per photo. Minimum is \$60. Deadline for copy is noon on Friday, however, every effort is made to include those with timely services. Death notices are available and are free if followed in the next publication by the entire obituary. Obituaries printed in the Staples World will be posted on our website.
All obituaries are paid advertisements. Obituaries requested to be printed word for word will be charged regular advertising rates and marked as a -Paid Advertisement- with a box around it.
Please be sure to include the name of the deceased, date of birth, age, city of residence, when and where he or she died and the name and city of the funeral home handling the arrangements.



Straight set wins for VB

The Staples-Motley volleyball team came from behind in two of their sets to beat Verndale 3-0 on Aug. 27. They also won 3-0 against Foley on Aug. 29.

Against Verndale, the Cardinals won the first set 25-12 but dug a big hole in the second set, falling behind 4-11. They started their comeback with Hannah Cole and Miranda Schotzko getting ace blocks. They kept feeding Jade Storry and Livi Lorber for spikes and eventually took their first lead at 20-19. The last

five points were two kills by Lorber, a block by Schotzko and a kill by Storry. In the third set, they fell behind 15-18, but Cole and Schotzko blocked a spike, Storry had another kill and Lorber had a back row kill to pull ahead.

Team results
Staples-Motley 3, Verndale 0; 25-12, 25-23, 25-19
Miranda Schotzko: Blocks-6
Jade Storry: Kills-13, Blocks-2, Digs-6
Annie Schlosser: Aces-1, Assists-23, Kills-3, Blocks-2, Digs-2
Livi Lorber: Assists-4, Kills-

9, Blocks-2, Digs-3
Lilly Tyrrell: Assists-1, Digs-6
Ellie Lange: Digs-7
Izzy Becker: Aces-1, Kills-4, Digs-6
Hannah Cole: Kills-1, Blocks-4, Digs-1
Staples-Motley 3, Foley 0; 25-23, 25-19, 25-19
Schotzko: kills-1, blocks-2
Storry: aces-1, kills-10, digs-9
Schlosser: assists-23, kill-1, blocks-2, digs-1
Lorber: aces-1, assists-4, kills-20, blocks-3, digs-3
Tyrrell: digs-7
Lange: aces-1, digs-7
Becker: aces-1, kills-2, digs-5
Cole: kills-3, blocks-2



Volleyball action

Cardinal fans anticipate Annie Schlosser setting to Miranda Schotzko (23). Schlosser also was able to turn into an attacker when needed, below left. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



Jade Storry scores on a spike.

Izzy Becker



Cross country starts for returning state medal winners

The Staples-Motley girls cross country team took off from the starting line in their first meet of 2024, after placing second in the state in 2023. Cardinal runners included, from left, Suhaila Mikhaeil, Bella Hines, Mad-

elyn Kist, Leah Greenwaldt, Naila Mikhaeil, Alea Holst and Audrey Brownell. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



Ivan Lozano and Andrew Dobson



Israel Ritter

Cardinals competitive in first CC meet

The Staples-Motley cross country teams battled to within one point of several quality teams in their opening meet held on their home course at The Vintage in Staples.

The girls team placed second, one point behind Fergus Falls, while the boys were in a three way battle with Bertha-Hewitt and Park Rapids for second place. They ended up in fourth, one point away from B-H and tied with PR, but they lost the tiebreaker with their sixth runner finishing behind PR's sixth runner.

Individually, Audrey Brownell won the girls race, coming back strong in the second half of the race and making up a big gap from the early leader from Fergus Falls. The Cardinals had a

solid group of runners in the 2-5 positions, leading to a good team finish.

In the boys race, Logan Robben was the top finisher, with Blaine Plattner, Gage Bjerga and Andrew Dobson coming in soon after.

It was a hot and humid morning race, combined with a traditionally tough course, making for mostly slow times in this first race of the year.

Girls results
Fergus Falls 40, Staples-Motley 41, Park Rapids 89, Crosby-Ironton 90, Brandon-Evansville 99
Varsity (5,000 meters) - 1. Audrey Brownell 19:21, 10. Naila Mikhaeil 23:35, 15. Bella Hines 24:40, 16. Suhaila Mikhaeil 24:43, 18. Alea Holst 24:50, 27. Leah Greenwaldt 26:20, 34. Madelyn Kist 29:18

Jr. high (2,500 meters) - 3. Elise Trif 11:37, 9. Alexis Odden 12:38, 10. Anna Warner 12:53, 15. Mollie Larrimore 15:30

Boys results
Fergus Falls 20, Bertha-Hewitt 81, Park Rapids 82, Staples-Motley 82, Crosby-Ironton 121, Long Prairie-Grey Eagle 163, Pine River-Backus 188
Varsity (5,000 meters) - 10. Logan Robben 19:04, 14. Blaine Plattner 19:52, 15. Gage Bjerga 20:01, 16. Andrew Dobson 20:05, 27. Ivan Lozano 21:34, 29. Gabriel Kroll 21:37, 32. Garrett Bjerga 22:05
JV: 9. Dillan Robben 23:43, 12. Israel Ritter 25:02, 18. Jackson Odden 26:52, 20. Avandre Brandt 27:41
Jr. high (2,500 meters) - 11. Reed Leach 10:34, 22. Alex Leach 12:02, 26. Bennett Sonenstahl 12:30, 27. Zane Leach 12:41, 40. Christopher Mikhaeil 20:24



Blaine Plattner



Hall of Fame tournament

Holst Acres hosted a wiffleball tournament for the Staples-Motley Athletic Hall of Fame on Aug. 18. Nine teams participated with a mix of young players, alumni and wiffleball fans. Above, the Class of 2004 team makes a play in the outfield. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



Tennis team wins 4-3

The Staples-Motley girls tennis team completed three dual matches in a week where several others got rained out. Their biggest match was at Pequot Lakes on Aug. 29, when they emerged on top of a hard-fought match with a 4-3 win. All three doubles matches went to a third set, with the Cardinals winning because Andrea DiGiovanni and Lydia Roelofs won their final set 7-5. The team also had a 7-0 win at Moorhead on Aug. 27 and a 7-0 win at Zimmerman on Aug. 23, where every set score was 6-0 or 6-1. All of those matches were supposed to have multiple matches, but weather cancelled them or they got rained out in progress. Although the team is missing five matches from the schedule, Coach Katie Noska said the team has a tougher schedule planned for this year and the team is still working hard at practice for the strong competition ahead. “Iron sharpens iron and we will have to summons some major grit from this young group,” said Noska. “They are showing alot of promise.”

Team results
Staples-Motley 4, Pequot Lakes 3
Singles: Ronnie Noska W 6-0, 6-0; Corinne Olson L 5-7, 0-6; Jaida Holst W 6-4, 6-1; Kaylee Perius W 6-2, 6-1
Doubles: Heidi Zimmerman/Madison Perius L 6-4, 1-6, 0-6; Natalie Hanson/Sarah Kroll L 7-5, 2-6, 1-6; Andrea DiGiovanni/Lydia Roelofs W 6-3, 4-6, 7-5
Staples-Motley 7, Moorhead 0
Singles: R. Noska W 6-0, 6-1; Olson W 6-1, 6-4; Holst W 6-0, 6-0; Perius W 6-1, 6-3
Doubles: Zimmerman/M. Perius W 6-2, 6-0; Hanson/Kroll W 6-0, 7-6 (7-4); DiGiovanni/Charlie Noska W 6-2, 6-2

Athletic Hall of Fame 2024

The 2024 Staples-Motley Athletic Hall of Fame induction will be Saturday, Oct. 5, at Centennial Auditorium in Staples. Social hour is at 4:30 and the ceremony starts at 5:30. Inducted in the 2024 class will be:

Athletes:
Jessica (Beachy) Rahman (1984) basketball, tennis, track and field
John Riewer (1982) basketball, baseball
Gordy Thompson Sr. (1972) wrestling, football

Curt Johnson (1969) basketball, track and field, baseball, football
Lyle Stevens (1960) football, wrestling, baseball, track and field

Teams:
1978 & 1979 Staples Wrestling Teams
1998 & 1999 Staples-Motley Cross Country Teams

Coach:
Glen Hasselberg, golf

Community Contributor:
Huck & Marilyn Holst



Dynamic blocking game

Cardinal blockers presented an imposing wall to Verndale’s hitters. Above, Hannah Cole and Livi Lorber rise above the net; right, Miranda Schotzko and Jade Storry stop a shot. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)





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!*

PUBLIC NOTICES:
Your Right to Know

LEADER COMMUNITY HALL BOARD

The Leader Community Hall Board will meet on Thursday, September 12, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at the Hall.

Mark Strom,
Secretary

36-37pnc

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF TODD
SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
DISTRICT COURT
PROBATE DIVISION
Court File No. 77-PR-24-727

Estate of
Bryan Arnie Wahl,
Decedent

NOTICE AND ORDER
OF HEARING
ON PETITION
FOR FORMAL
ADJUDICATION
OF INTESTACY,
DETERMINATION
OF HEIRSHIP,
APPOINTMENT
OF PERSONAL
REPRESENTATIVE
AND NOTICE TO
CREDITORS

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on September 30, 2024, at 10:14 am, an administrative nonappearance hearing will be held in this Court at 221 1st Avenue South, Long Prairie, Minnesota, for the adjudication of intestacy and determination of heirship of the Decedent, and for the appointment of Cheryl L. Grenz, whose address is 10738 102nd Ave. N., Maple Grove, MN, 55369 as Personal Representative of the Estate of the Decedent in an UNSUPERVISED administration. Any objections to the petition must be filed with the Court prior to the hearing. If proper and if no objections are filed or raised, the Personal Representative will be appointed with full power to administer the Estate, including the power to collect all assets, to pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, to sell real and personal property,

and to do all necessary acts for the Estate.

Notice is also given that (subject to Minnesota Statutes section 524.3-801) all creditors having claims against the Estate are required to present the claims to the Personal Representative or to the Court Administrator within four months after the date of this Notice or the claims will be barred.

Dated: 8/23/2024

BY THE COURT
Daniel Benson
Judge of District Court

Kim Peterson
Court Administrator

Attorney for Petitioner
John D. Goepfenger
Steinhagen, Crist,
Wehrly, & Kufus, P.L.L.P.
5001 Chowen Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN, 55410
Attorney License
No: 0402674
Telephone: (612) 922-2260
FAX: (612) 922-2996
Email: jgoepfenger@steinhagen-crist.com

37-38pnc

NOTICE
CITY OF STAPLES
ORDINANCE NO. 550
AN ORDINANCE
TO AMEND SECTION
18-1 AND 18-9
OF THE CITY CODE

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF STAPLES ORDAINS:

SECTION 1: Section 18-1(b)(3) is hereby amended as follows:

(3) Such written notice shall be served upon the owner, lessee and occupant of the premises and shall be served either personally, by certified mail or posting.

a. Posting may be utilized when service has been attempted at least twice on different days, with at least one of the attempts having been made between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. Posting is completed on the second attempt by posting the notice in a conspicuous place on the property.

SECTION 2: Section 18-9(d) is hereby amended as follows:

(d) When the owner and occupant permit a weed or grass nuisance to exist, the city inspector or designated representative shall serve notice upon the owner of the property, if he resides in the city and can be found therein, or upon the occupant or other person in charge of the property in other cases, by registered mail or by personal service, ordering such owner, occupant or person in charge of the property to have such weeds or grass removed within five days after receipt of the notice, stating that, in case of noncompliance, such work will be performed by the city or its agents and the cost thereof made a special assessment against the property concerned. When no owner or occupant can be found, notice shall be served by posting the notice as provided for in Section 18-1(b)(3)(a).

SECTION 3: Effective Date. The ordinance becomes effective from and after its passage and publication.

Adopted this 27th day of August, 2024.

Tara Greer, Clerk
City of Staples

37pnc

You are hereby notified that the parcels of real property described below and located in Todd County, Minnesota, are subject to forfeiture to the State of Minnesota because of the nonpayment of delinquent property taxes, special assessments, penalties, interest, and costs levied on these parcels. The time for redemption from forfeiture expires if a redemption is not made by the later of (1) thirty (30) days after service of this notice on all persons having an interest in the parcels or (2) August 9th, 2024 whichever is later. The redemption must be made in the Todd County Auditor/Treasurer Office.

IMPORTANT: If the parcels forfeit, they will be sold. If the proceeds from the sale exceed the total amount of the delinquent taxes, special assessments, penalties, interest, and costs assigned to those parcels, you may be entitled to the excess proceeds from the sale. If there are excess proceeds, you will be notified and must submit the claim from included with the notification in order to receive the proceeds.

The following information is listed below: the names of the property owners, taxpayers, and interested parties who have filed their addresses under M.S. 276.041; the addresses of the parties at the election of the County Auditor/Treasurer; the legal description and parcel identification number of the parcels; and the amount necessary to redeem the parcels as of the date listed below:

Parcel No. Names & Addresses	Addition Owners/ Interested Parties	Legal Description	Amount Due
08-0046800 HARLIN & PATRICIA GROVER & SUE GROVER RISTINE 1648 HILLVIEW RD SHOREVIEW MN 55126		LOT 15 BLOCK 3 SYLVAN SHORES NO. 1	\$ 234.19
08-0046900 HARLIN & PATRICIA GROVER & SUE GROVER RISTINE 1648 HILLVIEW RD SHOREVIEW MN 55126		LOT 16 BLOCK 3 SYLVAN SHORES NO. 1	\$ 234.19
08-0106600 PETER & NATALYA SHEVCHENKO 23520 GUTER RD SEDALIA MO 65301		LOT 2 BLOCK 12 FAWN LAKE MEADOWS	\$ 223.74
08-0108800 DELMAR GOLDEMAN C/O NANCY SAGER 34922 XENON ST NW PRINCETON MN 55371	CARL LARUE 63825 AGROWHEAD RD CAMBRIDGE OH 43725	LOT 24 BLOCK 12 FAWN LAKE MEADOWS	\$ 186.97
08-0122500 RUPALI SUNIL SHAH 1256 WATER LILY WAY SAN JOSE CA 95129		LOT 20 BLOCK 1 PINE ISLAND HEIGHTS	\$ 223.74
08-0126000 MATTHEW PRATT 9028 HIGHLAND AVE AVALON WI 53505		LOT 21 BLOCK 2 PINE ISLAND HEIGHTS	\$ 197.41
08-0126300 MATTHEW PRATT 9028 HIGHLAND AVE AVALON WI 53505		LOT 24 BLOCK 2 PINE ISLAND HEIGHTS	\$ 207.86
08-0130000 LEROY O & CAROLYN YOUNG 7573 MADISON ST OMAHA NE 68127		LOT 3 BLOCK 3 PINE ISLAND HEIGHTS	\$ 218.30
08-0156200 JULIE ANN PACKER WHITEHEAD 819 SOUTH BREVARD AVE COCA BEACH FL 32935		LOT 22 BLOCK 9 PINE ISLAND HEIGHTS	\$ 255.08
08-0156500 BENJAMIN F & MAREN C MOON 5775 120 TH ST SW PILLAGER MN 56473		LOT 2 BLOCK 10 PINE ISLAND HEIGHTS	\$ 207.86
08-0156600 BENJAMIN F & MAREN C MOON 5775 120 TH ST SW PILLAGER MN 56473		LOT 3 BLOCK 10 PINE ISLAND HEIGHTS	\$ 207.86
19-0041800 BRANDON GREENWOOD 39729 OAK DR BROWERVILLE MN 56438		LOT 20 BLOCK 4 SYLVAN SHORES VILLA	\$ 195.87
19-0042300 BRANDON GREENWOOD 39729 OAK DR BROWERVILLE MN 56438		LOT 25 BLOCK 4 SYLVAN SHORES VILLA	\$ 1,787.98
19-0042400 BRANDON GREENWOOD 39729 OAK DR BROWERVILLE MN 56438		LOT 26 BLOCK 4 SYLVAN SHORES VILLA	\$ 172.05
19-0075400 ANDREW & OLGA KRINITSYN 4440 145 TH LAKE NW ANDOVER MN 55304		LOT 14 BLOCK 5 PRAIRIE RIVER HEIGHTS	\$ 185.98
19-0075600 ANDREW & OLGA KRINITSYN 4440 145 TH LAKE NW ANDOVER MN 55304		LOT 16 BLOCK 5 PRAIRIE RIVER HEIGHTS	\$ 174.88
19-0125900 MUTASIM S ASSIDAMI 43617 DUNHILL CUP SQ ASHBURN VA 20147		LOT 45 BLOCK 1 TIMBER RIDGE	\$ 233.42
20-0036700 BARRY J & LARAE BAUER PO BOX 236 LONG PRAIRIE MN 56347		SECT 33 TWP 129 RANG 34 BEG 977 FT S & 264 FT W OF NE COR OF NEA N 117 FT, W 100 FT, S 84 FT, SE 105 FT TO BEG	\$ 141.74
29-0005400 CHEAP HOME FINDERS INC PO BOX 881655 PORT ST LUCIE FL 34988		LOT 11 ACD. SUBD. OF E 706 FT OF SE4 SE4	\$ 3,034.50
33-0000700 JAMES R RANDALL TRUST C/O JESSIE RANDALL PO BOX 293 CAROLS MN 56319		SECT 11 TWP 131 RANG 35 COMB 21 RDS N OF SW COR OF SE4 SE4, THENCE N 23 RDS, E 16 RDS, S 10 RDS, E 16 RDS, S 13 RDS, W 32 RDS	\$ 2,293.30
33-0016300 THOMAS J ATKINSON 1507 E 4TH ST DULUTH MN 55812		LOT 1 & 2 EX S 20 FT BLOCK 4 ABBOTT'S 1ST ADDITION TO EAGLE BEND	\$ 3,589.86
33-0020900 BERNARD J PAM DAHLVANG 8526 COUNTY 20 SW SEBEKA MN 56477		E 30 FT OF S 94.25 FT OF LOT 10 BLOCK 1 BONDY'S FIRST ADDITION	\$ 5,016.80
36-0026300 DARIBEL DEL BOIS HENRIQUEZ ROSALIA HENRIQUEZ SELMO 16 7TH STREET SE LONG PRAIRIE MN 56347	MARTIN MONTANEZ-MORELOS ARTEMIA MONTANEZ CARRILLO 911 WOODLAND CIRCLE LONG PRAIRIE MN 56347	LOT 2 BLOCK 3 TWEED'S FIRST ADDITION	\$ 1,629.83
38-0040500 DAVID J BAKER TRUSTEE PERAL, BENJAMIN, JOHN BAKER 4272 JACKSON AVE CULVER CITY CA 90232		LOT 3 BLOCK 7 DRAKE & BARTRAW ADD...	\$ 378.50
38-0042400 KEVIN W HARRIS & MICHELLE L WEEKLEY 212 WISCONSIN AVE SE STAPLES MN 56479		LOT 4 BLOCK 9 DRAKE & BARTRAW ADDITION	\$ 1,723.56

The time for redemption of the parcels of real property listed above from the tax judgment sale expired August 9th, 2024

FAILURE TO REDEEM SUCH LAND PRIOR TO THE EXPIRATION OF REDEMPTION WILL RESULT IN THE LOSS OF THE LAND AND FORFEITURE OF SAID LAND TO THE STATE OF MINNESOTA.

The redemption amount shown above was the amount due on August 9th, 2024

Inquiries as to these proceedings can be made to the Todd County Auditor/ Treasurer Office, whose address is listed below.

Witness my hand and official seal this 23rd, day of August, 2024.

Denise Gaida
Denise Gaida, Todd County Auditor/Treasurer

by Becky JagerMeis,
Deputy Auditor/ Treasurer
Todd County Courthouse
215 - 1st Avenue South, Suite 201
Long Prairie, MN 56347-1378
Telephone: (320) 732 - 4473

37-38pnc

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
THE TODD COUNTY BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS HELD
JULY 16, 2024

Call to Order

The Todd County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Board Room in the City of Long Prairie, MN on the 16th day of July, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Becker. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. All Commissioners were present.

Approval of Agenda

On motion by Byers and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To adopt the agenda as presented.

Consent Agenda

On motion by Noska and seconded by Denny, the following motions were introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

To approve the Todd County Board of Commissioner's Meeting Minutes for July 2nd, 2024 as presented.

Approve the resignation of Child Services Social Worker Crystal Woznick, effective July 9th, 2024.

Approve the resignation of Eligibility Worker Seth Buschke, effective July 10th, 2024.

Approve the hiring of Alyssa Scheve as Resource Conservationist.

Auditor-Treasurer

On motion by Denny and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous rollcall vote: To approve the Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 403321 through 403339 in the amount of \$62,611.30 and (Regular) 58169 through 58209 in the amount of \$52,723.51 for a total of \$115,334.81.

On motion by Noska and seconded by Byers, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous rollcall vote: To approve the Health & Human Services Commissioner Warrants number (ACH) 805518 through 805576 and (Regular) 712128 through 712178 for a total of \$160,008.26

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous rollcall vote: To approve the Health & Human Services SSIS Warrants number (ACH) 601339 through 601365 and (Regular) 517952 through 517975 for a total amount of \$131,396.56.

On motion by Noska and seconded by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To ratify the IFS System Support MnCCC/Trinin Professional Services Agreement for continued utilization of this program by Todd County.

Public Works

On motion by Byers and seconded by Noska, the following resolution was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote:

Final Payment Authorization – 2024 Pavement Marking Maintenance Contract

WHEREAS, the contract with Sir Lines-A-Lot, LLC for the 2024 Pavement Marking Maintenance Contract known as CP 77-24-03 located on various routes in Todd County, has in all things been completed, and;

WHEREAS, construction work on this contract was scheduled and completed in 2024 with the value of the total work certified being \$194,799.10, and;

WHEREAS, partial payments amounting to \$185,059.14 have been previously been made to the contractor as work progressed, and; WHEREAS, it has been determined that \$9,739.96 still remains to be paid to Sir Lines-A-Lot, LLC.

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

On motion by Noska and seconded by Byers, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve attached quote from Long Prairie Lumber for the replacement of the Long Prairie Shop Salt Shed Roof for \$7,009.07.

Facilities

On motion by Byers and seconded by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the change of the maximum allowable limit from \$5,000 to \$7,000 only for the demolition of houses project.

On motion by Denny and seconded by Byers, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the bid from M.A.A.C for a total cost of \$6,250 to remove areas of concern.

County Sheriff

On motion by Noska and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To hire an additional Court Security staff member to fill the current staffing need.

Planning & Zoning

On motion by Noska and seconded by Byers, the following motion was introduced and adopted by majority vote with Becker and Neumann against: Revocation of CUP 2023-022 per the request of the land owner.

On motion by Denny and seconded by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To adopt the Fiscal Agent Agreement for the Long Prairie River Watershed Collaborative.

Closed Session

Chair Becker closed the session pursuant to MN Statute §13D.05 Subd. 3(a) at 9:21 a.m.

On motion by Byers and seconded by Noska, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To reopen the session at 9:51 a.m.

Chair Becker provided a summary of the closed session that the Department Head Evaluation was held for Mitch Johnson, Facilities Manager and was deemed in satisfactory standing.

County Auditor-Treasurer's Report

The County Auditor-Treasurer reported that mobile home tax statements have been released and election judge trainings are well underway in preparation for the upcoming state elections.

County Attorney's Report

The County Attorney provided an update regarding staffing and recruitment.

County Coordinator's Report

The County Coordinator attended the Finance Committee meetings and meetings regarding broadband grant projects and extended the invitation received from Long Prairie for the National Night Out on August 6, 2024.

County Commissioner's Report

The Commissioners reported on meetings and events attended.

Commissioner Denny attended the meetings to work on financial budgets for assigned committees.

Commissioner Becker attended the Policies, TWCC, Personnel, Dept Head, Finance, SWCD, and Rainbow Rider meetings.

Commissioner Neumann attended the Personnel, Dept Head, Finance, SWCD, Solid Waste, and Rainbow Rider meetings.

Commissioner Byers attended the TCDC meeting.

Commissioner Noska attended the regular meetings.

Adjourn

On motion by Byers and seconded by Denny, the meeting was adjourned for the month of July 2024.

COMMISSIONER WARRANTS

VENDOR NAME	\$ AMOUNT
ARNZEN CONSTRUCTION	INC \$9,496.77
CENTRAL APPLICATORS INC	16,245.09
JOHNSON CONTROLS.....	3,855.64
LONG PRAIRIE LEADER.....	3,220.00
LONG PRAIRIE TARP.....	3,451.50
METAL CULVERTS INC.....	35,655.70
MOTOROLA.....	15,109.25
POWERPHONE.....	3,235.55
STREICHER'S.....	2,166.48
ZIEGLER INC.....	2,198.27
50 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000.....	20,700.56
Total:	\$115,334.81
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES WARRANTS	
VENDOR NAME	\$ AMOUNT
MCCC, MI33.....	\$6,398.05
8 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000.....	4,403.23
V#16382 - COST EFF	
HEALTH INS	2,480.31

CENTRAL MN COUNCIL	
ON AGING	2,534.00
DHS - SWIFT	6,862.03
EVIDENCE BASED STRATEGISTS, INC	4,000.00
V#16675 - COST EFF	
HEALTH INS	2,022.76
V#16380 - COST EFF	
HEALTH INS	2,167.87
V#16991 - COST EFF	
HEALTH INS	2,553.96
RURAL MN CEP INC	17,207.97
TODD COUNTY	
ATTORNEY'S OFFICE.....	2,850.00
TODD COUNTY	
MIS DEPT	63,579.41
91 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000.....	42,948.67
Total:	\$160,008.26
VENDOR NAME	\$ AMOUNT
#16704	\$6,643.80
#16192	2,482.20
#16095	4,058.66
DHS - MOOSE LAKE	
RTC - 462.....	2,257.50
DHS - MSOP - MN SEX	
OFFENDER PROG - 462	5,939.60
DHS - ST PETER RTC - 472	11,578.50
NORTH HOMES CHILDREN & FAMILY SRVS.....	11,009.65
#16208 2,234.73	
PORT OF CROW WING	
GIRLS HOME.....	6,999.60
STEP 8,634.02	
VALLEY LAKE BOYS	
HOME INC	8,550.00
VILLAGE RANCH INC.....	34,514.22
39 PAYMENTS LESS	
THAN \$2,000.....	26,494.08
Total:	\$131,396.56

On a motion by Neumann and seconded by Denny, the preceding minutes of the County Board meeting held July 16, 2024 were duly approved by unanimous vote at the Todd County Board of Commissioners at the Regular Board Meeting held on August 6, 2024.

Witness my hand and seal:

/s/ on file
Barbara Becker, County Board Chairperson
/s/ on file
Denise Gaida, Todd County Auditor-Treasurer

36pnc

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL
BOARD MEETING OF THE TODD
COUNTY BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS HELD
JULY 29, 2024

Call to Order

The Todd County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Board Room in the City of Long Prairie, MN on the 29th day of July, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Becker. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. All Commissioners were present.

Approval of Agenda

On motion by Noska and seconded by Denny, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To adopt the agenda as presented.

Facilities & Public Works Department

On motion by Byers and seconded by Neumann, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the attached Proposal #1 from Boulder Creek, Inc. for the completion of the proposed additional work required on the Historic Rockwall Project for an additional financial implication of \$434,500 to be supported via ARPA funds.

Adjourn

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Denny, the meeting was adjourned at 10:21 a.m.

On a motion by Neumann and seconded by Denny, the preceding minutes of the County Board meeting held July 29, 2024 were duly approved by unanimous vote at the Todd County Board of Commissioners at the Regular Board Meeting held on August 6, 2024.

Witness my hand and seal:

/s/ on file
Barbara Becker, County Board Chairperson
/s/ on file
Denise Gaida, Todd County Auditor-Treasurer

37pnc



Classified Ad Order Form

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Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Classification # _____

Cost of Ad

First 15 words for one week \$9.85

Add for number of words over 15 _____ x 25¢ = _____

OR First 15 words for three weeks \$25.00

Add for number of words over 15 _____ x 25¢ = _____

Add \$5 for bold type and/or CAPITALIZED

indicate which word(s) is/are to be bold or capitalized

Add \$10 for Blind Box

TOTAL enclosed _____

Card of Thanks and *In Memoriam* are 20¢ per word with no minimum.
 Number of words _____ x 20¢ = _____
 TOTAL enclosed _____

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 We are not responsible for errors due to illegible copy or missing punctuation.

Your ad will be printed as you write it.
 Please print clearly, one word per space.

Use additional paper
 if necessary.
 Thank you for your order!

Please mail completed form and check payment to:
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SERVICES & EMPLOYMENT

205

Help Wanted

B J E R G A F E E D STORES in **MOTLEY** is hiring all positions. **Driver, laborer, retail office help.** Competitive wage, holiday pay, PTO. Must be able to work some Saturdays. Full-time or part-time available. Stop at Bjerga Feeds in Motley. 27tfc

208

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602

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611

Wanted to Buy

40+ ACRES between Wadena/Pillager, with or without house, 218-831-3521. 35-37p

GARAGE SALES

701

GARAGE SALE: Thurs., Sept. 5, Fri., Sept. 6, Sat., Sept. 7, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. 21775 State 210, Staples. Something for everyone. 37p

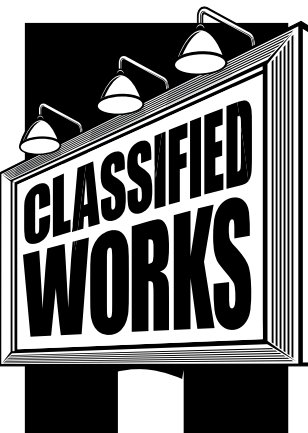
MOVING & COMMUNITY SALE: 1120 6th St. NE, Staples (Units 604 and 704). Thurs., Sept. 5, Fri., Sept. 6, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Housewares, holiday decorations, ladies Halloween costumes, furniture, women's plus size clothing, misc. items in Unit 704. 37p

NOW TAKING APPLICATIONS

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England Prairie Pioneer Days

August 23, 24, 25, 2024 ~ Recreating the “olden” farm days



The antique tractor pull at England Prairie Pioneer Days featured 50 years and older tractors competing during the full day on Saturday. Classes were 3,500 - 10,500 lbs. (Staples World photos by Janice Winter)



Sunday featured the plow down in the England Prairie fields with over five teams of horses and drivers participating.



Curt Brand of Zimmerman with his team of Shires, Simon (19) and Turbo (9), used a walking plow.



Part of the Hit 'N Miss Gasoline engine display featured making old fashioned ice cream available at the mercantile store. Above: Amelia Hoemberg, Todd Hoemberg, Chauncey Hopp, Jim Hoemberg and an attendee taking a turn at mixing.



The log cabin church was built on the England Prairie grounds in memory of Rev. Al Fultz in 2006. Sunday service was held in the morning.



Team hitch competition included the rescue course (above) with Duane and 'victim' and the obstacle course.



Threshing demonstration.



Sharon Thew, England Prairie queen 2024



Building birdhouses with Jon and Darlys Hamberg.



The blacksmith branding the birdhouses with the EPPD logo.



Lori Thew



Bruce Brotherton



Chauncey Hopp



Amelia Hoemberg



Children shelled and ground corn and visited the petting barn.



The horse drawn potato picker worked the grounds at the “Tater Dig & Pick.”

SEDA continued from page 1a

City known for health, athletics, outdoors

Staples identity

The SEDA board discussed some of the assets that the community has that they might be able to promote to make the community stand out.

Board member Doug Case said a lot of people from out of town know about Staples because they attended Central Lakes College, formerly Staples Vocational. He said a lot mention the railroad or the great wrestling teams from the past.

Gertken noted all the health-related assets in the community. “We lean on Lakewood, and now we have the new Essentia Clinic and Twin Cities Orthopedics,” he said.

Gertken said building more trails could help improve the city’s healthy image, such as one from the city to Lakewood. Case said a trail to Dower Lake would allow kids to ride their bikes out there instead of on the narrow Thunder Road.

Bjerga said safer biking routes from outside the city and to Pine Grove Park are also needed. “I would love to see kids ride bikes to practices,” she said.

SEDA Board member Shane Tappe, the Staples-Motley Superintendent, added to that list mentioning the existing trails, the Crow Wing River, the local golf course and the school grounds where the public is allowed to play tennis or run on the track.

Tappe said “There’s other ways for a healthy lifestyle” and noted the outdoors and hunting culture in the area, the new meat cutting program and the Holst Acres recreation opportunities.

The board also talked about the resurgence of athletics at Staples-Motley High School as another healthy community indicator, with many different teams emerging as among the best in the area.

Tappe said he sees the

strength of the community in the relationships, partnerships and pride evident in Staples. He gave an example of The Nest walking track and wellness center being built by Lakewood around the refurbished gym.

“Without those partnerships, none of that gets accomplished,” said Tappe.

Bjerga said when she describes Staples to outsiders, she says “when a team goes to state, the town shuts down. That’s the small town feeling you get.”

Tappe pointed out that the Staples-Motley fan section at state wrestling was larger than nearly every other school including the Class AAA big city schools. He gave another example of how the community is rallying around former student Ashley Robben and her fight against leukemia.

“Customer service, pride, relationships, all those things matter,” said Tappe. “It doesn’t mean we’re perfect, it is about defining the standard of excellence.

Wakefield suggested the board spearhead a branding process where the community identifies local assets and chooses which ones to enhance for our community promotions.

Bjerga was in favor of the process, saying that it could uncover some hidden assets in the community. “If we take a look at our strengths, some of them might not be obvious,” said Bjerga.

Retail identity

Gerard said the biggest thing Staples is missing is a thriving retail trade.

“We need shops that bring people downtown, not insurance and other offices,” said Gerard.

He added that a person used to be able to get shoes and clothing in downtown Staples, but now many people do their shopping online.

“Retail is tough,” said Wakefield. “The ones I see that succeed are the ones that go heavy on the expe-

riential part of it.” That means giving a unique shopping experience so people will want to go back.

Wakefield also talked about the “economy of scale” for retail.

“One boutique store would fail in Staples, but four or five would make it,” he said, explaining that people from out of town would make a day trip to visit multiple shops, but not just one.

Wakefield also said that in a city of 3,000 people, retail stores do best if they have high ticket merchandise, so they don’t have to have as many customers, or if they are able to pull customers from a farther distance away.

Case noted that a lot of out-of-towners used to come to Auto Value in Staples for tractor parts because the owner knew everything about tractors. He said even today, a computer isn’t always a good replacement for someone with that kind of knowledge.

Signage, overpass

Wakefield said the community received an extension on the Blandin downtown revitalization grant, through 2025. He said the \$54,000 still unspent is earmarked for wayfinding signs, to point people to local attractions. He noted that public parking is not very well signed right now.

The board talked about decorating the overpass with either lights, paint or signs, as a way for people to remember Staples as they pass through.

Gerard said “I think of metal structures attached” to the overpass, made by local industries.

Wakefield also gave a housing update at the meeting. He said the city may have a bid on five of the duplex lots in the Valley View neighborhood, with a developer proposing to build ten total units on the five lots over the next few years.



A stop at ‘Vickie’s Pet Pantry’ at CLC

Family members of the late Vickie O’Brien (in lower photo) stopped by ‘Vickie’s Pet Pantry’ at Central Lakes College (CLC) in Staples. The pet pantry was created by CLC in honor of O’Brien who was a nursing instructor there. Pictured above, from left, are Tyler Summers, Canby; Katya O’Brien, Alexandria; Randee O’Brien, Buhl, Idaho; Kathy Holper and Bob Holper, both of Carlos.

Vickie’s daughter

Randee shared that the pet pantry is available to assist and support students at CLC in Brainerd and Staples in maintaining the health of their pets. “My mom had a deep love for animals and this pantry carries on her legacy,” she said. Submitted photos)

O’BRIEN continued from page 1a

Love for animals inspired Vickie’s Pet Pantry

Vickie had a deep love for animals, which was noted by her family and friends at the bench dedication.

Randee went on to share about Vickie’s Pet Pantry which was created by CLC in honor of their mother. It’s available at both the Brainerd and Staples campuses to assist and support students in maintaining the health of their pets. “My mom had a deep love for animals and this pantry carries on that legacy,” Randee said. During their recent trip to CLC, Randee and Katya donated pet supplies to both pantries in preparation for the beginning of the school year. Randee’s also created an Amazon Wish List for each of the pantries, setting up links that can be accessed online.

These Amazon links can be used to donate and have items sent directly to the pantries. Pet supplies that are not on the wish lists are also welcome to be donated and can be mailed or dropped off at the ‘Welcome Hub’ at either campus.

“Vickie’s passion and love for animals was so inspiring,” Hoehn said, going on to mention the two pet pantries formed by CLC in her memory. “These pet donations help students care for and feed their ‘fur babies’ while attending school. This would have been a

huge importance to Vickie,” Hoehn said.

Hoehn also noted that the bench had been made by Randee’s boyfriend, Alex Wagner of Buhl, Idaho. It had been transported from Idaho to Staples by Randee and Katya.

The dean went on to say that the bench is a heart-warming reminder to all on the CLC campus of Vickie’s dedication to the school’s mission...and that it will be a highlight for use for students, faculty and staff alike.



Memorial bench for Vickie

A new bench in memory of Vickie O’Brien is situated outside the front entrance at Central Lakes College in Staples, where O’Brien was a nursing instructor. Pictured above at the bench dedication Aug. 19, are friends and family of Vickie’s. Standing from left: Duane Kraemer, Hewitt; Katya O’Brien (Vickie’s daughter), Alexandria; Bob Holper (Vickie’s brother-in-law), Carlos; Kathy Holper (Vickie’s sister-in-law), Carlos; Randee O’Brien (Vickie’s daughter), Buhl, Idaho; Tyler Summers (Katya’s boyfriend), Canby. Seated is Karen Treangen, Hewitt, Vickie’s best friend and fellow (retired) nursing instructor. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

KOENIGS continued from page 1a

Principal impressed by community relationships

town and I’ve felt that here.”

Starting the job in July, Koenigs met with outgoing Principal Alan Berg and they talked about the next steps for the Cardinal Way.

“We had a similar process in Ogilvie,” he said. “There are a couple of pieces we can add here to take the program to the next level.”

But to start, Koenigs said his first few months will be learning more about the students, teachers and finding out why things are done the way they are at the school. He plans to push the positive culture and Cardinal Way while formalizing routines.

Staples-Motley Elementary is continuing the

“getting to know you” conferences where students and parents can schedule times to talk to their new teachers and get to know the classroom expectations. Koenig’s first impressions of the conferences is that it has been very positive.

“I’ve seen a lot of smiles and hugs with the teachers,” said Koenigs. “Our teachers have great relationships with students and parents, I’m very happy to see this.”

The school is using a new online platform, Synergy, where 75 percent of elementary parents signed up for the conferences. Most of the other parents also signed up after being contacted by teachers.

“This is impressive that the families take the time to come to the conferences,” said Koenigs.

As principal, Koenigs said he will stress communication, another pillar of the Cardinal Way. Soon there will be a new app called Cardinal Link, which will be a “one-stop shop” for communication and school information.

Koenigs and his wife Lisa have three children, Molly, Arthur and Franklin, ages first grade, kindergarten and one year old. Lisa is working in a student success position at Staples-Motley Middle School.



LAKEWOOD WELCOMES

Emily McGovern, DO ONCOLOGIST

Lakewood is pleased to announce the arrival of on-staff oncologist, Dr. Emily McGovern. Dr. McGovern practices full-spectrum oncology and has a special interest in the treatment of breast cancer. She will be seeing patients at Lakewood’s Staples Clinic.

TO SPEAK TO A MEMBER OF OUR
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