



PIONEERS RALLY PAST HUSKIES

Pierz scored 20 straight points to come back and beat the Jackson County Central football team 20-14 in the state semifinals.

Story, B1

Salute to the Huskies, C1-C6



JACKSON COUNTY PILOT

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2019

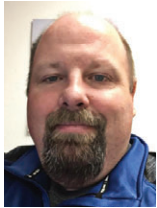
129TH YEAR/ISSUE 47

More county waters listed as 'impaired'

Local watershed planning ongoing

by JUSTIN R. LESSMAN
Publisher

Four more Jackson County streams have been added to the state's list of impaired waters following the latest round of assessments by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.



Andy Geiger

The four new additions bring the total number of impaired waterways in Jackson County to 78.

The local streams added to the state's list of impaired waterways last week include a stretch of Elm Creek flowing from 570th Avenue to the South Fork of Elm Creek, a stretch of the Little Sioux River flowing from Judicial Ditch 28 to an unnamed creek and two stretches of the West Fork of the Little Sioux

River — one running from JD 24 to JD 13, the other running from JD 13 to the Iowa border.

All four were listed as impaired because of the stress the water places on aquatic life. The stretch of Elm Creek was listed based on the results of a fish bio-assessment; the other three were listed because of the amount of total suspended solids found in the water.

The four Jackson County streams are among more than 580 water bodies across the state added to the state's impaired water list last week. At present, that list includes more than 3,415 different bodies of water in Minnesota.

The state's 2020 impaired water list is the first to reflect the MPCA's assessment of all 80 of the state's major watersheds, marking the completion of the agency's first cycle of statewide monitoring that began in 2008, backed by funds from the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment.

MPCA officials say the See **WATERS** on A3

Online ...

See the state of Minnesota's recently updated list of impaired waters online at jacksoncountypilot.com.

Community Thanksgiving dinner open to everyone

Serving will start following service

by JUSTIN R. LESSMAN
Publisher

Our Savior's Lutheran Church of Jackson will host this year's community Thanksgiving dinner — the same way it has for the last 15 years.

All are welcome to this year's feast, and the Thanksgiving worship service that precedes it. The worship service begins at 10:30 a.m. next Thursday; dinner is served at 11:30 in the church hall.

Kari Ahrens, office man-

ager at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, said in recent years, between 200 and 300 people have been served, with between 50 and 75 of those taking advantage of the home-delivery option. Those interested in home delivery are asked to call 847-2856 to make arrangements.

Between 30 and 40 volunteers help with some part of the meal preparation each year, Ahrens said — many of them members of Our Savior's Lutheran Church, along with members of other churches in the community as well. Others donate pies, salads

See **DINNER** on A3



PHOTOS BY JUSTIN LESSMAN

Above: Erica Hanson picks out just the right pen for the shoebox she is filling for Operation Christmas Child last week at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, while Grant Ambrose eyes the markers. Right: JoAnn Flatgard seals up another shoebox.



BOXING UP JOY

Locals ship packs of presents all across the world

by JUSTIN R. LESSMAN
Publisher

Around 360 shoeboxes stuffed full of toys, clothing, personal hygiene items and school supplies left Jackson this week en route to the far reaches of

the globe just in time for Christmas.

Packed by 70-some volunteers last Wednesday evening at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Jackson, the shoeboxes will be placed in the hands of children across the world who need them most — those touched by war, disease, disaster, poverty and famine. The effort is part of the Samaritan's Purse Operation See **JOY** on A3



Left: Andria Benson picks out just the right hat for the shoebox she is filling for Operation Christmas Child last week at Our Savior's Lutheran Church. Right: Erica Hanson packs another shoebox during during last week's Operation Christmas Child box-filling event.



Local emergency responders help to extricate Robert Pietrowski from his sideways truck on the east bank of the Des Moines River Monday afternoon.

Driver has close call Monday

Well-placed trees keep truck from rolling into river

by JUSTIN R. LESSMAN
Publisher

Robert Pietrowski had a close call Monday after-

noon. A really close call. Pietrowski, of Jackson, was turning his truck south onto River Street from Thomas Hill Road shortly after 2 p.m. when he swerved to miss hitting a deer. His 2008 Dodge Ram ended up traveling into the

west ditch, where it rolled down the east bank of the Des Moines River. Some well-placed trees stopped the vehicle from rolling right into the swift current of the river itself.

The Jackson Fire Department and Jackson Am-

See **CLOSE CALL** on A9

Local students set to bring beloved comic strip to life

by JUSTIN R. LESSMAN
Publisher

Local students will bring a beloved comic strip to life later this week in Jackson.

The Jackson County Central Drama Department presents "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown," a musical written by Clark Gesner based on the beloved "Peanuts" comic strip by Charles Schulz.

Show time is 7:30 p.m. this Friday and Saturday at the JCC Performing Arts Center in Jackson.

Director Tracy Steiner said the whole Peanuts gang is present for the musical — bossy Lucy, who is hopelessly in love with piano prodigy Schroeder who doesn't give her the time of day; perfectionist Sally, who continually mocks blanket-toting Linus; Snoopy; and the "blockhead" himself, Charlie Brown.



PHOTO BY JUSTIN LESSMAN

Charlie Brown, played by Logan Kooistra, hides his embarrassment the only way he knows how in a scene from Monday's rehearsal of the musical, "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown," which will open later this week.

Brief vignettes featured in the musical span the months from Valentine's Day to Beethoven Day, from wild optimism to utter despair, Steiner said, in this revised version — with additional music and lyrics by Andrew Lippa and dialogue

by Michael Mayer — the sweet, joyful innocence of the Peanuts gang is maintained, but a fresh insouciance and playfulness is revealed. The new script features two new songs, Steiner added, particularly funny dialogue and new, See **STUDENTS** on A9