

OPINION



PILOT EDITORIAL

Yes, Sen. Tina; there is a Jackson County

Yes, Tina Smith; there is a Jackson County. Nearly two years after being sworn in as Minnesota's junior senator, Tina Smith has yet to pay an official public visit to Jackson County. Over the course of those nearly two years, Smith's colleague in the U.S. Senate, Amy Klobuchar, has stopped by — back in May of last year, actually, to talk workforce issues and apprenticeships.

Over the course of those same nearly two years, Smith's 'cross-house comrade Jim Hagedorn, Jackson County's man in the U.S. House of Representatives, has also visited — earlier this month, in fact, to talk trade and biofuel tax incentives.

But no Tina. There's no question she's a busy gal. And she did come close to Jackson County just recently, hitting Worthington this past weekend to judge a turkey race.

But still, no Jackson County. So here's an invitation to Sen. Smith: Come on over to Jackson County and see all we have going on here. Visit with our farmers and our businesspeople. Tour our industrial parks. Heck, we'll even put your picture in the local newspaper.

What a thrill it would be for Jackson County constituents to finally be able to see Sen. Smith on their own soil.

What a wise move it would be for her to finally pay a visit to an as-yet unvisited part of her state.

What a disappointment if we get the brush-off once again.

Saying makes it so, so say it: God bless you

How you meet and greet people as you go through life makes a difference. Asking someone, "How are you?" conveys a message of care and courtesy to the recipient of your inquiry. And just saying, "Have a nice day," shows the person you are speaking to that you really, sincerely mean it. But there is something you can say to others that carries power beyond human comprehension, as it is backed up by the Almighty himself. So go ahead and say, "God bless you." As Kate Nowak writes in her book, "May You Be Blessed," God's word is impregnated with life, wisdom, truth, power and potential. After all, in the beginning, He simply said, "Let there be," releasing His power to create. "And it is true that in every promise He makes are the seeds of its own fulfillment," Nowak writes. "Those seeds have a scheduled season for fulfillment in your life and, when they are watered with confident, faith-filled prayer, standing squarely on Scriptures and patiently awaiting God's timing ... His Word cannot fail." You may have heard it said God's word spoken does not come back empty. "So once you grasp this truth, the words,

'God bless you,' become loaded," Nowak adds. In saying "God bless you," you will find God backs you up, as it is written in Numbers 6:27, according to one translation, "So they shall put my name on the children of Israel and I will bless them," or, in another version, "Whenever you bless people in my name, I myself will bless them." Often as a benediction, a pastor will repeat the words from Numbers 24-26 over his congregation: "The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord be gracious to you, the Lord lift up His countenance (favor) upon you and give you peace." And if you want to bless your family and others, speak those words of blessing over them too. "A blessing is a sweet release from pain — an ancient key to a successful and fulfilling life," Nowak concludes. So God bless you and yours. Now go and do likewise.



OUT AND ABOUT
Mike Jordan

About that left turn on a flashing yellow...

Question: When turning left on a blinking yellow light, should one pull into the intersection? It seems like a blinking yellow should let at least one car through, but often cars will wait behind the line, negating the ability to move traffic through the intersection. Answer: If you are preparing to turn left at a flashing yellow light, you must enter the intersection with caution as oncoming traffic has a green light. Drivers are able to turn left after yielding to all oncoming traffic and to any pedestrians in the

crosswalk. Drivers must wait for a safe gap in oncoming traffic before turning. If a vehicle ahead of you is signaling for a left turn, slow down and prepare to stop. Do not enter the intersection in case the traffic light turns red as you might not be able to clear the intersection. This type of maneuver is against the law per Minnesota statute 169.15. This law applies specifically when entering an intersection at a traffic control light when traffic is already blocking the intersection

due to a red light, train, etc. Entering the intersection in this case is against the law. When one direction of traffic is unable to proceed on a green light because vehicles on the cross road are stopped and blocking the lanes of traffic, it creates issues with the flow of traffic. You can avoid a ticket — and a crash — if you simply buckle up, drive at safe speeds, pay attention and always drive sober. If you have any questions concerning traffic-related laws or issues in Minnesota, send your questions to

Sgt. Troy Christianson, Minnesota State Patrol, at 2900 48th St. NW; Rochester, MN 55901-5848. Or reach him at Troy.Christianson@state.mn.us.



ASK A TROOPER
Sgt. Troy Christianson



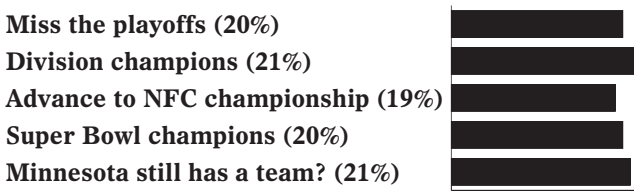
PHOTO COURTESY OF BOB SVOBODA

DUCKS ON ICE

The Jackson Ice Co. truck is all the proof anyone needs of a successful duck hunt from yesteryear. Minnesota's 2019 waterfowl season opens this Saturday.

LAST WEEK'S ONLINE POLL

Q: How will the Minnesota Vikings fare this season?



Source: Jackson County Pilot Website

THIS WEEK'S ONLINE POLL

Q: How often do you eat breakfast?

Vote online at jacksoncountypilot.com.

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