



## HUSKIES WIN IN OVERTIME

The Jackson County Central boys' basketball team needed two overtimes to beat Spirit Lake, Iowa, Monday.  
Story, B1



# JACKSON COUNTY PILOT

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2019

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Jackson Cub Scouts Dezmynd Tupper (from left), Benjamin Knakmuhs and Crosby Klassen salute the flag to open Sunday's annual Blue and Gold Awards Ceremony.

PHOTOS BY JUSTIN LESSMAN

## Storm closes county

by JUSTIN R. LESSMAN  
Publisher

The blizzard that swept across southwestern Minnesota last Thursday literally shut down Jackson County.

Jackson County government offices, along with Des Moines Valley Health and Human Services offices in Jackson, closed at 10 a.m. last Thursday, right as winds gusting as high as 45 miles per hour began blowing around 4 inches of recently fallen powder. District court offices in Jackson also closed at 10, with all hearings canceled after that point. DVHHS nursing and home health aide visits were also canceled, and libraries in Jackson, Lakefield and Heron Lake closed at noon.

See **STORM** on A3

## Dads and daughters to dance

by LAURA DeKOK  
Staff Writer

The Jackson Women of Today are gearing up to host their ninth annual Father-Daughter Dance this Friday.

Open to girls preschool age through eighth grade and their dads or other special gentlemen, the "Sweet as Can Be"-themed dance begins at 6:30 p.m. Friday at the Jackson National Guard Armory. Advance tickets are available now at Tootie's Boutique in Jackson or at Simply Sweet Cheesecake in Lakefield; tickets will also be available.

See **DANCE** on A3

### If you go ...

**What:** Father-Daughter Dance  
**When:** Friday, Feb. 15, 6:30 p.m.  
**Where:** Jackson National Guard Armory

# SCOUT'S HONOR

## Local Cubs earn belt loops, merit pins at a special Sunday ceremony

by JUSTIN R. LESSMAN  
Publisher

Members of Jackson Cub Scout Pack 80 bulked up on belt loops and merit pins during the troop's annual Blue and Gold Awards Ceremony Sunday afternoon.

A baker's dozen worth of local Scouts earned a smattering of belt loops and pins for completing various learning "adventures" over the course of the last year. Lions, Tigers, Wolves and Bears earn belt loops after demonstrating achievement and progress

through various adventures; Webelos earn pins after demonstrating the achievement and progress necessary to earn either the Webelos rank or Arrow of Light Award.

Webelos Wyatt Fredrickson earned his First Responder, Building a Better World, Scouting Adventure, Outdoor Adventurer and Into the Woods pins, while fellow Webelos Blayze Hillmer, Kristoph Olsen and Dezmynd Tupper earned their Building a Better World, Scouting Adventure, Outdoor Adventurer and Into the Woods pins.

Wolves Crosby Klassen and Haden Kummrow earned their Call of the Wild and Paws on the Path

See **SCOUTS** on A3



Jackson Cub Scout Crosby Klassen recites the Scout Oath during Sunday's annual Blue and Gold Awards Ceremony.

# Puke: The secret to songwriting

by JUSTIN R. LESSMAN  
Publisher

Aspiring local songwriters last week learned the one-word secret to expertly weaving lyrics and melodies together in perfect harmony.

Puke. "P-U-K-E," spelled out noted lyricist and composer David Stoddard as he helped lead a songwriting workshop Saturday morning at the Jackson Center for the Arts. "Puke. Just get it all out and, like a dog, pick your way through it and find what's good."

Stoddard and fellow singer/songwriter Matt Fockler, members of the Unsung Songwriters musical troupe, led a group of locals on a quest to write the perfect song Saturday, the morning after putting their talents on full display in concert at the Main Street art center.

Both agreed there is no clear-cut method to writing songs.

"Every songwriter has his or her own process,"

See **SONGWRITING** on A3



Noted lyricist and composer David Stoddard (right) listens to an original song by Daryl Hrdlicka during a Saturday morning songwriting workshop at the Jackson Center for the Arts.

PHOTOS BY JUSTIN LESSMAN



Accomplished singer/songwriter Matt Fockler describes his writing process and his sources of songwriting inspiration.



## BUSINESS BRIEFS

### Co-op pays penalties related to MPCA violations at Jackson site

Crystal Valley Cooperative has paid nearly \$12,000 in penalties to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency after being found in violation of air quality permitting standards at its Jackson location for the last 13 years.

Jenna Ness of the MPCA said the cooperative had been operating without the proper permit since 2005.

Ness said infrastructure modifications made at the co-op's Jackson facility in 2005 increased the facility's potential to emit particulate matter enough to require a different permit — one that was not obtained until the MPCA completed an enforcement investigation late last year.

Ness said Crystal Valley brought its Jackson location into compliance within the allotted compliance period, earning it a \$1,350 credit against its original \$13,025 penalty. Ness said Crystal Valley paid its penalty within the allotted 30-day time period.

The Crystal Valley penalty was one of 31 collected by the MPCA in the fourth quarter of 2018 totaling just more than \$158,000. In all of 2018, the MPCA completed 194 enforcement cases, levying penalties of just short of \$1.1 million.

### Local chiropractor excited about benefits new clinic location offers

A larger office space and more convenient parking are among the benefits of Jackson Chiropractic's new location.

That's according to Dr. Matt Wasmund, who said his new clinic location at 208 Sherman St., right along Highway 71, offers multiple benefits for his clients.

Jackson Chiropractic was formerly located at 612 Second St. in Jackson.

### Local restaurant looks to expand

A downtown Jackson restaurant is scheduled to expand.

Members of the Jackson City Council last week approved a revolving loan fund loan in the amount of \$20,000 for Donnie Schoenrock, owner and operator of Kat's Hog Heaven. Schoenrock plans to use the loan to help finance a complete buyout of the business, as well as an expansion.

Tom Nelson, the city's contracted economic development coordinator, said Schoenrock plans to expand seating capacity of the restaurant from 65 to 105.

The term of the loan is 15 years.

Schoenrock, who is a member of the Jackson City Council, abstained from voting on the matter.

### Jackson-built tractors featured

Jackson-built tractors are taking center stage at farm machinery shows across the nation this week.

AGCO Corp. is displaying four models of its Fendt high-horsepower tractors at the 2019 World Ag Expo in Tulare, Calif., for the first time, as well as several models of Massey Ferguson tractors and Challenger tractors. The company is also featuring Fendts, Massey Fergusons and Challengers — as well as the new Fendt IDEAL combine, with Jackson-manufactured tracks — at the 2019 National Farm Machinery Show in Louisville, Ky.

All high-horsepower Fendt, Massey Ferguson and Challenger tractors destined for North American markets are manufactured at AGCO Jackson Operations.

The World Ag Expo runs Feb. 12-14; the National Farm Machinery Show runs Feb. 13-16.

### Business place to host bake sale

A downtown business location will host the annual bake sale fundraiser of the local Precious Animals Worth Saving organization.

PAWS will have its annual Valentine's Day bake sale today (Thursday), at the old Reggie's location within Jackson's Historic State Theatre. The sale will run from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., or until the baked goods are gone.

All proceeds will benefit the work of PAWS.

See the ad in the Sunday, Feb. 10, edition of the Livewire for more details.

### Jackson area business set to host first-ever ultimate chamber mixer

A Jackson area business is hosting a mixer for several area chambers of commerce later this month.

Round Lake Vineyards and Winery will host what is being billed as "the area's first-ever ultimate chamber mixer" on Tuesday, Feb. 26. Representatives of member businesses from the Jackson Area Chamber of Commerce and Worthington Area Chamber of Commerce, as well as the Iowa Great Lakes Chamber of Commerce, the Spencer Chamber of Commerce and the Spirit Lake Chamber of Commerce in Iowa, are invited to attend. The event is designed as a networking event to give associations and their members the opportunity to connect with each other.

The mixer will run from 5 to 8 p.m. at The Cellar at Round Lake Vineyards and Winery in southwestern Jackson County. Appetizers and a free cocktail will be provided. A short program will take place at 6 p.m., with door prizes awarded at 6:30. Tours of the facilities will take place on the hour at 5, 6 and 7 p.m.

### Business promotion opportunity available for a very limited time

Businesses can beat back the winter blues in February with high-impact advertising at steeply discounted rates through Livewire Printing Co.'s full-page advertising blowout.

A limited number of full-page ads as much as 85 percent off regular prices are being offered this month in the Livewire and the B section of the Jackson County Pilot and Lakefield Standard. Position, placement and color will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. To reserve space, call 847-3771 or email info@livewireprinting.com.

### Municipal liquor store should be open in new location by March 1

The Jackson Municipal Liquor Store should be open at its new location on Jackson's north edge by March 1.

That's the word from Jackson City Council member Brandon Finck, who sits on the city's liquor committee and has been helping oversee construction of the new liquor store building near the intersection of Highway 71 and Prospect Lane.

"Things are coming along well," Finck said of construction work on the 4,400-square-foot building.

A snafu with interior lighting has been take care of, Finck said, and shelving is close to being finished. Interior and exterior signage is being designed, he said, and finishing touches will follow. "It's the normal punch list of things to do," he said.

Finck said liquor store staffers are excited to get into their new location. "It's pretty exciting for the team," he said.



PHOTO BY JUSTIN LESSMAN

### THEY'RE TERRIFIC!

Riverside Elementary School students honored by the Jackson Kiwanis Club as Terrific Kids for the month of January include (front, from left): Daniela Ringham, Devyn Ness, Ryder Koebouaravath, Maryjane Taylor-Halverson, Jersey Truman and Calvin Tuyen. Middle: Shiloh Hoody, Benjamin Knakmuhs, Lily Grabill, Rylee Benda Isaiah Sathe and Bregan Reipke. Back: Jackson Kiwanis Club members Julie Dahlin, Paul Meium and Bonnie Traetow.

## SCOUTS: Local Cubs earn loops, merit pins

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belt loops, while Lions Cody Hawn and Izayak Tupper earned their Lions Honor, Fun on the Run and Animal Kingdom belt loops.

Bears Nolan Brinks, Jonah Espey and Benjamin Knakmuhs earned their Bear Claws, Bear Necessities, Roaring Laughter and Fur, Feathers and Ferns belt loops, while Tigers Micah Espey and Kyson Haukoos earned their Team Tiger, Games Tigers Play, Tiger Tag, Tiger-rrific and Good Knights belt loops.

Sunday's Blue and Gold Awards Ceremony, which is sponsored in part by the Jackson Kiwanis Club, took place at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Jackson.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Members of Jackson Cub Scout Pack 80 honored at Sunday's Blue and Gold Awards Ceremony include (front, from left): Crosby Klassen, Micah Espey and Izayak Tupper. Back: Jonah Espey, Benjamin Knakmuhs, Nolan Brinks and Dezmynd Tupper.

## STORM: Closes down

Continued from A1

County snow plows were pulled from county roads, and a special joint meeting of the Jackson County Board of Commissioners and the Jackson City Council scheduled for last Thursday evening was postponed as wind-chill values plummeted to as low as 30 degrees below zero.

Jackson County Central and Heron Lake-Okabena schools were closed last

Thursday.

One county agency that didn't shut down was the Jackson County Sheriff's Office. In fact, local law enforcement officers were kept hopping last Thursday, handling or assisting with around a half-dozen reports of blizzard-related traffic incidents, including two stalled vehicles, two vehicles in the ditch and one jackknifed semi.

## DANCE: This Friday

Continued from A1

able at the door the evening of the dance.

Jackson Women of Today member Tricia Larson said more than 220 girls attended last year and she and her fellow members are hoping for even more this year.

In addition to dancing, the evening features snacks, professional photos, door prizes and other fun surprises, Larson

said. The event is semi-formal, so girls and their dates are free to dress up, she added.

The dance is the largest fundraiser of the year for the Jackson Women of Today. Proceeds from the dance help the club host other community events and fund donations to a host of local causes and scholarships.

## SONGWRITING: Locals learn from the pros

Continued from A1

Stoddard said. "And there's nothing more boring than hearing about other people's processes."

So, he suggested those present pick up a pencil and paper and just puke.

They puked out titles of songs yet unwritten.

They puked out words to those songs.

They puked out lyrics.

And then, at Stoddard's suggestion, they picked their way through the puke.

"If you have something good there, start working with it," he said. "Find a phrase and start building around it. And don't edit. We edit ourselves way too early in the process. A song is never a finished song when it first comes out."

Among the puked-out song titles: "The End of the Day."

Among the puked-out words: "Reflection," "calm," "fire."

Among the puked-out lyrics: "As the day's light fades and the fire's light glows..."

"That's my favorite part about writing songs — bringing these memories and smells associated with the words to life," Fockler said.

Words are powerful, Fockler added, but also delicate.

"When you have a good word or line, let it breathe," he said. "Let it linger, rather than cram more words in. Words need space to breathe. Space is important. Create space, don't fill it. Create the space to allow the listener to live in it a minute."

Fockler and Stoddard did

share a handful of helpful hints with workshop attendees, including rhyming techniques and best uses of narrative voice, but were quick to point out there are no rules in songwriting.

"Every single person is different," Fockler said. "You need to find your own spark. Don't hold yourself to others' examples or way of doing things. You can use bits and pieces of other people's ways to write songs, but you have to find your own way. There isn't

a right way or wrong way to do anything. There's a million ways — especially to write songs. What's important is being authentic. Pay attention to the whippers of your heart over the screaming in your head."

As the workshop continued, the songs kept evolving.

Lyrics were honed, titles were tweaked and melodies were woven around words.

A few songs were sung. A few chords were critiqued. A few lyrics were

listened to.

Some of each just simply fell apart.

"When they say songwriting is a craft, they mean it," Stoddard said. "It is a craft. And sometimes what you are working on just doesn't come together right away."

When that happens, Fockler said, change something — your environment, your clothes, your attitude, maybe even your entire premise for the song.

In other words, start puking again.



# INJURED? WE CAN HELP.



When an injury or pain in your hip, knee, shoulder, hand or wrist threatens to slow you down, don't wait to seek treatment. Mark Wikenheiser, M.D., and our Orthopedics team is available to provide exactly the care you need so you can get back to enjoying life.

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