



HUSKIES WIN BSC TOURNAMENT

Jackson County Central wrestlers won half of the individual conference titles as the Huskies dominated the Big South Conference tournament. Story, B1



JACKSON COUNTY PILOT

THURSDAY, JANUARY 20, 2022

132ND YEAR/ISSUE 3



A GOLD-MEDAL PERFORMANCE

PHOTOS BY DAN CONDON
Above: Layla Peterson flashes a big grin and sports a gold medal while saluting the crowd following the Gold Medal Performance gymnastics meet this past Saturday at the Jackson County Central High school in Jackson. Nearly 40 local girls competed in the meet. Right: Molly Thurmer holds her pose at the end of her floor routine as fellow gymnasts look on.



COVID-19 PANDEMIC

More cases not leading to more hospitalizations

by JUSTIN R. LESSMAN
Publisher

Despite increasing numbers of locals testing positive for COVID-19 in recent weeks, the number of those requiring hospitalization has not followed suit.

"We're not seeing increased numbers of hospitalizations locally," Dawn Schnell, senior director of Sanford Jackson, said Monday.

That's even as local case loads remain high. Jackson County tallied 35 new cases of COVID-19 over the last week, the second highest new one-week caseload increase in the last two-and-a-half months and the 24th consecutive week of double-digit weekly caseload increases after 14 consecutive weeks of single-digit — or no — increases.

The high weekly caseload count comes even as the number of locals vaccinated against COVID-19 continues to increase. The most recent vaccination data from the Minnesota Department of Health shows 5,386 Jackson County residents — 54.1 percent of the total population — have received at least one dose of vaccine, with 5,120 — 51.4 percent of the total population — fully vaccinated, an increase of 19 and 15, respectively, over the week prior.

While more and more fully vaccinated people are contracting COVID-19 as the highly contagious omicron variant spreads, Johanna Kallemeyn, certified nurse practitioner at Sanford Jackson, said the vaccinated who do contract COVID-19 tend to have better outcomes than those who are unvaccinated.

See **CASES** on A3



Dawn Schnell

Inside ...

A3 Controversial employee vaccination mandates at the county and local school district level are no longer in place.

Record testing delaying results

by JUSTIN R. LESSMAN
Publisher

Unprecedented demand for COVID-19 testing at local and area Sanford Health facilities is causing increased turnaround times for results.

Dawn Schnell, senior director at Sanford Jackson, said tests that just a few weeks ago could be processed within a half-hour are now requiring a few days to turn around. That's a result, she said, of record numbers of tests being administered at the Sanford Jackson and Sanford Lakefield clinics and across the Sanford Health network as a whole — an average of 5,500 per day

systemwide — as well as supply issues and staffing shortages.

"We're asking our community to be patient with us," she said Monday, adding Sanford's central laboratory in Sioux Falls, S.D., is running around the clock in an attempt to keep up with demand.

That said, testing is still an important tool to help stem the spread of COVID-19, said Johanna Kallemeyn, certified nurse practitioner at Sanford Jackson, and she encourages those experiencing symptoms of the disease to be tested — whether at a local Sanford clinic or via an at-home test.

"At-home tests available today are very reliable at detecting COVID-19 when symptoms are present," Kallemeyn said, adding if an at-home test yields a positive result, there is no

See **TESTING** on A3



Johanna Kallemeyn

Four move to next round of Jackson Business Challenge

by JOSHUA SCHUETZ
Staff Writer

Four applicants have been selected to move on to the second round of the Jackson Business Challenge.

The challenge, sponsored by the Jackson Business Development Committee, is dedicated to bringing new or expanded businesses into Jackson and the downtown area specifically.



Dave Schmidt

Jackson Economic Development Coordinator Dave Schmidt said all four proposals are viable and would contribute something unique to the community.

"They would each bring something of value to the community," Schmidt said.

Schmidt said the second round of the challenge involves the applicants submitting a business plan. "In the second round, they'll need to submit detailed business plans, and our office will be open to help them out with that," Schmidt said.

Schmidt said the second round will close on Feb. 4,

with a committee reviewing the applications to determine the path forward.

"When the business plans are submitted, we will get the committee together to review them and, in round three, the applicants that move forward will have an interview in front of a panel of judges, which is the 'Shark Tank' portion of the challenge."

When that's done, the panel will finish its review and determine a winner, which will then receive funding and other assistance.

Schmidt said the challenge has proven successful. See **CHALLENGE** on A3

Locals find 48-star surprise

by JOSHUA SCHUETZ
Staff Writer



PHOTO BY JOSHUA SCHUETZ

Trisha Porter unfurls the 48-star American flag she and her husband, Lee, discovered hidden in the walls of their Main Street building.

Inside ...

A3 Lee and Trisha Porter, owners of EXIT Realty Great Plains in downtown Jackson, are opening up a laundromat.

Two downtown business owners made a surprising find while renovating a corner of their building recently.

Just last week, Lee and Trisha Porter, owners of the EXIT Plaza at the corner of Second and West Ashley streets, were working on the walls at the back corner of their building as they convert the space into a laundromat when they found something a bit out of the ordinary.

"The wall was covered by plaster over sheetrock and lathe, and we were in the process of taking some of it out because we want to put windows in that area," Lee Porter said. "During that process, we found a

See **FLAG** on A3

WEATHER

This week

Thursday
Sunny

3 | -11

Friday
Mostly Cloudy
/Wind

17 | 12

Saturday
Partly Cloudy

13 | 3

Sunday
Mostly Cloudy

24 | 11

Monday
Mostly Cloudy

16 | -10

Tuesday
Mostly Sunny

3 | -5

Wednesday
Partly Cloudy

13 | 6

LAST WEEK

Tuesday, January 11
49 / 33

Wednesday, January 12
46 / 28

Thursday, January 13
37 / 24

Friday, January 14
14 / 10

Saturday, January 15
11 / 0

Sunday, January 16
36 / 18

Monday, January 17
34 / 21

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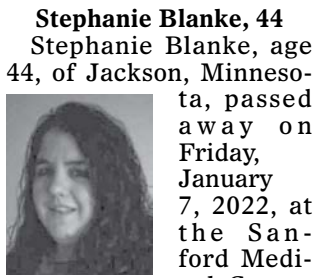
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DEATHS



Stephanie Blanke, 44
Stephanie Blanke, age 44, of Jackson, Minnesota, passed away on Friday, January 7, 2022, at the Sanford Medical Center

in Jackson. Visitation was held at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, January 15, 2022 at the Osterberg Funeral Home in Jackson. A Celebration of Life service began at 11:00 a.m.

Condolences can be sent to the family online at OFH.Care.

Stephanie Leigh Blanke, daughter of Steve Blanke and Jacqueline Pittock, was born on January 4, 1978, in Salt Lake City, Utah. She was confirmed and baptized at the Mormon Church in Utah. At the age of 5, the family moved to Phoenix, Arizona. Stephanie attended and graduated from Maryville High School in Phoenix. While living in Arizona, she worked at the Waffle House. Stephanie was blessed with 3 children John, Cassandra, and Amber. In 2016, Stephanie and their family moved to Jackson, Minnesota. She worked as a Manager at Casey's Convenient Store. On Friday, January 7, 2022, Stephanie passed away, at the Sanford Jackson Medi-

cal Center, at the age of 44 years, and 3 days.

Stephanie was quite adventurous. She traveled to numerous places throughout the United States. Stephanie was an avid heavy rock music enthusiast, with some of her favorite bands being Metallica, Slipknot, and Megadeth. She thoroughly enjoyed a good cup of coffee. She had a heart of gold and a smile that was contagious. Above all things, Stephanie loved her children, grandchild, and her family. She cherished each and every moment that she spent with them.

Stephanie is survived by her children John Vrooman, Cassandra Blanke, and Amber Englehart; grandchild Dominic Vrooman; father Steve Blanke; stepfather David Wallace; mother Jacqueline Wallace; stepmother Joann Jandera; brothers David Wallace, Justin Wallace, and Christopher Wallace; sisters Laura Blanke, Dawn Gaines (Victor Ramirez) and Amanda Blanke; along with numerous other relatives and great friends.

Stephanie is preceded in death by her grandparents Harold Pittock, Mary Visnic, Jerry Blanke, and Evangeline Redmond.

Blessed be the memory of Stephanie Leigh Blanke.

Jackson County Pilot
January 20, 2022



Bonnie Belle Yonker, 91
Bonnie Belle Yonker, daughter of Richard and Besie Beulah (Williams) Haughland, was born on Wednesday, December 24, 1930,

on the family farm in Petersburg, Minnesota. Bonnie was baptized and confirmed at the Union State Line Lutheran Church. She attended and graduated from Petersburg School. Upon graduation, Bonnie attended the Lutheran Bible Institute in Minneapolis. On June 25, 1949, Bonnie was united in marriage to Harold (Bud) Yonker at the Union State Line Lutheran Church in Petersburg. After marriage, they lived and farmed in Enterprise Township for 10 years, and then purchased a farm in Petersburg, where they lived for 15 years. Upon Harold's retirement in 1974, Harold, Bonnie, and daughter Susan moved to Lakeland, Florida, where Susan attends a Shelter Workshop. They would come home to Petersburg to visit during the summer months. Bonnie passed away on Monday, January 10, 2022, at her residence in Petersburg, at the age of 91 years, and 16 days.

Bonnie enjoyed sewing and knitting. During the spring, you would find her out planting the gar-

den and caring for the garden all summer long. In the fall, she was busy canning the fruits of her labor. Bonnie was famous for the different jams that she made. She was a great cook, enjoyed cooking for the entire family. Bonnie and Harold enjoyed square dancing in Florida. Bonnie loved spending time with her family and spoiling her grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. She has left behind a lifetime of memories for her family to cherish.

Bonnie is survived by her children Susan Yonker, Caryl (Paul) Nelson, Rebecca (Norlin) Gutz, and Daniel (Connie) Yonker; grandchildren Paul (Rena) Nelson, Joshua (Danielle) Nelson, Rachel (Matt) Curry, Alyssa (Travis) Dodgen, Charlie (Jen) Gutz, Sara (Mike) Groher, Kayla (Al) Preto, Emily (Joe) Horrigan, Ryan Gutz, Stephanie (Cary) Yonker-Lai, Michelle Flores, Daniel Yonker, and Dustin (Lisa) Yonker; 30 great-grandchildren, and special helpers Sarah and Herman Miller from Citrus Wood Estate Florida.

Bonnie is preceded in death by her husband Harold, brothers Herald, Clifford, Dave, Raymond, and Floyd, sister Vivian and granddaughter Angela Nelson.

Blessed be the memory of Bonnie Belle Yonker.

Jackson County Pilot
January 20, 2022

DEATH NOTICE

Corlene Hansen, 88

Corlene Hansen, age 88, of Jackson, Minnesota, entered to rest on Monday, January 10, 2022, at the Good Samaritan Society in Jackson. Visitation will take place from 9:30 -10:30 a.m. on Monday, January 17, 2022, at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church. Funeral service will begin at 10:30 a.m. with Pastor John Schuetz officiating. Burial will follow the service at Riverside Cemetery in Jackson. Condolences may be sent to the family online at OFH. Care.

Jackson County Pilot
January 20, 2022

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Carto, Karley, Woonsocket, R.I., Speed \$230.00
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Cira, Mathew T., Cedarburg, Wis., Speed \$150.00
Fest, Lisa A., Heron Lake, Speed \$150.00
Gosic, Dusko, Brookfield, Ill., Speed \$140.00
Gowen, Mathew S., Erie, Pa., Speed \$130.00
Hix, Cody S., Round Lake, Speed \$130.00
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Lawson, Zoe N., Des Moines, Iowa, Speed \$140.00
Lillquist, Taylor J., Jackson, Speed \$140.00
Little Hoop, Richard D., Okabena, Driving after revocation \$290.00
Mitchell, Joel O., Laporte, No insurance driver \$290.00
Mosbarger, Hannah L., Maple Grove, Speed \$150.00
Neuman, Benjamin C., Marshall, Speed \$130.00
Phrom, Diana, Worthington, Speed \$290.00
Quebec, Maria Theresa G., Des Plaines, Ill., Speed

\$290.00
Rice, Jonathan D., Pierre, S.D., Speed \$150.00
Schlender, Amy E., Sioux Falls, S.D., Speed \$150.00
Weideman, Thomas J., Aberdeen, S.D., Speed \$150.00
Jackson County Sheriff's Office
Bruner, Mechele L., Minneota, Driving after suspension \$290.00, Possession of drug paraphernalia – use or possession prohibited \$50.00
Pope, Andrew K., Rockdale, Texas, Possess over 1.4 grams marijuana in motor vehicle \$240.00
Smith, Austin K., Sahuarita, Ariz., Passing parked authorized vehicle – 2 lanes in same direction \$140.00
Winkler, Austin T., Severna Park, Md., Speed \$290.00

SHERIFF'S REPORT

Jan. 9

A deputy conducted a welfare check on an individual.

Deputies responded to a one-vehicle rollover on County Road 29 north of I-90. Landen Pederson of Fairmont was traveling south on County Road 29 in a 2015 Honda Pilot. The vehicle entered the ditch and rolled. The vehicle sustained heavy damage. Pederson was transported by the Jackson Ambulance to an area hospital for treatment of non-life-threatening injuries. The Alpha Fire Department and Alpha First Responders assisted at the scene.

Jan. 10

Deputies responded to a commercial burglary alarm in Jackson. It was determined to be a false alarm.

A deputy received a report of what was determined to be a civil issue over the loaning of a trailer to another individual.

A deputy assisted the Windom Ambulance with a medical call in the northern part of the county.

A deputy conducted a traffic stop on Highway 60 near Wilder. An 18-year-old female from Edina was issued a citation for speed — 90 miles per hour in a 65-mph zone.

A deputy conducted a traffic stop on Highway 60 near Heron Lake. The 40-year-old male driver from St. Paul was issued a citation for possession of a small amount of marijuana.

Jan. 11

A deputy and the Lakefield Fire Department responded to a report of a controlled burn that spread into a tree line in Hunter Township. Crews were on scene for about an hour.

A deputy received a phone call of a cellphone scam.

Deputies responded to a car-vs.-deer accident on County Road 4 near Robertson Park.

Jan. 12

Dispatch received a report of a vehicle stuck in the car wash at J&J Auto Wash. The owner of the business was called. They were able to get the overhead door to open and allow the vehicle to exit.

A deputy conducted a traffic stop on I-90 at Jackson. The driver was issued a citation for driving after suspension and speed — 85 miles per hour in a 70-mph zone.

A deputy conducted a traffic stop on County Road 34 near County Road 3 in Ew-

ington Township. The driver was issued a citation for speed — 77 miles per hour in a 55-mph zone.

A deputy conducted a welfare check on an individual.

A deputy responded to a report of an open door at an empty apartment in Jackson.

Deputies responded to a verbal domestic in the county.

A deputy issued a parking ticket in Jackson.

Deputies responded to a noise complaint at an apartment complex in Jackson.

After investigating, two individuals were cited for underage consumption.

Jan. 13

A deputy issued a parking ticket in Jackson.

A deputy conducted a welfare check on an individual.

Jan. 14

A deputy received a report of an unemployment claim scam in Jackson.

Deputies assisted the Minnesota State Patrol with a semi in the ditch on I-90 at Jackson. The eastbound lane was shut down while a tow removed it. Crews were on scene for about 1.5 hours.

Deputies assisted the Minnesota State Patrol with a jackknifed semi on I-90 near Alpha.

A deputy assisted the Minnesota State Patrol with a vehicle in the median on Highway 60 near Highway 86. A tow was called to the scene. Crews were on scene for about an hour.

Dispatch transferred a call to the Minnesota State Patrol of a vehicle in the ditch on I-90 about three miles east of Jackson.

Dispatch transferred a call to the Minnesota State Patrol of another vehicle in the ditch on I-90 about three miles east of Jackson.

A deputy responded to a complaint of marijuana at an apartment complex in Jackson.

Deputies assisted the Minnesota State Patrol with a jackknifed semi on I-90 at Alpha. Crews were on scene for about an hour.

Jan. 15

Deputies issued eight snow emergency parking tickets in Jackson.

A deputy conducted a traffic stop in Jackson. The driver was issued a citation for violating the hands-free law, driving after revocation and no proof of insurance.

A deputy assisted the Min-

nesota State Patrol with a vehicle off the road on I-90 at Jackson.

A deputy assisted the Minnesota State Patrol with traffic control to tow a semi that couldn't be towed from the ditch the day prior on I-90 near Jackson.

Deputies responded to a hold-up alarm at a Jackson business. It was determined to be a false alarm.

A deputy responded to a medical alarm in Petersburg Township. It was determined to be a false alarm.

A deputy responded to a fire alarm at a business in Jackson. It was determined to be a false alarm.

A deputy responded to an unoccupied vehicle in the ditch on Industrial Parkway in Jackson.

A deputy conducted a traffic stop on Highway 71 in Jackson. The driver was issued a citation for driving after suspension.

A deputy conducted a traffic stop on Highway 86 north of Lakefield. The driver, a 21-year-old female from Lakefield, was arrested for an active warrant from Martin County.

Jan. 16

Deputies responded to a burglary alarm in the county. It was determined to be a false alarm.

A deputy assisted a person in a wheelchair trying to cross Highway 71 at North Highway. The battery died while the person was trying to navigate through the snow. The deputy ended up pushing the resident in the wheelchair to a residence.

Dispatch received a report of a gas drive-off at a Jackson gas station. A Minnesota State Trooper located the vehicle and conducted a traffic stop. It was believed there was an issue with the card reader at the pump. The motorist agreed to return to the gas station and re-run the card for payment.

Deputies responded to a burglary alarm in the county. It was determined to be a false alarm.

A deputy observed a motorist driving carelessly in Albertus Field in Jackson. A traffic stop was initiated. The deputy discovered the driver, a 22-year-old male from Wallinford, Iowa, had an active warrant from Martin County. He was arrested on the warrant and transported by a Martin County deputy back to that county's jail.

This Newspaper is Recyclable

Thank You
to everyone who called,
sent cards, gifts, flowers,
and loving wishes for my
100th birthday. It was
wonderful! God bless you.
Irene Leach

32931

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Local, area businesses featured

Local and area businesses in the business of helping make weddings extra special are featured in the latest edition of the Livewire, Jackson County's largest circulation newspaper.

See the Sunday, Jan. 16, edition of the Livewire for the 2022 Bridal Guide section.

The Livewire is delivered free of charge to nearly 10,000 homes and businesses across five counties in southern Minnesota and northern Iowa. Extra copies are available for free pickup at the offices of Livewire Printing Co. in downtown Jackson. The Livewire may also be read for free online at jacksoncountypilot.com and livewireprinting.com.

Registration now open for '22 Jackson Farm and Home Show

Local and area businesses and organizations interested in being a part of the 2022 Jackson Farm and Home Show are encouraged to register with the hosting Jackson Area Chamber of Commerce now.

The 40th Jackson Farm and Home Show is scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 26, at the Jackson County Central High School in Jackson.

Vendor and sponsor registration is open now, with both due by Feb. 7.

In addition to vendors, the show will feature food, entertainment, educational forums, cash drawings and door prizes.

CHALLENGE: Advance

Continued from A1

ful at stimulating entrepreneurship in previous years, pointing to businesses like the R.E.S.T Stop and Level 10 Fitness as examples of how it has benefited the city.

"We've had this pro-

gram running for a few years and we've brought two businesses to the community as a result," Schmidt said. "Our plan is to have this year's winners announced on March 7."

COVID-19 PANDEMIC

CASES: Double digits

Continued from A1

The bulk of COVID-19 patients who require hospitalization are unvaccinated, Kallemeyn said, and the bulk of fully vaccinated patients who do require hospitalization have positive outcomes — especially those who have received booster shots.

"Outcomes are much more positive, and hospitalizations are much lower for people who are vaccinated," Kallemeyn said.

Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020, Jackson County has notched a cumulative total of

1,834 confirmed cases of the disease. To date, the deaths of 16 Jackson County residents have been attributed to COVID-19 — eight in 2020 before vaccines became widely available and eight in 2021.

COVID-19 is a viral respiratory illness caused by a novel coronavirus first identified in late 2019. Since the first case of COVID-19 was reported in Minnesota on March 6, 2020, the state has notched more than 1.1 million cases of the illness and tallied 11,000 deaths.

County, local school district drop employee vaccination mandates

Controversial employee vaccination mandates at the county and local school district level are no longer in place.

The mandates were put in place by the boards of both local government entities in order to comply with a federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration COVID-19 vaccine mandate that applied to businesses and organizations employing more than 100 people. While the mandate took effect Jan. 10, the U.S. Supreme Court blocked it three days later.

The Jackson County Board of Commissioners on Tuesday voted to rescind the county's COVID-19 employee vaccine mandate policy, which initially passed on a 3-2 vote.

The Jackson County Central School District's policy had language built into it waiving enforcement of the mandate if the mandate itself was invalidated. School board members initially approved the policy over the objections of a group of faculty and staff.



PHOTO BY JEN TEWES

Bashi Ali, medical lab technician at Sanford Jackson, administers a COVID-19 test during a drive-through testing clinic Monday.

TESTING: Turnaround

Continued from A1

need to retest elsewhere.

If an at-home test cannot be obtained, Kallemeyn said, people may call their local Sanford clinic to make an appointment for a test. Those seeking tests are asked not to go to the emergency room for testing.

Those who should be tested include those with symptoms of COVID-19 or those who have been

exposed to someone with COVID-19. All people, vaccinated or not, should get tested five days after known exposure, Kallemeyn said.

Upon a positive test result, people should inform their doctor and any close contacts and then follow U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention protocol for isolation.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

A young Bob Svoboda (front, fourth from left) gathers with battymates in the old Jackson National Guard Armory on Jan. 24, 1951, prior to shipping out to Camp Rucker, Ala.

Remaining guardsmen mark 71 years since group shipped out

by JOSHUA SCHUETZ
Staff Writer

On Jan. 24, 1951, downtown Jackson was eerily silent.

Its storefronts were closed, its restaurant tables devoid of customers and staff, its offices empty, its theater dark.

It wasn't the weather — though it was well below zero that day. Rather, it was a sign of respect as the community bade goodbye to a group of 77 young men set off to Fort Rucker, Ala., with the Battery C of the 125th Field Artillery Battalion 47th Division of the National Guard, for their basic training. The community mobilized as the men of the Guard did.

"It was at the beginning of the Korean War, when Truman mobilized the 47th Infantry Division, which

was the Minnesota National Guard," recalled former Guardsman Bob Svoboda, who shipped out with the group. "We'd gotten the notice the November before we shipped out."

Some of them saw action in the Korean War, but none died in the effort. Over the years, the men have gotten together to share old memories, remember fellow soldiers who passed and learn more about one another's lives.

Now, as age takes its toll, those reunions have stopped.

"Our last big one was in 2016," Svoboda said. "A lot of guys have passed away and many of those still here can't make it for health reasons."

Still, Svoboda gets plenty of phone calls each January from his old friends. A few still live locally, so he

still gets opportunities to reminisce with his fellow soldiers.

"Joe Wenzel, Bill Boell and Robert Drahota of Jackson and Don Hendrickson and Melvin Rosow of Lakefield are still around," Svoboda said. "When we get together, it does feel like we're having another reunion."

Most of all, Svoboda remembers how the community came together around its young men, feeding them, celebrating them and shipping them off with honor. Faded photos of the boys eating at the armory, standing in uniform with family members and gathering together for their farewell call to memory a time when Jackson County rallied around its own, no matter the weather, no matter the name and no matter the time.



Agnes Svoboda sees her son, Bob, off at the old Jackson depot on Jan. 24, 1951.

"They really rallied together to support us, and they were so good to us," Svoboda said. "It was a really wonderful thing."

New physical therapist specializes in sports medicine and orthopedic care

by JUSTIN R. LESSMAN
Publisher

A visit to a physical therapy session with a family friend recovering from a skiing accident propelled Kaitlin Johnson into a career that has led her to Sanford Jackson Medical Center.

Johnson, of Lakefield, joined the staff at Sanford Jackson earlier this month. She previously worked for Sanford Health locations in Worthington and Sheldon, Iowa.

"Just seeing what physical therapy was able to do for that friend really motivated me to follow that path," she said of her career.

A Truman native, Johnson earned a bachelor's degree from Briar Cliff University in Sioux City, Iowa, and a doctorate of physical therapy from Des Moines University. She has worked in physical therapy for the last 10 years, specializing in sports medicine and orthopedic care for adult and pediatric patients.

"It's all about helping

people get back to where they want to be," she said. "Physical therapy is very goal-based."

Her areas of specialty include women's health — both pre- and post-pregnancy — dry needling and treatment of those who suffer from Parkinson's disease.

Regarding patients with Parkinson's, Johnson offers the Lee Silverman Voice Treatment, or LSVT Big, program. The goal of the four-week, 16-session program, Johnson said, is to help those with Parkinson's disease stay independent for as long as possible.

"The program can be done at any point in the diagnosis," Johnson said.

Johnson is married to husband Randon and is at home in Lakefield with "bonus kids" Ramsey, 12, and Raedyn, 9.

"I'm excited to be here," Johnson said of her new position at Sanford Jackson. "I'm looking forward to getting to know everyone and to start helping people get back to where they want to be."



PHOTO BY JEN TEWES

Kaitlin Johnson, new physical therapist at Sanford Jackson Medical Center, specializes in sports medicine and orthopedic care for adult and pediatric patients.

FLAG: Local couple find a 48-star surprise

Continued from A1

flagpole between the outer wall and the lathe on the cornerstone."

That flagpole had an American flag strung at the top, with 48 stars on it. The 48-star flag was established in 1912 and phased out with the admission of Hawaii to the Union in 1959.

The Porters set to work getting the flag out of its hiding spot, taking care not to damage it, and setting it in their office space.

How the flag got there in the first place and why are two questions the Porters haven't been able to solve as of yet.

"There was no note or indication of when the flag was placed there or why," Lee Porter said. "It's been up there for at least 65 or 70 years. Our thought is that the reason why it was placed on the cornerstone

is because the business that put it there wanted to view America as the cornerstone of their business."

Numerous stores, including the Berg Brothers Store and Ben Franklin Store, called the building home over the past century, but which one was responsible for putting the flag in is unknown.

The flag is in good shape for its age, as being tucked away helped preserve it for more than six decades.

Lee Porter said he plans to contact the local historical society to inform officials there of the find and get assistance with preserving the flag, which he wants to place on display in the EXIT Great Plains Realty office downtown.

"What we would like to do is frame it in a display case with a plaque in our office, because it is a com-

Porters to start laundromat in Jackson

Lee and Trisha Porter, owners of EXIT Realty-Great Plains in downtown Jackson, are opening up a laundromat.

The two are working to create a new Ashley Street storefront for the business in the EXIT Plaza building in downtown Jackson. The laundromat, which is slated to open in February, will be open 24 hours per day.

"It'll have around five to seven washers and six to eight dryers," Lee Porter said. "We'll have new windows and doors, and both the exterior and interior will be renovated."

Trisha Porter said the facility will have cameras to prevent theft, so people feel comfortable leaving their clothes at the site.

"We will have security cameras set up and, with the windows, the area will be very visible," she said.

Lee Porter said he hopes the new facility will fill a need in the community and bring more people to downtown businesses.

"We know that this is a need," he said, "and our hope is that it will also help out some of our restaurants, because people might drop their clothes off in the evening and get a bite to eat."

community find," Porter said. "It's part of the history of our town and part of the

history of this building, so we want to recognize that."



Local health care professionals do their best for us

We're all doing our best to get through this. Our local health care professionals are too — for us.



JACKSON COUNTY PILOT

News from years gone by

10 years ago
Jan. 26, 2012

Residents' ideas fuel Reform 2.0 agenda for rep

Though the Minnesota Legislature just convened its 2012 session on Tuesday, much work has already been put into the proposals that will soon surface in St. Paul.

It was residents' innovative ideas for government efficiency and tough budget decisions that helped turn a \$5.2 billion deficit into a \$900 million surplus. "This, by far, has been the most difficult year I've been exposed to," said state Rep. Rod Hamilton, who has served Jackson County in the statehouse for seven years.

Winter game offers chance to chill with friends

With a slight wind blowing and a fresh coat of snow, Saturday did not have what Kent Libra calls "ideal weather" for the game of Man Croquet.

"I was none too pleased with the 7 inches of snow," Libra said. "It doesn't really matter how cold it is, as long as there's no wind. The most fun we had was when it was 12 below zero."

Man Croquet is played just like croquet, except on ice with super-sized versions of original croquet gear: Players use sledgehammers to hit bowling balls through large rebar wickets.

Obituaries: Georgeana W. Ringgenberg, Irwin W. Schneider

20 years ago
Jan. 31, 2002

Fire department seeks volunteers

It's a job not to be taken lightly.

Calls can come at any time of the day or night. They may interrupt dinner, a Christmas celebration or a child's athletic event.

Those who step forward will likely see sights that are disturbing and gruesome and will put their lives in danger.

That said, the Jackson Volunteer Fire Department and Ambulance Service are seeking four community-minded individuals to serve a great purpose in this town.

Influenza cases con-

firmed at JMC

Influenza Type A appears to be making its rounds in Jackson.

That was the word from Jackson Medical Center Physicians Assistant Sue Harman, who said several cases of the viral illness have been confirmed through a new laboratory test.

The diagnoses began cropping up last week, said Harman.

"We want the community to be aware of the fact that we have had confirmed cases of influenza, self-limiting viral illness that mainly affects the respiratory system," she said.

Obituaries: Gerald J. Rowe, Olga M. Planting, Careta O. Reiter

30 years ago
Jan. 23, 1992

Aid for handicapped bus asked

The Jackson City Council heard a plea Tuesday to support the handicapped.

Ray Achterkirch, director of the Jackson County Developmental Achievement Center, asked the council to consider some form of financial support to help the center with its recent purchase of a handicapped-accessible bus. The center got a \$20,000 federal grant to help buy the bus and raised the rest of the money through borrowing from a board member and its regular transportation fund for this year.

Local Guard unit to be deactivated

The Minnesota Army National Guard on Tuesday announced plans to deactivate two battalions, including the First Battalion, 125th Field Artillery, the unit to which "B" Battery of Jackson belongs.

The deactivation is part of federal defense cutbacks ordered by the Army.

A National Guard spokesman said the deactivation directive doesn't necessarily mean local soldiers will be thrown out of work.

Obituaries: Sigurd Skrove Sr.

40 years ago
Jan. 21, 1982

Gas leak scare makes Rubys want to warn other

families

Larry and Laurie Ruby hope their family's close call will caution others to be careful.

Members of the Ruby family came close to experiencing a fatal gas leak in their rented home on Benjamin Street in early January. A large gas leak from the furnace in the basement poured the dangerous gas into the house over several months, Larry Ruby said. His wife and children were affected by it more and more as the cold of winter kept them indoors most of the day.

Gibbons' peers elect him 'Teacher of the Year'

In his 24th year of teaching at Jackson schools, George Gibbons was elected by his fellow teachers as the Jackson "Teacher of the Year."

Gibbons was chosen for the honor this year by teachers throughout the Jackson school system.

Obituaries: Al Libra, Emma Brown, Lawrence Tusa, Harold E. Peterson, Jean M. Dinwiddie

50 years ago
Jan. 19, 1972

Thirty-three auto students to complete training

Feb. 25 is a red-letter day for 19 auto-body students and 14 auto-mechanics students at Southwest Minnesota Vocational School in Jackson.

On this date, they will have completed two years of training in their respective vocational fields.

Some of the students are already participating in on-the-job training, while other are in the process of job-seeking.

Former Jackson residents moves to Australia

Kenneth D. Kirk, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Schaffer of Jackson, left Roseville with his family Dec. 21 for his new job in Sidney, Australia.

Kirk is employed as a senior computer technical specialist for UNIVAC and has been with the company for the past 14 years. He has traveled to France, Denmark and Japan, as well as to many of the major cities of the United States.

Obituaries: Ben Christophel, Ernest Mier

Area faith and worship schedule

Belmont Lutheran Church
Rural Lakefield,

Pastor: Eunice Woodberry

Thursday, Jan. 20: Shetek Conference Meeting; February News and Calendar Event due

Sunday, Jan. 23: 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Tuesday, Jan. 25: 5:30 p.m. Lighthouse

Wednesday, Jan. 26: 1:20 p.m. Release Time; 2:30 p.m. Confirmation; 6:30 p.m. Jars of Clay

Call the church office for updates or leave a message for the pastor Join us for worship on our Facebook page.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
401 7th Ave. N., Lakefield

Pastor: Andrew Schensted

Sunday, Jan. 23: 9:15 a.m. Sunday School; 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Wednesday, Jan. 26: 5 p.m. Shine Group; 6:30 p.m. Confirmation; 7:15 p.m. Worship Team Rehearsal

Church of the Good Shepherd
311 Sverdrup, 847-2504

Fr. Jonathan Fasnacht - Pastor

Thursday, Jan. 20: 8:30 a.m. Mass

Saturday, Jan. 22: 5 p.m. Mass at St. Luke, Sherburn

Sunday, Jan. 23: 8:30 a.m. Mass at Good Shepherd, Jackson; 10:30 a.m. Mass at St. Joseph, Sherburn

Monday, Jan. 24: Homebound

Communion: 1:30 p.m. Valley View; 2 p.m. Colonial Manor; 2:30 p.m. In-Home

Tuesday, Jan. 25: 7 p.m. Choir Practice

Wednesday, Jan. 26: 6 p.m. Faith Formation Supper; 6:30-7:45 p.m. Faith Formation Classes

First Baptist Church
921 Hills Ave., 847-2369

Pastor: Nathan Janzen

Youth & Family Pastor: Thor Kurtz

Thursday, Jan. 20: 4:30-5:30 p.m. Elder Led Prayer Time

Sunday, Jan. 23: 9-9:20 a.m. Upper Room Prayer/

Worship Service; 9:30-10:40 a.m. Worship Service and Children's Church; 7-8:30 p.m. Connect Group - Buresch

Wednesday, Jan. 26: 1-2 p.m. Release Time; 6:15-7:45 p.m. AWANA; 6:30-8:30 p.m. Youth Group - 6th-12th Grade

Thursday, Jan. 27: 4:30-5:30 p.m. Elder Led Prayer Time

Grace Lutheran Church
Spirit Lake, 712-336-2446

Thursday, Jan. 20: Grace to Go Online

Saturday, Jan. 22: 4 p.m. Worship Service

Sunday, Jan. 23: 10 a.m. Worship Service In-Person and Facebook Live; 10 a.m. Connect: Grades K-5

Messages may be heard at our website:

gracelutheranspiritlake.org. All services can be viewed Facebook Live or YouTube.com until further notice.

Salem Lutheran Church
500 N. Hwy., 847-3861

Pastor: Eunice Woodberry

Thursday, Jan. 20: Shetek Conference Meeting; February News and Calendar Event due

Sunday, Jan. 23: 9 a.m. Worship Service; 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Tuesday, Jan. 25: 5:30 p.m. Lighthouse

Wednesday, Jan. 26: 1:20 p.m. Release Time; 2:30 p.m. Confirmation; 6:30 p.m. Jars of Clay

Call the church office for updates or leave a message for the pastor. Join us for worship on our Facebook page.

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
101 Kimball Ave., 847-3693

Pastor: John Schuetz

Sunday, Jan. 23: 9 a.m. Worship Service; 10:15 a.m. Education Hour; 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Soup & Chili Dinner

Monday, Jan. 24: 12 noon February Newsletter Info Deadline; 3:45 p.m. Confirmation (7 & 8)

Wednesday, Jan. 26: 1 p.m. Release Time; 2:10 p.m. Confirmation (6); 7 p.m. Choir

Worship services streamed at 9 a.m. on our Facebook page.

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
614 Logan, 847-2856

Thursday, Jan. 20: 8 a.m. Men's Study - Parlor; 2 p.m. Martha Circle - Parlor

Saturday, Jan. 22: 5 p.m. Worship Service

Sunday, Jan. 23: 8:30 a.m. Worship Service and on KKOJ 1190 AM; 9:45 a.m. Congregation Forum

Tuesday, Jan. 25: 8 a.m. Woman's Bible Study Group

Wednesday, Jan. 26: 2:45 p.m. Grade 8 Confirmation; 5:15 p.m. Hand Bell Choir; 6:30 p.m. Jars of Clay

Thursday, Jan. 27: 8 a.m. Men's Study - Parlor

Worship will be streamed via Facebook & Twitter at 8:30 a.m. on Sundays or you can listen on KKOJ 97.7 FM/1190 AM.

Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church
Sioux Valley, 839-3086

Pastor: Pastor Jacobsen

Sunday, Jan. 23: 9 a.m. Divine Service at Trinity; 10:15 a.m. Sunday School at Trinity; 10 a.m. Sunday School at Concordia; 10:45 a.m. Divine Service at Concordia; 5:30 p.m. Confirmation at Trinity

Pastor Jacobsen is doing live Bible Study Devotions on Facebook weekday mornings at 9 a.m. They will also be available for viewing afterwards at any time there or also on our YouTube site.

Trinity Lutheran Church
Alpha, 236-7165

Pastor: Rick Bremseth

Sunday, Jan. 23: 9 a.m. Fellowship; 10:15 a.m. Worship Service

Live stream videos and links can be found on Trinity's live stream page.

Union State Line Lutheran Church
Petersburg, 847-2068

Pastor: Nancy Isaacson

Sunday, Jan. 23: 9:30 a.m. Sunday School; 10:45 a.m. Worship Service

Holy Communion is celebrated on the first Sunday of the month.

United Methodist Church
900 North Highway, 847-2681

Pastor: Russ Steele

Thursday, Jan. 20: Pastor Russ in Jackson. Pastor Russ Bible Study at The Pines

Sunday, Jan. 23: 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Monday, Jan. 24: Pastor Russ in Lakefield.

Tuesday, Jan. 25: Pastor Russ in Lakefield.

Wednesday, Jan. 26: Pastor Russ in Jackson. 10 a.m. Bible Study; 6-7 p.m. Youth Group

Thursday, Jan. 27: Pastor Russ in Jackson. Pastor Russ Bible Study at The Pines

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The best things in life aren't free
They say the best things in life are free. I disagree. Don't get me wrong; it's a good saying. It means "the best things in life" like rainbows, sunsets and love cannot be bought with cash. That's true. However, the best things in life always cost something. They are never cheap or free. You don't always have to pay for them with money, but you do have to pay for them. Even enjoying the sunset is going to cost you some of your time. The best things in life aren't free, but they are always worth the cost.
There is a lot of effort that goes into a good home-cooked meal. But the payoff is big: loved ones sitting around a table, enjoying the gift of a good meal. Relationships are the same. The best relationships are the ones people have to work at and invest in continually. Is there such a thing as a good relationship between spouses or friends or family members that doesn't take a mound of investment? The payoff is worth the cost. One good friendship is worth more than several shallow ones, just like one home-cooked meal is worth more than several drive-through dinners.
The life of a Christian is one of heavy investment. Jesus cannot be gained cheaply, and he cannot be followed except at a great personal expense. He is the pearl of great price that cost the merchant all he owned. Anyone who wishes to follow him must take up his or her cross in order to do so. Yet, despite his cost, and the effort it takes to follow him, Jesus is worth every penny. He is worth more than every penny. The reality is the best things in life will cost you the most, and they are totally worth the cost.
Fr. Jonathan Fasnacht
Good Shepherd Catholic Church

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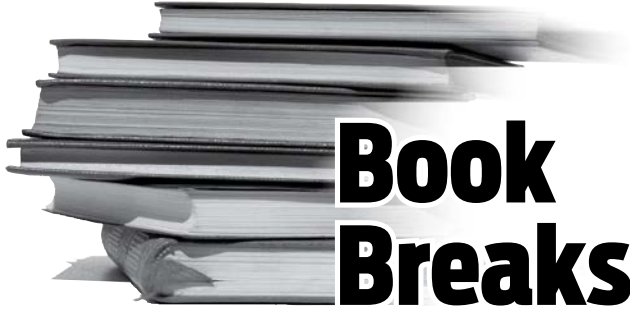
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Book Breaks

CHANGE IN PROGRAMMING
Due to the increase in COVID-19 infections, library staff made the difficult decision to cancel all in-person programs for the month of January. The decision was made in the best interest of patrons, as well as staff. Plans will be evaluated toward the end of the month as far as when to resume programs. Thank you for understanding.

WOWBRARY
If you haven't done so, check out the weekly newsletter that showcases all of the materials purchased during that week. Patrons may sign up for the newsletter on the library website, jclmn.org. On the home page, click on the "What's New" tab and then the "More" button. That will bring you to the Wowbrary page. You can find the "Sign up for Newsletter" link under "Useful Links." Placing holds from this page is easy as well! Feel free to call the library if you need assistance. This is a great resource to stay up to date on all of the new purchases and new release titles.

EDUCATIONAL DATABASES
We have some great

digital resources you can access from the comfort of your own home with your library card! We have EBSCO databases that include Auto Repair Source, Legal Information Reference Center, Consumer Reports and NoveList. Creativebug is a database perfect for anyone who wants to create with hundreds of tutorials for different projects and crafts. Our Scholastic resources are just the thing for parents, teachers and even daycare providers. The Scholastic databases include TrueFlix, FreedomFlix, Scholastic Teachables, BookFlix, ScienceFlix and Watch and Learn Library. We've also collected resources that are provided simply because you are a Minnesota resident. And finally, we have some Quick Links to local resources. All of these resources are available through a Plum Creek Library System grant. The links may be found on the library website at jclmn.org under the RESOURCES tab. Explore and enjoy!

PUZZLE EXCHANGE
The library offers a puzzle exchange. Do you have some puzzles you no longer want? Maybe you



JACKSON LIBRARY
Carrie Dose

would like a new puzzle to try. Patrons are encouraged to drop off a new or gently used puzzle and/or take a puzzle. Please make sure no pieces are missing. Then when you are done with the puzzle, you can bring it back for somebody else to try. This is a great way to share those puzzles you no longer need and to pick a different puzzle for free. The table is located in the west entry next to the magazine exchange table.

HOTSPOTS AVAILABLE FOR CHECKOUT
Jackson County residents and library card holders may check out WiFi hotspots at each of the libraries in Jackson, Lakefield and Heron Lake. A hotspot offers a wireless access point that communicates with computers and other WiFi devices using radio signals. Hotspots may be checked out for two weeks and cannot be renewed. If a hotspot is overdue, WiFi access will be turned off. Patrons need to be 18 years or older and must be a Jackson County resident. The device must be returned to staff in the library and cannot be returned in the book drop. Call the library for more information.

Our Redeemer Church to host drive-through soup, chili feed

by JOSHUA SCHUETZ
Staff Writer

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Jackson will host its annual soup and chili dinner this Sunday to raise money for local charities and ministries.

"It's been a tradition here for a number of years," said Pastor John Schuetz of Our Redeemer. "It will be a drive-through event at the church, and people can enter from the South Street entrance to the

parking lot, place their order, drop off their freewill offering and the food will be brought to them."

The choice is turkey noodle soup or chili and all meals come with a Pizza Ranch breadstick and a bar.

Schuetz said this year's feed will raise money for the Jackson Food Shelf, which has seen an increase in need due to rising inflation, along with the Jackson Ministerial Association and other causes. "The proceeds will go

to the food shelf, the ministerial — which uses that funding to provide emergency housing, food and gas to those in need — and Lutheran Hour Ministries," he said.

A snow date has been set for Sunday, Jan. 30, in the event of inclement weather.

Schuetz said the church has seen a lot of support from the community for previous feeds and he hopes for good turnout this year as well.

"We really appreciate the support from the community," he said. "These proceeds allow the community to support others who need help."

Serving runs from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

If you go...

What: Soup and chili feed
When: Sunday, Jan. 23, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Where: Our Redeemer Lutheran Church



Birthday wishes and anniversary greetings go out to the following this week:
Jan. 20: Happy birthday to Jonah Espey, Diana Kuehl, Gage Mekosch, Gloria Pell.
Jan. 21: Happy birthday to Tyler Chapman, Ben Caven, John Schuetz,

BIRTHDAYS • ANNIVERSARIES

Carly Schultes, Dale Jensen, Brittany Olson.
Jan. 22: Happy birthday to Kortney Porter, Amy Singvongsa.
Jan. 23: Happy birthday to Minny Adkins, Carole Berkness, Chris Macek, Tammy Haskin, Barry Nosbusch, Jody Heiden, Emily Anderson, Ronald Anderson, Bailey Schneekloth. Anniversary wishes go to Dave and Anne DeJong, Scott and Christina Johnson.

Jan. 24: Happy birthday to Tyler Schmidt, Michael Miller, Jerome Palmer, Joe Pell.
Jan. 25: Happy birthday to Jerry Linscheid, William Henning, Ethel Christopher, Lee Larson, Jordan Rethwill, Weston Rowe, Maxim Tweedt, Karen Vacura.
Jan. 26: Happy birthday to Susan Fields, Marcia Bahr, Sharon Copley, Olivia Hitzemann, Denise Micklos.

Email your local news to the Pilot. info@livewireprinting.com.

Public Notice/Classified

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF JACKSON
FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
DISTRICT COURT
PROBATE DIVISION
Court File No. 32-PR-21-46
Estate of
Deloris Evonne Mathews,
Decedent
AMENDED NOTICE AND
ORDER FOR HEARING ON
PETITION FOR DESCENT

OF PROPERTY

A Petition for Determination of Descent has been filed with this Court. The Petition represents that the Decedent died more than three years ago, leaving property in Minnesota and requests the descent of such property be determined and assigned by this Court to the persons entitled to the property.

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTY OF JACKSON

**ORDER AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON
REDETERMINATION OF BENEFITS BEFORE THE JOINT
BOARD FOR MARTIN-JACKSON COUNTY. COUNTY DITCH 53
BEFORE THE DRAINAGE AUTHORITY OF COUNTY DITCH 53
OF MARTIN AND JACKSON COUNTIES**

In the matter of the Redetermination of Benefits of County Ditch 53.

NOTICE OF HEARING ON VIEWERS REPORTS
Notice is hereby given, that a proceeding has been commenced by the Drainage Authority of County Ditch 53 of Martin and Jackson Counties, Minnesota, for the redetermination of benefits and damages and benefited areas and damaged areas of County Ditch 53. That the proceeding is pending;
That the viewers appointed herein have made and filed their report in the office of the Martin County Auditor-Treasurer in Fairmont, Minnesota; and

That the following is a brief description of the lands drained by County Ditch 53 Martin County by its main tile, branches, various laterals, and tile systems. Said system drains all or part of the following townships: **Martin County, Lake Belt Township** - Sections 19, 30, 31; **Lake Fremont Township** - Sections 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 35, 36; **Jay Township** - Section 31 and **Jackson County, Petersburg Township** - Sections 1 & 12; **Wisconsin Township** - Section 36

AND THAT, THEREFORE, on **February 1, 2022 AT 2:00 P.M.** in the Martin County Board of Commissioners Room located within the Martin County Courthouse, 201 Lake Avenue, Fairmont, MN the Drainage Authority of said system shall hear and consider said viewers' report, and all the persons interested in the redetermination of benefits are invited to appear and be heard before the Drainage Authority, for and against the proposed redetermination of benefits with respect to any other matters in connection therewith. A copy of the viewers' report can be examined at the office of the Martin County Auditor, 201 Lake Avenue, Fairmont, MN.

Should you also have questions or concerns in regards to your viewer's report that you would like answered before the hearing you are highly encouraged to contact the Martin County Drainage Administration at 507-238-3130.

Dated: January 3, 2021

Kevin Nordquist, Jackson County Auditor/Treasurer
(Jan. 6, 13, 20)

STATE OF MINNESOTA
COUNTIES OF MARTIN AND JACKSON
BEFORE THE JOINT BOARD OF MARTIN & JACKSON COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS ACTING AS THE DRAINAGE AUTHORITY FOR
JUDICIAL DITCH 105 OF MARTIN & JACKSON COUNTIES
In the matter of the Redetermination of Benefits of Judicial Ditch 105 Martin & Jackson.

NOTICE OF HEARING ON VIEWERS REPORTS
Notice is hereby given, that a proceeding has been commenced by the Drainage Authority of Judicial Ditch 105 of Martin & Jackson Counties, Minnesota, for the redetermination of benefits and damages and benefited areas and damaged areas of Judicial Ditch 105 Martin & Jackson. That the proceeding is pending; That the viewers appointed herein have made and filed their report in the office of the Martin County Auditor-Treasurer in Fairmont, Minnesota; and

That the following is a brief description of the lands drained by Judicial Ditch 105 Martin & Jackson by its main tile, branches, various laterals, and tile systems. Said system drains all or part of the following townships: **Martin County, Jay Township** - Sections 19, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33; and **Jackson County, Wisconsin Township** - Section 25

AND THAT, THEREFORE, on **February 1, 2022 AT 2:45 P.M.** or as soon as can be heard, in the Martin County Board of Commissioners Room located within the Martin County Courthouse, 201 Lake Avenue, Fairmont, MN the Drainage Authority of said system shall hear and consider said viewers' report, and all the persons interested in the redetermination of benefits are invited to appear and be heard before the Drainage Authority, for and against the proposed redetermination of benefits with respect to any other matters in connection therewith. A copy of the viewers' report can be examined at the office of the Martin County Auditor, 201 Lake Avenue, Fairmont, MN.

Should you also have questions or concerns in regards to your viewer's report that you would like answered before the hearing you are highly encouraged to contact the Martin County Drainage Administration at 507-238-3130.

Dated this 3rd day of January, 2022.

Drainage Authority for Judicial Ditch 105 Martin
& Jackson Counties.
By Kevin Nordquist County Auditor-Treasurer
(Jan. 6, 13, 20)

Any objections to the Petition must be filed with the Court prior to or raised at the hearing. If proper, and no objections are filed or raised, the Petition may be granted.

IT IS ORDERED and Notice is further given, that the Petition will be heard on February 28, 2022 via Zoom at 1:15 p.m., by this Court at 405 4th Street, Jackson, Minnesota.

1. Notice shall be given to all interested persons (MINN. STAT. § 524.1-401) and persons who have filed a demand for notice pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 524.3-204.

2. Notice shall be given by publishing this Notice and Order as provided by law and by mailing a copy of this Notice and Order at least 14 days prior to the hearing date. Dated: January 7, 2022

BY THE COURT
Darci J. Bentz
Judge of District Court
Kayla McKinney
Court Administrator
Attorney for Petitioner:
Ashley J.P. Schmit #0395771
FOCUSED LAW FIRM, PLLC
410 Springfield Parkway
Jackson, MN 56143
ashley@focusedlawfirm.com
(507) 847-3239
(Jan. 13, 20)

**PUBLIC NOTICE
APPOINTMENT TO HERON
LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
BOARD OF MANAGERS**

Pursuant to M.S. 103D.311, notice is hereby given that the

term of Wayne Rasche, as a member of the Heron Lake Watershed District (HLWD) Board of Managers, will expire on February 24, 2022. The Jackson County Board of Commissioners will consider making an appointment at their regular meeting scheduled for February 15, 2022. Pursuant to M.S. 103D.311, individuals who are a voting resident of the HLWD in Jackson County, are not a public officer of the county, state or federal government (note: soil & water conservation district supervisor may be a manager) and are interested in being appointed to serve as a HLWD Manager, may submit a letter of interest and your name, address and phone number to the Jackson County Administrator, 405 4th Street, Jackson, MN 56143, or to County.Administrator@co.jackson.mn.us on or before **February 9, 2022 at 4:30 p.m.** Additional information can be obtained from the Jackson County Administrator at 507-847-4182.

Ryan Krosch
Jackson County Administrator
(Jan. 20)

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JCC WRESTLING

Half the Huskies win Big South Conference titles

JCC wrestling team sets scoring record while dominating the BSC tournament

by DAN CONDON
Sports Editor

Jackson County Central wrestlers claimed half the individual conference championships at the Big South Conference meet Saturday in St. James as the Huskies dominated the meet in record-setting fashion.

JCC scored a meet-record 263.5 points to finish well ahead of Class AA No. 9 Martin County (188.5), St. Peter (163), Marshall (137) and New Ulm Area (112) rounded out the top-five of the 13-team field.

Winning by such a large margin is a credit to the team's depth, head coach

Nate Hanson said. "It speaks to the depth of our lineup," he said. "We're pretty solid all the way through. We don't really have any holes from top to bottom."

Huskies win half the conference titles

Nolan Ambrose, Kie Anderson, Thomas Freking, Payton Handevitd, Matt Haley, Caleb Vancura and Will Freking each won individual titles, giving JCC the champion in half of the brackets. Logan Butzon and Dylan Withers both finished second and Cameron Scholten placed third as the Huskies had 10 all-conference grapplers.

"Seven champions, nine finalist, 10 all-conference wrestlers and 12 guys placed — it was a great weekend of wrestling," Hanson said.

Thomas Freking See **WR** on **B4**



PHOTO BY DAN CONDON

Thomas Freking works to turn Windom/Mt. Lake's Eagan Maras during last Thursday's convincing win over the Cobras. Freking was one of seven Huskies to win Big South Conference individual championships Saturday.

JCC GYMNASTICS

JCC gymnasts finish third at Sweetheart

by DAN CONDON
Sports Editor

A pair of highly ranked teams were all that finished ahead of the Jackson County Central gymnastics team Saturday as the Huskies hosted the Sweetheart Invitational.

The tournament — JCC's first home meet of the season — had just five teams after Eagan and Redwood Valley backed out because of illness and the weather.

Class AA No. 3 New Prague swept the individual titles and easily won the team championship with a score of 145.775.

Class A No. 2 Worthington was second (142.425), followed by JCC (132.625), Martin County Area (128.175) and Windom (127.175). JCC is ranked

See **GYM** on **B5**



PHOTO BY DAN CONDON
Bailey Finck soars through the air while competing on floor exercise at the Sweetheart Invitational Saturday in Jackson.

JCC BOYS' BASKETBALL

Saints, Tigers take down the Huskies

The Jackson County Central boys' basketball team lost a pair of games to Marshall and St. James Area during the last week to fall to 5-8 on the season.

The loss to the Tigers has the Huskies at 2-3 in the West Division of the Big South Conference.

Strong second half gives Saints the win

JCC jumped out to an 11-5 lead Monday night in St. James and still led

the Saints 28-27 at the half before the Saints went on a run and won 66-52.

Immediately following JCC's early 11-5 lead, the Saints scored nine straight points to lead 14-11.

The Huskies answered right back, scoring 10 straight points to lead 21-14.

Damien Phaly started the run with a free throw and Kaden Cother followed with a 3-pointer. Baskets

See **BBB** on **B3**

JCC GIRLS' BASKETBALL

Tigers too much for JCC girls

The Jackson County Central girls' basketball team knew it was in for a tough week of games last week.

The Huskies lost to Estherville Lincoln Central — ranked No. 3 in Iowa — to start the week last Monday, then lost at home to Class AAA No. 12 Marshall last Tuesday.

The Huskies were scheduled to play Class AA No. 13 Luverne this past Friday, but that game has been

postponed until Feb. 18.

The Huskies are now 8-5 on the season after dropping three straight games and sport a 3-3 record in the West Division of the Big South Conference.

Tigers win big

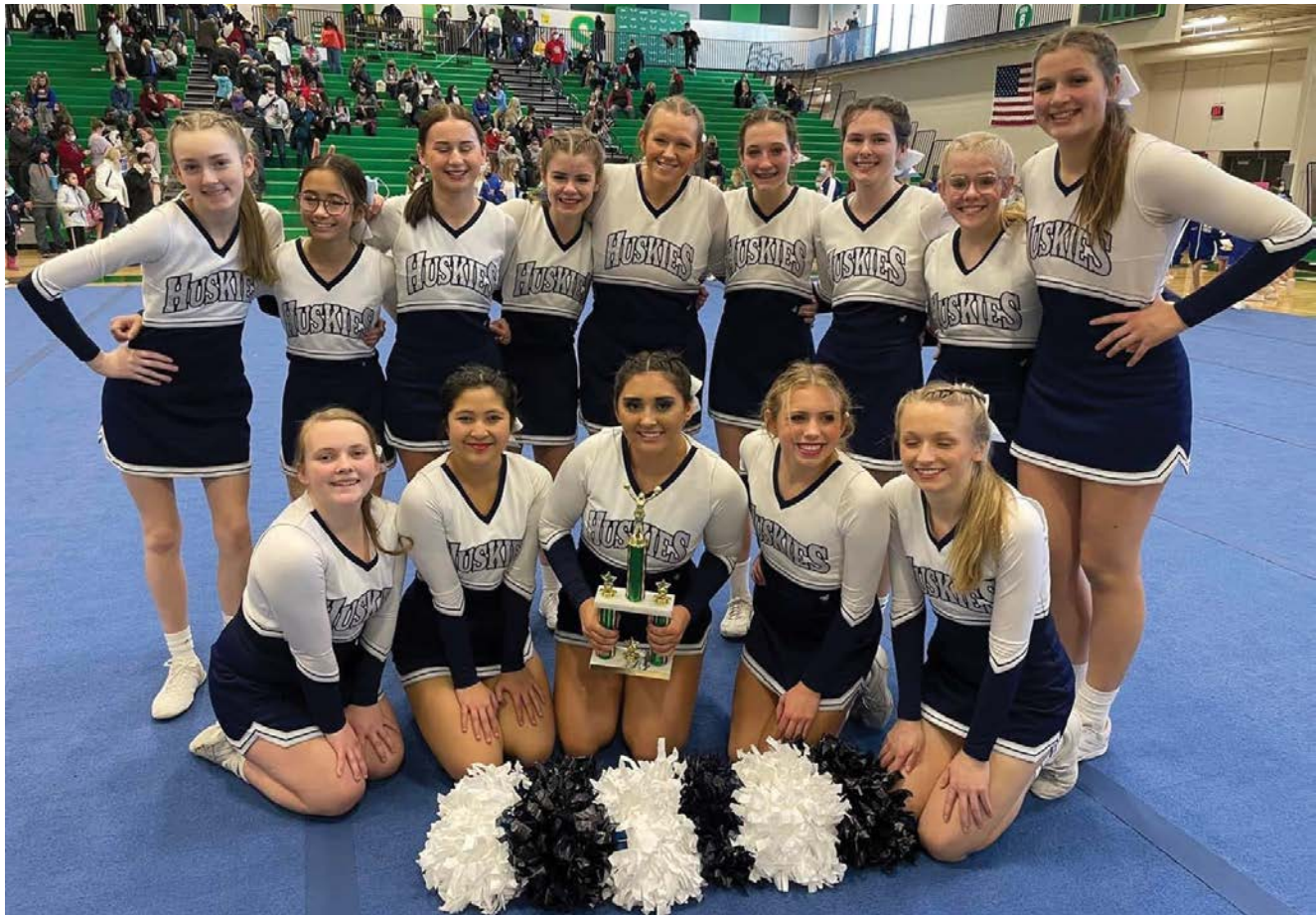
Marshall scored the first 10 points last Tuesday and was never really threatened in an 80-38 victory.

Kylee Wenzel got the Huskies on the board just

See **GBB** on **B3**

JCC CHEER

Cheer team ends crazy day with championship



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Members of the Jackson County Central competition cheerleading team are (front, from left) Lily Mohning, Milliani Insichienmay, Mia Ruiz, Olivia Anderson and Ashlyn Bohl. Back: Addie Vee, Tieran Muongkhot, Adyson VanWesten, Lizzy Rasmussen, Morgan Preuss, Izabella Grein, Paige Duncan, Baylee Pietrowski and Elena Winter.

Illness and a broken-down bus don't stop Huskies from winning meet

by DAN CONDON
Sports Editor

The Jackson County Central competition cheerleading team easily won a tournament in Edina Saturday, though the day — and leadup to it — was far from routine.

The Huskies had to make last-minute changes this past Friday after a team member got sick.

Then the team's bus broke down on the way to the meet, leaving the team scrambling to track down parents headed to the meet to hop in with.

The Huskies arrived late to the meet, but tournament organizers allowed them to compete when they

arrived. So as soon as the Huskies got to the meet they had to warm up and then perform.

None of it slowed the Huskies, who dominated the meet.

JCC had a team score of 62.25, finishing well ahead of Centennial (49), Andover (46.25) and Fridley (33.75).

"I am very proud of these girls for how they handled the stressful morning — bus breaking down, getting ready on the bus, split up between vehicles and warming up and performing the minute they arrived," said head coach Amy Blaskey, who wasn't at the meet because she was watching her daughter, Olivia, perform at the Sweetheart Invitational gymnastics meet in Jackson. "I would like to thank all the parents that helped make a very stressful day a huge success."

"I AM VERY PROUD OF THESE GIRLS FOR HOW THEY HANDLED THE STRESSFUL MORNING."

Amy Blaskey

BIG SOUTH CONFERENCE STANDINGS

BOYS' BASKETBALL

West Team	BSC	All
Marshall	6-1	9-4
Redwood	6-1	10-3
Pipestone	4-2	10-2
JCC	2-3	5-8
Windom	2-5	4-7
Worthington	1-3	1-9
Luverne	0-6	1-8
East Team	BSC	All
New Ulm	4-0	8-4
Waseca	3-0	6-6
St. Peter	3-2	6-8
BEA	2-3	5-5
St. James	1-4	7-7
Fairmont	0-4	4-7

GIRLS' BASKETBALL

West Team	BSC	All
Marshall	6-0	12-3
Worthington	4-1	7-5
Luverne	4-2	11-2
JCC	3-3	8-5
Pipestone	2-3	5-8
Windom	1-5	6-8
Redwood	0-6	0-14
East Team	BSC	All
St. Peter	5-0	15-1
Fairmont	5-1	12-2
St. James	3-2	6-7
New Ulm	2-3	7-6
Waseca	1-5	6-8
BEA	0-5	3-10

WRESTLING

West Team	BSC	All
JCC	4-0	7-3
Worthington	2-0	6-1
Marshall	3-1	7-1
Pipestone	3-2	7-5
Redwood	2-3	4-12
Windom	0-4	4-8
Luverne	0-4	0-5
East Team	BSC	All
St. Peter	2-0	6-2
BEA	2-0	5-6
New Ulm	2-1	6-6
Martin Co.	0-0	6-0
Waseca	1-2	4-6
St. James	0-4	1-8

GYMNASTICS

West Team	BSC	All
Worthington	4-0	8-0
JCC	3-1	4-2
Luverne	2-1	3-1
Pipestone	2-2	4-3
Redwood	1-2	1-3
Windom	0-3	1-4
Marshall	0-3	2-5
East Team	BSC	All
St. Peter	3-0	4-0
MCA	1-0	3-2
New Ulm	1-0	3-1
Waseca	2-1	2-2
St. James	0-3	0-8
BEA	0-3	0-3

BOYS' HOCKEY

Team	BSC	All
New Ulm	8-0	10-4
Luverne	7-1	7-6
Worthington	6-3	8-4
Marshall	5-4	7-9
Windom	4-2-1	7-8-1
Fairmont	4-5	4-7
Waseca	2-7	4-8-1
MN River	1-6-1	3-10-1
Redwood	1-10	2-12

GIRLS' HOCKEY

Team	BSC	All
New Ulm	8-0	14-3
Luverne	10-1	19-1
Marshall	6-3	10-8-1
MN River	6-5	8-10
Windom	3-6	5-12
Fairmont	3-8	4-9-2
Waseca	2-8	3-16-1
Worthington	1-8	3-13

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SPORTS CALENDAR

Thursday, Jan. 20
GBB at Redwood Valley
GH vs. Worthington
BH vs. Worthington
Friday, Jan. 21
BBB vs. Redwood Valley
WR at Wabasso (vs. Wabasso & F/MCC)
GH vs. New Ulm
BH at Waseca
Saturday, Jan. 22
WR at Parkston, S.D.
Sunday, Jan. 23
No events
Monday, Jan. 24
GBB vs. Worthington
BH vs. New Ulm
Tuesday, Jan. 25
WR vs. ACGC
BBB at Worthington
Wednesday, Jan. 26
No events



@PilotSports

Jan. 15, 7:04 p.m.
The JCC competition cheerleading team finished first at its meet in Edina today despite its bus breaking down on the way to the meet.
Jan. 15, 5:40 p.m.
Will Freking wins the 195-pound BSC championship with a 6-4 decision over Leighton Robb of St. Peter in the finals.
Jan. 15, 4:33 p.m.
Kie Anderson is the BSC champion at 120 pounds, beating ninth-ranked JJ Martens of Pipestone 8-0 in the finals.
Follow for more updates

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK



Name: Paige Duncan and Adyson VanWesten
Sport: Competition cheerleading
The week that was: The two cheerleaders helped the team win a competition Saturday in Edina after switching positions.
Coach's comments: "Both these girls were asked to switch from their normal positions to make changes in our routine due to a teammate's illness," Amy Blaskey said. "They were both willing to do whatever was needed to do for the team and did so with positive attitudes. They both showed great leadership skills by putting the team first so that we could compete. Way to go, girls."

Athletes of the week sponsored by:

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HL-O CORNER

Coyote girls win two more basketball games

The Heron Lake-Okabena/Fulda girls' basketball team won two games in a five-day stretch, topping Madelia 72-40 last Thursday and Adrian/Ellsworth 64-48 Monday. In between, the Coyotes lost 69-49 against Edgerton.
Chrissy Hermeling scored 19 points, Taryn Evers 18, Anna Fest 12 and Faith White 10 in the win over A/E.
Hermeling scored 13 points against Edgerton and Fest had 12 points and eight rebounds. Evers finished with 11 points and four boards and White scored six points. Addison Fisher and Claire Reith each grabbed five rebounds.
Evers had a monster game against Madelia, finishing with 24 points, 14 rebounds, three blocks and three steals. Fest filled the stat sheet with 19 points, six rebounds, five assists and five steals.
Skylar Fisher scored 12 points and Hermeling recorded 11 points, four assists and three steals. Addison Fisher grabbed seven rebounds and Reith pulled down six.
The Coyotes played at Murray County Central Tuesday and are at Westbrook-Walnut Grove tonight (Thursday) before hosting Southwest Minnesota Christian Tuesday.
Coyote boys drop games to Patriots, Rebels
The Heron Lake-Okabena/Fulda boys' basketball team lost 71-58 at Murray County Central last Tuesday and 73-60 last Thursday at Hills-Beaver Creek despite leading 41-30 at the half.
Carter Drent had a huge game in the loss to HBC, finishing with 23 points, eight rebounds and four blocks. Parker Murphy scored 21 points and Sawyer Drent added seven points, seven boards and five assists.
The Coyotes hosted Westbrook-Walnut Grove Tuesday and host Red Rock Central tonight (Thursday). HL-O/F plays at Cedar Mountain Tuesday.

Trying for a personal record

I would say I believe the golf gods are against me, except I believe in only one God, and that one God is not the golf god. So I will not. I will not even say some fictional golf god is against me. But some force in the golf world must be against me.
I know it is not the PGA because that organization covers professional golfers, not amateur wannabes like me.
I could blame the U.S. Golf Association, because it caters to amateur golfers, but I really do not know why it would want to put a hex on me, a faithful golfer; I do not cheat. Often.
I do not think it was my golf buddies. What would they gain by jinxing me? Unless they are just jealous I was playing golf when they were not. No, they are not the vindictive kind.
Maybe it is my brother's uncle's cat. I do not know. All I know is I was enjoying some early January golf when all of the sudden, out of the blue skies, someone or something put the kybosh on my playing golf in what I hope is only the near future.
After playing several holes last Tuesday, I was looking forward to playing again the next day. What Minnesotan would not want to play some golf on an almost-balmy mid-40-degree January day? Any golfer can play in January in places like Arizona, but in Minnesota?
My mind was saying yes to the golf, but my body was not. For once I wish my mind and my body would act in unison. Anyway, Wednesday morning, with thoughts of golf on my mind, I decided to go for a cart cruise and run a few downtown errands.
As grandson Henry was visiting, I knew there was going to be no way that cart was leaving our yard without Henry on it. So, I bent over to help lift him onto the cart. Instant stabbing pain. My back decided to take a sabbatical — a leave of absence

— and threw itself out.
My mind no longer thought of the day in the same way; it became a no-golf Wednesday.
Then, to make matters worse, Mother Nature decided to join the mysterious forces at play and sent enough snow Friday to keep the course under a thick blanket of snow for some time to come.
That blanket of snow is about as thick as a couple of dozen of my mom's homemade quilts. I sure hope the course is comfy and warm. And ready to shed those quilts.
It is not so much that my January golfing was cut short, but I am working on a personal record. Since last March — March 8, 2021, to be exact — I have played some Minnesota golf at least once each month. Thus, I am just one month shy of a year's worth of consecutive golf.
To keep my streak alive, I have to squeeze in a hole or two sometime during the 28 days of February. The problem is February, like January, is basically a non-golf month in Minnesota.
Between my back going out and the snow falling down I went from being super excited for getting closer to my goal than any other year to being dejected knowing my chance of success just took a nosedive into the Mariana Trench. It was as if I was reliving every Vikings season in one flashing moment.
The saving grace for the snowfall, though I would have rather been sending a drive down the faraway, is it was fairly easy to blow off of the driveway. And, even though it was negative whatever out, it felt like a warm cold. I worked up a sweat blowing.
I am not too worried about keeping my cart-cruising streak alive and thriving. Since I bought my cart on April 29, 2020, I have taken at least one cruise each month.
All I need is a snow-free road and a temperature somewhere above Absolute Zero and I am good to roll. I really do

not even need the road to be snow-free to go.
Before you declare me 52 cards short of a full deck, I do pick and choose when I want to cruise. I do not go on the cold or snowy days. I wait for the warm ones. There is usually one halfway decent day each month that is cruisable. Way easier than finding a golfable day.
The Jackson County Central Middle School students did not mind the snow; they were treated to an old-fashioned snow day.
Except they knew about it the night before. Not like the old days when we had to watch the bottom of the snowy TV screen and pray our school's name would soon scroll on by.
They also have a day off on Monday for a staff-development day.
Athletically, Mark Kocak's seventh-grade boys' basketball team played two close games against Mt. Lake Area on Jan. 11. After dropping the first game 16-14, the team played to a 25-25 overtime tie in the second.
On Jan. 13, despite losing both games to Fairmont, the boys showed much improvement since the last time the two teams met up. In Game 1, JCC played even with the Cardinals until the final minutes. They lost by only six in the nightcap.
And now, as I have snow to blow and golf clubs to store, I will close for this week. Until next week, after your own snow blowing, head on down to the Husky arenas and help cheer on our teams. Go, Huskies!



WIDE WRITE
Stephen A. Condon

Get sports updates as they happen on Twitter.

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WRESTLERS SWEEP SEASON-OPENING TRIANGULAR

One year ago, Jan. 21, 2021
The Jackson County Central wrestling team dominated Pipestone 57-13 and Windom/Mt. Lake 50-24 to open the season with a Big South Conference sweep. Nolan Ambrose, Thomas Freking, Coltan Bents, Payton Handevidt, Matt Haley and Will Freking got pins against Pipestone; Kie Anderson, Dylan Withers and Isaiah Rodriguez received forfeits; and Logan Butzon won a decision. Against W/ML, Ambrose, Seth Stai, Bents, Handevidt and Trace Michelson picked up pins; Braydan Winter and Will Freking got forfeits; and Anderson and Butzon won major decisions.

HUSKIES SLAM THE CARDINALS

Five years ago, Jan. 26, 2017
The JCC boys' basketball team dominated Luverne, beating the Cardinals 94-60 to improve to 12-3 on the season. JCC never trailed in the game and used 9-0 and 10-0 first-half runs to lead 52-30 at the break. Jacob Christopher scored 21 points and had five assists. Keegan Klontz scored a career-high 18 points and had a team-high six rebounds. Rudy Voss finished with 13 points and Ryan Christopher accounted for 11 points, eight steals, six assists and four rebounds. Chris Gumto made it five players in double figures, scoring 10 points.

GYMNASTS TOP COBRAS

10 years ago, Jan. 26, 2012
The JCC gymnastics team beat Windom/Mt. Lake 139.425-126.85 to improve to 7-0 on the season. Sydnee Donnelly won all-around (35.625) and had at least a share of the top spot in three events. Donnelly won vault (9.375) and bars (8.6) and tied Brandi Sether-Hassing for first on floor (9.2). Donnelly also finished second on beam (8.45). Adriane Rentschler won beam (9.45) and was second in all-around (34.925). She finished fourth on bars (8.15) and floor (8.625). Sether-Hassing finished second on vault (9.125) and bars (8.525) and placed third in all-around (34.575). Morgan Halverson placed fourth in all-around (33.4) after placing third on floor (9.05) and fourth on vault (8.925). Hailey Timko finished third on bars (8.225) and Bailey Schneekloth was fourth on beam (8.05).

HUSKIES FINISH SECOND AT SWEETHEART

25 years ago, Jan. 23, 1997 – Jackson County Pilot
Led by freshman Mandy Censky, the Jackson gymnastics team finished second to Big Lake at the 12th annual Sweetheart Invitational. Censky scored a season-high 9.4 on bars to take first place, propelling her to a third-place finish in all-around (34.8). She also finished third on floor (9.15) and scored 8.85 on vault and 7.4 on beam. Sara Weflen finished fourth in all-around (34.75). She was fourth on beam (8.2) and fifth on floor (9.0), bars (8.55) and vault (9.0). Kelley Baker finished fourth on bars (8.7), Alyssa Honnette finished fourth on vault (9.05) and Devon McConnell placed sixth on beam (8.15).

BULLET GIRLS TOP WOLVERINES

25 years ago, Jan. 23, 1997 – Lakefield Standard
The Heron Lake-Okabena/Lakefield girls' basketball team ended a three-game losing streak by beating Mt. Lake/Butterfield/Odin 45-40. HLOL trailed 11-9 after the first quarter, but led 23-15 at the half and 29-23 after three quarters. Lindsay Voss led a balanced attack with 11 points. Amber Swanson added 10, Sue Resch eight, Robin Jansky six, Stacy Oelke six and Brittany Liepold four. Swanson and Resch had four assists and Oelke grabbed eight rebounds.

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SUBMITTED PHOTO

FOURTH-PLACE FINISH

Jackson County Central graduate Haley Tvinnereim (front, center) helped the South Dakota State University cheerleading squad finish fourth at the UCA Nationals last week in Orlando. It was the team’s first ever appearance at the national tournament. Tvinnereim, a sophomore at SDSU, is a captain for the team, which also cheers at Jackrabbit football and basketball games.

EAGLE GIRLS’ HOCKEY

Packers pass up Eagle girls for 2-1 victory

The Windom Area girls’ hockey team scored first last Tuesday, but Austin scored the final two goals to win 2-1. The loss drops the Eagles to 5-12 on the season. Elly Bang gave the Eagles the lead late in the first period. She got an assist

from Victoria Robillard and scored with just one minute, 47 seconds left in the opening stanza. The lead lasted nearly half of the second period, but the Packers tied it and then took a 2-1 lead five minutes into the third period.

The Eagles had a power-play chance later in the period, but were unable to tie the game. Kaylie Baerg made 32 saves for the Eagles, keeping Windom Area close despite being outshot 34-21.

Up next The Eagles played at Fairmont Tuesday night and host Worthington tonight (Thursday). Windom Area hosts New Ulm Friday and then has a 10-day break before hosting Waseca.

EAGLE BOYS’ HOCKEY

Eagle boys tie Bulldogs, then rally past Lourdes

The Windom Area boys’ hockey team gave up just two goals in two games last week to earn a tie and win against Minnesota and Rochester Lourdes, respectively. The Eagles tied the Bulldogs 1-1 last Tuesday before scoring the final three goals to beat Lourdes 3-1 on Saturday. Windom Area is now 7-8-1 on the season.

Eagles rally past another team of Eagles In a battle of Eagles, it was Windom Area getting the last laugh against Rochester Lourdes in a 3-1 road victory. Rochester Lourdes scored a power-play goal late in the first period and kept that lead for nearly a full period before Windom Area struck.

Wyatt Haugen scored a power-play goal with less than five minutes left in the second period, lighting the lamp thanks to assists from Sonny Heil and Cragen Porath. Almost exactly one period later, the Eagles broke the tie when Brady Espenson scored on assists from Haugen and Heil.

The Eagles added an insurance goal with just 28 seconds left when Haugen scored on an Espenson assist for a 3-1 score that soon became the final. Jackson County Central senior Dan Stubbe made 35 saves, helping Windom Area win de-

spite being outshot 36-7. Stubbe has allowed just two goals in his last three games and four in his last four.

Eagles, Bulldogs end in a 1-1 tie Stubbe was excellent in the net last Tuesday at home against Minnesota River, but the Eagles and Bulldogs ended in a 1-1 tie. Haugen scored a power-play goal with less than two minutes left in the second period on an assist from Zach Espenson to give the Eagles a 1-0 lead. The lead held up until there was less than seven minutes left in regulation before the Bulldogs pulled even. The Eagles killed a power play later in regulation and the game headed to overtime. Neither team scored in the seven-minute extra session, even as the Eagles outshot the Bulldogs 6-1. Stubbe had a relatively easy night, stopping eight of the nine shots he faced. The Eagles peppered Bulldog goalie Sam Gibson all night, but only got one of their 48 shots past the goalkeeper.



Dan Stubbe

Up next The Eagles played at Fairmont Tuesday and host Worthington tonight (Thursday). Windom Area is at Waseca Friday and hosts New Ulm Monday.

GBB: Tiger girls too tough for the Huskies

Continued from B1

less than four minutes into the game when she hit a 3-pointer. Maci Farmer made a pair of 3-pointers as JCC’s first three baskets came from deep. Her second trifecta cut the Tiger lead to 20-9, but Marshall scored the next 21 points to lead 41-9. Farmer ended the run with a basket and Sadie Voss got a steal and scored for a mini JCC run. Farmer hit another 3-pointer late in the half, giving her 11 of JCC’s 16 first-half points.

Farmer opened the second half with an old-fashioned three-point play. Voss later scored four straight points before Rylie Cother scored JCC’s next five points. Cother’s 3-pointer got the Huskies within 27 points, but they were never any closer the rest of the way.

Farmer finished with a game-high 18 points and added four rebounds. Voss scored 10 points and Cother finished with seven points, four rebounds and three assists. Wenzel scored three points and pulled down four boards. Georgianna Wenzel also had four rebounds, which tied for the

team lead. Emma Haren grabbed three boards. The Huskies were out-rebounded 51-23 in the game. **Up next** The Huskies play at Redwood Valley tonight (Thursday) and host Worthington Tuesday.



PHOTOS BY DAN CONDON

Above: Georgianna Wenzel passes the ball during last week’s game against Marshall. Below: Emma Haren puts up a shot against the Tigers. Left: Rylie Cother shoots a 3-pointer against Marshall.



BBB: JCC loses two

Continued from B1

by Roman Voss, Travis Rogotzke and Tyler Hendricks capped the run with JCC ahead by seven points.

St. James Area responded with a 9-2 run to tie the game at 23 and it stayed close until the early stages of the second half. JCC led 30-28 early in the second half before the Saints scored 11 straight points to lead 39-30 and never trailed again. Phaly scored 18 points to lead the Huskies and added seven rebounds, five assists and three steals. Erik Hesebeck had a double-double, finishing with 12 points and 11 rebounds. Rogotzke finished with eight points, five rebounds and four assists and Voss had seven points and eight rebounds. The Huskies were just three-for-22 from behind the 3-point line, with Phaly making three of those. The Saints made eight 3-pointers.

Tigers win big JCC struggled shooting at Marshall last Tuesday and got out-rebounded 55-28 by the Tigers in an 80-39 loss. Marshall led 39-23 at the half before outscoring the Huskies 41-16 after the break. Hesebeck led the Huskies with 15 points and grabbed five rebounds. Rogotzke also hit double figures with 10 points. Rogotzke pulled down a team-high six rebounds and drew two charges on defense. Voss scored six points and Phaly added four,

with both grabbing three rebounds. Phaly also had three assists.

Up next The Huskies host Redwood Valley Friday night and play at Worthington Tuesday. JCC’s game against Luverne scheduled for this past Friday was postponed until Feb. 18.



Erik Hesebeck



Travis Rogotzke

Boys’ basketball

JCC at St. James Area					
JCC	28	24	52		
StJ	27	39	66		
JCC (52)					
Player	2	3	FT	PF	TP
Hendricks	1	0	0	2	2
Phaly	4	3	1	3	18
Voss	3	0	1	4	7
Rogotzke	2	0	4	3	8
Cother	0	1	0	1	3
Thurmer	1	0	0	3	2
Hesebeck	4	0	4	5	12
Totals	15	4	10	22	52
St. James Area (66)					
Totals	13	8	16	13	66

Boys’ basketball

JCC at Marshall					
JCC	23	16	39		
MAR	39	41	80		
JCC (39)					
Player	2	3	FT	PF	TP
Phaly	1	0	2	2	4
Voss	2	0	2	2	6
Rogotzke	1	2	2	2	10
Thurmer	1	0	0	1	2
Johnson	1	0	0	1	2
Hesebeck	6	1	0	3	15
Totals	12	3	6	13	39
Marshall (80)					
Totals	23	9	7	16	80



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WR: BSC champions

Continued from B1

might've had the most dominant performance of any Husky, going 4-0 with three pins to easily claim the 138-pound title.

He opened with a major decision before picking up three straight second-period pins. Freking, ranked No. 7 in Class A, pinned Pipestone's Nate Bobendrier in three minutes, 10 seconds in the finals.

"I thought Tomas had a really great tournament," Hanson said. "His guy in the finals was pretty tough. He was one of our standout performers."

Haley and Vancura also pinned their opponents in the finals.

Haley opened the 170-pound bracket with a pin and then beat Tucker Fiene of Marshall 9-1 in the semifinals. In the championship bout, he stuck Blue Earth Area's Kean Hicks in four minutes, 53 seconds.

It was Haley's first time on a mat after missing a week due to illness.

"Matt didn't practice all week," Hanson said. "It was his first time on the mat since The Clash and he wrestled really well."

Vancura needed just 64 seconds to pin his first opponent, then won a 13-8 decision over Micah Holmberg of Windom/Mt. Lake. In the finals, Vancura led Class AA No. 6 Kole Guth of St. Peter 5-0 after the first period and 8-0 in the second period before sticking the Saint in three minutes, 25 seconds.

"Caleb continued to look really impressive," Hanson said.

The closest finals match came from Payton Handevidt at 160 pounds. He got to the championship in dominant fashion, picking up a pin in 47 seconds before winning a 13-1 major decision.

In the finals, Handevidt led St. Peter's Brogan Hanson 5-0 before getting thrown to his back. Hanson picked up two points for a takedown and three near-fall points to tie the match, but Handevidt avoided the fall.

Hanson took a 6-5 lead with an escape in the third period, but Handevidt regained the lead with a take-down. Another Hanson escape forced overtime and neither grappler scored in the first 60-second period.

Handevidt got a reversal and three near-fall points in the next overtime period, then a takedown in the third overtime to win 13-8.

Ambrose and Anderson won back-to-back championships, with both beating a ranked wrestler in the finals.

Ambrose got byes into the semifinals, where he pinned Charlie Born of St. Peter. In the finals, Ambrose won a 4-0 decision over New Ulm's Parker Kamm, who is ranked seventh in Class AA.

Anderson pinned his first opponent in 42 seconds before winning 11-0 in the semifinals.

Anderson then beat ninth-ranked JJ Martens of Pipestone 8-0 in the finals, capping a day in which he didn't allow a single point.

Will Freking won JCC's final conference title, doing so at 195 pounds. He opened with a second-period pin before picking up a third-period pin in the semifinals.

In the championship bout, Freking beat St. Peter's Leighton Robb 6-4.

Neither wrestler scored in the first period and Robb led 1-0 with an escape early in the second. Freking got a takedown, Robb worked a reversal and Freking got an escape to send the match to the third period tied at three.

Freking took the lead with an escape, then led 6-3 with a takedown before Robb got an escape for the final score.

"Will had another great tournament," Hanson said. "He was the three seed and won it."

Butzon and Withers both lost to state-ranked wrestlers in the finals and Scholten's only loss came to a ranked foe.

Butzon, ranked No. 2 in Class A, got to the



PHOTOS BY DAN CONDON
Payton Handevidt gets a pin in just 25 seconds during Jackson County Central's win over Windom/Mt. Lake last Thursday. Handevidt followed the pin with an individual conference championship Saturday.

132-pound finals with a 48-second pin and a technical fall. In the championship, he lost 1-0 to Class AA No. 7 Dylan Louwagie of Marshall. Louwagie worked a second-period escape and Butzon wasn't able to escape in the third period.

Withers opened the 145-pound bracket with a decision and then picked up a pin in the semifinals. In the championship match, Class AA No. 10 Kain Sanders won a 6-0 decision over Withers.

"Dylan had a really good tournament," Hanson said. "He was the three seed and ended up second and wrestled tough."

Scholten opened the 285-pound tournament with a pair of decisions before losing to Class AA No. 5 Cole Hennings, who won the tournament title.

Scholten rebounded to pin Waseca's Jenaro Delgado to finish in third place.

"Cameron gave the champ his best match of the day," Hanson said. "If there would've been a true-second, I think he could've won that match. He really wrestled well for us."

Handevidt earned all-conference honors for the fifth time in his career; Butzon earned all-conference status for the third time; Ambrose, Anderson, Thomas Freking, Haley, Vancura, Will Freking and Withers earned all-conference honors for the second time; and Scholten earned the honor for the first time.

JCC had two other place winners in the tournament as Isaiah Rodriguez finished fourth at 152 pounds and Trace Michelson placed sixth at 220.

Rodriguez got a pin in his first match before losing his next two. Michelson picked up a pin in between two losses. Also wrestling was Landon Andrews, who opened with a third-period pin before losing his next two matches.

Huskies storm past Cobras in BSC dual

The Huskies won the final nine matches last Thursday against Windom/Mt. Lake to beat the Cobras



Nolan Ambrose



Kie Anderson



Thomas Freking



Payton Handevidt



Matt Haley



Caleb Vancura



Will Freking

60-12.

W/ML won the first two matches to lead 9-0 before Ambrose and Anderson recorded back-to-back quick pins to give the Huskies a 12-9 lead. The Cobras won a decision at 132 pounds to tie the dual before the Huskies won the final nine matches.

Butzon and Thomas Freking started the run with second-period pins and Withers won a 2-0 decision at 152 pounds for a 27-12 lead.

Withers and Caden Swoboda were scoreless after two periods, with Withers keeping Swoboda down the entire second period. Withers got a reversal early in the third period and rode out the Cobra for the victory.

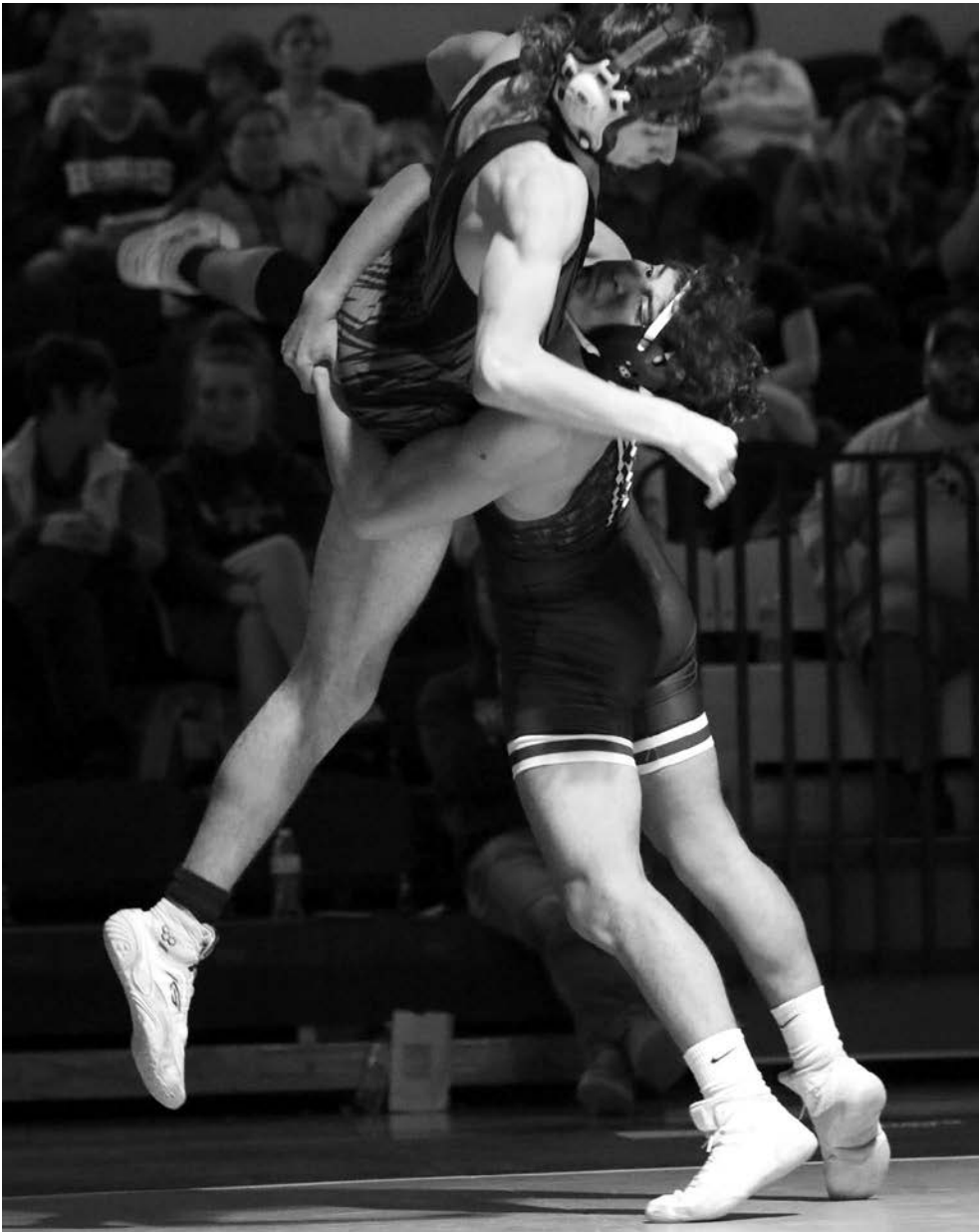
Rodriguez followed with a second-period pin before Handevidt needed just 25 seconds for a fall at 170 pounds. A forfeit by Vancura at 182 pounds came ahead of a decision by Will Freking at 195 for a 48-12 lead.

Michelson picked up

a 22-second pin at 220 pounds and Scholten earned a forfeit at 285 to cap the lopsided win.

Up next

The Huskies are at Wabasso Friday for a triangular against Wabasso and Wabasso/Red Rock Central. JCC then competes in a tournament Saturday in Parkston, S.D. and hosts Atwater-Cosmos-Grove City Tuesday in a battle of state-ranked teams.



Isaiah Rodriguez takes down Windom/Mt. Lake's Montgomery Bjorklund before pinning the Cobra during last week's dual.



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GYM: Huskies third

Continued from B1

16th in Class A and MCA is 22nd.

NP and Worthington dominated the individual placings, but Payten Benda and Olivia Blaskey cracked the top 10 in one event and all-around.

The duo each scored 8.9 to tie for 10th on floor exercise. Benda finished sixth in all-around (33.825) and Blaskey placed seventh (32.875).

JCC's highest team score (34.975) came on floor, where Hannah Carson scored 8.625 and Maia Reed scored 8.55 to round out the Huskies' total. Bailey Finck tallied an 8.1 on floor.

Benda led JCC on vault, scoring 8.75 to finish 11th. Peyton Hanson wasn't far behind, tying her season-high score of 8.65 to finish 13th. Alexis O'Reilly came in 13th (8.5) and Daysia Tomlin rounded out JCC's team score of 34.325 with an 8.425. Blaskey scored 8.275 on vault.

Carson tied her career high on bars, scoring 7.8 to place 11th. Benda (7.525), Finck (7.5) and Blaskey (7.45) finished 13th, 14th and 15th, respectively, and Makayla Hotzler scored 7.1

Benda was JCC's top scorer on balance beam, scoring 8.65. Blaskey scored 8.25, followed by Finck (8.175), O'Reilly (7.975) and Reed (7.775).

Ava Bruegger of NP won all-around (37.025), vault (9.5) and floor (9.525). Teammate Jadyn Klein won beam (9.225) and bars (8.95).

JCC head coach Abby Schneekloth said the Huskies are determined to fix some of the mistakes they made in the meet.

"We had more mistakes on beam than normal, but the girls are determined to work hard to get those routines more consistent," she said.

Finally competing at home has energized the girls and they're looking forward to more competitions on the home equipment.

"With the first home meet under our belt, the girls are excited to have the next two meets home and continue to reach their goals as individuals and as a team," Schneekloth said.

JV finishes second

The Huskies hosted the Junior Varsity Sweetheart



PHOTOS BY DAN CONDON

Teammates cheer for Payten Benda after she hit a tumbling pass during her floor routine at the Sweetheart Invitational Saturday at the Jackson County Central High School.

Invitational Monday, but it ended up being just JCC and Worthington competing, with the Trojans winning 133.8-128.8.

Clara Brinks was the champion on balance beam (8.6) and finished second in all-around (32.15). She also led the Huskies on vault, finishing seventh (8.45).

Finck led JCC on floor, finishing second with a score of 8.95. O'Reilly (8.85) and Tomlin (8.8) were third and fourth, respectively.

Peyton Hanson led JCC on bars, finishing seventh (7.3). She also placed third on beam (8.1).

O'Reilly scored 8.275 on vault and 7.2 on beam and Madisyn Wachal scored 8.1 on vault and Finck scored

7.85 on beam.

Up next

The Huskies hosted Lu-

verne Tuesday and have more than a week off before hosting Pipestone Jan. 28.



Hannah Carson competes on bars during the Sweetheart Invitational Saturday in Jackson.



Olivia Blaskey strikes a pose and flashes a smile while competing on floor routine during Saturday's Sweetheart Invitational in Jackson.

Eagles top Huskies

New Ulm beat JCC last Tuesday by a score of 136.15-131.575. The loss drops the Huskies to 4-2 on the season.

Benda finished second on vault (8.425) and beam (8.95) and scored a season-high 9.125 to place third on floor. She also earned a season-high score of 7.575 on bars and finished third in all-around (33.675).

Blaskey placed fourth in all-around (32.575) after tying Reed for fourth on floor (9.05) and earning fifth-place finishes on vault (8.35) and beam (7.925). Blaskey also scored 7.25 on bars.

Reed added a score of 7.6 to her fourth-place finish on floor.

Hotzler led JCC on bars with a fifth-place finish (7.75). Finck scored 7.5 and Carson 7.4 on the event.

Carson scored 9.0 on floor, giving JCC four girls with at least a 9.0 on the event, which helped them post their highest team score of the season (36.225).

Peyton Hanson scored 8.5 on floor and 8.15 on vault.



Above: Adelyn Mitchell performs on balance beam during the Gold Medal Performance. Below: Allison Luebben salutes the crowd after receiving her medal.



Aida Nelson (above) and Lela Swanson wave to the crowd after receiving their medals at the Gold Medal Performance Sunday.



Emery Fransen salutes the audience before competing on vault at the Gold Medal Performance.



PHOTOS BY DAN CONDON

GOING FOR THE GOLD

Quinn Coquyt smiles and salutes the crowd as helper Peyton Hanson looks on during the Gold Medal Performance gymnastics meet Sunday at the Jackson County Central High School.



Former Jackson WWII vet chronicles life, battles

by JOSHUA SCHUETZ
Staff Writer

In 2004, Jacob Zimmerli's grandson had a request — to conduct an interview with his grandfather for a college project.

The subject? Zimmerli's experience in the Pacific Theater of World War II as a soldier in the U.S. Army with the 96th Infantry Division.

Zimmerli, a Jackson native who rarely spoke about his time in the service, agreed. He gathered old notes, dredged up memories from battles long past — and relived some extremely difficult experiences — before sitting down with his grandson, Adam.

The memories were put into print, and some copies were given to interested family members. Then, last year, Jacob Zimmerli's son, Mike, worked with his dad to format the memories into a book and make them available to a wider audience.

"It languished for a long time," Mike Zimmerli said of the project. "When I went into freelance writing, I pulled it and supplemented it with more comments from him and we published it in 2021."

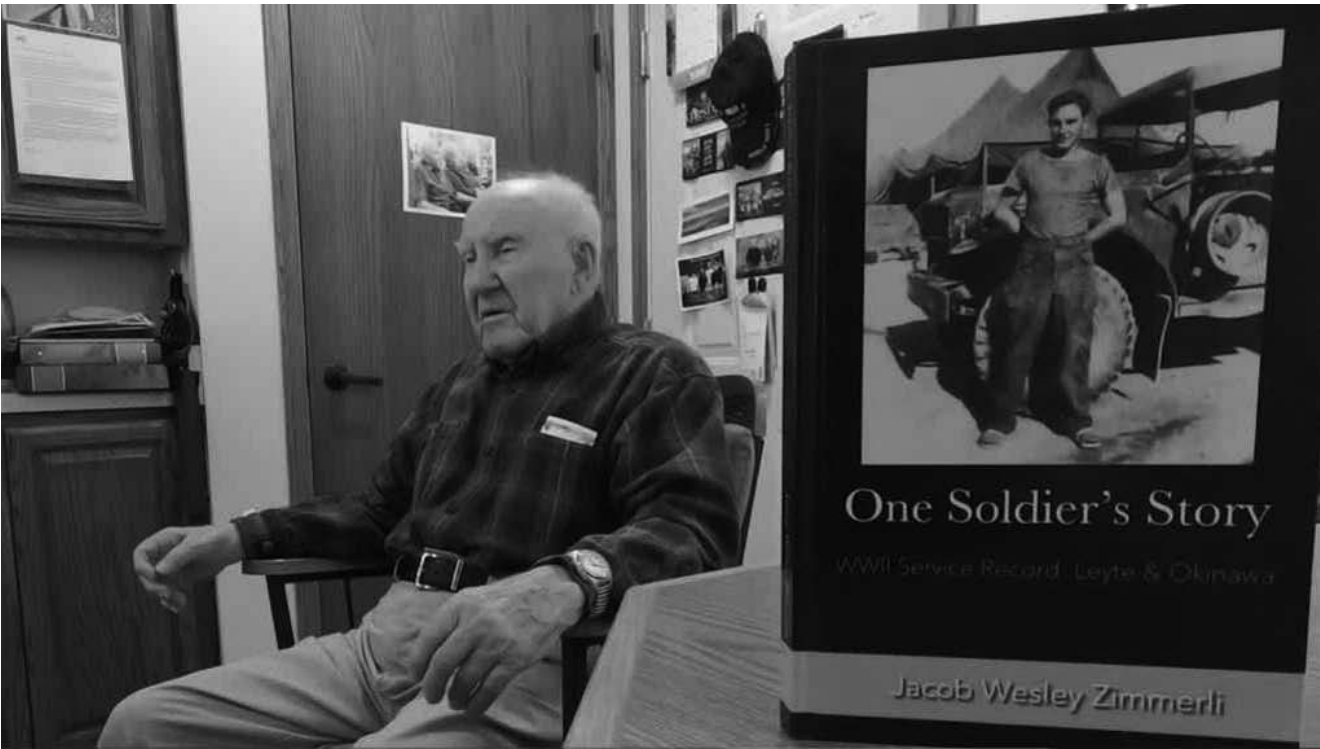
The book is titled, "One Soldier's Story."

One major reason Jacob Zimmerli agreed to have his memories published was time. More World War II veterans are dying every day, and many have gone without discussing their experiences with their families. Jacob Zimmerli said he felt it was necessary for future generations to understand the brutality of war and the struggles the servicemen of World War II experienced.

Having fought at Okinawa and Leyte, Jacob Zimmerli wanted to communicate a firm message to America's youth: War

"YOU LEARNED TO LIVE WITH THEM, RELY ON THEM AND PUT YOUR LIFE INTO THEIR HANDS, WHILE THEY'RE READY TO DO THE SAME. IT'S A FRATERNITY OF MEN, AND MOST OF THE GUYS WHO I WAS WITH NEVER TALKED ABOUT IT EXCEPT WITH OTHER VETS."

Jacob Zimmerli



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Former Jackson resident Jacob Zimmerli discusses his newly published book, "One Solider's Story."

is not a game, and it is not something to be viewed triumphantly or taken lightly.

"Young people should know that war is not fun; it's people getting killed and people having to kill in order to stay alive," he said. "It's hell."

Jacob Zimmerli himself experienced nightmares while trying to sort events out for his interview with his grandson. What pushed him forward was a desire to make sure the stories and sacrifices of his fellow soldiers aren't forgotten.

"He realized that there were hundreds of World War II veterans dying every day, without anyone knowing their stories, and he decided that wasn't right," Mike Zimmerli said.

Jacob Zimmerli started his military career at age 18, volunteering for the draft and eventually being drafted into the Deadeyes

96th Infantry Division of the U.S. Army. He ended up fighting alongside the same group of men with whom he trained.

"I'd never traveled farther than one or two states around Minnesota, and suddenly I was with these guys, and we were in a completely different world," Jacob Zimmerli recalled. "We were called the 'Gangsters of Chicago' because we were from the Midwest, but most of us were farm boys."

Military life required a level of trust, Jacob Zimmerli said, and forged bonds that remained strong in times of life and death.

"You learned to live with them, rely on them and put your life into their hands, while they're ready to do the same," Jacob Zimmerli said. "It's a fraternity of men, and most of the guys who I was with never talked about it except with other vets."

Jacob Zimmerli recorded the names and ranks of numerous men he served with and, as a result, his memoir provides details about veterans who would have otherwise remained obscure. For some of their families, Zimmerli's book

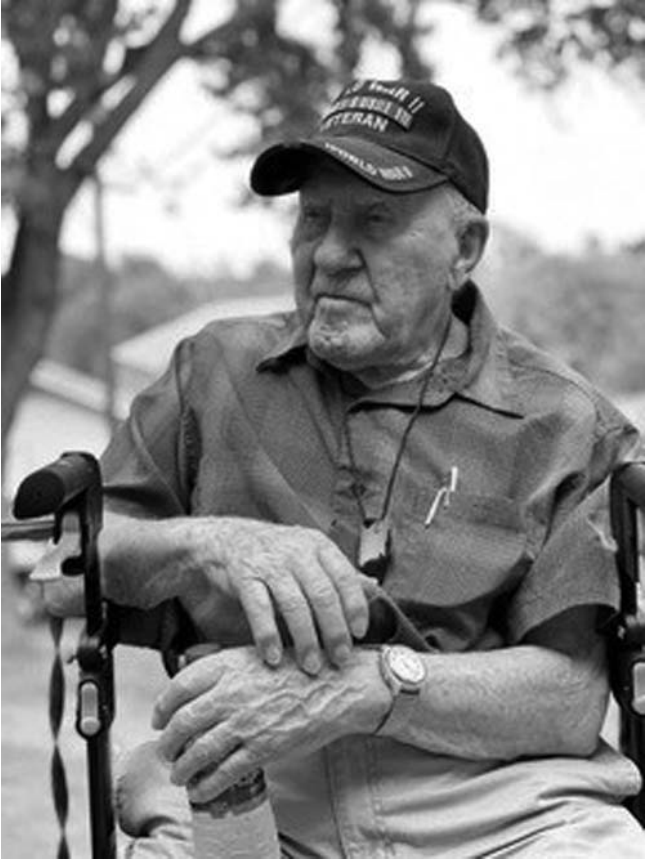
offered a form of closure they were unable to get from conversations with their loved ones.

"I've gotten messages from people who have lost family members who served in the war and their family members never told them what they went through," Mike Zimmerli said. "They were able to get closure because they could imagine their loved one in my dad's shoes, and some of them even found their names in his book."

Jacob Zimmerli lived in Jackson for more than 30 years and currently lives in Chariton, Iowa. He still has many good memories of the city, and he comes back to visit family from time to time. Zimmerli Park was named after his family.



In the Army for less than a week, new recruit Jacob Zimmerli enjoys a quick stop at home in Jackson before catching the train to the West Coast for basic training.



Jacob Zimmerli is one of a dwindling number of World War II veterans still able to share memories of his time overseas.



Jacob Zimmerli

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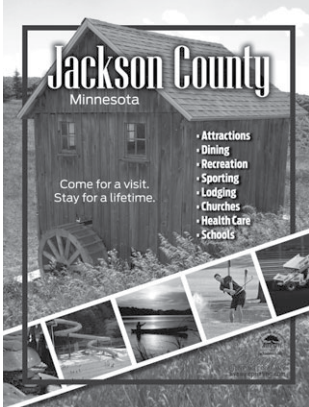
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County Board hears citizen concerns on carbon pipeline

by JOSHUA SCHUETZ
Staff Writer

The Jackson County Board of Commissioners on Tuesday heard from landowners concerned about the planned carbon pipeline proposed by Summit Carbon Solutions, which would run straight through Jackson County.

John Nauerth III spoke on behalf of a large group present at the board meeting, stating SCS had failed to answer questions about safety, liability and potential damage to county and private drainage systems.

“The landowners are basically being asked to sign easements and take everything at face value,” Nauerth said.

One of the major concerns landowners have is liability. In the event of an accident, Nauerth said, landowners might be sued along with the pipeline company and might lose their farms.

“We have outrageous land prices right now, and that changes our liabilities,” Nauerth said.

Concerns about safety factored in heavily as well. Nauerth said the nature of carbon pipelines, which pump liquefied carbon to a storage destination, makes them vulnerable to explosions, which can put landowners and the broader community at risk.

“With this, when you have a crack in the pipeline and there’s an explosive decompression,” he said, citing an example from Satartia, Miss., where a carbon pipeline ruptured and effectively enveloped an entire city in carbon dioxide, sickening dozens of people.

Beyond the safety and liability risks, Nauerth said the construction of the pipeline itself could damage drainage tiles, leaving farmers and potentially the

county in the lurch.

The group’s request was the county not use the power of eminent domain to push the project forward. Commissioners agreed to take the request under advisement.

In other action from Tuesday’s board meeting:

BOARD OK’S TRAIL FUNDING REQUEST

The board approved a request from the Southwest Regional Development Commission for \$3,000 in matching funds for a Regional Trails Planning Grant.

The grant will develop a framework for the county’s trails system to connect to Iowa, which commission representative Jason Walker said would help the county economically and recreationally.

Commissioner Phil Nasby, who has worked on trail issues in the county for years, spoke in favor of the measure.

“I want things to go forward and get the trails we have connected with Iowa and Okoboji,” Nasby said. “I think this investment would bring our county a long way.”

LEGAL SERVICES AGREEMENT OK’D

The board approved authorizing Jackson County Administrator Ryan Krosch to enter into temporary legal services agreements with a number of attorneys to complete the duties of the county attorney’s office.

Jackson County Attorney Tom Prochazka and his assistant, Lynae Tucker, resigned from their positions effective Feb. 2 and Jan. 20, respectively.

The board also approved beginning the recruitment process to find a new county attorney.

Local native new head of Minnesota FSA

A Jackson County native is the new executive director of the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Farm Service Agency Minnesota office.

Whitney Place, a 2006 graduate of Southwest Star Concept High School in Okabena, was appointed to the position last Thursday. She previously served as an assistant commissioner with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture. In her new post, she will oversee operations and agriculture policy implementation

in Minnesota.

“I want to thank Whitney for her decade of service here at the MDA and for her dedication to agriculture,” said Minnesota Agriculture Commissioner Thom Petersen. “She has been a valuable member of our team and I look forward to continuing to work with her at the FSA on issues and policies affecting farmers



Whitney Place

in our state.”

Place began studying agriculture at SSC High School in Okabena and was involved in the school’s FFA chapter. She earned a bachelor’s degree in applied plant science, agronomy and agroecology from the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities in 2010 and a master’s degree in science, technology and environmental policy-agricultural and environmental policy from the U of M-Humphrey School of Public Affairs in 2013. As an undergrad, Place worked as an oat breeding lab assistant at the university, a gov-

ernment relations intern for the National Farmers Union, a policy intern for Gov. Mark Dayton and a student intern at the MDA.

Place began working for the MDA as an executive assistant to the commissioner and as the communications and outreach coordinator for the Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program in the pesticide and fertilizer management division. She transitioned into government relations prior to being appointed an assistant commissioner in 2018.

Sanders to speak at rescheduled JCHS annual meeting

by JOSHUA SCHUETZ
Staff Writer

Tom Sanders, former site manager of the Jeffers petroglyphs, will serve as keynote speaker at the rescheduled annual meeting of the Jackson County Historical Society this Saturday.

The meeting was originally scheduled for this past Saturday but was postponed due to weather. The rescheduled meeting, which is open to the public, begins at 2 p.m. this Saturday at the JCHS Museum in Lakefield.

Society director Nick Riordan said the meeting will open with a brief business meeting,

during which a new board member will be nominated and a review of the past year at the society will be presented. Discussion will also take place regarding the General Conservation Grant the society received through the state in September, as well as updates on progress on the new addition to the museum building, recent donations to the museum and planned changes to the museum’s exhibits.

“We did receive some ornamentation from the old courthouse dome in Jackson,” Riordan said. “This spring, we’ll do some exhibition work with those items and discuss the history of the courthouse in the county and the disputes that took place in the late

19th and early 20th centuries as to where it would be located. We’ll also discuss some changes we’ll be making to our exhibits, and the process of getting that new building set up.”

Following the business meeting, Sanders, who served as site manager at the Jeffers petroglyphs from 1998 to 2016, will offer a presentation showing examples of the Red Rock Ridge’s art while discussing ongoing research of the site by Dakota elders and archaeologists.

Light refreshments will be served.

If you go ...

What: Annual meeting

When: Saturday, Jan. 22, 2 p.m.

Where: JCHS Museum, Lakefield

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