

## School adds operating levy to ballot

Up to \$600,000 to be cut from the budget for 2018-19 school year, but not in extra-curriculars

By Brenda Halvorson  
General Manager

After a lengthy discussion at the special meeting Mar. 12 the Staples-Motley School Board unanimously approved making budget reductions of up to \$600,000 for the 2018-19 school year as well as putting a \$505,000 operating levy on the ballot in November.

The operating levy will be in addition to the building bond referendum the board expects to have ready for the November election.

The operating levy, if approved, will help keep the district out of statutory operating debt until



plies and uniforms. That total was \$462,500.

— o —  
*‘Taxes - nobody wants to pay them but everybody likes the things they bring us.’*

Mary Freeman  
Staples-Motley School Board Member

— o —  
“It seems logical to ask voters to support the levy referendum to support programs the community holds dear - athletics and arts,” said board member Mary Freeman. “That’s why kids come here. Keep that stuff sacred. Take the hit in other places.”

“We are blessed to have lots of extra-curriculars, way more than other schools our size. I don’t want to change that,” agreed board member Bruce Lund.

If approved the \$505,000 operating levy would increase taxes on a \$100,000 home by \$5.58 per month or See **SCHOOL** on page 10a

### Hello, Readers,

*‘The newspaper offers something very different from Google’s aggregators. It offers a value system, an idea of what matters in the world. Newspapers need to start articulating that value.’*  
Evgeny Morozov

*‘Newspapers widen the sphere of our sympathies. They make their readers enter into the joys and sorrows of thousands of whom they would else know nothing, and for whom they would otherwise care nothing.’*  
Christian Nestell Bovee

*Freedom of Information Day, March 16, is dedicated to that very concept, with the Freedom of Information Act being enacted on July 4, 1966 and coming into effect a year from that date. It declared that every person has the right to get information from federal agency records that are not protected by one of nine exemptions, or special law enforcement record exclusions. This put into law the very concepts that James Madison held so dear, and ensured that the citizens of the United States were able to obtain that information to which they were entitled.*

**Public Notices**  
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David Bartylla  
Olga Shake  
Lucille Sowers



### Budget cuts draw crowd to school board meeting

More than 90 people attended a special school board meeting March 12 to express concerns about potential budget cuts. Interim Superintendent Ron Bratlie, standing far right, and others on the administrative team explained the current financial status and optional plans looking out five years to the 2022-23 school year. School board members asked questions and took questions from the audience before voting to pursue an operating levy in November. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

the building project is complete. The project is expected to bring operating efficiencies and reduce expenses.

A very preliminary scenario for budget cuts

totaling \$571,400 includes district-wide cuts like the free breakfast program, technology supplies and physical education/activities director restructuring. The larger items in educa-

tional cuts could include reducing staff at the elementary school, middle school and high school. A more complete final list will be presented at the regular board meeting Mar. 19.

The budget reductions will likely not include any athletics or extra-curricular activities. A list itemized the cost of each activity including coaching, transportation, sup-

## Rau embarks on the thrill of falconry with his red-tail hawk ‘LadyBoy’

By Mark Anderson  
News Editor

As Colton Rau walks past a thicket of bushes, a rabbit is stirred up and starts running. Out of the trees above him, his red-tailed hawk comes streaking down and clamps down on the rabbit.

“It’s the most exhilarating thing ever,” said Rau, who recently finished his first year as an apprentice falconer, in which he was named the top rated apprentice in Minnesota. He is a Staples-Motley/Connections High School student and lives south of Staples.

He took the hawk out nearly every day during the small game hunting season, as it is a hunting sport, although it is just Rau and his bird; no guns or arrows are allowed.

Rau said he first learned about falconry because he was into hunting dogs, and he became acquainted with some of the hunters who also had birds.

“It’s fun, but it demands a lot of work,” he said.

Hunting with a bird of prey is a tightly regulated sport in Minnesota. In order to even own a hawk, Rau had to pass an exam, get a sponsor who is already a falconer and



### Taking falconry into the great outdoors

Colton Rau with his red-tailed hawk, in the background is the outdoor pen where Rau allows his hawk to get exercise when they are not out hunting. He also built an enclosed mew (raptor house) where the hawk can stay warm and dry during the winter. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

build a home facility for the hawk that is inspected and approved.

His home, called a mew, is spacious but narrow, with a simple perch. Rau said the simpler the better for a hawk.

Once he passed the inspection, Rau was allowed to trap a bird. As an apprentice, he is only allowed to own a red-tailed hawk, a common bird of prey in the state. He got

his near the Twin Cities. He didn’t know if it was a male or female, so he named it Lady-Boy. He later learned it was a male.

The next step was to get the bird used to being around humans or dogs, a process known as “manning.” He got the hawk to eat from his falconry glove and trained it to come to a bait when he swung it on a rope.

Once he felt comfort-

able with the hawk, Rau got ready for his first hunting experience. He has a transponder on the hawk’s straps in case it flies away, but otherwise the hawk is free to perch in the tree while Rau tries to flush out game by hiking around under him.

While he usually hunts for rabbits, Rau said his hawk can also catch mice and squirrels. On one trip, the hawk caught a big

brown rat. “We just left that one there,” said Rau.

It doesn’t take long for the hawk to learn this is a good way to hunt.

“Birds of prey are generally greedy, they take advantage of easy food,” said Rau. “He knows as soon as his hood comes off, it is hunting time. He’ll follow me around in the trees, he knows what we are there for.”

Rau said he finds different spots that could be good for rabbits, but doesn’t return to the same spot often, as he wants the rabbit population to stay high in those areas. “We do a lot of traveling,” he said.

About one in ten hunting spots were successful, a good percentage for a beginning falconer and his hawk. “He did his part very well,” said Rau about Lady-Boy’s hunting ability.

Since becoming enamored by falconry, Rau has learned a lot about the history and lore of the sport. “Falconry is more than 6,000 years old, it goes back way before guns. In ancient Egypt, they worshipped falcons,” he said.

Rau said his goal in falconry is to one day advance far enough to be able to own a northern goshawk.

See **FALCONER** on page 10a



### Staples Food Shelf volunteers

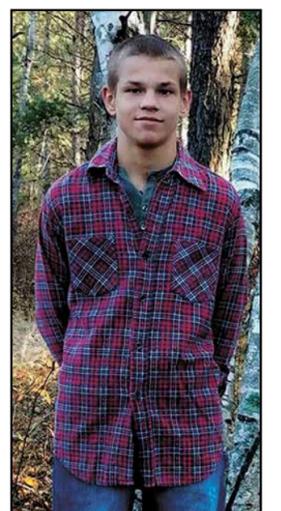
Staples Food Shelf Director Fran Mertens, front, stands with some of the volunteers who helped unload the Second Harvest food truck on March 2. Mertens said they still need donations for the March fund drive, when money donations are counted to increase future funding. Pictured with Mertens, from left, are Frank Leidenfrost, Dan Shaw, Amy Leidenfrost, Dawn and Rick Adamietz, Neil Koppes and Walt Trantina. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

### Assistance requested in locating missing juvenile

The Cass County Sheriff’s Office is investigating a March 12 report of a missing male juvenile runaway from the rural Motley area.

The missing juvenile is identified as Dylan Joseph Vorbeck, age 15. Vorbeck left his home wearing a two-tone blue jacket and red shoes. He is described as 5 ft. 5 inches tall, approximately 130 lbs, with short brown hair and brown/hazel eyes. It is believed that Vorbeck left his home on his own.

If you have information related to this missing person, contact the Cass County Sheriff’s Office at 218-547-1424 or 1-800-450-2677, or your local law enforcement agency.



Dylan Joseph Vorbeck

Thank you for subscribing!



### Community comes together to help navigate reality

The Reality Store is the annual event where community members help Staples-Motley High School students learn about the requirements of living in the modern world. Students are given a profile that includes a career, and perhaps a spouse and family. They then find out how much of their paycheck goes towards insurance, taxes, investments, entertainment, travel, pets, utilities, clothing, groceries, cars, childcare and charity. There are also random health issues and civil tickets given out to students waiting for the next station. The list of community volunteers was posted on a wall for students to see. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)

<b>Thank you volunteers!</b> Paul Anderson Dave Anderson Joyce Anderson Marie Baron Connie Becker Sheila Becker Julie Benson Steve Benson Mary Berg Bruce Berg	Pat Heid Darla Hoernberg Tom Honek Gail Honek Tricia Jasmer Monica Katzenberger Mary Kobilska Terri Kobilska Sara Kobilska Julie Krause Norm Krause	Bruce Lund Deanna Mattson-Millar Orv Meyer Marge Meyer Sara Moe Bob Mueller Lisa Muenchow Kevin Nielson Gloria Nokes Jamie Peason Sandy Peterson	Amy Winter John Wolak Craig Wolhowe
Bob Beseman Judy Bialka Rosie Blessing Cheri Bodeen Ron Bratlie Pam Canning Pam Collins Tom Danculovich Karen Dauer Debbie Dague Tab Erickson	Kylie Fix Mike Gedde Beth Gedde Bridget Gerard Ray Gildow Renee Godding Mike Gold Megan Haber Jeff Halverson Mandi Hanson Becky Hasselberg	Aaron Quirt Marie Rose Heidi Schmidt Ashley Seeley Onni Sharp Monica Simmons Sharon Swenson Laura Tucker Mary Vogel Jim Vollegraaf Mary Williams	



### Going far in the bee

Staples-Motley student William Thew made it to the final five, out of 29 qualifiers, in the Lakes Bee Regional Spelling Bee. Thew made it to the sixth round by spelling some tough words, including studel, dissimilar, and surveillance. He missed the word myriad for his final word. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



### Final two spellers

The top two finishers at the Lakes Bee Regional Spelling Bee, held March 7 at NJPA in Staples, were Esme Pool of Aitkin, left, and Chloe Holoman of Roy-alton. Holoman won in the ninth round by spelling rendezvous, and for her championship word she correctly spelled einkorn, which is a type of wheat from Turkey. Pool correctly spelled taupe and sauerbraten before missing on repertoire.

## To Succeed or Not To Succeed...

There is an old story that goes: Thomas Edison made 10,000 attempts to create the light bulb. He was later asked, "How did it feel to fail 9,999 times?"

Whether that story is myth or fact, failure can be brutal, ugly and unpleasant, so why does it seem to be more public than success? On the other hand, the heirs of the Rockefellers, Kardashians, and Hiltons who are deemed to be successful receive plenty

of public attention. Looking in from the outside, can we tell if success or failure was more important in shaping these people's lives?

These are among some factors that could address the question for the 26th Annual Great American Think-Off: "Which plays a larger role in shaping one's life: Success or Failure?" Get your 750-word essay to the Cultural Center in New York Mills by April 1!

Essays can be submitted online at [www.think-off.org](http://www.think-off.org), by sending an email to [info@think-off.org](mailto:info@think-off.org), or through the post to Think-Off, Cultural Center, P.O. Box 246, New York Mills, MN 56567.

Because April 1 is a Sunday this year, essays postmarked Monday, April 2 will be accepted.

Four essay winners, two on each side of the question, are chosen by May 1. They each win a \$500 prize and a trip to New York

Mills for the June 9 live debate where they have a chance to win the title of "America's Greatest Thinker!"

Find your inner arm-chair philosopher and enter the contest before April 1. The Think-Off committee eagerly awaits your inspiring stories, your touching anecdotes, and to find out how success or failure has shaped YOUR life.

Now in its 26th year, The Great American Think-Off is an exhibition of civil disagreement between powerful ideas being explored by everyday people. Designed to bring philosophy down from the ivory towers of academia and make it accessible for all, the contest has received national acclaim including coverage by C-SPAN, the New York Times, and The Today Show.

The Cultural Center, located in the rural farm and manufacturing town

of New York Mills sponsors this annual philosophy contest and encourages people of all ages and backgrounds to participate. The Cultural Center is a rural hub for creativity, community vitality, and lifelong learning in the arts. Since our incorporation in 1990, we have been passionate about connecting people to artists and rich cultural experiences in rural Minnesota, celebrating the local and being a window to the world.

To get a better sense of the Think-Off, find details, historical information, and a list of the past 25 years of questions and winners on the event website: [www.think-off.org](http://www.think-off.org).

For contest details and more information, visit [www.think-off.org](http://www.think-off.org) or call the Cultural Center at 218-385-3339. Event tickets can be purchased online at <https://thinkoff2018.bpt.me>.

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Knox

Beautiful son of  
Katie & Brent  
Born 12/21/17 in Staples.

Emerson

Beautiful son of  
Marci & Daniel  
Born 12/25/17 in Staples.

Lane Jr.

Beautiful son of  
Desaray & Lane  
Born 12/28/17 in Staples.

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### Many hands (and feet) make light work

On March 6, the day after a "no school" day, students in RoAnn Trout's 5th grade class and Rachel Przybilla's 4th grade class at Sacred Heart Area School, pitched in to make short work of shoveling the steps at Sacred Heart Church in Staples. Students had fun in the mild temperatures with the afternoon sun shining through. The March 5 storm dumped nearly a foot of snow through the Staples and Motley area. (Staples World photo by Janice Winter)



### On the spelling bee stage

Jadyn Vogel spells her first word at the Lakes Bee Regional Spelling Bee, correctly spelling fresco in the first round, but missing on homogeneous.

### Charlier named to health system board

Central Lakes College President Hara Charlier has been named to the Essentia Health Board of Directors, serving St. Joseph's Medical Center in Brainerd.

"We value our board members throughout Essentia", says Adam Rees, Administrative Leader at Essentia Health-St. Joseph's Medical Center and Clinics. "To achieve our mission of being called to make a healthy difference in people's lives' we seek out community leaders to guide the decisions we make."

According to an Essentia Health press release, Dr. Charlier is experienced at addressing community and workforce challenges in the health care sector in rural areas for well over a decade and is excited to join the Essentia Board.



**Hara Charlier**

"Both Central Lakes College and Essentia Health are committed to improving the lives of those in our community; the synergy between our organizations is critical to the success of the region. Additionally, as a resident of the region, I am deeply appreciative of the work of our health care experts to care for families in the Brainerd Lakes Area, including my own."



### Self made, air-powered transportation

Ashton Nichols, Joseph Granby, Ayden Hovland, Sam Hirschev and Andrew Black line up their balloon powered cars while Brianna Ruikka fuels her car up with air. The second grade students built their vehicles out of parts brought by the Tech Mobile transportation program. The unit teaches physics and engineering and has units suited for each grade. Kindergarten students build a basic car and learn about different surfaces and masses; third graders have a rubber band car and fourth grade students build an electric car. Older students have the opportunity to build a solar car. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



### Ready to race

Joseph Granby and Cadence Pence line up their cars to race over the course.



### Go, go, go

Isaac Vargas-De-wald celebrates a successful race of his car.



### Tech mobile cars propelled by air

Bryson Dumpprope and Brianna Ruikka use their bodies to fuel up their cars built during the Tech Mobile unit on transportation at Staples-Motley Elementary School.

## Public support sought for 400-game Negro Leagues winner

A 400-game winner who struck out more than 5,000 batters in the Negro Leagues has long been championed by The Donaldson Network. The organization is ramping up efforts even further in hopes Cooperstown gives the man a second look for induction.

The documentary film "39 Seconds" about John Donaldson is due to be released this summer, but The Donaldson Network is asking for baseball fans' donations to help cover production costs, network founder Peter Gorton said recently, the start of a 20-day countdown for fundraising.

"We're attempting to open the eyes of America to the greatness of John Donaldson," says Gorton. "This story is about more than just baseball and athletic achievement. It's about restoring American history by telling about John Donaldson's perseverance in the days of the color barrier. We need help to bring this story to a wider audience."

The film (www.39Secondsfilm.com) will enhance Donaldson's chances of induction into

the National Baseball Hall of Fame, which in 2006 inducted 17 representatives of the Negro Leagues. Donaldson was a finalist but missed the cut; in 2017 the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame inducted the left-handed pitcher posthumously.

"John Donaldson for baseball fans is a name you should know because he's one of the most decorated baseball players in the history of our sport," says Bob Kendrick, President of The Negro Leagues Baseball Museum.

Donaldson was forced by the color barrier in organized baseball to perform anywhere but a major league city. What the big leagues lost was Minnesota's gain. Donaldson pitched in over 130 cities in Minnesota alone.

The Donaldson Network has assembled 5,500 press references from 25 states to bring his career to life. A left-hander, Donaldson was considered the equal to famed Negro Leagues pitcher Satchel Paige. The pitcher won 404 games and struck out 5,034 batters between 1908 and 1941 and was part of the inaugural Kansas City Monarchs. He

later became the first African-American full-time scout in the big leagues when the Chicago White Sox hired him in 1949.

The film's titled "39 Seconds" is derived from the only known film footage of Donaldson in a 1925 game in Fergus Falls. It's directed by Paul Irmiter and subtitled, "The true life story of John Wesley Donaldson the Greatest Colored Pitcher in the World."

The Creative Team includes; Filmmaker Paul Irmiter, Assistant Director and Casting Director Kevin D. West, Executive Producers Tru Ruts / EG Bailey and Sha Cage, Researcher/Story master Peter Gorton, Editor Dane Whitehead and leading actors and creative talent.



### Growing food in class

Hydroponic tower gardens are growing in Sandy Opheim's 2nd grade classroom at Staples-Motley Elementary School, part of the Tech Mobile program. Pictured, Hailee Cox, Zander Plattner and Ayden Hovland pick pieces of lettuce from the tower. Other plants growing in the gardens includes cherry tomatoes, kale, broccoli, basil, cilantro, dill and thyme. They planted the garden Jan. 24 and had their first harvest on March 1. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



### Tasty treat

Ayden Hovland takes a bite of the lettuce that is growing in his classroom.

**WELCOMING HOME TO MOTLEY...**



**Robert**  
Beautiful son of Lanaiah & Alex  
Born 12/15/17 in Staples.



**Alicia**  
Beautiful daughter of Tricia & Kevin  
Born 12/18/17 in Staples.



**Madilynn**  
Beautiful daughter of Christine & Jesse  
Born 12/19/17 in Staples.

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*for making a difference!*  
Congratulations to these 5-Star employees

**Left to right: Maggie Dumond, Kelsey Dockendorf, Karina Kobliska, Heidi Story**

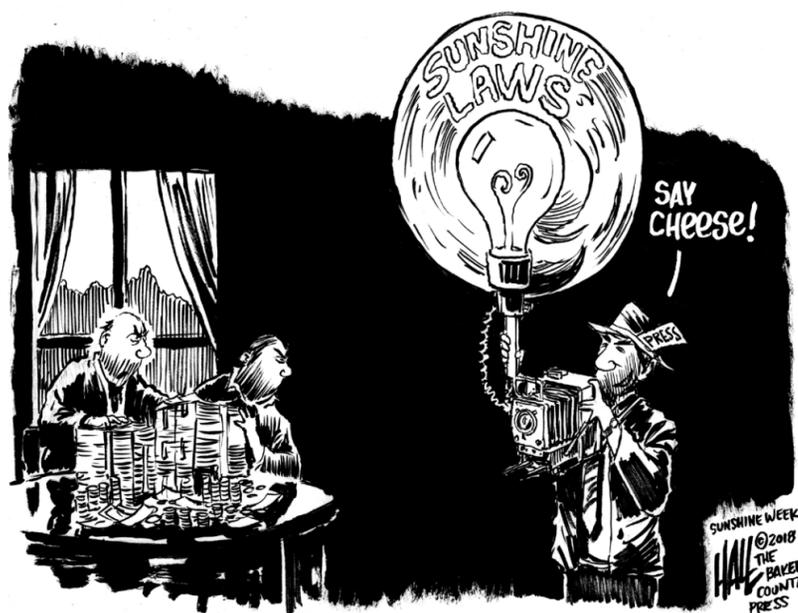
**Maggie Dumond**  
Lead HME Inventory Coordinator, Medical Marketplace  
Nominated by Bob and Junette Blake, "Maggie went above and beyond to help us in a situation with a patient's lift chair. One afternoon, we could not get it to recline. Maggie explained that their service man was unavailable but she would come and see if she could help. She got it working and made sure it continued to work before she left. We appreciate Maggie and what she did."

**Heidi Story, RN, Karina Kobliska, RN and Kelsey Dockendorf, RN Hospital Services**  
Nominated by the Quality Committee, "Heidi, Karina and Kelsey have been selected for the STAR Award for a "Good Catch" because they recently have filled out an occurrence report regarding a safety concern. These three nurses took the extra steps to identify that an order was not safe. They had the courage to bring the order to the provider's attention and use effective communication prior to following through with the order. It is because of individuals like these that we are able to enhance patient safety and quality care at Lakewood Health System."

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*When someone we love becomes a memory; that memory becomes a treasure.*



# Public is best served by full menu of news

By Jim Pumarlo

Strike up a conversation about press rights, and many individuals likely conjure a picture of editors and reporters demanding access to top-secret data from government officials. No doubt, that occurs more often than most people would like to believe.

The reality, however, is that your newspaper's push for access to government meetings and public data at local, state and federal levels is simple. We want to deliver information that affects our readers' everyday lives, and do so in a timely fashion.

Reminding citizens and public officials about the public's right of access to government information is the focus of "Sunshine Week: It's Your Right to Know," March 11-17. At its foundation, Sunshine Week underscores preserving the free flow of information for an open, effective and accountable government.

Consider these examples:

- A teacher, charged with domestic assault, is apparently placed on paid leave. The superintendent refuses to confirm.
- A citizen challenged the closing of a city council meeting based on attorney-client privilege. The board neither disclosed the item to be discussed nor cited any legal authority to close the meeting.
- A letter involving official school business was sent to a state agency. It was signed by a quorum of the school board but never discussed or decided upon at a public meeting.

Most citizens would expect government officials to routinely and openly share this information with their constituencies. It's unfortunate, but there are numerous circumstances – these three are but a sampling – where they do not, even in the specific instances where state law says they must. That's why newspapers around the state, along with the Minnesota Newspaper Association, are on the front lines year-round to ensuring our readers know what is going on in their communities.

To be fair, most officials are open and forthcoming. They recognize the importance and value of sharing all information – the good and the bad. But their natural instincts often come into conflict with the law when confronted with challenging, uncomfortable or divisive circumstances.

In the three cases cited above, the school board wanted to "protect" a teacher's privacy. The city council feared the disclosure of information would damage the council's position in litigation. The school board believed it was doing the right thing and asserted there was no discussion of the letter's content prior to sending it.

Some arguments for withholding information are well-meaning. Other arguments should raise eyebrows among even those who believe government should have the ability to keep certain items private to be most effective. No matter the circumstances, all three cases ran afoul of the law and short-changed the public of vital

information.

News organizations are usually the first to object when access to proceedings and information is denied or made more difficult. But citizens need to understand that state laws governing access to open meetings and government records preserve the rights of all Minnesotans. Citizens have the opportunity to challenge government proceedings and actions by seeking an advisory opinion through the Data Practices Office within the Minnesota Department of Administration.

State advisory opinions issued in open records and data practices cases unfortunately show that efforts to keep people in the dark still occur.

The practice of blocking information is truly a contradiction. Public officials routinely encourage citizen participation in their decision-making, yet they prohibit their constituents from having ringside seats when it comes to shedding light on sensitive and challenging news and decisions.

Readers should rest assured that your newspaper will continue to stand firmly on the foundation that our communities – our readers – are best served by a full menu of public information rather than a selective serving.

*Jim Pumarlo is a former editor of Red Wing Republican Eagle, currently Communication Director of Minnesota Chamber of Commerce. He also serves on the Minnesota News Media Institute Board of Directors.*

# Are truth and freedom getting flushed away?

By Brian J. Hunhoff  
Contributing editor  
Yankton County (South Dakota) Observer

"Captain Jack" Crawford was one of the original Black Hills Rangers. He survived many Old West adventures and was called "The Poet Scout." This is the final stanza of his 1889 poem, "Truth":

*Truth may sparkle like diamonds,  
But some men will cast it aside.  
Instead they will treasure the mica,  
And say to the truth, "Let her slide."  
But truth is the old rock of ages,  
Upon which our forefathers stood.  
Without it there may be corruption,  
And with it our lives must be good.*

Jack Crawford died 29 years before Donald Trump was born, but he warned of leaders who embrace false witness. President Trump brings new life to the 2,500-year-old words of Sophocles: "How dreadful knowledge of the truth can be when there is no help in the truth."

Our 45th president answers coverage of his easily disproven parade of lies by smearing the press for spreading "fake news." That was a leading theme of Trump's successful 2016 campaign so it's no surprise to hear "fake news" from the Oval Office. It's more concerning to see that reckless phrase weaponized by elected officials who ought to know better.

South Dakota Secretary of State Shantel Krebs, a 2018 candidate for Congress, has enjoyed mostly sunny news coverage in her young political career. That did not stop her from sounding alarms when S.D. press asked about controversial views of a prominent endorser. Her response was asking supporters to "take a stand against FAKE news" by sending donations to her campaign.

Attacking media gives politicians a handy smokescreen from inconvenient facts and clearly sells well in red states. But responsible leaders do not pander to polls while ignoring threats to democracy. Winning isn't everything. There is more at stake.

Life in America is a precious gift. Fewer than one in seven people worldwide live in a free press environment. It protects us from authoritarian leaders who would gladly make their government our only source of news.

The sometimes unpopular role of the U.S. press is checking facts, investigating

possible misdeeds, and holding powerful entities accountable. The Fourth Estate's goal is the truth, much the same as our courts. Are we circling a drain where unwelcome court decisions get flushed down an Oval hole as "fake justice"?

President Trump would have you believe the media's role is to serve him. Criticism of his erratic words and deeds are reframed as unpatriotic attacks on America. He calls the press, "the enemy of the American people."

Trump also describes the media as "disgusting" and "scum." Since his inauguration as leader of the free world, there has been an exponential increase in harassment, imprisonment and assault of reporters all over the globe. Some of his followers wear T-shirts that say: "Rope. Tree. Journalist. Some Assembly Required."

Heed the words of Sen. John McCain: "If you want to preserve democracy as we know it, you have to have a free and many times adversarial press. Without it, I'm afraid we would lose so many of our individual liberties over time. That's how dictators get started."

Our founding fathers did not always like their newspaper coverage, but they knew a free press was democracy's best defense. They enshrined that ideal as one of the five freedoms in the First Amendment.

Now we have President Trump attacking anyone who holds him accountable for anything. He talks of opening up libel laws so "we can sue (journalists) and make lots of money." He tweets about challenging the licenses of networks who broadcast "fake news."

The media sometimes get it wrong, but those mistakes have been amplified while stories about Trump's lies are flushed away as "fake."

We have questions crying for answers we may not want to hear. Has the American president divided the United States so deeply that sound bites outweigh facts? Does faith in our favorite political flavor matter more than proof? Are we choosing news sources for information or ammunition? What is the effect on our country's collective self-respect when we knowingly elect a blatant liar?

Casually casting truth aside is a dangerous road to travel. Voltaire said, "Anyone who can make you believe absurdities can make you commit atrocities."

We must keep our eyes open. The risk is real.

*Brian Hunhoff is a contributing editor at the Yankton County (SD) Observer. He has received the Eagle Award for promoting open government in South Dakota; the Golden Quill Award for editorial writing; and the Freedom of Information Award from the National Newspaper Association. His opinions about open government and the First Amendment have been published in hundreds of newspapers and blogs from all 50 states and some foreign countries. He can be reached at hunhoff54@yahoo.com.*

# Sunshine always right

By Jim Zachary, CNHI  
Deputy National Editor,  
Editor, The Valdosta Daily  
Times

Open government is not a political platform. It is a basic American right. The political landscape is more polarized than ever and there seems to be little common ground for conservatives and progressives.

Transparency — keeping the light on the people's business — ought to be something everyone can agree on. Instead, conservatives want to reveal the secrets of liberals and liberals want to expose the actions of conservatives.

Openness in government is not a liberal, conservative, Republican, Democrat, independent, Libertarian or freedom caucus issue. It often appears that whatever party is in the minority becomes the champion of transparency right up until the time it is in the majority.

Politicians stomp on transparency and are all about open access, until they have something they want to keep secret.

The need for transparency in local, state and federal government transcends parties and political ideologies. Checks and balances provide few checks and little balance when officials broker deals behind closed doors and conceal documents that contain important information that the public has the right, and often the need, to know.

Local government has the biggest impact in the lives of people on a day-to-day basis. Whether it is in the form of property taxes, sales taxes, business taxes, state-shared dollars or federal grants, loans and funding, local government is 100 percent taxpayer-funded.

The public has the right to know how its money is being spent. The decisions being made, the dollars being doled out and the records being kept by city hall, the county commission, the board of education or the utility district all belong to liberals, conservatives, Republicans, Democrats, independents, Libertarians and even politically disinterested individuals.

All stakeholders have a stake in open meetings and public records and should care about transparency issues. The lack of and need for true government transparency should be about the most bipartisan cause

that exists.

Any elected official who truly cares about public service in a real and meaningful way and fully understands what a representative form of government is all about, should not only champion openness in government, but should be the most effective watchdogs, looking out for the public trust.

Sadly, those kinds of elected officials are hard to find. The press tries to keep an eye on government and expose clandestine actions and in response journalists are often ridiculed, belittled and even threatened for just doing their jobs, as they work to keep government honest by making use of access laws.

But, the public needs to understand that access to government documents and actions is not just a media right. It is your right.

*Jim Zachary is the deputy national editor of CNHI, editor of the Valdosta (Georgia) Daily Times, president and chairman of the Red & Black Publishing Company serving the University of Georgia, vice-president of the Georgia First Amendment Foundation, director of the Transparency Project of Georgia and a member of the Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communications Board of Trust. He can be reached at jzachary@cnhi.com.*



# Staples World

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**Letters:** Readers are encouraged to express their views by writing letters to the editor. Letters are verified for authenticity, so please include a name, address and phone number. Only the author's name and city will be published. Letters may be edited for spelling and grammar errors, libel, length and other factors. Private thanks, solicitations and libelous letters will not be published. Letters are printed on a space available basis. The editor reserves the right to reject letters.  
**The deadline is 5 p.m. Monday.** 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.

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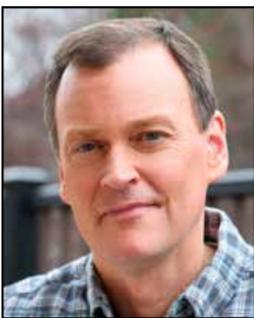
## GOP governor candidate forum



**Phillip Parrish**



**Mary Giuliani Stephens**



**Jeff Johnson**

ish was born in Blue Earth, graduated from West Concord High School, Mankato State University, and has a Master of Science in Educational Leadership and a Specialist Degree in Educational Administration. He taught math, music, civics and served as principal at Gerard Academy. In 1998, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy Reserve as an Intelligence Specialist and is currently a Lieutenant Commander in the Navy Reserves.

Candidate Mary Giuliani Stephens graduated from Mayo High School, and is the daughter of a physician at the Mayo Clinic. She graduated from the University of Michigan and William Mitchell College of Law. She practiced primarily in the area of construction litigation. In 2006, Mary won a seat on the Woodbury City Council and in 2010, was elected Mayor of Woodbury, is serving her second four year term, running unopposed in her last election.

Candidate Jeff Johnson was born and raised in Detroit Lakes. He graduated from Detroit Lakes High School in 1985, Concordia College in Moorhead in 1989, and Georgetown Law School in Washington, D.C. in 1992. He practiced in the area of employment and labor law matters. From 2000 to 2006, he served in the Minnesota House of Representatives, where he was elected Assistant Minority Leader. He is currently serving as a Hennepin County Commissioner.

A forum for Republican candidates for governor will be Tuesday, March 20, 6:30 p.m. at the Timbers Event Center in Staples. Phillip Parrish, Mary Giuliani Stephens and Jeff Johnson will be participating. The event is sponsored by Crossroads Conservatives.

Each candidate will speak for 15 minutes, followed by questions from the audience. Questions will be written and will be grouped and presented by former state legislator Bruce Nelsen of Staples.

Candidate Phillip Parrish

The Timbers Restaurant and Event Center is located at 1220 NE 2nd Ave. Staples. Those wishing to have dinner before the event should place their orders before 5:15 p.m., in the restaurant. Reservations are recommended and can be made at 218-895-1400 or <https://www.timberlakehotel.com>



## 'The Pied Piper of Hamelin' runs March 16, 17

The Motley-Staples Middle School will present the musical, 'The Pied Piper of Hamelin' at Centennial Auditorium in Staples on Friday, March 16, 7 p.m., and Saturday, March 17, 2 p.m. Cast members are pictured at their recent dress rehearsal. Seated from left are Isabel Birkholtz, Deven Johnson, Isaiah Caldwell, Abigail Simon, Kristofer Taylor, Emma Lamke, Andrew Daniels, Laken Hines, Donald Kray, Alex Black, Destiny Dukowitz, Estella Bock. Standing from left are Brooke

Hansen, Trinity Seamann, Jason Trantina, A.J. Nienow, Emery Lorber, Zachary McIlravy, Riley Dabbs, William Dolezal, Sarina Huepenbecker, Keegan Bestland, Conner Anglin, Nicki Carter, Meagan VanAlst, Grace Allen, Cy Johnson, Micah Larson, Evan Allen, Mandy Carter, Luke Bates. Tickets for the show are available at Ace Hardware and True Value stores in Staples; First International Bank & Trust, Staples and Motley; and at the door. (Staples World photo by Brenda Halvorson)

## Wadena County Farm Bureau marks 100 years with banquet

The Wadena County Farm Bureau will celebrate its centennial with a spring banquet Thursday, April 5, at Ted and Gen's in Aldrich. The entertainment will be comedian James Wedgwood.

To order tickets call the Wadena County Farm Bureau office 218-631-4545.

Wadena County Farm Bureau was legally incorporated March 9, 1918, with a constitution and by-laws

"to develop and foster the agricultural, social and commercial interest of the citizens of the county by the creation and development of cordial and friendly relations between all residents thereof, by encouraging and aiding the organization of social and business clubs within the various villages and businesses for the county." Memberships were \$2, half of which went to na-

tional and state Farm Bureau organizations.

Potatoes were the main cash crop in Wadena county until 1925. The local weather forecast system proved valuable when a county agent was able to get the word out to local farmers to protect their field pits of harvested potatoes because a freeze was coming that night.

By 1925 dairying was the main industry and the Farm Bureau continued to provide education and to work with farmers to maximize their income potential.

In 1918, 243 families and businesses were counted as members and in 1925 this had grown to 537. In 2017 there were 145 member units.

The Farm Bureau was connected with Extension and 4-H in the early years. In spite of Wadena County falling on tough times due to the depression and drought in 1936, Sebeka businessmen sponsored a picnic, which was the largest picnic in the history of Wadena County.

In 1952 the ties to Extension were severed.

The Farm Bureau continues to lobby for agricultural interests and offers many member services, even as the numbers of farmers and membership numbers decrease. As a grass roots organization, resolutions are initiated at the county level and adopted as policy if approved on the state and national levels.

## Adverse Childhood Experiences program

The public is invited to learn more about Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and their affect on developing brains at an event in Staples on Monday, March 19.

A free meal will be offered to families at the Staples-Motley High School Cafeteria at 6 p.m.; followed by a presentation about ACEs at Centennial Auditorium from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

This event is sponsored by: Todd County Collaborative, Lakewood Health System Healthy Connections, and Staples Motley Beyond

Poverty.

Tom Gonzalez, a certified presenter for Adverse Childhood Experiences Study Interface, will lead the presentation. He hopes his audiences will leave with a better understanding how Adverse Childhood Experiences affect a developing brain, and that the things that happen to us in childhood have long-lasting impacts on our lives as adults. Gonzalez's goal is to provide a better understanding about our unique ability to be resilient in the face of challenges and what we can do to improve the health and well being of future generations.

Registration is required by Friday, March 16, at 4 p.m. To register, call Emily at 218-894-2439, ext. 1047. For more information, call Lisa Wick at 218-894-2439, ext. 1082.

## Mark Your Calendar

**March 16, 17**

**THE PIED PIPER OF HAMELIN, PRESENTED BY MOTLEY-STAPLES MIDDLE SCHOOL** Friday, March 16, 7 p.m. and Saturday, March 17, 2 p.m., at Centennial Auditorium, Staples.

**March 21**

**FREE TAX-AIDE** Wednesdays, 1 - 4 p.m., through April 11, Staples Community Center. No appt. needed. For low to moderate income taxpayers. For info., 218-894-5772.

**March 22**

**WADENA WHIRLWAYS SQUARE DANCE CLUB MTG** Thurs., March 22, 7:30 - 10 p.m., Wadena VFW. Richard Miller, caller. For info., 218-296-1641.

**COZY THEATRE**  
WADENA, MN

Screen 1: **A WRINKLE IN TIME** (PG) - Now Showing thru Thurs. March 22. Fri. & Sat. 2 Shows at 7:00 & 9:15. Sun. thru Thurs. 1 Show at 7:00. Matinees Sat. & Sun. March 17 & 18 at 1:15 pm.

Screen 2: **TOMB RAIDER** (PG-13) - Fri. thru Wed. March 16 - 28. Fri. & Sat. 2 Shows at 7:10 & 9:30. Sun. thru Thurs. 1 Show at 7:10. Matinees Sat. & Sun. March 17 & 18 at 1:25 pm.

Screen 3: **DEATH WISH** (R) - Fri. thru Thurs. March 16 - 22. Fri. & Sat. 2 Shows at 7:15 & 9:30. Sun. thru Thurs. 1 Show at 7:15. Matinees Sat. & Sun. March 17 & 18 at 1:30 pm.

Matinee Admission All Seats \$5.00  
Tuesday Bargain Night! All Seats Only \$5.00!  
[www.cozytheatre.com](http://www.cozytheatre.com)

## '93 Lions Easter Eggstravaganza

Children ag 10 and under are invited to meet the Easter Bunny Saturday, Mar. 24, from 9:30-11 a.m. at the Staples Community Center, 425 4th St. NE.

The games, crafts and other activities are sponsored by the Staples '93 Lions.

## Free 'Egg Hunt' at CLC, March 31

Community members are invited to a free Community Egg Hunt, Saturday, March 31, at 1 p.m. at

Central Lakes College Staples campus.

Children 10 years and younger are invited to participate. Each age group will have designated locations to search for eggs and many golden eggs are sure to be found as well.

Free pictures with the bunny will be provided. The hunt begins promptly at 1 p.m. Late participants will not be guaranteed eggs. Questions? Email [ehppner@clcmn.edu](mailto:ehppner@clcmn.edu).



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265 Hwy 10 W. Motley





**Hello World**

**BIRTHS REPORTED AT LAKEWOOD HEALTH SYSTEM HOSPITAL IN STAPLES INCLUDED:**

Born to Tiffany and Dustin Dougherty of Verndale, a baby boy, Darwin Dean weighing seven pounds, seven ounces on March 2, 2018.

Born to Chelsea Weishair and Travis Weite of Staples, a baby girl, Zaylee Jessica weighing seven pounds, nine ounces on March 5, 2018.

Born to Crystal Farquhar and Dustin Dobson of Pine River, a baby girl, Aaliyah Ann, weighing six pounds, seven ounces on March 5, 2018.

Born to Olivia Leppa and Dylan Warner of Browerville, a baby girl, Lucy Mae weighing eight pounds, two ounces on March 5, 2018.

Born to Cindy and Vernon Bortrager of Backus, a baby girl, Violet Elizabeth weighing seven pounds, three ounces on March 6, 2018.

Born to Jessie and Kevan Allen of Verndale, a baby girl, Gabriella Diane, weighing seven pounds, nine ounces on March 7, 2018.

Born to Tiffany and Ryan Johnson of Baxter, a baby boy, Carson Michael, weighing six pounds, five ounces on March 7, 2018.

Born to Paula Smith and Matthew Oakland of Wadena, a baby girl, Adelyn Marie weighing six pounds, three ounces on March 7, 2018.

Born to Sara Smoot and Dan Clarke of Nisswa, a baby girl, Evalyn Kayann, weighing six pounds, one ounce on March 9, 2018.



**SMHS speech takes third at Milaca**

A large 25 team tournament held March 10 in Milaca, found the Staples-Motley High School Speech Team placing third. "Even though we missed second place by one-half point and first by nine points, taking third out of 25 teams is nothing to hang our heads at," said Heather Sams, SMHS speech coach. "With no final round to prove yourself better than someone you never went head to head against, we know some of you were bummed, but take that experience and let it motivate you to work hard the next three weeks before sub-sections," she said.

The team dominated in the Creative category, tying for second, with Andrew Bates, tied for second place, Jonah Johnson, fourth, Sadie Thompson, fifth and Krystal Yoder, sixth. In Discussion, Johanna Jo Picconatto was fourth and Caleb Picconatto, seventh earning a ribbon of excellence. In Drama, Jaydon Friedel, seventh and Delaney Larson 13th, both earning ribbons of excellence. In Duo, Jonah Johnson and Ethan Gilbertson, third place and Kayla Yoder and Olivia Leslie, a ribbon of excellence in eighth place. In Ex Reading, Bryn Williams, third and Sadie Thompson, sixth. The Brings siblings dominated Great Speeches, Ari with a second place and Alex, fifth. In Humor, Caden Mrazek, sixth and Ethan Gilbertson, ribbon of excellence. Poetry, Ari Brings, third and Delaney Larson, ribbon of excellence. Jens Klemm earned a ribbon of excellence in Prose and Andrew Bates, sixth in Storytelling.

The team's next meet will be in Brainerd, Saturday, March 17 and they will compete in Melrose, Saturday, March 24.



**Obituaries**

**David Bartylla**

David Bartylla, 68, of Motley, died March 11, 2018 in Staples.

Services will be held Friday, March 16 at 11:00 a.m., at the Motley Free Methodist Church in Motley with Pastor Jim Johnson officiating. Visitation will be held from 5 to 7 p.m., Thursday, March 15 at Brenny Funeral Chapel in Staples and one hour prior to services at the church.

Arrangements were by Brenny Funeral Chapel, Staples.

David was born March 9, 1950 in Staples to Robert and Jeannine (Chenoweth) Bartylla. He graduated from Staples High School in 1968 and then attended vocational school. David went to work for Scharf Chevrolet. He was united in marriage to Linda Kowalski on July 11, 1970 in Staples. He worked in construction for several years, for Greg Miller Plumbing in Staples and then at Central Building Supply in Staples, until his retirement. He enjoyed hunt-



ing, fishing, trap shooting, line dancing and restoring tractors. He was an ATV and Snowmobile Safety Instructor for 40+ years and received the 2013 Snowmobile Instructor of the Year Award.

David is survived by his wife; one sister, Roxanne (David) Kasper of Grand Forks, ND; several nieces and nephews and his best buddy, Jake, the Basset Hound.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one infant sister.

w11c A00006B2018MAR15

**Olga Shake**

Olga Shake, 96 of Leader, died March 10, 2018 at Essentia-St. Joseph's Medical Center in Brainerd with family by her side.

Services will be held Monday, March 19 at the Swan Valley Lutheran Church in Leader, with Pastor David Stevens officiating. Visitation will be held from 3 to 5 p.m. Sunday, March 18 at Brenny Funeral Chapel, Staples and one hour prior to services at the church.

Interment will be at Swan Valley Cemetery.

Arrangements are by Brenny Funeral Chapel, Staples.

Olga was born May 9, 1921 in Fergus Falls to Ragnhild and Albert Bjerka who immigrated to the United States from Norway in 1912. After her family moved to Motley she started working as a housekeeper and nanny in Staples at the age of 16. In 1941 she met and married Ward Shake and settled on a small farm in Leader. Olga worked as a waitress and managed a small restaurant in Motley. She worked for 20 years at the Carter Ringer garment factory in Staples. At home she tended to the cattle, sheep and hogs as well as their trucking business. At retirement the couple, then Olga, wintered in Arizona for a total of 30 years. Olga enjoyed quilting, knitting and crocheting for her fam-



ily and friends. She was a member of Swan Valley Lutheran Ladies Aide, the Motley Study Club, Senior citizens club, a charter member of the Leader Lions and was a clerk on the Byron township board. Olga enjoyed reading the daily paper and keeping up with current events.

Olga is survived by one son, Lester (Linda) Shake, Basking Ridge, NJ; two daughters, Joyce (Richard) Sowers, Becker and Debra Shake, Leader; six grandchildren; 15 great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren and sister-in-law Leona Crider, Motley.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband; great-grandchild, Patrick Maher; six brothers, Christian, Mikkel, Swen, Alvin, Arthur and Harold; three sisters, Ruth Wax, Thelma Garrison and Esther Barton.

w11c A00006B2018MAR15

**Lucille Sowers**

Lucille Sowers, 80 of Poplar, died March 7, 2018, at Sanford Health Hospital in Bemidji surrounded by her family.

Services were held March 12 at Faith Lutheran Church in Staples with Pastor Carl Larson and Pastor Jim Johnson officiating.

Interment was at Poplar Cemetery.

Arrangements were with Brenny Funeral Chapel, Staples.

Lucille was born August 7, 1937 in Wadena to Clifford and Rosa (Wold) Johnson. She grew up in Poplar and graduated from Staples High School. Lucille met the love of her life at a country school baseball game and married Walter Sowers on October 26, 1954 in Wadena. They lived in Babbitt before returning to the family farm in Poplar. Lucille enjoyed gardening, driving tractor, mowing the lawn and making crafts with Walt in the outdoor workshop. She was a "15 minute cook" (short order cook), a member and later a leader of the Poplar 4-H Club, Charter member of the Leader Area Lions, Swan Valley Lutheran Ladies Aide, Ladies Birthday Club, Senior Citizen's Club



and took pride in actively promoting the Leader Community Hall.

Lucille is survived by her husband; five sons, Charles (Carol) Sowers of Baxter, Robert (Candyce) Sowers of Benson, David (Kathy) Sowers of Minneapolis, Philip (Karol) Sowers of Duluth, Allen (Barbara) Sowers of Clarkston, MI and one daughter, Lynda (Alfred) Gavlovsky of Bemidji; 17 grandchildren; 28 great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren; one brother, Leon (Lona) Johnson of Stacy and sister in law, Laurie Johnson of Anoka.

She was preceded in death by her parents and one brother, Rolland Johnson.

w11c A00006B2018MAR15

**WELCOMING HOME TO DEER CREEK...**



**Jocelyn**  
Beautiful daughter of Tina & Justin  
Born 12/6/17 in Staples.

**TO VERNDALE...**



**Levi**  
Beautiful son of Kara & Josh  
Born 12/4/17 in Staples.

**TO WADENA...**



**David**  
Beautiful son of Maria  
Born 12/7/17 in Staples.



**Emma**  
Beautiful daughter of Darcy & Tim  
Born 12/29/17 in Staples.

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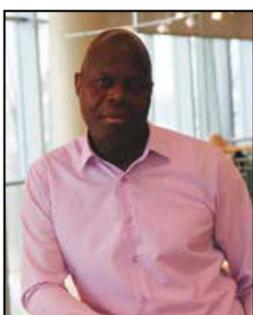


**Bindoula is Lakewood's new Rheumatology Specialist**

Blaise Bindoula, Certified Nurse Practitioner (NP-C), is the newest rheumatology specialist to join Lakewood Health System's medical staff.

Originally from Minneapolis, Bindoula completed his Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree at Metropolitan State University and his NP-C degree from Walden University. Bindoula is a member of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners.

As a nurse practitioner,



Bindoula is looking forward to helping people in

the community, with a focus on those with rheumatology needs. He is excited to be part of the Lakewood team.

Bindoula is married with three children. He enjoys practicing sports, especially karate. He also likes to spend time fishing.

Bindoula will be seeing patients at Lakewood's Staples clinic. To make an appointment with him, call 218-894-1515.

**LEADER LIONS CLUB**  
**Pancake Breakfast**  
**Sun., March 18**  
Swan Valley Lutheran Church, Hwy. 64, Leader  
Serving 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Pancakes, sausages, scrambled eggs, milk, juice, coffee  
\*FREEWILL OFFERING BENEFITS MOTLEY FOOD SHELF\*

THE FAMILY OF Patricia "Pat" Pankratz would like to express a heartfelt thank you to all our family and friends for their condolences, love, support, encouraging words and many hugs during this difficult time. Thank you to everyone who brought food, sent cards, flowers and called - it was greatly appreciated. A special thank you to Fr. Mitchell, Mike and Heidi Iten for making things a lot easier and the funeral lunch group for preparing and serving the lunch. We would also like to thank the ambulance crew and other responders who helped that day. We will forever be grateful to all of you for your love and support.  
Dolly, Bob & Family  
Deb, Steve & Family  
Julie, Dale & Family



**Reader**

Brian Miller, Motley, was the top reader in the "Read on the Wild Side" winter reading program at the Staples Public Library. It was a fun opportunity for teens and adults to read books for prizes. The Staples Friends of the Library provided prizes for everyone who turned in a reading slip during the program. Miller won a \$25 Amazon gift card provided by the Great River Regional Library. "Thanks to all those who participated," said Cathy Parish, library services coordinator. "Stop in and pick up a prize." (Submitted photo)

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# STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS



## Motley-Staples Middle School

Students of the Month awarded for January at the Motley-Staples Middle School were:  
Addy Toepper, Skyla Tepley, Eli Dumpprope, Heidi Zimmerman, Kaylee Eckel,  
Morgan Capistrant, Ashlin Birkholtz, Steven Petrich, Andrea DiGiovanni, Caden Dobson,  
Tiana Gonzalez, Camden Anderson, Bel Birkholtz, Cash Rau, Nicole Carter, William Dolezal,  
Luke Bates, Jazmyn Hall, Megan Franzen



## Staples-Motley Elementary School

Bucket List winners at SMES in January were,  
front, left to right:  
Scarlett Stracek, Weston Landwehr-Rud,  
Daxon Steinley, Damian Vargas-DeWald.  
Back: Carter Kist, Emersen Bettis, Suhalia Mikhaeil,  
Liam Jennissen, River Munger.



## Sacred Heart Area School

Students of the Month awarded  
at SHAS were, front, left to right:  
Kana Reese, Alex Leach,  
Charlie Noska.  
Back: Miranda Schotzko,  
Andrew Paklonsky, Gavin Stevens.

*These area businesses offer their support and congratulations to the overall excellence exemplified by the Student Achievement awards*

- Staples Eye Clinic
- Staples Precision Metalcraft
- Burger King
- Burrows Auto Body
- Busker Concrete
- Tower Pizza
- Central Building Supply
- Orth Insurance Agency
- Ernie's
- Giovanni's Pizza
- Giza Plumbing & Heating
- Ideal Construction Company, Staples
- The Spot Café
- Wayne's Electric of Staples, Inc.
- Insurance Advisors, Staples
- Mid-Minnesota Federal Credit Union
- James Soule Auto Sales
- Japke Decorating, Carpet & Gifts
- Longbella Drug
- State Farm, Daniel Douts Insurance Agency

- Mayer, Porter & Nelson, Ltd., CPA's
- Mid-Central Federal Savings Bank
- Nelson Insurance Agency of Staples, Inc.
- 3M
- Homestead Veterinary Clinic
- Sylvan Shores
- Kathy's Kut & Kurl, Lincoln
- Long Prairie Sanitation, Inc.
- Bjerga Feed Stores
- BRICKS Travel Center
- Countryside Restaurant
- Motley Dairy Queen
- Motley Hardware Hank
- Northwind Grocery
- PHB Excavating
- R. Bjerga Construction/Friendly Inn
- Albie Electric LLC
- Zachary Bailey, DDS

- Becker Construction
- Thrivent Financial
- Precision Polishing and Plating, Inc.
- Ron's Auto Repair
- Shear Contact
- Trident Seafoods, Corp.
- Staples True Value
- Stern Rubber Company
- Arvig
- Brenny Funeral Home
- Ken's Collision Repair/SouthSide Mini Mart
- Staples Ace Hardware
- SuperAmerica
- Staples Dairy Queen
- Unity Bank
- The Best Little Hair House in Motley
- Staples World

# Todd County Commissioners Minutes

**TODD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FEBRUARY 6, 2018**

**MINUTES**

**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 6th day of February, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Neumann. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. All Commissioners were present.

**Approval of Agenda**

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote. To approve the agenda as presented.

**Consent Agenda**

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

To approve the Commissioner's Meeting Minutes for January 16, 2018 as presented.

To approve a one year Off Sale, On Sale and Sunday Liquor License for the DT Lisson Inc dba Double Eagle Golf & Grille at the address of 31886 County 3, Eagle Bend, MN in Burleene Township effective April 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019.

To approve a one year 3.2 Malt On and Off Sale, Setup, and Wine License for MB Thomes Enterprises LLC dba Head of the Lakes Resort at the address of 15080 Gardenia Drive, Osakis, MN in Leslie Township effective April 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019.

To approve a one year Club On Sale and Sunday Liquor License for the American Legion 417 Oscar Jacobson Post aka Little Sauk Legion at the address of 16268 County 50, Long Prairie, MN in Little Sauk Township effective April 1, 2018 through

March 31, 2019.

To approve a one year On Sale and Sunday Liquor License for the Thunder Lodge Sportsbar & Supper Club at the address of 22056 US 71, Long Prairie, MN in Long Prairie Township effective April 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019.

**Auditor-Treasurer**

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Auditor Warrants number (ACH) 900000 in the amount of \$294,854 and (Regular) 231109 through 231303 in the amount of \$907,440.76 for a total of \$1,202,294.76.

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Commissioner Warrants number 48087 through 48215 in the amount of \$155,938.70.

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Health & Human Services Warrants number 513459 through 513496 in the amount of \$89,879.25 and warrants number 701977 through 702174 in the amount of \$159,727.89.

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

**PREPAID PROPERTY TAX PROCESSING**

**WHEREAS**, due to the changes in Federal IRS regulations, the Auditor-Treasurer's Office has experienced an unprecedented number of citizens voluntarily provide Todd County prepayment of their property taxes;

**WHEREAS**, the processing of the prepayments within the County Financial System can be complex and a time burden to regular daily office requirements.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners hereby directs that no refunds be issued by the Todd County Auditor-Treasurer's Office for the voluntarily prepayment of property taxes prior to property tax statements being released.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that once the statements are released and the prepayment has been applied to the current year's taxes, any overage will be applied to the following year unless a refund has been requested in writing.

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To accept the 2017 Voting Equipment Grant Award and authorize the County Auditor-Treasurer to sign the Grant Award contract for and on behalf of Todd County and its Municipalities.

**Public Works**

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

**MnDOT Agreement 1030306 - Trunk Highway 210 Detour**

**WHEREAS**, the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) plans on performing a bridge replacement project on Trunk Highway 210 over Moran Brook which is 0.5 miles east of County State Aid Highway 9 in the summer of 2018, and;

**WHEREAS**, MnDOT requires a detour to carry Trunk Highway 210 traffic to County State Aid Highway 9 during the bridge project, and;

**WHEREAS**, MnDOT is willing to reimburse Todd County \$1,535.59 for the road life consumed by the detour as hereinafter set forth, and;

**WHEREAS**, Minnesota Statute \$471.59 subdivision 10, \$161.25, and \$161.20 subdivision 2(b) authorizes MnDOT and Todd County to enter into this agreement.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that Todd County enter

into MnDOT Agreement 1030306 with the State of Minnesota, Department of Transportation for the following purposes:

To provide for payment by the State to the County for the use of Todd County State Aid Highway 9 as a detour route during the contract construction to be performed upon, along and adjacent to Trunk Highway 210, 0.5 miles east of Todd County State Aid Highway 9 under State Project No. 7701-39 (T.H. 210-183).

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Chairperson of the Todd County Board of Commissioners and the Todd County Auditor/Treasurer are authorized to execute Agreement 1030306 and any amendments to the Agreement.

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by majority with Commissioner Becker voting against: To approve the attached job description and an internal job posting to fill the Leadperson position.

**Facilities**

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To accept the resignation of Blair Anderson effective April 30, 2018.

On motion by Kircher and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To waive the 90 day waiting period and begin the recruitment process for a Full-Time Custodian position.

**CentraCare Health**

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

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING DEVELOPMENT OF THE REGIONAL WELL-BEING CENTER IN LONG PRAIRIE**

**WHEREAS**, CentraCare Health - Long Prairie is working with private financial partners to design, construct, furnish and equip a Regional Well-Being Center to serve Long Prairie, Todd County and the surrounding region; and

**WHEREAS**, the Regional Well-Being Center at Long Prairie will provide facilities and services to improve the health and overall well-being of citizens of all ages throughout the Todd County region including surrounding counties; and

**WHEREAS**, CentraCare Health - Long Prairie is responsible for securing community and philanthropic gifts that will provide a significant majority of funding for the Regional Well-Being Center; and

**WHEREAS**, the final funding needed to complete the project is being requested from the Minnesota Legislature.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners supports the development of the Regional Well-Being Center in Long Prairie; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners supports the effort to secure State funds to match private, community and philanthropic funds to complete the 12,000-square-foot, \$6-million facility.

**Todd County Board of Commissioners and Todd County SWCD Supervisory Joint Meeting**

*See separate minutes.*

**SWCD**

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

**Local Water Resources Riparian Protection "Other Watercourses"**

**WHEREAS**, The Buffer Law requires buffers or alternative practices to provide riparian protection for public waters and public drainage systems as identified on the Buffer Protection Maps, and;

**WHEREAS**, The Law

recognizes that "other watercourses" which are not found on the DNR Buffer Protection Map may benefit from installation of buffers or alternative practices to protect or improve water quality, and;

**WHEREAS**, In consultation with local water management authorities the Todd Soil and Water Conservation District developed, adopted and submitted to each local water management authority within its boundary a summary of watercourses for inclusion in the local water management authority's plan.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, Todd County must incorporate an addendum to its comprehensive local water management plan to include the Todd SWCD recommendations when revising its comprehensive local water management plan as part of a regularly scheduled update to its comprehensive local water management plan under section 103B.801.

**Sheriff's Office**

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Kircher, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To allow Sheriff Asmus to appoint Sarah Booker and Michael Wisniewski to the Central Minnesota Emergency Services Board User Committee.

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To allow Sheriff Asmus to appoint Sarah Booker to the Central Minnesota Emergency Services Board Owners and Operators Committee.

On motion by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To hire Haley Piotrowski as a full-time Jailor/Dispatcher effective February 18, 2018 Grade 6, Step 1.

**Transfer Station**

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

**A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A NEW HHW CONTRACT**

**WHEREAS**, the current HHW contract we have has expired, and;

**WHEREAS**, Todd County as always worked with Crow Wing County as partners in a region for the HHW program, including Morrison County, and;

**WHEREAS**, a new contract has been written and needs to be signed so we can continue to offer this program to Todd County, and receive the funds from this program.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that Todd County signs this new contract so that we can continue to offer this HHW program to Todd County.

**Health & Human Services**

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

**A RESOLUTION AFFIRMING TODD COUNTY'S SUPPORT FOR STATE CAPITAL INVESTMENTS FOR REGIONAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISIS PROGRAM FACILITIES AND PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING FOR PEOPLE WITH BEHAVIORAL HEALTH NEEDS.**

**WHEREAS**, Minnesota's mental health continuum of care is underdeveloped, creating harmful and expensive gaps in an individual's treatment; and

**WHEREAS**, Minnesota's mental health system does not have the capacity to consistently respond to

the needs of individuals in crisis with appropriate treatment options; and

**WHEREAS**, individuals experiencing a mental health crisis are often diverted to jails and other facilities ill-equipped for their care while awaiting inpatient treatment; and

**WHEREAS**, individuals ready for discharge from inpatient treatment can be detained at inpatient facilities because there is a scarcity of supportive housing units to transition to; and

**WHEREAS**, the gaps in Minnesota's mental health system are not only damaging to individuals and their families, but also result in an inefficient use of taxpayer dollars; and

**WHEREAS**, Minnesota has an opportunity to improve its mental health continuum of care through investments in new permanent supportive housing and regional behavioral health crisis program facilities; now, therefore,

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Todd County Board of Commissioners supports state capital investments for regional behavioral health crisis program facilities and permanent supportive housing for people with behavioral health needs.

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

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING CHANGES TO THE TAXABILITY OF MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT PAID TO VOLUNTEER DRIVERS IN RURAL AREAS**

**WHEREAS**, Volunteer drivers are a key component of human services transportation services in Minnesota, and;

**WHEREAS**, Todd County Health & Human Services operates a volunteer driver program to provide a low cost form of transportation for people that need transportation to non-emergency medical appointments, school, and other locations, where other forms of transit would be less cost-effective, and;

**WHEREAS**, volunteer drivers contribute greatly toward filling the gap of transportation shortages found throughout MN, but especially impactful in rural areas, and;

**WHEREAS**, demographic and regulatory changes are combining to threaten the continued viability of these services, including detailed information the Minnesota Department of Revenue recently published on its website, interpreting federal law as it applies to volunteer mileage reimbursement, regarding the taxability of mileage reimbursements for charitable activities, and;

**WHEREAS**, the flexibility and lower cost of volunteer drivers create a valuable and useful community service that could not be replicated, except at higher rates, and without volunteer drivers could create hardships for human services to provide mandated services;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners supports a change to existing federal law regarding the taxability of mileage reimbursement payments to volunteer drivers in rural areas, to consider the mileage payments a standard business activity reimbursement instead of a charitable activity reimbursement, and;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Todd County Board of Commissioners supports the Health & Human Services department in their efforts to educate State and Federal legislators about the impact to volunteer drivers and the consequences of taxing volunteer drivers out of participating in these programs; including the higher cost to taxpayers to pay

See **TCC** on page 9a

## Public Notices

(ABBREVIATED ADVERTISEMENT)

**TODD COUNTY 2018 DUST CONTROL PROJECT**  
Closing date:  
**March 27, 2018**

Sealed bids will be accepted until 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, March 27, 2018 by the Todd County Public Works Director/Engineer and County Auditor/Treasurer at 44 Riverside Drive, Long Prairie, Minnesota 56347 for the following construction project:

**C.P. 77-18-08**

**Calcium Chloride Dust Control Application**  
Various County Roadways (37.607 miles)

This is an abbreviated advertisement. A full advertisement can be viewed by going to the Public Works website at <https://egram.co.todd.mn.us/>

Loren Fellbaum,  
Todd County Public Works Director/Engineer  
9-11pnc

(ABBREVIATED ADVERTISEMENT)

**TODD COUNTY HIGHWAY SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS**  
Closing date:  
**March 27, 2018**

Sealed bids will be accepted until 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, March 27, 2018 by the Todd County Public Works Director/Engineer and County Auditor/Treasurer at 44 Riverside Drive, Long Prairie, Minnesota 56347 for the following construction projects:

**S.P. 077-070-009**

**6-Inch Latex Edge Line Pavement Markings**  
Various County Roadways (234.40 miles)

**S.P. 077-070-010**

**Ground-In Wet Reflective Multi-Component Edge Lines**  
Various County Roadways (37.53 miles)

This is an abbreviated advertisement. A full advertisement can be viewed by going to the Public Works website at <https://egram.co.todd.mn.us/>

Loren Fellbaum,  
Todd County Public Works Director/Engineer  
9-11pnc



**TODD COUNTY BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT**  
**215 First Ave. South**  
**Long Prairie, Minnesota 56347**  
**320-732-4420**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given that on **Thursday March 22, 2018 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, Long Prairie, Minnesota to consider the following Variance applications:

1. **Chris and Terri Elmler**: SLITER'S BEACH (20-127-32) LOTS 14 TO 16 Blk 1 of Grey Eagle Township

Site Address: 30167 12nd St PIN: 11-0046300

1.) Reduce the setback from 100 feet to 66 feet.  
2.) Exceed the maximum height of 18 feet to 28.4 feet.  
3.) Exceed the 25% total roofed and non-roofed impervious surface with 35% coverage on the lot.

2. **Daryl and Lynn Rhein**: Bass Lake View Outlot A in Section 8 & 9 of Burnhamville Township

Site Address: 19406 Ermine Dr PIN: 06-0096500

1.) Variance request to exceed the 10 yard limit for substantial alteration of topography within a shore or bluff impact zone, or in a moderate or severe steep slope for an after the fact shoreland alteration to establish an approximate 800 square foot paved sidewalk. 2.) Variance request to exceed the maximum sidewalk width of four feet for an after the fact constructed sidewalk.

3. **Steve and Sandy Rasmussen**: Sandy Beach (30-127-32) Lots 1 & 2 Blk 1 Section 30 in Grey Eagle Township

Site Address: 29760 Arden Dr PIN: 11-0053100

1.) Variance request reduce the setback from 100 feet to 62 feet to construct a replacement dwelling. 2.) Request to exceed the maximum height of 18 feet to 30 feet to construct a replacement dwelling within the setback of the lake.

3. **Mike and Janice Loxterkamp**: Part of GOV Lot 3 NW corner of Section - 19 of Burnhamville Township

Site Address: 17650 Dogwood Loop PIN: 06-0027900

1.) Variance request to reduce the setback from 100 feet to 52 feet to construct a replacement dwelling. 2.) Exceed the maximum height of 18 feet to 25 feet to construct a replacement dwelling within the setback of the lake.

All persons interested are invited to attend said hearing or submit a letter to be heard on these matters.

Todd County Board of Adjustment  
Bill Berscheit, Chair  
11pnc

**TODD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS** continued from page 8a

for less cost-effective methods of transporting people; and to request changes to federal laws regarding the taxability of payments for mileage reimbursement to volunteer drivers in rural areas.

On motion by Becker and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve Amber Rasinski and Susie Bergmann as members of the Todd County Public Health Advisory Committee.

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the updated Todd County Public Health Advisory policy.

**Administration**

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To authorize the adoption of the LELS Deputies Unit Collective Bargaining Agreement for 2018 - 2020.

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To authorize the Separation Agreement with Employee 438.

**Auditor-Treasurer's Report**

The Auditor-Treasurer reported on current activities within the office including Caucuses open today, Absentee opens today for Township elections, ACH payment project moving forward, final 2017 Delinquent Tax reminders have been sent, SWCD's yearly audit was completed, and rebuilding of 2759 within tax system so calculations can be completed.

**Commissioner's Report**

The Commissioners reported on the meetings that they had attended.

**Coordinator's Report**

The Coordinator reported on the meetings attended and projects in-progress including current recruitments, an upcoming meeting at Long Prairie City Hall addressing LSC closing, the upcoming AMC Legislative Conference, and submission of Coordinator job description to Springsted.

**Recess**

Commissioner Neumann recessed the meeting until February 20, 2018.

**AUDITORS WARRANTS**

Vendor Name	\$ Amount
AMERICAN HERITAGE	
BANK	\$3,916.55
ASSOC OF MN COUNTIES	11,565.00
CLIFTON LARSON	
ALLEN, LLP	17,300.00
COMPUTER PROS	6,212.00
FLEET SERVICES/WEX BANK	5,489.89
GREAT RIVER REGIONAL LIBRARY	86,101.25
LONG PRAIRIE SANITATION INC	4,355.61
MORRISON COUNTY	7,344.35
OTTER TAIL COUNTY	
TREASURER	23,867.00
STEP	3,769.88
THOMSON REUTERS - WEST	2,235.50
TODD CO HISTORICAL	
SOCIETY	8,500.00
WONDERLICH/SCOTT A.	3,901.50
33 PAYMENTS	
LESS THAN \$2,000	19,709.72
AMERICAN HERITAGE	
BANK	18,697.79
CITY OF BERTHA	8,354.22
CITY OF BROWERVILLE	18,968.33
CITY OF CLARISSA	2,501.23
CITY OF EAGLE BEND	4,988.57
CITY OF GREY EAGLE	4,916.38
CITY OF HEWITT	3,734.01
CITY OF LONG PRAIRIE	5,426.09
CITY OF OSAKIS	2,258.82
CITY OF STAPLES	12,236.58
SAUK RIVER WATER	
SHED DISTRICT	2,400.73
SCHOOL DISTRICT 213	31,351.82
SCHOOL DISTRICT 2170	29,553.60
SCHOOL DISTRICT 2753	64,668.78
SCHOOL DISTRICT 2759	10,230.44
SCHOOL DISTRICT 486	14,245.28
SCHOOL DISTRICT 740	2,808.54

SCHOOL DISTRICT 743	21,145.86
SCHOOL DISTRICT 786	39,931.86
SCHOOL DISTRICT 787	23,056.24
SCHOOL DISTRICT 818	4,889.53
TOWN OF BARTLETT	5,263.35
TOWN OF BERTHA	8,211.47
TOWN OF BIRCHDALE	4,824.10
TOWN OF BRUCE	4,625.30
TOWN OF BURLEENE	2,908.64
TOWN OF BURNHAMVILLE	6,710.85
TOWN OF EAGLE VALLEY	9,084.50
TOWN OF FAWN LAKE	5,991.49
TOWN OF GERMANI	6,399.33
TOWN OF GORDON	10,556.70
TOWN OF GREY EAGLE	5,258.48
TOWN OF HARTFORD	8,866.02
TOWN OF IONA	6,322.59
TOWN OF KANDOTA	2,658.53
TOWN OF LESLIE	5,809.88
TOWN OF LITTLE ELK	2,540.50
TOWN OF LITTLE SAUK	7,195.02
TOWN OF LONG PRAIRIE	4,506.16
TOWN OF MORAN	9,855.75
TOWN OF REYNOLDS	6,969.34
TOWN OF ROUND PRAIRIE	5,282.08
TOWN OF STAPLES	4,672.31
TOWN OF STOWE PRAIRIE	11,551.09
TOWN OF TURTLE CREEK	2,467.09
TOWN OF VILLARD	5,768.09
TOWN OF WARD	3,995.65
TOWN OF WEST UNION	4,832.23
TOWN OF WYKEHAM	9,900.29
9 PAYMENTS	
LESS THAN \$2,000	3,050.67
AMERICAN HERITAGE BANK	50,166.81
CARD SERVICES	
COBORNS	3,790.35
COBORNS PHARMACY	
2016	3,400.99
COUNTRYSIDE REST	6,821.25
GALLAGHER BENEFIT SERVICES INC	2,400.00
LONG PRAIRIE OIL CO	5,089.25
MINNESOTA POWER & LIGHT	16,786.77
MN DEPT OF FINANCE	6,190.00
SHIRLEY'S GAS & GROCERIES	3,411.09
VOYANT COMMS, LLC	3,474.88
36 PAYMENTS	
LESS THAN \$2,000	11,358.31
AMERICAN HERITAGE	13,077.77
GUSTAFSON/JEAN M	10,455.40
LONG PRAIRIE OIL CO	18,770.98
M & I LOCKBOX MCCC	7,930.32
PETERS LAW OFF, PA.	3,094.00
STAPLES ADVANTAGE	2,909.43
18 PAYMENTS	
LESS THAN \$2,000	8,033.60
CENTERPOINT ENERGY	5,289.23
LONG PRAIRIE OIL CO	5,169.28
VERIZON	3,050.39
WEST CENTRAL TECH SERVICE AREA	3,100.00
17 PAYMENTS	
LESS THAN \$2,000	6,960.21
MCIT	294,854.00
Total	\$1,202,294.76

**COMMISSIONERS WARRANTS**

Vendor Name	\$ Amount
BROWERVILLE TRUCK	
WASH/BIG BOYZ	3,968.91
CARGILL SALT DIV	6,978.23
CENTRAL TODD COUNTY CARE CENTER	2,507.82
CITY OF ST CLOUD	7,345.75
CPS TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS	4,995.00
GRANITE ELECTRONICS INC	35,527.08
HILLYARD	2,421.49
MENCH/JAMES	2,926.00
MN COUNTY ATTORNEY'S ASSOC	3,380.00
MN STATE AUDITOR	10,265.36
MN STATE SHERIFFS ASSOC	6,254.00
MORRISON CO PUBLIC HEALTH SERV	2,516.89
RAINBOW RIDER	13,500.00
TURNKEY/THREE SQUARE MARKET	3,672.32
WIDSETH SMITH NOLTING INC	12,588.00
114 PAYMENTS	
LESS THAN \$2,000	37,091.85
Total	\$155,938.70

**HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES**

Vendor Name	\$ Amount
DHS - CBHH	
BEMIDJI - 491	\$45,415.00
DHS - MSOP - MN SEX OFFENDER PROG	5,766.00
DHS - ST PETER	
RTC - 472	6,264.00
DHS - SWIFT	29,834.36
V851 - MA ACCESS	2,102.27
ROY-HETLAND FUNERAL HOME - OSAKIS	3,500.00
TODD COUNTY AUDITOR/TREASURER	15,096.10
191 PAYMENTS	
LESS THAN \$2,000	51,750.16
Total	\$159,727.89

On a motion by Becker

and seconded by Kircher, the preceding minutes of the County Board meeting held February 6, 2018 were duly approved by unanimous vote at the Todd County Board of Commissioners at the Regular Board Meeting held on February 20, 2018.

Witness my hand and seal:

Randy Neumann,  
Todd County Board  
Chairperson

Denise Gaida, Todd County  
Auditor-Treasurer

10pnc

**TODD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AND TODD COUNTY SWCD SUPERVISORS**

*Minutes of the Joint Meeting of the Todd County Board of Commissioners and Todd County SWCD Supervisors February 6, 2018*

**Call to Order**  
The Todd County Board of Commissioners and Todd County SWCD Board

of Supervisors met in the Commissioner's Board Room in the City of Long Prairie, MN on the 6th day of February, 2018 at 9:30 a.m. Chairperson Neumann and Chairperson Katterhagen called the meeting to order at 9:30 with all members present with the exception of SWCD Supervisor Williamson and SWCD Supervisor Krause.

**Approval of Agenda**

On motion by Pesta and seconded by Buchholz, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the agenda as presented.

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Kircher, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the agenda as presented.

SWCD Supervisor Williamson entered the meeting at 9:35 a.m.

SWCD Supervisor Krause entered the meeting at 9:35 a.m.

**Todd County SWCD Annual Report 2017**  
Tim Stieber, SWCD Di-

rector reported on the 2017 Annual Report and held discussion.

**Todd County SWCD Work Plan 2018**

Tim Stieber, SWCD Director reported on the 2018 Work Plan and held discussion.

**Staff Positions Update**

Tim Stieber, SWCD Director reported regarding the Buffer/Ag and the Pheasants Forever positions currently vacant within the division.

**Other Discussion**

Commissioner Neumann requested that the number of dairy farmers within Todd County over history be gathered and data shared with both boards. SWCD Supervisors Buchholz and Katterhagen commented regarding the overall support from the Board of Commissioners for the past year and their willingness to work together on programs.

**Adjourn**

On motion by Pesta and seconded by Pesta, the Todd County SWCD Board of Supervisors adjourned the joint meeting at 10:00

a.m.  
On motion by Erickson and seconded by Becker, the Todd County Board of Commissioners adjourned the joint meeting at 10:00 a.m.

On a motion by Becker and seconded by Kircher, the preceding minutes of the County Board meeting held February 6, 2018 were duly approved by unanimous vote at the Todd County Board of Commissioners at the Regular Board Meeting held on February 20, 2018.

Witness my hand and seal:

Randy Neumann,  
Todd County Board  
Chairperson

Denise Gaida, Todd County  
Auditor-Treasurer

11pnc

**Public Notice**  
Advertising Protects  
Your Right To Know

## Staples Area Church Directory

**Staples**

**Staples Alliance**  
1512 8th St. NE, Staples ..... 218-894-2891  
Pastor Bob Hepokoski, Paul Johnson  
Mark Shea, Pastor of Student Ministries  
Sunday Worship ..... 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday School ..... 11:00 a.m.  
WEDNESDAY  
AWANA ..... 6:15 p.m.

**Assembly of God**  
914 3rd Ave. NE, Staples ..... 218-894-1081  
Pastor Roy Miles  
Youth Pastor Julie Boone  
Discipleship Class ..... 9:15 a.m.  
Sunday Worship ..... 10:30 a.m.  
Evening Prayer ..... 6:00 p.m.  
WEDNESDAY  
Sonlight & Youth ..... 6:30 p.m.

**Church of Christ**  
27343 490th St., Staples ..... 218-894-2609  
Pastor Barry Klein  
Website: www.stapleschurchofchrist.org  
Bible School (youth and adult) ..... 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday Worship ..... 10:30 a.m.  
WEDNESDAY:  
Teen Youth/Adults Bible Study ..... 6:30 p.m.

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

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

**Sacred Heart Church**  
310 4th St. NE, Staples  
Church ..... 218-894-2296  
Pastor Fr. Joe Korf  
Youth and Young Adult Ministry  
Coordinator:  
Monica J. Simmons ..... 218-414-0081 cell/text  
MASS:  
Thursday and Friday ..... 8:30 a.m.  
Saturday ..... 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday ..... 8:30 a.m.

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

**Thomastown Covenant**  
15940 251st Ave., Staples ..... 218-894-3923  
Pastor Nathan Hillman  
Sunday School ..... 9:45 a.m.  
Sunday Worship ..... 11:00 a.m.  
WEDNESDAY ..... 7:00 p.m.

**Trinity Lutheran**  
1000 4th St., NE, Staples ..... 218-894-2372  
Rev. Robin Collins  
Sunday Divine Service ..... 9:00 a.m.  
Sunday School & Bible Class ..... 10:15 a.m.

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

**Aldrich**  
**Congregational, United Church of Christ**  
One block S. of Hwy. 10, Aldrich  
Pastor Dave Seaton ..... 218-445-5831  
Sunday Worship ..... 9:00 a.m.  
Communion ..... 1st Sunday of Month

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

**Cushing**  
**Bethany Lutheran**  
25430 Bison Rd. Cushing, MN  
320-749-2140  
www.bethanylutheranchushing.com  
Rev. Jean M. Megarden  
Lay Pastor Bob Mueller  
Sunday Worship ..... 9:00 a.m.

**Lincoln Evangelical Free**  
1354 320th St., Cushing ..... 218-575-2449  
www.lincolnefree.org Facebook Lincoln E Free  
Office Hours: Mon.-Thurs., 9 a.m.-2 p.m.  
Senior Pastor: Donald Reigstad  
Pastor: Jim Brown  
Youth Coordinator: Kelly Gelle

**SUNDAY**  
Sunday School for all ages ..... 9:00 a.m.  
Worship Gathering ..... 10:00 a.m.  
WEDNESDAY  
Praise & Prayer ..... 4:30 p.m.  
Kids' Club ..... 6:00 p.m.  
Jr./Sr. Forge Youth Group ..... 6:00 p.m.

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

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

**Leader**  
**Swan Valley Lutheran**  
Leader ..... 218-397-2470  
Pastor David Stevens  
Sunday Worship ..... 9:00 a.m.

**Maple Hill Lutheran**  
Pastor David Stevens  
Leader ..... 218-397-2470 (Rural Pine River)  
Worship and Sunday School ..... 11:00 a.m.

**Motley**

**Motley Free Methodist**  
33 Wellwood St. E  
Motley 56466 ..... 218-352-6888  
Pastor Jim Johnson  
Sunday Worship ..... 9:00 & 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday School ..... 10:30 a.m.  
WEDNESDAY  
Kids Club ..... 4:00-5:30 p.m.  
Youth Group ..... 5:30-7:30 p.m.

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

**St. Michael**  
1st St. and Birch, Motley ..... 218-894-2296  
Pastor Fr. Joe Korf  
MASS:  
Tuesday ..... 6:30 p.m.  
Wednesday ..... 8:30 a.m.  
Saturday ..... 7:00 p.m.  
Sunday ..... 10:30 a.m.

**United Methodist**  
847 3rd Ave. S. Lane, Motley ..... 218-352-6466  
Pastor Greg Leslie  
www.motleyumc.org  
Sunday Worship Service ..... 9:00 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.

**First Lutheran Church**  
717 River Street S, Pillager, MN  
218-746-3775  
Pastor Hector Merced  
Sunday Worship ..... 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday School ..... 8:30 a.m.

**Casino Assembly of God**  
Pastor Dan Johnson  
N. of Motley, Hwy. 64, E. on Cty 34 to Cty. 104.  
Phone ..... 218-746-3839  
Sunday School ..... 9:30 a.m.  
Worship ..... 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday Worship ..... 10:30 a.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.  
(serving coffee and donuts)

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

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

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

## The gift of freedom of confession and repentance

Pastor Barry Klein, Staples Church of Christ

I am grateful for the various seasons and holidays that we have throughout the year. Both variety and traditions are lived out in seasons and holidays. The important thing to remember is to keep the season and holiday connected to the One Who makes it all possible. When you and I don't keep this connection, we find idols in our lives. Do you know what an idol is? An idol is not only a golden calf back in the Old Testament of the Bible. An idol is often something good that has lost boundaries from God and connections to God. An idol becomes an "all in all" in our lives "at all costs".

It is freeing to live with the imagery of the "open hands" of dependency upon and gratitude to God, the Creator, Sustainer and Owner of ALL things (and people). The contrast is living with the clenched hands of self-centeredness and entitlement. I owe this imagery, whether it was original or not to him, to the late Fr. Dick McGuire. Now, it's far easier to write this than it is to live it.

We are in another season of the year where we are "preparing" for the marking of Jesus' death,

burial and resurrection toward the end of this month and the beginning of next month. The key is to make this season and the Easter Resurrection weekend "connected" to God in a way-of-life throughout the year.

We see what happens to Christmas when it gets disconnected from the Jesus Christ of Christmas. We see what happens to "love" on Valentine's Day when it becomes disconnected to the Author of Love (I John 4:16). And if this Lenten season gets disconnected from the year round crucified and risen Jesus, these weeks will drift off again into oblivion.

We all have the tendency of Adam and Eve to either run ("hide") from God in our sin (Genesis 3:8-10) and/or blame someone else for the sin (Genesis 3:12-13). God has a better plan that gives us daily freedom. It is called "confessing our sin (James 5:16) and turning away from sin-poverty and back toward God-life in repentance (Acts 2:38).

What a freeing way to live throughout the Year!

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--

SCHOOL continued from page 1a

## Board and audience cover topics on the financial situation and November's two ballot questions

\$67 per year. The amount was chosen because that will garner the maximum amount in state equalization aid. For every 70¢ levied locally, the state will add 30¢.

If the board chooses to request a building bond of \$50 million and it is approved, that would add \$19.42 per month or \$233 per year to the taxes on a \$100,000 home.

If both are approved the tax increase on a home valued at \$100,000 would be \$25 per month or \$300 per year.

These numbers are for illustration purposes only and will likely change somewhat depending on the final details decided for the operating levy and the building bond.

The administration presented six options that projected finances through the next five years. All six assumed that the building construction project would be approved, the building would be open by 2021-22 and by the school year 2022-23, the operation efficiencies of the building project would be realized.

When asked for his recommendation, Interim Superintendent Ron Bratlie said option six, the one eventually approved, was a "middle of the road option. I think we can cut \$600,000 and not destroy programs. We'll be investing now to save later."

Some discussion with the over 90 people in the audience was on how the financing situation came to this point.

Bratlie pointed out that 300 students who live in the district are open enrolled to other districts. At \$10,000 in state aid per



### Taking the oath of office

Brad Anderson, center, read the oath of office as he joined the Staples-Motley School Board to complete the term of Dave Hoemberg, who resigned. Anderson will serve until Dec. 31, 2018. He has indicated that he will run for a permanent seat on the board in November's election. Interim Superintendent Ron Bratlie is on Anderson's left and Bryan Winkels is on his right. In other business the board appointed Anderson to the finance committee, hired Greg Kossan as the head baseball coach and accepted the resignation of Josi Longbottom from the business office. Following the special meeting the board went into a closed session to discuss contract negotiations. (Staples World photo by Brenda Halvorson)

student, that is \$3 million lost to those other districts.

In answer to an audience question, Freeman said the surveys pointed to the geography as the number one reason students left the district. The Staples-Motley district is large and people living on the edges are often closer to neighboring schools. Open enrollment to Vernalde and Browerville has been stable over the years.

Geography is a factor in the case of the Pillager School District, but Freeman said "shiny and new" is also a factor, referring to their newer building. Also, having all grades in one

building so parents don't have to go three separate places for parent-teacher conferences, a kindergarten program or a basketball game.

It was also noted that open enrollment was a state law and individual districts could not stop students from leaving. Some districts can stop accepting students who want to come in if they don't think they have the space or staff to handle them.

From the audience Alina Robinson pointed out that "As a community we have to put out the good about the school," adding that people need to stop

negative discussions like on Facebook and keep a positive culture, a positive attitude and a positive conversation.

Another factor contributing to the current situation was the inefficiencies in running three buildings for such a long time. One example was the \$100,000 that will be saved in transportation alone when the students are all at one site.

Bratlie mentioned that the school district is working with the City of Motley, the City of Staples, Lakewood Health System and NJPA (National Joint Powers Alliance) to create partnerships for use of the buildings. The Motley school building, for instance, could be repurposed for other needs in the community, like childcare and a senior center.

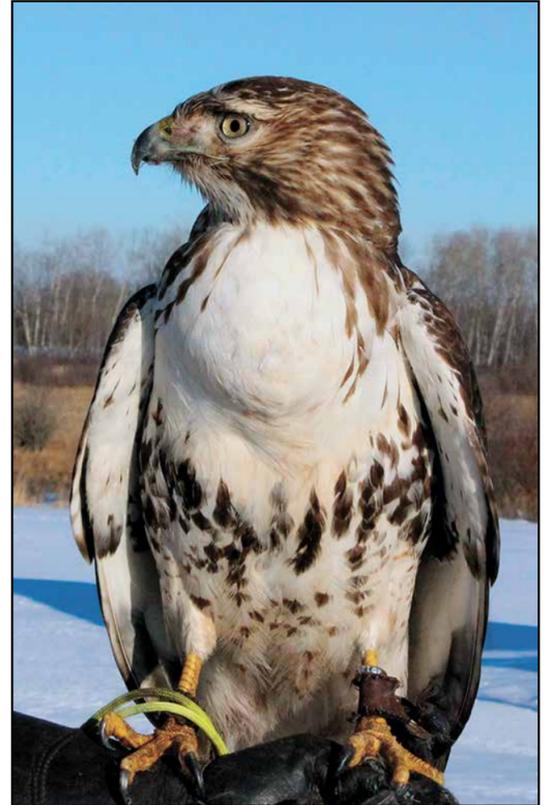
Other building configurations were considered by the administration team. However, having the right kind of space in the right place created stumbling blocks as well as state restrictions on class size for certain courses.

Questions were also raised about asking for an operating levy and a building bond on the same ballot.

"I think we have to go to the voters for an operating levy, but I don't think we can put off the building bond," said board member Bryan Winkels, adding that the operating efficiency in having one building is the goal.

The consensus from other board members as well as audience members seemed to be the same.

"Taxes - nobody wants to pay them but everybody likes the things they bring to us," Freeman said.



### Hunting hawk

Rau's hawk still doesn't have its red tail feathers that give the species its name. He plans to release it during migration season, after which he said it will lead a normal life of a wild hawk. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)



### Falconer checks his bird

Rau inspects his hawk to see how much he has eaten. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

FALCONER continued from page 1a

## Rau will release LadyBoy into the wild during migration time

"They're so fast, they hunt from the glove and just fly off the fist of the falconer. The bird just rockets," he said.

Another lofty goal is running a dog alongside the hawk, in which the dog points out prey, the falconer flushes it out and the hawk swoops onto it. He has a German hunting terrier but he said it will take a lot more practice before he tries this arrangement.

For now he is concentrating on his apprenticeship, one bird at a time. He plans to release his current hawk into the wild, likely during migration time in the spring. He said falconers who do this have tracked their birds and they do well.

"The hawk will live a normal life after that," said Rau. The hawks that stay with falconers are generally healthier than wild hawks, said Rau. He keeps careful track of his hawk's weight, and knows it within 10 grams. He has extra rabbits from previous hunts if the hawk becomes too skinny, and he inspects the hawk to make sure it doesn't get too heavy or out of shape to hunt.

He plans to trap another red-tailed hawk for next year's hunting season.

"It makes a better falconer to train more birds," said Rau.

## Spring truck weight restrictions start in central frost zone

Spring truck weight restrictions in the central frost zone will start Friday, March 16, according to the Minnesota Department of Transportation.

Winter load increases have ended and spring load restrictions are already in place in the south, southeast and metro frost zones.

Road restriction maps showing the locations of weight-restricted routes and those state highways open to maximum 10-ton axle weights are listed at [www.mndot.gov/loadlimits](http://www.mndot.gov/loadlimits). Click on "seasonal load limits," and then "spring load restrictions." Also available is a text list of the restricted segments and exceptions to the map.

Overweight permits for more than 80,000 pound gross vehicle weight will continue and new permits will be issued if all axle and group weights are legal.

Up to full-summer overweight permits can be issued during the spring load restriction period only on interstate through

movements.

Middle-range overweight permits become available within each frost zone when spring load restrictions are lifted. Full-summer overweight permits become available two to three weeks after spring load restrictions are lifted.

Ending dates for spring load restrictions are variable and based on how weather is affecting roadway strength.

For questions about the legal weight and size "heavy haul" trucking call MnDOT's Freight and Commercial Vehicle Operations department at 651-296-6000. For enforcement questions, call the State Patrol's Commercial Vehicle Enforcement at 651-405-6196 and select Option 3 and then Option 3.

MnDOT will report dates on its 24-hour automated message center at 1-800-723-6543 for the U.S. and Canada, and locally at 651-366-5400 for the Minneapolis/St. Paul area.

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Pediatrician

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Sports photos available at: [staplesworld.dotphoto.com](http://staplesworld.dotphoto.com)  
Other event photos available.





## Received Top Dog award

Motley Lions members who received the Top Dog award at the recent awards ceremony included Cliff Goodwater (above center) and Don Delude (below, third from left). Others pictured are Lions Amy and Frank Leidenfrost and Motley Lions President Ed Jordahl (below, far left).



## Businesses recognized

Two Motley businesses were recognized for their support of the Motley Lions Club, receiving the Top Dog Award. Pictured above, on behalf of Morey's Seafood, is Patti Zahler. Pictured in lower photo, on behalf of the Motley Dairy Queen, is Stacy Oldenburg.



## Melvin Jones Fellowship

Motley Lions members who received the Melvin Jones Fellowship award at the recent awards ceremony included Anita Sutton (above center); Denise Anderson (middle center); Wanda Lutzke (bottom center); and Pat O'Regan (not pictured). Pictured with the awards recipients are Lions Amy and Frank Leidenfrost.



# Motley Lions receive awards

A number of awards were given to members of the Motley Lions Club recently, in recognition of their work with the organization. Two local businesses were also recognized for their financial contributions to the Motley Lions.

The awards ceremony was held March 8, at Countryside Restaurant in Motley. Presenters were Lions Frank and Amy Leidenfrost of Staples, Past District Governors of Lions District 5MB.

Listed below are the various awards and recipients:

### Top Dog, given by Can Do Canines

- Motley Dairy Queen
- Morey's Seafood
- Cliff Goodwater
- Don Delude

### Founders Tribute, given by Leader Dogs for the Blind

- Nancy Lucas
- George Heroux
- Jonny Giberson
- Janet Greig

### Helen Keller, given by Minnesota Lions

### Vision Foundation

- Harry Meyer
- Lavoan Meyer,
- Ed Jordahl
- Glen Sutton
- Mary Vergin
- Betty Farber (a progressive award)

### Hearing Research Fellow, given by the Minnesota Lions Hearing Organization

- Glen Sutton
- Pat O'Regan

### Dream Catcher, given by the Minnesota Lions Diabetes

### Foundation

- Shirley Feakes
- Lydia Goodwater

### Melvin Jones Fellowship, given by Lions Clubs International Foundation

- Anita Sutton
- Denise Anderson
- Pat O'Regan
- Wanda Lutzke

### Chevron, given for 15 years of service with the Motley Lions

- Nancy Lucas.



## Helen Keller awards from MN Lions Vision Foundation

Lions Amy and Frank Leidenfrost, Past District Governors of District 5MB, presented six Helen Keller awards to Motley Lions at their recent awards celebration. They were given by the Minnesota Lions Vision Foundation. The recipients included Harry Meyer (top left); Motley Lions President Ed Jordahl (top right); Lavoane Meyer (center left); Mary Vergin (center right); Betty Farber (bottom left); Glen Sutton (bottom right).



## Dream Catcher award

Motley Lions members who received the Dream Catcher award at the recent awards ceremony included Shirley Feakes (above center) and Lydia Goodwater (below, center). Others pictured are Lions Amy and Frank Leidenfrost.



## Hearing Research Fellow

Lion Pat O'Regan was the recipient of a Hearing Research Fellow, given by the Minnesota Lions Hearing Foundation. He is pictured with Lions Amy and Frank Leidenfrost. O'Regan also received the Melvin Jones Fellowship award. Lion Glen Sutton (not pictured) also received a Hearing Research Fellow award.



## Received Founders Tribute

Motley Lions members who received the Founders Tribute award at the recent awards ceremony included Nancy Lucas (above center) and Jonny Giberson (at left, center). Other recipients (not present) included Janet Greig and George Heroux. Lucas also received a special Chevron award, for 15 years of service with the Motley Lions. Others pictured are Lions Amy and Frank Leidenfrost.





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101 Card of Thanks	301 Good Things to Eat	502 Livestock
102 In Memory	302 Lawn/Garden	<b>REAL ESTATE</b>
103 Lost & Found	303 Hay/Straw/Feed/Seed	601 Wanted to Rent
104 Give Away	304 Livestock	602 Apartments for Rent
106 Personals	305 Pets	603 Houses for Rent
107 Notices	306 Sporting Goods	604 Commercial for Rent
<b>SERVICES &amp; EMPLOYMENT</b>	307 Household Musical	605 Mobile Homes for Rent
201 Business Opportunities	308 Miscellaneous	606 Land for Rent
202 Childcare Providers	309 Health/Beauty	607 Houses for Sale
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205 Help Wanted	311 Christmas Trees	609 Mobile Homes for Sale
206 Positions Wanted	312 Computers/Office Equip.	610 Land for Sale
207 Equipment for Rent	314 Farm Services	611 Business Property for Sale
208 Storage	315 Camper Trailer	612 Real Estate Wanted
209 Business Services	<b>VEHICLES</b>	<b>GARAGE SALES</b>
210 Animal Care/Supplies	401 Automobiles	701 Garage Sales
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**Heartland Market deadline: 5 p.m. Wednesday.**  
Reaching over 20,585 homes;  
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The publishers liability for errors in an advertisement or for failure to publish the ad shall be limited to publishing the ad in a subsequent issue or for the refund of any monies paid for an ad not run (and out of date for subsequent issues) providing the advertiser reports the error or omission immediately after it occurs.

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Regarding sex or age preference in help wanted advertising in accordance with the rules adopted by the Civil Rights Commission, the Staples World, Sunday Square Shooter and Heartland Market cannot accept help wanted advertising copy which in any way expresses a sex or age preference on the basis of a bonafide occupational requirement unless the advertiser files an affidavit with the newspaper justifying the sex or age preference on the basis of a bonafide occupational requirement.

All real estate and rental advertising in these publications is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which made it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex or national origin or any intention to make any such preference limitation or discrimination. These publications will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate or rental which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

### NOTICES 107

**WANTED TO BUY: 100th Anniversary book-let on Thomastown Covenant Church.** Was put out in 1998. Paying up to \$20 ea. +postage. 218-546-5728. 9-11p

### SERVICES & EMPLOYMENT 205

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<b>FARM EQUIPMENT</b> GOT LAND? Our hunters will pay top \$\$\$ to hunt your land. Call for a free info packet & quote. 866/309-1507 <a href="http://www.BaseCampLeasing.com">www.BaseCampLeasing.com</a>	<b>Classified Advertising that is Easy!</b> The MINNESOTA CLASSIFIED Ad NETWORK. Make an impact with your advertising dollar with classified advertising that reaches over 3 million readers!	<b>A PLACE FOR MOM</b> The nation's largest senior living referral service. Contact our trusted, local experts today! Our service is free/no obligation. Call 844/347-2104
	<b>STOP OVERPAYING FOR YOUR PRESCRIPTIONS!</b> Save! Our licensed Canadian & International pharmacy, compare prices & get \$25.00 OFF your first prescription! Call 877/210-2257 Promo Code: CDC201725	

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See County website for position summaries and minimum qualifications.  
**SALARY:** Varies by position, see County website for details.  
**HOW TO APPLY:** Required application materials, job descriptions, minimum qualifications, salary are available at: [www.co.wadena.mn.us](http://www.co.wadena.mn.us).

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

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Newspaper is the most preferred source of advertising circulars and **46%** of Minnesotans read through circulars in the Sunday newspaper every time or very often

Newspaper websites are especially popular among ages **35-49** & apps among adults ages **18-34**

Source: Scarborough Custom Minnesota Newspaper Readership Survey, 2013 • [www.mna.org/readership-survey](http://www.mna.org/readership-survey)

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## Heroin seized, woman arrested following traffic stop in Motley

A traffic stop in Motley led to the arrest of a Red Lake woman after heroin was located in her vehicle, reports the Morrison County Sheriff's Office.

According to their report, at approximately 5:47 p.m. on March 10, a deputy observed a traffic violation while on patrol. A traffic stop was conducted on a white Chevrolet Im-

pala near the intersection of Hwy 210 and Hwy 64 in Motley. The driver was identified as Lebartta Geionety, 34, from Red Lake.

The deputy observed drug paraphernalia in plain view inside the vehicle. During a search of the vehicle, the deputy utilized his drug interdiction training and approximately nine grams of heroin

was seized, Sheriff Shawn Larsen said.

Geionety is being held in the Morrison County Jail pending formal drug possession charges.

The Morrison County Sheriff's Office was assisted at the scene by the Minnesota State Patrol and the Motley Police Department.

## Law enforcement reports, Motley area

Recent reports from the Morrison County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) included the following:

March 1 - 4 - The MPD issued speeding citations to Rhia Bornmann Spears, 35; Abigail Knudson, 22; Lane Duke, 18.

March 1 - The MPD received a report from a business in Motley that a batch of lottery tickets was missing. The tickets were never activated.

March 6 - While the MCSO were investigating a 911 hang up call from a residence in Motley, they found the caller to be in violation of her probation. Subsequently, Lauren Kay Helgeson, 45, was arrested and taken into custody.

March 6 - The MCSO contacted the De-

partment of Transportation and requested that they plow the train tracks in Motley due to built-up ice on the road which was causing damage to passing vehicles.

March 5 - The MCSO assisted at the scene of a semi truck that had gone off the road near Hwy 10 and Azure Rd. in Motley.

March 5 - The MCSO issued a speeding citation to Liberty Nunn, 25.

March 2 - The MCSO responded to a report of a vehicle in the ditch at 280th St. and 60th Ave. in Cushing. The deputy made contact with the registered owner and they were able to get the vehicle removed. The vehicle had been involved in a crash the previous day.

## Ask a Trooper

By Sgt. Jesse Grabow of the Minnesota State Patrol

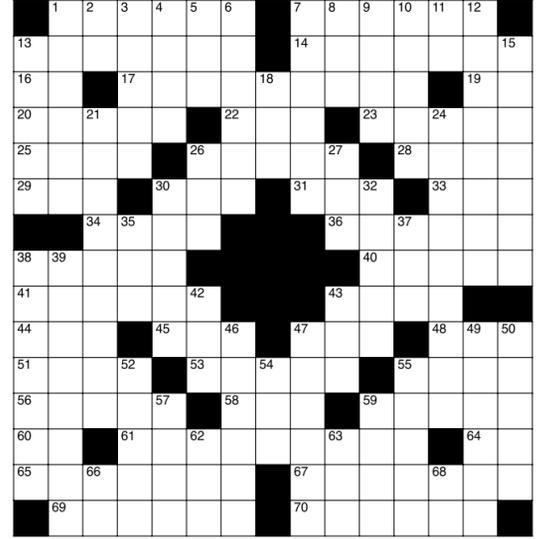
**Question:** Can my child use a bicycle helmet when he is a passenger in my side by side ATV?

**Answer:** In Minnesota, any Class 1 or 2, ATV operator or passengers under the age of 18 must wear an approved helmet when riding on public lands or waters, or a public road right-of-way. They must also wear a seat belt if provided by the manufacturer.

An approved helmet worn by an operator or passenger must meet federal law, which requires the helmet to display the symbol DOT. DOT is the manufacturer's certification that the helmet conforms to the applicable federal motor vehicle safety standards. Standard bicycle helmets and hockey helmets are not legal helmets.

A portion of state statutes were used with permission from the Office of the Revisor of Statutes. If you have any questions concerning traffic related laws or issues in Minnesota, send your questions to Trp. Jesse Grabow - Minnesota State Patrol at 1000 Highway 10 West, Detroit Lakes, MN 56501-2205. You can follow him on Twitter @MSPPIO\_NW or reach him at jesse.grabow@state.mn.us.

## Crossword Puzzle



- CLUES ACROSS**
- Shaded inner regions
  - Overlapping part of a garment
  - Type of smartphone
  - Fall apart
  - Football's big game (abbr.)
  - Crocodylian reptile
  - Of I
  - Swamp plant
  - Sun can help you get one
  - Hops, \_\_\_ and jumps
  - Cuckoos
  - Small cavities in rocks
  - American traitor
  - Tooth caregiver
  - Popular fish
  - Ottoman military leader
  - Anger
  - Fish of the mackerel family
  - Some people can't eat it
  - Amer. Revolutionary War battle
  - Misleading ads
  - Atomic number 76
  - A type of castle security
  - Sunscreen rating
  - Very fast airplane
  - Vigor
  - 007's creator
  - \_\_\_ and that
  - Indicating silence
  - Brown and gray rail
  - Nocturnal insects
  - Make an incision
  - Norwegian village
  - Commercial
  - Criminal
  - Northeast
  - Clouds of gas and dust in outer space
  - Mysterious things
  - One who won't be forgotten
  - Starts over
  - Electron volt
  - Tuned
  - Syrian leader
  - Reduces
  - Congress' investigative arm
  - Make uneasy
  - A fake
  - Any thick messy substance
  - Goat
  - Titan
  - Continental Congress delegate for NY
  - Peyton's younger brother
  - Fiddler crab
  - Delivers the mail
  - Liliaceous plant
  - Mountain Time
  - Where wrestlers work
  - Secured
  - Dog breed
  - Where rockers perform
  - Nostrils
  - Express doubt
  - Pointer
  - Slang for sergeant
  - Selling at specially reduced prices
  - Six (Spanish)
  - Holds nonperishables
  - Between northeast and east
  - Exist
  - Meitnerium
  - CW182410
- CLUES DOWN**
- Straighten
  - Gives medical advice (abbr.)
  - Touts
  - One's job
  - Afflict in mind or body
  - Proofed
  - Capital of Angola
  - Social insect living in organized colonies
  - Ones who are financially compensated
  - Jacket



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### State wrestling success

Above, Owen Bjerga looks for an opportunity to shoot in at the state wrestling tournament on March 3.

At right, Bjerga gives a smile after being awarded the sixth place medal. (Staples World photos by Blake Gerard)



## Huber's huge final jump lands third at nationals

Minnesota State University Moorhead senior Brian Huber set a school record and finished third in the long jump to pick up All-American honors during competition on March 9 in Pittsburg, Kan. It is the fourth All-American honor of Huber's Dragon career.

Huber advanced to the finals with a jump of 24-9 3/4, which at that point was a season-best. His final jump in the finals of 25-2 3/4 was initially ruled a foul; however MSUM assistant coach Trevor Barry appealed and asked for a video review, and the foul was overturned and the jump was ruled good, giving Huber a school record (25-2 3/4) and third-place finish.

"My last jump felt really good," Huber said. "I could tell it was a big one. It's nice to be jumping well again and be an All-American again."

Huber had the previous MSUM indoor long jump record of 24-11.

The Staples native is a four-time long jump national indoor qualifier, and the third-place finish marks his best finish ever



### Huber All-American

Brian Huber with his third place trophy from the NCAA Division II Indoor Nationals.

at a national meet; his previous best finish was fifth. He now turns his focus to the outdoor season, which will be his final as a Dragon.

"Knowing that all of my hard work is paying off is the best feeling in the world," Huber said. "Today just makes me want to work even harder for the meets to come."

#### NCAA Division II Indoor Long Jump

1. Sedeekie Edie (Lincoln), 25-5 1/2
2. Bjoern Klehn (Christian Bros), 25-3 3/4
3. Brian Huber (MSUM), 25-2 3/4
4. Machine Ricketts (Academy of Art), 25-0 3/4
5. Lawrence Russell Jr. (Barton), 24-11 3/4
6. Isaac Grimes (Chadron State), 24-9
7. Vincent Vogel (Tiffin), 24-8 1/2
8. Mason Phillips (Northwood), 24-2 3/4

## Playoff loss ends season at 9-16

The Staples-Motley boys basketball team lost in the first round of the Section 8AA tournament, falling to Breckenridge 84-49 on March 8.

It was an uphill climb for the Cardinals, playing the number two seed after a long road trip. They had lost to Breckenridge

early in the season, and fared slightly better in this game, but it still ended up with the game decided by the second half.

The Cardinals finished the season 9-16, and tied for third in the Mid State Conference with a 4-6 record.

## Scent of skunk ... is it a first sign of spring?

The human olfactory sense – our sense of smell – is not always fully appreciated for its power. Some say it's the most powerful of our senses when it comes to generating emotions and memories. The scent of marsh muck, wet dog hair, or Hoppe's #9 gun cleaning solvent can unleash a tide of memories, and transport us momentarily back to a duck blind or a deer stand. Or, when our nose catches the aroma trail from a restaurant kitchen, we hunger for a ribeye steak or a juicy burger. Scent carries an undeniable emotional punch.

### Inside the Outdoors



Mike Rahn

Recently, I opened the back porch door in the dim pre-dawn to let our Labrador out to relieve herself, I caught the unmistakable sent of skunk. It's a scent that can be confused with no other, as anyone familiar with it will agree. Some have worse memories than others, memories that may involve a bath of soap and tomato juice after their dog got too close to a skunk's comfort. For many, the introduction is on a highway, passing a point where an incautious skunk became road-kill; a place where – long after – an invisible cloud of musky odor hangs in the air. Worse yet is being the driver who sent that skunk to the promised land and is haunted for miles and miles thereafter by its essence, as if the skunk's spirit were punishing you for murder.

For me, however, the scent of skunk is different. At this time of year, beginning to weary of sub-freezing temperatures, shoveling snow and spreading ice on slick sidewalks, I'm on the lookout for any and all signs of spring. One of these signals is the scent of skunk, just as indicative of change as the trill of an amorous cardinal in

the treetops or a wedge of Canada geese in silhouette low against the skyline.

It's not that I'm enthused about actually having a skunk nearby. I've so far been spared the need to bathe my dog in soap and tomato juice, but I never discount the possibility that a skunk will wander into the backyard and feel trapped if Bella mistakes her for a rabbit or squirrel, and gives chase.

I welcome the scent of skunk for the same reason I welcome the scent of wet dog hair. It's for the emotional connections that come with it. After months with few outdoor scents to stimulate the chemoreceptors in my nose, this powerful one always seems to coincide with the loosening of winter's grip on life.

Why the scent of skunk at this time of year? The reasons are found in two urges common to all creatures programmed by evolution to survive: food, and reproducing their kind. After a winter spent conserving body heat and relying heavily on body fat accumulated in the fall, skunks need to replenish their fuel supply. Spring is also breeding season, timed by Nature – as with most creatures – to coincide with livable weather conditions and greater availability of food.

One of the skunk's survival advantages is its diet. The scientist's word for it is "omnivorous," an eater of just about anything and everything that can be found or caught. Skunks feed on small rodents, eggs and nestlings, insects, carrion – other dead animals – and of course garbage, like many opportunistic creatures that live in close proximity to humans. There are even records of skunks raiding farmers' hen houses for a chicken dinner.

Food may not be at its most abundant in March and April, but prospects are improving, and there's the important business of properly timing the arrival of offspring. Skunk kits must be born when they can grow sufficiently to be able to survive the next cycle of winter. With mating taking place in March

and April – some as early as February – most kits will be born in mid-May or early June, when life is in full bloom and food supplies are abundant.

Early summer is also a time of death as a counterpoint to new life, often evidenced by young skunks meeting their doom on roadways. It's not all that uncommon to see multiple tiny skunk corpses on a roadway to mark a spot where a mother skunk attempted to lead her young ones across at just the wrong time. Skunks are not my favorite wild creature, and their eagerness to raid a duck or pheasant nest at the first opportunity does not endear them to hunters. But it still tugs at the heartstrings to see a skunk's parenting efforts come to naught in such a conspicuous and final way.

Though skunks are certainly wild creatures, they're more abundant in landscapes altered by humans. Barns, sheds and other buildings often mean more rodents on which to feed, and under-structure denning opportunities. Skunk numbers increased significantly with European settlement for this very reason, though the abandonment and consolidation of farms – and their conversion to other uses – may have reversed that trend.

Skunks are considered undesirable for reasons other than just their smell and their depredations on other small wildlife. They are a high-profile carrier of rabies, and pets bitten by them commonly become victims. The most memorable and heart-wrenching rabies saga was a Walt Disney production, and a dog named Old Yeller. This lovable and protective pet was bitten by a rabid wolf. In the modern world it's more likely that the bite of a skunk will be the vector for this gruesome disease.

Odds are high that I'm in a small minority who react positively to the scent of skunk. But for me – as much as I await the courtship song of the cardinal, or a wedge of northbound geese in flight – the skunk just as reliably tells me that spring is in the air.



### Springing into spring sports

The Staples-Motley girls and boys track and field teams held their first practice on March 12, warming up with dynamic warm-up exercises in the high school gym, before taking to the streets for their first runs of the year. The track team has an indoor meet scheduled for Tuesday, March 27, at Concordia-Moorhead, and will start the outdoor season on Monday, April 9, at Wadena-Deer Creek. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)



### Softball season starts indoors

The Staples-Motley softball team held their first practice March 12, with new head coach Jamie Johnson putting the team through indoor drills, as there is still a couple of feet of snow on the outdoor fields.

The team's first game is scheduled for Thursday, April 5, at Long Prairie-Grey Eagle. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)

#### Thursday Twilight League Bowling Wadena Lanes

MARCH 8, 2018	
1. Staples Vet Clinic	21-11
2. Mason Bros.	20.5-11.5
3. Lefty's	19-13
4. Ted and Gen's	16-16
5. Spectrum Marketing	15.5-16.5
6. Ghost Team	4-28

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Ruth Lugert	501 192-175
Jackie Perius	458 191
Kylie Uselman	184
Cheri Bodeen	157

### More spring sports

The first official day of baseball practice is Monday, March 19, and boys and girls golf starts Monday, March 26, at The Vintage golf course.