

Preparing for recovery when disaster strikes

By Mark Anderson, News Editor

When a disaster strikes, state and federal relief teams swoop in to help communities avoid even greater losses. But even the most long-term teams are only there for a few weeks, and the community is left on their own to build things back to normal.

On Feb. 6, area officials and leaders met to start a plan that will make the long term recovery process easier. The program was led by Dan Frank of the Initiative Foundation.

Frank gave an example of the wind storms that caused massive damage in the Brainerd area last year. He said the short term recovery went relatively quickly, with downed trees removed and most homes regaining electricity within a few days. However, once the recovery crews and electrical crews complete their emergency work, there is still a lot of work to do to get homes and businesses back



Making plans for future scenarios

Pictured from left are Jody Longbella, CLC; Tyler Wheeler, Wadena County Sheriff's Office; Melissa Birkholtz, Staples Police; Dan Frank, Initiative Foundation; Tricia Jasmer, City of Staples; Mike Wisniewski, Todd County Emergency Management; Bob Hepokoski, Staples Alliance Church; and Jerel Nelsen, City of Staples. Not pictured, Mike Schmidt and LeRoy Peterson, Staples-Motley School District; Rod Opheim, Lakewood Health System; Scott Braith, Staples Ambulance and Fire Department; and Ron Case, Staples Police. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

to normal. He said the Wadena recovery team was needed for two years after their tornado.

The long term recovery team will be able to identify partners to help rebuild, recruit, organize, house and feed volunteers, raise funds and find building materials, coordinate communication and attend to emotional and spiritual needs. It is also an opportunity to redevelop the community to become stronger and better.

The Initiative Foundation can help coordinate the entire effort, but Frank said it is better if the local community has a plan in place and takes charge of their own redevelopment.

Community members can get involved by attending two training meetings, the first on Thursday, March 1, from 3:30-6 p.m. in Onamia, the second Wednesday, March 21, from 3:30-6 p.m. at the Brainerd Fire Station. All the training is free to eligible communities through the Initiative Foundation.

School district settles on one K-12 building

By Brenda Halvorson
General Manager

One building for grades K-12 on the site of the current high school.

That's the option the Staples-Motley School Board decided to pursue at their Feb. 12 special meeting.

However, a Plan B is a viable backup, if Plan A

confronts any unforeseen or insurmountable difficulties.

Plan B is two buildings, with grades 6 or 7 to 12 at the current high school and grades K-5 or 6 at the current Staples-Motley Elementary School location.

Both options would require additions and renovation work.

The decision to pursue Plan A now allows the administration and the facility consulting firm to move forward with hiring an architect and a structural engineer to begin drawing plans. They will focus on the additions, the demolition and the renovations needed to convert the high school building and

surrounding acreage to serve grades K-12.

Board members Bryan Winkels and Greg Frisk agreed to join Superintendent Ron Bratlie and Building and Grounds Director LeRoy Peterson to form a facilities committee. Those four will be the core group with other staff members or community people to be added as plans proceed.

The committee faces a very tight timeline. Before any questions can be placed on a ballot for the November general election, the facility plan must be reviewed by the Minnesota Department of Education. That plan needs to be submitted before June 29.

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Not too early to plan for the census

State Demographer Susan Brower speaks to city and county officials at NJPA in Staples on Jan. 31. She said now is the time to start planning local Complete Count Committees to make sure Minnesota gets all the benefits from being counted in the census. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

Demographer shows why census is important

By Mark Anderson
News Editor

Minnesota State Demographer Susan Brower came to Staples on Jan. 31 to let communities know it is time to start planning for the 2020 Census. Government workers from area communities came to a training session at NJPA to learn about the program Everyone Counts in MN.

Brower said it is very valuable to the state and to every local government to make sure every person is counted. She is helping communities form Complete Count Committees (CCC) to make sure everyone in the community is counted.

The CCC could be made up of local governments, such as a county, city or regional group, or it could even be a community organization or local leader. The State Demographic Center will help groups

that form CCCs, which help promote census awareness and identify hard-to-count populations.

Another purpose of the CCC is to help build trust in the census. Brower stressed that the census is completely anonymous, and no one outside of the census bureau will be able to access the information for 72 years, after which it is often used for genealogical research. She said there has never been a breach in the census bureau information, and census workers can face fines up to \$250,000 and five years in prison if they break their sworn secrecy.

Despite the safety of the information, Brower said some people can be reluctant to fill out the census.

The other trainer at the Jan. 31 meeting was Maria Paschke, a research and outreach coordinator with the State Demographic Center. She said all sur-

veys in general have seen declining response rates for decades. People just don't want to fill out surveys as much any more. In addition, the federal government is not funding the census up to the levels it has done for past censuses, which are taken every 10 years.

Brower brought up the importance of the census to the state and to local communities. She said the census determines how to allocate around \$600 billion in federal money to the state. Each community also depends on the census for their share of funding.

They estimate that each person counted brings \$15,320 to their community over the 10 years between censuses. Brower pointed out that if the census misses just one family, it could mean more than \$60,000 doesn't come to

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Hello, Readers,

Friday, Feb. 16, is Do a Grouch a Favor Day. We all have known a grouch at some point in our lives, and it is very likely that we've had phases of being grouchy ourselves. Sometimes a favor from someone, be they a close friend or a random stranger, is exactly what we need to break us out of our slump. Of course, there may not be any redemption for the grouchy neighbor who hates your dog, and your mailbox, and the way your lawn mower sounds, and the color of your house and.... Well, you get the point. Even if you have that person for a neighbor, doing them a well meaning favor would not go amiss on Do a Grouch a Favor Day.

Public Notices

Board of Adjustment: 7A

Obituaries

Esther Jordahl
Gaylord Judd
Kevette Thompson
John Vick
Barb Wickham



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Todd County will invest prepaid taxes

According to Todd County Auditor/Treasurer Denise Gaida, due to changes in Federal IRS regulations, the auditor/treasurer's office has experienced an unprecedented number of citizens prepaying their property taxes.

"The processing of the prepayments within the county financial system can be complex and a time burden to regular daily office requirements," said Gaida.

With that in mind, Gaida, along with other county auditor/treasurers, have

created a resolution depicting how these tax prepayments should be processed and brought it to the Todd County Commissioners meeting Feb. 6.

The resolution reads, in part, "that the Todd County Board of Commissioners hereby directs that no refunds be issued by the Todd County Auditor/Treasurer's Office for the voluntary prepayment of property taxes prior to property tax statements being released...once the statements are released

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Aquacise members claim health, social benefits

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

You don't have to go to Florida or Mexico to enjoy playing in warm water and socializing with friends this winter.

The aquacise class at the Staples Community Center offers that, plus health benefits and a whole lot more.

Taught by Kay Martin of Staples, the class meets weekly at 9 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. The hour-long session features a variety of low-impact exercises, each lasting approximately 60 seconds. Following that, swimmers can elect to stay in the pool and do laps. An evening aquacise session, led by community center lifeguards, is held on those same days beginning at 6 p.m.

"It's been miraculous," Judy Droubie of Staples said of the class, which was especially helpful to her after she had knee surgery. Now 75, Droubie said she has participated in aquacise for many years and can't say enough good

about it. It's a total body massage, she went on about the water workout.

The social benefits are a plus as well, Droubie went on. In between stretch-

ing exercises and jumping jacks in the water, the swimmers have time to visit. "We even exchange recipes," she said.

Martin, who has been

coming to aquacise for 30 years, started teaching the class this past December. She had previously been an instructor at a YMCA for at least a decade.



Keeping fit

Members of the aquacise class in Staples worked their leg muscles during one of the 60-second exercises led by instructor Kay Martin. From left are Nelda Schlichting, Bertha; Judi Shoquist, Cushing; Bea Hoxter, Staples. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

"Everyone can work at their own level," Martin said, adding that you don't even have to know how to swim to be a part of the class. Swimmers range in age from 30-something to 86 years old. "Bea is the oldest one in our group, I believe," Martin said of Bea Hoxter.

At 86 years young, Hoxter said she became a regular at the community center pool after her husband died in 1994. She thoroughly enjoys the aquacise class and up until a few years ago, used to swim laps as well. "I guess I'm getting too old for that," she laughed.

Swimming is a low-impact exercise that is easy on one's joints. Martin pointed out that when you are up to your shoulders in water you only bear 10 percent of your body weight because it is buoyant in water.

In speaking with a physical therapist, Martin learned that aquacise is beneficial to people who

See **AQUACISE** on page 3a

SCHOOL continued from page 1a

Meeting state department review is critical

The state department's review and comments will be received by the district by the end of August.

The school district hired Foster Jacobs & Johnson, Inc. as a consultant to develop a long range facility plan. That firm has now merged with ICS Consulting, but the team working with the district remains the same.

Glenn Choido of ICS Consulting pointed out that meeting the state's deadline was "doable, but it's a rush." He also recommended starting "tomorrow" so if they find problems with Plan A, they would have time to develop Plan B.

Jeff Schiltz, also of ICS consulting, suggested exploring the community partnerships that have begun forming.

Bratlie noted a group including representatives from the City of Staples, Lakewood Health System and other interested parties was meeting regularly.

One option discussed was to demolish the 1935 section of the high school and replace it with more usable space.

Winkels asked about the demolition cost and was given a very rough estimate of \$400,000 to \$500,000.

Chad Longbella asked how much of that would be taken, i.e., part or all of the cafeteria? the gymnasium?

Peterson said they wouldn't know until the structural engineers had seen it.

Frisk and Bruce Lund wondered if there was enough space for the square footage required for a K-12 building.

Bratlie said an addition would likely have to be more than one story.

It was noted that, while that would require an elevator which needs maintenance, it would also reduce the amount of roof space. As Winkels said, "Roofs are expensive."

Schiltz said there are more energy savings in stacking floors.

Regarding the space requirements, Schiltz said they have 15-16 acres at the high school site, but state guidelines call for 40-50 contiguous acres. However, since the athletic fields were only a few blocks away the case could be made to the state to accept a proposal.

Choido also pointed out greenspace recommendations for elementary students, but Bratlie said there would be some greenspace options that could be added.

Bratlie also said the other buildings could be repurposed. Moving the district office to the elementary building was one suggestion, as well as keeping early childhood programs and day care options.

Frisk noted that in all the school and community surveys and meetings, the top request was for one K-12 school building.

"Is the plan for what the district needs to move forward or something we think the taxpayers will approve?" he asked. "If they're the same thing, then we have no problem. If not, there could be problems."

Longbella said he didn't want to put something out there that was not doable, and he wanted "the most bang for my buck."

Freeman said she was very comfortable with both possibilities. She also noted that some of the district's debt service will end in 2021 and an operating referendum will end a year or two later.

Schiltz said some funding was available that didn't require voter approval. Those options also could change what the final bond request would be.

Adding to the discussion on financing Frisk said "Let's not focus on what will pass. Let's focus on what we need to get it done."

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Federal funding depends on census numbers

the community. Programs such as education, human services, transportation, health care and Medicare could be affected.

In addition, Minnesota is on the verge of losing one seat in the U.S. House of Representatives, if the population is lower compared to other states.

Since every person counted is important, Brower said local communities should try to get snowbirds, or those who travel south for the winter, to be counted in Minnesota. Even if the person is not in their Minnesota home on Census day, April 1, 2020, they can still be counted if

it is the home where they spend most of their time.

Some people spend more than half of the year away from their home for tax purposes, but Brower said they can still be counted if it is their regular home. She said the IRS will never be able to access the data, neither will Congress, the Justice Department, immigration or the president.

Other hard-to-count populations include highly mobile people and the homeless. Brower said the CCC will be able to help identify those groups and develop strategies to make sure they are counted.

When analyzing the 2010

Census feedback, Brower said the biggest issue was not starting early enough on organizing and promoting. That is why they want to form the Complete Count Committees in 2018, so they can start doing the work in 2019.

The State Demographic Center is letting local communities decide who will be the best entity to put together a CCC. At least 60 counties are participating, but they still need more local committees. "You know your community best," said Paschke.

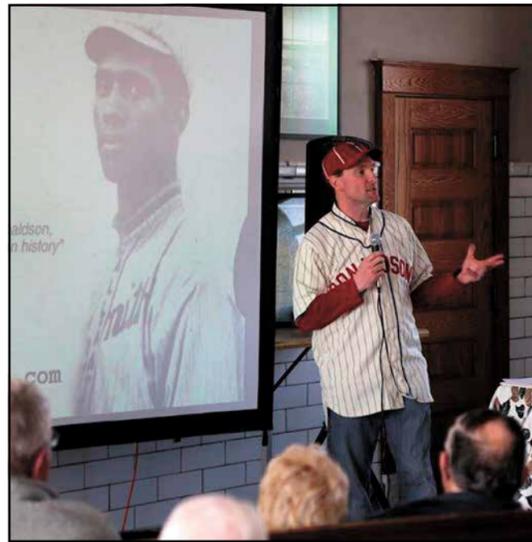
Brower added "It is up to you to let us know what we can do to help you."



The story of a local baseball player

Pete Gorton, pictured below, gave a presentation on black pitcher John Donaldson at the Historic Staples Depot Feb. 11, part of the Staples Historical Society's annual meeting. About 45 people were present for the program that included a question and answer session. (Submitted photos)

'John Donaldson walked through these doors ...'



Approximately 45 people attended the annual meeting of the Staples Historical Society held Feb. 11 at the historic Northern Pacific Depot.

"John Donaldson walked through these doors here at the depot," Peter Gorton, a Staples High School grad who has formed the Donaldson Network, said. Gorton made his presentation on Donaldson, the

black baseball player who played for the Bertha town baseball team for three summers, 1923 to 1925.

Black players were banned from major league baseball in those days, so Donaldson played his first years - from about 1910 to 1923 - in the Negro leagues, helping to form the Kansas City Monarchs. He discovered he could be paid more by playing for town teams, which often hired semi-pro players to augment the local athletes. His years at Bertha resulted in crowds of 3,000 to 5,000

people coming to see him pitch against the best teams around. They had to expand their recently built stands to handle the crowd.

Gorton has found at least one game, against the Long Prairie team, with Donaldson pitching against the Staples town team. In that game, the box score showed Donaldson giving up three hits to Harry Weston on the Staples squad.

Gorton's years of research has convinced him that Donaldson deserves to be in the baseball hall of fame at Cooperstown, N. Y. He was overlooked a few years ago when about five Negro League players were added to the hall. Gorton is preparing his presentation to the Hall of Fame for the next opportunity to add black players in 2020.

Following Gorton's presentation, the SHS business meeting was held, with two new members elected to the SHS board of directors.

New members elected were Jim Vollegraaf and John Wolak, while Judy Richer and Mike Blessing were re-elected to three year terms on the board. Former members Gene Floistad and Tom Crawford chose not to run for another term.



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218-894-1515 lakewoodhealthsystem.com



Rewarded for reading

Everett Hanson of Staples was recently recognized for reading 1,000 books before kindergarten. The Staples-Motley Early Childhood Coalition and Staples Public Library rewarded the 16-mos. old with a stuffed elephant and the book, "Should I Share my Ice Cream?" Pictured at the library with Everett are, from left, Beth Fabian of the Early Childhood Coalition; his mother, Jackie Hanson; and Library Assistant Angie Johnson. Jackie said she began reading to Everett when he was just a few weeks old, along with his sister, Grace, who was three years old at the time.

Children who haven't entered kindergarten are invited to pick up a book journal and book bag for the program, to help them count the number of books they read. A new app is available that parents can use to keep track of their child's books if they don't care to use the paper booklet. For more information, call the library at 218-894-1401. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



FISH FRY FRIDAYS Sacred Heart Area School Community ALL YOU CAN EAT

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Fish Fry Dates: Feb. 16, 23, March 2, 9, 16, 23



Area voters go with top Governor picks

Staples area residents attended caucus meetings on Nov. 6, where they discussed party platforms and took a straw poll vote for candidates in the upcoming election for Minnesota Governor in November. The Republican Party and Democratic Party met in separate rooms at Staples-Motley High School.

The Republican Party Caucus, above, had 20 people attending. Todd County favored Jeff Johnson, who also won the state straw poll. The Democratic Party Caucus, below, had 10 people in attendance, voted similar to the state straw poll, which was won by Tim Walz. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)



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Aquacise is open to women and men

have varicose veins, or poor circulation in their legs and feet due to diabetes.

Martin herself suffers from arthritis and says that without aquacise, "I cannot function." She noted that the pool is warm, 85 or 86 degrees, which makes it very comfortable for people with arthritis.

Sue Stine of Browerville has been attending aquacise since 2008. She decided to get into aquacise because it's safe for the body. "I can do things in water that I can't do on land," she said, adding, "I can't run or jump rope on land, but in the water I can."

Stine, 74, has noticed that when she does aquacise on a regular basis, she has a lot more stamina. "You get out of condition quickly when you stop (exercising)," she said.

She enjoys the conversations she has with her fellow swimmers, but appreciates that "no one argues about politics or religion" during their hour-long class.

Nelda Schlichting of Bertha, 84, has been attending aquacise for the past 20 years. It's never been about weight loss for her; Schlichting said. "I just feel better when I leave this class," she said, going on to note that the water exercises help

"limber up" her muscles.

After surviving a motorcycle accident and going through back surgery, Judi Shoquist, 74, of the Lincoln Lakes Area, said she "had a lot of issues" and needed to do something to ensure proper healing. She credits aquacise with helping to keep her on a healthy track.

She's not alone, Shoquist noted. "I think a lot of the people here have had knee or hip surgeries."

Stine went on to say that she did aquacise for a year prior to having her hip replacement which made the entire process much easier for her. "My surgeon commented on my good muscle tone," she said.

Aquacise is open to both women and men. Schlichting recalled that in the earlier days, there used to be more couples that would come to the class.

Martin said she has been encouraging more men to sign up for aquacise, especially those she knows have arthritis or are recovering from hip or knee replacement surgery.

One woman in the pool commented that she wishes her husband would consider aquacise. "I'd like to see him get away from the computer...I know he'd feel better."

Shoquist said she was encouraged to find that most health insurance companies will pay for a class like aquacise. They want to see their clients healthy, she said.

Mary Freeman of Motley is a strong believer in staying fit. She shared that she had broken her leg on Jan. 5 and was back at aquacise a week later, albeit with a medical boot on. Like many of her fellow swimmers, Freeman noted how much she appreciated both the health and social benefits of being a part of aquacise. "Plus, we're pretty sexy in our swimsuits," she laughed.



President's Award

Amy Leidenfrost, Staples, received the third highest award a Lion can receive, the Lions International President's Award. It was presented by District Governor Jack Breikruezt for her more than 20 years of service in Lions, helping those in need. "Your hard work and compassion serve as an example to the Lions, your community and the world around you," the letter stated. Leidenfrost has served in many positions in Lions, including as District Governor. She is currently co-chair of the Minnesota Lions Diabetes Foundation. Asked why she served, she replied, "Our programs do a lot of good. We help a lot of people." (Submitted photo)

Todd County officials talk with legislators

By Karin Nauber
Todd County reporter

State Senator Paul Gazelka and Representative John Poston met with the Todd County Board of Commissioners along with several department heads and citizens Jan. 23 to hear what the county needed in terms of legislative help.

Despite the many topics and requests, the concern brought forward by Greg Nolan and his wife Marcia Rapatz was perhaps more meaningful to some of the recent discussions and decisions made by the commissioners in terms of the Amish community.

Nolan said they had concerns about what's been happening. He said they were part of a diverse community with Amish and Mennonite neighbors.

He said they have seen discrimination and racism cropping up and that the "fires of it" needed to be put out.

Gazelka agreed that each community had its own personality.

Nolan said that some of our nation's darkest times have been over racism.

"We don't want that to come back," said Nolan.

Nolan and Rapatz, who have been tree planters for 40 years, also asked that, "When you are making decisions, consider the environment. Without a healthy environment, we can't be healthy," said Rapatz.

Discussion with Commissioners

The conversation began with thanking the legislators for their help with funding for the possible demolition of the Eagle Bend school building, then shifting to talking about the Hilltop Regional Kitchen and then to volunteer drivers who will now be taxed on their mileage reimbursement due to changes from the Minnesota Department of Revenue.

Many Todd County citizens depend on volunteer drivers to take them to needed doctor appointments, but their mileage reimbursement is now being viewed as a "business activity reimbursement instead of a charitable activity reimbursement."

Health and Human Services Director Jackie Och said in a position statement which she shared with the legislators that the "volunteer driver program provides a low cost form of transportation for people that need transportation to non-emergency medical appointments, school and other locations. Additionally, volunteer drivers contribute greatly toward filling the gap of transportation shortages found throughout Minnesota, but especially in rural areas."

"Without our volunteer drivers, human services would be challenged to provide mandated services," she said.

She shared a resolution supporting the changes they hope to see in the taxability of the mileage reimbursements.



Discussing the issues

Todd County Commissioner Barb Becker took a few minutes to talk with State Senator Paul Gazelka after the meeting to discuss specific District 1 concerns. (Photo by Karin Nauber)

The county has 24 volunteer drivers, some of whom may not be able to provide the service if they are taxed on their mileage.

Any reimbursement over \$600 requires a 1099 form to be sent to the driver.

Gazelka asked to be sent an informational e-mail on this so he can further pursue the matter.

Community Health Manager Katherine Mackedanz, MPH, said, "It would be devastating if we lost them."

Todd County Economic Development Director Rick Utech shared concerns about the recent notice that the LSC Communications (formerly R.R. Donnelley) printing plant in Long Prairie would be closing soon.

Poston noted that the building is fairly modern and could be moved into by someone else.

Utech said that LSC is keeping things "close to the vest" and they don't know what the company's plans are for the building yet.

Gazelka said that they needed to become more business competitive at the state level. He said that Minnesota was not even in the top 20 places that Amazon looked at for their new center.

He added that the jobs committee needs a rural Minnesota emphasis.

Utech said he would keep everyone apprised of what is going on with LSC.

Chair Randy Neumann said that the closing of the plant will be a financial hardship in Todd County as there are many husband and wife teams that make up some of the workforce.

Gazelka talked a little about County Program Aid and that the state had reworked the formula and tried to make it more fair.

County Coordinator Joe Hatch said that it made a big impact for Todd County as the county would have needed to do a double digit tax increase without the CPA of \$1.4 million.

Next Gazelka talked briefly about the movement that has been going on where the county would decide if they wish to continue to elect a person for

the auditor/treasurer position or to appoint someone to the position.

The conversation took many shifts and changes of topics including a brief discussion on County Road 83 which went from a daily traffic count of 300 to 3,000 since the new Lakewood Health System Hospital was built a few years ago.

The county asked for any help they can get in working with this road to improve it.

Poston said they have had several conversations on CR83 with the Minnesota Department of Transportation about rebuilding it because it is falling apart.

MNDOT agrees it is a problem, he said, but they aren't doing anything yet.

Utech said that more expansion in that area is anticipated.

That conversation evolved into a short talk about Highway 27 and Amish buggy traffic.

Poston said that \$15 million has been appropriated for it with the intent to widen it in 2020.

Hatch told the legislators that border to border broadband was another bonding request area with a definite need for better upload and download speeds.

Poston and Gazelka agreed this was a need.

The City of Long Prairie recently bonded for high speed broadband within the city.

Och and Michael Steinbeisser talked about mental health issues and the need for supportive housing and other needs.

Och talked about the connection with the National Joint Powers Alliance and how they are helping with the issue, as well.

Gazelka summed up that Minnesota had to adapt and become more competitive for business.

"The United States is competing with the world and Minnesota is competing with other states," he said.

Other issues briefly touched on were the buffer law, lack of housing in the county and new students coming into the schools from other countries.

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ENERGY ASSISTANCE FUNDING STILL AVAILABLE
The Energy Assistance Program (EAP) helps pay home heating costs and furnace repairs for income qualified households. EAP is federally funded through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Grants are available for renters or homeowners, with household income at or below 50 percent of the state median income, and is based on household size, income, fuel type and energy usage. Services may include payment of energy bills, help with utility disconnections or necessary fuel deliveries, education on efficient and safe use of home heating energy, and repair or replacement of homeowners' malfunctioning heating system.
The average energy assistance grant in Todd County is \$751 per household. Households with an income less than 50 percent of the state median income (\$48,076 for a family of four) may qualify; those who qualify are served on a first-come, first-served basis while funds last. People have until May 31, 2018 when the program year ends, to apply for EAP.
EAP pays the utility company directly on behalf of eligible households. Qualifying families must apply for assistance at the local service provider in their area. If you are interested in applying for Energy Assistance, please contact Todd County Health and Human Services at 320-732-4516, or toll free at 888-838-4066. If you signed up for the Cold Weather Rule through your energy provider, this protection ends on April 15, 2018.
Other forms of assistance may be available through county social service programs, community-based organizations, and nonprofit agencies. See the Minnesota Department of Commerce webpage at mn.gov/commerce for resources and energy saving tips.

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Medication adherence: Why should you care?

By Erik Nelson



Erik Nelson

Medication adherence is how you take your medications the way they are written by your prescriber. This means taking your medication at the correct dosage strength, frequency and duration.

Medication adherence is important because it helps your medications work exactly how they are meant to treat your diseases/conditions. Poor adherence to your prescribed medications may further worsen the reasons for which you are taking the medications.

For example, if you have high blood pressure and do not take your prescribed medication for it, it can increase your risk for heart diseases. Similarly, taking a medication more often than what is written by your prescriber may limit when you are able to receive a future refill or cause unintended side effects.

Pharmacists can help you address concerns about medications you take. It is common to have heard from a friend or family member or have seen on television or the internet something about a medication that caused someone to have an unwanted side effect.

It is completely normal to be concerned about these adverse events. Your local pharmacist will listen to/acknowledge your concerns, can help to share knowledge about these

assess your current medication adherence and offer their recommendation to help you achieve your health goals.

If you sometimes have trouble remembering to take your medications, ask your pharmacist how you can utilize the following tools to help you increase your medication adherence to help you increase your overall health:

- Weekly pill box/tray.
- Taking your medication at the same time you do something else each day.
- Setting alarms.
- Having a friend or family member remind you.
- Using a smart phone application to manage your prescription dosages such as Medisafe® or ROUNDhealth®.
- Learn the names, dosages, frequencies, and durations of all medications you take.
- Learn the reason why you were prescribed each medication you take.
- Keep an updated medication list that you can carry with you at all times.

Nelson is a fourth year pharmacy student at North Dakota State University who has completed two of his eight 5-week rotations at Longbella Clinic Pharmacy and Lakewood Health System in Staples. He will graduate this spring. He is a 2011 graduate of Staples-Motley High School and is the son of Julie and Kevin Nelson, Staples.

Help is here for students with reading deficits

Did you know that today, one in three of Minnesota's third graders can't read at grade level? If students don't read proficiently by the end of third grade, odds are against them ever catching up in the future.

Staples-Motley Elementary is fortunate to have four Minnesota Reading Corps members who've dedicated themselves to helping students read at grade level by third grade. Using the latest research on reading intervention strategies and guidance from literacy experts, Reading Corps is a critical link in literacy acquisition in our district. It provides what struggling readers need, individualized, data-driven instruction, one-on-one attention, well-trained tutors, instruction delivered with fidelity and the frequency and duration necessary for student achievement.

This year alone our tutors have worked with 106 students and have exited 40 students. Students are exited from the program when they meet grade level fluency expectations.

Next year we'll be looking for new members. If you are interested in full or

Staples-Motley Schools



By Laurie Paskewitz
Staples-Motley Elementary Title I Coordinator

part-time employment stop by the elementary office for more information or go to recruitment@servetogrow.org or call 866-859-2825.

Some of the fun, I Love to Read activities happening this month are:

- Elementary:**
 - Every Monday in February parents/grandparents are invited to the elementary for muffins and reading from 7:45-8:20 a.m.
 - Students are challenged to complete their monthly reading calendars. If they do Mrs. Johnson, the principal, will be decorated as a human sundae.
 - On Thursdays students will have Drop Everything and Read Time.
 - Magic of Reading Show
 - March 2 students will celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday with Green Eggs and Ham.
 - Visit the Staples Public Library challenge.
 - Hats off to Reading day was Feb. 9.
 - Cozy up with a good book day, is Feb. 23, wear pjs to school.
- Middle School:** Olympic Reading Challenge and visit the Staples Public Library challenge.

Teen dating violence awareness month

By Connie Nelson
Hands of Hope Resource Center

When we think of February, we probably think cold temps, Ground Hog Day, Super Bowl and Valentine's Day. I have another thought about February, it's also Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month, a time to stop and think about love, relationships, and RESPECT, specifically for the teens, preteens and those in early adulthood. Unconditional love and a healthy relationship is a blessing of a lifetime, and one that all men and women deserve, no matter their age.

What kind of a dating partner are you? Are you kind, caring, considerate of others' feelings, and respectful of your partner's boundaries and right to be an individual, a good communicator and compromiser? It's really not hard, and

the reward is a loving, safe and peaceful co-existence with each other and a rewarding lifelong relationship.

Partners should be able to go out with friends, to have their privacy, their own likes and dislikes, spend their time the way they choose, not have to share passwords to online accounts or phones, not have to let the partner view texts, listen to voicemails or read online posts. Lastly, your partner should NEVER hit or slap you or force you to have sex or do sexual things that you don't want to do.

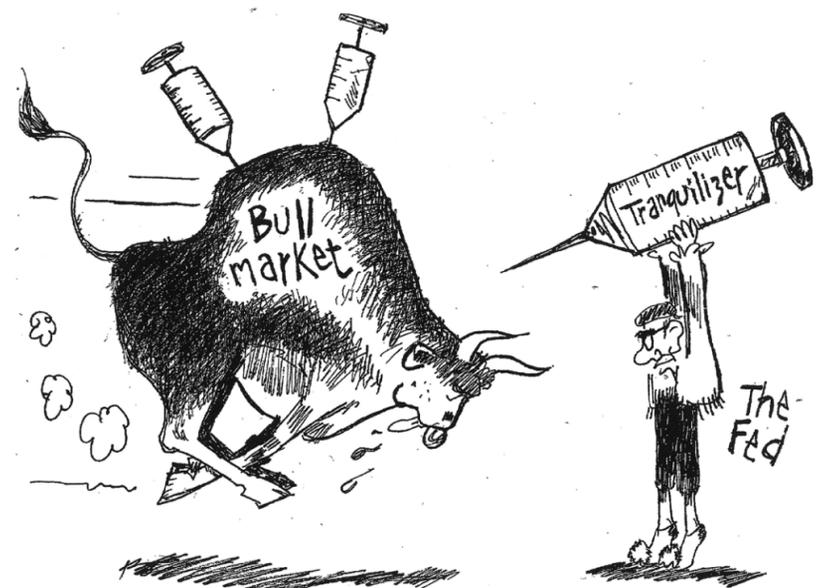
If any of these things are happening in your relationship, you need to tell someone, a trusted adult, parent, aunt, uncle, teacher or counselor at school or perhaps your minister. Let someone know before it becomes dangerous.

Remember, you can chose what you want in a

relationship, and you can also choose to be the kind of person who someone else would want to have a relationship with. You can set a good example for your friends and younger siblings. Choose respect and talk with friends and family about healthy relationships.

If you've concerns about your relationship or are concerned for a friend, you can stop in or call Hands of Hope Resource Center it's free, CONFIDENTIAL and compassionate conversation about what's happening. We can help with resources, safety planning and support counseling.

We're located in the Main Street Government Center in Long Prairie, (across from Post Office) Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. You can call our crisis line at 1-800-682-4547 or our office at 320-732-2319 or visit our website at handsofhope.net.



Letter to the Editor

Hope for bipartisan future

I was asked by the Todd County DFL if I would convene the DFL caucus in Staples. I wanted to say "no" but then realized I can't complain about the process if I'm not willing to help change it. I'm frankly very disgusted with both

parties and the way they act in Washington and in Minnesota.

Something wonderful happened the night of the caucus. I met an individual who is MARRIED to and LOVES A REPUBLICAN. I told this individual that they need to be interviewed so many people can learn how two individuals from different political parties can live together and actually get along.

I think politicians would benefit from singing in a choir together, working at a food shelf side-by-side or play on a mixed-party baseball team so they get

to know each other as individuals and develop mutual respect.

Before I came to Staples I had never voted for a Republican, but then I met Bruce Nelsen. When he ran for State Representative, I voted for him. I did it because I got to know him and trusted he would do the best job.

I left the precinct caucus Tuesday night feeling much happier (not only because my resolution passed) because I felt a glimmer of hope!

Lisa Kajer
Staples, Minn.

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 strives 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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Virtual pediatric emergency care now at Lakewood



Demonstration

Dr. Ryan Kroll and Lakewood Health System RN Rhonda Savaloja, demonstrate Lakewood's new emergency medicine virtual consult technology with Children's Minnesota physician, Jennifer Argentieri, in Minneapolis.

Lakewood Health System of Staples and Children's Minnesota are partnering to offer virtual pediatric emergency consultation services at Lakewood. This innovative service gives Lakewood's emergency medicine providers 24-hour access to Children's pediatric emergency expertise.

Through real-time, remote, face-to-face healthcare video interaction, the Lakewood Emergency Department team can connect with more than 40 pediatric emergency medicine doctors and numerous pediatric specialists located at Children's Minnesota in St. Paul or Minneapolis.

Lakewood Emergency Department providers will be able to securely share patient's vital statistics, laboratory test and imaging results in real time

with a pediatric emergency medicine doctor. By working together, the providers may be able to quicken the diagnosis and treatment of pediatric patients. They will also determine if the patient should be transferred to a pediatric hospital for more specialized treatment.

"We want to take excellent care of these kids, and we will send them to Children's Minnesota if we can't fully serve them at Lakewood," said Dr. Ryan Kroll, Lakewood Family Medicine Physician. "This partnership is especially useful for those questionable cases where the patient is stable, but we're on the fence about whether we should transfer them to Children's or if they can stay at Lakewood. By allowing the Children's physician to actually see the

patient and interact with them, we're confident we'll be able to keep and serve more families here, in their own community. A picture is worth 1,000 words."

"Virtual care for children means providing a direct connection to pediatric specialists who are typically concentrated in urban areas. This allows patients in rural communities to have comprehensive access to specialized health care that might otherwise require a far drive or not be available at all," said Judy Wenzel, manager, telehealth program at Children's Minnesota.

This type of healthcare partnership gives patients access to pediatric emergency expertise close to home, eliminates unnecessary travel and expense, and improves the pediatric patient experience.

GiANT Worldwide coming in bite-size sessions at NJPA

An introduction to the GiANT Worldwide leadership philosophy will be held in Staples in the form of four Lunch & Lead sessions sponsored by the Staples Economic Development Authority.

The sessions will be held at National Joint Powers Alliance (NJPA) in Staples from noon to 1 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 23, Friday, March 23, Friday April 27 and Friday, May 25. There is no cost to attend and lunch will be provided.

Trainer Rynell Schock will give attendees a glimpse into the leadership strategy that is being implemented by many successful businesses and organizations.

Each lunch session will be a separate lesson of the GiANT Worldwide system, so a person can attend them all or just choose among them. Attendees will learn simple visual and practical tools from the GIANT toolkit, that is helping leaders at all lev-

els develop their leadership language and give them insight on creating a healthy culture in their business, community, committee or family.

To register, RSVP to Staples Economic Development Director Melissa Radermacher by calling 218-894-2550 or email mradermacher@ci.staples.mn.us. Registration deadline is the Friday before each event.



Hoping for a good hand

For those who like to play cards, the Staples Community Center is the place to be on Wednesdays, from 8 a.m. - noon. All are welcome. Pictured above on Feb. 7, Reggie DeMars of Staples puts his cards in order at the start of a new game. In the background is Rodney Johnson, Staples.

Pictured below, from left, are Phyllis Sellnow, Bertha; DeMars; Carroll Miller, Bertha; Sherry Miller Frisk, Motley; Ken Richardson, Staples; Erma Greenwald, Staples; Johnson. (Staples World photos by Dawn Timbs)



Wadena County subject of Science Museum 2018 archaeological survey

The Science Museum of Minnesota will conduct an archaeological survey of Wadena County in 2018, as part of the Minnesota Statewide Survey of Historic and Archaeological Sites. The survey will take place during the spring, summer and fall of 2018.

Wadena County residents who know of possible archaeological sites are asked to contact the Archaeology Lab at the Science Museum of Minnesota, at 651-221-9436. With help from residents, the Science Museum hopes to identify areas to survey for sites and obtain permission to access these areas.

The project will be led by archaeologist Dr. Ed Fleming, Director of Anthropology at the muse-

um, with the assistance of SMM Biologist and Wadena County native Dick Oehlenschlaeger. They'll focus on the archaeology of the county prior to the 19th century. The objectives of the survey are to summarize the current state of knowledge of Wadena County and to fill in gaps in knowledge by surveying previously unexamined areas and examining artifact collections. Minnesota has over 10,000 years of human history hidden in its soils.

Archaeological field surveys are a crucial component of research and heritage preservation. Survey methods will involve examining plowed agricultural fields and other areas where the soil below the surface is exposed for ar-

tifacts, or, in forested areas or other places where the ground is not exposed, systematically digging small, one foot diameter "shovel test" holes and screening the soil for artifacts.

Ideally, the survey of fields will take place before July, after which the team will focus on shovel testing. The team will not disturb crops, walking between rows and all shovel tests will be carefully filled in after crews have finished, leaving little trace of any holes on the property.

This project is made possible through Minnesota's Clean Water and Legacy Amendment, through the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

Mark Your Calendar

February 17

SNOW GOLF TOURNAMENT
Sat., Feb. 17, 11 a.m., The Castaway on Lake Alexander, 4921 320th St., Cushing. For info., 218-296-1727.

February 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.

STAPLES ALL VETERANS AND COMMUNITY PARK ASSOCIATION BOARD MTG Wed. Feb. 21, 5:30 p.m., Timbers Restaurant, Staples. Public invited.

February 22

WADENA WHIRLAWAYS SQUARE DANCE CLUB MTG Thurs., Feb. 22, 7:30 - 10 p.m., Wadena VFW. Myron Hollatz, caller. For info., 218-296-1641.

COZY THEATRE
WADENA, MN

Screen **BLACK PANTHER**
Fri. thru Thurs. Feb. 16 - March 1
Fri. & Sat. 2 Shows at 7:00 & 9:30
Sun. thru Thurs. 1 Show at 7:00
Matinees Sat. & Sun. Feb. 17 & 18 at 1:15 pm
Special Advance Screening Thurs. Feb. 15 at 9:15 pm

Screen **FIFTY SHADES FREED** *Held Over 2nd Week!*
Fri. thru Thurs. Feb. 16 - 22
Fri. & Sat. 2 Shows at 7:10 & 9:30
Sun. thru Thurs. 1 Show at 7:10
Matinees Sat. & Sun. Feb. 17 & 18 at 1:25 pm

Screen **PETER RABBIT** *Held Over 2nd Week!*
Fri. thru Thurs. Feb. 16 - 22
Fri. & Sat. 2 Shows at 7:15 & 9:30
Sun. thru Thurs. 1 Show at 7:15
Matinees Sat. & Sun. Feb. 17 & 18 at 1:30 pm

Matinee Admission All Seats \$6
Tuesday Bargain Night! All Seats Only \$5!
www.cozytheatre.com

Staples Fire Department
45TH ANNUAL
THEME: **Tailgating! DANCE**
SATURDAY FEB. 17, 2018
Staples Community Center
LIVE BAND 8:30 p.m. - 12:30 p.m.
BYOB **"Old School"**
Ice, Set-ups available. \$10 cover at the door
•Raffle Tickets •Silent Auction ssw5c

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Staples Area Men's Chorus
PRESENTS
"Swing into Spring"

An evening of dining, dancing and entertainment, including a singing competition!

SATURDAY,
February 24, 2018
Timbers Restaurant and Event Center
1212 2nd Ave. NE | Staples, Mn.

5:00 p.m. Doors Open
5:30 Jazz band Performance -
Dance floor will be open
6:45 Buffet Dinner followed by an evening of musical entertainment

ADVANCE TICKET SALES ONLY!

Tickets: \$25
Available at:
www.staplesmen.org
•Nelson Insurance Agency,
(218) 895-5046,
325 2nd Ave. NE, Staples
•Timberlake Hotel, Staples
•Or any SAMC Chorus Member

All proceeds go towards funding "The Real Men Sing" event held in the Fall.

w6-ssw7c

This project is made possible with support from the Five Wings Arts Council and the McKnight Foundation supplemented by the Legacy; and support from Staples Motley Area Community Foundation. Sponsored by Timbers Restaurant and Event Center



Todd County dairy farmers meeting held

The Todd County American Dairy Association meeting was held Feb. 2, in Browerville. Farmers heard; how local and state boards are using checkoff money to increase promotion/ education on the importance of the dairy products; board members gave reports on Malt Wagon sales and other county events held that promote dairy; two college scholarships were presented; Midwest Dairy Association of Minnesota sent Lucas Sjostrom and Debi Clasemann, local dairy farmer who's on the state board, to inform farmers about state and national efforts to increase the use of dairy products. Farmers were updated on the new logo "Undeniably Dairy" introduced last June. Farmers were encouraged to have a conversation with consumers about the source of their food. Granny's Café in Eagle Bend and Midway Gas, Bar and Grill of Long Prairie were announced as the winners of the "Butter Knife" award. The awards are presented to show appreciation for serving real dairy products.

Hello World

BIRTHS REPORTED AT LAKEWOOD HEALTH SYSTEM HOSPITAL IN STAPLES INCLUDED:
Born to Jessica and Matthew Orr of Staples, a baby girl, Lexi Mae weighing seven pounds, nine ounces on February 3, 2018.
Born to Amanda and Kris Luzaich of Baxter, a baby boy, Matthew Thomas weighing nine pounds on February 6, 2018.
Born to Danielle and John Furney of Shafer, a baby boy, Owen Leonard weighing 10 pounds, eight ounces on February 6, 2018.
Born to Evelyn O'Dell and Taylor Butticci of Staples, a baby boy, Tyson James weighing seven pounds, four ounces on February 9, 2018.

Obituaries

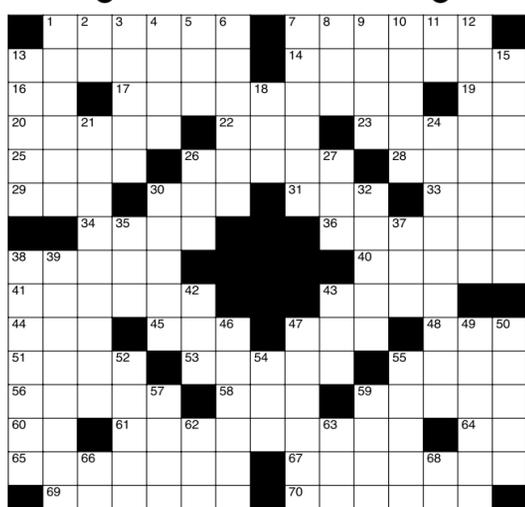
Barb Wickham

Barbara (Barb) Wickham, 68, of Fosston, passed away February 9, 2018 at home with her family by her side. A Memorial Mass will be held Saturday, Feb. 17, at 11 a.m. at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Fosston with Father John Melkies Suva-keen and Father Dave Super celebrating. Visitation will be held Friday Feb. 16, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the church and again one hour prior to the services at the church on Saturday. Interment will be in the church cemetery. Arrangements are with the Carlin Funeral Home of Fosston.



Barbara Jo Worshek was born Feb. 23, 1949, to George and Betty Worshek, in Jackson. She was baptized and confirmed at St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church in Jackson. She graduated from Jackson High School in 1967 and attended the Minneapolis School of Business. Barb married Erv Wickham on April 17, 1971, in Jackson. They made their home in Merrifield and moved to Staples in 1978 where Barb operated a day-care. In 1986 they moved to Fosston where Barb worked at Wille's Pharmacy and Provider's Choice. Barb was an active member of St. Mary's Catholic Church serving on several committees and was fondly known as the "funeral lady", coordinating the meals for after funerals services held at church. She enjoyed volunteering at the Embassy, First Care Nursing Home and Meals on Wheels. Barb is survived by her husband of 46 years; one daughter, Tamie (Todd) Rue and one son, Matt (Chantel) Wickham both of Fosston; three grandchildren; three great-granddaughters; five brothers, Jim (Connie) Worshek of Prior Lake, Donny Worshek of Parker, AZ, Bob Worshek of Luverne, Mark Worshek of Fosston and Brad Worshek of Le Sueur and one sister, Nancy Worshek of Robbinsdale. She was preceded in death by her parents and step-mother, Bev Worshek.

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
- 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
 - 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
 - Lilaceous 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

Senior Schedule

February, 2018 Staples Senior Schedule
Mon., Feb. 19, 26: Cards, 5:00; noon
Tues., Feb. 20: Bridge, noon; Whist, 12:15 p.m.
Thurs., Feb. 22: Evening meal, 5:00 p.m.
Tues., Feb. 27: Bridge noon.
March, 2018
Thurs., March 1: Free Legal Aid from St. Cloud. Call 218-894-2553 for an appointment; Cards, 5:00; noon
Mon., March 5, 19, 26: Cards, 5:00; noon
Tues., March 6, 20: Whist, 12:15 p.m.
Weds., March 7, 14, 21, 28: Meal and bingo, noon
Thurs., March 8, 15, 22, 29: Evening meals, 5:00 p.m.
Fri., March 30: Good Friday; Sr Center closed
The March AND April birthday/anniversary party will be held April 10.
To sign up for nutrition site meals, call; 218-894-2556.

Student Achievements

HAILEY KOENIG, Staples, was recently named to the Fall 2017 President's List at St. Cloud Technical & Community College. To qualify, students must earn a grade point average of 4.0.



Esther Jordahl

Esther O. Jordahl, 76, of Pillager passed away February 10, 2018 at Lakewood Care Center in Staples. A memorial service will be held Thursday, Feb. 15, at 11 a.m. at the Swan Valley Church in Leader. Visitation will be one hour prior to services at the church. Arrangements are with Taylor Funeral Care, Staples. Esther was born April 13, 1941 to Martin and Clara (Thorsett) Granby in Staples. She married Larie Jordahl on June 2, 1979 in Leader. She enjoyed gardening, quilting, sewing and cross stitching. She was an excellent cook and enjoyed working on family history. Esther is survived by her husband; one son, Bryan (Becky) Johnson of Kensington; one daughter, Barbara (John) Sorenson of Pillager; five grandchildren and one great-granddaughter. She was preceded in death by her parents and two brothers, Joseph and Marvin.

Gaylord Judd

Gaylord "Juddy" Judd, 67, of Staples passed away February 6, 2018 at the St. Cloud Hospital. A Celebration of Life was held Feb. 13 at the Brenny Funeral Chapel in Staples. Arrangements were with Brenny Funeral Chapel in Staples.



Gaylord was born March 10, 1950 in Anacortes, Washington to Clifford and Laurine (Schmidt) Judd. His family moved to the Staples area when he was in seventh grade. Juddy graduated from Staples High School in 1969. He attended the Staples Vo-Tech and graduated from the Machinist Program. He worked in a machine shop in the Twin Cities before returning to Staples. Juddy was united in marriage to Kathie Holst on July 26, 1971 in Staples. He worked at the feed store on the south side of town; Transco in Staples for four years cleaning box-cars and Woodland Container for many years until they closed. He also worked as a carpenter and was employed at Timber Roots in Wadena for the past 10 years. Juddy enjoyed camping, woodworking, history, nature and being outdoors. He especially enjoyed spending time with his children and grandchildren. Juddy is survived by his wife; one daughter, Sheila (Adam) Christoffersen of Staples; two sons, Mark (Char) Judd of Motley and Todd (Erin) Judd of Staples; eight grandchildren; one great-granddaughter; mother, Laurine Judd of Granite Falls; siblings, Lloyd Judd of Staples, Fred Judd of Alexandria, Bean Judd of Cottonwood and Marcy Judd of Granite Falls. He was preceded in death by his father; infant brothers, Mark and David and one brother, Cliff.



John Vick

John Roger Vick, 73, of Motley died February 2, 2018, in Brained. Services will be held Feb. 17 at 11 a.m. at St. John's Lutheran Church in Motley will Rev. Paul Koehler officiating. John was born August 30, 1944 in Elmhurst, IL to Harold and Linnea Vick. He grew up in Lombard, IL until the family moved to Staples in 1958. He attended school in Staples for a short time then the family moved to Motley where he graduated from Motley High School in 1962. After graduation, he enlisted in the U.S. Army and was a proud member of the 82nd Airborne Division serving in Korea for two years. In 1967, he married Irene Fern. He worked for the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad from 1969 until his retirement. He enjoyed playing cribbage and the company of friends. John is survived by two daughters, Michele (Tim) Wirtzfeld and Suzanne (Stan) Robinson; four grandchildren; former wife, Irene Vick; two sisters, Sheila (Larry) Bryce and Marsha (Ed) Jordahl; one step-sister, Pat (Ed) Koehler; one niece, Julie (Rob) Schmitt; one nephew, Shawn (Stephanie) Jordahl; great-nephews and nieces and lifelong friends, Steve and Betty Lorber. John was preceded in death by his parents, Harold Vick and Linnea Vick (Weckop) and stepfather, George Weckop.

Kevette Thompson

Kevette Thompson, 64, of Ottertail passed away Feb. 12, 2018, at Sanford Health in Fargo, ND surrounded by her family. Services will be held Friday, Feb. 23 at 11 a.m. at Motley Free Methodist Church in Motley with Pastor Jim Johnson officiating. Visitation will be held Thursday, Feb. 22, from 5 to 7 p.m. at Brenny Funeral Chapel in Staples and one hour prior to services at the church. Arrangements are with the Brenny Funeral Chapel in Staples. Kevette was born July 31, 1953 to Richard and Klouina (Stevens) Pride in Duluth. She grew up in Motley and attended school there. Kevette married Roger E. Thompson on May 12, 1969 in Sisseton, SD. They lived on the family farm in Motley, except for a short time in town, until 1999, when they moved to Perham, where they owned and operated the Jungle Shores Resort, moving to Dent in 2003 and retiring to their lake home at Ottertail in 2016. Kevette enjoyed crocheting, fishing, jigsaw puzzles, Legos and collecting pigs. She especially enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren.



Kevette is survived by her husband of almost 50 years; one daughter, Tracy Thompson of Staples; six sons, Shane (Michelle) Thompson of Fort Ripley, Skipper (Lynda) Thompson of New York Mills, Jason (ReAnn) Thompson of Hewitt, Todd (Maria) Thompson of Perham,, Cory (Amber) Thompson of Williston, ND, Micheal (Tara) Thompson of Ottertail; 19 grandchildren; two brothers, Richard Pride of Motley and Michael (LuAnn) Pride of Bloomington; one sister, Christi (Neil) Allen of Motley; many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins. She was preceded in death by her parents; one sister, Shelley and an infant daughter.

CENTER OF THE AMERICAN EXPERIMENT
Minnesota's Conservative Voice
Find out more at AmericanExperiment.org

Avoid Event Conflicts
Check the Events Calendar online at www.staplesworld.com
Submit events to dtimbs@staplesworld.com

Brenny FUNERAL CHAPEL & CREMATION SPECIALISTS
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When someone we love becomes a memory; that memory becomes a treasure.

What's on Your Nightstand?
What are you reading? Why did you choose it? Was it a gift or a recommendation?
Write a short review, a brief synopsis, why you liked it or didn't. We'll share your recommendations with our readers.
Please include your name, city and contact information. Contact information will not be published.
Email Brenda at info@staplesworld.com or drop off a note at the office by 5 p.m., Friday, Feb. 23.
Staples World 224 4th St. NE, Staples

Thank you... for reading the Staples World



Todd County Commissioners Minutes

MINUTES TODD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS JANUARY 16, 2018

Call to Order

The Todd County Board of Commissioners met in the Commissioner's Board Room in the City of Long Prairie, MN on the 16th day of January, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Erickson. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioner Kircher was absent.

Approval of Agenda

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

Consent Agenda

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

To approve the Commissioner's Meeting Minutes for January 2, 2018 as presented.

To approve a one-day On Sale 3.2 Malt Liquor License for the Swanville/Sobieski Lions for the Long Lake Fishing Derby to be held on February 24, 2018 on Long Lake located in Burnhamville Township.

EXCLUDED BINGO PERMIT - TODD COUNTY COUNCIL ON AGING

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners are establishing their approval for an Excluded Bingo Permit for the Todd County Council On Aging through this resolution;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

that the Todd County Board of Commissioners approve a one day Excluded Bingo Permit for the Todd County Council On Aging to hold a bingo at the Clarissa Ballroom in Eagle Valley Township at the address 19281 Kotter Road, Clarissa, MN on February 11, 2018.

GAMBLING PERMIT - MIDWEST OUTDOORS UNLIMITED- PRAIRIE PARTNERS

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners are establishing their approval for a Gambling Permit for Midwest Outdoors Unlimited through this resolution;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

that the Todd County Board of Commissioners approve a Gambling Permit for Midwest Outdoors Unlimited-Prairie Partners to hold a raffle at The Hub Supper Club in Burnhamville Township at the address 30905 County 13, Long Prairie, MN on March 3, 2018.

GAMBLING PERMIT FOR ST. MARY OF MT. CARMEL SCHOOL

WHEREAS, the Todd County Board of Commissioners are establishing their approval for a Gambling Permit for the St. Mary of Mt. Carmel School through this resolution;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

that the Todd County Board of Commissioners approve a one day Gambling Permit for the St. Mary of Mt. Carmel School to hold a raffle at the Head of the Lakes Resort in Leslie Township at the address 15080 Gardena Drive, Osakis, MN on February 3, 2018.

Auditor-Treasurer

On motion by Becker and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the Commissioner Warrants number 47953 through 48086 in the amount of \$211,201.24.

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 513390 through 513458 in the amount of \$93,132.35 and warrants number 701962 through 701976 in the amount of \$41,188.16.

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

APPOINTMENT TO THE HOUSING AND REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY BOARD OF TODD COUNTY

WHEREAS, The Todd County Board of Commissioners, of Todd County, Minnesota held a duly authorized special meeting on the 12th day of September, 1972; and

WHEREAS, at said meeting a resolution was passed and adopted declaring the need for a Housing and Redevelopment Authority in Todd County, Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, Judy Petrie resigned her position to the Housing and Redevelopment Authority Board due to a change in residence outside of the district.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

that pursuant to the provisions of the Municipal Housing and Redevelopment Act of the State of Minnesota, the County Board of Commissioners of Todd County, Minnesota, hereby appoint the one person hereinafter named to serve as Commissioner of the Housing and Redevelopment Authority of Todd County, Minnesota, and to serve for the remainder of the time period of the five year term as hereinafter stipulated:

Bonnie Thoele -

September 19, 2013 through September 18, 2018

On motion by Becker and seconded by Kneisl, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve promoting Jolene Sabrowsky to Chief Deputy Auditor/Treasurer at a Grade 10, Step 4, \$26.57 per hour effective January 21, 2018.

Commissioner Neumann tabled the following action for 60 days: Recruit Deputy Auditor/Treasurer.

Public Works

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To adjust the Maintenance Foreman pay one step effective 11/21/2017. (Grade 11 - Step 3)

On motion by Erickson and seconded by Kneisl,

the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To approve the purchase of one truck and plow equipment from Nuss Truck & Equipment and Towmaster Truck Equipment respectively for a total cost of \$213,941.39.

Planning & Zoning

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To deny CUP request for parcel 01-0031701 on the grounds that the case was not represented.

On motion by Neumann and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To reconsider the CUP case for Byler on Parcel #17-0001101 and remand the case to the Planning Commission with instruction to develop for and against findings related to the CUP request.

SWCD

On motion by Becker and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To recommend approving carry forward amounts for AIS (\$55,327.90) and Planning and Zoning (\$124,900.39) into fiscal year 2018.

County Recorder

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To authorize the County Coordinator to work with the County Recorder/Registrar of Titles to recruit and hire one temporary employee to assist the office in providing service.

Sheriff's Office

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Becker, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To allow the Todd County Sheriff's Office to enter into the Text-2-911 Memorandum of Understanding.

Administration

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

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING MINIMUM SALARY FOR ELECTED COUNTY OFFICERS

WHEREAS, the County Board of Commissioners is required to set the minimum salary for elected county officers for the next term following pursuant to the following state statutes: County Attorney: MN State Statutes 388.18

County Auditor/Treasurer: MN State Statutes 384.151 & 385.373

County Recorder: MN State Statutes 386.015

County Sheriff: MN State Statutes 387.20

WHEREAS, each of these elective positions are scheduled for general election on November 6, 2018 with terms of office beginning January 7, 2019, and;

WHEREAS, Todd County has an adopted grade and step pay plan as the basis for salary compensation.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

the minimum salaries are hereby established as follows:

County Attorney: \$98,500.

County Auditor/Treasurer: \$75,000.

County Recorder: \$60,715.20

County Sheriff: \$88,501.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Todd County Board reserves the right, as set out in the above cited statutes, to set the salary for any or all of the above offices for 2019 at whatever it deems appropriate so long as it is at or above the minimums.

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Erickson, the following motion was introduced and adopted by unanimous vote: To authorize the conditional offer to Sara Ogren for the Human Resources Manager position.

Auditor-Treasurer's Report

The Auditor-Treasurer reported on current activities within the office including the future of the County Car fleet and the current staff workload going forward in 2018.

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 and upcoming mediation with LELS.

Adjourn

On motion by Kneisl and seconded by Becker, the meeting was adjourned for the month of January 2018.

COMMISSIONERS WARRANTS

Vendor Name	\$ Amount
CARGILL SALT DIV	\$33,968.44
FLEETMATIC	
USA LLC	6,216.00
HILLYARD	4,829.15
INDEPENDENT	
EMERGENCY SERVS	10,960.12
INFO. SYSTEM CORP	6,897.00
M-R SIGN CO. INC	3,209.70
MASWCD	3,273.82
MCCC, MI33	23,814.77
MCIT	20,128.00
MENCH/JAMES	4,313.00
METRO SALES INC	8,273.20
MRC	2,500.00
NORTHERN STAR	
COOP	2,341.14
PICTOMETRY	34,330.17
RELIANCE TELE. INC	3,200.00
TRISTRAR POWER SYSTEMS	2,230.00
118 PAYMENTS	
LESS THAN \$2,000	40,716.73
Total	\$211,201.24

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES WARRANTS

Vendor Name	\$ Amount
#14524	\$2,921.13
ANU FAMILY SERVICES INC	10,816.31
COMMUNITY AND FAMILY SRVS LLC	2,333.89
#2818	2,089.71
HOLISTIC FAMILY EDUCATION SRVS	3,859.57
#1911	2,780.08
#12512	3,196.10
#14655	3,310.18
KINDRED FAMILY FOCUS	2,287.49
#10746	2,609.58
NORTHWOOD CHILD SERVICES	4,964.70
PORT OF CROW WING BOYS HOME	5,911.38
#15286	4,142.29
STEP	5,508.14
PAYMENTS LESS THAN \$2,000	36,401.80
Total	\$93,132.35

Vendor Name \$ Amount

ASSOCIATION OF

MN COUNTIES	2,093.00
DHS - CBHH	
BEMIDJI - 491	21,975.00
DHS - MSOP - MN SEX OFFENDER PROGRAM	5,580.00
DHS - ST PETER RTC - 472	4,082.00
DHS - SWIFT	2,126.52
SAND CREEK GROUP LTD	2,666.79
9 PAYMENTS LESS THAN \$2,000	2,664.85
Total	\$41,188.16

Witness my hand and seal:

Randy Neumann,
Todd County Board
Chairperson

Denise Gaida, Todd County
Auditor-Treasurer

7pnc

Public Notice
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June 8 & 9, 2018
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Miranda Lambert
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WinstockFestival.com or call (320) 485-4287

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• Mechanical, electrical, pneumatic and hydraulic troubleshooting and repair
• Preventative maintenance and general upkeep of equipment
• Use of diagnostic laptop computers, gauges and instruments in all machine systems
• Knowledge of basic tools and usage, including basic welding skills.
• Technical, vocational, trade school education or equivalent preferred.
• Two to five years' experience troubleshooting and repairing heavy equipment
TRUCK/ TRAILER MECHANIC
• Diagnose and repair semi's, tandem's, tri-dump and various models of trailers
• Hydraulics, steering, engines, transmissions, drive train and braking knowledge
• Weld and/or fabricate necessary parts for repair of equipment
• Conduct routine maintenance and service on equipment
• Ability to use a wide variety of hand and power tools.
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Public Notices

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 February 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. **Brian Allen:** Part of W2 of SE4 SE of lake and vacated 380th St. in Section 6 of Turtle Creek Township

Site Address: 29169 Oak Ridge Rd. PIN: 24-0007400

1.) Variance request to exceed the height limit from 18 feet to 22 feet for substantial alterations of the roof line with dormers

being added. 2.) Variance request to be closer to the ordinary high water mark of Peat Lake from 150 feet to 115 feet to change the existing roof line and add dormers to existing home.

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

Site Address: 30167 122nd 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.

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

7pnc

TODD COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS
44 Riverside Drive
Long Prairie, Minnesota 56347
Phone 320-732-2722
Fax 320-732-4525
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL - ADVERTISEMENT
Todd County is requesting proposals for a Cold Storage Building at the Todd County Public Works Northern Shop located at 23305 County 24, Staples, MN 56479. The complete Request for Proposal which includes all the specifications and requirements can be picked up at the Todd County Public Works Department at the address below.
Proposals must be submitted in complete original form to the following address:
Todd County Public Works Department
44 Riverside Drive
Long Prairie, MN 56347
Proposals will be accepted at the above address until **March 9, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.** and immediately after will be publicly opened and the names of the proposers read aloud. All proposers shall complete and enclose a contractor provided proposal form in a tightly sealed envelope and plainly marked "PROPOSAL - NORTHERN SHOP - COLD STORAGE." Proposals opened by mistake due to improper identification will be rejected and returned.
Loren Fellbaum, Public Works Director
6-7pnc

COUNTY continued from page 1a

Voting equipment to be upgraded thanks to grant

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."

With this resolution, Gaida said that now would be a good time to invest these funds.

"Right now the money is in a trust - like a 'holding pond' - we can't invest it because if a taxpayer comes back in three months and wants the money back, I have to come up with that money," said Gaida.

She added that they go through the same processes whether a taxpayer overpays or underpays because at this point they are paying on a proposed bill, not a true bill.

Gaida said that in the several years she has been in the office, she has only had one person ask for the money back because of a hardship.

Douglas and Wadena counties have both passed a similar resolution.

After discussion, the commissioners approved the resolution.

In other business:

- Todd County has been awarded grant funds in the amount of \$74,320.57 from the 2017 Voting Equipment Grant fund via the Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State. The 2017 Voting Equipment Grant is intended to offset the costs of year one equipment upgrade purchases scheduled for 2018.

- Approved the Minnesota Department of Transportation to use Todd County State Aid Highway 9 as a detour route during the contract construction to be performed upon, along and adjacent to Highway 210, 0.5 miles east of CSAH 9. MnDOT will reimburse Todd County \$1,535.59 for the life of the road used in the detour.

- In an effort to increase efficiency and overall effectiveness of the Public Works Maintenance Division, a mid-level supervisory position was approved.

This position will have the title leadperson and will directly report to the maintenance foreman. This position will assist the foreman in the daily functions of the maintenance division, which will be most beneficial since there are 15 heavy equipment operators spread throughout three different maintenance shops in the county.

It's intended to fill this position internally and will not result in an increase of any full time employees. There will be an anticipated \$7,664.38 in wages.

Becker was opposed. The motion was carried.

- Approved the retirement of Blair Anderson, custodian, effective April 30. Along with this, the board approved beginning the recruitment process to fill the position.

- Approved a resolution formally supporting the Regional Community Well-Being Center at Centra-Care Health, Long Prairie.

- As part of the Buffer Law implementation, Soil and Water Conservation Districts were directed to develop a list of "other watercourses" to be considered for addition to the protected waters and public ditches already part of the Buffer Law. Once the list is passed by SWCD, it is up to the county commissioners to direct the County Water Planner to include the "other watercourses" in the existing water plan.

It should be noted that designating additional waters does not result in additional waters being part of the Buffer Law. It only shows that additional water courses have been considered and identified as important to protect through buffering.

The county approved the list of "other watercourses."

- Approved the appointment of Dispatch Supervisor Sarah Booker and Emergency Management Director Michael Wisniewski to the Central

Minnesota Emergency Services Board User Committee.

Booker was also appointed to the Central Minnesota Emergency Services Board Owners and Operators Committee.

- Approved the hire of Haley Piotrowski as a full-time jailor/dispatcher.

- Approved the contract with Crow Wing County for the Household Hazardous Waste program.

- Approved the 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.

- Approved a resolution supporting changes to the taxability of volunteer mileage payments.

- Approved Amber Rasinki and Susie Bergmann as members of the Todd County Public Health Advisory Committee.

- Approved the updated Todd County Public Health Advisory policy.

- Adopted the LELS Deputies Unit Collective Bargaining Agreement for 2018 - 2020.

Additional items in the contract include holiday pay increase from 1.5 to 2 times rate but the hours cannot be taken as comp time, and a provision to keep Investigator Dirkes with the standard wage increase, sunseting and expiring on Dec. 31, 2020.

- Approved an agreement which had been drafted for separation of employment with employee number 438. The agreement will pay out the accrued vacation (192 hours, \$6,833.28) and 40 percent of the accrued sick leave (391.6 hours, \$13,937.04) per the Todd County Personnel Policy. Additionally, the agreement includes a lump sum payment equal to one month of salary (\$5,694.40). These payments would be in consideration of waiving all claims and potential claims.



SM hosts FFA Winter Leadership Rally

Minnesota FFA Region II President Molly Lindgren of the Staples Motley Chapter convenes the FFA Winter Leadership Rally held Feb. 9 at Central Lakes College in Staples. Many of the 155 FFA members attending took part in leadership development competitions. Others took tours to Midwest Machinery, Grampa G's Greenhouse in Pillager, or CLC Ag Center, Staples, learning about crops and water research. All of the FFA students heard a presentation about AgCentric and the agricultural opportunities at CLC. Lindgren was also one of the members who earned top honors in the Discussion Meet. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)

Lindgren tops Region 2 FFA Discussion Meet

Molly Lindgren from the Staples Motley FFA Chapter and Ashley Kortekaas from the Grand Rapids Chapter took home top honors from the Region 2 FFA Discussion Meet held Feb. 9 at Central Lakes College, Staples.

Both will advance to the state contest in April in conjunction with the Minnesota State FFA Convention. The contest is sponsored by Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation's (MFBF) Young Farmers and Ranchers (YF&R) Committee and the Minnesota Farm Bureau Foundation.

Other participants included Carter Endrizzi from the Aitkin FFA Chapter and

Tara Schultz from the Grand Rapids FFA Chapter.

The Discussion Meet competition encourages participants to have a conversation about current agriculture topics. The discussion simulates a committee meeting with the goal of finding a solution.

Each FFA region in Minnesota can send two participants to the state contest, where the top two winners will receive a scholarship to the FFA Washington Leadership Conference or to further their education.

Sites, sounds, smells of ag getting 'stinky'

By Karin Nauber
Todd County reporter

For a long time, Todd County has had as part of their ordinances, a provision that was meant to

protect farmers from frivolous lawsuits when their farming operations are in compliance with current regulations.

Better known as the "sights, sounds and smells of agriculture" provision, whenever a Conditional Use Permit for non-agricultural uses is allowed in the county, these words are part of that CUP: "There will be from time to time, sights, sounds and smells associated with the operation of farming. No property owner shall bring action of law against any farming operation, because of such farming activities, as long as such farming activity complies with state, federal or county regulations."

However, this protection was recently ruled invalid in a court case.

"But only narrowly," according to Todd County Planning and Zoning Director Tim Stieber.

At this point, Stieber wanted to know what more he could do. He asked the Todd County Commissioners during a Jan. 16 work session if he should do more research on this topic.

He said that "changes were recommended by Briggs and Morgan, one of the attorney firms in the case, to make the statement more likely to stand up next time it was tested in court."

Commissioner Gary Kneisl said that he didn't know of anything that would stand up in court and asked if Jason Kaboushek from Iverson Condon Law Firm - the contract attorneys for county land use issues - had reviewed it and given Stieber anything to go on.

Stieber said that Kaboushek offered the opinion that he was not sure the proposed amended version would stand up in court either.

"A wording change may make it stronger, but would not make it stand up for sure," commented Stieber.

Chair Randy Neumann suggested going through the Association of Minnesota Counties to see if they can find something with similar language.

Stieber reported that a limited search was done for other counties that have similar statements in their land use ordinance, but that none was found.

Stieber assured the board that there was "no

urgency" to this and they would have time to do some research.

Neumann said it would be interesting to find out what some of the metro counties are doing with it because they still have farming operations going on.

Stieber offered some possible directions to mull over including:

- Doing nothing - take no action which meant not deleting the statement currently in the ordinance and not amending it.

- Delete the statement - The reasoning for this is because nearly all of the county ordinances have state level statute backing and would stand up in court. The sights, sounds and smells statement has general backing at the state level, but no specific right to farm law can be relied on to prevent nuisance claims.

- Amend the ordinance by removing the statement that did not stand up in court, research an alternative, amend the statement to be stronger and more likely to stand up next time and to place the amended statement in Section 7.11 Ag Use Standards.

Stieber said that this would bring back the original intent of the statement so the comprehensive plan and the ordinance are consistent.

This would also address non-animal issues, harvest and planting noise, dust, timing of operations and generally be supportive of agriculture.

Commissioner Rod Erickson thought they should leave the wording in.

"It's quite clear on what they are getting into when they're at the planning commission meeting," said Erickson.

Other division notes

Stieber also told the commissioners that he had several vacancies in his division including a conservation tech on the soil and water side and a planning and zoning specialist on the planning side.

He said that he also has an opening for the farm bill biologist through Peasants Forever who really isn't a county employee, but works closely with the division. He said that Sabin Adams was promoted, so he won't be doing it anymore.



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- Female Bladder Infection (UTI)
- Hay Fever/Allergies
- Influenza (the flu)
- Lice
- Lower Back Pain
- Pink Eye (conjunctivitis)
- Shingles
- Stye (bump or bumps on the eyelid)
- Tick Bite
- Tinea (Fungal Skin Infection)
- Tobacco Cessation
- Vaginal Yeast Infection



Cardinals play Wolverine hockey

Staples-Motley students on the Wadena-Deer Creek hockey team share a laugh at the Cardinal Coffee on Feb. 7. From left are Cade Schmidt, Cael Sams, Gabe Misner and Finn Erholtz and coach Scott Woods. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)

Cardinal Coffee reveals true value of activities

By Mark Anderson
News Editor

At the Cardinal Coffee on Feb. 7 Staples-Motley sports teams and extra-curricular activity teams updated each other on their progress this year. The message was about the experience of playing on this year's team and what the players have enjoyed this year.

"There was not a lot of discussion about winning and losing," Activities Director Travis VanOverbeke pointed out at the end of the event. "There are a lot of things going in a positive direction."

The Cardinal Coffee was held before school at Timbers Restaurant in Staples. Coaches and advisors spoke about their seasons and let some of their students tell about the experience this year.

Four Staples-Motley students are on the Wadena-Deer Creek hockey team. Coach Scott Woods said the four boys have changed the

program and allowed them to field a full varsity and junior varsity.

Special Olympics coach Shawna Poncelet said "every day has been incredible," with the athletes and high school partners helping out.

Knowledge Bowl advisor Darla Davis talked about her growing team and the volunteer hours they have put in. Her daughter Alex said Knowledge Bowl isn't just about knowing math or science, there is a need for a variety of knowledge, including pop song lyrics and sports. "We need people that are well rounded," she said.

Speech coaches Heather and Brian Sams said this year's team has at least three students in each category. Bran said speech students are working on processing the emotions of judged competition. "They put themselves out there, take risks, take criticism, deal with it and learn to get better," he said.

League of Legends cap-

tains Dominic Simon and Bryce Weber talked about the leadership skills and communication skills they develop and the relationships they form from being on the team.

Boys basketball coach Micheal Poncelet said the team has learned the importance of purpose this year. "We talk every day about how do we get better," he said.

Girls basketball coach Craig Wolhowe said the young team is growing and starting to play hard. "The girls are getting it, I appreciate what they are doing," said Wolhowe.

Handbell choir director Cindy Koopmann said not many high schools have a handbell choir. She said it takes mental and physical skills, especially with the heavy bells.

Wrestling coach Dave Anglin said his students are practicing leadership in the practice room, in the hallways and in the community. Senior Braden Tyrrell said the team means a lot to him. "It builds character, guys working with you to get better," he said.

Cardinals push playoff match to the end

By Mark Anderson
News Editor

The Staples-Motley wrestling team nearly pulled off an upset in the playoffs, falling by six to Bertha-Hewitt/Verndale/Parkers Prairie 39-33 on Feb. 13.

The Cardinals got pins by Jasiah Paskewitz, Owen Bjerga, James Ehresman, Isaac Swendsrud and Braden Tyrrell, plus a technical fall by Spencer Miller. But the team gave up five pins and only won six of the 14 matches.

In their final regular season match, the Cardinals won big, recording five pins and a forfeit, plus one major decision, in a 40-30 win against United North Central on Feb. 8.

Team results
Staples-Motley 40, United North Central 30
106: Payton Bjerga W fall; 113 Sam Jennissen L fall; 120 Kristian Thompson L fall; 126 Spencer Miller W fall; 132 Jasiah Paskewitz L 10-3; 138 Brayden Christensen W 8-0; 145 Owen Bjerga W fall; 152 Alex Ross-Bahn L fall; 160 Jonathan Lisson W fall; 170 Isaac

Swendsrud W ff; 182 James Ehresman L 4-3; 195 Braden Tyrrell W fall; 220 Shane Guggenberger L 2-0; 285 Kyle Serich L 3-1

Section 6A quarterfinals
Staples-Motley 33, Bertha-Hewitt/Verndale/Parkers Prairie 39

106 P. Bjerga L 5-2; 113 Jennissen L fall; 120 Connor Dobson L fall; 126 Christensen L 12-8; 132 Miller W tech. fall 23-8; 138 Logen Weite L fall; 145 Paskewitz W 15-6; 152 O. Bjerga W fall; 160 Lisson L 10-7; 170 Ehresman W fall; 182 Swendsrud W fall; 195 Guggenberger L fall; 220 Tyrrell W fall; 285 Serich L fall

Dumpprope basket tips the scale for win

By Mark Anderson
News Editor

Kiera Dumpprope made a key basket in the closing seconds to help the Staples-Motley girls basketball team win their second game of the season. They beat Pillager 43-41 on Feb. 10.

"It was nice to get a win," said Coach Craig Wolhowe. It was a low scoring game in the first half, as the Cardinals pulled ahead 16-9. Both teams shot better in the second half, and Pil-

lager pulled ahead 31-26. "We battled back," said Wolhowe.

He pointed to the play of Haley Cichos and Jenna Dvorak as key to the win. "The two freshmen had very nice games," said Wolhowe. They both scored in double figures. Cichos had three steals and Dvorak had five rebounds while Claire Wolhowe made nine of 12 free throws and finished with 11 points.

The Cardinals also lost one game the night before against Crosby-Ironton, 52-31. Staples-Motley pulled

within three midway through the second half, but only scored two points the rest of the game.

The Cardinals are now 2-17 on the season.

Team results
Staples-Motley 32, Crosby-Ironton 52

Scoring: Claire Wolhowe 22, Haley Cichos 2, Bella Martin 2, Tabatha Allen 2, Kalla Erbe 1, Jenna Dvorak 1

Staples-Motley 43, Pillager 41

Scoring: Wolhowe 11, Cichos 10, Dvorak 10, Dumpprope 8, Kiara Storry 2, Erbe 1, Kaitlyn Smith 1

Winning streak hits three

By Mark Anderson, News Editor

The Staples-Motley boys basketball team continued their winning streak, beating Aitkin 64-57 on Feb. 8 and topping Thief River Falls 63-50 on Feb. 10.

In both games, the score went back and forth early, but the Cardinals pulled away with strong performances in the second half.

"It's nice to be able to close the games out instead of letting them back in," said Coach Micheal Poncelet.

The Cardinals have won three in a row

and four of their last five, improving their season record to 7-11. The win against Aitkin improved them to 3-5 in the Mid State Conference.

Team results
Staples-Motley 64, Aitkin 57

Scoring: Josh Lombard 21, Brayden Losh 12, Derek Kennedy 10, Griffin Webster 8, Reid Busker 4, Tristin Etzler 4, Scout Strickland 3, Zach DeMars 2

Staples-Motley 63, Thief River Falls 50

Scoring: Lombard 20, Webster 18, Busker 14, Losh 3, Bentley Christensen 2, Kennedy 2, Isaiah Ross-Bahn 2, Etzler 2



Funny moment

Basketball coach Craig Wolhowe shares a laugh with his daughter and star player Claire during the Cardinal Coffee.



The world of knowledge

Alex Davis talks about Knowledge Bowl with advisors Darla Davis, left, and Shawna Poncelet, right.



Dressed to impress

Staples-Motley wrestlers took turns speaking about their season at the Cardinal Coffee. From left are Kyle Serich, Owen Bjerga, Braden Tyrrell and Spencer Miller.

Wooden ducks, and an old hunter

It's roughly two months before we're likely to see the first lakes reach the point of ice-out, if 2017 is any predictor of this year's timing. Channels dividing bodies of water will open sooner. Even before that, rivers and streams that now have a thin, solid covering, will yield to the more direct rays of sunlight above and moving water below, and - free of ice - will be a welcome sight as we wait for another open water season.

Among the first creatures to take advantage of the expanding open water are, not surprisingly, the waterfowl. Ducks and geese evolved with a need for open water to survive and perpetuate their kind. They take advantage of every opportunity to press on with this mission, and many species will be found on the first limited stretches of open water when the rest of the nearby landscape may still look like a Christmas card.

Flashing back from that much-awaited future time, to a present and frigid February, there are nevertheless ways to break up the long wait. I recently attended the Minnesota Decoy Collectors Association show and sale, held at a hotel near Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport. It was the 41st such event, which date all the way back to 1977. As I noted in an earlier column, it's a nostalgic outdoorsman's dream, with hundreds-to-thousands of items on display and for sale. These include old duck and goose decoys, spear fishing decoys, game calls, collectible fishing

lures, a variety of memorabilia of hunting and angling, wildlife art, and vintage and sought-after books on these subjects. Such an event could be held during the warmer, more pleasant months of the year. But I doubt it would be as well-attended or appreciated as it is now, when so many of us are looking for an interesting distraction.

I don't consider myself a serious collector. Call me an "appreciator" of such things. It's true that I have decorated the walls of my basement with shelves that hold appealing - if not all valuable - duck decoys, plus posters and artwork on the same theme. But I'm just as likely to be attracted to a beat-up decoy that earned its keep on the water - suffering paint-chipping dings, or holes from lead shot - as I am drawn to a more valuable one in pristine condition. I'm even attracted to an unusual plastic or papier mache decoy that represents the evolution of the sport. All are part of the history of a sport I've been drawn to for a half-century.

Not that I don't appreciate the true prizes of the decoy making art, some with a desirability and collectability on par with a rare Chinese vase, or jade carving. I may not "have the price" to acquire those things, but I can certainly get mystical when cradling such a treasured item in the hand.

One such prize worth mentioning was a pair of wooden bluebill decoys, made roughly three-quarters of a century ago by a Michigan carver named Ben Schmidt. Wooden or cork decoys were the norm until the 1950s, or thereabouts. While some were made on repeating lathes that could make basic decoy bodies or heads a dozen at a time, Ben Schmidt's were roughed-out and finished individually with a hatchet, a spokeshave, a hand plane, and rasp. He imprinted feather detail

with steel forms he made himself, holding the steel tool against the cedar body and striking it with a hammer to imprint the detail of feathers of different sizes and shapes. Certainly a laborious process.

What began as a practical task of making decoys for his own use in 1914, evolved into a respected - if not lucrative - livelihood, sold up through the 1940s and 50's in Detroit hardware or sporting goods stores. Today they can command - in near-mint condition, anyway - as much as \$4,000 for a pair of one drake and one hen. That was the price on the bluebills I held in my hands. The vendor offering them for sale - himself a modern-day carver of considerable skill - looked up as I turned them over. "The holy grail," I said. "The holy grail," he responded, without the need to say more.

It's not all about the "goods," however. Once you've gone to such an event a few times, you strike up acquaintanceships - warm familiarities - if not exactly friendships. But one genuine friendship I renew at this event each year is with a carver of whom I first wrote almost 40 years ago. We live a great distance apart, see little of each other, yet still regard one another as friends. He not only makes much-sought-after wooden hunting decoys, but lifelike decorative decoys, which - I swear - could not be distinguished from the real thing across a room. We hunted together a couple of times many years ago, but it's at this show that we catch up and recharge our relationship.

You can also be surprised by what you encounter. Perhaps it has nothing directly to do with the main reason you're there. That happened to me this year. I had barely arrived, which for me is almost always when the doors first open late Friday afternoon, be-

fore the crush of visitors happens that evening.

I hate to miss anything, and am methodical in working my way around the decoy-filled tables. As I neared the end of one row, I spotted a familiar face that I'd seen many, many times on television and on the sports pages of newspapers and magazines. It belonged to Minnesota Vikings coaching legend Bud Grant. Grant coached the Vikings for 17 seasons, had one incredibly successful run of 10 NFC division championships in 11 years, but - unfortunately - is also remembered for the team's unprecedented four Super Bowl losses in four tries. Still, only seven other pro football coaches had as many wins as Grant, and Grant ranks up at the top in terms of respect within the coaching ranks.

When I saw him, Grant was engaged in conversation with a vendor, the details of their dialogue too muted for me to make out. But unmistakable even at that distance was the twinkle in his eye. Grant, even at the ripe age of 90, remains as dedicated to hunting and fishing as those half his age. When interviewed recently in the lead-up to Super Bowl week, Grant was on a goose hunt on the Platte River in Nebraska. Not exactly an armchair pursuit.

I didn't ask if I could take a "selfie" with my mobile phone, or attempt to strike up a conversation. I'm sure he's a frequent victim of celebrity pursuit, and of course he didn't "know me from Adam." I did, however, walk up, reach out a hand to shake his, and say "Thank you for the many years of pleasure your teams gave Minnesota football fans." As you'd expect of Bud Grant, he smiled gracefully.

It's a compliment I hope he enjoys almost as much as he likes hearing "Nice shot!" when he's in a duck blind.

Thursday Twilight League Bowling Wadena Lanes

Feb. 8, 2018

1. Ted and Gen's 11-5
2. Staples Vet Clinic 10-6
3. Mason Bros. 10-6
4. Lefty's 7-7
5. Spectrum Marketing 6-10
6. Ghost Team 2-14

HIGH TEAM SERIES-

Mason Bros. 1,593

HIGH TEAM GAME-

Mason Bros. 570

HIGH IND. SERIES/ HIGH GAMES

Addison Crocker 497 187-156
Ruth Lugert 180
Helen Leaderbrand 172
Shirley Wegscheid 162
Tricia Jasmer 160

Motley-Staples Middle School Honor Roll

A Honor Roll

Grade 7

Lily Albertson, Grace Allen, Luke Bates, Jade Birkholtz, Amanda Carter, Nicole Carter, Emily Case, William Dolezal, Nevaeh Fratzke, Jazmyn Hall, Isabelle Halvorson, Gabrealle Hegge, Starr Hofstedt, Corrine Japke, Wyatt Kobliska, Georgia Kruchten, Landon Mertens, Chase Mikel, Ashley Robben, Aften Robinson, Isaiah Schultz.

Grade 6

Camden Anderson, Alex Black, Eli Carlson, Addisyn Cichos, Tiana Gonzalez, Genevieve Groetsch, Emali Jimenez-Kloeckl, Gaberial Koval, Zachary McIlravy, Sabina Moe, Elliana Moulton, Adam Nienow, Jr., Amy Rollins, Lauren Rutten, Jessa Schwichtenberg, Eli Smith, Cole Tetlie, Carson Trantina, Ashlyn Vogel, Owen Winter.

Grade 5

Avery Amerud, Estella Bock, Jack Carlson, Andrea DiGiovanni, Sawyer Ferdon, Olivia Lorber, Jessica Lundquist, Peyton

Mithun, Corinne Olson, Olivia Opheim, Steven Petrich, Logan Robben, Benet Robinson, Nathaniel Rubink, Hayden Rutherford, Alexander Schultz, Benjamin Tyrrell, Heidi Zimmerman.

Grade 4

Mason Albertson, Elliot Allen, Melissa Anderson, Summer Anderson, Brynn Bestland, Mason Birkholtz, Luke Bjerga, Owen Carlson, Emmalee Dobson, Isabelle Dobson, Eli Dumpprope, Ariana Imgrund, Josie Jennissen, Jorja Kobliska, Wyatt Lahr, Naima Lang, Raina Mikhaeil, Natalie Miller, Cecily Moe, Zofia Ostrowski, Annie Schlosser, Britta Sweeney.

B Honor Roll

Grade 7

Evan Allen, Andrew Bartle, Grace Bendson, Keegan Bestland, Jorden Bohne, Lacle Borders, Arissa Brandt, Riley Dabbs, Elizabeth DiGiovanni, Camryn Ferris, Mariah Fisk, Megan Franzen, Dakota Hennagir, Sarina Huepenbecker, Caitlin Jas-

mer, Caleb Jasmer, Wyatt Jasmer, Grace Jennissen, Cyril Johnson, Grant Johnson, Blake Knudson, Jayce Kobliska, Ilyse Koenig, Micah Larson, Seth Larson, Jayma Lawson, Hunter Miller, Tyler Plattner, Madden Roberts, Haiden Rychner, Trinity Seamann, Taylor Serich, Meghan VanAlst, Austin Weite, Jason White, Evan Woodwick.

Grade 6

Keller Anderson, Ladaynian Bartle, Riley Belmore, Isabel Birkholtz, Kyanna Burton, Caden Dobson, Destiny Dukowitz, Macy Knudson, Ahnaka Kovach, Emery Lorber, Kadin Ottomoeller, Caroline Perez, Joshua Picconatto, Cash Rau, Andrew Salcido, Kyra Stangle, Steffany Sullivan, Olivia Vogt, Bailey Weiland, Ariana Williams.

Grade 5

Payton Allen, Shanafaye Arthur, Katerra Barnhart, Grant Bestland, Ashlin Birkholtz, Avaya Brandt, Gavin Chenoweth, Aliza Farhan, Cadynce Ferris, Natalie Fisher, Nicholas Fisher, Bailey Frisk, Al-

xander Helstrom, Laken Hines, Brooklynn Huwe, Alyson Jasmer, Deven Johnson, Grace Koskinemi, Ellen Lange, Dylan Lawrence, Ivan Lozano, Clay Mertens, Anthony Mevissen, Naila Mikhaeil, Madison Opatz, Levi Page, Jaden Radermacher, Danica Rahn, Ashlynn Rieck, Dillan Robben, Korden Robinson, Skyler Self, Kristofer Taylor, Trentan Zetah, Kiera Zivkovic.

Grade 4

Ashton Anderson, Sadye Anderson, Maddison Bartle, Turner Beachy, Tryston Buscho, Annabella Cory-Wolfe, McKenzie Fletcher, Adrian Gomez, Alissa Hageman, Isaac Jares, Reid Judd, Joseph Knosalla, Gabriel Kroll, Matthew Larsen, Noah Larson, Pamela Lawrence, Carson Mertens, Mason Michael, Keagan Mullins, Ember Munger, Rylee Nielson, Kiya Pope, Tarence Rodrigues, Nathaniel Seaman, Mariah Sullivan, Elizabeth Tangeman, Skylla Tepley, Adelaide Toeper, Teegan Vogel, Alaina White, Annika Wolff.



Dollars For Scholars winners

Above: Senior Dollars For Scholars winners selected at the Staples-Motley home basketball game Jan. 26 were: Alyssa Vanderhoof, Alexandra Davis and Kelsi Peterson.

Below: Seniors Griffin Webster, Reid Busker and Max Giza.

Each received a scholarship award towards continuing their education following high school graduation. (Submitted photos)



Thank you for reading the Staples World!

Reminder for crop risk protection

The USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) reminds producers to review available USDA crop risk protection options, including federal crop insurance and Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) coverage.

The following crops have a 2018 NAP application deadline of:

- March 15, 2018 - Spring-Seeded Annual Crops - Vegetables and Grain crops
- May 1, 2018 - Ornamental Nursery and Non-ornamental Nursery

Federal crop insurance covers crop losses from natural adversities such as drought, hail and excessive moisture. NAP covers losses from natural disasters on crops for which

no permanent federal crop insurance program is available, including perennial grass forage and grazing crops, fruits, vegetables, mushrooms, floriculture, ornamental nursery, aquaculture, turf grass, ginseng, honey, syrup, bioenergy and industrial crops.

Producers can determine if crops are eligible for federal crop insurance or NAP by visiting <https://webapp.rma.usda.gov/apps/actuarialinformationbrowser2017/CropCriteria.aspx>.

NAP basic coverage is available at 55 percent of the average market price for crop losses that exceed 50 percent of expected production, with

higher levels of coverage, up to 65 percent of their expected production at 100 percent of the average market price, including coverage for organics and crops marketed directly to consumers.

Federal crop insurance coverage is sold and delivered solely through private insurance agents. Agent lists are available at all USDA Service Centers or at USDA's online Agent Locator: <http://prodwebnlb.rma.usda.gov/apps/AgentLocator/#>. Producers can use the USDA Cost Estimator: <https://ewebapp.rma.usda.gov/apps/costestimator/Default.aspx>, to predict insurance premium costs.

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*Thomas Sellnow is a Real Property Law Specialist certified by Real Property Section of Minnesota State Bar Association.
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City of Motley hires new attorney

Concerns raised at council meeting over the sale of forfeited vehicles

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

Pemberton Law Firm out of Fergus Falls has been hired as the City Attorney for Motley.

This was one of the items approved by the Motley City Council at their regular meeting Feb. 12.

Prior to voting, the council discussed both Pemberton and St. Cloud law firm Jovanovich, Kadlec & Athmann, the two firms recommended by the search committee which included Lacey Smieja, City Clerk/Treasurer; and council members Steve Johnson and Jace Carlson.

Johnson told the council that the committee had been impressed with both firms. It was noted that

Jovanovich, Kadlec & Athmann were slightly cheaper than Pemberton.

Smieja noted that in the event an attorney would need to come to a council meeting, Pemberton's fee was larger than that of the St. Cloud firm. For example, the charge for a three-hour daytime (special) meeting from Pemberton would be \$1,127.18; and from Jovanovich, Kadlec & Athmann, \$974.55.

Of the two, Johnson said he liked that Pemberton was a larger company and could cover a wide variety of issues.

Smieja said it was a tough call as both companies are good. In the end, the committee recommended that Pemberton Law Firm be hired. It was noted

that although Carlson was not at the meeting, he was in agreement to that decision.

In other matters the council:

- HEARD a summary of the closed session meeting Jan. 16, regarding Police Chief Ron Smith and the subsequent disciplinary action taken. Council member and MPD liaison Pat O'Regan will follow up.

- HEARD concerns from Johnson regarding four forfeited vehicles on city property that were recently sold by the police chief for \$100 each.

Johnson said that this should have come to the council prior to the vehicles being sold. He wondered why they hadn't been put up for auction. It

was Johnson's understanding that the total worth of these vehicles was roughly \$3,000, but they were hauled away for junk.

Smith responded that he had felt pressure from the council to get rid of these forfeited vehicles and had been looking for the best way to do that. After speaking with the city's attorney, Smith said he believed it was best to "scrap those cars" and sell them to a place that would come and take them for scrap metal. It would have cost more to have them towed than what they are worth, he pointed out.

Mayor Al Yoder said he did not believe that the vehicles were worth \$3,000. "They were junk," he said.

Yoder went on to say that

what was done was done and the vehicles couldn't be hauled back; but moving forward, there needed to be a policy in place regarding forfeited vehicles. Yoder also mentioned that in Chief Smith's defense, the vehicles had been there on city property since the former chief, Brian Madison, had been employed there.

There probably was a better way of selling the vehicles, Yoder went on, but Smith tried to get rid of them. If the city had had to pay to have them towed, that would have been pricey, Yoder pointed out.

Johnson said he didn't agree with the mayor as far as the vehicles' worth. "The pick-up alone" was worth \$500 to \$600, Johnson said. He stressed again that he felt this matter should have come to the council before anything was done.

Council member Amy Hutchison said she remembered that this situation (forfeited vehicles) was something the council had struggled with even before Smith was hired as chief.

Mayor Yoder asked Smith if he could look into the forfeiture policy, which Smith agreed to do.

- APPROVED a change order payment of \$1,021.86 to GM Contracting for additional work completed for the Motley Well Supply Project.

- APPROVED a partial payment of \$90,386.33 to Thein Well of Spicer for their work completed through Jan. 17, 2018, on the Motley Well Project.

- APPROVED updates to the city's snowplow policy, as presented by Bruce Brotherton, Public Works Director.

- APPROVED the city's Public Purpose Expenditure Policy, including one change in regard to the Employee Recognition Program. Per the change, the program will now recognize all city employees, including the firefighters; not just regular full and part time employees as previously stated.

- APPROVED a gambling permit request from St. Michael's Catholic Church for March 25.

- APPROVED a request from Bob Koenig to reserve the Fire Hall meeting room to conduct Spring Firearm Safety Classes in April. The fee was waived.

- HEARD update regarding the Rental Housing Ordinance Review. The committee feels that either the city needs to get rid of the ordinance, or update it and enforce it. A public hearing would need to be held before any changes could be made. The committee will meet to hash out details prior to setting the date for a public hearing.

- APPROVED a request for a Permit to Carry class to be held (possibly) April

7, in the meeting room of the Fire Hall. The fee was waived.

- APPROVED a request to have three firefighters (Nick Dille, Birt Herman, Randy Nelson) attend a training in North Mankato March 3 - 4. Total registration cost for all three is \$450, which will be reimbursed by MBFTE (Minnesota Board of Firefighter Training and Education). The city will pay for mileage, meals and hotel.

- APPROVED a request for Police Chief Ron Smith to attend a Data Practices (Law Enforcement) Training Feb. 20, at NJPA in Staples.

- LEARNED that the city's water tower has not been painted since it was built in 1993. Brotherton said it is beginning to show signs of rust and should be repainted within the next few years. He wondered if the city should hire an engineer for this project? He has received some bids but will get more before the next council meeting.

- APPROVED Brotherton's request to replace the city's 1997 half-ton truck with a new red Chevrolet/GMC truck. Total approximate price is \$28,912.23. The truck will require additional accessories such as a plow and possibly a utility body for the crane. Brotherton noted that there is \$50,000 currently in the budget for this.

- LEARNED that there is a residence in the city limits that has not had garbage service since 2007. They were sent a letter with a form to fill out, but have not responded. It is a requirement for all residences in the city limits to have city garbage. They will be notified that a cart will be brought to their residence and they will be charged for garbage service. If the bill is not paid it will be added to their property taxes.

- APPROVED having Smieja and any interested council members attend an Open Meeting Law workshop in St. Paul, or a closer one if possible.

- LEARNED that Mayor Yoder (who is also a Morrison County Sheriff's Office deputy) and Police Chief Smith will be conducting an ALICE (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate) Training at a church in Motley Feb. 17. They hope to conduct one for the city in the near future as well.

- LEARNED the next 'Congress Comes to You' will be held at city hall on March 7, 2:30 - 3:30 p.m. John Schrader with the Office of Congressman Richard Nolan will be there.

- SET next regular council meeting for Monday, March 12, 6:30 p.m.

- SET city wide cleanup day for May 12.

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 a.m.

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

Balsamiund 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.bethanylutheranacushing.com.
Rev. Jean M. Megarden
Lay Pastor Bob Mueller
Sunday Worship 9:00 a.m.

Lincoln Evangelical Free
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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
Pastor 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.

Pillager

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 7:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY 7:00 p.m.

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

Hewitt

Church of the Nazarene
114 Front Street, P.O. Box 146 Hewitt, MN
218-924-2028
Pastor Wayne Haffert
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m./6 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
Prayer 7:00 p.m.

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

Verndale

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

Family Life Church
402 NE Clark Drive, Verndale
Church 218-445-5568
VerndaleFLC@gmail.com
Pastor Amos Self 218-371-7189
Children's Pastor Kenneth Kjeldergaard
Prayer 8:30 a.m.
Coffee & Fellowship 8:45 a.m.
Worship 9:10 and 11:00 a.m.
Prayer or Life Groups 6:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
6:00 p.m. Family fellowship meal
6:30 p.m. Ministry Groups/Bible study

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

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

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

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

Testing yourself

Pastor Greg Leslie, United Methodist Church, Motley and Staples

I was never a good test taker, I was never a good interviewer. How many of you have been in that position where you get that bit of nervousness and you begin to tremble and your mind goes blank? I do think this happens to most of us.

How many of you have had your faith tested? Have you ever been asked about who Jesus is and where Jesus is in your life? Even better have you asked yourself lately how is Jesus working in you.

2 Corinthians 13:5 (NIV) says this, "Examine yourselves to see whether you're in the faith; test yourselves. Do you not realize that Christ Jesus is in you - unless, of course, you fail the test?"

So how are you testing yourself? Are you realizing that Jesus is in you?

The good news that's brought to us through scripture has been proven time and time again. Scripture has given each one of us the opportunity to find a way to come closer to an ever-loving

Christ. With that, we bring our tradition and experience that help us define and answer those biblical questions.

We've been given this great book, we're constantly being tested by our everyday interactions with those around us. And I see this as our final exam, our everyday living, being right with God and showing others the importance of being a child of God. If you accept Christ, if you live your life in the manner that Christ wanted us to be loving all those around us, how can we fail? You can't.

Allow the truth to be told. Allow the actions of Jesus prevail. Do not fight truth.

God is here, working in all our lives. God is not looking at you as a failure, tearing you down at every opportunity, but building you up. Allow those tests that are presented to you each and every day, be a test in showing others the importance of Christ in your life.

The Staples area Church Directory is sponsored by these businesses:

Longbella Drug Store
"The Prescription Store"
2nd Ave., Staples • 218-894-2242
Motley and Pillager

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

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

Mid-Central Federal Savings Bank
Fully Insured to \$250,000
Staples, MN 218-894-3900

Central Building Supply
Bob Reeck, Manager
Hwy. 10 West, Staples, MN

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

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

Staples True Value
"Just Ask Rental!"
Open 7 days a week
Staples, MN 218-894-3263

Law enforcement reports, Motley area

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

Feb. 7 - The MPD received a report of theft at the 600 block of Hwy 10 S., Motley.

Feb. 5 - The MPD received a report that a soap machine at the laundromat in Motley had been ripped off the wall and taken from the business. There is video footage of a suspect.

Feb. 4 - The MPD assisted the Staples Police Department with a suicidal male.

Feb. 3 - The MPD stopped to assist a motorist that slipped into the ditch on Azalea Rd., off Hwy 10 in Motley.

Feb. 2 - The MPD received a report from a Motley resident that the padlock on the front door of her apartment had been tampered with and was broken. No sign of entry into her apartment.

Feb. 7 - The MCSO assisted the Crow Wing Cty Sheriff's Office with a welfare check regarding a possible suicidal person in rural Motley.

Feb. 6 - The MCSO responded to a report from BNSF Railway regarding a vehicle accident on Beaver Road in Cushing. Deputies arrived on scene and found a red Dodge pickup truck with no driver present. The truck appeared to have rolled and there was blood throughout it. Authorities called the registered owner who stated he had sold the truck but couldn't remember who to. A receipt was found with a person's name on it. Several attempts were made to contact this person but were unsuccessful. Deputies made contact with the person's parents who confirmed their son drove a red Dodge pickup truck, but they had not seen him.

Feb. 4 - The MCSO responded to a call regarding disorderly conduct at a residence at the 3000 block of 270th St. in Cushing.