Staples World
Staples, Minnesota
Wednesday, December 18, 2019
$1

Staples lowers taxes, community center adds fees

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

The city portion of taxes should go down in 2020 for City of Staples residents, after the Staples City Council approved a budget with no increase. Part of that budget includes $67,916 more in Local Government Aid (LGA) from the State of Minnesota.

The preliminary budget had proposed a 4.9 percent increase, but City Administrator Jerel Nelsen said they worked to bring it down to zero increase. At the same time, the tax capacity of the city rose, so actual taxes should go down for most homeowners.

Even with the same budget, the city has some big projects planned, including Dower Lake Recreation Area improvements of a new storm shelter, paving at the campground and staining the pier. Some of those projects will be partially paid with grant money.

Another large budget item is $225,000 to fix up the roof of the Staples Community Center. Nelsen said the decision was made after many discussions about the next steps for the center. "Basically it is preserving the asset by fixing the roof, then we will

CITY continued on page 3a



Second grade elves

Second grade students at Staples-Motley Elementary School included elf performers during the song "Alfie the Elf" at the SMES All-School Christmas program held Dec. 11 in the SMHS gym. They also sang "Sing of Christmas Joy" and "Jolly Old St. Nicholas". (Staples World photo by Janice Winter)

Weather

This Week's Forecast

	High	Low	Cond.
Dec. 18	9°	7°	P. Cloudy
Dec. 19	24	14	M. Cloudy
Dec. 20	21	11	M. Cloudy
Dec. 21	33	13	P. Cloudy
Dec. 22	28	15	P. Cloudy
Dec. 23	27	16	M. Cloudy
Dec. 24	24	12	Cloudy

Last Year, 2018

	High	Low	Cond.
Dec. 18	37°	21°	Cloudy
Dec. 19	33	20	Cloudy
Dec. 20	28	19	Cloudy
Dec. 21	24	18	Cloudy
Dec. 22	28	21	Snow
Dec. 23	27	18	Cloudy
Dec. 24	26	17	Cloudy

Average Temp.:
H = 23° Low = 8°

Snow
Week Total Snow: 5"

Total snow: 27"

Compiled by Dale Hausmann, WCCO's Staples area Weatherwatcher

Public Notices
Township elections: **9A**

Obituaries
Beth Sellnow

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Thank you for subscribing!



Farm Forum at CLC

At the Dec. 3 Farm Forum, Keith Olander speaks about the work at the Centers of Excellence for Agriculture, which has headquarters in Staples and Mankato. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

Mental health crisis discussed at Farm Forum

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

Farm bankruptcies are rising. Farmers have a record amount of debt. Farm income is slightly improved this year but is still not high enough, and much of it is coming from government subsidies.

Those are some of the factors that Ag and Energy Center Director Keith Olander talked about at the Farm Forum on Dec. 3, sponsored by First International Bank and Trust.

"Farmers are used to income being up and down, but it has been down for six years in a row," said Olander. Predictions show that it will continue to be down for the next year also.

Besides concern about the future of agriculture, Olander said it is contributing to a mental health crisis in agriculture.

"We are seeing people take their own lives, marriages are breaking up and all this falls to the kids," said Olander.

But there is also a message of hope. "You are not alone. You need to communicate that stress," said Olander.

CLC also has resources for anyone feeling the stress. The Minnesota Department of Agriculture and the Ag Center of Excellence at CLC are providing for rural mental health specialists Ted Mathews and Monica McConkey to be available on request.

Christmas church services

Area churches are planning special services for Christmas Eve, Tuesday, Dec. 24, and Christmas Day, Wednesday, Dec. 25, plus other holiday events.

These includes:

• Faith Lutheran, Staples
Dec. 22
9 a.m. Suite of Carols Brass Band Worship Service
Christmas Eve
5 p.m. Candlelight Service
10 p.m. Candlelight Service

• Staples United Methodist Church
Christmas Eve
4 p.m. Candlelight Service

• Motley United Methodist Church
Christmas Eve
6 p.m. Candlelight Service

• Trinity Lutheran, Staples
Christmas Eve
5:30 p.m. includes celebration of the Lord's Supper; close with candlelight singing of Silent Night
Christmas Day
9 a.m. Service will include the celebration of the Lord's Supper

• Staples Alliance Church
Christmas Eve
4:30 p.m. Service

• Verndale Family Life Church
Christmas Eve
4 p.m.-5 p.m. Christmas Eve Service

• St. John's Lutheran, Motley
Christmas Eve
5 p.m. Candlelight Service

• Motley Free Methodist
Christmas Eve
4:30 p.m. Service
December 31
8 p.m.-midnight Watch Night Service

• Staples Church of Christ
Christms Eve
4 p.m. Christmas Eve Service

• Staples Assembly of God
Christmas Eve
5:30 p.m. Service

• Staples Seventh-day Adventist Church
Saturday, Dec. 21
10 a.m. Christmas Songs, Stories and Poems

• Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Staples

• St. Michael Catholic Church, Motley
Christmas Eve
5 p.m. Mass at Sacred Heart
7 p.m. Mass at St. Michael
Christmas Day
8:30 a.m. at Sacred Heart
10:00 a.m. at St. Michael
The Nativity of the Lord



A Cardinal Christmas music tradition

As has been the tradition for several decades, the Staples-Motley High School Music Department's closing number at their recent Cardinal Christmas Concert was "Hallelujah!" by G.F. Handel. The ensemble, under the direction of Nathan Thelen, included the Combined Choirs of Cantemus, Bel Canto and A cappella Choir; and the Chamber Orchestra. Alumni and other members of the public were invited to join the choirs on stage and add their voices in singing, "Hallelujah!" The high school's A Cardinal Christmas program, which featured Christmas Brass as well as the choirs and orchestra, was performed Dec. 12 and 16. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas

A number of holiday lights and festive displays have been set up at the Rubink home on Beaulieu Street in Motley. In spite of below zero temperatures that hit the area recently, scenes such as this help warm spirits and remind passersby that Christmas is coming. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Motley's 2020 levy up just slightly over last year's

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

At their regular meeting Dec. 9, the Motley City Council approved the total levy for 2020 ($378,596), an increase of 0.71 percent from last year's certified levy. They also adopted the final budget for 2020 as presented. While there was an increase in the certified levy, the city's tax rate (certified levy divided by tax capacity) decreased by 8.43 percent for 2020.

The total certified levy includes sums of money for the following funds:

- General: $193,392
- Fire: $20,935
- Street Improvement: $59,769
- Beaulieu Project Bond: $45,000
- 2011A Street Improvement: $16,175
- 2012A Street Improvement: $43,325.

Prior to the regular meeting, the council held a work session where they discussed the preliminary levy increase of 2.34 percent that had been approved in July. By making some adjustments to the proposed budget, they were able to reduce it by 1.63 percent, bringing the levy increase from last year to 0.71 percent.

Mayor Al Yoder commended the council and city staff for their work to reduce the levy.

A Truth in Taxation public hearing followed the work session, but no one from the public was present.

In other matters the council:

- APPROVED a motion to keep City Clerk/Treasurer Lacey Smieja on as a temporary employee after her last day on Jan. 3 (her resignation was accepted at the Nov. 25 special meeting). As per the motion, Smieja will be paid $40 an hour, will be allowed a flexible schedule and be able to work from home if needed, keeping a log of her hours. On days she travels to Motley for work, Smieja will be paid mileage.
- APPROVED a motion to not use David Drown & Associates (DDA) regarding the search for a full-time City Clerk/Treasurer position. After looking into it, the city learned that DDA's services would cost them $10,500, plus DDA anticipated not being able to fill the position until May of 2020. Instead, as part of the motion, the city will post the City Clerk/Treasurer position in three newspapers (Morrison County Record, Staples World, Brainerd Dispatch) as well as with the League of Minnesota Cities.
- HEARD a summary of a closed meeting held Nov. 12, regarding the performance review for Lacey Smieja, City Clerk/Treasurer. Smieja received 39.25 out of 56 points and Mayor Yoder noted Smieja is meeting expectations.
- APPROVED the Motley Fire Department's recommendation for the following officers: Chief, Brad Olson; 1st Asst. Chief, Bryan Stevens; 2nd Asst. Chief, Jace Carlson; Medical Officer, Nick Dille.
- HEARD the monthly fire report which included 13 calls for November.
- APPROVED terminating firefighters who don't do the required make-up time within 30 days of receiving notification letters. Prior to the vote, Fire Chief Olson said he was wanting to do a 'roster clean up' of firefighters not in good standing.
- LEARNED that the new police squad vehicle should be delivered by the end of January.
- HEARD the monthly police report, which included 111 calls for November.
- APPROVED a request from the public works department to recap the plow truck tires at a cost of $846.44.
- ACCEPTED the bill of sale which was delivered pursuant the donation agreement between the City of Motley and Minnesota Power dated Aug. 31, 2018. Per the agreement, Minnesota Power constructed and donated an electric vehicle charging station with a solar array located on land the city is leasing in the parking lot of BRICKS Travel Center.
- HEARD from Les Mateffy, PE, with Moore Engineering, Inc., during the public forum portion of the meeting. Mateffy said that their company had done a lot of work for Motley in the 1970s and '80s. He provided the council with ways Moore Engineering, Inc., can provide help to the city in identifying available funding sources for projects.
- LEARNED city hall will be closed Tuesday and Wednesday, Dec. 24 and 25, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day; and Wednesday, Jan. 1, New Year's Day.
- SET next regular council meeting for Monday, Jan. 13, 6:30 p.m.

Law enforcement reports

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

Dec. 11 - The MPD arrested Lance Christopher Hedin, 35, on a Morrison County warrant.

Dec. 11 - The MPD responded to a report of an unwanted subject at a residence at the 200 block of Hwy 210 W. in Motley.

Dec. 11 - The MPD issued citations for hands-free violation to Angel Prokosch, 33 and Misty Mahto Vavrina, 28.

Dec. 10 - The MPD issued a citation to Gordon Quadarious, 24, for having a windshield that was frosted over and obstructing view.

Dec. 10 - The MPD received a report of a gas drive-off in the amount of $43.48.

Dec. 9 - The MPD arrested Isaac Joseph Marte, 24, for 3rd degree DWI.

Dec. 9 - The MPD arrested Nicholas Christopher Kasten, 20, for a Domestic Abuse No Contact Order (DANCO) violation.

Dec. 6 - The MPD issued a citation to Mason Nyhus, 19, for not having two functional headlights.

Dec. 5 - 6 - The MPD issued speeding citations to Benjamin Johnson, 27; Brandon Mehrwerth, 24.

Dec. 10 - The MCSO received a report of a gas drive-off at Lincoln Gas and Bait in Cushing.

Dec. 6 - The MCSO responded to a report of a combine fire at the 5000 block of 330th St. in Motley. Upon their arrival, Scandia Valley Fire was on scene and had the fire out.

Motley votes to have a building inspector

By Dawn Timbs
Staples World reporter

After a lengthy discussion at their regular meeting Dec. 9, the Motley City Council approved a motion to look for another building inspector.

Whether or not to have one has been at the forefront of council discussions for the past few months.

At their regular meeting Oct. 14, the council voted to discontinue the services of its building inspector, due to it being a costly program.

However, they subsequently learned that because the city has a building code ordinance, they would be required to have a building inspector unless they repealed that ordinance.

At a special meeting Oct. 29, the council voted on whether or not to continue the process of repealing their building code ordinance, but came up with a split vote.

Motley's current building inspector, Scott Sadusky, was at the Oct. 29 special meeting, during which time he initiated the termination process of his contract with the city.

Discussion ensued at the regular meeting Dec. 9, with Mayor Al Yoder expressing his desire to have the city repeal the ordinance. He suggested that in lieu of a building inspector, perhaps state inspectors could be called in to look over projects. At an earlier meeting, Mayor Yoder had noted that the city's Planning and Zoning Specialist, Darrin Welle, follows the state codes in building matters and he felt those services would be sufficient.

Council member Amy Hutchison said she was concerned about the quality of housing if the ordinance was repealed. Her gut was telling her it was not a good move, Hutchison said. Fellow council member Pat O'Regan said that he had been on the council before the building code ordinance was adopted and there had been problems.

In the end, O'Regan, Hutchison and council member Jace Carlson voted to look for another building inspector, with Mayor Yoder being the lone nay-sayer. Council member Steve Johnson, who had previously voted in favor of the repeal, was not at the Dec. 9 meeting.



Santa Day in Motley

Over 135 children attended 'Santa Day' at Motley United Methodist Church Dec. 14, a free event which included picking out presents to give to family members, holiday treats and an opportunity to have a photo taken with Santa Claus (formerly known as Greg Townsend). While their children "shopped," parents were invited to enjoy refreshments. Stephanie Leslie, one of the organizers of the event, said that over 1,000 gifts (all donated) were put into gift bags for the young "shoppers" to bring home. 'Santa Day' is a way for their church to show God's love, Leslie said. (Submitted photo)



Motley's very merry, festive fire hall

A new Christmas lights display adorns the sign in front of the Motley Fire Hall. The lights were purchased with grant monies. In the background a light shines on the Motley Fire Department's barn quilt, entitled, "Fireman's Blanket," which is part of the Barn Quilts of Central MN Trail. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)

Motley Food Shelf holiday hours

The Motley Food Shelf will be closed on Thursday, Dec. 26. It will, however, be open on Thursday evening, Dec. 19, from 6 - 8 p.m.

For assistance, call 218-352-6344.

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CITY continued from page 1a

Election location approved

decide what to do with it in 2020.

Nelsen said they are looking at repurposing different spaces in the building for different community uses. The fee schedule approved by the council also contained extra fees for non-residents, who are not paying taxes to keep up the community center. The non-resident fees include memberships, swimming pool use and pool punch cards, swimming lessons, room rental and activity programs.

Even with the fee increases, the city is budgeting for a significant increase in community center funding. The 2019 budget showed $18,100 of tax money going to the community center and the 2020 budget calls for $41,800.

Other budget factors included a three percent wage increase for city employees, adding security cameras and hiring a full time police officer to reduce reliance on part-time officers.

The state LGA money going to the city will increase from $1,193,754 to $1,261,670.

In other news, the council

- Approved legal services contracts with Brow, Krueger & Vancura for the Todd County portion of the city and with Kyra Ladd for the Wadena County portion
- Approved tobacco licenses and pawnbroker license for 2020
- Approved Staples Community Center as an election location
- Approved Discover Staples Tourism Marketing agreement with LEAP to continue as the marketing entity in charge of revenues raised by the city's lodging tax.



Christmas splendor

A Christmas tree decorated by Elite Title & Escrow gained the most votes at the Festival of Trees in Staples, held by the Staples Motley Women of Today at the Staples Community Center. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

Veteran's News

David A Anderson
Wadena County Veteran
Service Officer

According to the Department of Defense, starting Jan. 1, 2020, all service-connected veterans, Purple Heart recipients, former prisoners of war (POW) and individuals approved and designated as the primary family caregivers of eligible veterans under the Department of Veterans Affairs Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers (PCAFC) can use commissaries, exchanges and morale, welfare and recreation (MWR) retail facilities, in-person and online.

For more information regarding these privileges and access to military installations, visit http://www.militaryonesource.mil/expanding-access.

Who is eligible Jan. 1, 2020? Veterans, Purple Heart recipients, former prisoners of war and veterans with 0-90 percent service-connected disability ratings. Medal of Honor recipients and veterans with 100 percent service-connected disability ratings are already eligible under existing DoD policy.

Also on Jan. 1, individuals approved and designated as the primary family caregiver of an eligible veteran under the PCAFC will be eligible for these privileges. For information about primary family caregivers in the PCAFC, visit https://www.caregiver.va.gov/.

What are the required credentials? Veterans eligible solely under this act who are eligible to obtain a Veteran Health Identification Card must use this credential for in-person installation and privilege access. The card must display the veteran's eligibility status (i.e. - PURPLE HEART, FORMER POW or SERVICE CONNECTED).

Veterans eligible solely under this act who are not enrolled in or are not eligible to enroll in VA health care or who are enrolled in VA health care, but do not possess a Veteran Health Identification Card will not have access to DoD and Coast Guard installations for in-person commissary, exchange and MWR retail privileges, but will have full access to online exchanges and American Forces Travel.

Eligible caregivers will receive an eligibility letter from VA's Office of Community Care.

If you are a primary family caregiver under the PCAFC and lose your eligibility letter, call 1-877-733-7927 to request a replacement. Allow two weeks for processing.

Upon the first visit to an installation, these eligible veterans and caregivers must stop at the visitor control center. Depending on the type of installation, veterans may enroll for recurring access, which would allow them to proceed to the gate for entry upon subsequent visits without having to stop again at the visitor control center.

As with all other individuals seeking access to DoD installations, all eligible veterans must pass a basic on-the-spot background check prior to enrolling and an automated check each time they enter the installation. Veterans with felony convictions, felony arrest warrants or other types of derogatory information related to criminal history or terrorism will not be permitted entry. (Source VA Vantage point Nov. 14, 2019)

See your local County Veterans Service Officer if you have any questions. You can contact your local VSO at 218-631-7617 or by email at david.anderson@co.wadena.mn.us.

Looking back

75 Years Ago - 1944

- Dec. 21, 1944 - With the Christmas holiday fast approaching, and with but a few days left for shoppers, stores in Staples are being "rushed off their feet" by patrons who are doing their Christmas shopping now.

Saturday was about the climax of the situation here, when hundreds of people crowded the stores, making their purchases, visiting with their friends and neighbors, and looking for gifts of their choice.

Possibly this rush was due to the fact that the Commercial club sponsored their annual Christmas party for the children of the city and community. Parents brought their children into town, and while they were at the show, they did their Santa Claus shopping.

- Dec. 21, 1944 - Not to be outdone by the older people of the city of Staples and this community in the purchasing of war bonds and stamps, the Staples public schools have kept up their end of the war effort by the purchase of $3,233.25 in bonds and stamps, since the opening of school

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Compiled by **Dawn Timbs**

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in September. The above amount is that purchased by the students only. During the last war bond drive, teachers of the school purchased a total of $1,087.50, making a grand total of $4,320.75 for the school since the opening.

50 Years Ago - 1969

- Dec. 25, 1969 - Two television sets were stolen as a result of a break-in at Schmitz Radio and TV over the past weekend, according to the report of the Staples Police Department.

Chief of Police William Card reported to the World that the business is closed on Saturday and Sunday and that the break-in was noticed when Paul Schmitz, owner, opened the firm for business Monday morning. The report indicates that two portable color television sets, one a 20" Admiral and another, a 14" General Electric, were stolen.

- Dec. 25, 1969 - The Staples Jaycees announced Monday the winners of their 1969 Home Decorating contest. Ten entries were received and judged by Mrs. Rose Edin and Russ Norberg, art instructors at Staples high school. In the religious classification, the home of Mr. and Mrs. Norman Wilhelmson took first place honors, with the second prize going to the decoration on the northside of the Mary Rondorf Home.

The first place winner in the traditional division was the home of Dr. and Mrs. Raymond O. Garland. Placing second in this class was the home of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Metzler.

- Dec. 25, 1969 - The highly rated Staples Cardinal Wrestling team emerged victorious in the eight-team Paynesville Invitational tournament held last Saturday.

Coach Don Dravis' Cardinal team chalked up 115 points with three copping championships and four finishing in the number two spot. Claiming individual championships in the tourney were Mike Roberts (112), Tim Larson (127) and Tom Goeden (138).

25 Years Ago - 1994

- Dec. 22, 1994 - A battle over the name of the local college has been settled by adding a colon and a few words and explanation - perhaps the first time a colon has been used in a college name in the United States.

The proposed name, adopted Tuesday is "Central Lakes College: A Community and Technical College." The college will be formed officially next July by the Merger of Brainerd Community college and Brainerd-Staples Technical College.

The name was good enough to get through a committee of the state's Higher Education Board Monday. The board, which will take over 62 college campuses in Minnesota next July, wasn't ready to accept just "Central Lakes College" when the name was suggested at a meeting last month.

- Dec. 22, 1994 - One of the features during the Motley Elementary Christmas program, held Dec. 13 at the school, was "This is Christmas," performed by a cast of second and third graders. Characters in the play included: Blacky the cat (Jennifer Riddle), Spot the dog (Amanda Robben), Rex the dog (John Martin), Parch the dog (Madeline Beebe), Tucker the kitten (Amanda DiGiovanni), Tweetie Bird the parakeet (Kimberly Mosack), Kirsten the Turtle (Cody Bell), and Freddie the Gerbil (Tom Trana). Understudies were Tiffany Brandt and Kaesy Craft.

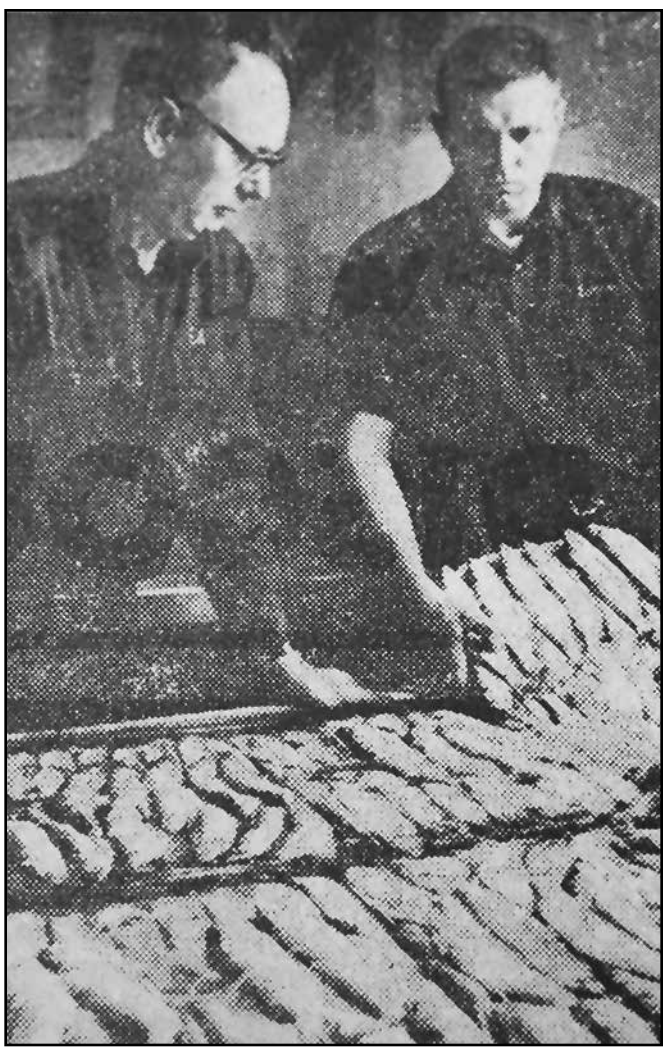
- Dec. 22, 1994 - The Motley Fire Department was called to the El-Ray in Motley at 6:18 Sunday morning for a gasoline spill. A fire department spokesperson reported that a gas pump was left on and about 100 gallons of gasoline were pumped out onto the cement apron. The cause of the spill was unknown, but possibly a nozzle was left on.



Mystery solved

Last week's mystery photo published in the Dec. 4, 1969 edition of the Staples World featured two seniors at Staples High School who were chosen by the members of the Staples Rotary Club to represent the local organization at the United Nations Assembly in Winnipeg the following April. Pictured, from left, are Richard Donat, committee chairman; and seniors David Uhrich and Alvina Wiebesick. David is the son of Mr. and Mrs. William Uhrich; and Alvina is the daughter of Mrs. Ruth Chapman. The students' expenses at the United Nations Assembly were paid by the Staples Rotary Club, and while in Winnipeg they stayed in Rotary members' homes.

Judy Wolak and Monica (Vukelich) Johnson, both of Staples, correctly identified all. Johnson mentioned that she graduated from Staples High School with David Uhrich and Alvina Wiebesick in 1970. Thanks for participating in our Mystery Photo.



Mystery photo

Hello readers. This week's archive photo is from our Oct. 30, 1969 edition. Do you know who these people are and perhaps the context of the photo? Email your answers and where you are from to dtimbs@staplesworld.com by Friday morning, or call 218-894-1112. The answers will be published in next week's paper, as well as a new mystery photo.

10 Years Ago - 2009

- Dec. 17, 2009 - Staples firefighters worked in below-zero weather Dec. 14, to put out a garage fire at 214 McKinley St. SW in Staples. The garage, which was totalled, is part of a rental unit owned by Brian and Kathy Dobson, Staples. No one was in the garage at the time of the fire, which is believed to have been started by a portable heater; and there were no injuries.

- Dec. 17, 2009 - The Minnesota State Patrol credits a rural Malmo man for saving a life after a recent crash on Dec. 7, in Aitkin County.

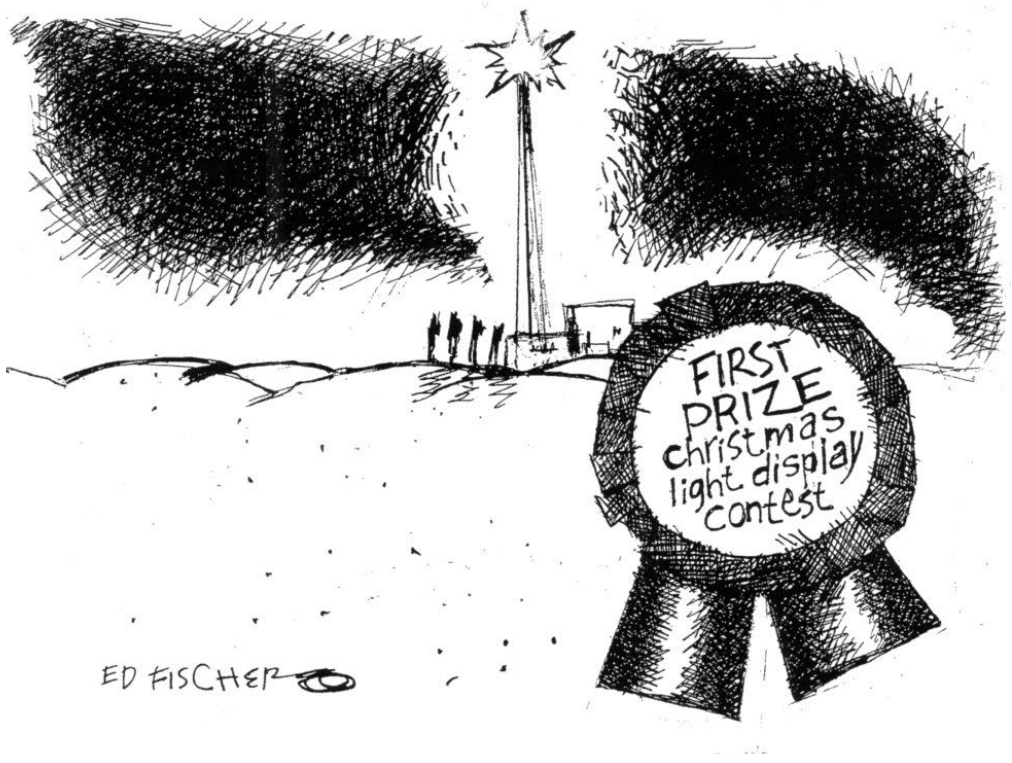
Trooper Kevin Skalsky reports that 21-year-old Kelly Stave from Verndale was driving eastbound on State Highway 18 a mile and a half west of Malmo when she swerved to miss a deer and crossed over the oncoming lane of traffic where she went into the ditch and crashed into a tree about 300 feet from the Roy Berg home.

Roy Berg said, "I was just out side letting the dog out and heard the crash. When I looked, I saw flames popping out from the vehicle and heard a woman yelling for help." The article proceeds to tell how Berg ran to the scene, where he found Stave still seated behind the wheel because the driver's door would not open and she had a lower leg and ankle injury. Smoke was starting to fill the passenger compartment. Berg was able to help Stave out on the passenger side of the vehicle and across the road. Within just a very short time, the vehicle became fully engulfed in flames, Berg said. Berg attended to Stave until rescue personnel took over.

Berg played the scenario down in a humble fashion but Skalsky was quick to note that, "If Berg had not removed Stave from the vehicle then this crash would have surely turned fatal."

Berg later told state Patrol Sgt. Curt Mowers that, "You have to do what you have to do, and that is all I did."





Amendment needed for campaign finance

By Morris Pearl

American democracy, in theory, is based on the premise of one person, one vote. Unfortunately, that is not really the case. The rich and the powerful use their money to gain more influence than other Americans and that became obvious to everyone with the Supreme Court's decision in Citizens United v. FEC which opened the floodgates for a wave of dark-money donations from wealthy individuals and corporations. Now our democratic model seems increasingly based on the shady principle of one dollar, one vote. No American should be shut out of the political process simply because they can't afford to spend a couple million dollars on an election, but that's exactly the course that we are on.

Fortunately, House Democrats have introduced a plan to stop this alarming trend and return political power where it belongs: regular working Americans. Representative Ted Deutch (D-FL) introduced the Democracy for All Amendment, a proposed Constitutional amendment that would enact desperately-needed reforms to stop the corrosive influence of money in politics, including overturning Citizens United.

This amendment is critical to ensuring every American has an equal voice in our government and to stop rich folks from buying up politicians through dark-money donations. That's why I respectfully urge House leadership to join over 160 co-sponsors in supporting this bill and bringing it to a vote.

How exactly do you accomplish the monumental task of taking money out of politics? To start, we must ensure that all campaign contributions are transparent. Individual donations have long been publicly accessible on sites like Open Secrets, yet under our current laws, deep-pocketed special interests can make unlimited donations to super PACs and political nonprofits without disclosing a thing. The Democracy for All amendment would allow congress to mandate campaign finance disclosures from everyone, because Americans deserve to know precisely who has the wallet, and therefore the ear, of our elected representatives.

The Democracy for All Amendment would explicitly affirm the right of Congress and state legislatures to set rules and regulations around campaign finance in public elections, including limiting campaign spending from corporations and special interest groups. Currently, the average winning House race costs over $1 million, while the average winning Senate candidate can expect to spend over $10 million - and the numbers climb startlingly higher for Presidential races. Enshrining this right in the Constitution would allow states and Congress to stop runaway spending in elections and guarantee that the rich and powerful do not have so much more access to our elected officials than everyday Americans.

If that sounds like a stretch, in a mind-blowing 91 percent of elections, the candidate who raises the most money wins. Under those conditions, it's clear why our laws increasingly seem to benefit the wealthy against the population at large, whether it's a deeply unpopular $1.8 trillion handout to the top one percent or a minimum wage that hasn't budged in ten years despite nationwide support for a $15 minimum.

In addition to the moral good of protecting Americans' democratic rights and preventing a government of, by, and for the elite, the Democracy for All amendment is a political no-brainer. Americans know that our democracy is being hijacked by the elite. In 2018, a full 75 percent of Americans supported limiting the influence of money in politics with a constitutional amendment, including 85 percent of Democrats and 66 percent of Republicans. The Democracy for All Amendment is a vastly popular, desperately needed bill to stop money from dictating our political future and we need strong, courageous leaders to give it the outspoken, full-throated support it deserves.

Morris Pearl is a former managing director at BlackRock, Inc. and Chair of the Patriotic Millionaires, a coalition of high-net worth Americans concerned about the concentration of wealth and power in the U.S.

Science shows celebrating holidays could make you happier

From bluezones.com

Holidays are a time to celebrate. While it may be stressful to bake that extra batch of cookies for the bake sale, cart the family around to the neighbors' holiday parties, and find the perfect gift for the person on your list who has everything, those who celebrate something are generally happier than those who don't celebrate anything.

People from the happiest places in the world find ways to actively express their gratitude and celebrate life. In Mexico, Dan Buettner met famously happy columnist and humorist Armando Fuentes Aguirre (known as El Catón by his friends) who believes his country's high happiness scores may be connected to their culture of celebration. "We celebrate everything. Mother's Day. Father's Day. Godfather's Day…Something every week. We invent reasons together," Fuentes said.

According to author and social psychologist Fred Bryant, when we stop to savor the good stuff, we build resilience which helps us to manage stress and the daily challenges that can cause it. His research, along with research from Vicotria University in New Zealand, savoring the little things, like family holiday celebrations, can lead to stronger relationships and improved mental and physical well-being.

Happier Together

We gather around the table for family meals, invite friends to join in Friendsgiving celebrations, and drive over the river and through the woods to grandmother's house for Christmas. We spend these celebratory days surrounded by our kin. We know from the longest-lived people in the world that those who put family first and socialize with their friends tend to live longer, happier lives. Matthew Killingsworth, a Robert Wood Johnson Health and Society Scholar and happiness researcher, has collected data from over 20,000 people who report how happy they feel at randomly selected moments during daily life. He noted that the data reveals people are actually happier than usual on holidays. Killingsworth says, "Spending time with our friends and family turns out to be a robustly positive predictor of our happiness."

"Spending time with our friends and family turns out to be a robustly positive predictor of our happiness."

What You Say Can Make You Happier

Recent research published in PLOS ONE analyzed language patterns of volunteers on social media and found people who use words such as "weekend," "coffee," "holiday," and "delicious," score high for positive emotions. These are people who enjoy getting outside, celebrating holidays, and hanging out with their friends.

Trimmed for Happiness

We know that savoring the little things and having gratitude can lead to greater overall well-being. So celebrating for longer may extend those positive feelings. A study from the Journal of Environmental Psychology suggests that holiday decorations tell neighbors you're accessible and friendly, open to socializing and making new friends.

Even if celebrating major holidays isn't your thing, celebrating life's simple pleasures is a recipe for happiness.

"Drink without getting drunk
Love without suffering jealousy
Eat without overindulging
Never argue
And once in a while, with great discretion, misbehave."

—Armando Fuentes Aguirre, El Catón

Home safety tips for holidays

From Tom Burch
Cass County Sheriff

The best part of the holiday season is spending quality time with family – which often means travel out of town or away from home. Before you leave, it's important to take the proper precautions to keep your house or apartment safe while you're gone. If you're traveling this holiday season, or anytime, ensure your home is secure with these ten tips from the National Safety Council.

1. Lock up. This may seem like an obvious rule of safety, but sometimes the most obvious rules are the ones we forget to follow. Make sure every door and window in your home is properly shut and locked. If you don't already have a deadbolt on your doors, you may want to consider investing in one, as it can make your door more secure and offer you peace of mind

2. Avoid posting your whereabouts on social media. Some people post everything on Facebook. It's only natural that you would want to post a status on Facebook or social media about your excitement about traveling for the holidays. However, you may want to think twice about this. You never know who may be looking at your social media pages, and you don't want strangers knowing that you are away.

3. Put lights on a timer. If you have holiday lights, put them on an automatic timer when you go out of town. You can set the timer up so that your lights go on at a certain hour each night, making it appear as if you're in your home at all times. Consider setting a few indoor lights on timers as well to help your residence look lived in even when you're not there. With that being said, you should closely examine any strings of holiday lights before putting them on a timer.

4. Don't leave a key. Having a spare house key is a must. However, it's crucial to be careful about where you store that key. Don't leave it in a fake rock or place it under your doormat because these are locations criminals will look. Instead, leave a key with a trusted friend or neighbor so you'll have it if you need it, but know your key won't end up in the wrong hands.

5. Ask someone to pick up your mail or stop your mail. Here's another benefit about having friendly neighbors: They can pick up your mail and newspapers. Ask a neighbor to pick up the papers and mail until you return after the holidays. You can also easily temporarily stop mail delivery on the U.S. Postal Service website. Thieves look for package deliveries and stacks of mail during this time of the year.

6. Keep valuables out of sight. Go through each room to see if there are any valuable items that are out in the open. Even if these items can't be seen directly from a window, you should find a safe place for them. If someone does break in to your residence, you don't want to make it easy for them. Store your valuables in unexpected locations

7. Leave your curtains in their normal position. It would make sense to close your curtains when you leave, but this may not necessarily be the best option. If you don't normally close your curtains, this could be a sign telling others that you're out of town. It's best to leave your curtains as you normally would, and make sure any valuables that can be seen through the windows are out of sight. You don't want to give someone a reason to want to come in.

8. Utilize a security or camera system. We recommend installing and maintaining a security system that is remotely monitored and reports to our office. Indoor and outdoor cameras are becoming very popular and are inexpensive, as well. They are also easy to install yourself to keep your home and property safe. Some cameras use your homes WI-FI signal and are able to be monitored via your cell phone or tablet. We are solving more and more crimes by using images and video from these cameras. In some cases, solving crimes and charging suspects that wouldn't be possible without these images.

9. Just like a full mailbox, your absence will be obvious when snow begins to build up around your house. Hire or ask someone to plow the driveway, shovel the sidewalk, brush off your car, and walk up and down the steps if you're going to be gone during the snowy months. This is an easy way to make your house look lived-in.

10. Be aware of your neighborhood and your neighbor's house. If you see something that looks odd, report it. What may not seem like anything at the time, may help with future investigations. You know your neighborhood the best and if you see something suspicious or out of place, it probably is. We would rather investigate something and find it to be okay than have a crime occur because it was overlooked.

We would like to wish all our readers a safe and Happy Holiday season and best wishes in the New Year.

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

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Letter to the Editor

A good deed

After carting my items that I had purchased from Family Dollar on December 8, I was trying to negotiate the cart over the icy, snow packed parking lot, in order to return it to the store,when a young man, about 9 years old, came up to me and asked if he could take it in for me. For this I was very grateful.

I am a senior citizen and not too steady on my feet on ice and snow.

I did not get his name but the gesture was very thoughtful and much appreciated.

Mary Webster
Staples, Minn

Quote of the week

"Nothing says holidays like a cheese log."
— Ellen DeGeneres



Christmas gathering at Lakewood Pines

Residents of Lakewood Pines in Staples were guests of honor at a Christmas gathering held Dec. 12 hosted by members of Faith Lutheran Lydia Circle.

Seated left to right: Enid Nelson, Donna Denny, Elsie Hanson, Alice Granby, Joyce Snyder, Junette Blake, Robert Blake, Marilyn Holst, Audrey Tholl, Darlene Eiswald, Marge Thrasher, Juanita Miller, Louise Drajna. Standing: Darien White, Iris Floistad, Gene Floistad, Rose Hoemberg, Jeanette Olsen, Arlene Ludovissie, Norma Odden, Lynnae Pogreba, Alice Archer, Bev Nelsen, Lorraine Hamberg, Kathy Larson.

The Christmas gathering included poems, singing Christmas carols and Christmas goodies. (Staples World photo by Janice Winter)

Watch Night Service at Motley Free Methodist Church

Motley Free Methodist Church will host a Watch Night Service on Tuesday, Dec. 31, from 8 p.m. - Midnight. The public is invited.

The itinerary for the New Year's celebration includes the following:

- Opening program in the Sanctuary, 8 p.m.
- Food, snacks, drinks, games and fellowship, 9:45 p.m.
- Movie, '25 Hill' at 9:45 p.m.
- Communion, 'Praying in the New Year' at 11:30 p.m.
- 12 a.m., 'Happy New Year, 2020'

For more information, Charles Mallory, Associate Pastor, at 218-352-6022 or email charlesMFM@gmail.com.



Andrew Walesch performs holiday classics at Staples Public Library

A Legacy event for all ages December 19

Singer and pianist Andrew Walesch will perform at Staples Public Library on Thursday, Dec. 19, from 5 - 7 p.m., presenting a memorable evening of holiday favorites from the Great American Songbook.

A St. Cloud native, Walesch has appeared on stages all over the country and on nationally syndicated programs such as 'Mountain Stage' on NPR. He is known for his signature take on American Songbook classics and the stories behind them.

Walesch's performance in Staples, a Legacy event, is suitable for all ages.

Staples Public Library is located at 122 6th St. NE in Staples. For more information, call 218-894-1401.



Singer and pianist

St. Cloud native Andrew Walesch, a singer and pianist who has appeared on stages all over the country, will perform holiday classics at Staples Public Library on Thursday, Dec. 19, 5 - 7 p.m. (Submitted photo)

Cardinal Calendar

SM school events

December

- **MS Student of the Month Awards** Dec. 19, 8 a.m.
- **Christmas Break - No School** Dec. 23 - Jan. 1.

January

- **Prostart Dinner** Jan. 9, 6 p.m., Timbers in Staples
- **No School** Jan. 20
- **Dollars For Scholars** Jan. 20. Dinner at 5 p.m.; Auction at 6:15 p.m.
- **Middle School Science Fair** Jan. 30, 3:15 - 7 p.m.

55+ Driver Discount program offered

The Minnesota Highway Safety Center will be offering a 55+ Driver Discount refresher course on Monday, Jan. 13, 5:30 - 9:30 p.m. at the Staples Community Center.

Completion of an eight-hour course qualifies you for the discount. To maintain the discount, you must complete a four-hour refresher every three years.

For more info. or to register, visit our website at www.mnsafetycenter.org or call 1-888-234-1294. Courses are also available online.

Gingerbread house fun

Fun was had at the Staples Public Library recently when children decorated their own gingerbread house to take home. The Friends of the Library provided the supplies. Above: Mythanne Thompson with her son, Kace and daughter Reese; Pat Huff. Right: Lily Davis displays her final piece.



Visit www.griver.org or follow on facebook. (Submitted photos)

Mark Your Calendar

December 18

Staples All Veterans And Community Park Association Mtg Wednesday, Dec. 18, 5:30 p.m., at Timbers Restaurant and Event Center, Staples. Public invited.

Medical Home Patient Advisory Council Mtg Wednesday, Dec. 18, 2 - 3 p.m., at Lakewood Health System in Staples, Main Campus, Classroom A. All Lakewood patients welcome to attend. For info., to RSVP, call 218-894-8311 or email loiswalters@lakewoodhealthsystem.com.

Brainerd Chapter #738 National Association of Active and Retired Federal Employees Mtg Wednesday, Dec. 18, at Family Restaurant (old Holiday Inn) in Brainerd. Social time, 11:30 a.m.; lunch at noon; presentation includes planning for future programs in 2020 and Christmas party.

December 19

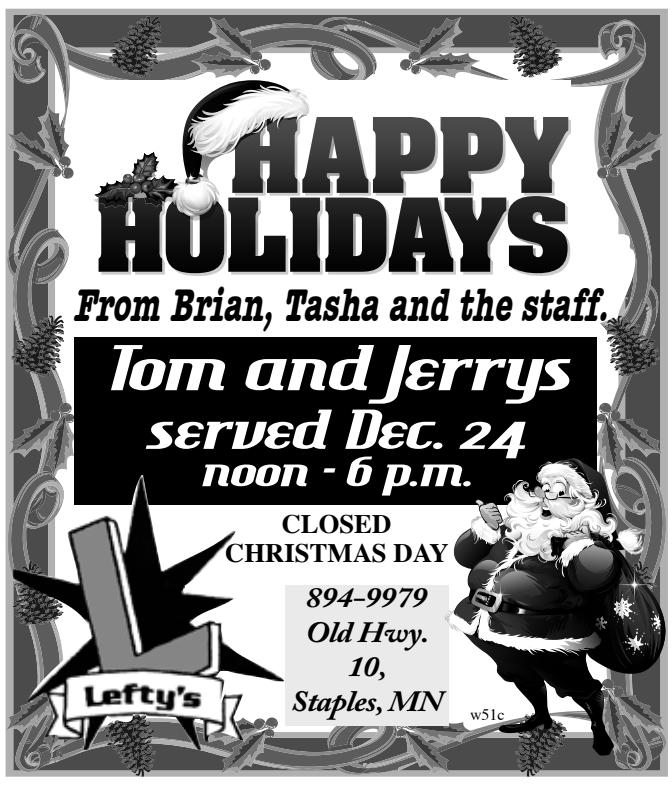
Holiday Tea and Open House at Wadena County Museum and Bookstore Thursday, Dec. 19, noon - 3 p.m. Music by pan flute player Mario Arroyo; stories from author Jerry Mevissen and storyteller Sonja Kosler; Christmas music by pianist, Lisa Winter. Refreshments will feature freshly brewed tea and holiday treats. The museum and bookstore is located at 603 Jefferson Street North in Wadena. For info., call 218-631-9079.















Football Showcase fans of Schmidt

Friends and high school teammates of Cade Schmidt met him on the field of U.S. Bank Stadium after the experience of the Minnesota Football Showcase. (Submitted photos)

Schmidt experiences Minnesota Football Showcase All-Star game

Cade Schmidt was one of 86 Minnesota High School football players to be chosen for the All-State Football Showcase at US Bank Field, the Minnesota Vikings Stadium, on Dec. 7. The "North and South" teams participated in various opportunities including trips to Children's Hospital and The U of M Hospital to visit some in their care.

"The four days I spent with these players and coaches was a privilege. We became an instant team, not only on the field, but off," said Schmidt. "Everything the Vikings and the MFCA did for us, was over the top. I got to play ball with the state's best."

Schmidt played linebacker and running back for Staples-Motley this season. For the showcase he was a linebacker for the North team, which came out on the losing side of the game. But the 47th annual all-star game was more about the experience than the result.

"Hearing my name announced running through that tunnel, and after a few tackles during the game at US Bank, I'll never forget that," said Schmidt. "I loved playing in front of my family and friends on our field the past four years. Playing in front of them at US Bank, was pretty cool. Getting some of them on the field after the game, was pretty cool, too. I want to thank our community for their support of Cardinal athletics and all of those who wished me well with this opportunity. Know that I was proud to represent Staples-Motley on the state's biggest field."



Pregame hype

"Hearing my name announced running through that tunnel … I'll never forget that," said Schmidt.



On the pro field

The Minnesota Vikings hosted the All-Star game along with the Minnesota Football Coaches Association.

Shots finally fall as Cardinals beat PR

By Mark Anderson
Managing Editor

The Staples-Motley boys basketball team won their first conference game of the year, 52-47 against Park Rapids on Dec. 13.

The Cardinals opened the game with a 10-2 lead by pressing and forcing turnovers. Once the game settled down, a zone defense by Park Rapids left corner three pointers open, but Staples-Motley struggled to convert.

Staples-Motley fell behind but late in the half, Isaac Christoffersen made a three pointer before Max Strickland and Isaiah Schultz both got inside for two baskets, leading to a 26-24 halftime lead.

In the second half, Park Rapids retook the lead early, but then the corner threes started falling with Christoffersen and Adam Oberlander each connecting and Lyle Brownell sinking a corner two.

Park Rapids threatened again late when the Cardinals struggled to make free throws, but Strickland and Ben Olander snapped the drought and kept the team ahead by sinking enough shots from the line.

The win moved the Cardinal record to 2-1, with a different leading scorer in each game.

"It has been fun to see different guys stepping up on different nights," said Coach Nick Doll. "That is what it is going to take for us to compete consistently with some of the stronger teams on our schedule. It makes us hard to prepare for."

Staples-Motley will compete in the Little Falls Christmas tournament, playing the host team and Upsala on Thursday, Dec. 19 and Friday, Dec. 20.



He scores

Isaiah Schultz scores in the lane, despite the defense collapsing on him. (Staples World photos by Mark Anderson)

Team results

Staples-Motley 52, Park Rapids 47

Scoring: Max Strickland 15, Izaiah DeMars 8, Issac Kronenberg 7, Isaiah Schultz 7, Isaac Christoffersen 6, Adam Oberlander 5, Ben Olander 2, Lyle Brownell 2



Lyle Brownell plays the point on the Cardinal press defense.

Good wrestling in two losses

The Staples-Motley wrestling team hosted a home triangular meet where they faced a strong West Central Area team and lost 63-17, then nearly overcame Osakis, but ended up with a 41-36 loss.

Against both teams, the Cardinals had several opportunities to win matches but ended up getting caught and pinned.

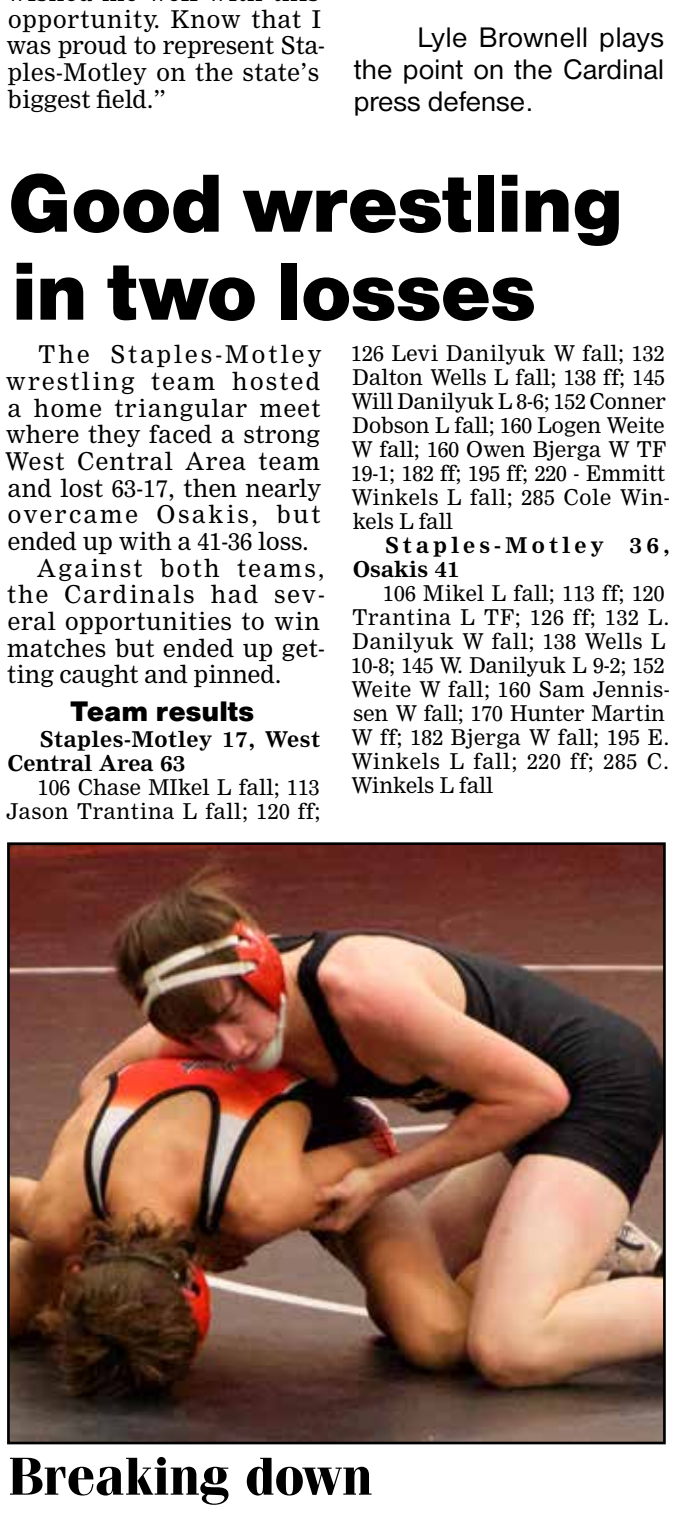
Team results

Staples-Motley 17, West Central Area 63

106 Chase MIkel L fall; 113 Jason Trantina L fall; 120 ff; 126 Levi Danilyuk W fall; 132 Dalton Wells L fall; 138 ff; 145 Will Danilyuk L 8-6; 152 Conner Dobson L fall; 160 Logen Weite W fall; 160 Owen Bjerga W TF 19-1; 182 ff; 195 ff; 220 - Emmitt Winkels L fall; 285 Cole Winkels L fall

Staples-Motley 36, Osakis 41

106 Mikel L fall; 113 ff; 120 Trantina L TF; 126 ff; 132 L. Danilyuk W fall; 138 Wells L 10-8; 145 W. Danilyuk L 9-2; 152 Weite W fall; 160 Sam Jennissen W fall; 170 Hunter Martin W ff; 182 Bjerga W fall; 195 E. Winkels L fall; 220 ff; 285 C. Winkels L fall



Breaking down

Dalton Wells works from the top against West Central Area. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)



Going the other way

Izaiah DeMars picks up a loos ball for a steal and passes to a teammate to start the fast break.

Overtime loss

The Staples-Motley girls basketball team suffered two close losses, 71-70 in overtime game against Detroit Lakes on Dec. 9 and 71-63 at Verndale on Dec. 20.

Team results

Staples-Motley 70, Detroit Lakes 71 (OT)

Scoring: Haley Cichos 22, Tabetha Allen 19, Alix Peterson 10, Kaitlyn Smith 8, Addison Lorber 6, Elizabeth Danilyuk 2, Kaila Erbe 2, Bella Martin 1

Staples-Motley 63, Verndale 71

Scoring: Cichos 22, Allen 18, Smith 8, Martin 5, Peterson 2, Erbe 4, Danilyuk 2, Lorber 2



Interviewing a legend

Author Gildow (left) with Ron Lindner (photo by Ray Gildow)

Ron Lindner - Minnesota fishing legend

By: Ray Gildow

Minnesota is home to many true fishing legends, men and women who have influenced and changed the sport of fishing in this great state. Two individuals who have been in the forefront of the fishing industry for decades and are still active innovators are brothers Ron and Al Lindner.

The Lindners arrived in Minnesota from Chicago and started the Nisswa Guides League in 1968. They developed the league out of Marv Koep's bait shop and created one of the real elite guide services in the country. They moved on from guiding to tournament fishing and developing new kinds of tackle, and then ventured forward into the media area of national publications and TV shows like In-Fisherman. Their current fishing show, Lindners Angling Edge, is the latest of innovations that have spanned some sixty years.

Ron Lindner, now in his mid-eighties, is the senior member of the Lindner family who along with his younger brother Al, still works with Lindner's Angling Edge and other family media services under the direction of Ron's son James, who is now at the helm of Lindner Media Publications. In fact, Al and Ron have many of their family members carrying on the fishing tradition through TV, publications, and social media. It is truly a family industry.

Ron is one amazing man. Often described as a marketing genius, he has promoted tackle, publications, TV, fishing concepts, and a wealth of creative ideas. Even now, he has not stopped chasing his passion of fishing.

His ice fishing now takes place in Florida where there are palm trees in the background, not snow and ice. But for the rest of the year, from the Minnesota fishing opener until mid-November, Ron is in the state fishing two to three days a week with his brother Al and long-time fishing pal Curt Compton.

"I don't spend eight to ten hours a day on the water anymore, I like to go out for four or five hours at a time," says Ron. "Al, Curt and I go fishing every Sunday afternoon if the weather is nice and from Brainerd we head west and try to hit a new lake on every trip. This is our opportunity to scout out new lakes and try out new tackle that we test for the various companies we work with in innovating new equipment. The best trip we ever had we caught over 100 bass in four hours. That was quite a day. If we do well on big lakes like Leech or Mille Lacs, we will share our information but, we never share information on hot spots on little lakes because we don't want to pressure the smaller areas," says Ron.

So, here is a man in his mid-eighties who has suffered some health challenges, having fought and beaten cancer, deals with some walking issues, but still goes to his little corner office every day of the week, still fishes two to three days a week, travels south in the winter to fish and ends every day with a smile on his face. That is the mark of a true fishing legend. Like Sinatra, Bob Hope and Dean Martin, there will never be another Ron Lindner.



Sportsmans Club appreciates Central Building Supply

Bob and Jeremy Reeck of Central Building Supply were honored by the Staples Sportsmans Club for their contributions to the group and to the Staples shooting range. Jess Thew of the Sportsmans Club said the support has been significant and long term, including donations to the annual banquet and help with the deck and benches on the shooting range.

Bob Reeck said he has recognized the value of the shooting range since before 1982, when there was a threat to tear it down and the group has been maintaining the range since 1983. "It's a service to the community," said Reeck. "The shooting range is priceless." It is one of very few gun ranges in the state that is open to the public, and even brings in people from out of state who want to use it. The Staples-Motley trap team uses the range and several other area schools have come for practices and competitions.

Pictured from left, Louie Ostrowski, Mark Holper, Bob Reeck, Jess Thew, Jeremy Reeck and Jon Hamberg. (Staples World photo by Mark Anderson)

What makes it a hunt, and you a hunter?

- o -
Inside the Outdoors



Mike Rahn
- o -

Many hunters, myself included, have a bit of a defensive streak. For some of us it dates back decades to a particularly public assault on hunting, which was led by the Fund for Animals, and the author and animal rights activist Cleveland Amory. There were lawsuits intended to thwart hunting seasons, and Hollywood celebrities using their popularity in attempts to influence public opinion against hunting. There is certainly an element of anti-hunting sentiment today, but not—to my mind, at least—on the organized and threatening scale seen then.

Nevertheless, for reasons historical and contemporary, hunters are aware that there is an element in American society that to varying degree is not onboard with hunting. Understandable, then, that some who have a soap box or pulpit from which to speak for hunting will do so when they feel hunting's image could be at risk.

This was evident recently when news broke that a Brainerd man had trespassed and illegally killed a potential trophy class black bear on the Red Lake Indian Reservation north of Bemidji. The individual shot the bear with an arrow from a compound bow near a reservation dump. He reportedly found it too heavy to move, cut off its head and three paws, carved a small amount of meat from the carcass, and left the rest behind.

Responses from several in the outdoor media expressed the opinion that this act should not be called hunting, and the perpetrator should not be identified as a hunter. One writer cleverly pointed out that a person who steals food from a grocery store is not identified as a grocery shopper, but is considered a shoplifter. A better label in this case would be poacher, since the individual had violated Red Lake tribal law and ethical hunting behavior in the bear's taking.

Though any such act should rightly be judged on its own merits, the alleged perpetrator reportedly had several "priors," including arrests for illegally baiting and transporting deer, fishing and spearing without a license, and being a felon in possession of a firearm. The priors don't change the gravity of the bear shooting-related offenses, but do make a powerful case that "innocent mistake" would not be a credible defense.

The same writer also accurately pointed out that in this country there has long been an attitude of misplaced tolerance for game and fish law violations. Only in recent years have natural resource management agencies and the courts cooperatively put a value on poached fish and wildlife, and more often now ask for monetary fines from perpetrators as restitution for illegal taking, just as a thief would be required to restore the value of goods taken in a burglary.

While someone else's property rights may deny us access to a hunting or fishing opportunity, wild game and fish do not belong to the land's owner. They belong to the public, but therein may be the unfortunate basis for the ease with which judges in decades past dished out light or nonexistent penalties for violations. Things that belong to everyone sometimes are also seen as belonging to no one. If it's not an individual's loss, perhaps the loss is not such a big deal, or so some judges have seemed to view these transgressions.

Those who have recently written about this bear poaching case in the outdoor media rightfully want to distance hunters and hunting from the offense. "Fair chase," and adhering to the laws that govern the taking of game and fish, are—they point out—the characteristics that make the harvest of game "hunting," and—similarly—the catching of fish "fishing." In the matter at hand of which they've written, anything less should not be called hunting, nor should honest hunters be tarred with the same brush.

It's easy to look at this bear poaching event, and what has all the earmarks of an open-and-shut case against a perpetrator with a reportedly long "rap sheet," and righteously—legitimately—distance ourselves as hunters from someone who should rightfully be called a "poacher." But it would not be time ill-spent to examine our own practices and ethics, reminding ourselves that—if we want to draw a sharp distinction between us and those like the Red Lake bear shooter—we have to hold ourselves to high standards.

Things like rigidly observing legal shooting time at the start or end of a day's hunt. Or making the recovery of every duck or pheasant we down a crusade, and not being willing to "leave it to the foxes" because recovering it seems a long shot. Or not keeping a fish that is oh-so-close to falling outside a protected slot limit.

Fair chase, conducting ourselves both legally and ethically, is the best defense for the practice of hunting; and fishing for that matter.

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DNR offers opportunity to discuss deer population goals

Minnesotans can take an active role in helping shape deer population goals across the state by attending local workshops designed to increase inclusiveness and transparency in the Department of Natural Resources' decision-making process.

Based on feedback from hunters and others, the DNR is using a new workshop format to facilitate small group discussions to both scope issues and create recommendations. The workshops replace the citizen advisory committees and public meetings that were used during the last round of deer goal setting in 2017.

"Using workshops to gather input opens the doors to include more participants and more viewpoints than the advisory committees used previously, and we're really looking forward to hearing the conversations and recommendations," said Barbara Keller, DNR big game program leader. "We encourage anyone who has an interest in deer management to attend these workshops."

The DNR sets deer population goals as part of managing the state's wild deer herd. The population goals established in this process will provide direction for management over 10 years, with a midpoint review every five years.

The goal-setting process will take four years, with several geographic blocks addressed each year. This year focuses on blocks in the northwest and western parts of the state. Dates and locations of the workshops are listed on the goal-setting webpage. Attendees are highly encouraged to RSVP on the DNR goal-setting webpage.

There will be a pair of workshops for each block, each three hours long. During the first workshop, participants will identify key issues of interest and priorities to guide deer management. In the second workshop, participants will discuss solutions and create recommendations for the deer populations in those blocks.

Those who are unable to attend the workshops can still participate. There will be online comment opportunities supplementing the workshops, including an online questionnaire that will be on the DNR website in January. The public will also be able to comment on the draft population goals that result from the goal-setting process.

To find out more, visit the DNR's deer population goal-setting webpage.

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Need a ride to the store, clinic, after school activity? We get you where you need to go.
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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Wadena County



Journey to Bethlehem finale

Sunday school classes at Faith Lutheran Church in Staples presented their Christmas pageant, "Journey to Bethlehem" Sunday, Dec. 15. The program depicted the travel of Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem and the people they encountered along the way to the special night when Jesus was born. The confirmation youth presented special music with youth also providing the program direction from the pulpit. The program followed the 9 a.m. Journey to Bethlehem street scene, which included booths, food, games, name tags, animals and more such as what would have been found along the streets of Bethlehem.

Staples Area Church Directory

Staples

Staples Alliance
1512 8th St. NE, Staples 218-894-2891
Associate Pastor Zach Jones
Sunday Worship.....9:30 a.m.
Sunday School .....11:00 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
AWANA.....6:00 p.m.

Assembly of God
914 3rd Ave. NE, Staples 218-894-1081
Pastor Roy Miles
Discipleship Classes.....9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship.....10:30 a.m.
Evening Prayer .....6:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
Wednesday times are for Sept. - May
Sonlight (Kids Program).... 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.
Youth Group ..... 4:00 - 5:30 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.

First Congregational Church, UCC
firstcongouccstaples@gmail.com
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. Gabriel Walz
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
Sunday School .....9:15 a.m.
Sunday Worship.....10:30 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.....10:30 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

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

Cushing

Bethany Lutheran
25430 Bison Rd.Cushing, MN
320-749-2140
Pastor Carl Larson
www.bethanylutherancushing.org
Sunday Worship.....10:45 a.m.
Sunday School and
Coffee Fellowship.....9:30 a.m.
Pancake Breakfast.....11:45 a.m.
2nd Sunday, each month

Lincoln Evangelical Free
1354 320th St., Cushing.....218-575-2449
www.lincolnefree.org Facebook Lincoln E Free
Office Hours: Mon.-Thurs., 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
Senior Pastor: Donald Reigstad
Pastor: Jim Brown
Youth Coordinator: Joe Reigstad
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
Pastor Dan Holmes.....320-749-2583
Sunday School .....9:30 a.m.
Worship.....10:30 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Bible study.....7:30 p.m.

Leader

Swan Valley Lutheran
Leader 218-397-2470
Sandy Knight, Synodically Authorized Minister of Word and Sacrament
Sunday Worship.....11:00 a.m.

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

Leaf River Township

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

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. Gabriel Walz
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.net
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
Pastor Mathew Sundquist
717 River Street S, Pillager, MN
218-746-3775
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 Hoffert
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.

United Methodist Church
Hwy. 210, Hewitt, MN
Pastor Kenneth Uhren
Sunday Services .....10:30 a.m.
Sunday School .....9:30 a.m.

Verndale

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

Family Life Church
402 NE Clark Drive, Verndale 218-445-5568
VerndaleFLC@gmail.com
Pastor Amos Self 218-371-7189
Childrens' Pastor Kenneth Kjeldergaard
SUNDAY
Discipleship Classes.....9:00 a.m.
Prayer.....9:20 a.m.
Coffee / Fellowship .....9:30 a.m.
Worship Service .....10:00 a.m.
Celebrate Recovery .....6-8 p.m.
WEDNESDAY
6:00 p.m....Meal ..... 6:30 p.m ...Groups

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.

A Christmas Story, The Freebie

Pastor Roy Miles, Staples Assembly of God

-Author Unknown, from an Exchange publication

Paul drove his Christmas present, a new car, to work. When he came out of work, a little boy was staring at it. The boy asked, "Is this yours, Mister?" Paul nodded, "My older brother gave it to me for Christmas." The boy was astonished. "You mean your brother gave it to you?" Paul said, "That's right." The boy said, "I wish…," then he hesitated.

Paul thought he was going to say that he wished he had a brother like that, but was stunned to hear the boy say, "I wish I could be a brother like that." He was so moved, he impulsively replied, "Would you like a ride in her?" "Sure," he said. Then he shyly asked, "Can we go by and show my brother?" Paul thought he wanted to impress his brother.

They stopped in front and he said, "Can you wait just a minute? I'll be right back!" In a few minutes, the boy came out carrying his polio-crippled brother. He set him down on the steps and said, "There she is, Bobby, just like I said. His brother gave it to him. It didn't cost him anything. Someday, I'm going to get you a car just like that one. And you and I are going to drive her to see all those things I've told you about."

This Christmas let's be like this little boy. The question isn't so much what we are going to get or give for Christmas, but how we are going to live.

Isn't that a great story about a selflessness? We truly need to remember this Christmas how selfless Jesus was. Philippians 2:5-8 says, "In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death - even death on a cross!" (NIV)

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

wk51c

Student Achievements

Lacie Hines, Pillager, was one of nine college students who presented at the Florida International University McNair Research Conference in Miami, Fla., Dec. 13. Hines is a junior at Bemidji State University where she is majoring in psychology.

Haley Christoffersen, Staples, was recently inducted into the National Society of Leadership and Success. She is a senior at Bemidji State University, majoring in business administration.

Claire Wolhowe, Staples, was recently inducted into the National Society of Leadership and Success. She is a junior at Bemidji State University, majoring in exercise science.

Much Appreciated

The Staples '93 Lions would like to thank the Staples and Motley communities for their support with our Christmas for Kids service project this year.

Thank you to those who did some shopping for us; Faith Lutheran Sunday School kids, Sourcewell and Stern's Rubber.

We served 85 families in need with a total of 218 kids.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays from....

Staples '93 Lions

Hello World

Births reported at Lakewood Health System Hospital in Staples included:

Born to Bridget and John Dottenwhy of Browerville, a baby girl, Elsie Jo Marie weighing seven pounds, three ounces on December 5, 2019.

Born to Jessica and Larry Marion of Browerville, a baby boy, Wyatt James weighing seven pounds, seven ounces on December 11, 2019.

Born to Caitlyn and Derrick Rude of Wadena, a baby boy, Kaden James weighing six pounds, 15 ounces on December 11, 2019.

Obituary

Beth Sellnow



Beth Sellnow, 87, passed away on December 9, 2019 at Essentia - St Joseph's Medical Center.

A memorial service was held Dec. 14 at Halvorson Taylor Life Events Center, Brainerd.

Interment was at Evergreen Hill Cemetery in Staples.

Beth was born at home in Cass County, near Motley to Owen and Bertha (DeGeest) Truesdell. She completed teacher's training in 1953 and taught in one-room country schools in rural Minnesota. In 1957, she married Les Sellnow. After marriage and raising four children, she returned to the work force as a nursing assistant at St. Joseph's Medical Center for 24 years, until her retirement.

Left to cherish her memory are her children, two daughters, Pam (Mike) O'Rourke and Lori (Gary) Morgan; one son, Tim (Deanna) Sellnow; daughter-in-law, Shelly Kotyk-Sellnow; two brothers, Kenneth Truesdell, Jack Truesdell; one sister, Dorothy (Archie) Hosner; sister-in-law, Waneta Truesdell; seven grandchildren, Neil Doucette, Debbie Sellnow-Richmond, Caitlin Sellnow, Emily Driessen, Abby Jasmer, Rick Sellnow, Stephanie Gangestad, Cameron Sellnow and four great-grandchildren.

Beth is preceded in death by her parents; one son, Greg Sellnow; son-in-law, Roger Doucette; two brothers, Bill Truesdell and Emmett Truesdell; two sisters-in-law, Gloria Truesdell and Joan Truesdell.

Arrangements were by Halvorson Taylor Funeral Home, Brainerd.

w51c A00006B2019DC18



Eunice Lyn Olson
12/29/1956 ~ 12/17/1999
They say there is a reason
They say that time will heal
But neither time nor reason
Will change the way we feel
For no-one knows the heartache
That lies behind our smiles
No-one knows how many times
We have broken down and cried
We want to tell you something
So there won't be any doubt
You're so wonderful to think of
But so hard to be without.
Love you and miss you mom,
Anita Torkelson

ssw51c

Looking for a gift idea?
Consider a Gift Subscription to the
Staples World
newspaper.
**Gift cards available.*
224 4th St. NE
Staples, MN
Staples World

Faith Lutheran Church Wishing You a Blessed Christmas

430 12th St. NE, Staples, MN



December 22
9:00 a.m. Suite of Carols
Brass Band Worship
Service

Christmas Eve
5:00 p.m. and 10 p.m.
Candlelight Services

w51c

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF WADENA
SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
DISTRICT COURT
PROBATE DIVISION
Court File
No. 80-PR-19-1040

ESTATE OF
Gayle E. Schmidt,
Decedent

NOTICE AND ORDER OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL AND APPOINTMENT OF PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on January 13, 2020, at 9:00 a.m., a hearing will be held in this Court at the Wadena County Courthouse 415 Jefferson Street South, Wadena, MN 56482, for the formal probate of an instrument purporting to be the Will of the Decedent dated April 3, 2015, ("Will"), and for the appointment of **Linda Lee Ayers**, residing at 3077 River Road SE, St. Cloud, MN 56304, as Personal Representative of the Estate of the Decedent in an **X** UNSUPERVISED administration. Any objections to this petition must be filed with the Court prior to or raised at the hearing. If proper and if no objections are filed or raised, the Personal Representative will be appointed with full power to administer the Estate including the power to collect all assets, to pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, to sell real and personal property, and to do all necessary acts for the Estate.

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

Dated: December 5, 2019

BY THE COURT
Doug Clark,
Judge of District Court

Barb Allen,
Court Administrator/
Deputy

Attorney for Petitioner
Mark A. Severson
(Reg. No. 0388914)
Severson Porter Law
P.O. Box 430
34354 County Road 3
Crosslake, MN 56442
218-692-6999
mark@seversonporter.com
51-52pnc

FILING NOTICE
MORAN TOWNSHIP

Notice is hereby given to the residents of Moran Township that filing for township offices will be open December 31, 2019 and close January 14, 2020, at 5:00 p.m. The offices that may be filed for are: One (1) Supervisor for a three (3) year term, and One (1) Clerk for a two (2) year term. Candidates may file at the clerk's office at 28316 410th St. Browerville, Mn.

Teresa Wagner, Clerk
51-52pnc

FILING NOTICE
FAWN LAKE TOWNSHIP

The following positions will be open for filing for the upcoming township election.

One (1) supervisor for a two (2) year term.

One (1) supervisor for a three (3) year term.

One clerk for a two (2) year term.

Please call the clerk at 218-531-0287 for an appointment to file for office. Filing opens December 31, 2019 and will close on January 14, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.

Kelly Miller, Clerk
Fawn Lake Township
51-52pnc

COUNTY PRINTING
TODD COUNTY - MINNESOTA

Notice is hereby given that the Board of County Commissioners of Todd County, will receive sealed bids until 4:00 p.m. Friday, January 3, 2020 at the County Auditor-Treasurer's Office. Bids will be opened at the County Board meeting on Tuesday, January 7, 2020 at 9:05 a.m. in the County Board Room, for publication for the year 2020 as may be required by the County of Todd, a municipal corporation, as follows:

Designation of the Official Newspaper

This requires the publishing of official proceedings by the Todd County Board, and other legal and public notices required by all Todd County Departments, publication of the financial statement and publication of the list of lands in Todd County, delinquent in taxes for the year 2019, which have not been attached to prior judgment.

The successful bidder will be required to furnish a performance bond in such amount as may be determined by the County Board.The County Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids if in its judgment of the public interest so require pursuant to M.S. 279.07, and to waive any informalities therein.

Denise Gaida
Todd County Auditor/
Treasurer
51-52pnc

COUNTY PRINTING
TODD COUNTY, MINNESOTA

Designation of Extra Printing

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Commissioners of Todd County, Minnesota will receive sealed bids for the extra publication of the Financial Statement for the year 2019 as required by law until 4:00 p.m., Friday, January 3, 2020. Bids will be opened at 9:05 a.m. on January 7, 2020 in the County Board Room.

This requires the extra publication for distribution of the Financial Statement to the remaining parts of the county not covered by the distribution of the official paper. The successful bidder will be required to furnish a performance bond in such an amount as may be determined by the County Board. The County Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids if in its judgment of the public interest so require pursuant to M.S 279.07, and it waives any informalities therein.

Denise Gaida
Todd County Auditor/
Treasurer
51-52pnc

FILING NOTICE
BARTLETT TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS

Notice is hereby given to the residents of Bartlett Township that filing for township offices will open on December 31, 2019 and close at 5 p.m. on January 14, 2020. The offices to be filed for are: One (1) Supervisor for a three (3) year term, One (1) Clerk for a two (2) year term. If you wish to file, contact Jan Jares at 218-640-3176. You may file at the clerk's home, 47810 193rd Ave., Aldrich, MN from 1 to 5 p.m. on January 14, 2020. There is a $2 filing fee due at time of filing.

Jan Jares,
Bartlett Township Clerk
51pnc

NOTICE OF FILING FOR STAPLES TOWNSHIP

Staples Township is accepting filings for:

Supervisor for a three (3) year term

Secretary for a two (2) year term

The filing period for these offices opens at the home of the Clerk on December 31, 2019 and closes at 5:00 p.m. on January 14, 2020. Filing fee is $2.00.

Please contact Bonnie Thoele at 218-296-2151 or 218-894-3638 to file for office.

Bonnie Thoele, Clerk
50-51pnc

TODD COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION
215 1st Ave. South, Suite 103
Long Prairie, Minnesota 56347
320-732-4420
Fax 320-732-4803
Email: toddplan.zone@co.todd.mn.us

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Todd County Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on **Thursday January 2, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.** in the Commissioners Meeting Room, **Historic Courthouse, 215 First Ave. South, Long Prairie, MN.**

AGENDA

•Call to Order.

•Introduction of Planning Commission Members.

•Approval of the November 2019 Planning Commission meeting minutes.

1. David and Rena Michael; "D Michael Subdivisions" Preliminary Plat: part of Lot 5 of Section 34 Township 129 Range 35 West in Leslie Township
Site Address: N/A
PID: 15-0041900
1) Rezone and plat 12.5 acres AF-1/Lakeshore into 4 residential lots of Lakeshore.

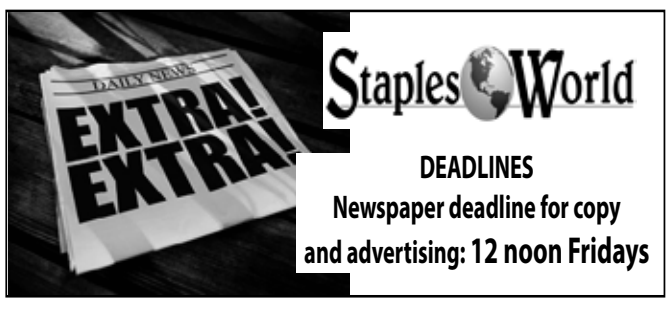
2. Robert and Beatrice Clasemann: W2 NE4 & SE4 NE 4 of Section 11 in Long Prairie Township
Site Address: 25615 County 29. PID: 18-0009900
1) Rezoning amendment request to change W2 NE4 & SE4 NE 4 of Section 11 in Long Prairie Township from AF-1 zoning to AF-2 zoning to allow 2nd dwelling on Gov't 40.

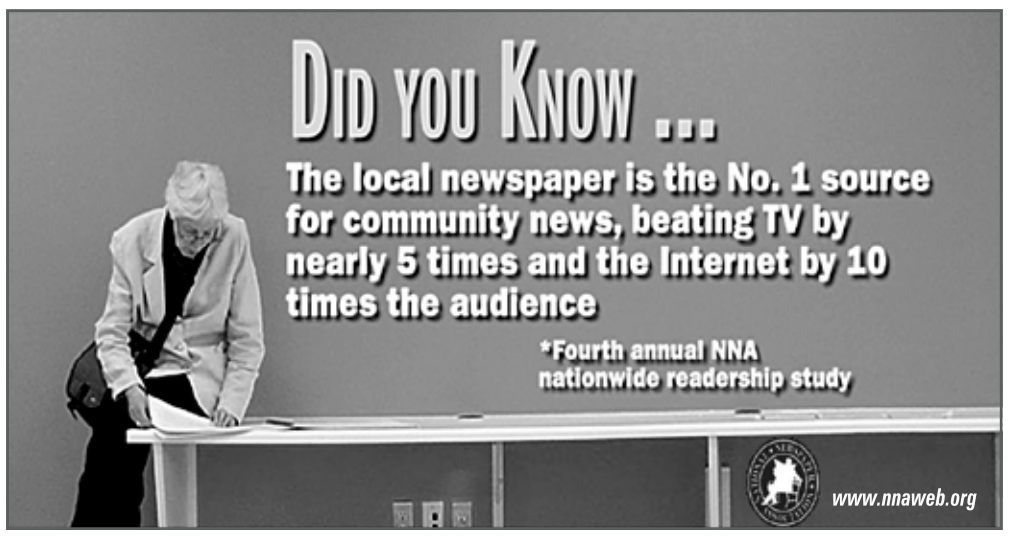
3. Rodney Erickson: SW4 NE4 E of Hwy 71 of Section 6 Range 33 in Round Prairie Township
Site Address: 20572 US 71. PID: 21-0007200
1) Approval of a three lot plat in Commercial Zoning.

All persons interested are invited to attend said hearing and be heard on these matters. If unable to attend, all correspondence must include name, mailing address and be received 48 hours before the date and time of the hearing.

Todd County
Planning Commission
Michael Wiener,
Chairperson
51pnc









Public notices are a community's window into the government. You look for those notices in your newspaper. From zoning regulations to local budgets, governments have used local newspapers to inform citizens of its actions as an essential part of your right to know.
Keep public notices in newspapers!



Place your Classified Ad

for only $9.85/wk.
Your ad will appear Wednesday in the

Staples World

and **online** at **www.staplesworld.com**
and Saturday in the **Square Shooter**

Both publications and Internet for One Price!

Payment must accompany the order.
Use form below or click on www.staplesworld.com

Deadline: *Friday at Noon*

Classifications

NOTICES
100 Events/ Announcements
101 Card of Thanks
102 In Memory
103 Lost & Found
104 Give Away
106 Personals
107 Notices

SERVICES & EMPLOYMENT
201 Business Opportunities
202 Childcare Providers
203 Childcare Wanted
205 Help Wanted
206 Positions Wanted
207 Equipment for Rent
208 Storage
209 Business Services
210 Animal Care/ Supplies
211 Work Wanted

FOR SALE
300 Antiques/ Collectibles
301 Good Things to Eat
302 Lawn/Garden
303 Hay/Straw/ Feed/Seed
304 Livestock
305 Pets
306 Sporting Goods
307 Household
308 Musical
309 Miscellaneous
310 Health/Beauty
311 Firewood
312 Christmas Trees
313 Computers/ Office Equip.
314 Farm Services
315 Camper Trailer

VEHICLES
401 Automobiles
402 Trucks/Vans
403 Recreational
404 Farm Equipment
405 Heavy Equipment
406 Parts/ Repair

WANTED TO BUY
501 Miscellaneous
502 Livestock

REAL ESTATE
601 Wanted to Rent
602 Apartments for Rent
603 Houses for Rent
604 Commercial for Rent
605 Mobile Homes for Rent
606 Land for Rent
607 Houses for Sale
608 Farms for Sale
609 Mobile Homes for Sale
610 Land for Sale
611 Business Property for Sale
612 Real Estate Wanted

GARAGE SALES
701 Garage Sales
702 Flea Market/ Crafts

Classified Ad Order Form

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Classification # _____

Cost of Ad

First 15 words for one week $9.85
Add for number of words over 15 _____ x 25¢ = _____
OR First 15 words for three weeks $25.00
Add for number of words over 15 _____ x 25¢ = _____
Add $5 for bold type and/or CAPITALIZED _____
indicate which word(s) is/are to be bold or capitalized
Add $10 for Blind Box _____
TOTAL enclosed _____

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

**Please check your ad the first day.
Refunds or credit will not be given for errors brought to our attention after the second publication.
We are not responsible for errors due to illegible copy or missing punctuation.**

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

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

Please mail completed form and check payment to:
Staples World, Box 100, Staples, MN 56479

The Fine Print

The publishers liability for errors in an advertisement or for failure to publish the ad shall be limited to publishing the ad in a subsequent issue or for the refund of any monies paid for an ad not run (and out of date for subsequent issues) providing the advertiser reports the error or omission immediately after it occurs.

All advertising copy is subject to the approval of the general manager. We will not accept ads from anyone with a past due account.

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

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The position is full-time and requires some evening hours.
A resumé, cover letter and City application are required.
Application forms and a full list of hiring requirements can be found online at **www.cityofmotley.com**, or at City Hall. Contact Lacey Smieja at 218-352-6200 or **cityofmotley@brainerd.net** with any questions about the position or hiring process. All application materials must be received no later than **3:30 p.m.** on **Thursday, January 16, 2020**, and can be emailed to **cityofmotley@brainerd.net**, dropped off at City Hall during office hours, or mailed to 316 Hwy. 10 S., Motley, MN 56466, Attn: City Clerk.
Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.
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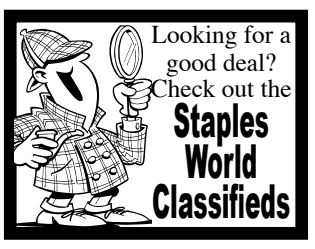
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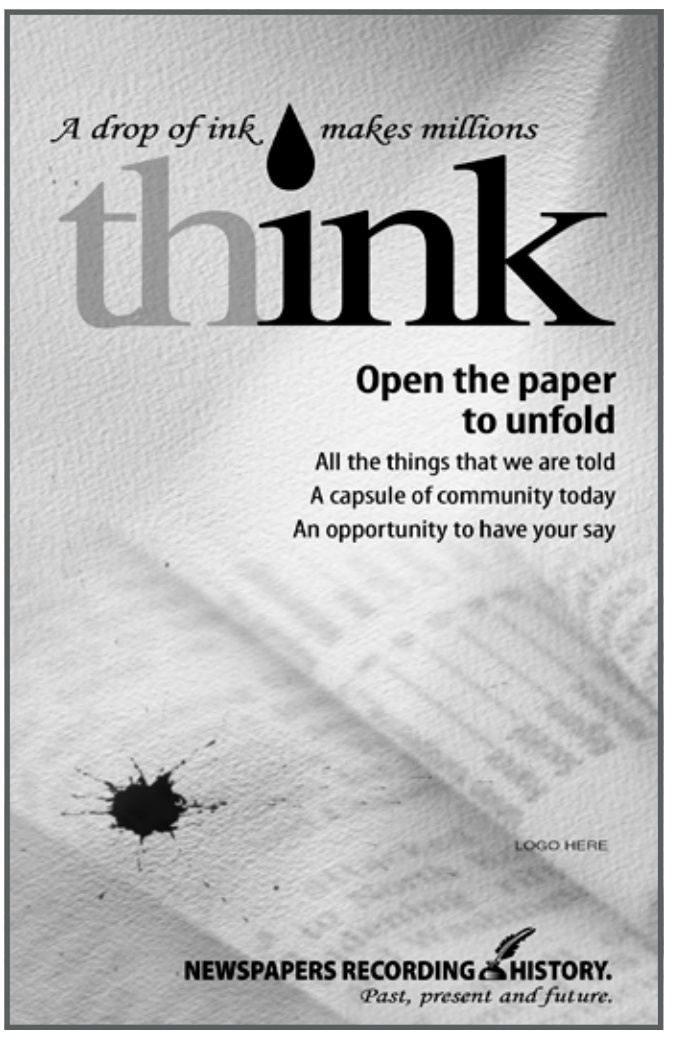
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Naughty Elves at Staples Nutrition Site Christmas

The Naughty Elves made an appearance at the Staples Nutrition Site Christmas program held Dec. 11 at the Staples Community Center.

Upper right: Biddie and Oma - the sisters - provided a spoof rendition of "The 12 Days of Christmas".

Below left: Several tables of Christmas spirited attendees included: Amy Lindstrom, Jeanie Huebner, Gloria Marden, Rita Stone, Joan Doll and Rose Hoemberg.

Below right: Neil Grover, Arlene Grover, Arlene Skov, Carol Olsen, Maryann Riewer and Kathy Kruse. (Staples World photos by Janice Winter)







Recognize the gifts

By Todd County HHS

What if you could not only survive the holidays but actually enjoy this time of year? Can you imagine yourself looking forward to this season and moving through it with ease? Being thankful increases the good things in our lives, the good people in our lives and even the good in us. What better time than the holidays to practice these skills?

The everyday

Enjoy your senses during the holidays. Taste the varieties of food, lovingly prepared; delight in the tiny white lights strung along the streets; revel in the deep winter colors, the sumptuous velvets and rich brocades. Celebrate the changing of the seasons and create rituals that fulfill and sustain you.

People and relationships

We gather with friends and family during the holidays and feel deeply connected with those we love. We feel a sense of belonging. We go out at night; we visit each other in our homes; we dress up and go out on the town; we enjoy good entertainment. We connect with some of the people in our lives only once a year around this time. Plan ahead for the holidays, scheduling events you look forward to with people you enjoy.

The big picture

As you focus on your life, take the long view. This is a good time to reflect over the past year. Focus on what was good. Was there a difficult situation you handled well? Did you exhibit a strength or talent this year that was helpful to another person or to your worksite? Was there an experience that helped you to grow?

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Third grade... NO-ELephant

Third grade students at Staples-Motley Elementary School revealed "NO-ELephant" during the song at the All-School Christmas Program Dec. 11. They also sang Christmas is Coming" and "The Little Drummer Boy". (Staples World photo by Janice Winter)



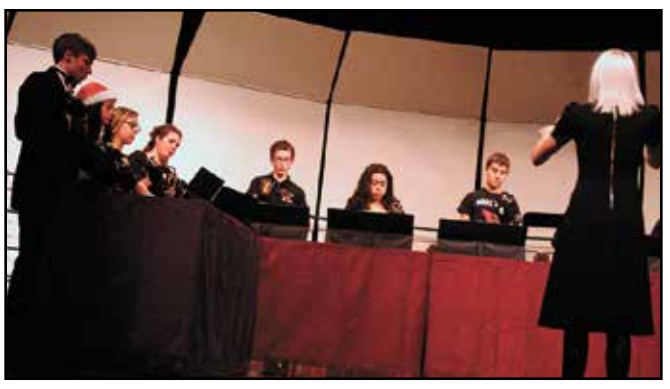
Closing remarks

Mary Moen, music teacher, gave the closing remarks and thanks to students, teachers, staff, logistics, office help, custodians and the Staples-Motley High School Music Department for everyone's help and support. (Staples World photo by Janice Winter)



Kindergarten opening act

SMES kindergarteners opened the show with a finger play to, "Down Through the Chimney". They also sang "Tapping" and "Ring Those Bells". (Staples World photo by Janice Winter)



Bell Choir prelude

The Bell Choir, under the direction of Kristina Haataja, provided some prelude music prior to the start of the Cardinal Christmas Concert Dec. 12. Haataja also directed the Chamber Orchestra. The concert was held at Centennial Auditorium in Staples. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



Singing songs of the season

The combined choirs at Staples-Motley Middle School ended their Dec. 12 holiday concert with their festive rendition of "We Wish You a Merry Christmas." The combined choirs, under the direction of Nathan Thelen, included Bravura, Voce and Cantabile. They opened the program with their song, "Dona Nobis Pacem." Sandy Paskewitz, pictured at the piano, is the choirs' accompanist. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



Christmas Brass ensemble

Christmas Brass, under the direction of Dan Spandl, performed a number of familiar songs of the season at the Cardinal Christmas concert Dec. 12. The ensemble included members of the Staples-Motley High School band, as well as some adult members of the community who play brass instruments. Dave Anderson, at far right, shared his talents on the baritone; and on trumpet, from left, are Ty Peterson and his son, Paul Peterson. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



Playing carols

The Staples-Motley High School Chamber Orchestra, under the direction of Kristina Haataja, performed, "Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella" at the recent Cardinal Christmas Concert. They closed their portion of the program with their upbeat rendition of, "A Merryachi Christmas." Pictured at left, from left, are violinists Iain Sams, Alex Brings, Nita Dewald and Marie Brings. (Staples World photo by Dawn Timbs)



Conclusion

"Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree" sang by all students produced many smiles at the conclusion of the All School Christmas Program.





The Evergreen Hill Cemetery Board extends a huge
"Thank You"
to everyone who supported the "2019 Cemetery Wreath Sales" fundraiser.
Your continued support is much appreciated.
w51c