

## HUSKIES DOMINATE NO. 1 JAGUARS

The JCC wrestling team dominated Belgrade-Brooten-Elrosa 48-19 this past Friday in a battle of teams ranked No. 1 and No. 2 in Class A.

Story, B1



# JACKSON COUNTY PILOT

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2022

132ND YEAR/ISSUE 7



PHOTOS BY JOSHUA SCHUETZ

Jackson Liquor Store Manager Michelle Bratrud stocks the shelves last week at the interstate-side store.

## LOCAL LIQUOR SALES STRONG FOR SECOND STRAIGHT YEAR

Shortages, high prices bite into business a bit

by JOSHUA SCHUETZ  
Staff Writer

Local liquor stores had good years in 2021, with high levels of alcohol sales staying consistent with their 2020 levels.

At the same time, inflation, shortages and price increases bit into business a bit during the latter part of the year.

"For the most part, we were still up over 2020, though we did see a drop as inflation become an issue," said Michelle Bratrud, Jackson Liquor Store manager.

Bratrud said the reason for strong sales in 2021 had less to do with the COVID-19 pandemic and more to do with the store's location by Interstate 90, which was deliberately chosen to boost sales.

"We do get a lot of people from Iowa because liquor is cheaper here than there," she said. "That was part of our goal in relocating the store and it looks like we've succeeded."

The numbers back her up. In 2021, the Jackson Liquor Store sold more

than \$1.7 million worth of alcohol, close to \$100,000 more than the year prior. Year-end sales totaled \$1,717,056, an increase of \$97,992 — or more than 6 percent — over 2020. Spending that \$1.7 million on booze were nearly 60,100 customers, close to 5,000 more than in 2020.

It's a trend that's continuing into the new year as well.

"I was expecting it to stay stable even with the new year, but we've seen it increase again," she said.

As to supply shortages, Bratrud said it hasn't affected the store much, though some products have been harder to get and a bit more costly, depending on where they're imported from.

"It really depends on what region they're from as far as price increases go," she said.

Lakefield Liquor Store manager Kristie Frerichs said the price of certain beers has been on the rise, particularly for specialty beers produced by larger brands.

"It started slowly, but now we're seeing more of it," she said. "Certain companies stopped making some of their lesser-

See LIQUOR on A3



Lakefield Liquor Store Manager Kristie Frerichs bags a bottle of wine for a customer last week.

## Another local lost as latest surge recedes

Caseload counts decline for third consecutive week

by JUSTIN R. LESSMAN  
Publisher

The death of another Jackson County resident has been attributed to COVID-19, the 17th local lost to the disease since the onset of the pandemic.

The Minnesota Department of Health reported the death Monday morning. MDH stated the victim was a Jackson County resident between the ages of 95 and 99 years of age. The death is the first recorded in Jackson County since mid-November of 2021.

The local death came during a week that saw the county's new weekly caseload count increase

by its lowest number in the last six weeks. The county notched 27 new cases of COVID-19 over the course of the last week, down a dozen from the week prior, down six-dozen from the week before that and down more than seven-dozen from the week before that as the county set a seven-day record for new cases with 113.

Officials with Rochester-based Mayo Clinic expect the trend to continue over the next weeks, with the county's average daily case count and average daily cases per 100,000 people — both already among the lowest of any county in the state — expected to decrease by a third by next weekend and by half that by the Sunday following.

Falling case counts in

See COVID on A3

## Alumni and supporter group giving boost to current FFA members

by JOSHUA SCHUETZ  
Staff Writer

Former teachers, advisors and members of the Jackson County Central FFA Chapter have started an alumni and supporters group to help current FFA members with their activities and offer networking and career-development opportunities for them.

Dastinee Domonoske, who was part of FFA during her time at JCC, is a founder of the group and

the group's president. Cofounder Jeff Voss, a former ag teacher at JCC who served as FFA advisor for years, said the group is open to anyone who wants to promote the FFA program and provide its students with resources.

"We really want to stress that this is the JCC FFA Alumni and Supporters' Group," Voss said. "The four things we want to focus on are volunteering, advocating for FFA, mentoring our students and fundraising for them if necessary."

Voss helped start the organization because he felt FFA students and teachers needed organized support

See FFA on A3



Jeff Voss

### Inside...

**C1-C4** Local and area businesses salute the Jackson County Central and Heron Lake-Okabena FFA chapters ahead of National FFA Week.

## Community gardens will open up for reservations

by JOSHUA SCHUETZ  
Staff Writer

Jackson's community gardens are opening up for reservations in the coming weeks, with registration slated to begin in March.

Six plots spread across three garden boxes will be available for gardeners at the site in Zimmerli Park in east Jackson.

The gardens were first conceptualized in 2020, when a community survey indicated residents wanted a place to plant fruits, vegetables and herbs. An added benefit, community members suggested, was that more people could raise healthy produce locally.

"We did a survey as part of our update to the Active

Living Plan and the community gardens were one of the top things people wanted to see, so we got grant funding to do them from the state and Federated Rural Electric," said Luke Ewald, health educator with Des Moines Valley Health and Human Services, who helped spearhead the project. "The idea was to provide a space for people who didn't have access to space for gardening at their homes."

Last year was the inaugural year for the gardens. Anyone can reserve a plot by calling Jackson City Hall. Last year, all three plots were used.

Jackson City Administrator Matt Skaret said Zimmerli Park was chosen for two reasons — water access and a desire to boost utilization of the park.

"We know that Zimmerli Park is underutilized, and the park board felt this

would be a good way to bring more people to the park," Skaret said. "Plots are reserved on a first-come, first-served basis and people are responsible for bringing their own seeds and garden tools."

It's a simple system and one the city is looking to expand this year, as plans to add three more garden boxes — for a total of six more plots — are starting to take shape.

"We are looking at applying for grant funding to double the size of the gardens," Ewald said. "If there's interest, we'd ideally like to have multiple garden locations in different parts of the city."

Jackson resident John Weland was one of the gardeners last year and he's planning to do it again this year. Weland planted a variety of crops in 2021, including cucumbers, to-

See GARDENS on A3



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Jackson County Central Key Club members Matt Haley and Elsa Landherr read a book to students at Riverside Elementary School in Jackson.

## Key club members play key role in community

by JOSHUA SCHUETZ  
Staff Writer

When Molly Turner talks about her work with the Jackson County Central Key Club, it is evident just how important the work the club does is to her, the club's members and the community.

The JCC Key Club, a

Jackson Kiwanis Club-affiliate service organization for high school students, heads up numerous events and fundraisers familiar to JCC students and parents, including the Reach Buddies and Reading Buddies programs at Riverside Elementary School.

"We want to show students that you can help

people in and outside the community," Turner said. "No matter where you are, it's about helping out when you can, and I think that's really how we all should live."

Back in 2020, things looked tough for the club, as the COVID-19 pandemic forced school to

See KEY CLUB on A3

## WEATHER

### This week

**Thursday**  
Mostly Sunny  
13 | 4

**Friday**  
Partly Cloudy  
/Wind  
43 | 8

**Saturday**  
Mostly Sunny  
36 | 31

**Sunday**  
Partly Cloudy  
48 | 17

**Monday**  
P.M. Snow  
Showers/Wind  
23 | 6

**Tuesday**  
P.M. Snow  
Showers  
12 | 3

**Wednesday**  
Mostly Cloudy  
14 | 1

### LAST WEEK

**Tuesday, February 8**  
44 / 33

**Wednesday, February 9**  
36 / 17

**Thursday, February 10**  
41 / 34

**Friday, February 11**  
33 / -6

**Saturday, February 12**  
14 / -1

**Sunday, February 13**  
13 / 11

**Monday, February 14**  
20 / 11

**Support Deputy Registrar #50**

**Kim Church**  
Your locally-owned license office  
Your renewal through this office keeps a portion of your money in our community!

P.O. Box 261, 114 3rd St., Ste. C  
Jackson, MN • 507-847-4749  
Email: info@depre50.com

**Walk-in Hours:**  
9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Monday-Friday  
Can also use mail or drop box service

**Livewire PRINTING COMPANY**

310 Second Street • P.O. Box 208  
Jackson, Minnesota 56143-0208  
507-847-3771 • Fax 507-847-5822  
jacksoncountypilot.com  
email: info@livewireprinting.com

**1-800-658-2393**

**DEADLINES**  
Livewire..... Thursday, Noon  
Jackson County Pilot/  
Lakefield Standard Monday, 5 p.m.

**CLASSIFIEDS**  
LIVEWIRE and PILOT  
classifieds@livewireprinting.com  
LIVEWIRE and STANDARD  
classifieds@livewireprinting.com

Your choice: Classifieds will be published in the Livewire, Pilot and Pilot Online or in the Livewire, Standard and Standard Online.

20 words..... \$9.50/wk.  
Additional words ..... 30¢ each

**GARAGE SALE**  
40 words (includes FREE kit)..... \$15.00/wk.  
Additional words ..... 30¢ each

**ST. JUDE'S PRAYER**  
One time ..... \$15.00

**BLIND AD**  
\$3.00 additional charge each week.  
Place your ad at our offices in Jackson or Lakefield or call (507) 847-3771 or (507) 662-5555.

**GUARANTEED RESULTS**  
Ad published in Jackson County Pilot, Livewire, Southern Minnesota Peach, Lakefield Standard until item is sold. Items include: Campers, cars, jet skis, pickups, trucks, vans, motorhomes, trailers, boats/motors (with boats), motorcycles, snowmobiles, all-terrain vehicles, lawn mowers, lawn and garden tractors, recreational vehicles, farm implements.  
(1 item per ad - 20 words), \$35.00  
Additional words only...\$1.00 each  
(Must be prepaid)

**SOUTHERN MINNESOTA PEACH DEADLINE**  
Southern Minnesota Peach..... 10 a.m. Monday

**RATES**  
20 words..... \$9.50  
Additional words ..... 30¢ each

**SUBSCRIPTION RATES**  
Jackson County Pilot  
In Jackson County..... \$67.00/year  
Out of Jackson County... \$79.00/year  
ePilot..... \$39.00/year  
Lakefield Standard  
In Jackson County..... \$67.00/year  
Out of Jackson County... \$79.00/year  
eStandard ..... \$39.00/year

Livewire  
Outside of normal distribution area..... \$30.00/year  
Advertising/News Policy  
The policy of the Jackson County Pilot, in ascertaining what is advertising and what is news, is based on one simple test: If an individual, business, club, church or organization charges for admission to an event, for an item, service, etc., it will be considered advertising. In other words, "If you charge, we charge." Advertising is the lifeblood of a newspaper, and without it, a newspaper would cease to exist.

## DEATHS

**Dorothy K. Benda, 89**  
Dorothy K. Benda, age 89, formerly of Jackson, Minnesota, entered into eternal rest on Tuesday, February 8, 2022, at Temperance Lake

Ridge in Sherburn. A private family Funeral Mass was held at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Heron Lake, with Father Pratap Reddy Salibinda officiating. Burial took place following Mass at the Sacred Heart Catholic Cemetery.

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

Dorothy Kathleen Benda, daughter of Herman and Matilda (Schaffer) Volk, was born on Thursday, February 11, 1932, in Heron Lake, Minnesota. Dorothy was baptized and confirmed into the Catholic Faith at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Heron Lake. She attended and

graduated from Heron Lake High School in 1950. Right after high school, Dorothy worked as a bookkeeper at the Sontag Lumber Company in Heron Lake. On April 16, 1952, Dorothy was united in marriage to William Benda at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church. They were blessed with 5 children Diane, Paula, John, Jeffrey, and Marc. While the children were growing up, Dorothy was a devoted stay-at-home mother. In 1973, she started a career outside the home working at Sears, Jackson County Courthouse, and at the front desk at Best Western in Jackson. Dorothy was a member of the Good Shepherd Catholic Church in Jackson. In 2017, she moved to Temperance Lake Ridge Assisted Living in Sherburn. Dorothy joined her Lord and Savior on Tuesday, February 8, 2022, at the age of 89 years, 11 months, and 27 days.

Dorothy was quite an outgoing lady. She enjoyed bowling, any and all crafts,

playing Bridge and 500. She was a great socializer and looked forward to her Ladies Club weekly gatherings. Dorothy especially enjoyed having coffee with her friends. She was an avid reader and moviegoer. Dorothy enjoyed going to garage sales with her "Rummage Runabouts" group. Dorothy especially loved spending time with her family and friends. She has left a lifetime of memories for all to cherish.

Dorothy is survived by her children Diane Benda, Paula (Denny) Earhart, John (Pam) Benda, Jeffrey (Karen) Benda and Marc (Susette Yeager); 9 grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren, 1 great-great grandchild; brother Donald (Maurita) Volk; 3 nieces, and 2 nephews.

Dorothy is preceded in death by her parents Herman and Matilda Volk, William Benda, and many of her good friends.

Blessed be the memory of Dorothy Kathleen Benda.  
Jackson County Pilot  
February 17, 2022

**Irene Williams, 95**  
Irene (nee Luebben) Williams, age 95, of Jackson, Minnesota passed away on Wednesday, February 9, 2022, at Lakes Region-

al Health Care Center in Spirit Lake, Iowa. Funeral services were held at Salem Lutheran Church in Jackson with Pastor Eunice Woodberry officiating. Burial followed the funeral service at Sunset Memorial Cemetery in Jackson.

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

Irene Louise (nee Luebben) Williams was born September 29, 1926, in Ewington Township, Jackson County, Minnesota to the late Albert and Emma

(Christian) Luebben. She received her education in the rural schools of Rost Township until the 8th grade. Irene was baptized and confirmed at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Rost Township, Jackson County. On October 24, 1948, Irene was united in marriage to Carl Williams, at St. Peter's Lutheran Church north of Lakefield, Minnesota. The couple lived in Middletown Township for many years. Irene was a member of the "Know your Neighbor" birthday club. She also enjoyed playing cards and spending time with her family. She looked forward to eating out once a week with a group of friends. Everyday she would host morning coffee, and all were welcome, making sure to have plenty of food on the table. Irene was a member of Salem Lutheran Church

in Jackson. Irene passed away February 9, 2022, at Lakes Regional Hospital in Spirit Lake, Iowa at the age of 95 years.

Irene is survived by her four children Lila Pierce, Linette (Hofbauer) Van'tHul, Clayton (Bette) Williams, and Steven (Diana) Williams all of Jackson; 11 grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren and 3 great-great grandchildren.

Irene is preceded in death by her husband Carl Williams, her parents Albert and Emma Luebben; brothers Herbert (Charlotte) Luebben and Loren (June) Luebben; sisters Ella (Milo) Tungland and Bernice (Darwin) Beam; sons-in-law Steve Pierce, Dwayne (Butch) Van'tHul and Scott Hofbauer Sr.

Blessed be the memory of Irene Louise Luebben.  
Jackson County Pilot  
February 17, 2022

**Richard (Dick) Nyborg, 76**  
Richard (Dick) Nyborg, age 76 of Jackson, Minnesota, passed away, with his family by his side, on Friday, February 4, 2022, at the Sunset Hospice

Cottage in Worthington. A Celebration of Life Service was held at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 12, 2022, at Our Saviors Lutheran Church in Jackson, with Pastor Lance Isaacson officiating. Visitation took place one hour prior to the Celebration of Life service. Military Honors were performed by the Jackson American Legion Post #130.

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

Richard Jake Nyborg, son of Calvin and Julie (Breining) Nyborg, was born on Tuesday, April 10, 1945, in Jackson, Minnesota. He graduated from Jackson High School in 1963. Richard was a wrestler and football player throughout

school. Dick farmed with his dad. He went into the Army National Guard, taking his basic training at Fort Leonard Wood, in Missouri. Dick and Kathy were united in marriage on October 2, 1965, at Our Saviors Lutheran Church in Jackson. They had a double wedding with great friends Kent and Diane Johnson. Dick and Kathy were blessed with 3 children Chad, Kristin, and Luke. Dick farmed until the spring of 1980, when he and Kathy bought a ranch and relocated to Berryville, Arkansas. They later moved to Pine River, Minnesota where Dick hauled pinewood. Dick and Kathy moved back to Jackson, where he worked briefly at AGCO, then took a job as a salesman for John Deere in Estherville, Iowa. Dick, later on, bought a semi-truck and did hauling for construction. He was a member of Our Saviors Lutheran Church. Dick passed away, with his family by his side, on Friday, February 4, 2022, at Sunset Cottage in Worthington, at the age of 76 years, 9 months, and

24 days.

Dick was a gentleman that wore many hats. Whatever the job he had, or the task that was handed to him, he took it seriously and worked hard at it. Dick was a great father and grandfather. He enjoyed spending time with his family, especially the many hours at the cabin up north, teaching and helping the grandchildren catch fish. Dick has left a lifetime of memories for his family to cherish.

Dick is survived by Kathy Nyborg, children Kristin Nyborg, and Luke Nyborg; grandchildren Carsen, Kiana, Journee, and Jake; brother Larry (Virginia) Nyborg; along with a number of other family, and friends.

Dick is preceded in death by his son Chad at infancy, parents Calvin and Julie Nyborg; in-laws Henry and Gladys Norem; brothers Bob Nyborg and Charlie Nyborg; and great-granddaughter Josephine Josie Gamble.

Blessed be the memory of Richard Jake Nyborg.  
Jackson County Pilot  
February 17, 2022

**Ireen Kielblock, 99**  
Ireen Kielblock, age 99, of Jackson, Minnesota, passed away on Saturday, February 5, 2022, at the Good Samaritan Society in

Jackson. Funeral service will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, February 18, 2022, at Salem Lutheran Church in Jackson, with Pastor Eunice Woodberry officiating. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the funeral service at the church. Burial will take place following the funeral service at Riverside Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred.

The funeral service will be live streamed on the Osterberg Funeral Home Facebook page.

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

Ireen Anita-Leona Kielblock, daughter of Arthur and Ida (Lillery) Halverson was born on Saturday, September 2, 1922, in Belmont Township, Jackson County, Minnesota. She was baptized and confirmed at the Hauges Lutheran Church. Ireen attended school in

Jackson through the 8th grade. She later obtained her GED. At the age of 19, Ireen got on a bus and traveled to Baltimore, to be with Gordon. Gordon and Ireen were united in marriage on May 9, 1942, at the St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Baltimore. They lived in Baltimore for a short time, then Gordon's job transferred to Omaha, Nebraska, where they lived for 1 year. Gordon and Ireen then moved to Jackson. Ireen worked at a variety of jobs from housework and cleaning for Dora, parts person for Glen L. Martin Company, receptionist, and customer service at Joul Pharmacy. Ireen also helped her husband Gordon with farming. In November of 2011, Ireen became a resident of the Good Samaritan Society in Jackson, where she passed away on Saturday, February 5, 2022, at the age of 99 years, 5 months, and 3 days.

Ireen was a member of Salem Lutheran Church in Jackson, where she served as treasurer and was involved in the Ruth Circle. She enjoyed playing cards and was in the 500 and Bridge Club. Ireen was also a member of many

birthday clubs. She loved to entertain, always bringing out her beautiful dishes and glasses. Ireen has left a lifetime of memories for her family and friends to cherish.

Ireen is survived by her daughter Patricia (Richard) Nasby of New Richmond, Wisconsin; son Thomas (Karen) Kielblock of Dallas, Texas; grandchildren Angela Nasby, Scot (Paola) Kielblock and Christian Nasby; great-grandchildren Jaxon Kielblock and Beckham Kielblock; sister Valerie Westby; sisters in law Nancy Kielblock, Mary Halverson, and Carole (Ron) Berkness; along with numerous nieces and nephews.

Ireen is preceded in death by her husband of 69 years, Gordon Kielblock, parents Arthur and Ida Halverson, siblings Palmer Halverson, Osina Hartjen, Thelma Sather, Amos Halverson, Clifford Halverson, Parker Halverson, and Edna Mae Olson; grandson Ryan Kielblock; in laws James Kielblock, Norma Kielblock, Gene Kielblock, Fred Jr. Kielblock.

Blessed be the memory of Ireen Anita-Leona Kielblock.  
Jackson County Pilot  
February 17, 2022

## DEATH NOTICE

**Barbara Lynn Stump, 66**

A Mass of Christian Burial for Barbara Lynn Stump, 66, of Rural Jackson will be at 10:30 am. Saturday, February 19, 2022, at St. Luke's Catholic Church in Sherburn with Father Jonathan Fasnacht as Celebrant. Burial will be in Lake Fremont Cemetery in Dunell, Minnesota.

Barbara's Earthly journey ended Friday, February 11, 2022, at her home in Rural Jackson surrounded by family. Visitation will be Friday, February 18, 2022, from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at St. Luke Catholic Church in Sherburn and one hour visitation prior to the services at the church on Saturday.

For the safety of all, facial coverings are preferred by the family.

Messages of sympathy may be sent to the family online at [www.kramerfuneralhome.com](http://www.kramerfuneralhome.com)

Jackson County Pilot  
February 17, 2022

## FINES

Random testing.  
Priebe, Kala G., Waseca, Speed \$150.00  
Racho, Desta E., Saint Paul, Speed \$135.00  
Rivera Gonzales, Jonattan, Fairmont, Speed \$140.00  
Sanow, Willie R., Fulda, Speed \$230.00  
Smith, Gerard G., Saint Paul, Speed \$140.00, Driving after revocation \$50.00  
Snow, Malachy L., Tacoma, Wash., Speed \$230.00  
Surber, Hope L., Dakota City, Neb., Speed \$150.00  
Thoo, Ea Ta Mu, Fort Wayne, Ind., Speed \$130.00  
Tyler, Kelvin, Sioux Falls, S.D., Speed \$230.00  
Van Pelt, Casey E., Chanhassen, Speed \$230.00, Improperly worn seatbelt \$25.00  
Vanderwerf, Layne C., Comfrey, No current medical certificate in possession \$100.00  
Walton, David A. Jr., New Hope, Speed \$210.00

**Jackson County Sheriff's Office**  
Callejas, Francis J. Chavez, Sioux Falls, S.D., Speed \$340.00  
Doyle, Heather L., Estherville, Iowa, Disorderly conduct - offensive/abusive/boisterous/noisy/obscene \$290.00  
Guerrero-Vidal, Joel A., Windom, Assault-5th degree \$465.00. Credit for time served: 3 days. Remain law-abiding. Complete Chemical Assessment, follow recommendations. Complete diagnostic assessment, follow recommendations. Write letter of apology to be approved by probation. No contact with victim(s). Do not enter the victim's home or workplace. Pay restitution, certificate to be filed within 60 days. No alcohol/controlled substance use, with the exception of prescribed medications, if recommended in the Chemical Use Assessment.  
Jensen, Thomas J., Cologne, Liquor - Consumption by persons under 21 \$190.00  
Pillars, Jennifer A., Wilder, Unlawful refuse storage \$90.00. Fine is waived. Will stay surcharge of \$75 and library fee of \$15 for 90 days on condition that defendant picks up the items and cleans up the yard. Defendant will have until March 10, 2022 to clean up the property. The city must provide defendant with a list of what needs to be removed. If not done by March 10, 2022, defendant should be aware that the city may clean up the property and assess the costs.  
Rethwill, Jordan M., Jackson, Disorderly conduct \$200.00. Credit for time served: 4 days. No alcohol/controlled substance use, with the exception of prescribed medications. Random testing. Remain law-abiding.  
Richter, Charles W., Seattle, Wash., Speed \$390.00  
Stegemann, Cindy R., Windom, Possession of drug paraphernalia - use or possession prohibited. \$215.00  
Suarez-Moreno, Ernesto, Worthington, Driving without a valid license for vehicle class or type \$190.00

**Heron Lake Police Department**  
Brogden, Edgar A., Heron Lake, Speed \$130.00, Driving without a valid license for vehicle class or type \$100.00

## SHERIFF'S REPORT

**Jan. 17**  
A deputy responded to a commercial burglary alarm in Jackson. It was determined to be a false alarm.  
A deputy responded to a minor car-vs.-mailbox crash on County Road 14.  
A deputy assisted the Windom Ambulance with a medical call in the northern part of the county.  
A deputy investigated a report of a stolen trailer from a storage unit in Jackson. The matter remains under investigation.  
Deputies assisted the Minnesota State Patrol with two semis that went in the ditch on I-90 near Lakefield. A tow truck assisted at the scene. Crews were on scene for about three hours.  
A deputy assisted the Jackson Ambulance with a medical call.  
A deputy responded to a report of damage to a vehicle in Jackson while it was parked.  
Dispatch received a call from a female stating her daughter's boyfriend is threatening to kill and has some sort of gun. It was discovered the person was at-

tempting to call law enforcement in Jacksonville, Fla.

A deputy received a complaint of snowmobiles trespassing on property.

**Jan. 18**  
A deputy assisted a motorist in the ditch on Highway 71 in Jackson.

A deputy received a report of a scam. The caller said he was with the police and claimed to be doing an audit and would be coming to the person's house.

**Jan. 19**  
Deputies assisted the Heron Lake Police Department with a domestic disturbance. After investigating, a 55-year-old male from Heron Lake was arrested for probable-cause domestic assault.  
A deputy responded to a panic alarm at a Jackson business. It was determined to be a false alarm.  
A deputy responded to a loud music complaint at a Jackson apartment complex.  
Deputies responded to a report of a wrong-way driver on Highway 40 west of Heron Lake. A Nobles County deputy located the vehicle and arrested the driver for probable-cause DUI.

## BUSINESS BRIEFS

### Jackson-built Rogator featured at national ag machinery show

The Jackson-built Fendt Rogator 900 Series applicator is a featured attraction at the 2022 National Farm Machinery Show this week in Louisville, Ky. The award-winning applicator, which is manufactured at AGCO Jackson Operations, joins Massey Ferguson's S Series tractor, the new Hesston by Massey Ferguson WR Series windrower, Fendt's IDEAL 10T Combine and a wide array of other popular tractors, hay equipment and implements at the AGCO Corp. NFMS booths. "AGCO's exhibit this year will be filled with equipment never before seen at NFMS," said Joe DiPietro, vice president and general manager of AGCO North America. "Attendees will be able to experience some of agriculture's smartest and most effective machinery, talk to product experts and have fun playing games. Best of all, NFMS gives us the chance to learn from farmers and incorporate those lessons into the next generations of AGCO equipment."

### Local business set to throw free pool party next week in Jackson

A local business is throwing a free pool party next week in Jackson. Klassen Insurance Professionals of Jackson will sponsor a free pool party for kids at the Jackson County Central pool in Jackson from 1 to 4 p.m. on Monday. All are welcome to attend.

### Business promotion opportunity available for a very limited time

Businesses can beat back the winter blues in January and February with high-impact advertising at steeply discounted rates through Livewire Printing Co.'s full-page advertising blowout. A limited number of full-page ads as much as 85 percent off regular prices will be offered the first two months of the new year in the Livewire and the B section of the Jackson County Pilot and Lakefield Standard. Position, placement and color will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis. To reserve space, call 847-3771 or email info@livewireprinting.com.

## COVID: Another lost

Continued from A1

Jackson County come as the number of locals vaccinated against the disease continues to increase. The most recent vaccination data from the Minnesota Department of Health shows 5,433 Jackson County residents — 54.6 percent of the total population — have received at least one dose of vaccine, with 5,207 — 52.3 percent of the total population — fully vac-

inated, a slight increase over the week prior. 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 nearly 1.4 million cases of the illness and tallied more than 11,860 deaths.

## GARDENS: Available

Continued from A1

matoes, different peppers and herbs. "At our new house, we really don't have the space to garden much," he said. "With the community gardens, we had such an abundance that we actually brought some of it down to the farmer's market, and we donated some of the cucumbers to the local food shelf." Weland touted the physical and emotional benefits of gardening, along with the material results. "As a software engi-

neer, I sit in front of a computer all day, so being able to get out there and do something with my hands helps keep me grounded," he said. "The garden has a water source, so the whole thing was really easy." Skaret said the city is hoping to see more gardeners this year, as the gardens were completed later in the growing seasons last year. "We definitely want to get the word out that this is a community resource," he said.

## Grants now available for value-added ag processing projects

Local processors looking to add value to agricultural products are encouraged to apply for funds through the Minnesota Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Growth, Research and Innovation Value-Added Grant program. The program offers designated grants to help Minnesota processors add value to Minnesota agricultural products by investing in the purchase of equipment, production capacity, market diversification and market access for value-added products. Applicants must be an individual, business, agricultural cooperative or a local unit of government engaged in value-added processing and currently reside in Minnesota. The MDA anticipates awarding approximately \$1 million using a competitive review process. The maximum equipment award is \$150,000, and the minimum award is \$1,000.

Grantees are responsible for at least 75 percent of the total project cost as a cash match. Funding for the AGRI Value-Added Grant will be awarded in one round. The AGRI Value-Added Grant application must be received by 4 p.m. on Thursday, March 24. Decisions are expected in early May. The MDA requires proposals to be submitted through its online application system.

## Spec building purchase finalized

AGCO to use for new crop care innovation work

by JOSHUA SCHUETZ  
Staff Writer

AGCO Corp. has finalized its purchase of the Jackson Economic Development Corp.'s 30,000-square-foot spec building in north Jackson. The company has been working with the JEDC on purchase agreements since last March. "The spec building project started back in 2017," said Dave Schmidt, Jackson's economic development coordinator. "The thinking was that businesses want something ready to go and move into when they're looking at places to

move to or expand." That was the case with AGCO, one of Jackson's largest employers. Schmidt said AGCO plans to turn the building into what is being dubbed the "Crop Care Innovation Center." The purchase agreement was finalized last Wednesday. "We had a lot of businesses come in and look at it," Schmidt said of the building. The building was previ-

ously used for some community events and short-term promotions. Early in 2021, the building was used by Des Moines Valley Health and Human Services to launch the county's COVID-19 vaccination effort. Schmidt said AGCO plans to relocate a number of engineers to the Jackson area and may hire additional staff as the center develops. "They're bringing 10

engineers to Jackson, and they'll be moving some other positions from the main facility to the spec building," Schmidt said. "There is potential for additional headcount to be added in the future, What's most important, Schmidt said, is that the purchase represents additional investment and commitment to Jackson by AGCO. "It's strengthening their commitment to the city of Jackson," he said. "They're relocating other jobs to Jackson and they're already a major employer in this community, so it's an expansion of their footprint here." AGCO officials declined comment at this time but said they will address their plans for the facility in the near future.

**"THEY'RE BRINGING 10 ENGINEERS TO JACKSON, AND THEY'LL BE MOVING SOME OTHER POSITIONS FROM THE MAIN FACILITY TO THE SPEC BUILDING. THERE IS POTENTIAL FOR ADDITIONAL HEADCOUNT TO BE ADDED IN THE FUTURE."**

Dave Schmidt

## KEY CLUB: Playing a key role in community

Continued from A1

go virtual and led to the cancellation of numerous fundraisers and other activities. Since then, not only has the club bounced back, but it has also broken fundraising and membership records. "I've never had this many kids in Key Club," said Robin Medill, the club's adviser. "We have more than 50 kids, and we have kids from just about every walk of life in this school." Turner said efforts to promote the club and reach out to students about volunteering opportunities paid off, attracting a mix of students from different demographics, including foreign exchange students. "One thing we did last year was really try to promote the club," Turner said. "We wanted to show that we're a laid-back organization that accepts everyone and does a lot of good work for the community and we have an amazing adviser who really helps bring people in."



Molly Turner

Club members have inspired their fellow students to do good along the way. Last year, the club's annual Pennies for Patients fundraiser broke club records and exceeded the contributions of clubs in larger cities. The fundraiser raises money for the Leukemia

and Lymphoma Society, to help find new treatments for cancer. "They raised \$3,300, which is how much students in Minneapolis raised," Medill said. "I couldn't believe it." Turner said the Pennies for Patients initiative is the biggest project the club has this year as well. A window in the school is decorated, with a jar full of pennies and other coins from donations being put on display for students to see. "It's something we've always done, but we've focused on it more intensely the past few years; it's an area where we can do so much good," Turner said. "It doesn't just benefit people here; it benefits everyone." As pandemic restrictions recede, the club was able to resume its Recess Buddies and reading programs in the elementary school. Club members will once again join with Jackson Kiwanis Club members to help with home-delivered meals starting next month and, while they haven't been able to visit area nursing homes again, Turner hopes that will happen soon. "Last year, the pandemic stopped us from being able to go to the different schools, but this year we've brought those back," Turner said. "The Key Club members really enjoy getting to do Recess Buddies and the reading programs, and I know the elementary school kids have a blast



Jackson County Central Key Club members Makaden Welder (from left), Patience Adams and Memphis Abram work on making Valentines last week ahead of the big day on Monday.

with them." Members have also been tackling issues like food insecurity, a serious issue in the Jackson County area, as food shelves have seen an increase in need amid high inflation. Last year, the club's food shelf drive netted 939 items. Medill said club members have also been working on ways to help students connect and improve school morale. "There are daily announcements of things like art shows and other activities and, for Valen-

tine's Day, we're putting a Valentine on every locker in the school — and there are over 400," Medill said. As to Turner, she's graduating this year, and while her time with the club may be coming to an end, the lessons she — and her peers — have learned will last a lifetime. "Honestly, seeing the ways we can help people and knowing that we can make a difference in our community is so empowering," Turner said. "It's something I want to hold onto for the rest of my life."

## FFA: Supporters

Continued from A1

for their activities and research. "Our community is awesome at supporting FFA, but we've never really had an organized support effort before," Voss said. "We know how much work it takes to pull these activities off, and we want to be there to help in any way that we can." Helping with activities and events isn't the only project the group has on the horizon. Domonoske said the organization is aiming to bring students into contact with alumni and supporters working in different parts of the agriculture industry, to provide everything from career advice to practical, hands-on knowledge. "We have a lot of members coming to help give guidance for career development events for FFA," Domonoske said. "For example, if someone has knowledge about meat production, they could share their knowledge and experience with the students."

Members who live farther away from Jackson would be able to set up or participate in virtual events with FFA students, something Voss said would boost access to knowledge about agriculture in different states. Dues are \$10 per year and \$50 for a lifetime membership. So far, the group has about 40 members, but Voss said he wants to see those numbers go up between former FFA members and supporters. The response from FFA members, parents and the community as a whole has been positive so far. "Because of my time as an advisor, I knew a lot of the former parents and students in the community, so they were the ones I approached first," he said. "We have people in every state who used to be part of FFA, and we want to connect students with people working in the industry."

## LIQUOR: Sales strong

Continued from A1

known brands during the pandemic and focused on their big sellers, so now there's a shortage of those brands." Frerichs said the store's vendors estimate it will take between three and four months to bring those prices down from their current levels through increased production, but inflation may keep them higher regardless. Liquor sales in 2021 at the Lakefield Liquor Store totaled around \$779,000, up 6.5 percent from the

previous year. Though Lakefield didn't see as big of a spike in sales as Jackson did, Frerichs said sales remain elevated from their pre-pandemic levels. Frerichs suggested the reopening of bars and restaurants was responsible for the smaller increase. "Our sales are still high," she said, adding of the smaller increase, "I think that's largely because bars have reopened, and people are getting back to normal life again."

**"OUR SALES ARE STILL HIGH, I THINK THAT'S LARGELY BECAUSE BARS HAVE REOPENED, AND PEOPLE ARE GETTING BACK TO NORMAL LIFE AGAIN."**

Kristie Frerichs

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# OPINION



PILOT EDITORIAL

## JCC Key Club is doing valuable community work

It's commonly said that setting an example for young people to follow is important. This is true, but in Jackson County, we have an example being set for us by an exceptional group of Jackson County Central High School students.

The JCC Key Club, the high school affiliate of the Jackson Kiwanis Club, is active everywhere across the school district this year. Members are raising money for cancer research, reading to elementary school students, promoting volunteerism among their classmates, running food drives for the local food shelf and making daily announcements so other students know what's going on in school.

Their work has brought dividends to the community. Key Club members were at a local elementary school last week, reading to the students there. Last year, the club's annual Pennies for Patients fundraising campaign netted more than \$3,000 for research into lymphoma and leukemia treatments. They managed to raise as much as students in Minneapolis raised — an incredible achievement by any measure.

And they've inspired fellow students along the way. The Key Club has more than 50 members from just about every walk of life. The Key Club's work isn't just felt in our community; it's contributing to efforts that will benefit everyone in the future.

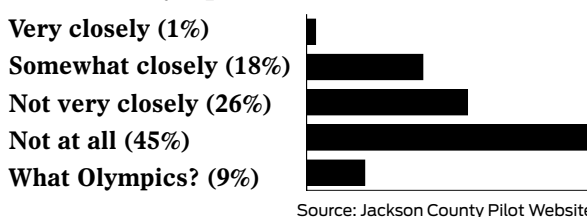
At a time when many organizations in rural America are struggling to find volunteers, the JCC Key Club has shown young people can and will step up to the plate to help their neighbors. Moreover, members have shown resiliency and a willingness to take up major challenges, keeping things going even when the pandemic interfered with schooling and countless other areas of life.

So, to the members of the JCC Key Club: Thank you. Our community is richer for your efforts, your hard work, kindness, optimism, dedication to volunteerism and willingness to set an example all of us ought to follow. The lesson you have taught us is one of the most important one any of us can learn in this life — namely, how to be a good citizen.



LAST WEEK'S ONLINE POLL

Q: How closely are you following the 2022 Winter Olympic Games?



THIS WEEK'S ONLINE POLL

Q: How much of the Super Bowl did you watch?

Vote online at [jacksoncountypilot.com](http://jacksoncountypilot.com).

## The element of surprise is an icy bridge's most dangerous threat

**Question:** Can you please write a bit about the tendency of bridge decks to freeze up?

**Answer:** An icy bridge's most dangerous threat is the element of surprise — it can catch drivers off guard. Even though the main roadway may appear relatively safe, bridges, overpasses and exit and entrance ramps can be icy. Drivers traveling on a clear, dry day may not realize wind under bridges can quickly turn

a thin layer of water or snow to ice. That's because a bridge is exposed to air on all of its surfaces — on top, underneath and on its sides. This causes it to lose heat more quickly than a normal road surface that only has a top surface exposed to air.

Approach bridges, overpasses and ramps with caution. Take your foot off the accelerator to gradually slow down. Never slam on your brakes. Keep a safe distance from the car in

front of you.

Keep both hands on the steering wheel, eyes on the road, stay alert and remember your seat belt is your best defense in case of a crash.

You can avoid a ticket — and a crash — if you simply buckle up, drive at safe speeds, pay attention, and always drive sober.

If you have any questions concerning traffic-related laws or issues in Minnesota, send your questions to Sgt. Troy Christianson, Minnesota State Patrol,

at 2900 48th St. NW; Rochester, MN 55901-5848. Or reach him at [Troy.Christianson@state.mn.us](mailto:Troy.Christianson@state.mn.us).



**ASK A TROOPER**  
Sgt. Troy Christianson



PHOTOS COURTESY OF BOB SVOBODA

**PLOW TIME**

Above: A locomotive-driven wedge plow opens the rail line near Jackson after a particularly heavy snowfall in the early days of the last century. Direction: A county plow smacks a snowbank near the municipal airport in Jackson on Feb. 20, 1936.

### EDITORIAL POLICY

The Jackson County Pilot welcomes letters to the editor. Letters must include the writer's name, as well as address and phone number for verification purposes. Letters should be brief, up to 300 words. The editor reserves the right to determine whether material submitted for publication shall be printed and the right to edit as needed. Submit letters in person at the Jackson County Pilot office, mail them to 310 Second St. in Jackson or email them to [editor@livewireprinting.com](mailto:editor@livewireprinting.com). The deadline for letters is Monday noon. All submissions become the property of the Jackson County Pilot and may be published or otherwise used in any medium.

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## JACKSON COUNTY PILOT

News from years gone by

**10 years ago**  
**Feb. 23, 2012**  
*Jackson area workers: We love it here*  
Eight out of every 10 people employed in Jackson County who live in or around Jackson are satisfied with the community. That's music to Sandy Philips' ears. "Those are pretty high numbers," said Philips, a member of the Jackson Economic Development Corp.'s board of directors and one of the leaders of the board's welcome committee, a group of local individuals intent on attracting those who work in the communities of Jackson County to live, shop and play in those very communities.

*Local corn, bean outlook hinges on both China, South America*  
The prices Jackson County farmers will be paid for their corn and soybeans in 2012 will be determined by countries 7,000 miles to the west and 4,000 miles to the south, respectively. Nothing affects corn prices these days quite like China, and nothing shapes the soybean market more than South America. How well local farmers do in coming months marketing old-crop corn and beans and how they fare this fall on new-crop harvests depend largely on what happens in the earth's most populous country to the west and our continental neighbor to the south.

*Obituaries: Geneva (Olson) Johnson, Leen M. Dorschner, Matthew J. Thomas, Linda (Huchel) Benes*  
**20 years ago**  
**Feb. 28, 2002**  
*MnSCU chancellor visits Jackson campus*  
James H. McCormick, the new chancellor of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system, made a visit to Minnesota West Community and Technical College's Jackson campus early Monday morning. McCormick's stop in Jackson was the first of five visits he made to the various MnWest campuses.

*Aylward resigns from JDC*  
Earl Aylward resigned from his position on the board of the Jackson Development Corp. this week. Aylward served for 11 years and held the post of president in 2000. Aylward said he resigned from his position because his workload has changed and he didn't feel he was giving the organization the time it deserved.

"I feel it is one of the most successful and beneficial organizations in Jackson as far as helping the community," said Aylward. *Obituaries: Arlington Schaefer, Arlene Splinter, Randy A. Calkins*  
**30 years ago**  
**Feb. 20, 1992**  
*Casey's may open store in Jackson*  
Casey's may be coming to Jackson. The Jackson City Council on Tuesday took the first steps to sell the old city shop site to the Casey's General Stores convenience chain. The half-block property is located just north of Bank Midwest off Highway 71 in downtown Jackson. 'Everyday' heroes lauded

"It's so rare that people do what you guys did. You are an inspiration to all of us." That's what Jackson County Sheriff Pete Eggmann told Eldon Williams, Scot Braun, Dan Williams, Colleen Braun and Bev Jandera last week at a special get-together honoring them for their lifesaving efforts. Those five, along with Vickie Schendel and Richard Harris, teamed up to save the life of Lee E. Anderson, whose car went off the Petersburg Road about five miles south of Jackson last Oct. 11 and burst into flames after rolling into a nearby field. *Obituaries: Ruth Hovev, Julius Lucht, Milton Weihe, Lillian Hanson*  
**40 years ago**  
**Feb. 18, 1982**  
*Fifth-graders carry patrol responsibility*

Imagine being in fifth grade and having the responsibility of getting hundreds of students across the street safely five days a week or making sure there are no accidents in the hallways of the school building. "It's a big responsibility," Margie Brown, a Riverside School Patrol lieutenant and a fifth-grader, said. "I really like it, but sometimes it's hard to get up early and stand outside in the cold." *Auditor plans stop in Jackson*

Minnesota State Auditor Arne Carlson will meet with city officials and host a news conference in Jackson on Thursday in the Jackson library beginning at 10 a.m. Carlson will discuss Jackson's financial health profile and its relationship to the Minnesota Financial Health Program. *Obituaries: Robert Hummel, James B. Wing, Pearl Hunt*  
**50 years ago**  
**Feb. 16, 1972**  
*County judging teams win in Albert Lea*  
Jackson County judging teams won almost everything at the Minnesota Spring Barrow Show in Albert Lea last weekend. The 4-H judging team won the 4-H division while the Sioux Valley FFA team won the FFA division; Jackson's FFA team finished second. Mark Olson of the 4-H team was second overall individual while Robert Shearer of the FFA was 10th.

*Herding benefit dance Saturday night*  
Another "Denny Herding Public Benefit Dance" will take place at the Jackson Golf Club Saturday night. Music will be provided from 8 p.m. to midnight by Jim Luchtel.

The Saturday night event is sponsored by the Jackson Lions Club. Tickets can be bought for from any club member. *Obituaries: Rosie Stene, Evangeline Sandum, Magdalen Kolderer, Augusta Saathoff*

## Area faith and worship schedule

**Belmont Lutheran Church**  
*Rural Lakefield,*  
Pastor: Eunice Woodberry  
Thursday, Feb. 17: 9 a.m. Shetek Conference Meeting  
Sunday, Feb. 20: 10:30 a.m. Worship Service  
Monday, Feb. 21: 2 p.m. Holy Communion at Good Samaritan  
Tuesday, Feb. 22: 7 p.m. Belmont Council Meeting  
Wednesday, Feb. 23: 1:20 p.m. Release Time; 2:30 p.m. Confirmation; 5:15 p.m. Lighthouse; 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, Feb. 20: 9:15 a.m. Sunday School; 10:30 a.m. Worship Service  
Wednesday, Feb. 23: 5 p.m. Shine Group; 6:30 p.m. Confirmation

**Church of the Good Shepherd**  
311 Sverdrup, 847-2504  
Fr. Jonathan Fasnacht - Pastor  
Thursday, Feb. 17: 6 p.m. Mass  
Saturday, Feb. 19: 5 p.m. Mass at St. Luke, Sherburn  
Sunday, Feb. 20: 8:30 a.m. Mass at Good Shepherd, Jackson; 10:30 a.m. Mass at St. Joseph, Sherburn  
Monday, Feb. 21: Homebound Communion: 1:30 p.m. Valley View; 2 p.m. Colonial Manor; 2:30 p.m. In-Home  
Tuesday, Feb. 22: 4:30-6:30 p.m. Atrium Class; 7 p.m. Choir Practice  
Wednesday, Feb. 23: 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, Feb. 17: 4:30-5:30 p.m. Elder Led Prayer Time  
Sunday, Feb. 20: 9:20 a.m. Upper Room Prayer/Worship Service; 9:30-10:40 a.m. Worship Service and Children's Church with John Gardiner  
Monday, Feb. 21: 6-7 p.m. Jackson Sobriety AA Group, Sheldon Jackson Outreach Center: Jars of Clay Ministry, 601 4th Street, Jackson, MN  
Wednesday, Feb. 23: 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, Feb. 24: 4:30-5:30 p.m. Elder Led Prayer Time; 6-7 p.m. Jackson Sobriety AA Group,

Sheldon Jackson Outreach Center: Jars of Clay Ministry, 601 4th Street, Jackson, MN  
**Grace Lutheran Church**  
*Spirit Lake, 712-336-2446*  
Thursday, Feb. 17: Grace to Go Online  
Saturday, Feb. 19: 4 p.m. Worship Service  
Sunday, Feb. 20: 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](http://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, Feb. 17: 9 a.m. Shetek Conference Meeting  
Sunday, Feb. 20: 9 a.m. Worship Service; 10:30 a.m. Worship Service  
Monday, Feb. 21: 2 p.m. Holy Communion at Good Samaritan  
Wednesday, Feb. 23: 1:20 p.m. Release Time; 2:30 p.m. Confirmation; 5:15 p.m. Lighthouse; 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, Feb. 20: 9 a.m. Worship Service; 10:15 a.m. Education Hour  
Monday, Feb. 21: Newsletter Info Deadline. 3:45 p.m. Confirmation (7/8)  
Wednesday, Feb. 23: 1 p.m. Release; 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, Feb. 17: 8 a.m. Men's Study - Parlor; 2 p.m. Martha Circle  
Saturday, Feb. 19: 5 p.m. Worship Service with Holy Communion  
Sunday, Feb. 20: 8:30 a.m. Worship Service with Holy Communion and at KKOJ 1190 AM; 9:45 a.m. Adult Class  
Monday, Feb. 21: 10 a.m. Workshop  
Tuesday, Feb. 22: 8 a.m. Women's Study

Wednesday, Feb. 23: 2:45 p.m. Grade 8 Confirmation; 5:15 p.m. Hand Bell Choir and Lighthouse Children's Ministry; 6:30 p.m. Jars of Clay  
Thursday, Feb. 24: 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  
Thursday, Feb. 17: 9 a.m. On-line Devotions @ Facebook or YouTube; 12 noon Newsletter Deadline; 6 p.m. LWML at Trinity  
Friday, Feb. 18: 9 a.m. On-line Devotions @ Facebook or YouTube  
Saturday, Feb. 19: 9 a.m. LWML Worthington Zone at Lakefield  
Sunday, Feb. 20: 9 a.m. Divine Service 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, Feb. 20: 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, Feb. 20: 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, Feb. 17: Pastor Russ in Lakefield  
Sunday, Feb. 20: 10:30 a.m. Worship Service; 6 p.m. Embrace Jackson  
Monday, Feb. 21: Pastor Russ in Jackson  
Tuesday, Feb. 22: Pastor Russ in Lakefield  
Wednesday, Feb. 23: Pastor Russ in Jackson. 10 a.m. Bible Study; 6-7 p.m. Youth Group  
Thursday, Feb. 24: Pastor Russ in Lakefield

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**A love not just of words, but also of actions**  
On Monday, we celebrated Valentine's Day, with its focus on love. As I thought about it, I found myself thinking of the times I've heard someone, in frustration, say, "Oh, for the love of God." If we were to take it literally, for what is that person asking? What is the love of God really like? Fortunately, the Bible does have an extensive answer.  
In the 13th chapter of 1 Corinthians, the Apostle Paul provides one. This chapter has often been used at weddings, but more than the love between a couple, it is a description of the love of God. It tells us what God's love is and isn't. God's love is, among other things: "It is patient, kind and rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends." Paul also writes what God's love is not: "It is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing." Paul sums up his description with these words: "And now faith, hope and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love."  
From these words from the Bible, we can see the love of God is wonderful and complete. It is a love not just of words, but actions. In John 3:16, we read, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life." May the love of God, as we know it in Jesus, be yours today and every day.  
**Pastor Nancy Isaacson**  
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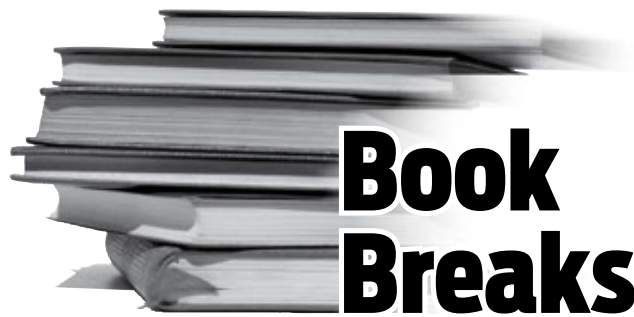
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## Book Breaks



**JACKSON LIBRARY**  
Carrie Dose

**MONTHLY MOVIE EVENT**  
The February adult monthly movie event will take place on Friday, Feb. 18, at 1 p.m. The February movie being shown is "The Proposal." The movie — starring Sandra Bullock, Ryan Reynolds and Betty White — is a romantic comedy. The plot centers on a Canadian executive who learns she may face deportation from the United States because of her expired visa. Determined to retain her position as editor-in-chief of a publishing house, she convinces her assistant to temporarily act as her fiancé. Popcorn will be served. Registration is not needed.

**MARCH BROWN BAG LUNCH EVENT**  
Make plans to attend the brown bag lunch event on Wednesday, March 2, at noon in the library meeting room. Local wildlife and nature photographer Phil Kirk will share his experiences while photographing the flora and fauna of Minnesota. He concentrates on more local areas, including Kilen Woods, where he wanders the lakes and lands in search of capturing the perfect images of eagles, hawks and — if he's lucky — a bobcat. Coffee and tea will be provided.

**NOVELIST PLUS: CHECK IT OUT!**  
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favorite book for more than 25 years. In it you'll find NoveList's unique story elements like appeal, genre and theme to help you understand what about a book you love and help you to find more that are your style. You'll find read-alike and listen-alike recommendations for titles, authors and series. And you'll even be able to find full series information all in one place. To access from home, use the library website at [jclmn.org/resources](http://jclmn.org/resources). You will need your library card number to access. Contact library staff if you have any questions.

**'I LOVE TO READ' MONTH**  
February is "I Love to Read" month! The Jackson County Libraries in Jackson, Lakefield and Heron Lake are celebrating. Each day in February you check out items you will receive a "sweet" treat in celebration of "I Love to Read" month.

**TEEN ADVISORY MEMBERS NEEDED**  
The next Teen Advisory Board meeting will be on Monday, March 7, starting at 3:30 p.m. Teens in seventh through 12th grades are welcome to attend and see what TAG membership is all about! TAG will meet once per month — the first Monday of the month — and will get together for fun activities and to help make decisions about library

events and purchases. Snacks provided!

**LITTLE TYKES STORYTIME**  
Little Tykes Storytime takes place on Mondays from 10 to 10:45 a.m. Story time features theme-based stories, fingerplays, music, dance, games, play and a craft. Toddlers and preschool children are welcome. This is a great opportunity for social interaction, as well as experiencing some early literacy skills. Registration is requested for first-time attendance. Call 847-4748 to register or for more information.

**BEDTIME STORY HOUR**  
A bedtime story hour will take place on Thursday, March 17, at 6:15 p.m. in the library meeting room. Children and families are welcome to attend. The story hour will feature stories, rhymes, music, a craft and a snack. Children may come in pajamas with their favorite bedtime buddy or blanket. Registration is requested. Call 847-4748.

**BOOK DISCUSSION**  
"This Tender Land" by William Kent Krueger will be discussed on Monday, March 21, from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. in the library meeting room. This is a great opportunity to get out and meet new people and have fun discussing a book. Call the library at 847-4748 to reserve a copy of the book.



PHOTOS BY JOSHUA SCHUETZ  
**TINY GOLF FUN**  
Ava and Jacob More get up close and personal with their tiny golf course during an after-school program last week at the Jackson library.



Payton Wendt works on her tiny golf course during an after-school program last week at the Jackson library.



Selina Wieneke gives her tiny golf course a trial run last Wednesday.

## Friday is movie day at Jackson library

It's movie time at the Jackson library. "The Proposal" will hit the library's big screen at 1 p.m. this Friday, part of the library's monthly movie matinee program. The movie — starring Sandra Bullock, Ryan Reynolds and Betty White — is a romantic comedy. The plot centers on a Canadian executive who learns she may face deportation from the United States because of her expired visa. Determined to retain her position as editor-in-chief of a publishing house, she convinces her assistant to temporarily act as her fiancé. Popcorn will be served. Registration is not needed.

## Diggers talk community pride, club banner, fair



The monthly meeting of the Delafield Diggers 4-H Club took place on Feb. 6 at 1:30 p.m. at St. Peter Lutheran Church, Lakefield. In new business, community pride and banner ideas were sought. Discussions were had about the fair schedule change, being a counselor at 4-H camp, the livestock quality assurance and ethics training, fruit sales deadline and the next federation meeting. The project talk was given by Anna Hedstrom about Winter Roundup, a 4-H weekend about horses. The food and nutrition talk was given by Will Staples on the importance of eating a variety of colors of vegetables. Club members enjoyed root beer floats provided by the Staples and Johnson families. The next meeting will be on Sunday, March 6, at 5:30 p.m. at St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Lakefield.

Ethan Koster, reporter

## Livewires discuss project bowl, upcoming deadlines



The Middletown Livewires 4-H Club met for its monthly meeting on Sunday, Feb. 6, at Salem Lutheran Church in Jackson. The meeting was called to order by President Rachel Mohr. New business included a discussion of the general livestock project bowl, the federation board meeting, market animal deadlines and Livestock Quality Assurance and Ethics training. Project talks were given by Rachel Mohr, Marshall Rowe and Autumn Rowe. The meeting was adjourned. Following the meeting, refreshments were served, and the club enjoyed a pop-sicle stick catapult activity and competition led by Joseph Mohr.

Abigail Mohr, reporter



*Birthday wishes and anniversary greetings go out to the following this week:*  
Feb. 17: Happy birthday to Mark Flatgard, Lowell Nasby, Lorna Nielsen, Aza lea Benjamin, Jennifer Holm.  
Feb. 18: Happy birthday to Case Bennett, Isaiah Adams, Ardy Palmer, Dan Schultz, Bernie Stubbe,

## BIRTHDAYS • ANNIVERSARIES

Caden Tusa, Tyler Me Kosch, Karil Richards, Diane Froderman.  
Feb. 19: Happy birthday to Taylor Fields, Jonathon Jandera, Sullivan Naumann, Luke Nyborg, Mark Olson, Hilary Stai, Daniel Seby.  
Feb. 20: Happy birthday to Tyler Asa, Tanner Asa, Alissa Coquyt, Norman Gran, Taylor Graupmann, Haisley Jandera, Deb Nafziger, David Anderson, Noreen Stene.  
Feb. 21: Happy birthday to Hannah Kurtz, Hayden Axford, Caledon Lessman, Alex Bretzman, Carter Heinrichs, Kip Wachal, Ivan Adkins, Parker Benda, Brenna Munoz.  
Feb. 22: Happy birthday to JoAnn Flatgard, Ella Condon, Heidi Baumann Tauer, Chris Naumann, Kim Tusa, Arnold Henning.  
Feb. 23: Happy birthday to Mike Sadusky, Dennis Bratrud, Michael Erickson, Ordell Skogen, Debra Stade, Izaac Lucht.



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to **BOB SVOBODA** on  
**Saturday, February 19**

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OF STATE  
CERTIFICATE OF  
ASSUMED NAME  
Minnesota Statutes,  
Chapter 333**

ASSUMED NAME: North Star Supportive Services  
PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS: 103 Okabena St., Okabena, Minnesota 56161 USA

NAMEHOLDER(S): Ekadu Enterprises, LLC, 103 Okabena St., Okabena, Minnesota 56161 USA

By typing my name, I, the undersigned, certify that I am signing this document as the person whose signature is required, or as agent of the person(s) whose signature would be required who has authorized me to sign this document on his/her behalf, or in both capacities. I further certify that I have completed all required fields, and that the information in this document is true and correct and in compliance with the applicable chapter of Minnesota Statutes. I understand that by signing this document I am subject to the penalties of perjury as set forth in Section 609.48 as if I had signed this document under oath.

SIGNED BY: Ekadu Enterprises, LLC.  
(Feb. 17, 24)

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
COUNTY OF JACKSON  
IN DISTRICT COURT  
PROBATE DIVISION  
FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Court file: 32-PR-22-4

In Re: Estate of  
**Douglas Ahrenstorff,**  
a/k/a **Douglas D.  
Ahrenstorff,**  
**Doug Ahrenstorff,**  
Decedent.  
**NOTICE OF INFORMAL  
APPOINTMENT  
OF PERSONAL  
REPRESENTATIVE AND  
NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

**TO ALL INTERESTED  
PERSONS AND  
CREDITORS:**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIV-  
EN OF THE FOLLOWING:**

1. An Application for the informal appointment of a personal representative of the above-named decedent ("Decedent") has been filed with the Registrar.

2. The Application has been granted.

3. The Registrar has informally appointed John Ahrenstorff, whose address is 72894 - 400th Avenue, Lakefield, MN 56150, as personal representative of the Decedent's estate ("Estate").

4. Any heir, devisee, or other interested person may be entitled to appointment as personal representative or may object to the appointment of the personal representative.

5. Unless objections are filed with the Court (pursuant

to Minn. Stat. Section 524.3-607) and the Court otherwise orders, the personal representative has full power to administer the Estate including - after 30 days from the date of issuance of the personal representative's letters - the power to sell, encumber, lease, or distribute real estate.

6. Any objections to appointment of the personal representative must be filed with this Court and will be heard by the Court after filing of a proper petition and proper notice of hearing.

7. Subject to Minn. Stat. 524.3-801, **ALL CREDITORS having claims** against the Estate are required to present the same to the personal representative or to the Court Administrator within four months after the date of this notice, or the claims will be barred.  
Dated: February 1, 2022.

Kayla McKinney,  
Court Administrator  
Teresa Reetz,  
Registrar  
Bradley W. Anderson  
**BRADLEY W. ANDERSON**  
Attorney for the Personal  
Representatives  
309 Sherman Street,  
P.O. Box 225  
Jackson, MN 56143-0225  
507-847-2052  
(Feb. 10, 17)

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
COUNTY OF JACKSON  
FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
DISTRICT COURT  
PROBATE DIVISION  
Court File No. 32-PR-22-2  
Estate of

**Allen D. Hauge,**  
Decedent  
**NOTICE AND ORDER OF  
HEARING ON PETITION  
FOR PROBATE OF WILL  
AND APPOINTMENT  
OF PERSONAL  
REPRESENTATIVE AND  
NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

It is Ordered and Notice is given that on February 28, 2022 at 1:15 p.m. via Zoom, a hearing will be held in this Court at 405 4th Street, Jackson, Minnesota 56143, for the formal probate of an instrument purporting to be the Will of the Decedent, dated June 28, 2012 ("Will"), and for the appointment of Debra J. Skaar, whose address is 24560 Niblick Alcove, Shorewood, MN 55331, as Personal Representative of the Estate of the Decedent in an unsupervised administration.

Any objections to the petition must be filed with the Court prior to or raised at the hearing. If proper and if no objections are filed or raised, the Personal Representative will be appointed with full power to administer the Estate including the power to collect all assets, to pay all legal debts, claims, taxes and expenses, to sell real and personal property, and to do all necessary acts for the Estate.

Notice is also given that (subject to Minnesota Statutes section 524.3-801) all creditors having claims against the Estate are required to present the claims to the Personal Representative or to the Court Administrator within four months after the date of this Notice or the claims will be barred.

A charitable beneficiary may request notice of the probate proceedings be given to the Attorney General pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 501B.41, subdivision 5.  
Dated: February 1, 2022

**BY THE COURT**  
Darci J. Bentz  
Judge of District Court  
Attorney for Petitioner:  
Ashley J.P. Schmit #0395771  
FOCUSED LAW FIRM, PLLC  
410 Springfield Parkway  
Jackson, MN 56143  
(507) 847-3239  
Telephone: (507) 847-3239  
Fax: (507) 847-3959  
Email: ashley@focusedlaw-firm.com  
(Feb. 10, 17)

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
COUNTY OF JACKSON

**ORDER AND NOTICE OF  
PUBLIC HEARING ON  
REDETERMINATION OF  
BENEFITS BEFORE THE  
DRAINAGE AUTHORITY FOR  
JACKSON COUNTY,  
COUNTY DITCH 13**

**BEFORE THE DRAINAGE  
AUTHORITY OF  
COUNTY DITCH 13 OF  
JACKSON COUNTY**

In the matter of the Redetermination of Benefits of County Ditch 13.

**NOTICE OF HEARING ON  
VIEWERS REPORTS**

Notice is hereby given, that a proceeding has been commenced by the Drainage Authority of County Ditch 13 of Jackson County, Minnesota, for the redetermination of benefits and damages and benefited areas and damaged areas of County Ditch 13. That the proceeding is pending;

That the viewers appointed herein have made and filed their report in the office of the Jackson County Auditor-Treasurer in Jackson Minnesota; and

That the following is a brief description of the lands drained by County Ditch 13 Jackson County by its main tile, branches, various laterals, and tile systems. Said system drains all or part of the following townships: **Jackson County, Christiana Township Sections: 13-17, 21-28, and 36; Kimball Township Sections: 19-20 and 29-32;**

**AND THAT, THEREFORE, on February 23, 2022 AT 2:30 P.M.** in the Jackson County Resource Center, 402 White Street (Door #7), Jackson, 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

Jackson County Auditor, 405 4th St, Jackson, 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 Jackson County Drainage Coordinator at 507-847-2763

Dated: January 20, 2022  
Kevin Nordquist,  
Jackson County  
Auditor/Treasurer  
(Feb. 3, 10, 17)

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
COUNTY OF JACKSON

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC  
HEARING ON FINAL  
ENGINEER'S REPORT**

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF JUDICIAL DITCH #42 IN JACKSON COUNTY

WHEREAS, a petition was filed on July 12, 2019 in the office of the Jackson County Auditor, for the improvement of Judicial Ditch #42 in Jackson County, Minnesota as described in said petition, and

WHEREAS, Kurt Deter of Rinke Noonan did on July 22, 2019 review the petition and recommended it be sent to the County Drainage Authority for acceptance, and

WHEREAS, the County Board of Commissioners did on August 20, 2019 accept the petition and appoint engineer Chuck Brandel of ISG to prepare and file a Final Engineers Report for the improvement of Judicial Ditch 42, and

WHEREAS, the engineer duly appointed in said matter did on December 10, 2021, make and file their Final Engineers Report in the office of the Jackson County Auditor, and the Jackson County Board of Commissioners has fixed the time and place for hearing thereon.

NOW THEREFORE, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a hearing for the purpose of considering the Final Engineer's Report in the matter of the proposed improvement of drainage system, will be held by and before the Jackson County Drainage Authority in the **Government Center East Cafeteria Room, 402 White Street (Door #7), Jackson, MN at 2:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 23, 2022,** at which time and place, all persons, parties, corporations, and others interested in said matter are hereby invited to appear and be heard, and show cause if any you have, why said Final Engineer's Report should not be approved, or in respect to any other matters in connection therewith. The Final Engineer's Report can be found on the county website at [co.jackson.mn.us](http://co.jackson.mn.us)

Dated: January 20, 2022  
Kevin Nordquist,  
Jackson County  
Auditor/Treasurer  
(Feb. 3, 10, 17)

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**NOBLES COUNTIES**

In the matter of the Redetermination of Benefits of Judicial Ditch 44.

**NOTICE OF HEARING ON  
VIEWERS REPORTS**

Notice is hereby given, that a proceeding has been commenced by the Drainage Authority of Judicial Ditch 44 of Jackson and Nobles Counties, Minnesota, for the redetermination of benefits and damages and benefited areas and damaged areas of Judicial Ditch 44. That the proceeding is pending; That the viewers appointed herein have made and filed their report in the office of the Jackson County Auditor-Treasurer in Jackson Minnesota; and

That the following is a brief description of the lands drained by Judicial Ditch 44 Jackson and Nobles County by its main tile, branches, various laterals, and tile systems. Said system drains all or part of the following townships: **Jackson County, Alba Township - Sections 4,5,6,7,8,9; and Nobles County, HERSHEY Township - Sections 1 & 12;**

**AND THAT, THEREFORE, on February 23, 2022 AT 2:30 P.M.** in the Jackson County Resource Center, 402 White Street (Door #7), Jackson, 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 Jackson County Auditor, 405 4th St, Jackson, 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 Jackson County Drainage Coordinator at 507-847-2763

Dated: January 20, 2022  
Kevin Nordquist,  
Jackson County  
Auditor/Treasurer  
(Feb. 3, 10, 17)

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**Minimum Qualifications:**  
Qualified candidates must be 18 years of age or older and will possess a high school diploma or equivalent, one (1) year of verifiable experience working in general maintenance or the construction trades, and a valid CDL "Class B" Minnesota Driver's License or ability to obtain one within (6) months of employment. Must have a clean driving record and pass a pre-employment drug test and random drug and alcohol testing. The ability to lift 50 or more pounds. Must be available for on-call rotation after regular business schedule and be able to respond to a call back situation within 20 minutes of notification while obeying all traffic laws and speed limits.

**To Apply:**  
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## Rosen and Weber join with Senate GOP to unveil package of bills aimed at recruiting people into law enforcement

Local state Sens. Julie Rosen and Bill Weber teamed with their fellow Senate Republicans earlier this month to roll out a \$65 million program aimed at recruiting people into law enforcement careers.

The program is dubbed the C.O.P.S. Program, which stands for "Creating Opportunities in Public Safety."

The proposals focus on recruitment to address the peace officer shortage affecting the entire state. The six different bills are designed to help young people obtain degrees in law enforcement, provide opportunities for nontraditional entrants into policing and fund a marketing campaign, as well as continuing education, to highlight the profession and long-term benefits of a career in law enforcement.

"You can only assail the police for so long before there are serious consequences," said Rosen, R-Fairmont, who represents eastern Jackson County in the state Senate. "That's what we are seeing now: Crime is spiking, especial-

ly violent crime, and departments are struggling to find new officers. We need to get back on the right track. These bills will help us strengthen our police presence across the state."

Weber, R-Luverne, who represents western Jackson County, agreed.

"Minnesota needs more qualified police officers," Weber said. "It should be expected that we are recruiting the best and the brightest. Unfortunately, we're not getting that at the moment. People are staying away from the profession, and hiring is being outpaced by retirements or exits. We need to turn this around, and one way to do this is to use incentives and recruitment programs that show these men and women that we respect what they do and will be there supporting them on their journey to become a LEO."

Across the nation, law enforcement positions are opening up faster than they can be replaced by retirement or resignation. In 2021 alone, the Star Tribune reported Minnesota

saw 32 police chiefs retire. The Peace Officer Standards and Training Board Job board shows openings for licensed peace officers in at least 65 agencies. Minneapolis and St. Paul have nearly 300 open positions to fill as of last month, with the state currently lacking upwards of 800 officers.

The Senate Republican C.O.P.S. Program includes the following legislation:

- Public awareness campaign to elevate law enforcement as profession: \$1 million will be provided for the Minnesota Department of Public Safety to develop and conduct an advertising campaign to elevate the law enforcement profession.

- Workforce scholarships for Minnesota State students seeking degrees in law enforcement: \$20 million in new funds will be allocated to the Workforce Scholarship Program aimed at increasing enrollment in associate degree programs in law enforcement.

- Additional financial aid for students pursuing law

enforcement degrees: \$20 million will be provided for students across Minnesota who are pursuing degrees in law enforcement. The grant would be \$1,500 per year for up to two years for eligible recipients.

- Pathways to Policing: \$1.5 million will be allocated to the award-winning Pathways to Policing Program to support non-traditional candidates for law enforcement who already have an associate degree in another discipline. This provides new resources for an existing, proven program to reimburse agencies up to 50 percent of the costs for a non-traditional candidate to complete an alternative education program to become a licensed peace officer in the state of Minnesota.

- Education reimbursement: \$2.5 million will be allocated to provide up to \$5,000 in tuition reimbursements for recently licensed peace officers and those currently in the pipeline to become officers. Once an officer has gone through the education requirements and put

### Rosen named Legislator of the Year by Minnesota Professional Firefighters

Local state Sen. Julie Rosen has been named 2021 Legislator of the Year by the Minnesota Professional Firefighters.

Rosen, who represents eastern Jackson County in the state Senate, received the award for her work on the Hometown Heroes Assistance Program, which addresses the high incidence of cancer, cardiac issues and emotional trauma facing firefighters across the state. Minnesota currently has 22,000 firefighters that will benefit from the program.

"I am so incredibly grateful for this award," said Rosen, R-Fairmont. "Firefighters are a core part of protecting our communities. They put themselves in harm's way every day to keep us safe, and many of them have experienced trauma or contracted cancer or other diseases because of it. Getting this Hometown Heroes bill done was just one small way we can show our appreciation."

Minnesota Professional Firefighters is made up of 1,900 members who are career union firefighters, paramedics and dispatchers. The association advocates for its members' health and safety, fair wages, dignified retirements and obtaining the necessary resources for its members to serve the public safely and effectively.

in one year of time with an agency and remain in good standing, he or she will be eligible for the tuition and postsecondary fees reimbursement.

- Bonuses for new hires in policing: \$20 million will be allocated to provide bo-

nuses of up to \$10,000 for newly hired peace officers across Minnesota. The bonuses may only be awarded after an officer has served a year with the hiring agency and may only be used for newly licensed peace officers.

### Bremer finds success with new tractor business

by JOSHUA SCHUETZ  
Staff Writer

Jackson County resident Eric Bremer has started his own repair business.

For Bremer, who did mechanical work in high school and college, starting his own business was a natural progression away from the workaday world.

"It's always been a dream for me to do my own thing and, when we moved to this acreage, there was a shop where I could do mechanical work," said Bremer, of rural Brewster. "Last July, I put in my notice at my job in town and started my business."

Bremer named his business Bremer Magneto and Repair. He works on numerous kinds of vehicles, but his bread and butter are the kinds of vehicles folks usually can't take to a mechanic elsewhere.

"I specialize in magnetos, old tractors, Model T cars and pretty much anything to do with vintage tractor and car repair," he said. "I've always had a soft spot for old tractors, and I love working on old Fords because I grew up fixing them."

It's a unique specialty, one that quickly differentiated Bremer from his competition. And he has found plenty of work to stay busy.

"I'm swamped with work, and I couldn't be happier," Bremer said. "It's a little overwhelming, but I have a supportive family and being able



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Eric Bremer is keeping plenty busy with his new business, Bremer Magneto and Repair.

to work at home gives me more time to spend with my wife and kids."

Many of Bremer's clients are older farmers looking to get vintage tractors up and running again. Some are collectors, younger farmers who just inherited a vehicle from a father or grandfather and even entire families who want to get an old heirloom working once more.

Some of his most interesting projects are cars that are more than a century old. Because they were made before the rise of mass-production, they have unique parts that can't be easily found if one can't be repaired.

Bremer typically calls up salvage yards when that happens, but sometimes he has to take more drastic measures. It's something he did before starting his business as well; once, Bremer and a friend spent

four years building a tractor from an old frame and wheels as a side project.

"I've had to actually remodel parts and basically create a new part in some of those cases from the blueprints, if I can find them," he said.

He's also gotten international business, fixing parts and shipping them overseas to as far away as the United Kingdom and the Netherlands.

Bremer said he is happy with how much his business has grown over the past months.

It's also given his family something new over which to bond.

"My wife helps me out and, for the kids, it's always fun to go into the shop and see what Dad's up to," Bremer said. "I started repairing as a hobby, and now here I am working on 100-plus projects a year."



PHOTO BY JOSHUA SCHUETZ  
**FIX-UP FUNDS**

Jackson Knights of Columbus Treasurer Jeff Fiala (right) presents a \$1,900 donation to Jackson Cemetery Association President John Osterberg that will be put toward the repair of the Riverside Cemetery chapel roof. The money represents proceeds of the Jackson Knights of Columbus' January omelet feed fundraiser.

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JCC WRESTLING

## Second-ranked Huskies dominate No. 1 Jaguars

by DAN CONDON  
 Sports Editor

There was some debate whether Jackson County Central or Belgrade-Broten-Elrosa was the No. 1 wrestling team in Class A heading into their matchup last week.

In one poll, the Huskies had the top spot, followed by the Jaguars. In the traditional poll by The Guillotine, BBE was ranked No. 1 and the Huskies were second.

After this past Friday, there's no debate.

The Huskies jumped out to an early lead and never let up in a 48-19 thumping of the Jaguars.

The win improved the Huskies to 18-3 and came one night after JCC dominated a quadrangular in Jackson.

**Scholten finishes win**

Junior Cameron Scholten put an exclamation point on the win over BBE, pinning 10<sup>th</sup>-ranked Bryce Feuerhake in the third pe-

riod of the final bout.

Scholten took the lead with an escape in the second period and Feuerhake tied it with an escape in the third.

"Once I got that escape, I knew a takedown was going to win the match," Scholten said.

Scholten got the go-ahead takedown, then put Feuerhake on his back and got the pin.

"I knew once I got him on his back it was going to be over," he said. "It was great to have the exclamation point on that since they were ranked No. 1."

Scholten said the No. 2 ranking gave the Huskies a bit of motivation entering the dual.

"I wanted to come into it ranked No. 2 because it kind of put them thinking they were going to be way better than us, but us coming in and kind of blowing them out at home is a really fun feeling," he said.

Scholten said his win also proved to himself he

See **WR** on **B5**



PHOTO BY DAN CONDON  
 Cameron Scholten celebrates after his pin to Bryce Feuerhake in last week's dual against top-ranked Belgrade-Broten-Elrosa. Scholten's fall capped a decisive 48-19 win for the No. 2 Huskies.

**Inside...**

**B5** The Huskies open the Section 3A tournament wrestling tournament tonight (Thursday) as the No. 1 seed.

JCC BOYS' BASKETBALL

## JCC rebounds to top Titans



PHOTO BY DAN CONDON  
 Kaden Cother scores two points in last week's conference game against Marshall.

After hanging with conference-leading Marshall last Tuesday, the Jackson County Central boys' basketball team beat Tri-City United this past Friday.

The Huskies are now 9-13 on the season and sit at 4-6 in the West Division of the Big South Conference.

**Huskies beat Titans**

The Huskies got a balanced attack on offense and put up big numbers on defense to lead to a 64-55 home victory over TCU.

The loss ended a four-game losing streak for the Huskies.

The Huskies were outrebounded 37-20 in the game, but countered that by forcing 31 turnovers. Those turnovers led to 16 points and a 12-0 advantage in transition points.

JCC also had six blocks in the game, with Travis Rogotzke rejecting two shots.

See **BBB** on **B4**

JCC GYMNASTICS

## Gymnasts finish second at sections

Benda misses trip to state on floor on a coin flip

by DAN CONDON  
 Sports Editor

When all the flips, spins, jumps and dismounts were finished Saturday at the Section 3A gymnastics meet in Marshall, there was one thing left to be determined.

A tie for the final trip to state on floor exercise came down to Jackson County Central's Payten Benda and Pipestone's Kaysa Douty.

Both scored 9.075 to tie for sixth place, which put them in a deadlock for the

final qualifying spot.

After the first eight tie-breakers didn't determine a winner, a coin flip did — and Douty won.

JCC head coach Abby Schneekloth said it was a heartbreaking way for either gymnast to have their season end.

"Going into the judges' room to hear her state trip would be determined by a flip of a coin broke my heart," she said. "I felt for both athletes as one would be going and the other would not, even though they both earned the spot."

But what impressed Schneekloth was the way Benda handled the entire situation.

"Payten Benda not only had a good day, but also showed awesome sportsmanship after hearing her season was ending due to a flip of a coin not going in her favor," Schneek-

See **GYM** on **B4**



Payten Benda

JCC GIRLS' BASKETBALL

## JCC girls split four games on the hardwood

by DAN CONDON  
 Sports Editor

The Jackson County Central girls' basketball team has alternated wins and losses the last five games to sit at 16-9 overall and 5-6 in the West Division of the Big South Conference.

The Huskies lost to Marshall last Tuesday, beat Tri-City United this past Friday, lost to Caledonia Saturday and knocked off Martin County West Monday night.

**Huskies streak past Mavericks Monday**

Baskets were hard to come by early Monday, but the Huskies eventually heated up and streaked past MCW to win 72-43.

JCC didn't score until nearly three minutes into the game, but then rattled off 12 straight points to lead 12-2.

"We didn't look great at the start," head coach Rafe York said. "Someone put the lid on the hoop. Once

we got going, we did OK."

Kylee Wenzel finally got the Huskies on the board with a pair of free throws to tie the game, then Maci Farmer scored six of JCC's next 10 points as the Huskies surged to a 10-point lead.

Farmer later started a 6-0 run and then scored seven points during a 9-0 run late in the half. She hit a 3-pointer in the final minute of the half to score more than half of JCC's 30 first-half points.

"Maci kind of carried us scoring wise in the first half," York said.

While the JCC offense struggled early, York liked the way the Huskies played on the other end. MCW scored just two points in the game's first eight minutes, 50 seconds.

"Our defense was good, which I haven't said a whole lot lately," York said.

Farmer scored 18 first-half points, then opened the second half with a 3-pointer. That kick started

the Huskies, who scored 42 points in the second half.

"The second half we picked it up a little bit and scored 42, which is more the pace we're looking for," York said.

Nothing in particular changed, he said, except the Huskies just started playing a little better on the offensive end.

"I just think sometimes you go through slumps and you have to work through it a little bit," York said. "Halftime helped. We got to regroup a little bit and maybe changing the ends of the court. Got some layups, stopped forcing some things and it worked out."

Sadie Voss heated up the second half, scoring 15 of her 17 points after the break. Farmer also stayed hot, scoring 13 second-half points to finish with a game-high 31.

Voss added six rebounds, six steals and six assists, while Farmer had seven steals and five boards.

See **GBB** on **B4**



PHOTO BY DAN CONDON  
 Emma Haren knocks down a jump shot during Jackson County Central's win over Martin County West Monday night in Jackson.

# JCC WRESTLING



## WRESTLING RESULTS

JCC	79	Luverne	0	JCC	60	Adrian	12
JCC	73	Redwood	3	JCC	50	Martin County	13
JCC	54	Marshall	19	JCC	83	Madelia/Truman	0
JCC	48	Bolivar	15	JCC	71	Red Rock Central	0
JCC	38	Liberty	22	JCC	57	TMB	9
JCC	49	Staley	15	JCC	48	BBE	19
JCC	18	StMA	45	<b>TOURNAMENT RESULTS</b>			
JCC	22	Vacaville	39	Glencoe	..... 2nd place		
JCC	28	Waverly-SR	35	JCC	..... 1st place		
JCC	60	Windom/ML	12	Spencer	..... 1st place		
JCC	65	Fulda/MCC	3	Rumble on the Red	..... 1st place		
JCC	67	Wabasso	6	The Clash	..... 4th place		
JCC	49	ACGC	21	Big South Conference	..... 1st place		
JCC	56	Pipestone	18	Parkston	..... 1st place		
JCC	52	Worthington	12				

Overall record:  
18-3  
BSC: 6-0

### Photo by Dan Condon

Members of the Jackson County Central wrestling team are (front, from left): Isaac Rodriguez, Michael Hansen, Josh Clymer, Braeden Erickson, Alex Mohning, Nolan Ambrose, Isaiah Rodriguez and Ryan Haley. Middle: Landon Andrews, Andrew Boyum, Wyatt Wenzel, Clay Malchow, Jack Mix, Braeden Arduer, Ben Dahlin, Seth Stai, Kie Anderson and Thomas Freking. Back: Skyler Andrews, Braydan Winter, Matt Haley, Will Freking, Kris Altman, Dylan Withers, Caleb Vancura, Cameron Scholten and Rory Schley. Missing: Logan Butzon, Payton Handevikt, Trace Michelson and Trey Rossow.

The Section 3A team tournament takes place Feb. 17 and 19.  
The Section 3A individual tournament takes place Feb. 26 in Wabasso.  
The Class A state tournament takes place March 3-5 at the Xcel Energy Center.

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## BIG SOUTH CONFERENCE STANDINGS

### BOYS' BASKETBALL

Team	BSC	All
Marshall	10-2	14-9
Pipestone	9-2	17-4
Redwood	8-3	15-6
JCC	4-6	9-13
Worthington	3-7	5-14
Windom	2-9	9-14
Luverne	1-8	7-11
<b>East</b>		
<b>Team</b>	<b>BSC</b>	<b>All</b>
New Ulm	9-0	16-4
St. Peter	6-3	10-12
Weseca	4-5	8-15
St. James	3-6	9-13
Fairmont	3-6	8-10
BEA	2-7	8-11

### GIRLS' BASKETBALL

Team	BSC	All
Marshall	12-0	19-4
Worthington	9-3	13-9
Luverne	8-3	18-4
JCC	5-6	16-9
Windom	3-8	9-13
Pipestone	3-9	6-16
Redwood	0-11	0-25
<b>East</b>		
<b>Team</b>	<b>BSC</b>	<b>All</b>
St. Peter	10-0	20-4
Fairmont	8-2	19-3
St. James	4-5	9-13
New Ulm	4-6	12-10
Weseca	3-7	8-15
BEA	0-9	4-17

### WRESTLING

Team	BSC	All
JCC	6-0	18-3
Marshall	5-1	14-4
Worthington	4-2	12-10
Pipestone	3-3	11-9
Redwood	2-4	7-16
Windom	1-5	8-17
Luverne	0-6	5-13
<b>East</b>		
<b>Team</b>	<b>BSC</b>	<b>All</b>
Martin Co.	5-0	23-1
St. Peter	4-1	17-9
BEA	3-2	9-12
New Ulm	2-3	10-11
Weseca	1-4	4-14
St. James	0-5	3-15

### GYMNASTICS

Team	BSC	All
Worthington	6-0	11-0
JCC	5-1	8-2
Luverne	3-2	4-2
Pipestone	2-2	4-3
Redwood	1-4	1-5
Marshall	1-4	3-8
Windom	1-5	2-8
<b>East</b>		
<b>Team</b>	<b>BSC</b>	<b>All</b>
New Ulm	4-0	7-2
St. Peter	4-1	8-2
Weseca	3-2	6-4
MCA	2-3	4-6
St. James	0-4	0-9
BEA	0-3	1-4

### BOYS' HOCKEY

Team	BSC	All
New Ulm	15-0	18-6
Luverne	13-2	14-9
Marshall	10-5	13-11
Worthington	9-7	11-12
Windom	7-7	10-13-1
Fairmont	6-9	7-15
MN River	3-11-1	5-17-1
Weseca	3-11	5-14-1
Redwood	1-15	2-19

### GIRLS' HOCKEY

Team	BSC	All
New Ulm	14-0	23-3
Luverne	12-2	22-3
MN River	9-5	13-13
Marshall	7-7	13-14-1
Windom	6-8	8-15
Fairmont	4-10	8-14-2
Weseca	2-12	4-21-1
Worthington	2-12	5-20

Get sports updates as they happen on Twitter @PilotSports

## SPORTS CALENDAR

- Thursday, Feb. 17**  
WR - Section opener
- Friday, Feb. 18**  
GBB vs. Luverne  
BBB vs. Luverne
- Saturday, Feb. 19**  
WR Section semis and finals - in Slayton  
BBB at BEA
- Sunday, Feb. 20**  
No events
- Monday, Feb. 21**  
No events
- Tuesday, Feb. 22**  
BBB at New Ulm  
BH - Section opener
- Wednesday, Feb. 23**  
No events



@PilotSports

**Feb. 12, 3:18 p.m.**  
The JCC gymnastics team finished second at the Section 3A meet with a score of 133.65. Worthington scored 145.4 to win.

**Feb. 11, 8:23 p.m.**  
Cam Scholten pins No. 10 Bryce Feuerhake to put an exclamation point on the win.

**Feb. 10, 11:18 p.m.**  
JCC activities director Shelly Hotzler is a finalist for the NHSACA National Coach/AD of the year Award.

**Feb. 8, 7:55 p.m.**  
Make it a 9-0 JCC run and 11-9 lead for the Huskies over Marshall after a Travis Rogotzke basket.

Follow for more updates

## ATHLETES OF THE WEEK



**Name:** Erik Hesebeck  
**Grade:** 11  
**Sport:** Basketball  
**The week that was:** Hesebeck has been solid all year for the Huskies and had nine points and five boards in a win over TCU.  
**Coach's comments:** "Erik has been our leading scorer all season with a nice inside/outside offensive game," Alex Hein said. "Even though he is often undersized, he has really improved defensively throughout the season limiting other team's post players. He is really playing well for us on both ends of the court."



**Name:** Cameron Scholten  
**Grade:** 11  
**Sport:** Wrestling  
**The week that was:** Scholten pinned 10th-ranked Bryce Feuerhake to cap JCC's win over No. 1 BBE last week.  
**Coach's comments:** "Cameron wrestled a great match," Nate Hanson said. "That's one where they're probably thinking they'll get six and we get six. That was no fluke, either. We were beating him at the time and he tried something in desperation at the end and it didn't work out and we pinned him."

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# HL-O CORNER

## Coyote boys drop pair of games on the hardwood

The Heron Lake-Okabena/Fulda boys' basketball team lost a pair of games late last week, losing 68-46 to Southwest Minnesota Christian on Thursday and 74-61 this past Friday to Windom.

The Coyotes fall to 9-12 overall and 5-7 in the Red Rock Conference. Carter Drent led the Coyotes against SWC, scoring 23 points and adding eight rebounds and five assists. Parker Murphy sank six 3-pointers for nearly all of his 20 points and Sawyer Drent chipped in 15 points.

Sawyer Drent scored a team-high 23 points against Windom and Carter Drent had a double-double of 12 points and 10 rebounds.

The Coyotes played at Hills-Beaver Creek Tuesday night and are at Westbrook-Walnut Grove Friday before hitting the road to face Red Rock Central Tuesday.

## Coyote girls lose two as regular season winds down

The Heron Lake-Okabena/Fulda girls' basketball team dropped a pair of games recently, losing 57-43 to Red Rock Central last Tuesday and 49-35 to Mt. Lake Area/Comfrey Monday.

The Coyotes are now 10-13 on the season and 5-9 in the Red Rock Conference. Chrissy Hermeling and Taryn Evers both scored 10 points against RRC and Faith White added nine. Hermeling chipped in four steals and three rebounds; Evers had nine rebounds and three blocks; and White had six rebounds and three assists. Anna Fest and Skylar Fisher both scored five points and Emily Madison had six boards.

Evers and White both scored nine points to lead the Coyotes Monday against the Wolverines.

The Coyotes host Westbrook-Walnut Grove tonight (Thursday) and play at Renville County West Saturday. HL-O/F then wraps up the regular season Monday at Southwest Minnesota Christian.

# Now for the second half of February

I hope you had an enjoyable, lovely Valentine's Day. If you are a non-romantic like I am, you spent the day pretty much like any other day. Get up, do some stuff and go to bed.

Well, maybe not exactly the same. I gave Kathy an extra smooch as I left for school to sub Valentine's Day morning. It is almost like how we gave our livestock an extra helping of feed every Christmas Eve.

Except I am sure Kathy enjoyed getting an extra smooch over an extra helping of ground corn and hay. It is a good thing I am smoochable. And not edible.

Now that Valentine's Day is behind us, we can look forward to the other things going on during the second half of February. For starters, Presidents' Day.

Even though we do not celebrate their birthdays until Monday, today (Thursday), we are at the halfway point between the birthdays of two of my favorite presidents, Abraham Lincoln (Feb. 12) and George Washington (Feb. 22).

Washington because he not only was our first President, he set the standard of the presidency. He, by example, determined what the president should or could do.

He also advised how others were to address him. Many wanted to refer to the president with exalting names like His Majesty. Not Washington; he kept it humble: Mr. President. The same standards he set for our president are still expected to be followed today.

And Lincoln? Well, he was Lincoln. Plus, he undivided a divided Union while emancipating the slaves at the same time. He was the master of timing; he knew the right time to accomplish his goals. He did not push for

the end of slavery until the time was right.

While Washington was well respected before, during and after his presidency, many did not respect Lincoln until after they saw the wisdom of his deeds and words.

Thomas Jefferson is another of my favorites. Jefferson is the one who finagled our purchase of the Louisiana Purchase and then sent many explorers out to see and map the acquisition and beyond, all with the hopes of expanding our western boundary.

While I have no qualms about finagling land from Great Britain, Spain and France, I think it is unfortunate the Westward Expansion was at the expense of the Native Americans.

Jefferson has the distinction of dying on our nation's 50th birthday — July 4, 1826 — just a few hours before his political rival but good friend John Adams.

As a sideline, John Adams and his son John Quincy Adams are the only two of the first 12 presidents who never owned any slaves. In fact, the elder Adams abhorred slavery and even represented slaves in suits for their freedom.

Anyway, getting back to mid-February 2022, now I can concentrate more on the last few days of the Olympics. While I like to show support for the American athletes, I also find the Olympics very enjoyable to watch.

I do enjoy watching the Winter Games. In fact, I prefer the Winter Games to the summer. The sledging events are my favorite to watch, followed by the various skiing events, especially ski jumping.

I do believe the athletes on the skeleton and luge would be well advised to have a psychiatric evaluation. Yet, I would love to compete in either event.

Until my first crash. Yeah, I might have a screw or two loose.

I have no desire to compete in any of the various freestyle snowboarding or skiing events. Or, to even try any of the tricks the athletes performed in those events. I might have a few loose screws, but I am not nuts.

Although figure skating ranks near the bottom of my "Olympic events I want to watch" list, this year I was totally enthralled watching Nathan Chen win gold.

I am not even close to being a figure skating judge wannabe, but I could see the difference in talent between Chen and the rest of the skaters. Phenomenal skate.

Just as the Olympics are winding down, so too are the winter sports seasons for the Jackson County Central Middle School athletes.

Mark Kocak's seventh-grade boys' basketball players closed out their season on Feb. 7 by splitting two games in Windom, winning Game 1 but losing the nightcap. According to Kocak, the team showed much improvement from the beginning of the season to the end.

Academically, there is no school on Monday for staff development.

As I have more Olympics to watch, I close for this week. Until next week, head to the Husky arena and help cheer on our local athletes as they strive for their own victory. Go, Huskies!



**WIDE WRITE**  
Stephen A. Condon

## LEAGUE BOWLING SCORES

- Tuesday night men**  
Team standings: Junction 86 14-2, Bowlers Inn 12-4, New Fashion Pork 3-13, Phillips Agency 3-9  
High game: Dwayne Hage 267, Tom Johnson 209, Leigh Hohenstein 202  
High series: Dwayne Hage 612, Tom Johnson 595, Leigh Hohenstein 575
- Wednesday night men**  
Team standings: Left Overs 9-3, FCA 8-4, Elness Livestock 8-4, Schaap Sanitation 5-7, S&J Cleaning 4-8, Pocket Pounders 2-10  
High game: Doyle Svoboda 234, Brian Allen 205, Jay Wagner 201  
High series: Doyle Svoboda 639, Jay Wagner 554, Brian Allen 551
- Thursday night women**  
Team standings: Rubis Farms 11-1, Split Personalities 7-5, 9th Ave Salon 6-6, Pampered Chicks 5-7, Bipolar Rollers 5-7, Lakefield Savings Bank 2-10  
High game: Sara Thompson 193, Mari Byam 192, April Krumwiede 189  
High series: Mari Byam 529, Sarah Thompson 499, Alyssa Polke 491



## HUSKIES BEAT ANOTHER RANKED TEAM TO EXTEND STREAK

**One year ago, Feb. 18, 2021**  
The Jackson County Central wrestling team knocked off another ranked team, beating No. 9 Minnesota 54-19 to extend its winning streak to 14 straight duals. Nolan Ambrose, Seth Stai, Dylan Withers, Isaiah Rodriguez, Will Freyking and Caleb Vancura all got pins against the Vikings and Thomas Freking and Payton Handevitd received forfeits. Kie Anderson and Logan Butzon won decisions for the Huskies, who are now 16-1 on the season.

## HUSKIES FLIP THE SCRIPT ON FAIRMONT

**Five years ago, Feb. 23, 2017**  
Three nights after losing by 10 points to Fairmont, the JCC girls' basketball team beat Fairmont by nine points to improve to 9-15 on the season. JCC led just 29-28 at the half and trailed 40-34 in the second half before the Huskies went on a 12-4 run to take the lead. After leading just 53-50 with four minutes left, the Huskies pulled away to win 64-55. Alaina Wolff scored 17 points, Lauren Murphy scored 14, Molly Brinkman tallied 12 and Jayni Anderson notched 10 to give the Huskies four players in double figures.

## TWO TEAMS TO STATE FOR JCC

**10 years ago, Feb. 23, 2012**  
The JCC gymnastics team won the Section 3A tournament to return to state for the first time since 2000 and the JCC wrestling team won the section championship for the third straight year. The gymnasts scored 140.825 to finish well ahead of Worthington (134.7). Sydnee Donnelly qualified for state in all four events and all-around, Brandi Sether-Hassing qualified on bars and floor and in all-around and Adriane Rentschler qualified on bars and beam. The JCC wrestling team beat Maple River 59-7 in the section finals after topping NRHEG (55-11) and Blooming Prairie (79-0).

## WINNING ONE FOR SARA

**25 years ago, Feb. 20, 1997 - Jackson County Pilot**  
Despite competing without their top all-arounder, the Jackson gymnastics team scored 139.4 in winning the Section 3A meet, sending the Jays to state for the 17th time in the last 19 years. Jackson was forced to compete without Sara Weflen, who dislocated her elbow in practice the day before the meet. Mandy Censy won the all-around title (35.65) after winning bars (9.325) and balance beam (8.725). She also finished third on vault (8.85) and fourth on floor (8.75). She qualified for state in all-around and all four events. Kim Hansen finished second in all-around (34.275) and also qualified for state on floor, finishing third (8.85). Kelley Baker qualified for state with second-place finishes on vault (9.0) and bars (9.2). Alyssa Honnette won vault (9.1) and also qualified for state in all-around (33.925). Devon McConnell qualified for state on beam, placing third with 8.35.

## EIGHT TO STATE

**25 years ago, Feb. 20, 1997 - Lakefield Standard**  
Eight HLOL/Jackson wrestlers qualified for state by finishing first or second at the Section 3AA individual tournament. Section champions were Nate Baker (119), Nate Hanson (130), Troy Schultz (135), Wes Liepold (140), Matt Kraft (160) and Matt Nesseth (171). Finishing second and going to state were Peter Alcocer (112) and Tucker Polz (125).

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## Veterans to be honored ahead of Friday night doubleheader

This Friday is Veterans Appreciation Night at the Jackson County Central High School gym.

All military veterans — retired and active — will be admitted free of charge to the varsity girls' and boys' basketball doubleheader against Luverne. Tipoff is at 6 p.m. with a special salute to veterans and singing

of the national anthem to precede.

All who attend the games are asked to wear red, white and blue in support of veterans past and present.

The special night was originally scheduled to take place last month but was postponed because of weather.

### EAGLE GIRLS' HOCKEY

## Season ends for Eagle girls

The season came to an end for the Windom Area girls' hockey team last Thursday with a loss to Fairmont in the opening round of the Section 3A tournament.

The fifth-seeded Cardinals scored a goal in each of the first two periods to knock off the fourth-seeded Eagles 2-1.

Fairmont struck first in the opening period before Presley Dockter pulled

the Eagles even with an unassisted power-play goal late in the period.

The Cardinals regained the lead with five minutes left in the second period and neither team scored the rest of the way.

Kaylie Baerg made 31 saves for the Eagles, who were outshot 33-24.

Windom Area finishes the season with a record of 8-15.

### EAGLE BOYS' HOCKEY

## Trojans win big over Eagles

Windom Area and Worthington were tied after one period of Monday night's Big South Conference boys' hockey game, but the Trojans pulled away for a 6-1 victory.

The Trojans struck first just more than five minutes into the game, but the Eagles answered six minutes later.

Wyatt Haugen scored what proved to be the lone Windom Area goal, with Ethan Purrington and Karson LaCanne getting credit for assists.

Worthington scored just 20 seconds into the second period, then added another goal less than a minute later to lead 3-1. The Trojans scored again midway through the period and added two third-period

goals to pick up the victory.

Grant Dronen made 24 saves for the Eagles, who were outshot 30-18. Windom Area had just one shot on goal in the final period.

The loss drops the Eagles to 10-13-1 on the season and 7-7-1 in the Big South Conference.

#### Up next

The Eagles ended the regular season Tuesday night by playing at Minnesota River.

The Section 3A tournament starts Feb. 22. Pairings will be posted online at jacksoncountypilot.com and lakefieldstandard.com after they are released.

## GYM: JCC is second

Continued from B1

loth said. "After being told her season was ending, she congratulated the other gymnast and showed such class. I could not be more proud of her for all her accomplishments this season. She is a state qualifier, no matter what the coin showed and that is something to be proud of."



Olivia Blaskey



Maia Reed

where their 35.825 was second only to Worthington.

Bailey Finck finished 10<sup>th</sup> (9.0) and Maia Reed and Olivia Blaskey tied for 11<sup>th</sup> (8.875). Hannah Carson scored 8.7 on floor.

The Huskies also had the second-best score on bars, posting a team total of 31.85.

Makayla Hotzler tied for eighth place by scoring 8.2 and Benda and Finck both scored 7.9 to tie for 11<sup>th</sup>.

Carson scored 7.85 on bars and Blaskey posted a 7.4 in the event.

Benda finished ninth on vault, scoring 8.925. Alexis O'Reilly scored 8.525, Peyton Hanson scored 8.425, Blaskey scored 8.325 and Daysia Tomlin earned an 8.275.

On beam, Reed finished 10<sup>th</sup> overall with a

**"PLACING SECOND AT SECTIONS IS A HUGE ACCOMPLISHMENT FOR THE GIRLS AND THEY WERE VERY HAPPY WITH THEIR PERFORMANCE. THEY ARE SUCH A TALENTED GROUP OF GIRLS THAT HAVE VERY BRIGHT FUTURES."**

Abby Schneekloth

score of 8.375 and Carson Schneekloth scored 8.3 to finish 11<sup>th</sup>. Clara Brinks scored 7.6 in her section debut, Blaskey scored 7.5 and Benda scored 7.3. Benda placed ninth in all-around with a score of 33.2. Blaskey scored 32.1 in all-around.

Abby Schneekloth said the section meet capped a great season for the Huskies.

"I am very proud of all the girls," Schneekloth said. "The girls improved so much throughout the season. Each one has something to be proud of."

## BBB: Huskies hang with Tigers, beat TCU

Continued from B1

Roman Voss led the offense with 21 points and added a team-high six steals. Voss also pulled down five rebounds, which matched Erik Hesebeck for the team lead.

Rogotzke scored 15 points and made a trio of 3-pointers. The lanky junior grabbed six rebounds and three steals to go with his two blocks.

Hesebeck added nine points and five steals to his five boards. Damien Phaly scored eight points to go with four steals and three assists.

Caleb Thurmer finished with six points and three assists and Christian Benda scored five points.

**Huskies hang with Tigers**  
Marshall has dominated



PHOTO BY DAN CONDON  
Damien Phaly goes in for a basket during last week's game against Marshall.

the series with JCC for more than a decade, but the Huskies put a scare in the Tigers last week.

JCC used a 9-0 run to lead 11-9 and trailed just 23-22 at the half before the Huskies outscored the Huskies 40-25 after the break.

Marshall led 9-2 before the Huskies went on their scoring streak, which started with a 3-pointer by Kaden Cother. Voss then pulled down an offensive rebound and scored before Phaly got a steal and basket to tie the game.

Rogotzke put the Huskies ahead with a basket, but the Tigers made 3-pointers on back-to-back trips to take a 15-11 lead.

That was a theme in the game as Marshall sank 10 3-pointers to just one for the Huskies.

The Tigers added another basket for a 17-11 lead and soon led 20-13 before the Huskies ended the half on a little run.

Voss and Hesebeck scored back-to-back baskets and Rogotzke later scored to cut the Tiger lead to 21-19.

After a Tiger basket, Rogotzke converted a three-point play to get the Huskies within one at the break.

Voss kept the Huskies within a point with a pair of free throws and a basket early in the second half, but the Tigers later went on a 7-0 run to lead 37-28.

A three-point play by Hesebeck and bucket by Rogotzke got the Huskies back within four. Rogotzke answered a Marshall basket with one of his own to keep the deficit at four, but the Tigers scored six straight points and JCC never got any closer than eight points the rest of the game.

Rogotzke had team highs in points (19) and rebounds (seven) and Voss added 10 points, six rebounds and four steals.

Hesebeck scored seven points to go with five rebounds and Bryson Powers grabbed four boards. Phaly dished out four assists and grabbed three rebounds and Cother scored five points.

#### Up next

The Huskies hosted Worthington Tuesday and host Luverne Friday night as part of Military Appreciation Night (see story to the left). The Huskies play at Blue Earth Area Saturday and New Ulm Tuesday to end the regular season.

#### Boys' basketball

JCC vs. Tri-City United

TCU	28	27	55
JCC	32	32	64

#### JCC (64)

Player	2	3	FT	PF	TP
Phaly	4	0	0	5	8
Voss	8	0	5	1	21
Rogotzke	2	3	2	4	15
Thurmer	2	0	2	0	6
Benda	1	1	0	2	5
Hesebeck	4	0	1	1	9
<b>Totals</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>64</b>

#### Tri-City United (55)

<b>Totals</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>55</b>
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#### Boys' basketball

JCC vs. Marshall

MAR	23	40	63
JCC	22	25	47

#### JCC (47)

Player	2	3	FT	PF	TP
Phaly	1	0	0	1	2
Voss	4	0	2	2	10
Rogotzke	8	0	3	2	19
Cother	1	1	0	1	5
Thurmer	1	0	0	1	2
Hesebeck	2	0	3	3	7
Powers	1	0	0	1	2
<b>Totals</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>47</b>

#### Marshall (63)

<b>Totals</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>63</b>
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## GBB: JCC tops MCW

Continued from B1

Those two are expected to get their points and Wenzel has now emerged as another serious scoring threat — even if she does it the hard way.

Wenzel scored 10 points in the win and was second on the team with seven rebounds.

"She's really been phenomenal lately," York said. "She's getting dump passes, she's grabbing offensive boards, she's getting to the line and making free throws at a better clip now."

York compares her to Alyssa Thomas of the WNBA's Connecticut Sun.

"I think I called her our Alyssa Thomas in a tweet once and I know like four people got that," he said. "She does the dirty work and that's what we need."

Rylie Cother nearly had her second triple-double of the season. She led the team with 10 rebounds and 10 assists and added seven points and four steals.

Destiny Timmer grabbed seven rebounds to match Wenzel. Emma Haren pulled down six boards and Georgianna Wenzel had five rebounds and four steals.

The Huskies dominated the boards, outrebounding the Mavs 51-38, including a 31-13 advantage on the offensive glass that led to a 17-7 advantage in second-chance points.

The Huskies also had 26 steals in the game. Their 37 total turnovers forced led to 36 points.

#### High-scoring Warriors win big over Huskies

Caledonia scored 49 points in the first half and didn't let up much the second half in a 90-54 win Saturday in Jackson. The Warriors led 49-34 at the half.

Farmer and Voss each scored 17 points, with Farmer finishing off a double-double by grabbing 10 rebounds. Voss racked up four rebounds, three assists and three steals.

Cother made it a trio of Huskies in double figures, finishing with 10 points to go with six rebounds and five assists.

Kylee Wenzel scored eight points and she, Haren, Timmer (three steals) and Georgianna Wenzel (two blocks) each had three rebounds.

The Huskies shot just 28.3 percent from the field in the game, going 14-for-41 on 2-point shots and 3-for-19 from 3-point range.

#### Huskies hang 53 in first half against TCU

JCC dominated TCU on the road this past Friday, scoring 53 first-half points en route to a 73-35 victory. The Huskies led 53-17 at the break.

Voss scored 31 points and added eight rebounds and five assists. Farmer finished with 17 points, seven assists, six rebounds and four steals.

Kylee Wenzel led the team with nine rebounds and six assists to go with her nine points. Cother had six points, three assists and four steals, while Georgianna Wenzel accumulated six points and three boards.

Madelyn Rowe had a career-high seven rebounds to go with four points and Haren pulled down three rebounds.

**Tigers are too tough**  
Marshall continued its dominance over the Huskies, winning 80-52 last Tuesday.

Voss scored 21 points



PHOTO BY DAN CONDON  
Destiny Timmer lunges for a rebound in Monday's win over Martin County West.

to lead the Huskies. She grabbed five rebounds and dished out three assists.

Kylee Wenzel scored 15 points to go with her team-leading nine rebounds. Farmer scored 10 points and had five boards.

Cother finished with six rebounds and five assists and Georgianna Wenzel had three assists.

#### Regular season ends Friday against Luverne

The Huskies host Luverne in the opener of a girl/boy doubleheader Friday. It's the final regular season game for the JCC girls and it's also Military Appreciation Night (see story to the left).

Section seeding will be

announced prior to the game (see brackets on jacksoncountypilot.com and lakefieldstandard.com when they're released) but York said that doesn't take away from the significance of the game.

More than anything, York said he wants maximum effort for a full 36 minutes as the Huskies gear up for the postseason.

"The big thing about this game with Luverne — obviously we want to win and we're going to prepare to win, but more than that, we tend to, when we lose, we lose big," he said. "I just want to come out, I want to get after it, I want to compete. We're going after the win, but I want to put out a good effort."

#### Girls' basketball

JCC vs. Martin Co. West

MCW	14	29	43
JCC	30	42	72

#### JCC (72)

Player	2	3	FT	PF	TP
Farmer	8	5	0	0	31
Voss	7	0	3	0	17
Cother	2	1	0	3	7
Haren	1	0	0	2	2
KWenzel	3	0	4	3	10
GWenzel	1	0	0	2	2
Timmer	1	0	0	2	2
Rowe	0	0	1	2	1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>72</b>

#### Marshall (43)

<b>Totals</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>43</b>
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#### Girls' basketball

JCC vs. Caledonia

CAL	49	41	90
JCC	34	20	54

#### JCC (54)

Player	2	3	FT	PF	TP
Farmer	5	1	4	0	17
Voss	4	1	6	2	17
Cother	2	1	3	2	10
KWenzel	2	0	4	8	8
Rowe	1	0	0	1	2
<b>Totals</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>54</b>

#### Caledonia (90)

<b>Totals</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>90</b>
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#### Girls' basketball

JCC at Tri-City United

JCC	53	20	73
TCU	17	18	35

#### JCC (73)

Player	2	3	FT	PF	TP
Farmer	3	2	5	1	17
Voss	13	1	2	2	31
Cother	2	0	2	2	6
KWenzel	4	0	1	2	9
GWenzel	2	0	2	6	6
Rowe	2	0	0	2	4
<b>Totals</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>73</b>

#### Tri-City United (35)

<b>Totals</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>35</b>
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#### Girls' basketball

JCC at Marshall

JCC	26	26	52
MAR	45	35	80

#### JCC (52)

Player	2	3	FT	PF	TP
Farmer	2	2	0	1	10
Voss	5	3	2	1	21
Cother	0	0	2	1	2
KWenzel	4	0	7	5	15
GWenzel	2	0	0	4	4
<b>Totals</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>52</b>

#### Marshall (80)

<b>Totals</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>80</b>
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## WR: No. 2 JCC beats No. 1 BBE

Continued from B1

could knock off highly-regarded wrestlers.

"I just wanted to get my first ranked win," he said. "Every ranked wrestler I've wrestled this year, I've lost in the end. I really wanted to get that first one to make it known that I can place at state this year."

Scholten is back on the mat after not going out for wrestling a year ago. He said the season off actually might have benefited him.

"I think it kind of helped me," he said. "I came into this year a lot stronger than I was my freshman year. I just had to get back in the groove, figure out the moves again – just get back into it. It didn't take too long."

Head coach Nate Hanson said Scholten's win was pretty impressive.

"Cameron wrestled a great match," he said. "That's one where they're probably thinking they'll get six and we get six. That

was no fluke, either. We were beating him at the time and he tried something in desperation at the end and it didn't work out and we pinned him."

The win could go a long way for Scholten and the Huskies should the teams meet again.

"I think it's a huge confidence builder, especially for Cameron, knowing he's already pinned the guy," Hanson said. "If we wrestle these guys again, it might be a little closer when they go out there, but they're going to have an uphill battle going against him."

### Huskies start strong

The Huskies won the first three matches of the dual to take a 16-0 lead, but it nearly didn't start quite that well.

Isaac Rodriguez nearly pinned Lucas Tensen in the first period at 106 pounds, but had to settle for a 5-0 first-period lead. Tensen

then nearly stuck Rodriguez early in the second period before Rodriguez got a reversal and pinned Tensen.

"I think 106 is a match they're probably thinking they can win and we're thinking we can win," Hanson said. "They were winning for a while and we were winning for a while. We ended up with a big pin there and that kind of energized the bench and got everything going."

Top-ranked Nolan Ambrose then won a 14-6 major decision over No. 10 Brett DeRoo. Ambrose led 7-1 after two periods and got three more takedowns in the third for a 13-4 lead. DeRoo got a reversal to cut the lead to just seven points – one short of a major decision – but Ambrose got an escape just before the period ended for the major.

No. 2 Kie Anderson then got a first-period pin at 120 pounds for JCC's 16-0 lead.

"I expected it to be closer than what it was coming out of the first three matches, but that was fun and exciting," Caleb Vancura said. "It sets the pressure. It really amplifies the hype and gets everybody on their feet and ready to go."

The Jaguars countered with wins from highly-ranked wrestlers in the next two matches, starting with a pin by No. 2 Ryan Jensen at 126 pounds. Top-ranked Walker Bents then beat No. 3 Logan Butzon 3-0 to cut JCC's lead to 16-9.

Thomas Freking got the Huskies back on track, getting a pin with just two seconds left in the first period at 138 pounds. Dylan Withers followed with a 2-1 victory at 145 pounds to give the Huskies a 25-9 lead midway through the dual.

Withers got a first-period takedown and led 2-0 until allowing an escape in the third. The JCC junior held on for the victory in what ended as the closest match of the night.

At 152 pounds, Isaiah Rodriguez lost a major decision, but that was considered a win for the Huskies as he was able to stay off his back against top-ranked Blaine Fischer.

"Isaiah did a great job," Hanson said. "That guy is ranked No. 1 and he's pinned about everybody. Isaiah wrestled probably one of the best matches of the dual and he got majored."

The win by BBE cut JCC's lead to 25-13, but the Huskies won the next four matches to seal the victory.



PHOTOS BY DAN CONDON

Will Freking works for a quick pin in last week's win over Tracy-Milroy-Balaton/Westbrook-Walnut Grove.

### Ranked wrestlers seal it

Handevitd started the string of wins with a victory in the third battle of ranked wrestlers, topping No. 5 Maximus Hanson 7-3. Handevitd, ranked No. 1, got a takedown each period and an escape in the second for the win.

Matt Haley followed with a dominant 16-1 technical fall at 170 pounds. Haley got three takedowns in the match, including the final one with just seconds left to secure the tech.

Third-ranked Vancura took the mat knowing a win over No. 7 Carson Gilbert would clinch the team victory, but that didn't change the way he wrestled.

"I just went out and there and competed like I always do," he said.

Neither wrestler scored in the first period, but Vancura said that was part of his plan when he's facing an opponent for the first time.

"First period I usually slow it down a little more than I usually do," he said. "Then once I get a feel for him, I just kind of go after it and start attacking and get to my stuff and do what I know."

Vancura gave up an escape in the second, but got a takedown to lead 2-1. In the third, he got an escape for a 3-1 lead and then sealed the match and dual victory with another takedown.

The win gave JCC a 36-13 lead, which grew quickly when William Freking got a pin in just 29 seconds at 195 pounds.

BBE got a pin at 220 pounds, but Hanson was pleased with the way Trace Michelson squared off against No. 9 Ethan Spanier.

Spanier led just 4-2 going to the third period before he pinned Michelson.

"Trace, when he got pinned, wrestled the guy to basically a decision," Hanson said. "Trace is really coming on strong."

He's really wrestling heard lately."

Scholten followed the BBE pin with one of his own to cap the dominant victory.

### Rematch coming?

JCC and BBE could meet again in the state tournament, and possibly the state finals.

Hanson said he made sure his team didn't get too overconfident after last week's win.

"I was honest with them," he said. "They had a guy out of their lineup. They could switch some things around and wrestle different guys. This time they tried to wrestle their best guy on our best guy and it didn't work out for them, so maybe next time they'll try it the other way and see if that works for them."

"We pretty much have to know they're going to make moves because this was probably a preview of the state championship," Scholten said. "They're probably going to make a lot of moves to try to find a way to beat us, so we're really going to have to keep doing what we're doing."

Vancura said he expects the Huskies to win again should there be a rematch. "We know what we're capable of and what we can do in the future," he said. "It's going to be fun in the state tournament."

### Huskies dominate quad

The Huskies wrestled three opponents in a quadrangular last Thursday night in Jackson.

The combined score: JCC 211, Opponents 9.

The Huskies beat Madelia/Truman/Martin Luther 83-0 and Red Rock Central 71-0 before topping Tracy-Milroy-Balaton/Westbrook-Walnut Grove 57-9.

Along with the team success, a pair of individuals had highlight nights. Nolan Ambrose got the 100th win of his career with a for-

feit against M/T/ML and Logan Butzon broke the school record for career takedowns in the win over TMB/WWG. He's now at 728, putting him ahead of Matt Kraft's 725.

Kie Anderson, Landon Andrews, Thomas Freking and Dylan Withers got pins against M/T/ML and Ambrose, Butzon, Skyler Andrews, Payton Handevitd, Matt Haley, Caleb Vancura, Will Freking, Trace Michelson and Cameron Scholten received forfeits. Isaac Rodriguez won a technical fall.

Landon Andrews, Thomas Freking, Withers, Clay Malchow, Vancura and Michelson got pins against RRC and Ambrose, Anderson, Handevitd and Will Freking received forfeits. Butzon won a technical fall and Haley and Scholten won decisions.

Haley's win came in a battle of ranked wrestlers as eighth-ranked Haley topped 10th-ranked Vander Mathiowetz 6-3.

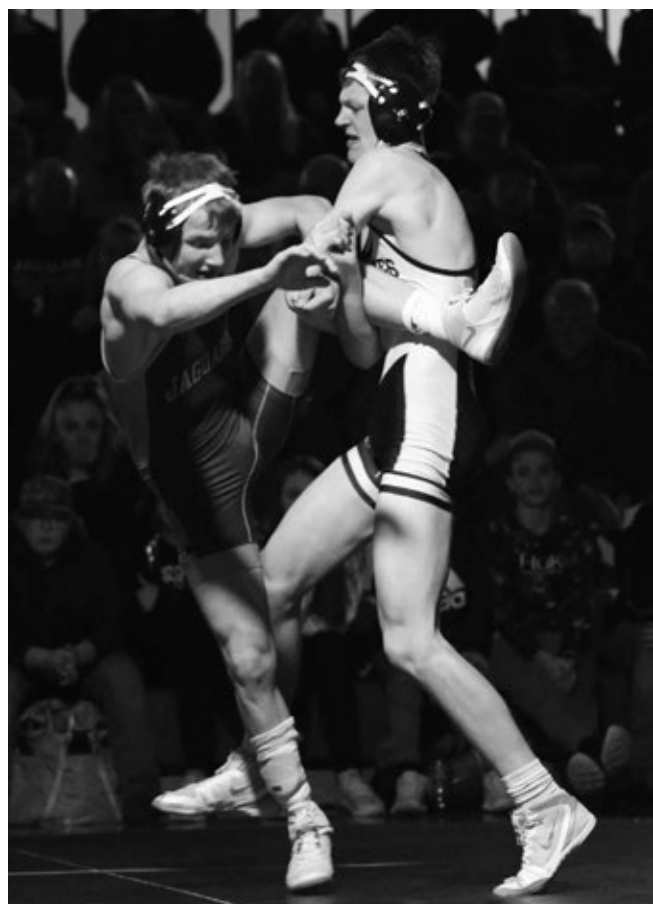
Against TMB/WWG, Ambrose, Butzon, Andrew Boyum, Thomas Freking, Withers, Handevitd, Vancura and Will Freking got pins. Anderson, Michelson and Scholten each won decisions.

Second-ranked Anderson beat third-ranked Devin Carter 7-4 at 126 pounds. Carter led 4-1 after the first period, but Anderson got an escape and takedown in the second to tie the match, then three near-fall points late in the third for the comeback victory.

Michelson also beat a ranked opponent, topping No. 6 Travis Willhite 8-7. Michelson led 5-1 after two periods and 8-4 in the third before Willhite scored three points late in the match.

### Up next

The Huskies open the Section 3A tournament tonight (Thursday) at home (see preview below).



Dylan Withers gets a takedown in a 2-1 victory in last week's win over Belgrade-Brooten-Elrosa.

### JCC wrestling

#### JCC 48, BBE 19

106	Isaac Rodriguez (JCC) fall (3:36)	Tensen	6-0
113	Ambrose (JCC) maj. (14-6)	DeRoo	10-0
120	Anderson (JCC) fall (1:32)	Mueller	16-0
126	Jensen (BBE) fall (1:18)	L. Andrews	16-6
132	Bents (BBE) dec. (3-0)	Butzon	16-9
138	T. Freking (JCC) fall (1:55)	Engen	22-9
145	Withers (JCC) dec. (2-1)	Viessman	25-9
152	Fischer (BBE) maj. (11-1)	Isaiah Rodriguez	25-13
160	Handevitd (JCC) dec. (7-3)	Hanson	28-13
170	Haley (JCC) tech. (16-1)	Young	33-13
182	Vancura (JCC) dec. (5-1)	Gilbert	36-13
195	W. Freking (JCC) fall (:39)	Kampsen	42-13
220	Spanier (BBE) fall (4:58)	Michelson	42-19
285	Scholten (JCC) fall (5:25)	Feuerhake	48-19

### JCC wrestling

#### JCC 57, TMB/WWG 9

106	Carlson (TMB) dec. (7-2)	Isaac Rodriguez	0-3
113	Ambrose (JCC) fall (:59)	Marten	6-3
120	D. Schuh (TMB) dec. (11-4)	Dahlin	6-6
126	Anderson (JCC) dec. (7-4)	Carter	9-6
132	Butzon (JCC) fall (2:59)	Swanson	15-6
138	Boyum (JCC) fall (2:55)	Ankrum	21-6
145	T. Freking (JCC) fall (3:24)	Struchen	27-6
152	Withers (JCC) fall (1:12)	Squires	33-6
160	Handevitd (JCC) fall (:19)	Crumrine	39-6
170	Johnson (TMB) dec. (3-2)	Haley	39-9
182	Vancura (JCC) fall (1:07)	Timm	45-9
195	W. Freking (JCC) fall (:17)	Edwards	51-9
220	Michelson (JCC) dec. (8-7)	T. Willhite	54-9
285	Scholten (JCC) dec. (5-0)	N. Willhite	57-9

### JCC wrestling

#### JCC 71, RRC 0

106	Double forfeit		0-0
113	Ambrose (JCC) forfeit		6-0
120	Anderson (JCC) forfeit		12-0
126	L. Andrews (JCC) fall (1:14)	Bartholomaus	18-0
132	Butzon (JCC) tech. (23-8)	Zimmermann	23-0
138	T. Freking (JCC) fall (1:33)	Beranek	29-0
145	Withers (JCC) fall (1:09)	Pankonin	35-0
152	Malchow (JCC) fall (9:44)	Amsden	41-0
160	Handevitd (JCC) forfeit		47-0
170	Haley (JCC) dec. (6-3)	Mathiowetz	50-0
182	Vancura (JCC) fall (:36)	Cowan	56-0
195	W. Freking (JCC) forfeit		62-0
220	Michelson (JCC) fall (1:12)	Skarupa	68-0
285	Scholten (JCC) dec. (7-1)	Hesse	71-0

### JCC wrestling

#### JCC 83, M/T/ML 0

106	Isaac Rodriguez (JCC) tech. (18-2)	Davila	5-0
113	Ambrose (JCC) forfeit		11-0
120	Anderson (JCC) fall (:35)	Flores-Lemus	17-0
126	L. Andrews (JCC) fall (1:05)	Firchau	23-0
132	Butzon (JCC) forfeit		29-0
138	T. Freking (JCC) fall (1:16)	Wilde	35-0
145	Withers (JCC) fall (1:09)	Arroyo	41-0
152	S. Andrews (JCC) forfeit		47-0
160	Handevitd (JCC) forfeit		53-0
170	Haley (JCC) forfeit		59-0
182	Vancura (JCC) forfeit		65-0
195	W. Freking (JCC) forfeit		71-0
220	Michelson (JCC) forfeit		76-0
285	Scholten (JCC) forfeit		83-0

## Huskies start trek toward state tonight

by DAN CONDON  
Sports Editor

The Jackson County Central wrestling team is the No. 1 seed in the Section 3A tournament and the overwhelming favorite to earn a trip to state.

JCC enters the postseason with an 18-3 record, with all three losses coming on the same day to highly-ranked teams at The Clash National Duals.

The latest win for JCC was a 48-19 victory over Belgrade-Brooten-Elrosa this past Friday in a battle of the first- and second-ranked teams in Class A.

Those two teams could meet again in the state championship match, but first need to get there.

The Huskies open the postseason tonight (Thursday) against either No. 8 St. James or No. 9 Springfield. Those two teams wrestle

at 6 p.m., with the winner facing the Huskies 30 minutes after the conclusion of that dual.

In other quarterfinal matchups, No. 2 Adrian faces either No. 7 Wabasso or No. 10 Luverne, No. 3 Tracy-Milroy-Balaton/Westbrook-Walnut Grove faces No. 6 Red Rock Central and No. 4 Pipestone hosts No. 5 Fulda/Murray County Central.

The semifinals take place at 12:30 p.m. Saturday in Slayton, with the championship match at 2:30.

JCC is 6-0 against section teams, having topped Adrian 60-12, TMB/WWG 57-9, Pipestone 56-18, RRC 71-0, Wabasso 67-6 and Luverne 79-0.

Head coach Nate Hanson said the Huskies are excited to get going in the postseason.

"They're wrestling really well," he said. "They've been wrestling really well all year. I don't think

they've let up at all. They're really ready to go."

He said as long as the Huskies wrestle to their full potential, they'll be holding the championship trophy Saturday afternoon.

"I think we need to show up and wrestle like we have been and the results will take care of themselves," he said. "If we show up and wrestle like we have been, we'll be just fine in the section."

Junior Cameron Scholten, who pinned 10<sup>th</sup>-ranked Bryce Feuerhake to finish off the BBE win, said he thinks the Huskies will be tough to be all post-season.

"We're all wrestling very well," he said. "If we keep doing this, I don't think anybody's going to be able to stop us."



PHOTO BY DAN CONDON

Logan Butzon takes down Zach Swanson during a match in which he broke the Jackson County record for career takedowns.

## Butzon breaks record for takedowns

Jackson County Central junior Logan Butzon broke the Jackson County record for career takedowns last week.

Butzon entered the night with 709 career takedowns to trail Matt Kraft's record of 725. He got 11 in a dominant win against Red Rock Central and then broke the record against Tracy-Milroy-Balaton/Westbrook-Walnut Grove.

Butzon took down Zach

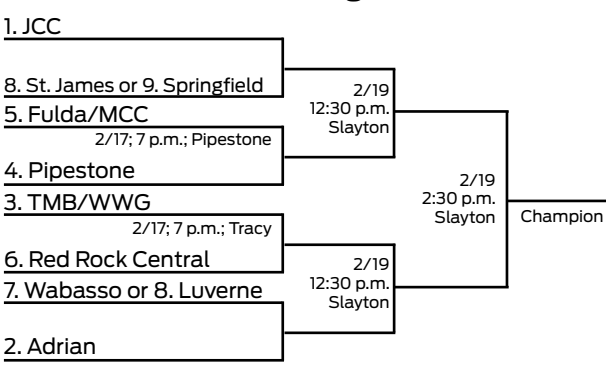
Swanson eight times before getting a pin.

Butzon now has 728 career takedowns with more than a full season left in his career.

### County career takedown leaders

1.	Logan Butzon	728
2.	Matt Kraft	725
3.	Keegan Moore	633
4.	Nate Hanson	654
5.	Paden Moore	646

### Section 3A wrestling tournament



## Commissioners to interview attorney applicant

by JOSHUA SCHUETZ  
Staff Writer

Jackson County Commissioners on Tuesday discussed how best to move forward with the replacement of former Jackson County Attorney Tom Prochazka.

The application period for the position ended this week, with only one application submitted to the county.

"Ideally, we'd like to have someone in here before the filing period ends, which is May 31, which is three months out yet,"

Krosch said. "They need to be a resident 60 days before the election."

Krosch said elected positions are generally harder to fill than non-elected positions, because a candidate can be hired and then lose an election, thereby losing employment. With only one applicant, an option presented to the board was to extend the application period by another two weeks.

Commissioner Phil Nasby said the applicant is qualified and expressed concern about potentially losing that applicant if the process is extended by an additional two weeks.

"You would hope they'd understand that we want to have a bigger pool of applicants," Nasby said, "but I would take that as, 'Well, they don't think I'm good enough.'"

The board elected to interview the current applicant and, if unsatisfied, to reopen the application process.

In other board news:

### BOARD CREATES NEW COMMITTEE

The board approved the creation of a broadband committee to study and assist with the development of rural broadband projects in the county.

The idea was discussed at the previous board meeting, with board Nasby and fellow board member Jim Eigenberg volunteering for the committee. The board approved both the creation of the committee and the appointment of Eigenberg and Nasby to it.

### RASCHE LANDS REAPPOINTMENT

The board approved the reappointment of Heron Lake Watershed District Board Manager Wayne Rasche to his position.

No other letters of interest were submitted to the board.

Rasche will serve a three-year term in the position.

### BOARD APPROVES BUDGET, LEASE

Fort Belmont President Ken Kruse appeared before the board to provide the 2021 annual report and 2022 budget.

The fort recorded a loss of \$1,632.52 last year.

Kruse said the fort had a muted year due to ongoing effects from the COVID-19 pandemic, which led to the cancellation of the fort's spring fundraiser. The Worship, Word and Watermelon summer series was also canceled due to both the pandemic and an ongoing shortage of ministers. Group tours still happened, with the fort tallying 1,588 visitors from 38 states and six foreign countries. The Rhythm of the River music festival was shortened to only one day due to the pandemic.

Kruse said what helped the fort keep on track was the Harvest Hosts program, which allows RVers to reserve a spot at the fort to park for the night. The program encourages people to do \$20 worth of business at the location and Kruse said the fort has become a popular destination for vacationing families, with 113 stays in 2021.

Kruse said the fort's biggest challenge moving forward is finding volunteer help, as its current volunteer base is aging.

The board approved the fort's budget and annual lease.

## Local, area anglers win prizes at tourney

Several local and area anglers took home prizes from the Heron Lake Young Men's Club's annual ice fishing tournament this past Saturday.

Kevin Ahrens of Jackson won an ice fishing house, Jason Colby of Brewster won a new all-terrain vehicle, Greg Mckullip won a shotgun, Kaden Reerink won a generator, Austin Milbrath of Okabena won a thermal ice shelter and Luke Henkels of Heron Lake won an ice auger.

Misty Tscherter of Brewster won original artwork by Travis Untiedt, Chad Buchert of Marshall won a fish camera, Ronda Drexler of Lakefield won a gift card, Jason DeWall of Windom and Jerry Haberman of Heron Lake each won a half-hog, T.J. Tiesler of North Mankato won \$250 cash and Dave Frodermann of Okabena won a rifle with a scope.

Huntley Rogers of Lakefield and Harold Holmanev of Mankato each won a quarter-beef, Troy Aljets of Brewster won a new rifle, Kathy Kalfs won a parka and bibs, Kelly Brown of Westbrook won a bison bundle, Tom Benson of Windom won a rifle with scope and Brock Schultz of Spirit Lake, Iowa, won an electric ice auger.

Zachary Neal of Jackson won a rifle, Philip Cenzano of Windom won a gift card,

Joe Koch of Heron Lake won a car detailing package, Laura Comee of St. Louis Park won a snow blower, Jared Bakalyar won a fish house dolly, Shelly Mortenson won a heater, Don Sandbo of Butterfield won a rifle, Dana Schmid won \$250 cash and Jill Liepold of Okabena won a 55-inch TV.

Chad Petersen of Okabena won an electric ice auger, Ethan Gibson of Le Center won a youth shotgun, Drysten Freking of Heron Lake won a lithium sonar flasher, Leon Bullerman of Adrian won a gift card, Robert Lenort of Fairmont won \$200 cash and Dave Holinka won \$200 cash.

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## Senior Scene

# Shipped-meal service growing in popularity

by JOSHUA SCHUETZ  
Staff Writer

Officials with Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota are spreading the word about a service they hope will prove useful to seniors in the Jackson County area and beyond.

The organization, which runs home-delivered meals and senior dining pro-

grams throughout the state — including in Jackson County — has phased in a meal shipping service.

"We know Jackson County has a very high senior population and, while we do meals on wheels, there are a lot of people we can't reach because of route limitations and a limited number of volunteers," said LSS Meal Services

Director Kristin Quenzer. "With this option, people can order frozen meals that will be mailed to their doors."

The service is geared toward providing one- or two-weeks' worth of meals for those who need them. Quenzer said the program accepts elder and disability waivers, as well as Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits, making the service more acces-



Kristin Quenzer

sible to low-income people.

First phased in three years ago in just a few communities, Quenzer said the delivery service was more successful than expected, with numbers seeing a major increase once the COVID-19 pandemic began in 2020.

"The first year, we expected to ship 300 and we

ended up shipping more than 3,000," Quenzer said.

"It came to Jackson during the start of the pandemic and the feedback has been great so far."

Jackson County has added plenty of new diners itself. Quenzer said 48 new diners signed up for LSS programs in the city of

Jackson alone. Countywide numbers were not available, but she said she's seen an increase in need in Lakefield and in rural parts of the county as well.

"With COVID, we saw a 40 percent increase in new diners across the state and that was consistent across most of our counties," Quenzer said. "We have changed some things as we've gotten feedback from our diners, like increasing the number of breakfast options available."

All meals are made at LSS meal sites and frozen, so they're similar to what recipients of home-delivered meals receive. People can order meals by calling the organization's main line at 1-800-582-5260. LSS is also planning to roll out an e-commerce website to allow for online purchases, though Quenzer didn't say when that is expected to be available. Each meal includes an entrée and sides, along with a dessert.

"Right now, they can call us on our main line, and we will walk them through the process," Quenzer said. "We do allow people to get samples so they can see what the meals are like, and we have customer service representatives who will call them and help them get set up with the program."

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SUBMITTED PHOTO

Anna (from left), Eli and Sarah Hedstrom, all members of Jackson County Central's speech team, show off their awards from the Feb. 12 Worthington meet, their first of the season.

## Speech team sees early success as it rebuilds

by JOSHUA SCHUETZ  
Staff Writer

Jackson County Central's speech team is off to a solid start to the 2022 season, with team members notching placings in their first two meets.

At the most recent meet in Worthington, which took place on Feb. 12, Anna Hedstrom won first place in the category of informative speaking, with Eli Hedstrom and Sarah Hedstrom netting third and fourth place for original oratory and storytelling, respectively.

Coach Renea Hemingway said the team, which includes everyone from sixth-graders to seniors, was in tough shape when the COVID-19 pandemic hit, with a season being canceled and only one student going out for speech when things went virtual.

"COVID was very challenging for us," she said. "Even this year, I didn't know how much recruiting I should do because I didn't know if we'd have in-person meets or not."

Students can choose any of 13 categories to compete in, ranging from humor to serious drama; some categories are interpretive, in which a student must recite a piece of existing literature, like a passage from Shakespeare, while others are creative, which means students have to write their own speeches.

The current roster consists of Victoria Murdock, Eli Hedstrom, Selma Almodovar, Sarah Hedstrom, Anna Hedstrom and sixth-grader Emma McKimmey. "I like to say that we're small but mighty," Hemingway said. "Our kids do a great job."

Hemingway said the team has a weekend off before another major meet on Feb. 26. After that, team members will go to Marshall twice.

"The second time will be for the Big South Tournament," Hemingway said. "Subsections will start on March 29."

Hemingway said stu-

dents who go out for speech get the opportunity to enjoy time with friends and develop new relationships with students from other schools, along with building skills that will last them a lifetime.

She pointed to a need for better communication skills, poise and confidence among youth, noting speech helps develop those skills through repetition and practice.

"One of the kids' favorite things is the social, because you get to know the other people in your section from different schools," Hemingway said. "One thing employers are looking for is confidence and communication skills, and speech really helps you build those skills over time."

It's a particularly good fit for students who want a flexible activity or are balancing various extracurricular activities, she said.

"You can sign up for which meets you want to go to, and that helps our students who are balancing different activities," Hemingway said. "An example of is that is Victoria's in swimming, so she hasn't been able to be at our first two meets because she's competing in subsections."

Hemingway said she loves working with her students and encouraged kids who are interested in speech to give it a try, adding it's a worthwhile investment into a skill that can bring dividends far into the future.

"I love everything about working with the kids on the team, and I've had students who went out their senior year and said they wished they'd gone out for it earlier," she said. "I've never had a student who didn't feel they benefitted from it in some way."

## Middle school band, choir to perform Tuesday

by JOSHUA SCHUETZ  
Staff Writer

The Jackson County Central Middle School band and choir will hit the stage Tuesday, performing a slate of pieces for parents, teachers, family, friends and the broader community.

JCC Choir Director Lori Grote said the sixth-grade choir will kick off with three pieces, including "The One Minute Home on the Range" and "The Rhythm of the Rain."

"They're really having fun with that one," Grote said of the latter. "We're actually going to use rain sticks with that piece."

The seventh- and eighth-grade choir will also perform three pieces.

"We're doing 'Rhythm of Life,' and they're not quite ready, but they will be by the time we perform," Grote said.

Also on tap are "Witness," a spiritual song, and "From the Melody Within," from the movie, "Rigoletto." The latter will feature a group of girls performing the song in sign language, Grote said.

Band director Erica Colby said her students have a full lineup as well, with the students having a few particular favorites in the grouping.

"The sixth-grade band

is playing 'Banana Boat,' 'Indigo Rock,' 'Along Came a Spider' and 'Resolution,' while the seventh- and eighth-grade band is playing 'Slinky,' 'Fear-some Creatures' and 'Fire Dance,'" she said. "The sixth-graders love 'Resolution' and the seventh- and eighth-graders really enjoy 'Slinky.'"

"Resolution" challenged the sixth-graders most, Colby said, while "Fire Dance" gave the seventh- and eighth-graders a run for their money.

"It took them awhile to get into that one," Colby said of the latter, "but once they worked through the difficult parts, they really

### If you go...

**What:** Band and choir concert  
**When:** Tuesday, Feb. 22, 7 p.m.  
**Where:** JCC Middle School, Lakefield

got into it."

For Colby, seeing her students master their pieces and improve their musical skills is the most rewarding part of every concert.

"It's fun to hear the kids learn and grow," she said.

The concert will begin at 7 p.m. in the JCC Middle School Auditorium in Lakefield. The public is welcome to attend.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

## FFA ACHEIVERS

Above: Jackson County Central FFA members in line to receive their state degrees in April following successful interviews last week in Westbrook include (front, from left): Molly Turner, Maia Reed, Alana Freking and Payten Benda. Back: Keenan Ambrose, Zach Rasmussen, Kade Ziska and Dylan Withers. Right: JCC FFA member Taryn Lessman (center) is the newly elected sentinel of Region VI of the Minnesota FFA Association. Lessman was elected to the post following interviews last week in Westbrook. Among the interviewees were local voting delegates Brixton Hillmer (left) and Rachel Tusa.



## JCC High School students named to honor rolls

Jackson County Central High School students have been named to the A and B honor rolls following the completion of the last semester.

Those named to the A honor roll include the following:

Twelfth grade: Olivia Anderson, Olivia Blaskey, Austin Braun, Alexander Busch, Trevor Christensen, Bryna Jackson Croatt, Emma DiBrito, Tanner Haar, Payton Handevit, Evan Insichienmay, Kayle Kunerth, Trace Michelson, Ella Mulder, Damien Phaly, Taylor Post, Zachary Rasmussen, Maia Reed, Trinity Schultz, Daniel Stubbe, Destiny Timmer, Paul Troe, Molly Turner, Lucas Vese, Charles Wagner and Georgianna Wenzel.

Eleventh grade: Kristofer Altman, Pay-

ten Benda, Matthew Haley, Peyton Hanson, Lucia Lopez Medina, Helena Meium-Bratrud, Lillian Mohning, Romona Ontiri, Noah Orlikowski, Ryne Pauling, Jakob Rasmussen, Brooklyn Stenzel, Caleb Thurmer, Dylan Withers and Gabriel Wolff.

Tenth grade: Nolan Ambrose, Alex Baez, Emily Blaskey, Ava Brinkman, Juleah Brinks, Mason Eicholz, Aubree Eller, Sawyer Flatgard, Emma Haren, Brixton Hillmer, Aidan Hunt, Taryn Lessman, Elise Paplow, Myles Sathoff, Noah Thompson, Caden Thurmer, Andaysia Tomlin and Addisen Vee.

Ninth grade: Brylee Anderson, Sylvia Chapman-Nesseth, Isabella Costello, Grant Freking, Tyler Hall, Erica Hanson, Samantha Henning, Lily Johnson, Quinn Landherr, Thomas Liepold, Alexander Mohning, Rachel Mohr, Kayleigh Nusbush, Teja Nugent, Astrid Olsem, Bailee Pohlman, McKade Tewes and Willow Thiner, Kylie Zishka.

Those named to the B honor roll include the following:

Twelfth grade: Reese Adkins, Nathaniel Ander-

son, Shaun Anderson, Andrew Boyum, Ronald Clymer, Kaden Cocher, Shirley Forcillo, Alana Freking, William Freking, Carter Henning, Josefia Hermand, Avery Jensen, Cailyn Kolander, Claire Kolander, Macy Kolander, Levi Lindley, Austin Neugebauer, Sydney Osterberg, Gabriel Phillips, Annika Riemer, Caleb Rubitsch, Carson Schneckloth, Isaac Somnis, Meta Tewes, Ridge VanWesten, Sadie Voss, Julia Weigert, Heather Willemsen and Audien Ybarra-Kraft.

Eleventh grade: Sarah Anderson, Sydney Anderson, Brittany Arduser, Andria Benson, Lillian Blackmore, Ashlyn Bohl, Emma Boots, Logan Butzon, JC Chanthalangsy, Paige Duncan, Maci Farmer, Thomas Freking, Erin Gallagher, Chase Hamlett, Tyler Hendricks, Emma Hendrickson, Alyssa Hilppre, Makayla Hotzler, Zachary Jimenez, Carter Johnson, Cole Johnson, Erin Klansen, Elsa-Marie Landherr, Mikayla Manzke, Lillian Martens, Brigan McCarthy, Joseph Mohr, Alexis O'Reilly, Braxton Pavelko, Alli Pohlman, Morgan Preuss, Parker Rizzi, Brianne

Ruiz, Lillian Sexton, Trace Shover, Rachel Tusa, Haylee Untiedt, Shala Voehl and Wyatt Wenzel.

Tenth grade: Luke Anderson, Emily Beckel, Megan Benson, Braxton Berkner, Joshua Clymer, Sophia Duncan, Braeden Erickson, Kailey Fricke, Kasey Grimmus, Hannah Hash, Kira Nelson, Evan Paplow, Bryson Powers, Kennedy Praska, Jack Sadowsky, Benjamin Spaeth, Aubree Tidyman, Dalton Todd, Mariah Vancura, Braeydan Winter and Elena Winter.

Ninth grade: Chase Adkins, Miles Allen, Braeden Arduser, Brendan Blackmore, Morgan Christensen, Rylie Cocher, Alyssa Earhart, Jamie Edlin, Aiven Farmer, Alexa Gonzales, Izabella Grein, Kendra Haar, Ryan Haley, Kazia Hassing, Mia Hendrickson, Dylan Hilppre, Lauren Johnson, Rece Johnson, Kash Luebber, Alyssia Marshall, Adrianna Powers, Eden Ramos, Romi Rosenbrook, Raeanna Rossow, Xander Schulz, Saige Theobald, Kyra Kiri Timmerman, Ian Titterington, Tianna Uilk, Keyira Wagner, Kylee Wenzel and Micah Worthington.

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PHOTOS BY JUSTIN LESSMAN

### FULL-RIDE SURPRISE

Left: Matt Suby, director of admissions at Southwest Minnesota State University, surprises Jackson County Central High School senior Olivia Blaskey with a full-ride scholarship to SMSU on Tuesday in Jackson. Above: Charlotte Wahle (left), admissions counselor at SMSU, and Suby congratulate Blaskey for earning a full-ride scholarship to SMSU.



## Local teens, parents invited to free Friday presentation

Local teenagers and their parents are encouraged to attend a presentation by motivational speaker Cory Greenwood this Friday in Jackson.

The presentation, titled "Your Story Matters," begins at 5:30 p.m. at the Jackson County Central Performing Arts Center in Jackson.

Greenwood seeks to empower and encourage youth to rise above

their current circumstances. He said teens who attend the presentation will leave with a renewed self-image and the resilience to handle adversity and bullying, feel empowered to take responsibility for solutions and be part of creating a more positive and caring culture.

The presentation is free and open to all. It is funded by the Minnesota Department of Human Services-Behavioral Health Division.

### If you go...

**What:** Free presentation  
**When:** Friday, Feb. 18, 5:30 p.m.  
**Where:** JCC Performing Arts Center, Jackson



**YOUR STORY MATTERS**

**CORY GREENWOOD**  
MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER

Tackling Tough Subjects.  
Inspiring Healthy Conversations.

Studies show that suicide among youth is at an all-time high. Teens are struggling to find a sense of belonging. Now, more than ever, it is so vitally important to empower and encourage our youth to rise above their current circumstances.

Friday  
**2.18.22**  
 5:30 PM  
 JCC HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

**You can be part of the solution!**  
 Attend this program with teens you care about. After it they will:  
 Have a renewed self-image and the resilience to handle adversity and bullying.  
 Feel empowered to take responsibility for the solution instead of focusing on the problem.  
 Be part of creating a more positive and caring culture.

**Free and open to all. Come hear the powerful truth - Your Story Matters!**

Funded by Minnesota Department of Human Services-Behavioral Health Division • Flyer produced by Studio 77 Designs

## Lifeguard Course

AT THE JACKSON INDOOR POOL

March 18, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm  
 March 19, 8:00 am - Finished  
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# NATIONAL FFA WEEK

February 19-26, 2022

## A SALUTE TO THE JCC AND HL-O FFA CHAPTERS



Members of the Jackson County Central FFA Chapter include (front, from left): Kie Anderson, Taryn Lessman, Meta Tewes, Payten Benda and Rachel Tusa. Second row: Landin Warmka, Zach Rasmussen, Trace Michelson, Carter Henning, Reese Adkins, Clayton Cavness, Maia Reed, Carson Schneekloth, Callyn Kolander and Claire Kolander. Third row: Keenan Ambrose, Kayleigh Nosbusch, Kylee Wenzel, Megan Benson, Andria Benson, Alexis O'Reilly, Sadie Voss, Sarah Anderson, Alana Freking and Molly Turner. Fourth row: Tyler Hall, Georgiana Wenzel, Dylan Withers, Aubree Eller, Brittany Arduser, Skylar Andrews, Helena Meium-Bratrud, Ashlyn Bohl, Carter Johnson and Kade Tewes. Fifth row: Lily Mohning, Destiny Timmer, Brixton Hillmer, Mason Eicholz, Noah Thompson, Landon Andrews, Nolan Ambrose, Josh Clymer, Kiara Hunt and Mackenzie Roland. Sixth row: Tanner Nelson, Braeden Arduser, Clay Malchow, Grant Freking, Trey Rossow, Caleb Vancura, Brett Rossow, Cael Johnson, Nicolas Peterson and Isaiah Cihak. Seventh row: Michael Hock, Michael Hansen, Sulaimon Olaosebikan, Aiven Farmer, Kash Luebben, Alex Mohning, Kade Zishka, Caleb Rubitschung, Isaac Somnis and Sylvia Chapman-Neseth. Eighth row: Braeden Erickson, Chase Adkins, Gavin Gillum, Tianna Uilk, Raeanna Rossow, Montana Gilbert, Ian Titterington, Thomas Sether, Rece Johnson, Akiya Carblom and Reese Anderson. Back: Liz Skrove, Rachel Mohr, Jamie Edlin, Kylie Zishka, Lily Johnson, Samantha Henning, Kendal Krumwiede, Wyatt Wenzel, Alexa Gonzales, Alyssa Earhart and Willow Thiner.



Members of the Heron Lake-Okabena FFA Chapter include (front, from left): Hunter Edwards, Trevor King, Kalen McNab, Evan Madsen, Madelyn Koep, Marena Bang and Ellyson Bang. Second row: Anna Fest, Madelyn Schumacher, Skyler Fisher, Brooke Rossow, Logan Hattendorf, Tim Salentiny, Thomas Bartosh and Gavin Freking. Third row: Ally Kilker, TJ Ostrem, Alison Fest, Cheyleigh Schaffer, Isanubis Calderon, Timmy Zuehlke and Jacob Zuehlke. Fourth row: Sofya Vasquez, Ellie Rasche, McKenzie Ehlers, Shelby Milbrath, JoJo Elston, Joseph Bartosh, Caleb Eigenburg and Tayvin Wegner. Back: Avery Janssen, Alexis Haberman, Ashlyn Koch, Addison Schumacher, Lydia Fest, Joshua Eigenburg and Nathan Madsen. Missing: Kamryn Beckmann, Faith Freking, Zach Haberman, Chace Harms, Nevaeh Isder, Ryan Kilian and Peyton Madsen.



**Name: Meta Tewes**  
**Office: President**  
**Grade: 12**

**Other offices/activities in FFA?**

I am currently involved in the farm management career development event and have previously been involved with the small animals and livestock judging CDE. I also have several supervised agricultural experiences. These include my job at Sunshine Foods and Kat's Hog Heaven. I also am growing my own herd of sheep and cattle. I am most proud of my sheep herd because I have won several state titles for the quality of lambs I produce at the Minnesota State Fair. Through my SAEs, I have received my State FFA Degree, which requires me to earn \$2,000, have volunteered more than 25 hours and have participated in 10 different activities past the chapter level. I am currently aiming for my American FFA Degree, which I would receive when I am in college.

**Why did you join FFA?**

I have a very rich agricultural background, so it just made sense for me to join FFA. Showing sheep ever since I was young and cattle since the seventh grade, I just felt it would be something I enjoyed. My friends were also in it and my dad is an FFA alumnus.

**What do you like most about FFA?**

There are many parts of FFA I like. Some include "Farm 2 School" lessons, showing at the Minnesota State Fair and competing in different CDEs. When I ran for president last year, one way I wanted to improve our chapter was to bring back the "Farm 2 School" lessons since we could not do them during the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. I have made a lesson on Christmas trees for first-graders, a popcorn lesson for second-graders and a flower lesson for preschoolers. I really enjoyed making them and setting everything up for them. It just made me so happy when a little first-grader said, "This is the best day ever!" while learning about Christmas trees. Overall, I really enjoy advocating and talking to others about different agricultural topics.

**How has FFA helped you grow as a person?**

FFA has helped me grow a lot as a person. I have gained many skills, including determination and time management. I do believe the biggest way FFA has affected me is when I became an officer. When I became an officer, I really learned how leadership and communication are essential to running a team. You need to have a leader; otherwise, you might just be running in a circle and not get anything done. I believe good communication skills are some of the hardest skills to develop.

**What advice would you give to younger students?**

If you are debating joining FFA, just do it; you have nothing to lose. If you cannot find anything that interests you, there is always a way out. There are also people who are in FFA who live in town; it is not just for farmers. Another piece of advice I would like to give to younger students is you might fail again and again, but do not quit. Work as hard as you can to get to where you want to be and keep improving.

**What are your plans for the future?**

I am currently undecided about where I want to go to college, but I am going to major in agriculture education and minor in animal science.



**Name: Taryn Lessman**  
**Office: Reporter**  
**Grade: 10**

**Other offices/activities in FFA?**

Last year, I competed on the best-informed greenhand team and conduct of chapter meetings team and served as the chapter's creed speaker. This year, I am involved with prepared public speaking and the floriculture team.

**Why did you join FFA?**

I joined FFA because my dad always told me stories about his experiences in FFA, and I wanted to experience all of it myself.

**What do you like most about FFA?**

My favorite part of FFA is our chapter's meetings. It's a great way to spend time with the people in FFA in our chapter and we always have a super fun time. We have a different activity every month and this year we've been having a lot of really fun activities.

**How has FFA helped you grow as a person?**

FFA has helped me step out of my comfort zone in a million ways. Before I started FFA, I never would have thought I would be at the national convention talking to complete strangers. I never would have thought I would be an officer for our chapter. I competed in creed speaking and conduct of chapter meetings my freshman year, both things that were way outside my comfort zone, but I tried them and ended up enjoying them.

**What advice would you give to younger students?**

If you think something sounds fun, just go for it! Over the past few years, I've joined what seems like a million extracurricular activities, mostly just because they sounded interesting. It's led to some pretty crazy weeks and some late nights and early mornings, but I've enjoyed every minute. So, joining the crops team sounds fun? Go for it! You want to apply for an FFA office? Go for it! You'll never know if you don't try.

**What are your plans for the future?**

I plan on going to college and getting a degree in biochemistry and working as a plant geneticist.



**Name: Rachel Tusa**  
**Office: Secretary**  
**Grade: 11**

**Other offices/activities in FFA?**

I served as historian last year. I compete on the crops team. My freshman year I was on the best-informed greenhand team. This year, I am coaching the best-informed greenhand team. I am currently working on my proficiency application.

**Why did you join FFA?**

I joined FFA because of my family's previous involvement. Agriculture is a huge part of my life because I have worked on the farm ever since I was a kid. I knew when I got to high school I wanted to be involved. I also wanted to explore possible agriculture-related careers.

**What do you like most about FFA?**

I love all the opportunities and friendships you can gain. I have been given the opportunity to coach the best-informed greenhand team, which has been an incredible experience. When you join a team, the members become your family no matter what grade you're in.

**How has FFA helped you grow as a person?**

FFA has helped me with my leadership, responsibility and public speaking skills. These skills help me to be a better classmate, friend and community member.

**What advice would you give to younger students?**

Don't be afraid to try out a team and be involved in chapter events

**What are your plans for the future?**

After I graduate from high school, I want to go to South Dakota State University to pursue a precision ag or agronomy degree. Then I want to move back home and join the family farm operation.



**Name: Olivia Anderson**  
**Office: Vice President**  
**Grade: 12**

**Other offices/activities in FFA?**

Sentinel (2020/2021), agriculture sales, creed speaker, extemporaneous speaking, conduct of chapter meetings, parliamentary procedure, farm business management, helping with the Kids Garden Club, helping with farm-to-table lessons and more opportunities.

**Why did you join FFA?**

I joined FFA because of others encouraging me to try it. I was in an agriculture class when I was a freshman, and we learned about FFA. I was skeptical about trying it, but I decided to join the conduct of chapter meetings team. I am happy I did, because I have had many great experiences and opportunities through FFA.

**What do you like most about FFA?**

What I like most is the memories I have made while being a part of FFA, whether they are from practices, going to competitions, competing at nationals, helping with activities or our chapter's game nights.

**How has FFA helped you grow as a person?**

FFA has helped me grow as a person by helping me develop a good work ethic. As the vice president, in opening ceremonies I stress the importance of labor. To be successful, it is important to work hard and put in diligent labor, and FFA has taught me this through lessons and experiences.

**What advice would you give to younger students?**

Don't be afraid to try new teams or activities because you do not know if you will like it or not until you try.

**What are your plans for the future?**

I plan to go to Minnesota State University-Mankato and major in elementary education and run on the cross country and track team.



**Name: Kie Anderson**  
**Office: Sentinel**  
**Grade: 12**

**Other offices/activities in FFA?**

Parliamentary procedure and meats career development event teams

**Why did you join FFA?**

Because my sister had joined, and we have been in 4-H for a long time as well.

**What do you like most about FFA?**

All the social events, kickball games, game night and even the competitions.

**How has FFA helped you grow as a person?**

It has broadened my experiences. I've learned a lot about subjects I never thought I would get involved with, like meats. I'm a well-rounded person because of it.

**What advice would you give to younger students?**

Just join and pick some competition that interests you and have fun with it; it's important to also be involved.

**What are your plans for the future?**

To study at Concordia College in Moorhead and wrestle there as well.



**Name: Payten Benda**  
**Office: Treasurer**  
**Grade: 11**

**Other offices/activities in FFA:**

Parliamentarian, ag sales team, livestock judging, employment skills contest

**Why did you join FFA?**

I joined FFA because agriculture is a big part of my life, and I wanted to learn more about it. I also wanted to experience new things through FFA.

**What do you like most about FFA?**

I like all the new fun things I get to try and do and all the new people I get to meet.

**How has FFA helped you grow as a person?**

FFA has helped me step out of my comfort zone and try new things. It has also helped my public speaking in front of people.

**What advice would you give to younger students?**

Don't be afraid to try new things because you might end up really enjoying it.

**What are your plans for the future?**

I plan on going to college somewhere and majoring in something agriculture-related.

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**Name: Ellyson Bang**  
**Office: President**  
**Grade: 12**

**Other offices/activities in FFA?**  
Floriculture career development event team, employment skills CDE

**Why did you join FFA?**  
It seemed like a lot of fun and upperclassmen recommended doing it.

**What do you like most about FFA?**  
I like spending time with my friends and planning activities for the chapter.

**How has FFA helped you grow as a person?**  
It has helped me become a better leader because I have to stay organized and communicate with lots of different people.

**What advice would you give to younger students?**  
Be involved! School is way more fun if you do more than just schoolwork.

**What are your plans for the future?**  
I'm going to St. Olaf and will be majoring in biology and Spanish.



**Name: Evan Madsen**  
**Office: Secretary**  
**Grade: 12**

**Other offices/activities in FFA?**  
Grain drive committee, meat evaluation career development event

**Why did you join FFA?**  
I joined FFA because I wanted to learn more about agriculture and animals.

**What do you like most about FFA?**  
The van/bus rides to competitions and the state convention.

**How has FFA helped you grow as a person?**  
FFA has taught me how to be a leader and how to study for competitions.

**What advice would you give to younger students?**  
Do not try to do everything, because it is impossible to do so. Do not put all the pressure on you. When you work as a team, you can accomplish anything faster than by yourself.

**What are your plans for the future?**  
I am attending South Dakota State University. I am majoring in agriculture systems technology with minors in ag business and precision planting.



**Name: Kalen McNab**  
**Office: Treasurer**  
**Grade: 11**

**Other offices/activities in FFA?**  
Crops team, employment skills, trapshooting, dairy cattle evaluation and I was the former chapter sentinel.

**Why did you join FFA?**  
Several of my family members were in FFA, and I wanted the experience to help develop my social and personal skills.

**What do you like most about FFA?**  
The competitions.

**How has FFA helped you grow as a person?**  
It has taught me valuable lessons on the importance of teamwork and working hard to achieve goals.

**What advice would you give to younger students?**  
Step out of your comfort zone and try new things; you might be amazed at what you can accomplish. Don't be afraid to set lofty goals, as it gives you something to work toward.

**What are your plans for the future?**  
After high school, I plan on going to college to get a degree in business.



**Name: Madelyn Koep**  
**Office: Reporter**  
**Grade: 12**

**Other offices/activities in FFA?**  
I was chapter historian in 2020-2021 and have been on the food science team.

**Why did you join FFA?**  
It sounded like fun and something I would enjoy.

**What do you like most about FFA?**  
The activities

**How has FFA helped you grow as a person?**  
It has helped me gain important leadership skills and taught me a lot.

**What advice would you give to younger students?**  
Join FFA; you won't regret the fun and experiences you get from it.

**What are your plans for the future?**  
Attend Iowa State University for kinesiology and exercise science, then go to grad school to study physical therapy.



**Name: Taylor Haberman**  
**Office: Vice President**  
**Grade: 12**

**Other offices/activities in FFA?**  
Floriculture team, proficiency application and state degree

**Why did you join FFA?**  
I joined FFA because of the many ways to stay involved within our school and to gain leadership opportunities. I also joined because I thought that the floriculture career development event seemed pretty cool.

**What do you like most about FFA?**  
My favorite part about FFA is all of the activities we do within the FFA. I really enjoy the baby animal day because we get to play with animals while also getting to see the elementary kids. I also really enjoy taking part in the grain drive.

**How has FFA helped you grow as a person?**  
FFA has helped me grow as a person in many ways. I think it has mostly helped me with public speaking. Being the vice president, there are many times I have to speak in front of the community at things like Greenhand Night or the chapter banquet.

**What advice would you give to younger students?**  
I would tell younger students to try to stay involved as much as they can throughout their high school years. It goes much faster than you think it will, so enjoy every moment.

**What are your plans for the future?**  
My plans for the future are to go to Southwest Minnesota State University this fall to major in management.



**Name: Marena Bang**  
**Office: Historian**  
**Grade: 10**

**Other offices/activities in FFA?**  
Floriculture and food science teams

**Why did you join FFA?**  
I really liked the gardening and team aspect of FFA. I also love to stay busy and involved.

**What do you like most about FFA?**  
I love floriculture and learning about different types of flowers. It's so interesting because I've seen these plants my whole life and never known what they are.

**How has FFA helped you grow as a person?**  
I've really become a better leader. I direct people better, and I've become more responsible when it comes to extracurricular activities.

**What advice would you give to younger students?**  
Join FFA so you can be a part of something and stay engaged in the school and its activities.

**What are your plans for the future?**  
As of right now, I want to attend a four-year college. I'm not sure what field, but I think I want something in human services.



**Name: Kamryn Beckmann**  
**Office: Sentinel**  
**Grade: 12**

**Other offices/activities in FFA?**  
Floriculture team and vet science proficiency

**Why did you join FFA?**  
I joined FFA because I thought it seemed fun to be part of a career development event team.

**What do you like most about FFA?**  
I like going to FFA activities with my friends and making memories.

**How has FFA helped you grow as a person?**  
FFA has taught me many life skills to help me grow as a person. It has taught me how to study, time management skills, how to memorize things and much more.

**What advice would you give to younger students?**  
Enjoy your events and activities; they will be before you know it.

**What are your plans for the future?**  
I plan on attending South Dakota State University in the fall to major in nursing.

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## JCC, HL-O FFA chapters celebrate National FFA Week all next week

The Jackson County Central FFA Chapter and Heron Lake-Okabena FFA Chapter will celebrate National FFA Week Feb. 19-26.

This FFA Week embraces more than 90 years of FFA traditions while looking forward to the organization's future. More than 700,000 members will participate in National FFA Week activities at local, state and national levels.

Designated a national week in 1947, the week of George Washington's birthday, National FFA Week runs from Saturday to Saturday and gives FFA members an opportunity to educate the public about agriculture. During the week, chapters conduct a variety of activities to help others in their school and community learn about

FFA and agricultural education.

FFA works to make today's FFA members the innovators and leaders of tomorrow. Through agriculture and hands-on learning, they are preparing for more than 250 unique career opportunities in the food, fiber and natural resources industries.

The National FFA Organization provides leadership, personal growth and career success training through agricultural education to more than 700,000 student members who belong to one of 8,600 local FFA chapters throughout the United States, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The organization is also supported by more than 8 million alumni members throughout the United States.

## Opportunities to give to FFA foundation abound

The Minnesota FFA Foundation recognizes National FFA Week as an opportunity for supporters of agricultural education and the FFA to give back and invest in the strength of these programs.

Many opportunities to do so exist.

Give FFA Day is a one-day giving campaign promoting Minnesota FFA during National FFA Week, which is happening on Feb. 24. Donations will be accepted through the Minnesota FFA website at mnffaoundation.org.

All proceeds from Give FFA Day will go directly back to Minnesota FFA Members.

Other opportunities to donate to the Minnesota

FFA Foundation during National FFA Week include:

- Legacy Club: Donate \$1,000 over one to four years. Donations will go to strengthen new and existing FFA chapters across Minnesota.

- General Donations: Donations to the general fund provide valuable support to scholarships, youth leadership, teacher preparation and state FFA convention.

The Minnesota FFA Foundation partners with individuals and businesses to provide resources that promote and enhance premier leadership, personal growth and career success for Minnesota youth in agricultural education.



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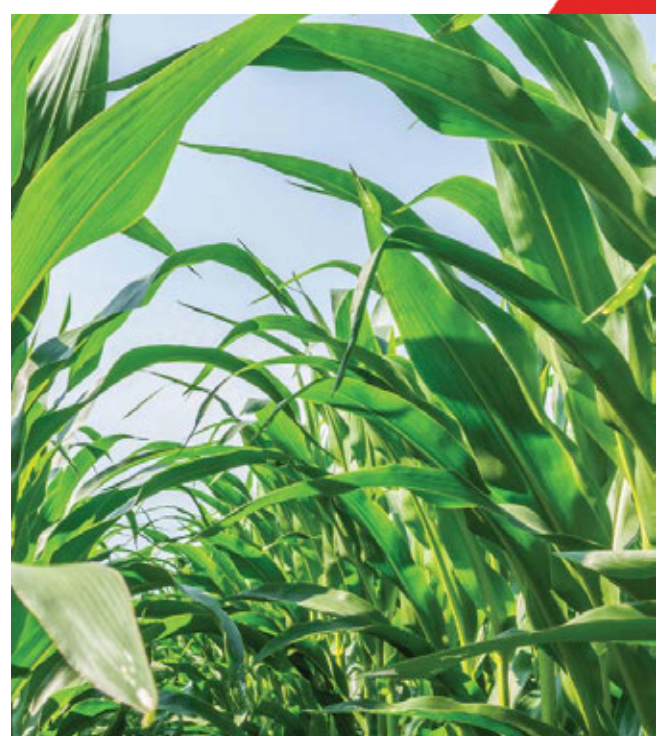
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**Happy National FFA Week!**




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**THANKS**

to the parents, farmers, businesses, friends, JCC staff and everyone involved with the JCC FFA chapter. Your continued support and respect throughout the years has helped us to grow and take pride in what we're doing. Thanks again!



**NATIONAL FFA WEEK**  
February 19-26, 2022

**JCC FFA CHAPTER**  
Laura Bidne, Kate Anderson, and Adam Manderfeld, advisors

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to all area FFA members and instructors on an outstanding year.

**[ NATIONAL FFA WEEK ] FFA**

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