



RASCHE BREAKS WINS RECORD

Ryan Rasche picked up the 73rd win of his career Saturday, breaking Tom Hady's record for most in the history of the Jackson Bulls. Story, B2



JACKSON COUNTY PILOT

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UP CLOSE & PERSONAL

Photos by Dan Condon



Above: Lilly McNea isn't sure how to react as the Zooman, Brent Mielke, holds a corn snake next to her face during a Jackson library program put on thanks to donations from the Federated REA Operation Round Up last week. Left: Library assistant Mackenzie Schley smiles when a python is put around her neck.



Left: A bearded dragon rests on Amber Englehart's head during the Zooman's library program last week. Right: Lane Hagen provides a nice resting spot for a bearded dragon during last week's Zooman library program.



Full fair fires up

The great county get-together set to run July 27-31

by JOSHUA SCHUETZ
Staff Writer

The Jackson County Fair is set to make a full return this year following an abbreviated version last year in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Fair board officials say they are excited to be rolling out a full slate of events — both time-honored and traditional, and new and exciting — including 4-H livestock shows, numerous concerts, a bull-riding event and a carnival.

The great Jackson County get-together is scheduled to run July 27-31 at the Jackson County Fairgrounds in Jackson.

"We're really hoping ev-



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everyone comes and we have good attendance this year," said fair board member Terri Bargfrede.

Senior dining center could reopen by fall

by JOSHUA SCHUETZ
Staff Writer

The Jackson Senior Center is currently open for people to get together, play cards, socialize and enjoy some casual conversations.

But for now, they still have to get their food to go.

Lutheran Social Services, which receives federal funding from the Minnesota River Area Agency on Aging, is creating a plan to slowly reopen meal sites, prioritizing ones where meals are made.

"The senior center in Jackson is organizing card parties in the afternoons and people can still come to interact and play cards, but our in-person dining hasn't restarted yet," said

Lutheran Social Services area manager Laura Anderson.

Despite relatively high COVID-19 vaccination rates among seniors, federal funders and LSS want to implement a phased plan and ascertain how things go before making the jump to a full reopening for all sites.

"We've handpicked some sites to open this month, but it will be a phased approach," Anderson said. "We're working on reopening the sites where meals are prepared, and Jackson gets meals from the Lakefield kitchen."

That means Lakefield's meal site will likely open within the next month, See SENIOR DINING on A3

Fire not a major setback for Full Tilt

No one hurt as sprinkler system, fire department control the blaze

by JOSHUA SCHUETZ
Staff Writer

A fire that broke out last Wednesday morning at Full Tilt Performance in Jackson won't be too much of a setback for the local manufacturer.

That's the word from Jacob Hummel, president of Full Tilt, a truck part manufacturing firm in Jackson's industrial park.

"We'll feel a ripple throughout the year from this," Hummel said of last week's fire, "but it won't hurt us too much."

Hummel said water damage was sustained, particularly in the office areas, but he expected the business to be at two-thirds of its production capacity by early this week and no employees have been laid off because of the blaze.

"We're taking care of the ones that aren't working



Local firefighters mop up after extinguishing flames at Full Tilt Performance in Jackson last Wednesday.

and we have volunteers cleaning the place up," he said. "During COVID, our office staff worked from

home, so we can have them do that again while we clean up the offices."

See FIRE on A3



PHOTOS BY JEN TEWES

SHOW TIME

Above: Brock Nissen is all concentration during the Minnesota Youth Livestock Expo swine show this past weekend in Jackson. Nissen ended up as reserve champion junior division showman. Left: Carson Schneekloth keeps a close eye on the judge during the show en route to being named champion senior showman and overall champion showman. Around 625 head of hogs competed in this past weekend's show.

