Inside this issue:

Wrestlers compete at nationals
Motley Foodshelf Donations
Lamplighter Community Theatre

8 10499 02493 3



Wednesday, January 8, 2025 Staples World Staples, Minnesota $1.25

Lamplighter Community Theatre's heartwarming performance

"It's a Wonderful Life," a Radio Show by Joe Landry, was performed at Centennial Auditorium in Staples Jan. 3-5. (Photo by Dawn Timbs)

Staples-Motley High School students recognized by MSHSL

Four high school students at Staples-Motley were nominated for the ExCEL (Excellence in Community, Education and Leadership) Award, and the Triple 'A' (Academics, Arts, and Athletics) Award which are sponsored by the Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL).

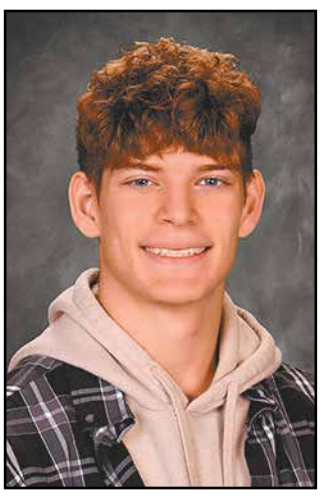
Abby Brichacek and Noah Larson, juniors at SMHS, were selected as the school's ExCEL Award winners for 2024-2025. Sponsored by the Minnesota State High School League, The ExCEL Award - Excellence in Community, Education and Leadership - is a unique recognition program designed exclusively for Minnesota high school juniors who are active in school activities, leaders in their schools, and who demonstrate a strong commitment to community service.

Brichacek and Larson will represent Staples-Motley at the state level for this prestigious award.

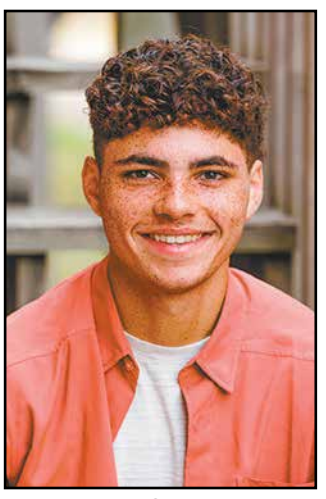
Sawyer Ferdon and Miranda Schotzko, seniors at SMHS, were selected as



Abby Brichacek



Noah Larson



Sawyer Ferdon



Miranda Schotzko

the school's 2024-2025 Triple 'A' Award winners. Sponsored by the Minnesota State High School League, AAA is a recognition program designed for Minnesota high school seniors. Students who are active in fine arts, athletics, who show leadership qualities, who are model citizens in their community, and excel with their academics are eligible for the award.

Ferdon and Schotzko will represent Staples-Motley as they move on to the second round of selections at the state level.

Below is a description of each of the award winners.

Abby Brichcek

Abby Brichacek, the daughter of Tom and Aimee Brichacek, is active at SMHS, participating in a variety of activities. In the area of sports, Brichacek is active in volleyball, track, trap shooting and skeet shooting. She's also a member of FFA, and enjoys taking Ag classes taught by Dan Rowe. In addition to being one of her favorite teachers, Rowe is also the FFA advisor.

Brichacek has found fulfillment volunteering in a number of areas, both at school and in her community. She enjoys helping out at FFA events, as well as at track events and the school's Spring Blast. Brichacek has also volunteered at Sacred Heart Church in Staples, of which she is a member.

Noah Larson

Noah Larson, the son of Cam and Trisha Larson, participates in a number of activities at SMHS, including basketball, football, track, student council, choir and drama.

One of his favorite classes at the moment, Larson said, is Crime and Justice taught by Erik Johnson. It's an interesting class and Larson's also enjoyed participating in mock trials. He went on to say that Johnson is one of his favorite teachers, adding that, "He cares for the students...he wants us to succeed."

Larson enjoys helping out at the school as he is able. He's been a volunteer at basketball and football camps, at Special Olympics, and the Polar Plunge. Larson's also volunteered in his community, including at Railroad Days in Staples.

Sawyer Ferdon

Sawyer Ferdon, the son of Keith and Debbie Ferdon, is active in a variety of activities at SMHS, including football, track, student council, and playing baritone in the band. A sports enthusiast, Ferdon also plays hockey.

He likes a variety of class subjects, but has particularly enjoyed studying biology and environmental biology. Ferdon plans to continue his education at The University of Wisconsin-Superior, where he plans to major in exercise science.

One of Ferdon's favorite teachers at Staples-Motley is Allison Vangsness who teaches social studies. He described her as having a good work ethic and is involved in a lot of areas at the school.

Miranda Schotzko

Miranda Schotzko, the daughter of Tony and Kelly Schotzko, is active in a variety of activities at SMHS. She's been a member of both the volleyball and basketball teams, plays viola in

Weather

2025
This Week's Forecast

	High	Low	Cond.
Jan. 8	19	9	M. Cloudy
Jan. 9	26	18	Cloudy
Jan. 10	21	13	Cloudy
Jan. 11	24	17	Cloudy
Jan. 12	20	1	Snow
Jan. 13	12	-7	M. Cloudy
Jan. 14	12	2	P. Cloudy

Last Year, 2024

	High	Low	Cond.
Jan. 8	21°	16	Snow
Jan. 9	16	15	P. Sunny
Jan. 10	21	14	Cloudy
Jan. 11	3	-1	Sunny
Jan. 12	4	-8	Sunny
Jan. 13	0	-6	Cloudy
Jan. 14	-4	-15	Sunny

Average Temps:
H = 21° Low = 4°

Compiled by Dale Hausmann, WCCO's Staples area Weatherwatcher

Public Notices

Byron Tnshp **7A**
Todd BOA **7A**

Obituary

Robert Choate, Jr.

First baby of 2025 born at Lakewood



Twenty-twenty-five brings the celebration of birth for Sarai Juarez and Albert Becerra, Sauk Centre, who welcomed their new baby boy, Grayson Amir, into the world on Jan. 2, 2025. Grayson was born at 8:05 a.m., weighing 7 pounds, 14 ounces, and measuring 20 inches.

The delivering providers were Drs. Marie Nelson and Lindsay Leveille, assisted by registered nurse, Julianne Holden. To celebrate Grayson's birth, the Lakewood Health System Foundation and Piecemakers Quilt Club of Staples presented gifts to the family in honor of the new year. The Foundation gave a gift basket of items prepared by The Shoppe (Lakewood's gift shop) and Longbella Drug by Lakewood, and the Piecemakers Quilt Club gave a beautiful handmade baby quilt, prepared just for the first baby of 2025.

Pictured above are Dr. Marie Nelson, OB/GYN; Albert and Grayson Becerra, and Sarai Juarez. (Submitted photo)



Donation to Staples Area Food Shelf

The Staples Area Food Shelf (SAFS) recently received a $500 donation, thanks to the owners of B&B's Bar and Grill in Staples, who worked with Confidence Learning Center in Brainerd to obtain these funds. Pictured above, from left, are Butch and Brenda Cleveland, owners of B&B's; and SAFS volunteer Dawn Adamietz, accepting the check. (Submitted photo)



Donation to Motley Food Shelf

Brenda and Butch Cleveland from B & B's bar in Staples recently presented a $500 check from Camp Confidence to the Motley Area Food Shelf (MAFS). Pictured from left are Sherry Frisk, MAFS Director; Brenda and Butch Cleveland; food shelf volunteers Bob Miller and Deb Greig. (Submitted photo)

Motley Police

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

Dec. 18 - 30

Dec. 30 - Motley Police assisted the state patrol on a crash at Hwy 10 and Azure Rd., Cushing. There were no injuries.

Dec. 29 - Motley Police assisted state patrol on a crash at the junction of Hwy 10 and Hwy 210 in Motley.

Dec. 27 - Motley Police issued a speeding citation to Shelby Lynn Rakow-Batters, 26.

Dec. 26 - Motley Police issued a speeding citation to Joseph Michael Lujan, 20.

Dec. 30 - The MCSO received a report of suspicious activity at Lake View Drive in Cushing.

Dec. 29 - The MCSO received a report of fire at the 5200 block of Crystal Rd., Motley.

Dec. 29 - Morrison County deputies responded to a vehicle accident at Dove Rd. and 330th St., Cushing.

Dec. 27 - Morrison County deputies arrested Michael William Holmstrom, 58, following a traffic stop conducted at Shamineau Dr. and Angle Rd., Cushing.

Dec. 27 - The MCSO received a report of a suspicious vehicle parked at the 3600 block of Ridge Rd., Motley.

Dec. 26 - The MCSO received a report of a dog bite that occurred at 1644 Timber Ln., Cushing.

Cardinals fall in two road games

The Staples-Motley girls basketball team lost two games back to back, 58-31 at Pierz on Jan. 2 and 81-26 at Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton on Jan. 3.

The Cardinals were close in the first half against Pierz, but allowed a big run to start the second half and they were not able to keep up with their earlier scoring pace.

After winning their first game of the year, the girls team has not been able to get in the victory column since.

Second half rally falls two points short

The Staples-Motley boys basketball team staged a second half comeback that fell two points short at Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton on Jan. 3.

The Cardinals fell behind by 13 in the first half, with Josiah Burton and Eli Rutten keeping them in the game with six points each.

In the second half, Ryan Neelan hit two three point shots and Alex Schultz scored nine, but the team was still down 52-54 at the final buzzer.

Twelve of the team's 31 second half points came from the free throw line as DGF tried to clamp down on defense and the Cardinals shot 75 percent from the free throw line for the game.

Team results

Staples-Motley 52, DGF 54

Scoring: Alex Schultz 13, Josiah Burton 11, Eli Rutten 9, Ryan Neelan 6, Noah Larson 5, Avandre Brandt 5, Conner Kuhns 3

Cardinals reach final four of The Clash National Duals

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor



Wrestling team at "The Clash National Duals"

The Staples-Motley boys wrestling team turned heads around the state and across the nation by winning their opening bracket and making the final four of The Clash National Duals in LaCrosse, Wisc., Jan 3-4.

On day two of the tournament, the Cardinals faced three of the top teams in the midwest and were unable to generate a team win, but they made a good showing and ended up in fourth place.

Throughout the tournament, Staples-Motley relied on the strength of their lower weights, with ranked wrestlers in the first five weights from 107-133. Despite those five being perfect on the first day, the team wins required heroics from all the other wrestlers, including some close losses that limited the amount of team points their opponents could score.

The Clash

The Clash National Duals had 32 high level wrestling teams from Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Illinois, Ohio, Missouri, Idaho, Washington and California. They were divided into four brackets of eight teams. Staples-Motley was seeded third in their bracket, behind Staley (Missouri) and Don Bosco (Iowa).

The Cardinals opened the tournament against a school from Wisconsin called Iowa Grant. The match started at 133 pounds and the Cardinals got three straight wins by Eli Greenwaldt, Turner Beachy and Beau Carlson. They never trailed and cruised to a 50-15 win.

In the next round, they faced Northfield, ranked seventh in Minnesota big school rankings. The match started at 145 pounds, straight into the strength of the Northfield lineup. After two losses, Seth Cossentine turned things around with a 16-0 win over a good wrestler. At 189 pounds, Luke Bjerga took a 1-1 tie into overtime, where he tossed and pinned his opponent for a huge team boost. In the next match, Adrian Gomez was behind 7-1 going into the third period, when he got two takedowns and two nearfalls to take the win. After those two turaround wins, Northfield lost the wind in their sails and the Cardinals pounced with five straight pins and a tech fall to finish it off with a 55-12 final score.

In the championship of their eight team bracket, the Cardinals faced Stillwater, ranked fourth in Minnesota big school rankings. The Ponies are built very much like the Staples-Motley team, with highly ranked wrestlers at all of the lower weights and some other stars scattered around their lineup. This match started at 145 pounds, but with no wins assured at the lower weights, every match became crucial.

After two setbacks, Colbe Tappe got a pin at 160 pounds. That set up three straight losses for the Cardinals, but they limited the damage to four points in each bout. Down 22-6 in the team score, Steven Petrich jump-started the match at heavyweight, throwing an early headlock and following through for a pin.

At the lower weights, the next four Cardinals faced highly ranked opponents and each one had to battle for six minutes straight. Amazingly, those four never gave up a takedown and won every match through hard work and clawing out points. Garrett Bjerga won with a takedown in each period. Caden Kramer worked for three minutes before finally getting a takedown, and it was all he needed to win. Gage Bjerga struggled to score in the first two periods, but earned two takedowns in the third by countering his opponent's attempts. Cayden Neisen had one takedown per period but was superb on defense to hold on.

The four wins earned 13 team points, bringing the score to 25-22 in favor of Staples-Motley. Finally there was a slight break in the Stillwater lineup at 133 pounds and Eli Greenwaldt took advantage with a pin to seal the match for the Cardinals.

The 31-26 team win placed them first in their eight team bracket and sent them into the first place round robin the following day.

First place bracket

The Clash format places every team that won their bracket on day one into a four team round-robin on day two. Staples-Motley made it there along with three big school wrestling programs, St. Michael-Albertvile, Shakopee, and Bettendorf, Iowa.

The Cardinals first faced St. Michael-Albertville, a nationally ranked team with state-ranked wrestlers in every weight except two, including five number ones in the state for big schools. Staples-Motley generated four falls, the only spots they were able to crack the lineup, ending with a 41-24 loss.

In the second round, Staples-Motley took on the third ranked team in Minnesota's Class AAA, Shakopee. The Cardinals lost five close matches and were unable to equal the depth of the big school, who had quality wrestlers at every position. Garrett Bjerga nearly took the top ranked wrestler in the state to overtime and Gage Bjerga also took a top ranked wrestler to within one point. The close losses led to a low scoring match and the team lost 36-19.

For their final match, the Cardinals faced Bettendorf, Iowa. Adrian Gomez and Steven Petrich finished their impressive tournament with wins, Caden Kramer got a big win against a good wrestler and Colbe Tappe finished the tournament with a pin as the team had a 40-30 loss.

Staples-Motley scored more points against St. Michael-Albertville than any team in the tournament, and were the only team to hold them under 50 points. But it also wore them out. If the team had not wrestled the tournament champions in their first match on day two, they might have had a better chance in the next two matches, which were wrestled back to back to back. After that loss, they struggled to generate the momentum that carried them through the first day. They also were facing several nationally ranked wrestlers and many state-ranked wrestlers on every team, making the path much tougher.

Team results

The Clash National Duals

Round 1: Staples-Motley 50, Iowa Grant 15

133 Eli Greenwaldt W 15-0, 139 Turner Beachy W fall, 145 Beau Carlson W 8-0, 152 Seth Cossentine L 7-0, 160 Colbe Tappe W 17-1, 172 Riley Reese L 7-0, 189 Luke Bjerga L 6-4, 215 Adrian Gomaz W fall, 285 Steven Petrich L fall, 107 Garrett Bjerga W fall, 114 Caden Kramer W fall, 121 Gage Bjerga W fall, 127 Cayden Neisen W fall

Round 2: Staples-Motley 55, Northfield 12

139 Beachy L 5-4, 145 Carlson L fall, 152 Cossentine W 16-0, 160 Tappe W fall, 172 Reese L 12-6, 189 L. Bjerga W fall, 215 Gomez W 13-8, 285 Petrich W fall, 107 Gt. Bjerga W fall, 114 Kramer W fall, 121 Gg. Bjerga W fall, 127 Neisen W fall, 133 Greenwaldt W 15-0

Round 3: Staples-Motley 31, Stillwater 26

145 Carlson L fall, 152 Cossentine L 23-7, 160 Tappe W fall, 172 Reese L 13-2, 189 L. Bjerga L 11-1, 215 Gomez L 19-7, 285 Petrich W fall, 106 Gt. Bjerga W 9-1, 114 Kramer W 3-2, 121 Gg. Bjerga W 9-3, 127 Neisen W 9-3, 133 Greenwaldt W fall, 139 Beachy L 11-0

First place teams round robin:

Staples-Motley 24, St. Michael Albertville 41

152 Cossentine L 3-1, 160 Tappe L fall, 172 Reese L fall, 189 Dustin Converse L fall, 215 Gomez W fall, 285 Petrich W fall, 107 Gt. Bjerga L 7-3, 114 Kramer L 6-2, 121 Gg. Bjerga W fall, 127 Neisen L 4-1, 133 Greenwaldt W fall (stalling points), 139 Beachy L fall, 145 Carlson L 20-2

Staples-Motley 19, Shakopee 36

160 Tappe L 5-4 OT, 172 Reese L 6-3, 189 L. Bjerga L 15-0, 215 Gomez L 19-7, 285 Petrich L 7-0, 107 Gt. Bjerga L 7-6, 114 Kramer W fall, 121 Gg. Bjerga L 2-1, 127 Neisen W 12-3, 133 Greenwaldt W fall, 139 Beachy L fall, 145 Carlson W 7-2, 152 Cossentine L fall

Staples-Motley 30, Bettendorf 40

172 Reese L fall, 189 Converse L fall, 215 Gomez W 8-3, 285 Petrich W fall, 107 Gt. Bjerga W fall, 114 Kramer W 8-3, 121 Gg. Bjerga L 19-4, 127 Neisen W fall, 133 Greenwaldt L fall, 139 Beachy L fall, 145 Carlson L 16-1, 152 Cossentine L fall, 160 Tappe W fall





Looking back

75 Years Ago - 1950

• Jan. 12, 1950 - A Park Rapids couple arrested by a game warden after a 135-mile chase were arraigned in municipal court in Detroit Lakes last Friday on game law violation charges. They pleaded innocent.

Thursday evening, or rather early Friday morning there was a lot of shooting and commotion on the streets of Staples as the couple, in their car, "tore through" the city, followed by a game warden, who was shooting in the air to stop the fleeing people. Quite a bit of excitement was noticed among the people the next day wondering what all the shooting was about.

The couple was overtaken near Pierz, 135 miles

- o -
Compiled by
Dawn Timbs
- o -

southeast of the game refuge where they had been hunting illegally.

• Jan. 12, 1950 - Staples high school basketball team defeated the Aitkin Gobblers by a score of 48-37 on the Staples home floor Friday night, Jan. 6. The loss marked the fifth straight Central Seven defeat for Aitkin, and Staples has now won two and lost three.

Returning from a holiday vacation, both teams were a little rusty and got off to a slow start.

Vern Raddohl was the high point scorer for Staples with 12. Jim Johnson placed second with 11.

• Jan. 12, 1950 - Staples Steamers, the independent basketball team of this city won the opening game of the season from a fast and efficient quint from Elk River by the narrow margin of 35 to 32.

High point man for Staples was John Peterson who seemingly sunk baskets at will from any angle of the court.

• Jan. 12, 1950 - Showing continued improvement, despite five defeats, the Motley Rockets will be seeking their first win Friday on the home floor against Clarissa.

• Jan. 12, 1950 - Members of the Boy Scout Troop 61 of Staples held their election of officers at their meeting in the Scout room of the Northern Pacific depot on Monday evening.

Bill Burke was elected senior patrol leader, Ray Fair was chosen scribe, and Robert Vanderhoef was elected buglar.

At the present time there are 20 scouts in the troop which is headed by Frances Christianson as Scoutmaster, and Wilbur Holst as Assistant Scoutmaster.

50 Years Ago - 1975

• Jan. 9, 1975 - Bruce Nelsen, District 12-A's newly elected Representative, today received his Committee assignments from Martin Sabo, Speaker of the House. Nelsen has been assigned to three committees: Health and Welfare - Transportation - and Higher Education.

• Jan. 9, 1975 - Fire, which broke out in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Van Norman at 820 E. Fourth Ave. in Staples about 7:30 Sunday evening, Jan. 5, caused heavy damage to the building and the Van Normans lost most of their personal belongings in the blaze.

Leo Fahnlander, fire chief, said that the cause of the fire was not determined as of press time this Tuesday. The house was owned by Mr. and Mrs. Harold Farber, parents of Mrs. Van Norman.

• Jan. 9, 1975 - An estimated loss of $13,000 was suffered by Mr. and Mrs. Vivien Griffith late New Year's night when fire completely destroyed a large garage on their farm home.

The Griffiths reside in Fawn Lake Township of Todd County about eight miles south of Motley.

• Jan. 9, 1975 - The first baby of 1975 to be born at United District Hospital, Staples, was a son born to Mr. and Mrs. Gary Bounds of route 3, Verndale. The little fellow is the Bounds' third child; weighed seven pounds, 9 ounces, and was 19 1/4 inches long. His parents have decided to name him Christopher Wayne. He has two sisters at home: Paula Jo, 4; and Kari Lee, 2. Christopher Wayne was born Jan. 2, at 1:42 p.m.

25 Years Ago - 2000

• Jan. 13, 2000 - A well known retired Staples man was in fair condition late Tuesday in St. Cloud Hospital following what appeared to be a 'road rage' shooting incident early Tuesday morning.

Russ Dahl, 69, of 303 Sixth St. NE., was shot at least twice in an incident that took place about 6:30 a.m. at the corner of Fifth Street and Pleasant Avenue, according to Staples Police.

Police arrested 31-year old Shawn David Hutchinson about an hour after the shooting. He was at his place of employment, Stern Rubber Company.

According to police, Dahl had driven himself to the Greater Staples Hospital, a distance of about a mile, after the shooting. He reported he followed a pickup for one block after the pickup had driven through a stop sign in front of him.

Police reported that at that intersection, both drivers stopped and got out of their vehicles. The man in front then shot at Dahl, hitting him with at least two bullets.

• Jan. 13, 2000 - It took a few days, but the area finally got its first baby of the year. Chance LeRoy Thrun was born at 1:05 a.m. Friday, Jan. 7. Chance LeRoy weighed in at 5 pounds, 12 ounces and was 18-1/2 inches long. His parents are Kelly and Robby Thrun.

• Jan. 13, 2000 - UTS Systems selected Penny Statema of Staples as martial arts Student of the Month. Statema is now working toward her green belt.

• Jan. 13, 2000 - The Cardinal girls won two Mid-State Conference ball games last week, improving to 3-1 in the conference and 7-3 for the season.

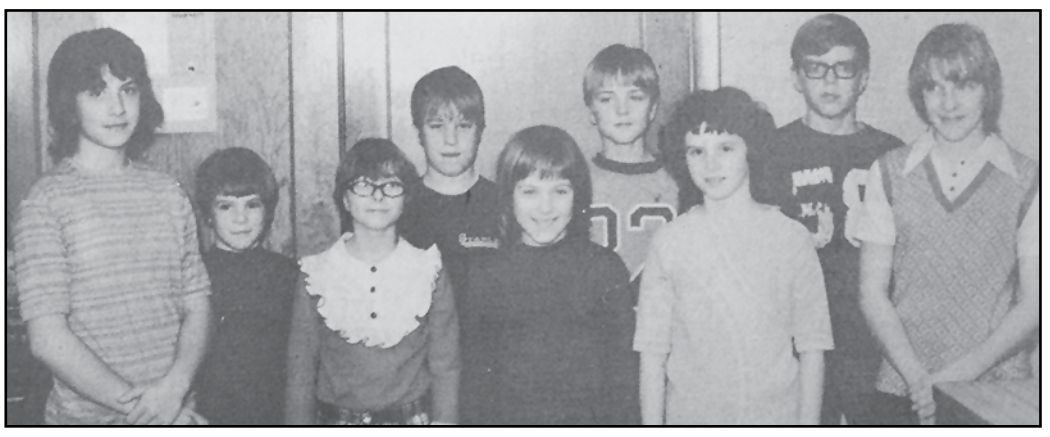
This week the girls will combine for a rare joint appearance with the boys, both teams playing Saturday at the Bemidji State University's Fieldhouse in Bemidji. The girls will play the Warriors in the afternoon, and the boys in the evening.

• Jan. 13, 2000 - Four people began their new terms Tuesday night as elected officials for the City of Staples. Mayor Mike Goff took the oath of office for his second two-year term, while three council members - Mike Verlennich, Roy Miles and Ed Perry - were sworn in for four-year terms.

• Jan. 13, 2000 - Becky Iverson, a fifth grader at Staples Elementary smiled Monday as she accepted a check for $10 from Darren Holst, assistant chief with the Staples Fire Dept. Becky, who was the overall winner for local Fire Prevention poster contest last October, won an honorable mention award in the state poster contest.

10 Years Ago - 2015

• Jan. 8, 2015 - Lucas Joe Buck was born Jan. 2, at 4 a.m., the first baby to be born at Lakewood Health System Hospital in Staples. He weighed seven pounds and was 21 inches long. Parents are Chandra Rogers and Mickey Buck of Menahga.



Mystery photo

Hello readers. This week's archive photo is from 1975. 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.



Mystery solved

Last week's mystery photo published in the Jan. 27, 2000 edition of the Staples World featured Andrea Winter, left, and Jill Mertens, winners of the second annual Hoop Shoot which had been held at half-time of the varsity basketball game between Staples Motley and Wadena-Deer Creek Jan. 21. They are being congratulated by Pat Crawford, president of the Staples and Motley Dollars for Scholars. Mertens took first place and won a $100 scholarship; and Winter was first runner-up. She and Curt Burrows, not pictured, won Dollars for Scholars sweatshirts, which had been donated by Don Sanda.

Janice Winter, Bertha, correctly identified her daughter Andrea and fellow girls basketball team member Jillayne, as well as the context of the photo. She recalled that Andrea was on crutches that night due to a knee injury. Janice went on to share that the girls were born the same day at Staples Hospital, July 26, 1982.

Andrea (Winter) Pearson, now of Sabin, recognized this photo from her senior year of high school. She shared that, "I'd sprained/dislocated my ankle about three days before, had just come back from the doctor's office and was put on crutches. I don't remember what's happening in this picture, but I had college scouts coming to watch me play against W-DC and I couldn't play due to injury." Andrea currently works as a vet tech. She also serves as an EMT and is a Sabin firefighter, along with her husband, Jeremy.

Judy Wolak of Staples recognized both girls. Thanks for participating in our mystery photo.

Todd County Sheriff's report

Recent reports from the Todd County Sheriff's Office included:

Jan. 2, 2025: Deputies with the Todd County Sheriff's Office (TCSO) and West Central MN Drug and Violent Offender Task Force executed a search warrant in Villard Township, near the city of Motley in Todd County.

As a result of the search warrant two arrests were made. Jennifer Hoffman, 42 and Maria Jackson, 24, were both arrested and transported to the Todd County Jail. The TCSO was assisted by the Wadena County Sheriff's Dept. during the execution of the search warrant.

Jan. 1, 2025: TCSO received a theft report at the Horseshoe Lake Access, east of Browerville. Deputies responded and learned that a spear house had been stolen off the lake, sometime over night. The spear house is described as a 5 ft x 5 ft red with white trim and has cross country skies attached to the side, making accessable to be pulled when tipped over.

Anyone with information about the theft is urged to contact TCSO, 320-732-2157 (you may request to remain anonymous).

Dec. 28, 2024, 11:05 p.m: TCSO received a report of a vehicle/pedestrian accident near the intersection of Cty Rd 11 and Airedale Dr, Sauk Centre. A juvenile female driver was traveling southbound on Cty Rd 11 and lost control of her vehicle as the road began to curve causing the vehicle to enter the opposite lane of travel. The driver struck two mailboxes before striking a pedestrian who was walking along Co Rd 11. The male victim was transported to Sauk Centre hospital for his injuries. Todd County Deputies were assisted by Sauk Centre Police, Sauk Centre Ambulance and MN State Patrol.

Dec. 25 2024, 4:43 a.m.: TCSO received a report of a one vehicle accident where the vehicle ended up in the ditch near the intersection of Cty Rd 24 and County Rd 1. The driver stated that on his way to work he was not feeling well and throwing up caused him to lose control of the vehicle which entered the south ditch. The driver stated that he had lost consciousness before calling 911. The driver was transported by ambulance to Lakewood Health System, Staples. Todd County Deputies investigated the crash and observed a broken window on the driver's side where he had possibly hit his head causing him to lose consciousness. Todd County Deputies were assisted by the Bertha Ambulance and Bertha Fire and Rescue.

Dec. 24, 11:28 a.m.: TCSO received a report of a house fire in the city of Burtrum. Law enforcement arrived on scene and located the ceiling of the residence to be on fire. Sheriff Allen was able to use a fire extinguisher to extinguish a majority of the fire. Grey Eagle and Swanville Fire Depts. responded and extinguished the fire. Long Prairie Ambulance arrived on scene to evaluate the homeowner. No injuries were reported.

Dec. 23, 6:40 p.m. TCSO responded to a report of an accident involving a vehicle and an Amish buggy, near the address of 21253 Cty Rd 24, Bertha. Upon arriving on scene, the deputy learned the driver of the vehicle, identified as Heather Holmberg, had clipped the buggy and two adults and two children were thrown from it. An adult male, identified as Adam Miller, was transported by Bertha Ambulance to Lakewood Health System, Staples to be evaluated for his injuries.

Student Achievements

Jeremy Haskin, Verndale, was recently named to the Fall 2024 Dean's List at the University of Jamestown in Jamestown, N.D. To qualify, students must earn a grade point average of 3.5 while taking at least 12 credit hours.

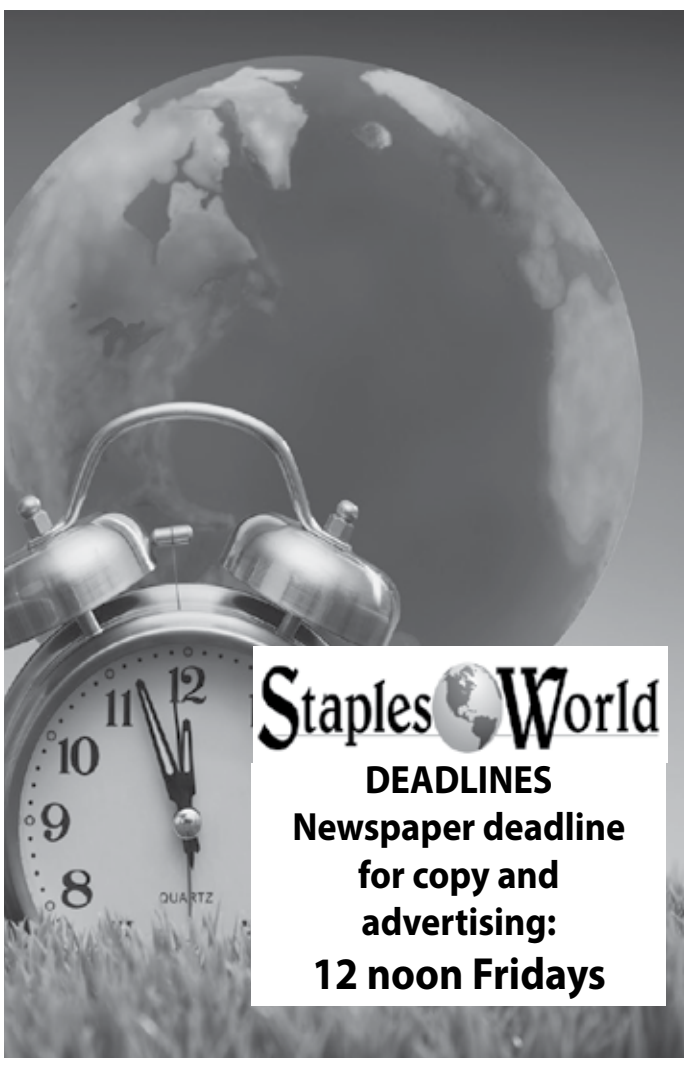
Minnesota State Community And Technical College has announced its Fall 2024 Academic Honors List. Students on the President's List earned a grade point average of 4.0 while completing a minimum of six college-level credits and 75 percent of the courses in which they enrolled for the semester. Students on the Dean's List earned a grade point average of 3.30 to 3.99 while completing a minimum of six college-level credits and 75 percent of the courses in which they enrolled for the semester. Local students named include :

• Jaelyn Jordahl, Motley, President's List
• Tarissa Halvorson, President's List
• Zoey Marlette, President's List
• Keller Anderson, Staples, President's List
• Aleeah Halverson, Staples, Dean's List
• Grace Jennissen, Staples, Dean's List
• Alexander Kokett, Staples, Dean's List
• Reid Michael, Staples, Dean's List
• Brenna Schmitz, Staples, President's List
• Eli Smith, Staples, President's List
• Heidi Smith, Staples, President's List
• Paige Woodwick, Staples, Dean's List

Staples World
Subscription Rates (1 year)
•LOCAL (4 county area).....$53
(Todd, Wadena, Morrison, Cass)
Minnesota..... $58
Out-of-State. $63
Foreign..... on-line only
Student $43
(9 months, print, in-state only)
Online only $50
Print w/online..... $76
Stop at our office, mail us a check, call;
or go online to pay by credit card.
(PayPal accepts major credit cards)
The Staples World is $1.25 per issue.







Minnesota's owls are newsworthy and noteworthy

Minnesota owls made headlines during the recent Christmas week. Two of these avian predators—one a great gray owl, the other a snowy owl—were reported injured in collisions with motor vehicles, and both were discovered on the same day, by the very same passerby.

This person, as luck would have it, was a technician at the Lake Superior Zoo in Duluth. Being familiar with wild creatures, and aware of owls' razor-sharp beaks and talons, she managed to carefully subdue them and deliver them to Wildwoods Wildlife Rehabilitation, a nonprofit animal rescue and rehabilitation organization based in Duluth.

- o -
Inside the Outdoors



Mike Rahn

- o -

The great gray owl was found along a roadside near Two Harbors, and later that same day—Monday, December 23rd—the snowy owl was found entangled in the grille of a car in a parking lot at Duluth's Bayfront Park Christmas tour-of-lights event site.

Both owls were ultimately transferred to the University of Minnesota's Raptor Center in St. Paul, a facility that's long been celebrated for its expertise in the rehabilitation of sick and injured hawks and owls. Their ultimate aim is to release them back into the wild when possible. This snowy owl, however, proved too badly injured to survive, and was euthanized. The great gray owl sustained a broken wing and some related tissue damage, and is believed to have a better chance for recovery.

Both Wildwoods in Duluth and the Raptor Center in St. Paul routinely expect to receive owl patients at this time of year, in particular due to a more or less predictable southward migration of snowy owls from the Arctic. Their number varies from year to year, and is thought to be driven by a combination of factors, including the abundance or scarcity of prey, snow cover that can hamper an owl's foraging, and high reproductive success, which can lead to a spike in the snowy owl population. A reflection of this is the fact that in years with a major southward movement of snowy owls, a high percentage are young of the year.

Rather than a migration as we most often think of it, this seasonal population slide is called an "irruption." It is not based on an inability to survive in a wintry environment, as is the case for truly migratory songbirds that are dependent on such foods as insects, earthworms, or flower nectar, which—but for a limited supply of dormant insects—are unavailable here during the winter months.

Unlike the Arctic's snowy owl, great gray owls are residents of Minnesota's northern coniferous forest and bog country. In very general terms, this equates to the area we call Minnesota's "Arrowhead," the triangular region bounded by the Lake Superior North Shore from Duluth to Thunder Bay, Ontario, and from there west along the U.S./Canada border in that sparsely settled area we colloquially call "canoe country."

Great gray owls are the largest owl species in North America, reaching almost three feet in height at the extreme, with a four to five foot wingspan. Compared to some other owl species, they are not abundant even in their primary range, which extends from our Arrowhead country north into Canada. Like snowy owls, some may be seen in winter south of their primary range, but to a lesser degree than snowy owls.

Owls in general have long had a reputation for being abroad and hunting at night, so much so that the expression "night owl" has from time immemorial been used to describe a person who is up and awake late into the night. Both the snowy owl and the great gray owl are exceptions, hunting typically in daylight for rodents, hares, rabbits, and also birds—ruffed grouse, for example—if the opportunity presents itself.

Though daytime hunters like snowy and great gray owls rely heavily on their keen vision to locate and capture prey, they, like many owls, also have the benefit of hearing that is especially suited to pinpointing the source of a sound that could betray their next meal. In both these owl species, one ear hole in the skull is higher than the other. Because of this, the sound receptors in the owl's ear and its brain circuitry can more readily get a fix on the location from which a sound has come.

Owls, like hawks an eagles, have forward-facing eyes, giving them what we call binocular vision. This eye arrangement is advantageous to a predator whose vision plays an important role in locating prey. This differs from most birds, including songbirds, and such gamebirds as pheasants and grouse, which have eyes on the sides of their head. This eye positioning makes it possible, with little or no head movement, to see and detect motion in nearly a 360 degree circle. This is a decided advantage in helping them detect the approach of a threatening predator.

For some reason, owls have acquired a very different persona than that of hawks and eagles, despite the fact that all make their living in the very same way: at the expense of living prey. Owls have come to symbolize wisdom, and have even been ascribed the trait of assisting humans, as demonstrated by the messenger owls in the wildly popular Harry Potter series of books and films. Hawks and eagles, on the other hand—despite the bald eagle being our national symbol—are more apt to be thought of as violent and merciless.

Unfair? Certainly. And a misconception that would challenge even the most creative public relations expert.

Quote of the week

"Do not follow where the path may lead. Go instead where there is no path and leave a trail."
— Ralph Waldo Emerson

Farm to school movement has exploded across United States

By Sandra Renner
Chief People Officer
Center For Rural Affairs

Farm to School is a win for students, a win for farmers, and a win for communities. It strengthens our food system and our local economies, and it provides opportunities for students to develop new skills, such as agricultural or livestock production, and marketing, business, and entrepreneurship.

Over the past decade, the farm to school movement has exploded across the U.S., reaching millions of students in all 50 states, Washington, D.C., and U.S. territories. School gardens, school farms, high tunnels, and farm field trips have expanded the classroom and hands-on learning for students.

Students and farmers alike are growing local food for cafeteria trays, and farm to school practices help children learn about where food comes from and make healthier choices while also creating new markets for local and regional farmers. Farm to school also helps more students explore careers in food systems, farming, and agriculture to which they might not otherwise be exposed.

Many states celebrate National Farm to School Month in October with special events, such as holding local food tastings like the Great Apple Crunch, launching a Harvest of the Month program, introducing local meats and proteins, or organizing a weeklong series of activities. These special events are providing even more opportunities to get involved this and bring the farm right into school.

RSDP seeks sustainability project proposals

From University of Minnesota Extension

Central Minnesota residents with an idea to strengthen their community can now apply for partnership support from the University of Minnesota Extension Central Regional Sustainable Development Partnership (Central RSDP).

Central RSDP supports local innovation by connecting community ideas to University of Minnesota resources. Community members work on diverse project teams that research, design and plan local sustainability projects with University students, faculty and staff.

Central RSDP seeks ideas from diverse populations and those who have not previously partnered with the University. In 2025, priorities identified by the Central RSDP board and work groups call for projects that foster a resilient food system, address climate change and other ecological impacts, increase opportunities around energy efficiency and renewable energy and encourage local community action that welcomes all residents and celebrates the region's rich cultural traditions, natural assets and vibrant local economies.

"Now more than ever we need ideas and expertise from community members across Central Minnesota to help communities thrive in the face of change," said Central RSDP Executive Director Molly Zins. "I encourage people to get in touch with me to talk about their ideas for making our communities more sustainable places."

Project ideas are being accepted through February 14 and can be submitted online at z.umn.edu/RSDPIdeaBrief. Community members are encouraged to contact Zins at zend0007@umn.edu or 218-828-2332 or Jan Jackola at jjackola@umn.edu or 218-828-2273 to discuss their ideas and ask any questions. Successful projects are selected by the Central RSDP community-University governing board through a competitive process.

Examples of projects recently supported by the Central RSDP include working with Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Early Childhood Development on a nature-based curriculum, fostering public education on the Common Loon and supporting a new youth center in Frazee, Minnesota. For more examples of projects supported by the Central RSDP, visit z.umn.edu/RSDPProjectExamples.

The Central RSDP serves Becker, Benton, Cass, Crow Wing, Hubbard, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, Morrison, Otter Tail, Stearns, Todd and Wadena counties and the White Earth Nation, Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe and Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe sovereign Native nations.

Central RSDP is one of five regions of the University of Minnesota Extension Regional Sustainable Development Partnerships (RSDP). For more information on RSDP, visit RSDP.umn.edu.

Rural native who made a lasting world impact

By Heather Close
The Rural Blog

Jimmy Carter was one of the few U.S. presidents in the past 50 years who grew up in a rural area. He was cherished by many Americans as a man of deep intelligence and wisdom who spent his life actively working to improve the lives of others. In her opinion for The New York Times, Samantha Power reminds readers of Carter's political and personal dedication to humankind. Samantha Power is the administrator of the United States Agency for International Development. A selection of her thoughts is excerpted below.

"Jimmy Carter's elevation of human rights in U.S. foreign policy offers many urgent lessons for today. . . . As president, he made a radical break with decades of foreign policy tradition, changed the world's understanding of America's aspirations, showed deep empathy for individuals who had suffered human rights abuse and, in so doing, made a lasting impact on both the United States and the world.

"As president, his foreign policy legacy. . . includes the negotiation of the Camp David Accords, which brought about an enduring peace between Israel and Egypt, and the establishment of diplomatic relations with China.

"Carter didn't just change the way U.S. officials talked; he also changed the way they worked, taking steps no American president had taken. When he assumed office, the United States Agency for International Development had nearly twice as many staff members in Washington as in the field — an imbalance his administration corrected, in addition to significantly expanding the agency's presence in sub-Saharan Africa.

"He issued Presidential Directive 30, which stipulated that 'countries with a good or substantially improving record of human rights observance will be given special consideration in the allocation of U.S. foreign assistance, just as countries with a poor or deteriorating record will receive less favorable consideration.'

"Carter was the first U.S. president to publicly denounce apartheid in South Africa and the first to make a state visit to sub-Saharan Africa. . . . He was the first president to assert clear American support for a 'Palestinian homeland.' . . . He was the first American president to elevate environmental conservation to a global concern.

"As we mourn the loss of Jimmy Carter, we should remember that in doing something so radical for his time — elevating attention to the plight and dignity of individuals in U.S. foreign policy and then living those values until his final days — he changed our world for good."

Staples World

Established in 1890. USPS 518-760

©2025 RMM Publications

Published Wednesdays by RMM Publications
Office located at 224 4th Street NE
Periodicals postage paid at Staples, Minnesota 56479.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Member: Minnesota Newspaper Association, MCAN Advertising

Quote of the week

"Be at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbors, and let every new year find you a better man."
— Benjamin Franklin

Quote of the week

"We are not afraid to entrust the American people with unpleasant facts, foreign ideas, alien philosophies, and competitive values. For a nation that is afraid to let its people judge the truth and falsehood in an open market is a nation that is afraid of its people."
— John F. Kennedy



"It's a Wonderful Life" performed in Staples

Lamplighter Community Theatre performed the holiday classic story, "It's a Wonderful Life…A Radio Show" by Joe Landry, Jan. 3-5, at Centennial Auditorium in Staples. Brian Sterriker directed the show, with music accompaniment by Cade Bestland.

The radio show version closely followed the 1946 movie that starred James Stewart and Donna Reed. The Lamplighter Community Theatre cast, some portraying a number of characters throughout the show, included Jake Denning, Sandy Porter, Kevin Olsen, Ken Skillings, Katy Skillings, David Skillings, Zion Skillings, Ron Denning, Sadye Anderson, Brynn Bestland, Cade Bestland and Jackson Vangsness.

Audience members were seated on stage, close to the actors, which provided an intimate performance experience for all who attended this heartwarming production.

The show was produced by Lamplighter Community Theatre and Five Wings Arts Council. Sets and props were done by Mike Kincaid, Gloria Palmer and Jeannette Evans, with Kevin Olsen and Hallie Olsen responsible for the lighting. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)









Mark Your Calendar

January 8

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

January 9

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

Wadena Whirlaways Square Dance Group Dancing Thursday, Jan. 9, 7:30 - 10 p.m., at St. Michael's Church, 280 1st Ave. S., Motley. Benjamin Stokes, caller. For info., 612-743-3480.

January 10

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

January 12

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

January 13

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

January 14

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

Experience Strength And Hope AA group Mtgs In Staples are held at the Church of Christ, 27343 490th St., Tuesdays, 7 - 8 p.m. For info., call Dan at 218-640-7228.

January 15

Staples All Veterans And Community Park Association's Annual Meeting will be held Wednesday, Jan. 15, at 5 p.m., at the Staples Community Center. The regular meeting to follow. The public is invited to both. To attend via Zoom, call Bob Hamann at 218-894-3139.

Steve's Auto Salvage & G&L Service
•Tires (New & Used)
•Tubes •Belts
•AG Tires •Bulbs •Oil •Antifreeze
•Used Auto Parts
218-445-6885 • Located in Verndale at Steve's Auto

Explore different styles, work up a sweat, and HAVE FUN!
The Perfect Date Night
FIVE WINGS ARTS COUNCIL
LAMPLIGHTER COMMUNITY THEATRE PRESENTS
COMMUNITY ADULT DANCE CLASS
ALL Levels Welcome
Tickets: lct-staples.com
2025 Dates:
January 17
January 24
February 7
February 14
JOIN NOW
Where?
@ Holst Acres

CELEBRATE RECOVERY
A Christ-centered recovery program encouraging chain-breaking freedom from your Hurts, Habits and Hangups, such as:
•Abandonment •Alcohol •Anger •Betrayal
•Divorce •Drugs •Eating Disorders •Gambling
•Guilt •Lying •Manipulation •Nicotine
•Perfectionism •Pride •Procrastination •PTSD •Sexual Addiction •Sickness •Shopping •Stealing •Stress •Etc.
Motley Free Methodist Church
33 Wellwood St. E, Motley, MN 56466
•Every Sunday night from 6-8 p.m.•
Begins January 5, 2025 - All are welcome!
w2-3c

MINNESOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION
MCAN
Minnesota Classified Advertising Network
mcan STATEWIDE CLASSIFIEDS

EMPLOYMENT

SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST
Assistant Long Term Sub. New London-Spicer Schools. Required AAS Degree from an accredited SPLA Program. For more information, see: www.nls.k12.mn.us/employment

WANTED TO BUY

WE BUY HOUSES
for cash AS IS! No repairs. No fuss. Any condition. Easy three step process: Call, get cash offer and get paid. Get your fair cash offer today by calling Liz Buys Houses: 844/978-0683

Advertise here statewide in 200+ newspapers for only $279 per week! Call 612-332-8844

MISCELLANEOUS

GET A BREAK ON YOUR TAXES!
Donate your car, truck, or SUV to assist the blind and visually impaired. Arrange a swift, no-cost vehicle pickup and secure a generous tax credit for 2025. Call Heritage for the Blind Today at 844/220-9501 today!

GET DISH
satellite TV + internet! Free install, free HD-DVR upgrade, 80,000 on-demand movies, plus limited time up to $600 in gift cards. Call today! 855/562-4309

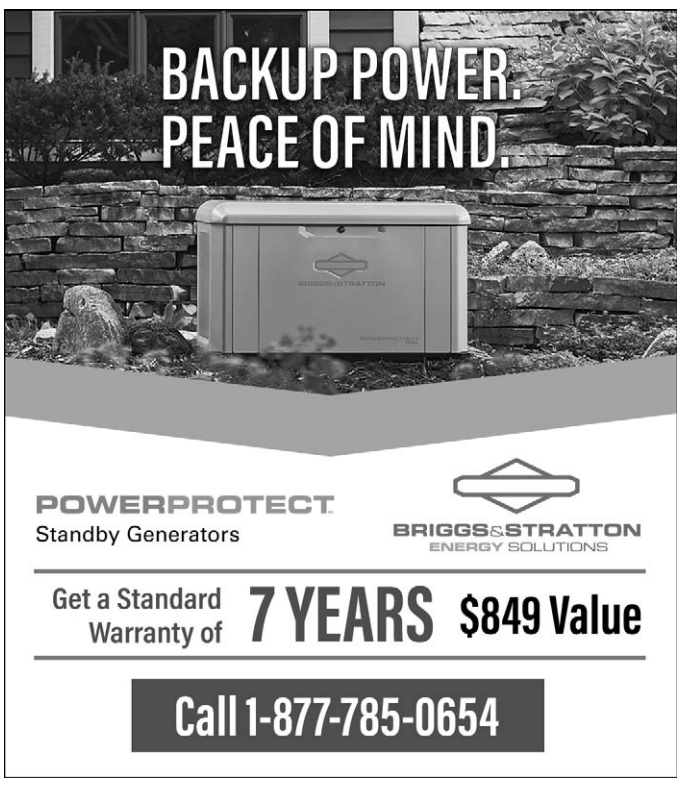
SAFE STEP
North America's #1 Walk-In Tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our FREE shower package and $1600 Off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 833/966-3882

MISCELLANEOUS

BOOST INFINITE!
Unlimited talk, text and data for just $25/mo! The power of 3 5G networks, one low price! Call today and get the latest iPhone every year on us! 855/849-6621

DON'T LET THE STAIRS LIMIT YOUR MOBILITY!
Discover the ideal solution for anyone who struggles on the stairs, is concerned about a fall or wants to regain access to their entire home. Call AmeriGlide today! 866/852-5506

SAVE MONEY!
Call your local newspaper or MNA 612/332-8844 to find out how you can save money by placing your advertisement here!





Staples Nutrition Site Christmas gathering

Correction: In the Dec. 25, 2024 issue of the Staples World, Mary Wetzel was incorrectly identified in the Staples Senior Citizen's Nutrition Site Christmas gathering photo. Mary Wetzel was incorrectly idenfied as Linda Christensen, who was missing from the photo. The World regrets the error.

Editor's Note - The cutline should have read: The Staples Nutrition Site held their Christmas gathering Dec. 18 at the Staples Community Center Senior's Room. Above: Anne Ohmann, LuAnn Braford, Nutrition Site manager, Gloria Marden, Joyce Mohler, Amy Lindstrom, Jennifer Braun, Mary Wetzel, Jeanie Huebner and Bobbie Braford, Nutrition Site volunteer. Not pictured: Linda Christensen.

Obituary

Robert Choate, Jr.



Robert Choate, Jr., of Cushing passed away at his home December 31, 2024.

Robert was born April 17, 1947, to Robert, Sr. and Carol (Lindquist) Choate in Dayton, Ohio.

He is survived by his wife, Jomyla Choate; two children, Wendy (Jenifer Rabins) Orth and Matthew (Nicole) Choate and four-grandchildren.

Services for Bob will be held in July of 2025.

Arrangements are by Taylor Funeral Home.

w3c A00006B2025JN08

Hello World

Online births removed at the request of Lakewood Health System.

Staples Area Church Directory

Staples

Staples Alliance
1512 8th St. NE, Staples 218-894-2891
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
Sunday Worship Service .....9:00 a.m.
Sunday School and Coffee Fellowship.....10:05 a.m.

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

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

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

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

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

Aldrich

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

Cushing

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

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

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

Leader

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

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

Motley

Motley Free Methodist
33 Wellwood St. E
Motley 56466.....218-352-6888
Jim Johnson, Senior Pastor
Casey Reynolds, Assistant Pastor
Sunday Worship..... 9:00 and 10:30 a.m.
facebook live..... 9 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
AWANA.....4:00-5:30 p.m.
Youth Group .....6:00-8:00 p.m.

St. John's Lutheran
497 3rd Ave. S, Motley.....218-352-6399
Pastor Vicar Paul Koehler
Sunday School and Bible Class .....8:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship.....9:30 a.m.
St. Michael Catholic Church
1st St. and Birch, Motley.....218-894-2296
info@marysacc.org
Fr. Aaron Kuhn Fr. Gabriel Walz
MASS:
Saturday .....4:00 p.m.

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

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

Oylen

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

Pillager

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

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

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

Hewitt

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

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

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

Verndale

Verndale Alliance
109 NW Brown Street, Verndale, MN 56481
218-445-5619
Senior Pastor Tony Stanley
Youth Pastor Joe Ward
Sunday Worship.....9:30 a.m.
Sunday Bible Fellowship Classses .....11-11:45 a.m.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Leaf River Township

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

Wadena

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

"He Hears Our Prayers"

Submitted by Pastor Roy Miles, Staples Assembly of God Church

From "God's Word For Today"

Ninety-one-year-old Melvin makes a habit of keeping up with the news. Though it saddens him to watch his country's Christian values erode, he realizes this is nothing new. Youthful rebellion caused Melvin to ignore God for a time.

That's why he refuses to sit idly by, watching his countrymen lose the battle against darkness. Realizing that he has little time left to intercede, he gets down on his arthritic knees every day and follows the example of Daniel, who prayed:

"Lord, you are a great and awesome God! You always fulfill your covenant and keep your promises of unfailing love to those who love you and obey your commands. But we have sinned and done wrong." (Daniel 9:4-5)

Even as God heard the cries of Daniel, He hears the cries of Melvin and all the believers who know that only God is capable of saving a sinful world from its destructive ways.

Not everyone will turn to Christ, but Christians should still pray. Some sinners will repent and surrender to God.

Challenge for Today: Join Melvin in being a prayer warrior for family, friends, and country.

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

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

w3c

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

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

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

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

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

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***

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

Needing/Wanting a
Granite Memorial
FOR YOUR FAMILY?

I can help!
Diane M. Hahn
30 years serving our area!
Rep. for Fergus Falls Monument Co.
Call 218-445-5685 or 218-640-2341

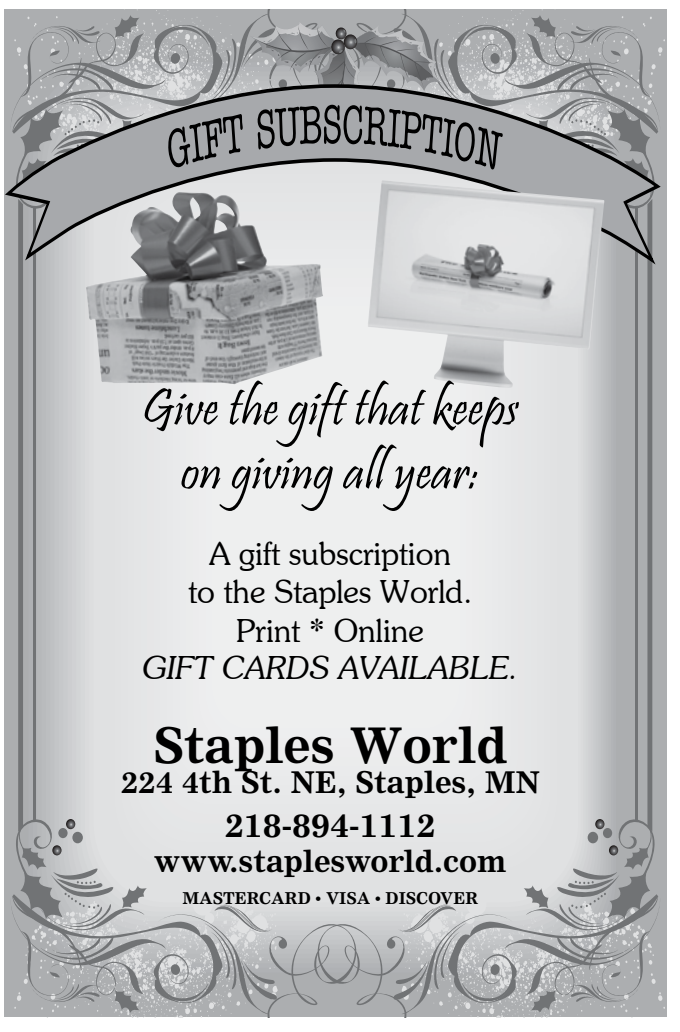
Life Currents Policy

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 adveritising 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 webstie.

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.



No Hassles
The Minnesota Display Ad Network
Take the hassle out of placing your newspaper ad in multiple publications. We can place it statewide or regionally. You'll place one order and because you only get one bill, you only write one check.
Your newspaper representative can provide complete details.
The 2x4 Network is a program of the MNA, phone 800-279-2979

OFFICE OF THE MINNESOTA SECRETARY OF STATE
Certificate of Assumed Name
Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 333

The filing of an assumed name does not provide a user with exclusive rights to that name. The filing is required for consumer protection in order to enable consumers to be able to identify the true owner of a business.

ASSUMED NAME:
Mother Root Gardens
PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS:
42447 Quartz RD,
Staples, MN 56479
United States
APPLICANT(S):
Name:
Lacey Danell Grewe
Address:
42447 Quartz RD,
Staples, MN 56479
United States

By typing my name, I, the undersigned, certify that I am signing this document as the person whose signature is required, or as agent of the person(s) whose signature would be required who has authorized me to sign this document on his/her behalf, or in both capacities. I further certify that I have completed all required fields, and that the information in this document is true and correct and in compliance with the applicable chapter of Minnesota Statutes. I understand that by signing this document I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Section 609.48 as if I had signed this document under oath.

SIGNED BY: **Lacey Grewe**
MAILING ADDRESS:
42447 Quartz RD,
Staples, MN 56479
EMAIL FOR OFFICIAL NOTICES: **Fellmanlacey@gmail.com**

Work Item/Original File Number 1524421000022

STATE OF MINNESOTA
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE
FILED
12/22/2024
2-3pnc

NOTICE
BYRON TOWNSHIP

Byron Township will hold their regular monthly meeting Tuesday, January 14, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at the Leader Community Hall followed by the re-organizational meeting.

Becki Rassler, Clerk
Byron Township
3pnc

TODD COUNTY
BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT
215 First Ave. South
Long Prairie,
Minnesota 56347
320-732-4420
toddplan.zone@co.todd.mn.us

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that on **Thursday, January 23, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.** the Todd County Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing in the Commissioner's board room, 215 1st Ave. South, Suite 301, Long Prairie, Minnesota.

NOTE: This meeting is being held in-person and the public is encouraged to attend. Those who do attend in person can find parking atop the hill on the west side of the Historic Courthouse and enter through the north doors, near the American Flag and monument.

Questions? Call or email 320-732-4420 or **toddplan.zone@co.todd.mn.us**.

AGENDA
• Call to Order
• Pledge of Allegiance
• Introduction of Board of Adjustment Members and process review
• The applicant is introduced
• Staff report
• Applicant confirms if staff report accurately represents the request
• Public comment
• Board review with applicant, staff, and public
• Approval of agenda
• Approval of December 19, 2024, Board of Adjustment meeting minutes

1. Reorganization of the Board and review Business Rules

2. Thomas and Bonnie Dingmann: Section 20, Burnhamville Township, Big Swan Lake
Site Address: 17031 Downy Dr., Grey Eagle, MN 56336 **PID:** 06-0058600
1. Request to reduce the OHWL setback from 100' to 65' to enclose an existing deck in RD Shoreland Zoning.

3. Jacob Wiener: Section 18, Round Prairie Township
Site Address: 18910 Ellipse Loop, Long Prairie, MN 56347 **PID:** 21-4001400
1. Request for variance to reduce the setback from the Road Right of Way from 100' to 34' for proposed addition of covered entry, walkway and Bell Tower to existing structure in Commercial Zoning.

4. Travis Eckel: Section 15, Wykeham Township
Site Address: NA **PID:** 28-0012803
1. Request to increase the allowed storage containers from two containers per parcel to fifteen (15) containers for this parcel in AF-2 Zoning.

Adjournment.
Next meeting: February 27, 2025

All persons interested are invited to attend said hearing or submit a letter to be heard on these matters. **All correspondence must include name, mailing address and be received 48 hours before the date and time of the hearing.**

Todd County
Board of Adjustment
Richard Johnson, Chair
3pnc

Services & Employment

205 Help Wanted

LOOKING FOR an outgoing, hard working, dependable individual to work in the kitchen and dining room at Tri-County Stockyards in Motley. This is a part-time position for Wednesdays, year round and every other Saturday, December-April. For more information give us a call. 218-352-6546. 3c

Classified Ad Order Form

Name _____ Phone _____
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 _____

Please check your ad the first day.
Refunds or credit will not be given for errors brought to our attention after the second publication.
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:
Staples World, Box 100, Staples, MN 56479

Wanted to Buy

501 Miscellaneous

JUNK CARS & TRUCKS. 218-639-5509. 1-2c

Real Estate

602 Apartments for Rent

STAPLES: Downtown, 1 - 2 bdrm., recently remodeled, NO pets, non smoking, 218-894-3108. 6tfc

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

611 Wanted to Buy

40+ ACRES between Wadena/Pillager, with or without house, 218-831-3521. 3-5p



*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY

SERVICE DIRECTORY

GIZA
EST 1934
PLUMBING & HEATING
• PLUMBING
• HEATING
• AIR CONDITIONING
• GEOTHERMAL
• NEW CONSTRUCTION
• REMODEL
• SERVICE
MN LIC. #PC644417
218-894-2284
WWW.CALLGIZA.COM

H&R Electric of Staples
Electrical Services for
•Residential
•Commercial
•Industrial
218-296-2461
Zach Hanson 218-296-1285 • Mike Rollins 218-296-2461
hrelectricofstaples@yahoo.com
Licensed, Bonded & Insured • Over 30 years experience

Ultimate Septic Service LLC
David Odden - *Owner/Operator*
Services:
•Septic Pumping •Jetting
•Emergencies
Call **USS** for all your septic pumping needs!
218-296-1137
ultimatesepticservice@gmail.com

ALBIE ELECTRIC LLC
CELL 218-838-0581
RESIDENTIAL AND
LIGHT COMMERCIAL
ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS

SINCE 1978
PAUL DRAKE TREE SERVICE
•General •Lot Clearing
•Storm Damage Clean Up
•Stump Grinding •Brushing
•55 ft. Bucket Truck
218-894-2871

Altrichter
Excavation & Septic Service
218-575-2222
•Septic System Installation
•Camera Inspection, Tank Pumping and Cleaning
MN State Certified
6685 330th St.,
Cushing, MN. 56443

LPS Inc.
Long Prairie Sanitation
Long Prairie, MN
218-631-3101 888-878-5578

*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY *SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE

PROFESSIONAL

Mandi's Accounting Services
Tax Prep • Bookkeeping • Payroll
•Financial Planning
Mandi Polito
Accountant
218-296-5006
mandipolito1384@gmail.com
138 4th St., Staples, MN 56479
PO Box 95, Staples, MN 56479

Sellnow Law Office, P.A.
*Thomas H. Sellnow**
sellnowt@sellnowlaw.com
Jason R. Sellnow
sellnowj@sellnowlaw.com
218-894-4618 • 133 4th St. NE, Staples
229 Central Ave., Long Prairie
320-732-1919 • Toll free: 877-297-1125
*Thomas Sellnow is a Real Property Law Specialist certified by Real Property Section of Minnesota State Bar Association.
• Probate and Trusts
• Estate Planning • Family Law
• Real Estate • Business Law
• Title Insurance • Elder Law
• Personal Injury • Auto Accidents
www.sellnowlaw.com

*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE

CONSTRUCTION

PHB Excavating Inc.
QUALITY WORK & PROMPT SERVICE
Phil Bjerga
218-639-5007
Licensed / Bonded / Insured
Septics • Waterlines • Trenching • Basements • Retaining Walls
Landscaping & Site Preparation • Backhoe & Skid Loader Work
Sewer Pipe Cleaning and Steaming • Custom Pressure Washing
Equipment, Buildings, Driveways, etc. • Snow Plowing & Removal

IDEAL CONSTRUCTION LLC
PAVING THE WAY FOR YOU!
Staples, MN 56479
218-894-3105
SINCE 1958
Asphalt Paving • Seal Coating • Excavating • Driveways
Roads • Parking Lots • Site Prep • Gravel • Rock • Black Dirt
Fill • Peat • Ponds • Demolition • Hauling • Landscaping
Recycled Concrete and Asphalt

Statema Backhoe Service, LLC
MPCA CERTIFIED SEPTIC SYSTEMS
•FREE ESTIMATE FROM DESIGN TO INSTALLATION
•COMPLIANCE INSPECTIONS
Site Prep • Basements • Waterlines • Driveways • Landscaping • Black Dirt • Gravel • Construction & Abandonment of Manure Pits • Fill Dirt
Clearing & Grading • Ditch Cleaning • Snow Plowing: Commercial & Residential
Andy Statema •320-594-2912 • 320-594-6347
LICENSED BONDED INSURED

SW 2024 changed wk #3

*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY*SERVICE DIRECTORY



Finding warmth at Bingo

Pictured, Bingo players at Lefty's bar in Staples enjoy a couple of hours out of the below zero temperatures on Jan. 4, with Staples Lions members running the game. The Lions host the event at Lefty's and Beck's Burger Co., on alternating weeks. Bingo is also played at The Boxcar in Staples, Ten-Hi in Motley and at Wahoo Valley north of Staples. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

Three year old dies from gunshot wound

A three year old child in Otter Tail County died as a result of an accidental gun discharge.

On Dec. 29 at approximately 5:40 p.m., the Otter Tail County Sheriff's Office received a call from Oak Valley Township, southeast of Deer Creek and west of Hewitt, where a three and a half year old child sustained a gun shot wound, reportedly self-inflicted. The child was transported to Astera Hospital in Wadena.

The following day, the Sheriff's Dept reported that the child had died as a result of the gunshot wound.

The incident is under investigation by the Otter Tail County Sheriff's Office. The sheriff's office was assisted at the scene by the New York Mills Police Dept, Deer Creek Fire and Rescue and Wadena Ambulance.

An online fundraisingpage identified the three year old boy as Rudy Sweere.



Starting the new year solo

In the first week of the new year of 2025, one lonely ice house stood on Dower Lake, braving sub-zero temperatures that were good for ice thickness but not good for people wanting to get outdoors. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)



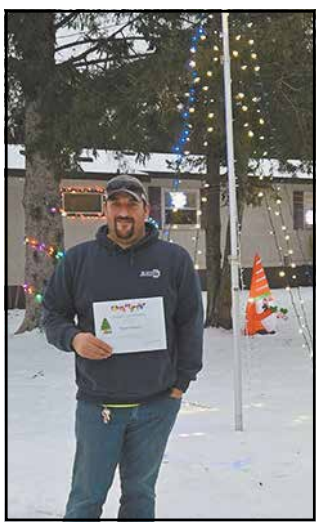
Shelter from the sub zero temperatures

A group of mourning doves gathered in a pine tree in Staples to get out of the cold wind and soak up a little sunlight on Jan. 4. Mourning doves are more commonly known for their spring and summer songs, not for being a winter bird. Although some doves migrate farther south for the winter, these chose to stick around this year. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



Holiday lights contest winners in Motley





Residents and businesses in the City of Motley were invited to participate in a holiday lights contest, sponsored by the Motley Lions, who donated the cash prizes, and the Motley Community Events Organization, who arranged the judging and delivered the prizes and certificates.

Motley Hardware (pictured above), located at 117 Hwy 10 S., was awarded Best Business. Mike Hansen, (at left), who resides at 548 Meadow Ave, was awarded Best Use of Lights; and Bryan Stevens (at right), who resides at 164 Eledredge St. E., was awarded Most Creative (photos below). (Submitted photos)







THE GREAT ESCAPE

- Keep track of your reading.
- Earn online badges.
- Make reading a habit.
- Get book recommendations.

Register at your library and enter drawings for prizes.
Earn digital badges by registering online at griver.beanstack.org

GREAT RIVER REGIONAL LIBRARY
1-833-GET-GRRL
Explore...learn...connect...

Explore...Learn...Connect...at griver.org