



HUSKIES PICK UP WIN NO. 23

The Jackson County Central volleyball team swept Fairmont Monday for its 23rd win of the season.
Story, B1



JACKSON COUNTY PILOT

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131ST YEAR/ISSUE 42

County board takes a stand on the Second Amendment

by JOSHUA SCHUETZ
Staff Writer

The Jackson County Board of Commissioners on Tuesday approved a resolution stating the county will protect its citizens' Second Amendment rights and declaring Jackson County a "Second Amendment Dedicated County."

The action comes two months after commissioners declined to act on a similar resolution, citing a fear of politicizing the board.

The resolution presented Tuesday by board member Phil Nasby and approved on a unanimous vote is a revised version of the original. The revised resolution removed language commissioners felt would require them to go beyond the scope of their authority with respect to state and federal law.



Phil Nasby

The resolution was first introduced by members of the Jackson County Second Amendment Group, a local citizens' organization dedicated to protecting gun rights. The original version of the resolution was earlier approved by councils in Jackson, Lakefield, Okabena and Alpha.

In other action from Tuesday's board meeting:

TILE CONSULTANT PRESENTS INFO

Board hears from NextEra tile consultant
Representatives from Ellingson Infrastructure Management, a construction solutions company
See **COUNTY** on **A3**

Right: Workers with Building Restoration Corp. raise a recently restored Lady Justice back atop the Jackson County Courthouse dome Monday afternoon. Below: The statue is carefully hoisted up from the courthouse roof.



BACK ON TOP

Photos by
Justin Lessman
and Joshua Schuetz



Above: Workers with Building Restoration Corp. play their individual parts as a recently restored Lady Justice is raised to the top of the courthouse dome. Left: The statue is back atop the dome after a nearly four-month absence.



PHOTOS BY JOSHUA SCHUETZ

Teresa Chonko (left) of the Loon Lake Cemetery Restoration and Preservation Committee talks with authors Dennis and Michele Waskul about a pioneer grave at the cemetery.

A NEW LOOK

Author duo who once lamented devastation of cemetery marvel at its restoration

by JOSHUA SCHUETZ
Staff Writer

Five years ago, two Minnesota authors lamented the destruction done at Jackson County's Loon Lake Cemetery.

Earlier this month, they
See **NEW LOOK** on **A3**



Authors Dennis Waskul (third from left) and Michele Waskul (second from left), along with their daughter, Mikayla Waskul (left), gather with members of the Loon Lake Cemetery Restoration and Preservation Committee, including Allen Weinzetl (from right), Teresa Chonko, Bill Hanson, Mary Chonko and Mark Guritz, following a recent visit to the cemetery.

Local banks cool on proposed IRS tracking

by JOSHUA SCHUETZ
Staff Writer

A recent proposal by the Internal Revenue Service to increase monitoring of most Americans' bank accounts has caused turmoil on Capitol Hill, public outrage across the country and concern among local bankers.

Under the policy, which is included as part of President Joe Biden's proposed American Families Plan, banks would be required to submit reports on any account with a balance in excess of \$600 or with transactions totaling more

than \$600 over the course of a year. While federal officials — including U.S. Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen — have said the goal of the policy is to prevent tax fraud by wealthy individuals, Republicans — along with some Democrats — countered the proposal would significantly impair Americans' financial privacy.

That's the view taken by local banks.

Paul Meium, president of Farmers and Merchants State Bank of Alpha, said the proposal would affect just about every account at his bank — and in the

country, for that matter. "I can understand wanting reports when you have \$10,000 in currency transactions, but the \$600 threshold would mean tracking virtually every account," he said. "I think it would end up including a lot of people in those reports who do not need to be included."

One major concern for Meium is the policy could lead people without bank accounts to not secure their money, leading them to miss out on interest and other benefits provided by banks.

See **TRACKING** on **A3**

Ten JCC FFA members to convention

Henning national finalist, Pell to be awarded degree

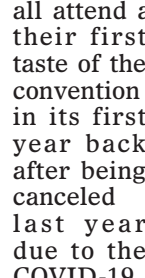
by JUSTIN R. LESSMAN
Publisher

Ten members of the Jackson County Central FFA Chapter will be Indianapolis next week at the 94th annual National FFA Convention and Expo.

Eight will get their first taste of the convention, one will compete and one will be honored.

Reese Anderson, Sylvia Chapman-Nesseth, Jamie

Edlin, Samantha Henning, Kendal Krumwiede, Taryn Lessman, Rachel Mohr and Kylee Wenzel will all attend as delegates — their first taste of the convention in its first year back after being canceled last year due to the COVID-19 pandemic.



William Pell

Mackenzie Henning attends as a top-four finalist for the national grain production proficiency award.

And William Pell attends as a recipient of the prestigious American FFA degree.

JCC FFA Chapter Advisor Laura Bidne said the locals leave Jackson Monday evening and return early the morning of Oct. 29. Grain production proficiency awards are announced the Friday of the convention;



Mackenzie Henning

See **FFA** on **A3**