



## HUSKIES OFF TO HOT START

The Jackson County Central girls' basketball team dominated its first two games, then edged Waseca to start the season 3-0.  
Story, B1



# JACKSON COUNTY PILOT

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2021

131ST YEAR/ISSUE 49



## HOLIDAY FEST FUN

Photos by Pilot staff



Above: Wyatt Hesper is all smiles during a visit with Santa during Saturday's Holiday Fest in Jackson. Left: Hayden Uriarte gets some help from Diamond Uriarte making a holiday craft.



Left: Jerry Fleace offers horse-drawn wagon rides through downtown Saturday. Right: Michelle Scheepstra belts out a tune during the afternoon performance of the Opry Christmas Jackson Style live musical extravaganza at the Jackson County Central Performing Arts Center Saturday. For more Holiday Fest photos, see A6-A7.



## Local health care providers brace for a 'twindemic'

But vaccinations, precautions may reduce severity

by JUSTIN R. LESSMAN  
Publisher

After effectively staving off a flu season last year at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, local health care officials are bracing for one this winter, even as COVID-19 caseloads across the county remain elevated, and the omicron variant threatens to make things worse.

Ronald Kline, doctor of osteopathic medicine at



Ronald Kline

Sanford Jackson Medical Center, said all of the precautions people took last winter to protect themselves from COVID-19 also worked to protect them from influenza.

"All of the things that we did last year really eliminated the flu season — like wearing masks, keeping kids home from school, adults not going to work or staying home from work when they felt even the least bit ill," he said, adding all are "great things to mitigate a flu season."

But with the statewide mask mandate lifted and more and more people getting lax in their precautions, Kline expects things to be different this winter. Much different.

"I very much expect that we are going to see a flu

See **TWINDEMIC** on A3

### Inside...

**A12** Jackson County recorded 34 new cases of COVID-19 during the first week of December, marking 18 consecutive weeks of double-digit weekly caseload increases in the county after 14 consecutive weeks of single-digit — or no — increases.

## Midmester back at middle school

by JOSHUA SCHUETZ  
Staff Writer

Midmester — a student-directed life-skills and career-option educational initiative involving several community members — is returning to Jackson County Central Middle School.

"The goal is to get kids knowledge and skills for what they want to do in life," said JCC Middle School Principal Chris Naumann said. "Each class has a driving question that students push themselves to answer as they work through it."



Chris Naumann

Midmester launched a few years ago. For one week, just before Christmas break and again just before summer break, students got to direct their own education and explore their interests, taking lessons with instructors from local companies and organizations. Students loved the program, and Naumann found himself being contacted by other schools interested in building counterparts in their own districts.

Then, as with so many things in 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic threw a wrench in the best-laid plans.

"Because of COVID, our eighth-graders are the only ones who even had a taste of it and that was when they

See **MIDMESTER** on A3

## Riverside students bid farewell to schoolmate

by JOSHUA SCHUETZ  
Staff Writer

Ask the students and staff members at Riverside Elementary School how they remember Zariah Scott and they'll say her smile was infectious and she could light up even a rainy day with her cheer.

Her life — cut short by injuries sustained in a tragic car accident that also took the life of her mother, Mariah Nelson, and brother, Symere — was honored last week as the entire school mourned the loss of one of its beloved students. Last Tuesday, students and staff gathered together to remember Zariah Scott and her family.

"Her favorite color was purple, so we tried to get as many purple balloons as we could and release them together in her memory," said Kim Meyer, Riverside principal. "The entire school was there for the

See **RIVERSIDE** on A3



PHOTOS BY DAN CONDON  
Above: Riverside Elementary School first-graders release balloons last week in honor of classmate Zariah Scott, who died last month. Left: Purple — Scott's favorite color — and pink balloons fly high above Riverside during last week's ceremony.



PHOTOS BY JOSHUA SCHUETZ  
The new Jackson mural on the south side of the senior citizens center building greets visitors as they travel north on Highway 71 through town.

## With murals hung, JCA eyes downtown business art tour

by JOSHUA SCHUETZ  
Staff Writer



Ken Kruse (left) and Jeff Kruse work to install the new mural last week.

Last year, the Jackson Center for the Arts got the ball rolling on an ambitious project — creating and installing a series of murals and exterior paintings around Jackson. Now, with the final mural installed, the JCA is moving on to the next phase of the project — creating interactive paintings for Jackson businesses.

See **MURALS** on A3

WEATHER

This week

Thursday A.M. Clouds/P.M. Sun 44 | 25
Friday Snow 28 | 16
Saturday Sunny 27 | 18
Sunday Mostly Sunny 35 | 21
Monday Mostly Sunny 36 | 26
Tuesday Mostly Sunny 40 | 31
Wednesday Partly Cloudy 48 | 31

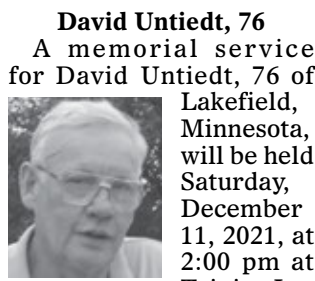
LAST WEEK

Tuesday, November 30 49 / 34
Wednesday, December 1 56 / 40
Thursday, December 2 48 / 31
Friday, December 3 48 / 27
Saturday, December 4 34 / 30
Sunday, December 5 41 / 10
Monday, December 6 15 / 4

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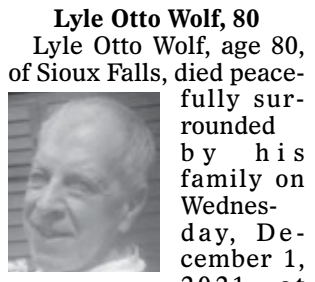


David Untiedt, 76
A memorial service for David Untiedt, 76 of Lakefield, Minnesota, will be held Saturday, December 11, 2021, at 2:00 pm at Trinity Lutheran Church in Sioux Valley, Minnesota.

David Henry Harry Untiedt was born in Spirit Lake, Iowa on September 2, 1945, to Lester and Sophia (Petersen) Untiedt. He graduated from Sioux Valley High School in 1963 and completed a 2-year associate's degree in Jackson before serving 4 years in the US Air Force during Vietnam.

David's talent with a wrench was undeniable. He was the first person people called when they were in a pinch. From lawnmowers to cars, trucks, tractors, farm implements, and other heavy equipment, David fixed it all.

Service was at the heart of David's life. For friends and family alike, he was a listening ear and steady hand when emotions got heated. If you needed to talk through a problem, he was always a phone call away, no matter the hour.



Lyle Otto Wolf, 80, of Sioux Falls, died peacefully surrounded by his family on Wednesday, December 1, 2021, at Avera Hospital in Sioux Falls, SD.

Lyle was born on June 6, 1941, at St. Kilian Hospital in Wilmont, MN to Celestinus and Mercedes (Probst) Wolf. Lyle studied school in Owens, Iowa, his family moved to Adrian, MN where he attended St. Adrian Catholic High School.

Lyle married Mary Cook on May 1, 1965, at St. Adrian Catholic Church. The couple ran Lyle's Farm Store, which was a feed store business in Jackson, MN.

State of Minnesota
Abdullahi, Hamdi K., Maple Grove, Speed \$230.00
Baerenwald, Tabitha A., Lakefield, Speed \$150.00
Baker, Patrick A., Homer, Neb., Speed \$150.00

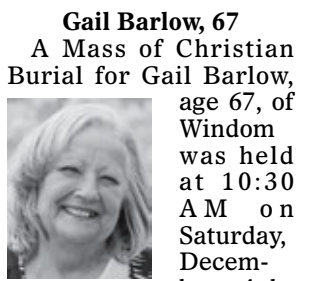
chines and air hammers. David helped ensure that family history was preserved by actively participating in both Untiedt and Voss family reunions.

David, "Papa Henry", loved his wife, children, their spouses, his grandchildren, good friends, and community. He enjoyed the simplest things in life - a good story, big belly laughs, healthy debate, and early morning phone calls from his wife, kids, and grandkids to "get him going".

David is survived by his wife of 46 years, Gail, his daughter Emily (Tim) Harris and their children Amanda, Sophia and Aaron of Rockford, MN, son Philip Untiedt of Delano, MN, son Jay (Amy) Untiedt and their children Henry, Rose, and Tessa of Independence, MN.

He is preceded in death by his grandparents, parents, and many aunts, uncles, and cousins. Turner Jenness Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Jackson County Pilot December 9, 2021



Gail Barlow, 67
A Mass of Christian Burial for Gail Barlow, age 67, of Windom was held at 10:30 A.M. on Saturday, December 4th, at the St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church in Windom.

Francis Xavier Catholic Church in Windom with Father Pratap officiating. Burial followed in the St. Francis Xavier Catholic Cemetery in Windom.

Visitation was held from 5:00 to 8:00 PM on Friday, December 3rd, at the LaCanne Family Funeral Home in Windom and on Saturday for one hour prior to the service at the church in Windom.

Gail Barlow passed away on Tuesday morning, November 30th at the Good Samaritan Society-Sogge Memorial in Windom.

Funeral arrangements are under the care of the LaCanne Family Funeral Service in Windom.

Condolences and memories of Gail can be sent online to: www.lacanne-funeralhome.com.

Gail Barlow, age 67, of Windom, passed away at the Good Samaritan Society-Sogge Memorial on Tuesday, November 30, 2021.

Gail Linn Barlow was born on July 10, 1954, to Donald Joseph and Maxine Helen (Bayliss) Frank, in Carroll, IA. She was baptized in Carroll and confirmed at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, in Windom, MN.

He is preceded in death by his parents; Celestinus and Mercedes Wolf, and several other brothers and sisters-in-law whom he enjoyed spending time with.

Visitation will be at Heritage Funeral Home in Sioux Falls, SD on Sunday, December 5, 2021, from 1 to 3 pm. A prayer service will follow beginning at 3 pm. A Funeral Mass will be held at 10:30 am Monday, December 6, at Holy Spirit Catholic Church, in Sioux Falls, SD.

Lyle is survived by his wife, Mary Wolf of 56 years whom he unconditionally loved and adored; his three children, Eugene Wolf, St. Paul, MN; Terry (Michelle) Wolf Sioux Falls, SD; Deb (Todd) Card of Hutchinson, MN; seven grandchildren, Isaac, Jacob, Margaret, and Samuel Wolf, Tayla, Tate, and Treyton Card.

He was preceded in

earned an associate degree in Human Services. She worked as a Mental Health Practitioner with Southwestern Mental Health for 26 years.

On August 28, 1976, Gail married William Robert Barlow, Sr., in Jackson, MN. The union was blessed with two children, Crystal and William (Billy). Gail also married Anthony Hulm. From her marriages, she gained two additional children, Marvea Barlow, and Tyler Hulm.

Gail was a member of St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church in Windom. She enjoyed watching the Eagle Brook broadcasts. Gail loved spending time with her grandkids and enjoyed baking, crafts, art, painting, gardening, and bird watching.

Left to cherish Gail's memory are her children and their families, Crystal Jensen & John Schmidt of Waconia, MN, William (Billy) Barlow, Jr. & Chelsie Barlow of Windom, MN; two stepchildren, Marvea Barlow of Gillette, WY, and Tyler & Amanda Hulm of Rochester, MN; grandchildren (Honorary Casket Bearers) Charlotte Jensen, Georgiana Jensen, Maggie Schmidt, Samantha Schmidt, Hayden Barlow, Abigail Barlow, Brynn Vandel, and Lincoln, Barrett, and Leighton Hulm; Gail's mother, Maxine Frank of Windom, MN; two brothers, Alan & Barb Frank of Fergus Falls, MN and Kent Frank of Windom, MN; one sister, Linda Unger of Worthington, MN; and many nieces, nephews, and friends.

Gail was preceded in death by her father, Donald Frank.

Blessed be the memory of Gail Lynn Barlow.

Jackson County Pilot December 9, 2021

Last month warmer, drier, far less snowy than normal

Last month was warmer, drier and far less snowy than the average Jackson County November.

According to official weather statistics recorded and maintained by Jackson-based Federated Rural Electric, the average high temperature last month of 46.1 degrees was more than 3 degrees higher than the historical average high temp for the month of November, while the average low temp last month of 29.5 degrees was nearly 5 degrees higher than the historical average high temp for the month of November.

Just short of seven-tenths of an inch of precipitation - more than a half-inch of it on Nov. 10 alone - fell across the county in November, about three-quarters of an inch less than the historical average precipitation total for the month.

Traces of snow were recorded Nov. 12-13, but nothing measurable. The historical average snowfall total for the month of November is more than 5 inches.

Just seven of last month's 30 days were classified as sunny.

Federated has recorded and maintained local weather statistics since 1945.

ALMANAC

WEATHER

November Summary

Table with columns: Date, High, Low, Precip., Snow. Rows 1-30 showing daily weather data for November.

Summary table for November: November 2021 Normal, November High 71, November Low 9, Avg. High 46.10, Avg. Low 29.50, Total Precip. 0.69, Total Snow 0.

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Dukuly, Moijnama, Austin, Speed \$230.00, Instruction permit violation (18 years or older) \$50.00

Enterprise Township Notice of Filing
Notice is hereby given that a township election in the Town of Enterprise, County of Jackson, State of Minnesota, will be held on March 8, 2022.

Enterprise Township Notice of Filing
Notice is hereby given that a township election in the Town of Enterprise, County of Jackson, State of Minnesota, will be held on March 8, 2022.

# Jackson-built applicator named 'Product of the Year'

The Jackson-built Fendt Rogator 900 Series applicator has been named CropLife IRON's 2021 Product of the Year.

The award was presented at last month's Agricultural Retailers Association Conference and Expo in San Antonio. The award is based on reader nominations and voting for the year's top new product innovations.

"The Fendt Rogator team is very pleased to accept CropLife IRON's Product of the Year award," said Greg Pumo, marketing director for application equipment, Fendt North America. "The product was designed to meet the needs of both farmers and retail operators by providing flexible capabilities in a format that improves usability and delivers great return on investment. The tremendous response it's received from custom-

ers and the industry have us very excited about the future."

The Fendt Rogator 900 Series applicator is a self-propelled, rear-mounted boom applicator with dual-position, adjustable crop clearance for use from pre-plant to tall crops. The machine adjusts between standard and high clearance in less than 45 seconds with the push of a button. It can also be switched between liquid, dry pneumatic or dry spinner delivery systems in as little as two hours. The result is a single, versatile solution for year-round application of liquid or dry crop nutrients and crop protection products and seeding of cover crops designed to replace multiple machines and optimize equipment investment.

"CropLife IRON started the Product of the Year competition so our readers



SUBMITTED PHOTO

**The new Fendt Rogator features the industry's first self-propelled, rear-mounted boom with two-position adjustable clearance. Officials say this game changer opens up all markets and all seasons and really separates the new Rogator from the rest of the industry.**

would have the chance to vote for their favorite product releases each year," said Eric Sfiligoj, editor of CropLife and CropLife IRON magazines. "I'm happy that we were able to continue this fine tradition

for the 2021 calendar year by honoring AGCO for the release of the company's Fendt Rogator unit. This model was the overwhelming choice for the annual ShowStopper Award at this summer's Midwest AG

## New Rogator in regional ag publication

The Jackson-built Fendt Rogator 900 Series applicator is featured in the latest edition of the Farm Market News, a regional ag publication reaching more than 18,500 rural homes and businesses across the tri-state area.

The Fendt Rogator 900 Series applicator, which is manufactured at AGCO Jackson Operations, is the subject of the cover story in the Dec. 6 edition of the Farm Market News.

The Farm Market News is delivered free of charge to 18,700 rural homes and businesses across 15 counties in southern Minnesota, northern Iowa and eastern South Dakota and is available for free pickup at cafés and coffee shops throughout the coverage area. Extra copies are available for free pickup at the offices of Livewire Printing Co. in downtown Jackson.

The Farm Market News may also be read for free online by article at [jacksoncountypilot.com](http://jacksoncountypilot.com) and in its entirety online at [farmmarketnews.com](http://farmmarketnews.com).

Industries Exposition, and now it has added the Product of the Year trophy to its list of awards as well."

The applicator is also the recipient of a prestigious AE50 Award from the American Society of Agri-

cultural and Biological Engineers. The award will be presented during ASABE's Agricultural Equipment Technology Conference in February 2022.

## TWINDEMIC: Health care providers bracing

Continued from A1

season this year," Kline said Monday.

And with COVID-19 still circulating in the county — and the potentially more transmissible omicron variant on the way — Kline said he and his fellow health care providers at Sanford Jackson are fearing — and bracing for — a "twinemic."

"We could see both happening at the same time," he said of COVID-19 and influenza. "As we talk about tired health care workers, what they don't want to see is a high num-

ber of flu and COVID patients. While current influenza activity in Minnesota is low, upcoming holiday travel presents a potential for wider community spread."

In addition to doubling down on COVID-19 precautions, Kline said one of the best ways to help prevent — or at least lessen the severity of — a twinemic is to get vaccinated against both COVID-19 and the flu.

Getting vaccinated can help ward off severe complications, including hos-

pitalization and death, Kline said. It can also reduce the severity of symptoms and shorten the length of illness.

"It can reduce the severity of the illness, helping to avert serious outcomes, including hospitalization," he said.

Of any other year, Kline said this is a year when the flu shot becomes extra important "as you're looking at how to keep yourself out of the hospital, how to keep your family safe and how to help health care workers that are in your

communities."

Sanford Health is offering flu and COVID-19 vaccinations at the same appointments this year. Flu vaccines — recommended for everyone 6 months of age and older — along with Moderna and Pfizer COVID-19 vaccines — Pfizer for those ages 5 and up, Moderna for those ages 18 and up — are available Mondays through Fridays at the Jackson clinic. Appointments are required.



PHOTO BY DAN CONDON

Riverside Elementary School students gather outside the school to remember classmate Zariah Scott during a ceremony last week.

## RIVERSIDE: Balloons

Continued from A1

ceremony." Meyer said Scott was well-loved at the school and always showed kindness and affection toward others.

"She was always smiling," she said. "Whenever I'd see her in the hallways, she'd have the biggest smile on her face, even when she was being quiet."

The school brought in grief counselors to help both students and faculty

process the tragedy, while also giving families room to address the questions the children may ask in the aftermath.

"We had counselors available to everyone after she passed away," Meyer said. "We want to provide age-appropriate services and respect the parents, because we know that these are things they will want to talk about with their children."

## MIDMESTER: Set to return at middle school

Continued from A1

were in sixth grade," Naumann said. "It's a hands-on program and we depend on the community to help us and, with COVID, we couldn't bring them in."

This month, Midmester returns, with a full slate of activities in which students may take part.

Among them are career-preparation classes like welding, marketing and cosmetology. Some

classes will help students with basic life skills, like putting together a resume and interviewing for a job. Others, like the conspiracy theories class, foster critical thinking by having students pick apart famous conspiracy theories like those that circulated after the assassination of U.S. President John F. Kennedy.

Naumann said one driving factor behind the estab-

lishment of the program is the declining youth population of Jackson County. Many students leave after they graduate, and few return.

"We need people to stay in our community," he said. "If AGCO can get some kids interested in welding in middle school, for example, those kids may go to college for that, get their certification and

come away with a job."

Those who may have a class topic they're interested in teaching should approach the school about it, Naumann said.

"We're always looking for more, so if anyone has an idea or is willing to help, please let us know," he said.

Midmester will run from Dec. 16-22.

## MURALS: Jackson Center for the Arts planning downtown art tour

Continued from A1

"We're going to have 10 paintings set up in local businesses that want them," said JCA board member Cay Gjertson. "All of them are interactive art and the idea is for people to take photos with them and post those pictures on Facebook."

Jackson County Central High School art teacher Blaise Jacobsen and local artist Gayle More are working on several of the paintings. Some have already been installed in local places of business.

Gjertson said signage will be installed by the paintings acknowledging every community member who volunteered to help paint them.

"They will have the names of everyone who helped us paint them and the signs will also have instructions for people who want to take a picture," she said.

The photo initiative is called "#picture-ourselfin-jackson" and is part of a larger push by the JCA to create a walk-

ing art tour in downtown Jackson. People can go to

each painting and check out local businesses to get a photo taken and have lunch or do a little shopping. Both downtown and non-downtown businesses are involved.

"We want to create an arts walk through the town that will bring interest

and business downtown especially," Gjertson said. "What we want to do is help make Jackson a destination."

If art center officials see sufficient interest and are able to secure more grant money, Gjertson said more businesses could request paintings in the future. For now, the project is set to wrap up by the end of the year, when the final paintings are installed.

"We'll have everything finished by the 31<sup>st</sup>," she said. "If we can get another grant, we do want to add more art to the downtown area."

## Local arts center nails down SMAC grant

The Jackson Center for the Arts is the recipient of an \$8,699 operating-support grant through the Southwest Minnesota Arts Council.

Operating-support grants are two-year grants awarded to arts organizations with current 501(c)(3) designations and at least two years of programming and financials, to be used for operating expenses.

The SMAC Board of Directors awarded the grant — one of 16 given totaling more than \$118,500 — following a meeting on Nov. 23.

SMAC is a nonprofit organization committed to promoting and encouraging the development of the arts in the 18 counties of southwestern Minnesota by serving as a source of funds and technical services, which enable local organizations, educational institutions and individuals to sponsor and/or create and promote the arts in their communities. SMAC receives funding from individuals, businesses, organizations, schools, cities, counties, private foundations like the McKnight Foundation, an allocation from the state of Minnesota and a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund, made possible by the voters of Minnesota.

**"WE'RE GOING TO HAVE 10 PAINTINGS SET UP IN LOCAL BUSINESSES THAT WANT THEM. ALL OF THEM ARE INTERACTIVE ART AND THE IDEA IS FOR PEOPLE TO TAKE PHOTOS WITH THEM AND POST THOSE PICTURES ON FACEBOOK."**

Cay Gjertson

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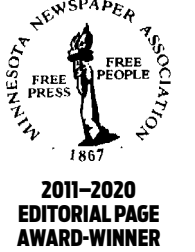
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# OPINION



PILOT EDITORIAL

## Positive Community Norms grant a win for Jackson County, JCC

Historically, attempts to dissuade students from using alcohol, drugs and other intoxicants run into one major issue — they make kids think twice about partying recklessly, but they never articulate a positive alternative to those behaviors, which are essentially social in nature.

The Jackson County Central School District's addition of a Positive Community Norms Program, funded through a state grant, is a good step toward offering such an alternative. Over the rest of the school year, work will be done to set up youth groups through which students can pursue different activities and learn how to build better lives.

It's a welcome change. More young people feel lonely and disconnected from their peers, with higher rates of depression and anxiety being a natural result. That can lead people — and kids especially — to either withdraw from the world or take unnecessary risks in their lives. This program offers a framework to counteract that problem and create a better environment for students in the county.

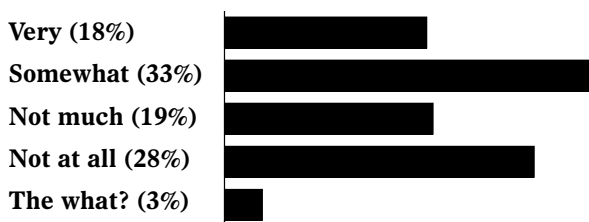
At the end of the day, offering programs that provide kids with the chance to socialize in a positive setting is good for families and the broader community. It may have an added benefit of reducing delinquency and improving students' grades, but the first and primary benefit is social. There aren't a lot of avenues for young people in general and kids in particular to socialize in healthy ways in this area.

Doing activities together is an essential part of human life, regardless of pandemics or politics. Students need places outside of the classroom — or athletic field — where they can have positive peer interactions. Learning to navigate the social world is just as important as being able to read Shakespeare or do quadratic equations. In many ways, it's more important.

We have the chance to do something really transformative for young people in Jackson County. A lot of innovation is happening in the schools right now and that's something to be celebrated.

### LAST WEEK'S ONLINE POLL

Q: How concerned are you about the coronavirus' omicron variant?



Source: Jackson County Pilot Website

### THIS WEEK'S ONLINE POLL

Q: Should the U.S. Supreme Court uphold or overturn Roe v. Wade?

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

## DNR grants are now available for emerald ash borer management

The emerald ash borer has long been on the minds of many Minnesotans. This exotic insect — a native of Asia — has killed thousands of ash trees since it was first discovered in St. Paul during the spring of 2009. In order to help manage the spread of emerald ash borer, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has made available funds for local municipalities to prepare for the inevitable arrival of this destructive insect.

While many other states have detected emerald ash borer, Minnesota is home to nearly 1 billion ash trees, making it one of the largest concentrations of ash in the country. Emerald ash borers are so named due to the shiny metallic color of their slender bodies, which measure up to 0.5 inches in length. The insect's tapering body is typically green to copper-green in color and may have a copper-colored area located behind the head. Emerald ash borer larva have a small brown head and white flattened bodies

that are about 1 inch long when fully grown. While native ash borers do exist in Minnesota, the bronze birch borer and the two lined chestnut borer are the insects most commonly misidentified as emerald ash borers.

Peel back the bark of nearly any ash tree and you will likely find the galleries (burrowing tunnels) formed by many native wood-boring larva. Emerald ash borer galleries are distinctive in that they are typically S-shaped, especially at the beginning of an infestation. Like other borers, the exotic Asian species feeds on the living tissue of a plant, which supplies sucrose — food made during photosynthesis — to parts of the tree where needed. As infestations of emerald ash borer worsen, the food supply is eventually cut off and the tree dies, a process known as girdling. Adult emerald ash borers leave a D-shaped exit hole after pupation, which differ from the round exit holes of native boring insects.

Ash trees typically succumb to emerald ash borer in about four years, although they may die in as little as two. During the second year, signs of woodpecker feeding activity and thinning foliage may begin to appear. By year three, woodpecker feeding becomes more noticeable with further thinning of summer foliage. Vertical bark cracking may also occur as tree attempts to heal old gallery scars. While these symptoms are not specific to emerald ash borer, they are often signs the tree has been invaded by this exotic Asian insect.

If you find these facts worrisome, grants from the DNR are available to cities, counties and other municipalities for mitigation work to be completed on public land. A total of \$2.4 million has been set aside from the Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund to aid in the treatment and removal ash trees, planting a diversity of trees, conducting public tree

inventories, developing emerald ash borer management plans, hiring technical assistance and engaging and educating citizens. Qualified applicants may apply through Jan. 24, 2022, and can request a maximum of \$150,000. No match is required with this grant. A full list of eligible activities, application materials and frequently asked questions are available online at [dnr.state.mn.us/grants/forestmgmt/protect-community-forests.html](http://dnr.state.mn.us/grants/forestmgmt/protect-community-forests.html).

With the nearest emerald ash borer infestations located in the Worthington and Martin County areas, now is the time to take advantage of this funding as we prepare for the first confirmed case of this devastating invader in Jackson County.

*(About the author: Lloyd Kalfs has a degree in natural resources from Northland College. He lives in Okabena.)*

GUEST COLUMNIST  
Lloyd Kalfs

## A drowsy driver is an unsafe driver

**Question:** I called in a driving complaint regarding a possible drunk driver and received a call back and was told the driver was tired. Can the driver be cited for this?

**Answer:** Yes, the drowsy driver could be cited for inattentive driving and additional serious charges could be incurred if the drowsy driver causes a crash. A drowsy driver is an unsafe driver. Lack of sleep negatively affects performance. It slows reaction time, impairs judgment and situational awareness and increases lapses in attention and risk taking. According to a study by the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety, people who sleep

six to seven hours a night are twice as likely to be involved in a crash as those sleeping eight hours or more per night. People sleeping less than five hours per night increase their risk four to five times.

Before hitting the road be sure to get a good night's sleep. While this varies, the average person requires about eight hours of sleep a night. While driving, schedule regular stops. And avoid alcohol and medications — over-the-counter and prescribed — that may impair your driving. Alcohol interacts with fatigue, increasing its effects — just like drinking on an empty stomach.

While on the road, be alert for warning

signs of fatigue, for example, drivers who can't remember the last few miles driven, drift from their lanes or hit a rumble strip, experience wandering or disconnected thoughts, yawn repeatedly, have difficulty focusing or keeping their eyes open, tailgate or miss traffic signs or have trouble keeping their head up.

Never count on the radio, open windows or other "tricks" to keep you awake. Respond to symptoms of fatigue by finding a safe place to stop for a break.

Surviving the holiday season this year can be as simple as driving smart by staying alert, slowing down, paying attention, planning a sober ride and always buckling up.

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

### READERS WRITE

#### The law and Kyle Rittenhouse

**To the editor:**  
Two people, each with a gun, went to a very tense protest, both hoping to stop bad guys on the other side, both with no training in de-escalating a problem or dealing with violent people, both with adrenaline in anticipation of stopping a bad guy and with fear for his own life. After they met and pulled their guns and one shot the other dead, the courts decided that since the one who shot first was scared, he acted in self-defense. The laws had set up an impossible situation for people to interact in a safe manner.

It appears Kyle Rittenhouse met himself that day. Since he found people like himself can get shot, he moved to find a safer place to live. But he fails to realize he cannot move away from himself.

The law needs to consider the shooter's own intentions before the other person also points a gun, and the person's own act to get into the dangerous situation. Rittenhouse thought the Second Amendment gave him the right to go out and become a terrorist. And the court let him get by with it. The judge gave the jury a six-page document stating that in Wisconsin, if you fear for your life, you can shoot first.

Do the police really want the courts to approve of such behavior?

It was actually illegal for Rittenhouse to open carry because he was a minor. Most, if not all, states have a law that states if you commit a misdemeanor that results in a death, it is called manslaughter. It carries a much smaller penalty than does murder, but still recognizes if you take a life, it's a problem.

Roger Elgersma  
Pipestone

#### Benefits of bump-outs are many

**To the editor:**  
You might have noticed two new curb extensions at the intersection of Sherman Street and Highway 71. Some folks might be curious what they are and how they benefit a community. Curb extensions visually and physically narrow the roadway width, creating safer and shorter crossings for pedestrians and providing traffic calming on low-speed neighborhood streets and commercial corridors.

The benefits of curb extensions are many:  
· They help decrease the distance pedestrians are required to walk across the street, thus allowing for pedestrians to reach the other side more quickly, reducing the incident of a pedestrian being struck by an automobile.

· They play a role in making the street narrower at an intersection. A car making a turn onto a street that has bump-outs installed must slow down considerably to make the turn. This gives the pedestrian some lead time into the intersection, allowing a driver more visibility. Giving a pedestrian lead time before traffic starts to move has been shown to reduce pedestrian/auto collisions by as much as 60 percent.

· They essentially prevent vehicles from parking near the corner. Vehicles at corners obscure vision for the driver making a turn, as well as for the pedestrian seeking to cross.

· They give drivers a heads-up that there's a crosswalk there and help to slow traffic down in general because they stick out into the road. Plus, they increase visibility by ensuring someone crossing the street isn't hidden behind a parked vehicle until they're actually in the road.

· Curb extensions can make it easier for emergency vehicles to turn. Because curb extensions prohibit cars from parking near the corner, an emergency vehicle can climb onto a curb if need be when it executes a turn. Emergency vehicles are unable to do so in intersections with parked cars.

Luke Ewald  
Friends of the Jackson County Trails Committee  
Jackson

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(507) 847-3771 • [jacksoncountypilot.com](http://jacksoncountypilot.com)  
Published Weekly on Thursday  
USPS 271880  
Periodicals postage paid at Jackson, Minnesota

— SUBSCRIPTION RATES —  
In Jackson County, \$64.00/Year. Elsewhere in the United States, \$75.00/Year. Nine-month students, \$55.00. ePilot, \$30.00/Year.

— OPINIONS —

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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Santa and Mrs. Claus wave to those gathered for the Holiday Fest parade through downtown Jackson Saturday night.

PHOTO BY DAN CONDON



Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus embrace following a two-step 'round the Christmas tree during the Opry Christmas Jackson Style live musical extravaganza Saturday at the JCC Performing Arts Center.

PHOTO BY JUSTIN LESSMAN



Cooper Lusk gets a visit with Santa during Holiday Fest.

PHOTO BY DAN CONDON



Layla Peterson gets a good look at Santa during a visit Saturday morning.

PHOTO BY DAN CONDON



Briggs (left) and Eve Appel visit Santa Saturday morning.

PHOTO BY DAN CONDON



Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus two-step 'round the Christmas tree during the Opry Christmas Jackson Style live musical extravaganza Saturday at the JCC Performing Arts Center.

PHOTO BY JUSTIN LESSMAN



Emmett Rasmussen isn't sure what to think while sitting on Santa's lap Saturday.

PHOTO BY DAN CONDON



Charlie Arlandson is all smiles while visiting Santa.

PHOTO BY DAN CONDON



PHOTO BY DAN CONDON  
Kale Eckard (left) and Wyatt Hesper pay close attention as Luke Ewald reads a Christmas book as part of Saturday's Holiday Fest activities.



PHOTO BY DAN CONDON  
Kaizen Muonghot works diligently on a Christmas craft during Holiday Fest.



PHOTO BY DAN CONDON  
Jules Swanson puts the finishing touches on a Christmas picture frame during Holiday Fest.



PHOTO BY DAN CONDON  
Haivania Drummond gets up close and personal with Santa.



PHOTO BY JUSTIN LESSMAN  
Larry Anderson and Rhonda Wedeking, masters of ceremonies for the Opry Christmas Jackson Style, crack a joke at the evening show.



PHOTO BY JOSHUA SCHUETZ  
Alex and Shelby Pritchard (from left) point out some merchandise to their mom, Janette, while browsing the Holiday Fest craft and vendor fair this past Saturday.



PHOTO BY JOSHUA SCHUETZ  
Jackson Lions Club member Clayton Lewis (left) puts pancakes on the griddle four at a time during the JCC Music Booster pancake feed fundraiser Saturday morning.



PHOTO BY DAN CONDON  
Danica Wood works on a Christmas craft Saturday morning.



PHOTO BY DAN CONDON  
Aliya Mitchell focuses on making the perfect Christmas ornament at the Jackson Center for the Art's afternoon activity Saturday.



PHOTO BY DAN CONDON  
April (from left), Annabelle and Alison Olson wear the part as they visit Santa Saturday.



PHOTO BY JOSHUA SCHUETZ  
Klaus Olsem takes a peek at a gingerbread barn on display at the Jackson library this past Saturday.



PHOTO BY JUSTIN LESSMAN  
Larry Anderson, master of ceremonies for the Opry Christmas Jackson Style, introduces the next song during Saturday afternoon's performance.



PHOTO BY JUSTIN LESSMAN  
Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus two-step 'round the Christmas tree during the Opry Christmas Jackson Style live musical extravaganza Saturday at the JCC Performing Arts Center.



PHOTO BY JUSTIN LESSMAN  
Keyboardist Jon Johnson tickles the ivories during the afternoon performance of the Opry Christmas Jackson Style Saturday.



PHOTO BY DAN CONDON  
Owen Goodell sports a "Santa Squad" shirt as he spends time with the jolly man himself Saturday.



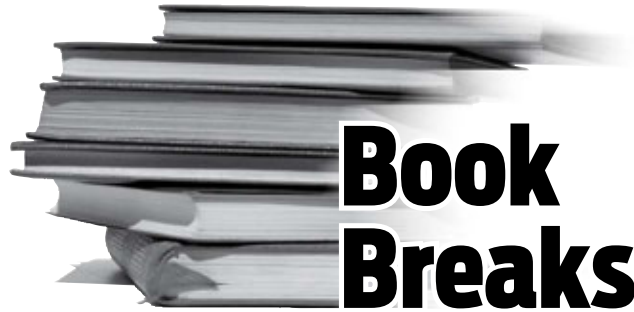
PHOTO BY JUSTIN LESSMAN  
Kerri Henderson belts out a tune during the afternoon performance of the Opry Christmas Jackson Style Saturday.



PHOTO BY JUSTIN LESSMAN  
Michelle Scheepstra sings during the evening performance of the Opry Christmas Jackson Style Saturday.



PHOTO BY JOSHUA SCHUETZ  
Pianist Melynda Tracy provides festive accompaniment to the Holiday Fest craft and vendor fair this past Saturday.



## Book Breaks

**New arrivals at the Jackson library!** "Flying Angels" by Danielle Steel (Historical fiction)

After her brother is wounded in the attack on Pearl Harbor, Audrey and her best friend, Lizzie, enlist in the Army as flight nurses.

"Autopsy" by Patricia Cornwell (Thriller)

New chief medical examiner and forensic pathologist Kay Scarpetta is given a highly classified case involving two scientists who were found dead on a private space laboratory in the latest addition to the series following "Chaos."

"Wish You Were Here" by Jodi Picoult (General fiction)

With everything perfectly on track, Diana O'Toole finds things going

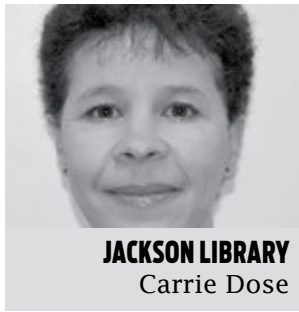
off the rails when she is quarantined during her dream vacation in the Galapagos due to a virus, forcing her to reevaluate herself and her life when she makes a connection with a local family.

"The Midnight Lock" by Jeffery Deaver (Thriller)

When he is fired as a consultant for the NYPD, Lincoln Rhyme decides to risk jail to solve a case involving "The Locksmith" — a sociopathic intruder who can break through any lock or security system ever devised, terrorizing the entire city.

"Atlas of the Heart" by Brene Brown (Nonfiction)

This book takes readers on a journey through 85 of the emotions and experiences that define what it means to be human.



**JACKSON LIBRARY**  
Carrie Dose

**BOOKS:**

"Termination Shock" by Neal Stephenson, "The Last Shadow" by Orson Scott Card, "Vanishing Edge" by Claire Kells, "These Precious Days" by Ann Patchett, "Someone Perfect" by Mary Balogh, "Isolate" by L.E. Modesitt

For a more complete list of new items, check out the library website, plumcreeklibrary.org/Jackson.

Search the online catalog at opac.plumcreeklibrary.net to reserve any of the above titles or to search for other titles. You can also renew items from home. You can access your account with your library card number and password. The password is the last four digits of your library card number. Call the library for assistance if needed.



PHOTO BY JOSHUA SCHUETZ  
**CHRISTMAS CRAFT**  
Mary Voda (left) and Lori Beseke (right) work on their paper Christmas tree crafts at the Jackson library last Wednesday as library staff member Jesika Mitchell (center) looks on.

## Local churches to host 'Blue Christmas' service next week

by JOSHUA SCHUETZ  
Staff Writer

Locals who may not be looking forward to the holiday season with as much joy as others are encouraged to attend a special "Blue Christmas" service next week in Lakefield.

The United Methodist Churches of Jackson and Lakefield will host the service next Wednesday at the Lakefield United Methodist Church. It begins at 6:30 p.m.

Russ Steele, pastor at the Jackson and Lakefield United Methodist Churches, said the service is especially tailored for those who have lost loved ones or struggled throughout the past year with troubles of various kinds.

Steele previously under-

took hospital and hospice ministries, where the light, airy cheer of the holiday season can be grating at best and intolerable at worst for those who are struggling. Next week's "Blue Christmas" service will be dedicated to offering the hope and comfort of Christ in a sensitive way to the suffering.

"It's a gentle, worshipful service that acknowledges both the losses of the past year and the fundamental hope we have in Christ," Steele said. "It came up in church that no similar service was offered in our area."

Steele said all are welcome to attend.

"It's an interdenominational service, and we want

to welcome everyone to attend," Steele said.

The hymnody will reflect the overall tone of the service and people will have the chance to remember and acknowledge the loss of their loved ones.

"We're singing softer and gentler hymns," Steele said. "People can light candles in honor of a loved one and pray about their struggles of the past year."

A social hour will follow the service, giving people an opportunity to connect and reconnect with others.

"We'll have coffee and cookies afterwards, so people can enjoy refreshments and talk to one another," Steele said.

**If you go...**

**What:** Blue Christmas service

**When:** Wednesday, Dec. 15, 6:30 p.m.

**Where:** United Methodist Church, Lakefield



Russ Steele



*Birthday wishes and anniversary greetings go out to the following this week:*

**Dec. 9:** Happy birthday to Ryan Christopher, Gregory Olson, Michael Wierson, Amber Schultes, Patricia Hummel. Anniversary wishes go to Brandon and Bonnie Finck, Mark and Rebecca McCann.

### BIRTHDAYS • ANNIVERSARIES

**Dec. 10:** Happy birthday to Ayden Endreson, Riley Johnson, John Myers, Kathryn Nyborg, Marjorie Scott, Marjorie Nelson, Corinne Vacek, Rachel DeVries.

**Dec. 11:** Happy birthday to Kayla Adams, Blaney Johnson, Nathan Sargent.

**Dec. 12:** Happy birthday to Vickie Hurd, Penne Kellogg, Bradly Gentry. Anniversary wishes go to Bob and Sandy Ruby.

**Dec. 13:** Happy birth-

day to Rob Bass, Matt Koehne, Sue Buresch, Ethan Lundberg.

**Dec. 14:** Happy birthday to Andrea Sether, Mazie Werner, Cole Osterberg. Anniversary wishes go to Robert and Nancy Bass.

**Dec. 15:** Happy birthday to Kaye Marie Meneely, Elise Rodriguez, Jill DeJong, Peter Vachuska, Caden Thurmer. Anniversary wishes go to Paul and Julie Graupmann.

Wishing **MARGIE LUSK** a **Happy 90th Birthday** on December 14

Your cards will reach **MARGIE LUSK** at: **824 Frost Ave., Jackson, MN 56143**

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## Business challenge deadline looms

by JOSHUA SCHUETZ  
Staff Writer

There's still time for aspiring entrepreneurs looking to start a business in town to apply for assistance through the Jackson Business Challenge.

But not much. Deadline to apply is Dec. 31.

"We're looking for people who want to apply," said Dave Schmidt, who works with Jackson's economic development office, which oversees the program. "The first round of applications is due on the 31st of December, and

what we're looking for is the name of the business, what kinds of products they're going to have and how it would benefit the downtown community."

Application forms can be found on the city's website.

Schmidt said the program, which is in its fourth year, has been successful at bringing business to town and is aimed at creating economic growth in downtown Jackson especially. So far, the city has received a few applications for the latest round of the program, but Schmidt said he's hoping to get more in before the deadline.

"We want more people to apply for this," Schmidt said. "When the first round is done, a group from the Jackson Business Development Committee, which focuses its efforts on the downtown area, will decide which ones move to the second phase."

That phase is more intensive, requiring applicants to submit a business plan and flesh out the details of their proposed operation. Coaching is available, Schmidt said, and the economic development office will provide free assistance to anyone who wants it while coming up with a plan.

"The last phase is an oral presentation where the applicants go before a panel of judges," Schmidt said. "We call it the 'Shark Tank' phase because it resembles the show in that sense."

Schmidt said the city and economic development office will work with the winners to help them set up their business. They will receive funding and have the chance to locate a suitable building in the downtown area. If no building can be found downtown, other locations in Jackson are open for consideration. Schmidt said the challenge has helped stimulate entrepreneurship in Jackson and has directly led to the establishment of two new businesses, past winners The R.E.S.T Stop and Level 10 Fitness. Even runners-up, like the Jackson County Animal Protection Society's A Pet's Tale, have been able to set up businesses downtown as a result of participating in the challenge.

"If you have a concept, this is great opportunity," Schmidt said, "and even if you don't win, we can help you figure out how to put the pieces together to get your idea for a business off the ground."

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CONDEMNATION  
STATE OF MINNESOTA IN DISTRICT COURT  
COUNTY OF JACKSON FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
COURT FILE NO. 32-CV-21-140  
State of Minnesota, by its Commissioner of Transportation,  
Petitioner,  
vs.  
Eva M. Zishka  
Respondents.  
IN THE MATTER OF THE CONDEMNATION OF  
CERTAIN LANDS FOR TRUNK HIGHWAY PURPOSES  
NOTICE

To the Respondents hereinabove named:

You, and each of you, are hereby notified that on February 22, 2022, at 2:00 pm., or as soon thereafter as counsel can be heard, before Judge Darci J. Bentz, via remote hearing, from the Courthouse at Jackson, Jackson County, Minnesota, the above named petitioner will present to the above named Court a petition now on file herein for the condemnation of certain lands for trunk highway purposes. You are notified this matter is set for a remote hearing. This hearing will not be in person at the courthouse. Instructions for attending the remote hearing may be obtained from Jackson County Court Administration. A copy of said petition is attached hereto and incorporated herein.

YOU, AND EACH OF YOU, ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED, That at the above time and place the above-named petitioner will also move the court for an order transferring title and possession to petitioner of the parcels described in the petition in accordance with Minn. Stat. §117.042, as of March 29, 2022.

YOU, AND EACH OF YOU, ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED, that all persons occupying the property described in the petition must **VACATE THE AREA BEING ACQUIRED AND MOVE ALL OF YOUR PERSONAL PROPERTY FROM THE AREA BEING ACQUIRED ON OR BEFORE MARCH 29, 2022.** All advertising signs or devices located on the property being acquired must be removed by March 29, 2022.

YOU, AND EACH OF YOU, ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED, that (1) a party wishing to challenge the public use or public purpose, necessity, or authority for a taking must appear at the court hearing and state the objection or must appeal within 60 days of a court order; and (2) a court order approving the public use or public purpose, necessity, and authority for the taking is final unless an appeal is brought within 60 days after service of the order on the party.

Dated: October 26, 2021 KEITH ELLISON  
Attorney General  
State of Minnesota  
s/Mathew Ferche  
MATHEW FERCHE  
Assistant Attorney General  
Atty. Reg. No. 0391282  
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(651) 757-1457 (Voice)  
(651) 297-4077 (Fax)  
mathew.ferche@ag.state.mn.us  
ATTORNEY FOR PETITIONER

CONDEMNATION  
STATE OF MINNESOTA IN DISTRICT COURT  
COUNTY OF JACKSON FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
State of Minnesota, by its Commissioner of Transportation,  
Petitioner,  
vs.

Eva M. Zishka, Marvin Allan Zishka, also known as Marvin A. Zishka, David Paul Zishka, also known as David Zishka, Gail Zishka, County of Jackson, Steven Burns, also known as Steven R. Burns, Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., CV-FCA Cooperative, successor in interest by corporate merger, consolidation, amendment or conversion to FCA Co-op, CoBank, ACB, Howard Koedam, Wanita Koedam, Old Fel Co-op, successor in interest by corporate merger, consolidation, amendment, or conversion to Farmers Cooperative Elevator of Lakefield, Staples & Staples, LLC, Bank Midwest, Holiday Diversified Services, LLC, Staples Enterprises, Inc, Unknown heirs of John E. McGill, deceased, Unknown heirs of Vina L. McGill, deceased, Jason Hendrickson, Jean M. Hendrickson, Michael Hendrickson, State of Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, also all other persons unknown claiming any right, title, estate, interest or lien in the real estate described in the Petition herein,

Respondents.  
IN THE MATTER OF THE CONDEMNATION OF  
CERTAIN LANDS FOR TRUNK HIGHWAY PURPOSES  
PETITION

To the District Court above named the State of Minnesota brings this Petition and respectfully states and alleges:

I.  
That Trunk Highway Legislative Route numbered 086, which has been renumbered 86, and which has been located according to law and passes over the lands herein described.

That it is duly covered by Right of Way Plat Orders numbered 99108 and 99187.

II.  
That the Commissioner of Transportation deems it necessary that the State of Minnesota for trunk highway purposes obtain the lands herein described in fee simple absolute, together with the following rights:

To acquire a temporary easement in those cases which are herein particularly mentioned.

With reference to Parcel 203, it is the intention of this proceeding to except all severed mineral rights, not including rights to sand and gravel, and reserve to the owners of the severed mineral rights, their heirs, successors and assigns, the rights and privileges to explore for, mine, and remove the minerals, but only in such manner that will not interfere with the use of said land for highway purposes or with the safe and continuous operation of any public highway thereon, and further the severed mineral owners reserve the right to relocate the highway at the mineral owners' expense pursuant to Minnesota Statutes §160.10 as such may be amended.

It is the intention of the above-named petitioner to move the court for an order authorizing the Court Administrator to accept and deposit in an interest bearing account payments from the petitioner to the court pursuant to Minnesota statutes.

Further, it is the intention of the above-named petitioner to move the court for an order transferring title and possession of the parcels herein described, prior to the filing of an award by the court appointed commissioners, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes §117.042.

The petitioner reserves its right to recover costs of clean up and testing and all other damages arising from the presence of pollutants, contaminants, or hazardous materials on the property described herein, from all potential responsible parties, including respondents herein where appropriate, in a separate legal action to the extent permitted by law.

III.  
That the following described lands in these proceedings taken are situated in Jackson County, Minnesota; that the names of all persons appearing of record or known to your petitioner to be the owners of said lands or interested therein, including all whom your petitioner has been able by investigation and inquiry to discover, together with the nature of the ownership of each, as nearly as can be ascertained, are as follows:

Parcel 5 C.S. 3208 (86=86-21-1)  
S.P. 3208-19RW

All of the following:

A temporary easement for highway purposes in that part of of Lots 13 and 14, Block 5, Plat of South Lakefield, shown as Parcel 5 on Minnesota Department of Transportation Right of Way Plat Numbered 32-61 as the same is on file and of record in the office of the County Recorder in and for Jackson County, Minnesota, by the temporary easement symbol, said easement shall cease on December 1, 2027, or on such earlier date upon which the Commissioner of Transportation determines by formal order that it is no longer needed for highway purposes.

Names of parties interested in the above described land

and nature of interest:  
Eva M. Zishka Life Estate  
Marvin Allan Zishka, also known as Marvin A. Zishka  
David Paul Zishka, also known as David Zishka Fee  
Gail Zishka Spouse  
County of Jackson Taxes  
Parcel 6 C.S. 3208 (86=86-21-1)  
S.P. 3208-19RW

All of the following:

A temporary easement for highway purposes in that part of Lots 14, 15 and 16, Block 5, Plat of South Lakefield, shown as Parcel 6 on Minnesota Department of Transportation Right of Way Plat Numbered 32-61 as the same is on file and of record in the office of the County Recorder in and for Jackson County, Minnesota, by the temporary easement symbol, said easement shall cease on December 1, 2027, or on such earlier date upon which the Commissioner of Transportation determines by formal order that it is no longer needed for highway purposes.

Names of parties interested in the above described land and nature of interest:  
Steven Burns, also known as Steven R. Burns Fee  
Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. Mortgage  
County of Jackson Taxes and Special Assessments  
FEE ACQUISITION  
Parcel 13 C.S. 3208 (86=86-21-1)  
S.P. 3208-19RW

All of the following:

That part of the Southwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 33, Township 103 North, Range 36 West, shown as Parcel 13 on Minnesota Department of Transportation Right of Way Plat Numbered 32-62 as the same is on file and of record in the office of the County Recorder in and for Jackson County, Minnesota; containing 4578 square feet, more or less, which is encumbered in its entirety by an existing highway easement; together with other rights as set forth below, forming and being part of said Parcel 13:

Temporary Easement:

A temporary easement for highway purposes as shown on said plat as to said Parcel 13 by the temporary easement symbol, said easement shall cease on December 1, 2027, or on such earlier date upon which the Commissioner of Transportation determines by formal order that it is no longer needed for highway purposes.

Names of parties interested in the above described land and nature of interest:  
CV-FCA Cooperative, successor in interest by corporate merger, consolidation, amendment or conversion to FCA Co-op Fee  
CoBank, ACB Mortgage  
Howard Koedam Easement  
Wanita Koedam  
County of Jackson Taxes and Special Assessments  
FEE ACQUISITION  
Parcel 14 C.S. 3208 (86=86-21-1)  
S.P. 3208-19RW

All of the following:

That part of the Southwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 33, Township 103 North, Range 36 West, shown as Parcel 14 on Minnesota Department of Transportation Right of Way Plat Numbered 32-62 as the same is on file and of record in the office of the County Recorder in and for Jackson County, Minnesota; containing 2743 square feet, more or less, which is encumbered in its entirety by an existing highway easement; together with other rights as set forth below, forming and being part of said Parcel 14:

Temporary Easement:

A temporary easement for highway purposes as shown on said plat as to said Parcel 14 by the temporary easement symbol, said easement shall cease on December 1, 2027, or on such earlier date upon which the Commissioner of Transportation determines by formal order that it is no longer needed for highway purposes.

Names of parties interested in the above described land and nature of interest:  
Old Fel Co-op, successor in interest by corporate merger, consolidation, amendment, or conversion to Farmers Cooperative Elevator of Lakefield Record Fee  
CV-FCA Cooperative, successor in Claimant of an Interest  
interest by corporate merger, consolidation, amendment or conversion to FCA Co-op  
County of Jackson Taxes and Special Assessments  
Parcel 22 C.S. 3208 (86=86-21-1)  
S.P. 3208-19RW

All of the following:

A temporary easement for highway purposes in that part of Lots, 3 through 6, Block 23, Griffin's Addition to Lakefield, shown as Parcel 22 on Minnesota Department of Transportation Right of Way Plat Numbered 32-63 as the same is on file and of record in the office of the County Recorder in and for Jackson County, Minnesota, by the temporary easement symbol, said easement shall cease on December 1, 2027, or on such earlier date upon which the Commissioner of Transportation determines by formal order that it is no longer needed for highway purposes.

Names of parties interested in the above described land and nature of interest:  
Staples & Staples, LLC Fee  
Bank Midwest Mortgage  
Holiday Diversified Services, LLC Right of First Refusal  
Staples Enterprises, Inc Taxes  
County of Jackson  
FEE ACQUISITION  
Parcel 32 C.S. 3208 (86=86-21-1)  
S.P. 3208-19RW

All of the following:

That part of the Southeast Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 32, Township 103 North, Range 36 West, shown as Parcel 32 on Minnesota Department of Transportation Right of Way Plat Numbered 32-62 as the same is on file and of record in the office of the County Recorder in and for Jackson County, Minnesota; containing 3036 square feet, more or less, which is encumbered in its entirety by an existing highway easement.

Names of parties interested in the above described land and nature of interest:  
Unknown heirs of John E. McGill, deceased Fee  
Unknown heirs of Vina L. McGill, deceased Spouse  
County of Jackson Taxes  
FEE ACQUISITION  
Parcel 37 C.S. 3208 (86=86-21-1)  
S.P. 3208-19RW

All of the following:

That part of the Southeast Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 32, Township 103 North, Range 36 West, shown as Parcel 37 on Minnesota Department of Transportation Right of Way Plat Numbered 32-62 as the same is on file and of record in the office of the County Recorder in and for Jackson County, Minnesota; containing 6729 square feet, more or less, which is encumbered in its entirety by an existing highway easement; together with other rights as set forth below, forming and being part of said Parcel 37:

Temporary Easement:

A temporary easement for highway purposes as shown on said plat as to said Parcel 37 by the temporary easement symbol, said easement shall cease on December 1, 2027, or on such earlier date upon which the Commissioner of Transportation determines by formal order that it is no longer needed for highway purposes.

Names of parties interested in the above described land and nature of interest:  
CV-FCA Cooperative, successor in interest by corporate merger, consolidation, amendment or conversion to FCA Co-op Fee

CoBank, ACB Mortgage and Financing Statement  
Jason Hendrickson Easement  
Jean M. Hendrickson Easement  
Michael Hendrickson Easement  
County of Jackson Taxes and Special Assessments  
FEE ACQUISITION  
Parcel 203 C.S. 3208 (86=86-21-1)  
S.P. 3208-19RW

All of the following:

That part of the Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 5, Township 102 North, Range 36 West, shown as Parcel 203 on Minnesota Department of Transportation Right of Way Plat Numbered 32-61 as the same is on file and of record in the office of the County Recorder in and for Jackson County, Minnesota; containing 4254 square feet, more or less, which is encumbered in its entirety an existing highway easement; together with other rights as set forth below, forming and being part of said Parcel 203:

Temporary Easement:

A temporary easement for highway purposes as shown on said plat as to said Parcel 203 by the temporary easement symbol, said easement shall cease on December 1, 2027, or on such earlier date upon which the Commissioner of Transportation determines by formal order that it is no longer needed for highway purposes.

Names of parties interested in the above described land and nature of interest:  
David Paul Zishka, also known as David Zishka Fee  
Gail Zishka  
State of Minnesota Mineral Rights  
Department of Natural Resources  
County of Jackson Taxes  
WHEREFORE, Your petitioner prays that commissioners be appointed to appraise the damages which may be occasioned by such taking, and that such proceedings may be had herein as are provided by law.

Dated: October 20, 2021 KEITH ELLISON  
Attorney General  
State of Minnesota  
s/Mathew Ferche  
MATHEW FERCHE  
Assistant Attorney General  
Atty. Reg. No. 0391282  
445 Minnesota Street, Suite 1800  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-2134  
(651) 757-1457 (Voice)  
(651) 297-4077 (Fax)  
mathew.ferche@ag.state.mn.us  
ATTORNEY FOR PETITIONER

100822

**MINN. STAT. § 549.211  
ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

The party or parties on whose behalf the attached document is served acknowledge through their undersigned counsel that sanctions may be imposed pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 549.211.

Dated: October 20, 2021 KEITH ELLISON  
Attorney General  
State of Minnesota  
s/Mathew Ferche  
MATHEW FERCHE  
Assistant Attorney General  
Atty. Reg. No. 0391282  
(Dec. 2, 9, 16)

CONDEMNATION  
STATE OF MINNESOTA IN DISTRICT COURT  
COUNTY OF JACKSON FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
COURT FILE NO. 32-CV-21-141  
State of Minnesota, by its Commissioner of Transportation,  
Petitioner,  
vs.  
Michael Hendrickson, et al.  
Respondents.  
IN THE MATTER OF THE CONDEMNATION OF  
CERTAIN LANDS FOR TRUNK HIGHWAY PURPOSES  
NOTICE

To the Respondents hereinabove named:  
You, and each of you, are hereby notified that on February 22, 2022, at 2:20 pm., or as soon thereafter as counsel can be heard, before Judge Darci J. Bentz, via remote hearing, from the Courthouse at Jackson, Jackson County, Minnesota, the above named petitioner will present to the above named Court a petition now on file herein for the condemnation of certain lands for trunk highway purposes. You are notified this matter is set for a remote hearing. This hearing will not be in person at the courthouse. Instructions for attending the remote hearing may be obtained from Jackson County Court Administration. A copy of said petition is attached hereto and incorporated herein.

YOU, AND EACH OF YOU, ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED, That at the above time and place the above-named petitioner will also move the court for an order transferring title and possession to petitioner of the parcels described in the petition in accordance with Minn. Stat. §117.042, as of March 29, 2022.

YOU, AND EACH OF YOU, ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED, that all persons occupying the property described in the petition must **VACATE THE AREA BEING ACQUIRED AND MOVE ALL OF YOUR PERSONAL PROPERTY FROM THE AREA BEING ACQUIRED ON OR BEFORE MARCH 29, 2022.** All advertising signs or devices located on the property being acquired must be removed by March 29, 2022.

YOU, AND EACH OF YOU, ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED, that (1) a party wishing to challenge the public use or public purpose, necessity, or authority for a taking must appear at the court hearing and state the objection or must appeal within 60 days of a court order; and (2) a court order approving the public use or public purpose, necessity, and authority for the taking is final unless an appeal is brought within 60 days after service of the order on the party.

Dated: October 26, 2021 KEITH ELLISON  
Attorney General  
State of Minnesota  
s/Mathew Ferche  
MATHEW FERCHE  
Assistant Attorney General  
Atty. Reg. No. 0391282  
445 Minnesota Street, Suite 1800  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-2134  
(651) 757-1457 (Voice)  
(651) 297-4077 (Fax)  
mathew.ferche@ag.state.mn.us  
ATTORNEY FOR PETITIONER

CONDEMNATION  
STATE OF MINNESOTA IN DISTRICT COURT  
COUNTY OF JACKSON FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
State of Minnesota, by its Commissioner of Transportation,  
Petitioner,  
vs.

Michael Hendrickson, Jean M. Hendrickson, Jason Hendrickson, Unknown heirs of Leroy Bieber, deceased, Unknown heirs of Dorothy A.L. Suefflow, deceased, Unknown heirs of Harold Suefflow, also known as Harold C. Suefflow, deceased, Unknown heirs of Lillian Keller, also known as Lillian Keeler, deceased, Unknown heirs of John Keller, deceased, Patricia M. Bieber, County of Jackson, Eastfield Management, Inc., also known as Eastfield Management Inc., The Jackson County Historical Society, CV-FCA Cooperative, successor in interest by corporate merger, consolidation, amendment or conversion to FCA Co-op, Unknown heirs of H.J. Hollister, deceased, Elizabeth K. Malchow, Gloria Rossow, Unknown heirs of Iven D. Rossow, Carl Driggins, LaDonna Driggins, Jesse Lee Malchow, Shane James Springer, Ray Hostetler, Unknown heirs of Iven D. Rossow, also known as Iven Dale Rossow, deceased, Unknown heirs of Edward Kolander, deceased, Ronnie Frank Haugen, Sustainable Neighborhood Retirement Fund LLC, also all other persons unknown claiming any right, title, estate, interest or lien in the real estate described

Continued on A10

Continued from A9

in the Petition herein, Respondents.

IN THE MATTER OF THE CONDEMNATION OF CERTAIN LANDS FOR TRUNK HIGHWAY PURPOSES PETITION

To the District Court above named the State of Minnesota brings this Petition and respectfully states and alleges:

I.

That Trunk Highway Legislative Route numbered 086, which has been renumbered 86, and which has been located according to law and passes over the lands herein described.

That it is duly covered by Right of Way Plat Orders numbered 99108, 99187, 99109, and 99188.

II.

That the Commissioner of Transportation deems it necessary that the State of Minnesota for trunk highway purposes obtain the lands herein described in fee simple absolute, together with the following rights:

To acquire a temporary easement in those cases which are herein particularly mentioned.

It is the intention of the above-named petitioner to move the court for an order authorizing the Court Administrator to accept and deposit in an interest bearing account payments from the petitioner to the court pursuant to Minnesota statutes.

Further, it is the intention of the above-named petitioner to move the court for an order transferring title and possession of the parcels herein described, prior to the filing of an award by the court appointed commissioners, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes §117.042.

The petitioner reserves its right to recover costs of clean up and testing and all other damages arising from the presence of pollutants, contaminants, or hazardous materials on the property described herein, from all potential responsible parties, including respondents herein where appropriate, in a separate legal action to the extent permitted by law.

III.

That the following described lands in these proceedings taken are situated in Jackson County, Minnesota; that the names of all persons appearing of record or known to your petitioner to be the owners of said lands or interested therein, including all whom your petitioner has been able by investigation and inquiry to discover, together with the nature of the ownership of each, as nearly as can be ascertained, are as follows:

FEE ACQUISITION Parcel 34 C.S. 3208 (86=86-21-1) S.P. 3208-19RW

All of the following:

That part of the Southeast Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 32, Township 103 North, Range 36 West, shown as Parcel 34 on Minnesota Department of Transportation Right of Way Plat Numbered 32-62 as the same is on file and of record in the office of the County Recorder in and for Jackson County, Minnesota; containing 50 square feet, more or less; together with other rights as set forth below, forming and being part of said Parcel 34:

Temporary Easement:

A temporary easement for highway purposes as shown on said plat as to said Parcel 34 by the temporary easement symbol, said easement shall cease on December 1, 2027, or on such earlier date upon which the Commissioner of Transportation determines by formal order that it is no longer needed for highway purposes.

Names of parties interested in the above described land and nature of interest:

Unknown heirs of Leroy Bieber, deceased Fee
Unknown heirs of Dorothy A.L. Suefflow, deceased Fee
Unknown heirs of Harold Suefflow, also known as Harold C. Fee
Unknown heirs of Lillian Keller, also known as Lillian Keeler, deceased Fee
Unknown heirs of John Keller, deceased Spouse
Patricia M. Bieber Spouse
Jason Hendrickson Claimant of Fee
Michael Hendrickson Claimant of Fee
Jean M. Hendrickson Taxes
County of Jackson

FEE ACQUISITION Parcel 38 C.S. 3208 (86=86-21-1) S.P. 3208-19RW

All of the following:

That part of the Southeast Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 32, Township 103 North, Range 36 West, shown as Parcel 38 on Minnesota Department of Transportation Right of Way Plat Numbered 32-62 as the same is on file and of record in the office of the County Recorder in and for Jackson County, Minnesota; containing 4519 square feet, more or less, which is encumbered in its entirety by an existing highway easement; together with other rights as set forth below, forming and being part of said Parcel 38:

Temporary Easement:

A temporary easement for highway purposes as shown on said plat as to said Parcel 38 by the temporary easement symbol, said easement shall cease on December 1, 2027, or on such earlier date upon which the Commissioner of Transportation determines by formal order that it is no longer needed for highway purposes.

Names of parties interested in the above described land and nature of interest:

Michael Hendrickson Fee
Jean M. Hendrickson Fee
Jason Hendrickson Fee
Eastfield Management, Inc., also known as Eastfield Management Inc. Claimant of an Interest
The Jackson County Historical Society Claimant of an Interest
CV-FCA Cooperative, successor in interest by corporate merger, consolidation, amendment or conversion to FCA Co-op Easement
County of Jackson Taxes and Special Assessments

FEE ACQUISITION Parcel 46 C.S. 3208 (86=86-21-1) S.P. 3208-19RW

All of the following:

That part of the Northeast Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 32, Township 103 North, Range 36 West, shown as Parcel 46 on Minnesota Department of Transportation Right of Way Plat Numbered 32-63 as the same is on file and of record in the office of the County Recorder in and for Jackson County, Minnesota; containing 7656 square feet, more or less.

Names of parties interested in the above described land and nature of interest:

Unknown heirs of H.J. Hollister, deceased Fee
County of Jackson Taxes

FEE ACQUISITION Parcel 302A C.S. 3208 (86=86-21-1) S.P. 3208-19RW

All of the following:

That part of the Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 5, Township 102 North, Range 36 West, shown as Parcel 302A on Minnesota Department of Transportation Right of Way Plat Numbered 32-61 as the same is on file and of record in the office of the County Recorder in and for Jackson County, Minnesota; containing 3000 square feet, more or less.

Names of parties interested in the above described land and nature of interest:

Elizabeth K. Malchow Fee
Unknown heirs of Gloria Rossow Spouse
Unknown heirs of Iven D. Rossow Claimant of Fee
Carl Driggins Claimant of Fee
LaDonna Driggins
County of Jackson Taxes and Special Assessments
Jesse Lee Malchow TODD Beneficiary
Shane James Springer
Ray Hostettler TODD Beneficiary

FEE ACQUISITION

Parcel 302B C.S. 3208 (86=86-21-1) S.P. 3208-19RW

All of the following:

That part of the Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 5, Township 102 North, Range 36 West, shown as Parcel 302B on Minnesota Department of Transportation Right of Way Plat Numbered 32-61 as the same is on file and of record in the office of the County Recorder in and for Jackson County, Minnesota; containing 3375 square feet, more or less, which is encumbered in its entirety by an existing highway easement.

Names of parties interested in the above described land and nature of interest:

Unknown heirs of Iven D. Rossow, also known as Iven Dale Rossow, deceased Fee
Unknown heirs of Gloria Rossow Spouse
Elizabeth K. Malchow Claimant of Fee
County of Jackson Taxes and Special Assessments

FEE ACQUISITION

Parcel 55 C.S. 3208 (86=86-21-3) S.P. 3208-19RW

All of the following:

That part of the Southeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 32, Township 103 North, Range 36 West, shown as Parcel 55 on Minnesota Department of Transportation Right of Way Plat Numbered 32-64 as the same is on file and of record in the office of the County Recorder in and for Jackson County, Minnesota; containing 10909 square feet, more or less, which is encumbered in its entirety by an existing highway easement; together with other rights as set forth below, forming and being part of said Parcel 55:

Temporary Easement:

A temporary easement for highway purposes as shown on said plat as to said Parcel 55 by the temporary easement symbol, said easement shall cease on December 1, 2027, or on such earlier date upon which the Commissioner of Transportation determines by formal order that it is no longer needed for highway purposes.

Names of parties interested in the above described land and nature of interest:

Unknown heirs of Edward Kolander, deceased Fee
County of Jackson Taxes

FEE ACQUISITION

Parcel 56 C.S. 3208 (86=86-21-3) S.P. 3208-19RW

All of the following:

That part of Southeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 32, Township 103 North, Range 36 West, shown as Parcel 56 on Minnesota Department of Transportation Right of Way Plat Numbered 32-64 as the same is on file and of record in the office of the County Recorder in and for Jackson County, Minnesota; containing 50 square feet, more or less; together with other rights as set forth below, forming and being part of said Parcel 56:

Temporary Easement:

A temporary easement for highway purposes as shown on said plat as to said Parcel 56 by the temporary easement symbol, said easement shall cease on December 1, 2027, or on such earlier date upon which the Commissioner of Transportation determines by formal order that it is no longer needed for highway purposes.

Names of parties interested in the above described land and nature of interest:

Ronnie Frank Haugen Contract for Deed
Sustainable Neighborhood Retirement Fund LLC Fee
County of Jackson Taxes and Special Assessments

WHEREFORE, Your petitioner prays that commissioners be appointed to appraise the damages which may be occasioned by such taking, and that such proceedings may be had herein as are provided by law.

Dated: October 20, 2021

KEITH ELLISON
Attorney General
State of Minnesota
s/Mathew Ferche
MATHEW FERCHE
Assistant Attorney General
Atty. Reg. No. 0391282
445 Minnesota Street, Suite 1800
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-2134
(651) 757-1457 (Voice)
(651) 297-4077 (Fax)
mathew.ferche@ag.state.mn.us
ATTORNEY FOR PETITIONER

100822

MINN. STAT. § 549.211 ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The party or parties on whose behalf the attached document is served acknowledge through their undersigned counsel that sanctions may be imposed pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 549.211.

Dated: October 20, 2021

KEITH ELLISON
Attorney General
State of Minnesota
s/Mathew Ferche
MATHEW FERCHE
Assistant Attorney General
Atty. Reg. No. 0391282
(Dec. 2, 9, 16)

CONDEMNATION

STATE OF MINNESOTA IN DISTRICT COURT
COUNTY OF JACKSON FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT
COURT FILE NO. 32-CV-21-142

State of Minnesota, by its Commissioner of Transportation, Petitioner,

vs.

County of Jackson, et al. Respondents.

IN THE MATTER OF THE CONDEMNATION OF CERTAIN LANDS FOR TRUNK HIGHWAY PURPOSES NOTICE

To the Respondents hereinabove named:

You, and each of you, are hereby notified that on February 22, 2022, at 2:40 pm., or as soon thereafter as counsel can be heard, before Judge Darci J. Bentz, via remote hearing, from the Courthouse at Jackson, Jackson County, Minnesota, the above named petitioner will present to the above named Court a petition now on file herein for the condemnation of certain lands for trunk highway purposes. You are notified this matter is set for a remote hearing. This hearing will not be in person at the courthouse. Instructions for attending the remote hearing may be obtained from Jackson County Court Administration. A copy of said petition is attached hereto and incorporated herein.

YOU, AND EACH OF YOU, ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED, That at the above time and place the above-named petitioner will also move the court for an order transferring title and possession to petitioner of the parcels described in the petition in accordance with Minn. Stat. §117.042, as of March 29, 2022.

YOU, AND EACH OF YOU, ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED, that all persons occupying the property described in the petition must VACATE THE AREA BEING ACQUIRED AND MOVE ALL OF YOUR PERSONAL PROPERTY FROM THE AREA BEING ACQUIRED ON OR BEFORE MARCH 29, 2022. All advertising signs or devices located on the property being acquired must be removed by March 29, 2022.

YOU, AND EACH OF YOU, ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED, that (1) a party wishing to challenge the public use or public purpose, necessity, or authority for a taking must appear at the court hearing and state the objection or must appeal within 60 days of a court order; and (2) a court order approving the public use or public purpose, necessity, and authority for the taking is final unless an appeal is brought within 60 days after service of the order on the party.

Dated: October 26, 2021

KEITH ELLISON
Attorney General
State of Minnesota

s/Mathew Ferche
MATHEW FERCHE
Assistant Attorney General
Atty. Reg. No. 0391282
445 Minnesota Street, Suite 1800
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(651) 757-1457 (Voice)
(651) 297-4077 (Fax)
mathew.ferche@ag.state.mn.us
ATTORNEY FOR PETITIONER

STATE OF MINNESOTA IN DISTRICT COURT
COUNTY OF JACKSON FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT

State of Minnesota, by its Commissioner of Transportation, Petitioner,

vs.

County of Jackson, The Jackson County Historical Society, Michael Joseph Mathews, Renee Lynn Mathews, Bake That Dollar LLC, Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, DG Retail, LLC, doing business as Dollar General Stores, Unknown heirs of A.D. Palmer, deceased, Unknown heirs of W.A. Funk, deceased, EDF Renewable Services, Inc., formerly known as enXco Service Corporation, a Delaware corporation, Alvin Schultz, AAA Collections Midwest, Inc., Unknown heirs of Ann G. Schultz, also known as Ann Gladys Schultz, also known as Gladys Schultz, deceased, Gwen Wiederhoff, David Wiederhoff, Chris Schultz, Leanne Schultz, Nancy Hutzler, Jim Hutzler, Joann Bretzman, Jim Bretzman, Cindy Hutzler, Mike Hutzler, Amy Pribyl, Steve Pribyl, Tina Krumwiede, Brian Krumwiede, Discover Bank, Cooperative Energy Company, Hage Oil & Bowlers Inn, Inc., John Spillman, Linda K. Anderson, also known as Linda Anderson, Kevin Anderson, also all other persons unknown claiming any right, title, estate, interest or lien in the real estate described in the Petition herein.

Respondents.

IN THE MATTER OF THE CONDEMNATION OF CERTAIN LANDS FOR TRUNK HIGHWAY PURPOSES PETITION

To the District Court above named the State of Minnesota brings this Petition and respectfully states and alleges:

I.

That Trunk Highway Legislative Route numbered 086, which has been renumbered 86, and which has been located according to law and passes over the lands herein described.

That it is duly covered by Right of Way Plat Orders numbered 99088, 99187 and 99188.

II.

That the Commissioner of Transportation deems it necessary that the State of Minnesota for trunk highway purposes obtain the lands herein described in fee simple absolute, together with the following rights:

To acquire a temporary easement in those cases which are herein particularly mentioned.

It is the intention of the above-named petitioner to move the court for an order authorizing the Court Administrator to accept and deposit in an interest bearing account payments from the petitioner to the court pursuant to Minnesota statutes.

Further, it is the intention of the above-named petitioner to move the court for an order transferring title and possession of the parcels herein described, prior to the filing of an award by the court appointed commissioners, pursuant to Minnesota Statutes §117.042.

The petitioner reserves its right to recover costs of clean up and testing and all other damages arising from the presence of pollutants, contaminants, or hazardous materials on the property described herein, from all potential responsible parties, including respondents herein where appropriate, in a separate legal action to the extent permitted by law.

III.

That the following described lands in these proceedings taken are situated in Jackson County, Minnesota; that the names of all persons appearing of record or known to your petitioner to be the owners of said lands or interested therein, including all whom your petitioner has been able by investigation and inquiry to discover, together with the nature of the ownership of each, as nearly as can be ascertained, are as follows:

FEE ACQUISITION Parcel 41 C.S. 3208 (86=86-21-1) S.P. 3208-19RW

All of the following:

That part of the Southeast Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 32, Township 103 North, Range 36 West, shown as Parcel 41 on Minnesota Department of Transportation Right of Way Plat Numbered 32-62 as the same is on file and of record in the office of the County Recorder in and for Jackson County, Minnesota; containing 3928 square feet, more or less, which is encumbered in its entirety by an existing highway easement; together with other rights as set forth below, forming and being part of said Parcel 41:

Temporary Easement:

A temporary easement for highway purposes as shown on said plat as to said Parcel 41 by the temporary easement symbol, said easement shall cease on December 1, 2027, or on such earlier date upon which the Commissioner of Transportation determines by formal order that it is no longer needed for highway purposes.

Names of parties interested in the above described land and nature of interest:

County of Jackson Fee
The Jackson County Claimant of an Interest
Historical Society
Michael Joseph Mathews Claimant of an Interest
Renee Lynn Mathews

FEE ACQUISITION Parcel 58 C.S. 3208 (86=86-21-3) S.P. 3208-19RW

All of the following:

That part of the Southeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 32, Township 102 North, Range 36 West, shown as Parcel 58 on Minnesota Department of Transportation Right of Way Plat Numbered 32-64 as the same is on file and of record in the office of the County Recorder in and for Jackson County, Minnesota; containing 3942 square feet, more or less, which is encumbered in its entirety by an existing highway easement; together with other rights as set forth below, forming and being part of said Parcel 58:

Temporary Easement:

A temporary easement for highway purposes as shown on said plat as to said Parcel 58 by the temporary easement symbol, said easement shall cease on December 1, 2027, or on such earlier date upon which the Commissioner of Transportation determines by formal order that it is no longer needed for highway purposes.

excepting therefrom the existing sign situate thereon.

Names of parties interested in the above described land and nature of interest:

Bake That Dollar LLC Fee
Wells Fargo Bank, National Association Mortgage
DG Retail, LLC, doing business as Lessee
Dollar General Stores
County of Jackson Taxes

FEE ACQUISITION Parcel 62 C.S. 3208 (86=86-21-3) S.P. 3208-19RW

All of the following:

That part of the Southeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 32, Township 103 North, Range 36 West, shown as Parcel 62 on Minnesota Department of Transportation Right of Way Plat Numbered 32-64 as the same is on file and of record in the office of the County Recorder in and for Jackson County, Minnesota; containing 6963 square feet, more or less, which is encumbered in its entirety by an existing highway easement.

Names of parties interested in the above described land and nature of interest:

Unknown heirs of A.D. Palmer, deceased

Continued on A11

Continued from A10

Fee  
County of Jackson Taxes  
**FEE ACQUISITION**  
Parcel 67 C.S. 3208 (86=86-21-3)  
S.P. 3208-19RW

All of the following:

That part of the Southwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 33, Township 103 North, Range 36 West, shown as Parcel 67 on Minnesota Department of Transportation Right of Way Plat Numbered 32-64 as the same is on file and of record in the office of the County Recorder in and for Jackson County, Minnesota; containing 13244 square feet, more or less, which is encumbered in its entirety by an existing highway easement.

Names of parties interested in the above described land and nature of interest:  
Unknown heirs of W.A. Funk, deceased Fee  
County of Jackson Taxes  
Parcel 25 C.S. 3208 (86=86) 901  
S.P. 3208-19RW

All of the following:

A temporary easement for highway purposes in that part of the Southeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 5, Township 102 North, Range 36 West, shown as Parcel 25 on Minnesota Department of Transportation Right of Way Plat Numbered 32-60 as the same is on file and of record in the office of the County Recorder in and for Jackson County, Minnesota, by the temporary easement symbol, said easement shall cease on December 1, 2027, or on such earlier date upon which the Commissioner of Transportation determines by formal order that it is no longer needed for highway purposes; excepting therefrom the existing sign situate thereon.

Names of parties interested in the above described land and nature of interest:  
EDF Renewable Services, Inc., formerly Fee  
known as enXco Service Corporation, a Delaware corporation Taxes  
County of Jackson  
Parcel 217A C.S. 3208 (86=86) 901  
S.P. 3208-19RW

All of the following:

A temporary easement for highway purposes in that part of Lot 4, Block 1, SCHULTZ'S SUBDIVISION, shown as Parcel 217A on Minnesota Department of Transportation Right of Way Plat Numbered 32-60 as the same is on file and of record in the office of the County Recorder in and for Jackson County, Minnesota, by the temporary easement symbol, said easement shall cease on December 1, 2027, or on such earlier date upon which the Commissioner of Transportation determines by formal order that it is no longer needed for highway purposes.

Names of parties interested in the above described land and nature of interest:  
Alvin Schultz Fee  
AAA Collections Midwest, Inc. Judgment  
County of Jackson Taxes and Special Assessments  
**FEE ACQUISITION**  
Parcel 217C C.S. 3208 (86=86) 901  
S.P. 3208-19RW

All of the following:

That part of Lot 3, Block 24, Fredrickson's Addition to the Village of South Lakefield, shown as Parcel 217C on Minnesota Department of Transportation Right of Way Plat Numbered 32-60 as the same is on file and of record in the office of the County Recorder in and for Jackson County, Minnesota.

Names of parties interested in the above described land and nature of interest:  
Unknown heirs of Ann G. Schultz, also known as Fee  
Ann Gladys Schultz, also known as Gladys Schultz, deceased  
Alvin Schultz Claimant of an Interest  
Gwen Wiederhoft Possible Claimant of an Interest  
David Wiederhoft Possible Claimant of an Interest  
Chris Schultz Possible Claimant of an Interest  
Leanne Schultz Possible Claimant of an Interest  
Jim Hutzler Possible Claimant of an Interest  
Joann Bretzman Possible Claimant of an Interest  
Jim Bretzman Possible Claimant of an Interest  
Cindy Hutzler Possible Claimant of an Interest  
Mike Hutzler Possible Claimant of an Interest  
Amy Pribyl Possible Claimant of an Interest  
Steve Pribyl Possible Claimant of an Interest  
Tina Krumwiede Possible Claimant of an Interest  
Brian Krumwiede Judgment  
Discover Bank Taxes and Special Assessments  
County of Jackson  
**FEE ACQUISITION**  
Parcel 218 C.S. 3208 (86=86) 901  
S.P. 3208-19RW

All of the following:

That part of Lots 3 and 4, Block 23, Fredrickson's Addition to the Village of South Lakefield, shown as Parcel 218 on Minnesota Department of Transportation Right of Way Plat Numbered 32-60 as the same is on file and of record in the office of the County Recorder in and for Jackson County, Minnesota; together with other rights as set forth below, forming and being part of said Parcel 218: Temporary Easement:

A temporary easement for highway purposes as shown on said plat as to said Parcel 218 by the temporary easement symbol, said easement shall cease on December 1, 2027, or on such earlier date upon which the Commissioner of Transportation determines by formal order that it is no longer needed for highway purposes; excepting therefrom the existing sign and flagpole situate thereon.

Names of parties interested in the above described land and nature of interest:  
Cooperative Energy Company Fee  
Hage Oil & Bowlers Inn, Inc. Mortgage  
County of Jackson Taxes  
**FEE ACQUISITION**  
Parcel 219B C.S. 3208 (86=86) 901  
S.P. 3208-19RW

All of the following:

That part of Lots 3 and 4, Block 16, Frederickson's Addition to the Village of South Lakefield, shown as Parcel 219B on Minnesota Department of Transportation Right of Way Plat Numbered 32-60 as the same is on file and of record in the office of the County Recorder in and for Jackson County, Minnesota; together with other rights as set forth below, forming and being part of said Parcel 219B:

Temporary Easement:

A temporary easement for highway purposes as shown on said plat as to said Parcel 219B by the temporary easement symbol, said easement shall cease on December 1, 2027, or on such earlier date upon which the Commissioner of Transportation determines by formal order that it is no longer needed for highway purposes.

Names of parties interested in the above described land and nature of interest:  
John Spillman Contract for Deed  
Linda K. Anderson, also known as Linda Anderson Fee  
Kevin Anderson  
County of Jackson Taxes and Special Assessments  
WHEREFORE, Your petitioner prays that commissioners be appointed to appraise the damages which may be occasioned by such taking, and that such proceedings may be had herein as are provided by law.  
Dated: October 20, 2021 KEITH ELLISON  
Attorney General  
State of Minnesota  
s/Mathew Ferche  
MATHEW FERCHE  
Assistant Attorney General  
Atty. Reg. No. 0391282  
445 Minnesota Street, Suite 1800

100822

**MINN. STAT. § 549.211  
ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

The party or parties on whose behalf the attached document is served acknowledge through their undersigned counsel that sanctions may be imposed pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 549.211. Dated: October 20, 2021  
KEITH ELLISON  
Attorney General  
State of Minnesota  
s/Mathew Ferche  
MATHEW FERCHE  
Assistant Attorney General  
Atty. Reg. No. 0391282  
(Dec. 2, 9, 16)

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
COUNTY OF LYON  
IN DISTRICT COURT  
FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Subject Matter: 14 Other Civil  
Court File No. 17-CV-11-401  
Judge  
Christina M. Wietzema

In re the Matter of  
**RED ROCK RURAL  
WATER SYSTEM**  
Petitioner  
**NOTICE OF ASSESSMENT  
HEARING FOR  
RED ROCK RURAL  
WATER SYSTEM'S 2021  
INTERNAL EXPANSION**

TO WHOM IT MAY  
CONCERN:

Notice is hereby given that Red Rock Rural Water System ("RRRWS") has filed a Petition at the Cottonwood County, Minnesota District Court, which requests that the real estate owned by all individuals who connected to RRRWS in 2021, and who have not fully paid for the connection, be assessed for all remaining costs to connect to RRRWS.

A hearing on the Petition is going to occur in the courtroom at the Cottonwood County, Minnesota Court-house, which is located at 900 3rd Avenue, in the City of Windom, Minnesota 56101 on December 29, 2021 at 1:15 p.m.  
Written or oral objections will be considered at the hearing.

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
COUNTY OF LYON  
IN DISTRICT COURT  
FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
Subject Matter:  
14 Other Civil  
Court File No.  
42-CV-06-1150  
Assigned to  
Judge Tricia B. Zimmer

In the Matter of  
**LINCOLN PIPESTONE RU-  
RAL WATER SYSTEM**  
Petitioner  
**NOTICE OF ASSESSMENT  
HEARING FOR  
LINCOLN PIPESTONE RU-  
RAL WATER SYSTEM**

TO WHOM IT MAY  
CONCERN:

Notice is hereby given that Lincoln Pipestone Rural Water System ("LPRW") has filed a Petition at the Lyon County, Minnesota District Court, which requests that the real estate owned by all individuals and businesses who connected to LPRW in 2021, and who have not fully paid for their connection to LPRW, be assessed for all remaining costs to connect to LPRW.

A hearing on this Petition is going to occur in one of the courtrooms at the Lyon County Government Center, which is located at 607 West Main Street, Marshall Minnesota 56258 on January 5, 2022, at 1:15 p.m.  
Written or oral objections will be considered at the hearing.  
The proposed assess-

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
COUNTY OF JACKSON  
FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
DISTRICT COURT  
**PROBATE DIVISION**  
Court File No. 32-PR-21-44  
Estate of  
**Scott A. Luig,**  
Decedent

**NOTICE AND ORDER FOR  
HEARING ON PETITION  
FOR DETERMINATION OF  
DESCENT OF OMITTED  
PROPERTY**

A Petition for Determination of Descent of Omitted Property has been filed with this Court. The Petition represents that the Decedent owned property omitted from a previous probate proceeding. The Petition requests the Court to determine the descent of such property and assign the property to the persons entitled.  
Any objections to the Petition must be filed with the Court prior to or raised at the hearing. If proper, and no objections are filed or raised, the Petition may be granted.  
**IT IS ORDERED** and Notice is further given, that the Petition will be heard on

St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-2134  
(651) 757-1457 (Voice)  
(651) 297-4077 (Fax)  
mathew.ferche@ag.state.mn.us  
ATTORNEY FOR PETITIONER

The proposed assessment rolls are on file with the County Auditors of Cottonwood County, Jackson County, Martin County, Murray County, and Watonwan County.

The area proposed to be assessed consists of every parcel of land benefited by the connection to RRRWS, and which was previously petitioned for improvement by the owners of said parcel of land.

The assessments will be made without regard to acreage or frontage on the water mains or branches of the water system. No assessment will be made upon land, which has not been made the subject of a petition or has not been designated and requested to be served by the owner.

Sheila Pierson  
Court Administrator  
By: Juli Fast  
Deputy Court Administrator  
November 29, 2021  
4:01 p.m.

This instrument drafted by:  
Ronald J. Schramel  
Attorney for Red Rock Rural Water System  
Atty. Reg. 254757  
Schramel Law Office  
910 Fourth Avenue –  
PO Box 505  
Windom, MN 56101  
P – 507-831-1301  
F-507-831-4200  
(Dec. 9)

ment rolls are on file with the County Auditors of Jackson County, Lac Qui Parle County, Lincoln County, Lyon County, Murray County, Nobles County, Pipestone County, Rock County, and Yellow Medicine County.

The area proposed to be assessed consists of every parcel of land benefited by the connection to LPRW, and which was previously petitioned for improvement by the owners of said parcel of land.

The assessments will be made without regard to acreage or frontage on the water mains or branches of the water system. No assessment will be made upon land, which has not been made the subject of a petition or has not been designated and requested to be served by the owner.

Aimee Primus  
Court Administrator  
By: Amy Larsen  
Deputy Court Administrator  
November 24, 2021

This instrument drafted by:  
Ronald J. Schramel  
Attorney for Lincoln Pipestone Rural Water  
Atty. Reg. No. 254757  
Schramel Law Office  
910 Fourth Avenue –  
PO Box 505  
Windom, MN 56101  
P – 507-831-1301  
F-507-831-4200  
(Dec. 9)

December 27, 2021, at 1:15 p.m. via Zoom, by this Court at 405 4th Street, Jackson, Minnesota.

1. Notice shall be given to all interested persons (Minn. Stat. 524.1-401) and persons who have filed a demand for notice pursuant to Minn. Stat. 524.3-204.

2. Notice shall be given by publishing this Notice and Order as provided by law and by: Mailing a copy of this Notice and Order at least 14 days prior to the hearing date. Dated: November 24, 2021

**BY THE COURT**  
Darci J. Bentz  
Judge of District Court  
Kayla McKinney  
Court Administrator

Attorney for Petitioner:  
William J. Wetering  
Hedeon, Hughes  
& Wetering  
1206 Oxford Street  
P. O. Box 9  
Worthington, MN, 56187  
Attorney License No:  
184007  
Telephone: (507) 376-3181  
FAX: (507) 376-9404  
Email: bill@wgnlaw.com  
(Dec. 9, 16)

**JACKSON COUNTY  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC  
HEARING  
FEE SCHEDULE**

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing has been scheduled for Tuesday, December 21, 2021, at 9:30 a.m., in the Jackson County Resource Center, Cafeteria Room, 402 White St. (Door #7), Jackson, MN. The Jackson County Board will be conducting the public hearing pursuant to Minnesota Statute 373.41 regarding proposed revisions to the Jackson County Fee Schedule.

Anyone interested in viewing the proposed Fee Schedule may do so at the Jackson County Administrator's Office in the Jackson County Courthouse during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Questions or comments may be directed to the County Administrator's Office at 507-847-4182.

Ryan Krosch  
County Administrator  
(Dec. 9)

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MASSAGE TABLE made by Custom CraftWorks, model Athena. New excellent condition. Comes with bolster and carry case, \$395. Call 507-877-3015, evenings.

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STORAGE SPACE. 10x20s for \$50.00 a month, 5x20s for \$25.00 a month. Jasper Storage Company, Jackson, 507-847-5657.

**Wanted**

EXPERIENCED PERSON in Jackson area to refinish a large antique buffet. Call 507-822-8561 or 507-840-5555.

**Notice**

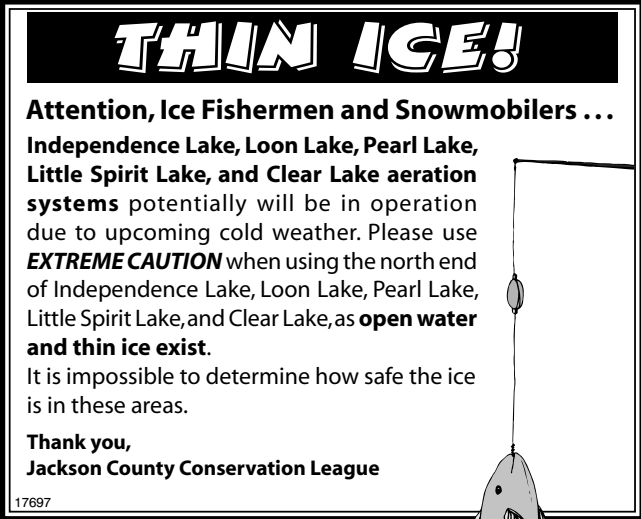
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**Independence Lake, Loon Lake, Pearl Lake, Little Spirit Lake, and Clear Lake aeration systems** potentially will be in operation due to upcoming cold weather. Please use **EXTREME CAUTION** when using the north end of Independence Lake, Loon Lake, Pearl Lake, Little Spirit Lake, and Clear Lake, as **open water and thin ice exist**.  
It is impossible to determine how safe the ice is in these areas.  
**Thank you,**  
**Jackson County Conservation League**

**ELEMENTARY TEACHER**  
JCC has an opening for a Teacher at Pleasantview Elementary (upper-level elementary). This position will begin January 3, 2022.  
**Teacher Applicant Packet should include:**  
1. Letter of application  
2. Resume  
3. Formal application  
(found online at [www.jccschools.com/employment](http://www.jccschools.com/employment))  
4. Copy of your college transcripts  
5. Minnesota license (or ability to attain by January 2022)  
6. 3 letters of recommendation  
Send to: Supt. Barry Schmidt, Jackson County Central Schools  
Box 119, Jackson MN 56143  
phone: 507-847-3608 or fax: 507-847-3078  
or Emily.Anderson@jccschools.net  
**DEADLINE: UNTIL FILLED**

**PARAPROFESSIONAL**  
JCC has paraprofessional openings in Lakefield at the Middle School and also at Pleasantview. These positions are Monday through Friday around 35-37.5 hours per week.  
To apply, complete application (found online at [www.jccschools.com/employment](http://www.jccschools.com/employment)) and submit to Emily.Anderson@jccschools.net  
**DEADLINE: UNTIL FILLED**

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[hrdepartment@dvhhs.org](mailto:hrdepartment@dvhhs.org) / 507-847-4000

# County sees 18 straight weeks of double-digit caseload hikes

by JUSTIN R. LESSMAN  
Publisher

Jackson County recorded 34 new cases of COVID-19 during the first week of December, marking 18 consecutive weeks of double-digit weekly caseload increases in the county after 14 consecutive weeks of single-digit — or no — increases.

The county's double-digit weekly caseload increase comes even as the number of locals vaccinated against COVID-19 continues to increase. As of this past Sunday, 5,228 locals — 55.7 percent of Jackson County residents 5 years of age and older — had received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine, an increase of 47 over the Sunday prior. Of those 5,228, 4,977 — 53 percent of the county's population of those 5 years of age and older — have received a completed vaccine series.

In terms of the county's population as a whole, 52.5 percent have received at least one dose, while exactly half have received a completed vaccine series. Nearly 87 percent of locals 65 years of age or older have received at least one dose; close to 85 percent have received a completed vaccine series. As of this past Sunday, 165 locals between the ages of 12 and 15 had received at least one vaccine dose; 157 had received a completed vaccine series; 62 locals between the ages of 5 and 11 had received at least one dose; 17 had received a complete vaccine series.

Despite the increasing vaccination rates, the county remains behind the state as a whole in terms of percentages of residents vaccinated. As of this past Sunday, 70.4 percent of Minnesotans 5 years of age and older had received at least one dose of vaccine, while 65.1

percent had received a completed vaccine series. Nearly 66 percent of the Minnesota population as a whole has received at least one dose of vaccine, with 61 percent fully vaccinated; 96.5 percent of Minnesotans 65 years of age or older have received at least one dose, with 92.9 percent fully vaccinated. Statewide, nearly 177,500 people between the ages of 12 and 15 have received at least one dose; more than 162,000 are fully vaccinated. More than 124,000 children between the ages of 5 and 11 have received at least one dose; close to 30,300 are fully vaccinated.

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 945,500 cases of the illness and tallied close to 9,700 deaths. To date, the deaths of 16 Jackson County residents have been attributed to COVID-19.

# Daberkow opens new boutique downtown

A family legacy

by JOSHUA SCHUETZ  
Staff Writer

When Kayla Daberkow opened her new boutique at 605 Second St. in downtown Jackson, she carried on a family tradition of managing the property that stretches back a quarter-century.

She also marked the next step in a journey for her that began a few months ago with an existential crisis.

"Back in May, I had a transformative experience," said Daberkow, whose boutique and tanning center, Man! I feel Like a Woman, opened last week. "I was struggling with my mental health and wasn't sure if I wanted to be here anymore, so I checked myself into a hospital."

She worked her way to recovery, step by step and bit by bit, but the idea of owning a business was still far away from her mind.

Then, something providential happened.

"I made a comment on Facebook about wanting to open up a boutique in Jackson and it just exploded from there," she said. "Tom Nelson with the Jackson Economic Development Office hunted me down and we talked about the idea."

From there, Daberkow started working on her business plan. As the storefront at 605 Second St. —

previously owned by her father and grandfather and most recently a Sturdevant's Auto Parts — was recently vacated due a merging of Sturdevant's with Auto Value Jackson, she decided to renovate it and, in doing so, become the third generation of her family to operate a business on the site.

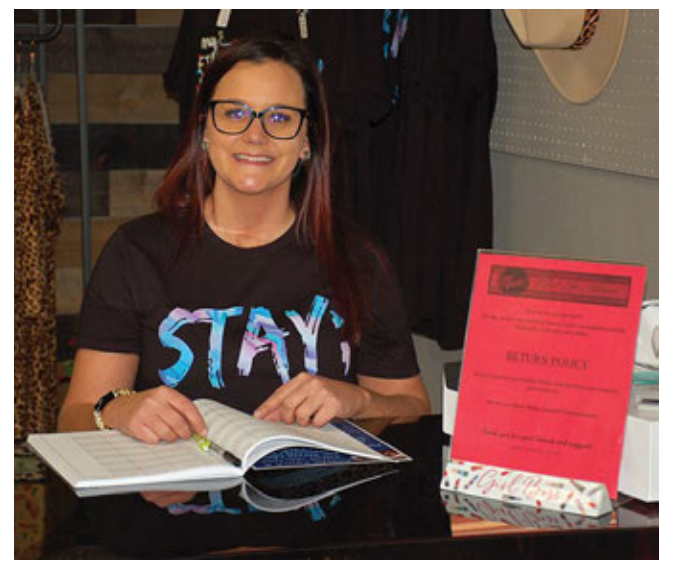
"It took my contractors about a month to renovate it," she said.

The store offers a variety of products, including clothes, personal hygiene items, hats and shoes. Daberkow is planning to add bags in the near future.

"We carry all sizes of women's clothes, along with shoes, hats and jewelry," she said. "We also offer access to a tanning bed and a several people have already signed up for that, which is great."

As she's getting her business off the ground, Daberkow is also working on a campaign to raise awareness about mental health and provide support to people struggling with depression, suicidal thoughts and other mental health issues.

The campaign, which launched alongside her



PHOTOS BY JOSHUA SCHUETZ  
Kayla Daberkow is the owner of Man! I feel Like a Woman, a new boutique and tanning center in downtown Jackson.

store, is called "Stay," and was inspired by Daberkow's own experiences last May.

It has two parts — a line of shirts and stickers available for sale at the boutique, the proceeds of which will go to the National Alliance for Mental Illness, and a group meeting for anyone interested in coming, free of charge, on Thursday nights.

Those group meetings

will begin in January, Daberkow said.

"We'll start next year and what I really want to do is create a space where people feel safe talking about their struggles and are able to get support," she said. "I'm really excited about that, because I want to share my experience and show people that there's always a reason to stay."

Please join us for a  
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Wednesday, December 15  
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Early Advertising and News Deadlines For Christmas and New Year's

Due to the observance of Christmas on Saturday, December 25 and New Year's on Saturday, January 1, the following deadlines apply for all news, display ads, and classifieds:

**LIVEWIRE** - COPY DEADLINE FOR DECEMBER 19 ISSUE  
Noon, Wednesday, December 15

**LIVEWIRE** - COPY DEADLINE FOR DECEMBER 26 ISSUE  
Noon, Tuesday, December 21

**LIVEWIRE** - COPY DEADLINE FOR JANUARY 2 ISSUE  
Noon, Tuesday, December 28

**PEACH** - COPY DEADLINE FOR DECEMBER 23 ISSUE  
Noon, Thursday, December 16

**PEACH** - COPY DEADLINE FOR DECEMBER 30 ISSUE  
Noon, Wednesday, December 22


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JCC WRESTLING

# Huskies have three champions in opening tournament

Handevidt named Outstanding Wrestler for the tournament

by DAN CONDON  
 Sports Editor

A trio of Jackson County Central wrestlers were individual champions Saturday at the season-opening Don Hall Invitational in Glencoe and the Huskies finished second out of 11 teams.

Nolan Ambrose, Logan Butzon and Payton Handevidt each finished first and Kie Anderson, Thomas Freking, Matt Haley and Caleb Vancura each took home runner-up finishes.

Class AA No. 11 Watertown Mayer-Mayer Lutheran won the team title with a score of 211. JCC, ranked No. 3 in Class A, was just behind with 215 team points. The Huskies

finished ahead of Class A No. 3 Kimball Area (194.5), with Zumbrota-Mazeppa (151) and New Ulm Area (91) rounding out the top five of the 11-team tourney.

Handevidt was named the tournament's Outstanding Wrestler after winning the 170-pound championship.

A two-time state champ and the top-ranked wrestler at 160 pounds, Handevidt opened the tournament with a pin in 31 seconds, then earned an 18-3 technical fall in the semifinals.

That set up a battle of top-ranked wrestlers in the finals as Handevidt faced Ashton Hanan of Kimball Area, who is ranked No. 1 at 170 pounds. Handevidt won the battle with an 8-2 decision for the first-place finish.

"Payton bumped up a weight to wrestle the No. 1-ranked 170-pounder from Kimball and beat him 8-2," JCC head coach Nate

Hanson said. "He had a great week of practice and a really good tournament. He is wrestling really well right now."

Ambrose, the reigning Class A 106-pound state champion and top-ranked wrestler at 113 pounds, dominated the 120-pound class Saturday. He opened his season with a pair of first-period pins before topping Jack Krier of ZM 6-2 in the finals. Krier took a 2-0 lead with a first-period takedown before Ambrose scored the final six points.

Butzon, ranked No. 2 at 138 pounds, easily won the weight class in Glencoe. A pin started his season on the right note and Butzon followed with a technical fall in the semifinals. In the championship match, Butzon topped ZM's Ben Murray 13-6.

Anderson, ranked No. 2 at 126 pounds, picked up a See **WR** on B3



Submitted photo  
 Nolan Ambrose (from left), Logan Butzon and Payton Handevidt show off their brackets after finishing first at a tournament in Glencoe Saturday.

JCC GIRLS' BASKETBALL

# HOT START

JCC girls dominate first two games before edging Waseca for 3-0 start to season

by DAN CONDON  
 Sports Editor

For just the second time in the last nine seasons, the Jackson County Central girls' basketball team is off to a 3-0 start.

The Huskies, who were 0-4 to begin last season, were 5-0 to kick off the 2019-20 campaign. Prior to that, the last time JCC opened the season with three straight wins was in 2012.

The Huskies dominated their first two games, winning by a combined 96 points, before topping Waseca 80-78 in a back-and-forth game Saturday in New Ulm.

**Farmer erupts in win**

Maci Farmer and Sadie Voss were expected to carry a lot of the offensive load for the Huskies this season and the duo certainly did that in the win over Waseca.

Farmer scored 40 points in the win, becoming only the third JCC girl to reach that milestone. Alaina Wolff set the school record with 44 points against Worthington on Jan. 8, 2019, and Voss scored 41 points last season against Pipestone.

Farmer and Voss combined to score 33 of JCC's 37 second-half points Saturday, including the final 16.

Voss scored just before the first-half buzzer See **HOT** on B4



Photo by Dan Condon  
 Sadie Voss sinks a jump shot during last week's 77-23 win over Redwood Valley. Voss has 73 points through the team's first three games and Maci Farmer has 78 to help the Huskies to a 3-0 start.

JCC GYMNASTICS

# Gymnasts dominate in opener

by DAN CONDON  
 Sports Editor

The Jackson County Central gymnastics team dominated its season opener this past Friday at St. James Area, beating the Saints 129.825-100.875.

Head coach Abby Schneekloth said she liked the way the Huskies performed in the opener.

"The team did great," she said.

"It was so fun to watch the girls show off their routines that they have been working so hard to put together."



Payten Benda

Schneekloth said after a couple early miscues, the Huskies hit their stride.

"After some mistakes on bars, the girls pulled it together and finished the meet strong," she said. "The first meet jitters are out of the way and the girls were very happy with their performance. I'm excited to watch the team continue to grow from here."

The Huskies swept all four events and had the all-around winner in the meet.

Payten Benda was the all-around winner for the sixth time in her career, scoring 33.2 to edge teammate Olivia Blaskey's career-high score of 33.05.

Benda won bars for the first time in her career with a score of 7.375 and picked up her fifth career win on vault, scoring 8.7. She capped the meet by finishing second on balance beam (8.15) and third on floor exercise (8.975).

"Payten had a good performance on vault and bars, where she placed first, and ended the meet with the all-around title,"

See **GYM** on B3

# Shot clock coming in 2023-24 season

JCC coaches say it won't affect their teams much

by DAN CONDON  
 Sports Editor

The Minnesota State High School League Board of Directors voted unanimously last week to implement a 35-second shot clock for boys' and girls'

varsity basketball, starting in the 2023-2024 season.

While the shot clock should pick up the pace of play, both Jackson County Central head basketball coaches said it won't affect their teams much.

"With the way we run, 35 seconds is three possessions," JCC girls' coach Rafe York said.

"We try to play up-tem- See **CLOCK** on B3

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## BIG SOUTH CONFERENCE STANDINGS

### BOYS' BASKETBALL

| Team        | BSC | All |
|-------------|-----|-----|
| JCC         | 0-0 | 0-0 |
| Luverne     | 0-0 | 0-0 |
| Marshall    | 0-0 | 0-0 |
| Pipestone   | 0-0 | 0-0 |
| Redwood     | 0-0 | 1-0 |
| Windom      | 0-0 | 0-1 |
| Worthington | 0-0 | 0-1 |

| Team      | BSC | All |
|-----------|-----|-----|
| BEA       | 0-0 | 0-0 |
| Fairmont  | 0-0 | 0-0 |
| New Ulm   | 0-0 | 0-0 |
| St. James | 0-0 | 0-1 |
| St. Peter | 0-0 | 1-0 |
| Waseca    | 0-0 | 0-2 |

### GIRLS' BASKETBALL

| Team        | BSC | All |
|-------------|-----|-----|
| JCC         | 1-0 | 3-0 |
| Luverne     | 1-0 | 3-0 |
| Marshall    | 0-0 | 1-1 |
| Windom      | 0-0 | 3-1 |
| Worthington | 0-0 | 3-0 |
| Pipestone   | 0-1 | 0-1 |
| Redwood     | 0-1 | 0-2 |

| Team      | BSC | All |
|-----------|-----|-----|
| Fairmont  | 1-0 | 2-1 |
| BEA       | 0-0 | 1-1 |
| New Ulm   | 0-0 | 2-0 |
| St. James | 0-0 | 2-1 |
| St. Peter | 0-0 | 2-0 |
| Waseca    | 0-1 | 0-2 |

### WRESTLING

| Team        | BSC | All |
|-------------|-----|-----|
| JCC         | 0-0 | 0-0 |
| Luverne     | 0-0 | 0-0 |
| Marshall    | 0-0 | 0-0 |
| Pipestone   | 0-0 | 0-0 |
| Redwood     | 0-0 | 0-0 |
| Windom      | 0-0 | 0-0 |
| Worthington | 0-0 | 0-0 |

| Team      | BSC | All |
|-----------|-----|-----|
| BEA       | 0-0 | 0-0 |
| Fairmont  | 0-0 | 0-0 |
| New Ulm   | 0-0 | 0-0 |
| St. James | 0-0 | 0-0 |
| St. Peter | 0-0 | 0-0 |
| Waseca    | 0-0 | 0-0 |

### GYMNASTICS

| Team        | BSC | All |
|-------------|-----|-----|
| Pipestone   | 1-0 | 1-0 |
| JCC         | 0-0 | 1-0 |
| Luverne     | 0-0 | 0-0 |
| Redwood     | 0-0 | 0-0 |
| Windom      | 0-0 | 0-1 |
| Worthington | 0-0 | 1-0 |
| Marshall    | 0-1 | 0-2 |

| Team      | BSC | All |
|-----------|-----|-----|
| BEA       | 0-0 | 0-0 |
| MCA       | 0-0 | 1-0 |
| New Ulm   | 0-0 | 0-0 |
| St. James | 0-0 | 0-2 |
| St. Peter | 0-0 | 1-0 |
| Waseca    | 0-0 | 0-0 |

### BOYS' HOCKEY

| Team        | BSC | All |
|-------------|-----|-----|
| Luverne     | 3-0 | 3-0 |
| New Ulm     | 2-0 | 2-0 |
| Fairmont    | 1-0 | 1-1 |
| Redwood     | 1-1 | 1-1 |
| Windom      | 0-0 | 1-1 |
| MN River    | 0-1 | 2-1 |
| Worthington | 0-1 | 0-1 |
| Marshall    | 0-2 | 1-2 |
| Waseca      | 0-2 | 0-2 |

### GIRLS' HOCKEY

| Team        | BSC | All |
|-------------|-----|-----|
| New Ulm     | 4-0 | 4-0 |
| Luverne     | 6-1 | 6-1 |
| Windom      | 2-2 | 2-4 |
| MN River    | 2-2 | 2-5 |
| Waseca      | 2-3 | 2-5 |
| Fairmont    | 1-3 | 2-3 |
| Marshall    | 0-2 | 2-4 |
| Worthington | 0-4 | 0-6 |

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## SPORTS CALENDAR

- Thursday, Dec. 9**  
GYM at Windom  
BBB at Redwood Valley  
BH vs. Waseca
- Friday, Dec. 10**  
BH vs. Morris/Benson  
GH at Morris/Benson
- Saturday, Dec. 11**  
WR - JCC tournament  
BBB vs. WWG (at Pipestone)  
GH vs. Rochester Century
- Sunday, Dec. 12**  
No events
- Monday, Dec. 13**  
No events
- Tuesday, Dec. 14**  
BBB vs. St. Peter  
BBB at Worthington  
GH at Luverne  
BH at Luverne
- Wednesday, Dec. 15**  
No events



@PilotSports

**Dec. 3, 9:07 p.m.**  
Payten Benda won all-around (33.2), vault (8.7) and bars (7.375). Olivia Blaskey won floor (9.3) and balance beam (8.45) and finished second in all-around (33.05).

**Dec. 2, 7:44 p.m.**  
Maci Farmer is on an 11-0 run. She has 21 points and JCC leads Redwood 40-8.

**Nov. 30, 8:24 p.m.**  
JCC continues to dominate the first half, leading MCC 34-14. Sadie Voss has 15 points, Rylie Cothier has six and Georgianna Wenzel and Maci Farmer each have five.  
Follow for more updates

## ATHLETES OF THE WEEK



**Name:** Maci Farmer  
**Grade:** 11  
**Sport:** Basketball  
**The week that was:** Farmer scored 40 points in a two-point win over Waseca Saturday and added nine rebounds and six steals. She's been on fire to help JCC start the season 3-0.  
**Coach's comments:** "Maci is off to a great start, averaging 26 points, 6.7 rebounds and 7.0 steals through our first three games," Rafe York said.



**Name:** Payton Handevit  
**Grade:** 12  
**Sport:** Wrestling  
**The week that was:** Handevit won a tournament in Glencoe, going 3-0 with a pin and technical fall before beating No. 1 Ashton Hanan 8-2 in the finals.  
**Coach's comments:** "Payton bumped up a weight to wrestle the No. 1-ranked 170-pounder from Kimball and beat him 8-2," Nate Hanson said. "He had a great week of practice and a really good tournament. He is wrestling really well right now."

### Athletes of the week sponsored by:

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# HL-O CORNER

## Coyote girls top Lakeview for season's first win

The Heron Lake-Okabena/Fulda girls' basketball team beat Lakeview 57-49 last Tuesday for its first win of the season, then lost 81-59 this past Friday to Windom to fall to 1-3 on the season.

Chrissy Hermeling scored 19 points against Lakeview, with 15 coming on her five made 3-pointers. Taryn Evers scored 14 points and capped a double-double with a team-high 12 rebounds. Anna Fest scored eight points and added six steals and three assists. Emily Madison pulled down six rebounds and had four assists.

Evers scored 20 points and grabbed five rebounds against Windom. Madison had a double-double of 17 points and 13 rebounds and Fest scored nine points to go with five assists, four rebounds and three steals. Faith White pulled down five rebounds and dished out four assists and Hermeling finished with four assists, four rebounds, four steals and six points. Addison Fisher pulled down five rebounds and scored four points.

The Coyotes are back on the court tonight (Thursday) at Mt. Lake Area/Comfrey, then play at Renville County West Friday and Adrian Tuesday.

## Coyote boys drop first two games of season

The Heron Lake-Okabena/Fulda boys' basketball team opened the season with a pair of losses at a tournament in Wabasso, losing 90-76 to MACCRAY this past Friday before dropping a 79-64 game to Wabasso Saturday.

Carter Drent had a huge game against MACCRAY, finishing with 23 points, 16 rebounds five steals and four blocks. Sawyer Drent added 16 points and Parker Murphy had 15 in the loss.

Against Wabasso, it was Sawyer Drent with a double-double, finishing with 19 points and 12 rebounds. He also added six assists and three blocks. Carter Drent scored 23 points and added six steals and four assists, while Murphy scored 10 points.

The Coyotes play at Edgerton Friday, then have a week off before playing in a tournament in Lakeview Dec. 17 and 18.

# Christmas is right around the corner

In case you have not noticed, Christmas is only 16 short days away. Sixteen long days if you are a kid. Thanksgiving is already two weeks into our past. In fact, tomorrow (Friday) marks the halfway point between Thanksgiving and Christmas.

It is not just the people who have not completed their Christmas shopping who need to worry, but also those of us who were hoping to lose more than a little of the Thanksgiving fat before the arrival of the Christmas blubber. We are running out of time.

For some reason, ever since Thanksgiving, my pants have been a little snug. To be honest, more than a little snug. I almost have to put on a corset just to snap my pants. If only I had not outstretched those expandable pants.

I have a sneaking suspicion the snugness is not because of overeating but because of my clothes. With the cooler weather I have been wearing thicker winterized shirts instead of the thin shirts of summer.

Plus, as the temperatures drop, I layer up. I am up to wearing three layers of shirts. During the summer, I wear one layer. I am beginning to dread the dead of winter because at the rate I am increasing layers, I will probably be up to six or seven layers.

Even a retired mathematics teacher can put two and two together to see how the thicker, more layered shirts and thinner pants can create the snugness. Add in my long Johns, and whammo! The problem is solved. Or, at least we know the reason for the problem.

Yet, it might not be all clothing. I might just have to take some of the blame. I do not really want to; it is a lot easier to blame others than to blame ourselves.

Maybe I could blame my fork. My fork was the one who shoveled all those Thanksgiving trimmings in, even tamping it down when my gullet started getting full.

Without a fork I would not have been able to eat. Kathy frowns on my eating dressing and sweet potatoes with my fingers. Gravy is especially hard to eat that way. Way too messy.

No matter the blame, I have noticed the hills of my waistland are now bigger than the mounds of my bottomland. The ever-growing hills are quite scenic, especially for those who love the mountains. Unfortunately, my beltline highway keeps slipping on south. Cannot see the waistland for being too far south.

I tighten my belt, but anytime I breath or even move, gravity kicks in and that beltline highway drops way south of the bottomland. My bottomland just is not big enough to block the downward slide. If you have a big gut, you need a big butt.

I tried tightening the belt extra tight by sucking in my gut all the way to my backbone, or so it felt, but then my belt just put a crease in my waistland, a deep canyon. I know I have increased my waist, but even I did not think that meant I had put in a crease.

Yes, I could exercise more muscles than just my jaw. But I figure I am getting enough exercise running around from store to store doing my Christmas shopping. And carrying all those purchases from the store to the van and from the van to the house.

I suppose I could just admit a temporary defeat and start the Battle of the Bulge Dec. 26. It would reduce the pre-Christmas stress. One less thing to worry about. Plus, I am hungry.

If my belt cannot handle the stress of an overly

snug waistline, Christmas is almost here and maybe Santa would know enough to bring me a new belt. Besides, it is not like my belt was keeping my pants up anyway.

The Jackson County Central Middle School boys' basketball team was able to handle the stress of a new season last Tuesday when it played Worthington.

Both JCC and Worthington had at least 17 seventh-graders, so they played two games using half the players in each game. JCC won the first game 26-16, before Worthington won the second 26-22.

This afternoon (Thursday) the boys are at Mt. Lake Area. On Monday, the JCC Middle School wrestlers are hosting St. James Area at the JCC High School.

On Tuesday, the boys' and girls' basketball teams will play St. James Area, with the girls hosting in Lakefield while the boys travel to the Butterfield-Odin High School. On Thursday, the girls will play in Fairmont while the boys host the Cardinals in Lakefield.

Academically, on Monday evening the JCC Middle School knowledge bowl team will host a multi-school meet at the JCC High School.

Just as most of us cannot wait for Christmas, so too, for the end of Wide Write! Lucky for you, it is near! Until next week, take time to reduce your pre-Christmas stress by relaxing in the gym and cheering our teams on to victory. Go, Huskies!



WIDE WRITE  
Stephen A. Condon

## LEAGUE BOWLING SCORES

- Tuesday night men**  
Team standings: Phillips Agency 30-14, Junction 86 21-23, New Fashion Pork 21-23, Bowlers Inn 16-28  
High game: Keith Nichols 215, Terry Hansen 209, Doyle Svoboda 201  
High series: Doyle Svoboda 565, Leigh Hohenstein 539, Shawn Gerdes 522
- Wednesday night men**  
Team standings: Schaap Sanitation 28-16, S&J Cleaning 27-17, FCA 25-19, Elness Livestock 23-21, Pocket Pounders 16-28, Left Overs 13-31  
High game: Jason Whisney 202, Brian Allen 200, Dave Svoboda 193  
High series: Jason Whisney 540, Dave Svoboda 522, Terry Hansen 510
- Thursday night women**  
Team standings: 9th Ave Salon 29-11, Bipolar Rollers 24-16, Lakefield Savings Bank 21-19, Pampered Chicks 16-24, Split Personalities 16-24, Rubis Farms 14-26  
High game: Kim Nelson 202, Danielle Schulz 181, Mari Byam 180  
High series: Mary Byam 490, April Krumwiede 469, Kim Nelson 452



## SIX HUSKIES HONORED FOR GRID ACCOMPLISHMENTS

One year ago, Dec. 10, 2020  
Six members of the Jackson County Central football team have been honored by the South Central District for their achievement on the football field this fall. Juniors Levi Lindley, Trace Michelson and Payton Handevit have been named to the first-team for the White Division and seniors Ryan Beaver and Damian Meyer-Andre and junior Will Freking earned honorable-mention honors. Lindley also shared linebacker of the year honors.

## CHRISTOPHER RALLIES HUSKIES TO SEASON-OPENING VICTORY

Five years ago, Dec. 15, 2020  
Jacob Christopher was unstoppable for the JCC boys' basketball team in its season opener against St. James Area. With the Huskies trailing by 13 points in the second half, Christopher scored 20 of his career-high 36 points to lead the Huskies to a 93-90 victory. Christopher used a screen from Nico Feroni to get free and drove the lane for a game-tying layup with 4.1 seconds left. Christopher was fouled on the play and the Saints were also called for a technical, allowing Christopher to make two free throws for the win. Feroni, who made a free throw after Christopher's two, finished with 18 points. Chris Gumto scored 13 points and added eight rebounds and six assists. Ryan Christopher had nine assists and Easton Bahr scored seven points.

## GYMNASTS SOAR PAST THE SAINTS

10 years ago, Dec. 15, 2011  
The JCC gymnastics team posted its highest score of the season in beating St. James 139.475-102.1. Sydnee Donnelly won vault (9.2), floor exercise (9.25) and all-around (35.425) and was second on bars (8.375) and beam (8.6). Adriane Rentschler won bars (8.45) and balance beam (8.725) and finished second in all-around (34.675) and on vault (9.125). Brandi Sether-Hassing placed third in all-around (34.475) after finishing third on vault (9.1) and floor (8.825). Michaela Vancura finished second on floor (8.875).

## WRESTLERS CROWN FOUR AT BLUE EARTH

25 years ago, Dec. 12, 1996 - Jackson County Pilot  
The Jackson/HLOL wrestling team crowned four individual champions at a tournament in Blue Earth and finished second in the team standings despite not having its full lineup. Nate Baker had a pin and won two decisions to finish first at 125 pounds. Troy Schultz opened with a technical fall before winning two major decisions to claim the 140-pound title. Matt Kraft opened with a pin and won an 11-4 decision in the finals to win at 171 pounds. Kevin Seby won gold at 189 pounds, getting two pins before winning 3-1 in the finals. Finishing second were Nate Hanson at 130 pounds and Tucker Polz at 135.

## BULLETS STAY UNBEATEN IN RED ROCK CONFERENCE

25 years ago, Dec. 12, 1996 - Lakefield Standard  
The HLOL girls' basketball team stayed unbeaten in Red Rock Conference play after topping Westbrook at Walnut Grove 47-30. The win moves the Silver Bullets to 4-1 on the season. Lindsay Voss and Stacy Oelke scored 10 points apiece and Voss dished out four assists. Sue Resch scored eight points and grabbed a team-high seven rebounds. In a 58-46 win over Comfrey, Voss scored 20 points and Resch had 15 points and eight rebounds.

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## CLOCK: Change might not affect the JCC basketball teams much

Continued from B1

po, so it really won't affect our style of play," JCC boys' coach Alex Hein said.

Hein said it could change the way some teams play against the Huskies, though, as they've faced opponents who try to slow the game down to take the Huskies out of their fast-paced style.

"The last couple years I can think of four, five games where the other team we've played has tried to hold the ball for multiple minutes," he said. "The shot clock takes that option away."

Both coaches agreed the biggest obstacle will be finding another game-day worker to run the shot clock.

"The challenge for a smaller school is now we have to install the shot clock and have someone run it every game," Hein said.

"I saw someone tweeted, a former AD tweeted, 'The hard part is going to be finding people to work it,' and that's the truth," York said. "We need to find someone who wants to learn how to do it and do it every night because the shot clock could be tricky for the operator."

**'It's only good'**

Hein said he's all for the shot clock, even if it will mean a little more strategy. The biggest for his team, he said, is at the end of a game playing with a lead.

"It does add some strategy," he said. "It makes it at the end of the game where the team ahead can't just hold the ball. In the game, it's only good."

There's also the aspect of what to do with the shot clock running low, or at the end of the half when teams want to have a quick pos-

session in the final minute so they can get another right before the end of the half.

"You have to have an end-of-shot-clock play call," Hein said. "You get to the end of the shot clock and now you have to run something to get a quick shot. Another thing is if you have situations where you go two-for-one. You take a really quick shot just to try to get that two-for-one situation where you can get the ball back before the end of the half. Those are things every team will have to put into play."

Hein said that won't come until next season at the earliest, though.

"I probably won't touch

it until the year it starts," he said. "We might work with the younger guys, the B- and C- squad guys that would play with it that year — talk to them about some situations and what they can look for."

**One of the few**

Minnesota is just the 13<sup>th</sup> state association to adopt a shot clock for varsity-level games. Three of the others are neighboring states in Iowa, South Dakota and North Dakota.

The shot clock will be mandatory for varsity games starting at the beginning of the 2023-24 season. Currently, a shot clock can be used for regular-season nonconference

games or invitational tournaments if both schools agree, the host school is properly equipped and the assigned officials approve. A shot clock could also be used at lower levels if agreed upon by both competing schools, but is not mandatory.

According to the MSHSL, feedback from member schools showed 75 percent support the implementation of the shot clock within the next three years. Currently, 19 percent of the responding schools have shot clocks installed. That number grows to a total of 76 percent that reported they could have them installed for the 2023-2024 season.

### EAGLE BOYS' HOCKEY

## Stubbe records first career shutout in Eagle win

After opening the season with a loss at Waconia last Thursday, Jackson County Central senior Dan Stubbe led the Windom Area boys' hockey team to a huge win over Austin Saturday.

Stubbe recorded his first career shutout in a 12-0 win over the Packers.

The Eagles are 1-1 to open the season.

### Stubbe records shutout

Stubbe wasn't real busy against Austin, but stopped all nine shots he faced to record the first shut-out of his career.



**Dan Stubbe**

The Eagles had more goals than the Packers had shots in the dominant victory.

It didn't take long for the Eagles to take control as Sonny Heil scored just 47 seconds into the game on assists from Wyatt Haugen and Zach Espenson.

Karson LaCanne scored less than three minutes later on assists from Ethan Purrington and Espenson, then Brady Espenson scored the first of his three goals to give the Eagles a 3-0 lead less than six minutes into the game. Heil and Cragen Porath assisted Brady Espenson's

first goal.

Brady Espenson scored again just 39 seconds later, using assists from Heil and Zach Espenson for a 4-0 lead the Eagles took into the first intermission.

Heil scored his second goal of the game just more than three minutes into the second period, starting a string of three goals in 58 seconds. Zach Espenson scored a power-play goal before Ethan Purrington scored for the quick string of goals. Brady Espenson and LaCanne assisted the first goal of the period, Brady Espenson and Wriley Haugen assisted the second and LaCanne assisted the third.

The Eagles then scored three more goals in a 65-second span later in the period.

Zach Rabbe used assists from Keegan Classen and Vance Koch to score, then Classen scored 22 seconds later on assists from Wriley Haugen and Purrington. Porath capped a six-goal third period with a goal just 43 seconds after Classen's.

Brady Espenson capped his hat trick early in the third period, using assists from Wyatt Haugen and Rabbe. Dillon Evers finished off the scoring with just 45 seconds left in the game.

Brady Espenson finished with five points, scoring

three goals to go with two assists. Heil (two goals, two assists) and Zach Espenson (one goal, three assists) each tallied four points and LaCanne (one goal, two assists) and Purrington (one goal, two assists) each had three points.

Stubbe stopped all nine shots he faced. The Packers didn't fire a single shot-on-goal in the second period.

### Eagles open with loss

Waconia scored the first seven goals in Windom Area's season opener last Thursday and went on to win 8-1.

The Wildcats scored three goals in the first period and the first four of the second period before Brady Espenson scored an unassisted power-play goal to get the Eagles on the board.

Waconia added another goal in the second before a scoreless third period.

Stubbe made 31 saves for the Eagles, who were outshot 39-16.

### Up next

The Eagles played at Marshall Tuesday and host Waseca tonight (Thursday). Windom Area hosts Morris/Benson Friday and plays at Luverne Tuesday.

### EAGLE GIRLS' HOCKEY

## Eagle girls top Trojans, fall to United

The Windom Area girls' hockey team split a pair of games last week, beating Worthington 3-1 last Thursday before losing 9-3 to Minnehaha United Saturday.

The Eagles are now 2-4 on the season and 2-2 in the Big South Conference.

### United pulls away

The Eagles hung with United most of the game Saturday, but allowed the final four goals in a 9-3 loss.

United scored the first two goals before Elly Bang used an assist from Victoria Robillard to get the Eagles on the board.

Minnehaha scored with just 49 seconds left in the opening period to lead 3-1, but the Eagles got back within one when they scored 64 seconds into the second period. Reagan

Haugen scored on a Madyson Fredin assist to cut the deficit to 3-2.

United answered with two more goals to lead 5-2 before Presley Docktor scored an unassisted goal to cut the deficit to 5-3.

United scored late in the second period, then tallied all three goals of the third period to pull away for the win.

Kaylie Baerg made 33 saves for the Eagles, who were outshot 42-16.

### Eagles top Trojans

Windom Area scored the first two goals last Thursday at Worthington, then answered the lone Trojan goal with one of its own to win 3-1.

Docktor scored the only goal of the first period and Fredin scored midway through the second period to double the Eagle lead.

Worthington scored less than three minutes into the third period to cut the Eagle lead to one, but Windom Area had an answer.

Bang used an assist from Docktor to score with just less than six minutes remaining to help clinch the Eagle win.

Baerg made 27 saves for the Eagles, allowing Windom Area to win despite being outshot 28-23.

### Up next

The Eagles played at Marshall Tuesday and are at Morris/Benson Friday. Windom Area hosts Rochester Century Saturday and plays at Luverne Tuesday.



PHOTO COURTESY OF AMY BLASKEY

### CHEER CHAMPS

Members of the Jackson County Central competition cheerleading team show off their first-place trophy after winning a meet in Prior Lake Saturday. Members of the team are (front, from left): Erin Klassen, Baylee Pietrowski, Tieran Muongkhout, Olivia Anderson, Mia Ruiz, Lily Mohning and Morgan Preuss. Back: Izabella Grein, Lizzy Rasmussen, Adyvon VanWesten, Milliani Insichienmay, Elena Winter, Rylee Benda, Ashlyn Bohl, Addie Vee and Paige Duncan. The Huskies compete again Dec. 18 at St. Michael-Albertville.

## WR: Huskies finish second

Continued from B1

pin and decision in his first two matches before losing a 3-2 decision late in the finals to Jonah Hamberger of Watertown Mayer-May-er Lutheran.

Freking also started the 145-pound tournament with a pin and decision to get to the finals. There, he lost 4-3 to fifth-ranked Austin Kiecker of BOLD to finish second.

Haley opened the 182-pound bracket with a 6-0 decision before winning a battle of ranked wrestlers. Haley, ranked sixth, beat Keegan Lemke of Glencoe-Silver Lake/Lester Prairie, ranked seventh in Class AA, 5-4, in the semifinals.

In the championship match, Haley lost a 4-2 decision to Jacob Schimek of St. Clair-Mankato Loyola.

Vancura, ranked third at 195 pounds, needed just 53 seconds to get a pin in his first match of the season. He then won a 6-3 decision before facing Carter Holtz of Kimball Area in the finals. Holtz, ranked No. 1 at 195 pounds in Class A, pinned Vancura in the second period, putting the JCC grappler in second place.

Isaac Rodriguez opened the 106-pound bracket with a pin before losing in the quarterfinals. He rebounded with two straight pins, then earned a win via injury-default to go 4-1 on the day and finish third.

Seth Stai went 2-2 to finish fourth at 132 pounds. Both his wins came on pins, including one in just 30 seconds.

Trey Rossow finished fourth at 138 pounds, nearly making it to the finals. He lost 8-7 in the ultimate tiebreaker in the semifinals, which would have put him up against Butzon in the championship match. Rossow then picked up a pin before losing in the third-place match to finish 2-2 on the day.

Dylan Withers was 3-2 at 152 pounds to finish fourth. He picked up pins in his first two matches before losing 8-7 in the final seconds in the semifinals. He then won a major decision before losing in the third-place match.

Cameron Scholten re-

### Huskies host tournament Saturday

The Jackson County Central wrestling team is hosting the Pizza Ranch Invitational Saturday at the JCC High School, marking one of just six home events for the Huskies this season.

A trio of ranked teams from Minnesota will be competing in the tournament. JCC is ranked No. 3 in Class A and Royalton/Upsala is ranked fourth. Martin County is ranked third in Class AA.

Other teams competing are Adrian-Ellsworth, Aitkin, Fulda/Murray County Central, Hutchinson, Lake Crystal-Wellcome Memorial, Luverne, Madelia/Truman, United South Central/Maple River, New London-Spicer, Royalton/Upsala, St. James Area, Wabasha-Kellogg, Waseca, Windom and Worthington from Minnesota; West Lyon from Iowa; and Canton from South Dakota.

JCC head coach Nate Hanson said the Huskies are also trying to put together a female bracket for the tournament, but was unsure of the potential turnout as of Tuesday.

Both the varsity tournament and B-squad tournament — which takes place in the auxiliary gym — will begin at 9:30 a.m.

turned to the mat with a fifth-place finish at 285 pounds. He opened with a win before losing to Class AA No. 4 Jade Drill of New Ulm. After another loss, Scholten picked up a pin in the fifth-place match.

Ben Dahlin finished sixth at 120 pounds, going 1-3 with an 11-4 decision.

Isaiah Rodriguez went 1-3 to finish sixth at 160 pounds. His win came in an 8-5 decision in the quarterfinals.

Will Freking finished sixth after going 1-3 at 220 pounds. He opened with a

decision before losing an 8-5 decision to fifth-ranked and eventual champion Hade Rosenow of Kimball Area in the semifinals. Freking then lost a pair of one-point decisions to finish sixth.

Trace Michelson also wrestled at 220 pounds and went 0-2.

### Up next

The Huskies hosted Luverne and Redwood Valley in a triangular Tuesday and host a tournament Saturday (see preview above).

## GYM: JCC dominates opener

Continued from B1

Schneekloth said.

Blaskey also won two events, earning her third career win on floor with a career-high score of 9.3 and picking up her sixth career beam win with a score of 8.45. The senior scored a career-high 8.525 to finish third on vault and placed fourth on bars (6.775).

"Olivia had a great first meet," Schneekloth said. "She had a great routine on floor and her score really showed that."

Bailey Finck had a pair of runner-up finishes, placing second on bars (6.925) and in her vault debut (8.55). She also scored 6.8 on balance beam.

Hannah Carson scored a

career-high 9.05 to finish second on floor exercise.

"Hannah and Payten had a great outing on floor, placing second and third behind Olivia," Schneekloth said.

Maia Reed finished third on balance beam (7.95) and placed fourth on floor (8.6). Peyton Hanson earned a fourth-place finish on vault (8.45) and finished fifth on floor (8.25).

Alexis O'Reilly came in fourth on beam (7.35) and fifth on bars (6.7). Dayasia Tomlin placed fifth on vault (8.275) and Erica Hanson came in sixth on bars (6.5).

The Huskies had the top five scores on vault and floor. Their team score

of 35.925 on floor was higher than they posted in any meet last season.

"With some mistakes here and there, the girls pulled it together really well to end the first meet," Schneekloth said. "Us coaches are very proud of all the girls."

The JCC junior-varsity team also won big, outscoring the Saints 125.6-70.8.

### Up next

The Huskies compete at Windom tonight (Thursday), then have a week off before going to Marshall Dec. 16.

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## HOT: Huskies start with trio of victories

Continued from B1

sounded for a 43-35 lead, then she and Farmer combined for the first four points of the second half for a 47-35 lead.

The Bluejays scored the next seven points, then answered JCC's four points with seven more of their own to cut the Husky lead to 51-49.

Voss sank a 3-pointer, but Waseca scored three more points to get back within two, then had a chance to tie the game but missed a layup. Voss gathered the rebound and went the length of the court for a layup and four-point lead.

After the Bluejays cut the JCC lead back to just two, Farmer converted back-to-back three-point plays and Kylee Wenzel scored to cap an 8-0 run that left the Huskies ahead 64-54.

Waseca answered with the next 10 points to tie the game, then later scored five straight to take its first lead of the second half with a 71-69 advantage.

Farmer drilled a 3-pointer to give the Huskies the lead, but Waseca scored five straight to lead 76-72.

Farmer then took over, scoring four straight points to tie the game before getting a steal and passing ahead to Voss for a layup and 78-76 lead.

Voss made a free throw to cap a 7-0 run for a 79-76 lead, but the Huskies weren't out of the woods.

Farmer fouled out when she grazed a Bluejay on a 3-point shot. Waseca made the first two shots, but missed the third. Voss grabbed the rebound and made one free throw for an 80-78 lead and the Huskies hung on when the Jays missed two shots in the final seconds.

Farmer finished with 40 points, nine rebounds — eight on the offensive end — and six steals. Voss had 26 points, six rebounds, six assists and six steals.

Wenzel finished with seven points and seven rebounds and Georgianna Wenzel, Destiny Timmer and Brylee Anderson each pulled down four boards.

The Huskies won despite shooting just seven-for-35

(20 percent) on 3-pointers and being outscored 32-15 from the free-throw line.

### Huskies dominate first two games of the season

JCC opened its season with two dominant wins, beating Murray County Central 77-35 in the opener last Tuesday and then topping Redwood Valley 77-23 last Thursday in the home opener.

Against MCC, JCC had a 10-0 run early, then used a 25-0 run late in the half to lead 50-14.

The Huskies opened Thursday's game against the Cardinals on a 25-2 run.

That's what head coach Rafe York said he wants to happen.

"We want to set the tone early," he said. "We want to be in charge from the get-go and get the game going fast — jump on them and let them know we're here to play, we're going to be in your face all night and we're not backing off."

At MCC, Voss dominated the first half. She scored 22 points before the break, including the first five of the early 10-0 run. She had a stretch later in which she scored seven straight JCC points.

A steal and basket by Rylie Cother gave the Huskies a 25-8 lead, but the Rebels scored six straight points, leading to a time-out by York.

The Huskies immediately responded with the next 25 points to put the game away.

The Wenzel sisters — Georgianna and Kylee — combined for the first seven points of the run before Farmer scored four straight and Voss followed with the next five. Farmer scored two more points, Cother tallied three straight and Voss made another basket before Timmer scored to cap the 25-0 run.

The Rebels ended the

streak with one free throw before Timmer scored four points and Georgianna Wenzel three to end the half on a 32-1 run.

Voss added nine more points in the second half to finish with 31 points. She also had six rebounds and seven steals in the win.

Farmer scored 13 points and added six steals, four rebounds and three

assists.

Cother scored nine points and filled the stat sheet with seven rebounds, six steals and six assists. Georgianna Wenzel (six rebounds, three steals) and Kylee Wenzel (three rebounds) each scored eight points and Timmer (five rebounds) scored seven. Brylee Anderson added four steals and Megan Benson scored one point.

The Huskies opened Thursday's game with the first 19 points, with eight coming from Farmer and five coming from freshman Kylee Wenzel. Voss scored four points during the run and Georgianna Wenzel scored the first two.

After the Cardinals finally scored nearly seven minutes into the game, the Huskies added six more for a 25-2 lead. Farmer and Cother each took a steal in for a basket and Voss scored for the big lead.

Farmer continued to dominate the rest of the half, going on an 11-0 run by herself to give the Huskies a 40-6 lead.

Farmer, Anderson and Voss combined to score the final six points of the half for a 48-14 lead, then the Huskies scored the first 13 points of the second half for their second 19-0 run of the game. Voss scored six points early in the second half, with four coming immediately after she picked up a steal.

Two steals by Farmer later led to baskets — the first when she fired an overhand pass down the

court to Cother for a layup and the next that she took in herself. In between, Cother got a steal of her own and took it in for a basket.

It's that type of in-your-face defense York said he wants his team to play all season to wear down its opponents.

"It wears on them mentally; it wears on them physically," he said. "I want to be the team people hate to play and I think the girls want that too. I'm sick of hearing our girls in the past say, 'They're all over us. I can't do it.' Let's be that team. We've made some steps to be that."

Farmer scored 23 of her 25 points in the first half and added nine steals, seven rebounds and four assists.

Voss had 16 points, five rebounds, three assists and three steals.

Through the first two games, Voss scored 47 points and Farmer tallied 38. York said that's expected, but it's the bench that has been just as impressive.

"They're big-time scorers," York said of Voss and Farmer. "We know they're both capable of that every night and sometimes on the same night. It is nice to know we have those two. The other three starters are doing their part and the bench is doing their part. We're getting points from everyone this year so far and that's what we need."

Cother tallied 12 points and five steals and Georgianna Wenzel (five rebounds) and Kylee Wenzel (six rebounds) each scored seven points.

Anderson scored four points and added four rebounds, three assists and two blocks. Timmer scored four points and contributed five rebounds and two blocks.

York said it's Timmer who has made a huge impression so far this season.

"Destiny is coming off the bench as a senior, but she is changing the way we play," he said. "She brings energy. She's really doing a great job coming off the bench. It's great to know we've got that experienced player who's going to come out and get after it immediately."

York said although Timmer comes off the bench, she's not viewed that way.

"I'm sure she'll get some starts this year," he said. "She and Kylee were kind of the last decision and we went with Kylee because she gives the press a little more quickness, but Destiny is doing great. I don't even consider her a bench player; I consider her the sixth starter."

**"I WANT TO BE THE TEAM PEOPLE HATE TO PLAY AND I THINK THE GIRLS WANT THAT TOO."**

Rafe York



PHOTO BY DAN CONDON

Maci Farmer puts up a 3-pointer during Jackson County Central's big win over Redwood Valley last Thursday.

### Up next

The Huskies played at Luverne Tuesday to end a stretch of four games in eight days to open the season. Now the Huskies are off until playing at Worthington Tuesday.

York said the game at Luverne will be a big early-season test for the Huskies.

"They're probably the favorite to win the section," he said. "They've got everybody back from

last year and Brooklyn Ver-Steeg, who tore up her knee last year, is back. That's going to be a tough one."

He said after two big wins to open the season, facing a team like Luverne will be good for the Huskies.

"I think it's great," he said. "We've gotten a couple easy ones now and I'm hoping a couple testers and I hope we come out on the good side of us."

### JCC GIRLS' BASKETBALL

Head coach: Rafe York

|                 |                               |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| Nov. 30         | at Murray County Central      |
| Dec. 2          | vs. Redwood Valley            |
| Dec. 4          | Waseca (at New Ulm)           |
| Dec. 7          | at Luverne                    |
| Dec. 14         | at Worthington                |
| Dec. 16         | at Westbrook-Walnut Grove     |
| Dec. 17         | at Windom                     |
| Dec. 21         | vs. Pipestone                 |
| Dec. 29         | at Blue Earth Tournament      |
| Dec. 30         | at Blue Earth Tournament      |
| Jan. 4          | at Fairmont                   |
| Jan. 7          | vs. Spirit Lake               |
| Jan. 10         | at Esterville Lincoln Central |
| Jan. 11         | vs. Marshall                  |
| Jan. 14         | vs. Luverne                   |
| Jan. 20         | at Redwood Valley             |
| Jan. 24         | vs. Worthington               |
| Jan. 27         | vs. Windom                    |
| Jan. 29         | vs. Minnewaska Area           |
| Jan. 31         | vs. Mt. Lake Area/Comfrey     |
| Feb. 4          | at Pipestone                  |
| Feb. 5          | at St. James Area             |
| Feb. 7          | vs. Blue Earth Area           |
| Feb. 8          | at Marshall                   |
| Feb. 11         | at Tri-City United            |
| Feb. 12         | vs. Caledonia                 |
| Feb. 15         | BSC Championship (TBD)        |
| Feb. 26-March 4 | Sub-section tournament        |
| March 11        | Section 3AA finals (Marshall) |
| March 16-19     | Class AA state tournament     |

### Girls' basketball

|               |    |    |    |    |    |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|
| JCC at Waseca |    |    |    |    |    |
| JCC           | 43 | 37 | 80 |    |    |
| WAS           | 35 | 43 | 78 |    |    |
| JCC (80)      |    |    |    |    |    |
| Player        | 2  | 3  | FT | PF | TP |
| Farmer        | 8  | 5  | 9  | 5  | 40 |
| Voss          | 8  | 2  | 4  | 2  | 26 |
| Haren         | 1  | 0  | 1  | 1  | 3  |
| KWenzel       | 3  | 0  | 1  | 4  | 7  |
| GWenzel       | 1  | 0  | 0  | 4  | 2  |
| Timmer        | 1  | 0  | 0  | 4  | 2  |
| Totals        | 22 | 7  | 15 | 25 | 80 |
| Waseca (78)   |    |    |    |    |    |
| Totals        | 17 | 4  | 32 | 20 | 78 |

### Girls' basketball

|                        |    |    |    |    |    |
|------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|
| JCC vs. Redwood Valley |    |    |    |    |    |
| RV                     | 14 | 9  | 23 |    |    |
| JCC                    | 48 | 29 | 77 |    |    |
| JCC (77)               |    |    |    |    |    |
| Player                 | 2  | 3  | FT | PF | TP |
| Farmer                 | 7  | 3  | 2  | 3  | 25 |
| Voss                   | 8  | 0  | 0  | 1  | 16 |
| Cother                 | 6  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 12 |
| Haren                  | 1  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 2  |
| KWenzel                | 2  | 0  | 3  | 0  | 7  |
| GWenzel                | 1  | 1  | 2  | 3  | 7  |
| Anderson               | 2  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 4  |
| Timmer                 | 2  | 0  | 0  | 1  | 4  |
| Totals                 | 29 | 4  | 7  | 10 | 77 |
| Redwood Valley (23)    |    |    |    |    |    |
| Totals                 | 9  | 0  | 5  | 7  | 23 |

### Girls' basketball

|                         |    |    |    |    |    |
|-------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|
| JCC at MCC              |    |    |    |    |    |
| JCC                     | 57 | 20 | 77 |    |    |
| MCC                     | 15 | 20 | 35 |    |    |
| JCC (77)                |    |    |    |    |    |
| Player                  | 2  | 3  | FT | PF | TP |
| Farmer                  | 3  | 0  | 7  | 2  | 13 |
| Benson                  | 0  | 0  | 1  | 0  | 1  |
| Voss                    | 9  | 3  | 4  | 1  | 31 |
| Cother                  | 4  | 0  | 1  | 3  | 9  |
| GWenzel                 | 4  | 0  | 0  | 4  | 8  |
| GWenzel                 | 1  | 2  | 0  | 1  | 8  |
| Timmer                  | 2  | 0  | 3  | 1  | 7  |
| Totals                  | 23 | 5  | 16 | 15 | 77 |
| Murray Co. Central (35) |    |    |    |    |    |
| Totals                  | 10 | 3  | 6  | 16 | 35 |



Above: Maverick Harwood gets a ride on a donkey with the assistance of Payten Benda between games of Monday night's donkey basketball event at the Jackson County Central High School. Below: Riley Endreson puts up a shot during a game between JCC juniors and seniors, which the seniors won on a rock-paper-scissors tiebreaker after the score was tied at 10.



PHOTOS BY DAN CONDON AND JEN TEWES

### DONKEY DELIGHT

Right: Nate Hanson brings the ball up the court while riding his donkey between Nikki Austin (from left), Luke Ewald and Deidre Wierson. Below: Heidi Schultz puts up a shot for a team of community members in their win against Jackson County Central staff members. Bottom right: Kie Anderson hangs on to the ball and his donkey during a wild ride. The event, which was a fundraiser for the post-prom committee, was won by the team of community members.





## Candle-lighting event is set for this Sunday

A local group is planning a special event for families in Jackson County and across southwest Minnesota to honor the memories of daughters, sons, brothers, sisters or grandchildren who have died at any age, at any time, from any cause, this holiday season.

The Compassionate Friends of Windom will host a candle-lighting event this Sunday, beginning at 6:45 p.m., at the Cottonwood County Historical Society, 812 Fourth Ave., in Windom.

"It is a special opportunity during the holiday season to honor the memory of the child who has died and the love we shared with them in the support and company of others who truly understand," said Carol Hartman, a member of the Windom-based organization.

The event will take place in a peaceful setting amid the historical society's Festival of Trees in the Remick Gallery. Doors will

open at 6:30 p.m. Hartman said supplies will be provided for family members with which make a personalized ornament in memory of their child to add to the children's tree. Or they may bring an ornament of their choosing for the tree.

The program begins at 6:45 p.m., with the candle-lighting ceremony set for 7. Each person attending will be invited to light a candle in memory of his or her special child.

Refreshments will be served afterward with time for families to share their child's story. The remembrance is part of the 24th Worldwide Candle Lighting. Starting in New Zealand, candles are lit at 7 p.m., local time, around the globe, creating a virtual 24-hour wave of light as it moves from time zone to time zone.

### If you go...

**What:** Candle-lighting event

**When:** Sunday, Dec. 12, 6:45 p.m.

**Where:** Cottonwood County Historical Society, Windom

## Kirby's Closet distribution set for this Saturday

by JOSHUA SCHUETZ  
Staff Writer

Kirby's Closet is getting ready for its annual Christmas distribution, offering low-income and struggling families in Jackson County a chance to get some shopping done for their kids as the holiday season reaches its height.

The distribution will take place this Saturday at 11:30 a.m.

"It's our main event, and it's really the reason why we started Kirby's Closet," said Kirby's Closet director Hilary Rossow. "We give out winter clothing and toys every year for families who need help, so there's no registration or anything like that."

Supported by charity events, donations, grants and other forms of community support, the organization has managed to successfully navigate the pandemic, but still needs help keeping its operations going.

"We welcome any finan-

cial support we can get," Rossow said. "If anyone would like to help us out, they can come Friday or Saturday when we start getting ready for distribution."

Economic fallout from the pandemic has led more families to utilize local charities and social services and Kirby's is no exception. Last year, the organization served 376 children from 124 families, roughly double numbers from 2019.

"We're planning for more than 400 now," Rossow said.

The distribution will take place in the Immanuel Lutheran School gym, which will be set up like a store so people can enjoy the shopping experience. Volunteers will be present to help shoppers find what they're looking for.

New this year are family baskets, which include personal hygiene and cleaning items, along with gift wrap for families who need paper to wrap presents.

### If you go...

**What:** Kirby's Closet distribution

**When:** Saturday, Dec. 11, 11:30 a.m.

**Where:** Immanuel Lutheran School, Lakefield



PHOTO BY JOSHUA SCHUETZ  
EXIT Realty representatives Lee Porter (left), along with Trisha Porter (from right) and Danielle Rossow, present Hilary Rossow (second from left) of Kirby's Closet with a check for \$1,201. The local organization was one of the two southwest Minnesota charities to be supported by the West Central Association of Realtors this year.

## Kirby's Closet selected by Realtors' group as one of two beneficiaries

Kirby's Closet was selected as one of the two southwest Minnesota charities to be supported by the West Central Association of Realtors.

Every year, the association gets together and gathers money for disbursement to two charities in the region. Local EXIT Realtor Danielle Rossow nominated Kirby's Closet and the organization was selected at the WCAR's conference.

"Danielle applied for us to be one of the two beneficiaries this year and we were selected at the annual conference," said Kirby's Closet director Hilary Rossow. "We were really thrilled by it."

## FUNDS FOR FOOD

Crystal Valley Cooperative representatives Jeremy Ebeling (from right), Megan Tusa and Denise Micklos, along with Nikole Kolden (second from left) present a \$5,000 donation from the co-op to Brent Whisney (left) and Valerie Smith (third from left) of the Jackson County Food 4 Kids program. Ann Henning of the Jackson County Food 4 Kids Program thanked Crystal Valley for the "generous" donation. Mandy Hunecke, communications director with Crystal Valley, said the co-op was "very excited to be able to support such a wonderful cause."



## County libraries to offer activity bags this month

Jackson County's libraries will offer locals the opportunity to check out activity bags with two mystery crafts in each bag.

They are available free of charge. Signup begins Monday, with pickup available starting on Dec. 20.

There will be two options — a child option for those in fourth grade and younger, and a tween-and-up option for fifth-graders through adults.

The activity bags are available for pickup at all three libraries; quantities are limited.

Those interested in signing up for an activity bag are encouraged to call their local library.

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PHOTO BY JOSHUA SCHUETZ

## THEY'RE TERRIFIC!

Riverside Elementary School students honored by the Jackson Kiwanis Club and Jackson County Central Key Club as Terrific Kids for the month of November include (front, from left): Benjamin Schmit, Laylah Hummel, Hayden Vongasavanh, Hazel Hall, Daaron Weefah, Jaxon Olson, Jameis Wessels, Brycen Mitchell and Zadok Atura. Missing: Ciaran Greenbush. Back: JCC Key Club members Macy Kolander, Oliva Anderson, Elsa Landherr and Molly Turner and Jackson Kiwanis Club members Matt Skaret, Heather Klassen, Paul Meium and Jen Tewes.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

## HUSKY PRIDE HEROES

Pleasantview Elementary School students honored as October Husky Pride Heroes include (front, from left): Jena Kaderabek, MaKayla Phillips, Kyla Olson and Micah Espey. Back: Shelby Thoreson, Macy Herrig, Ellie Holm, Gavin Pohlman and Barrett Brunk. Missing: Landrey Hansen.

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## Pleasantview Christmas program is set to take the stage next week

by JOSHUA SCHUETZ  
Staff Writer

Students from Pleasantview Elementary School will perform a Christmas program for the community next Thursday. Show time is 1 p.m. in the

Jackson County Central Middle School Auditorium in Lakefield.

"The fifth-grade students will be performing the musical, 'A Christmas Line,'" said Pleasantview music teacher Kari Scheitel. "It is the story of a group of familiar North Pole faces that are lined up to audition for the annual holiday revue."

Scheitel said the students were nervous about the musical at first, but are excited to share what they've learned over the past few months with their families, friends and teachers. And, after a year of without in-person concerts due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Scheitel said they're looking forward to seeing a live audience on the other side of the stage again.

"The fifth-graders have been working very hard on the music since the end of October and I can't wait to

**If you go...**

**What:** Christmas program  
**When:** Thursday, Dec. 16, 1 p.m.  
**Where:** JCC Middle School, Lakefield

see it all come together," Scheitel said. "I'm very proud of them and thrilled to do live concerts again."

Among the musical numbers being performed are "I Should Have Been a North Pole Elf," "Let's Hear it for Mrs. Claus" and "The Candy Cane Twist." Piano music will also be performed at the beginning of the program.

The school will accept freewill donations at the event. All donations will go to the music department to help fund future performances and opportunities for Pleasantview students to expand their music education.



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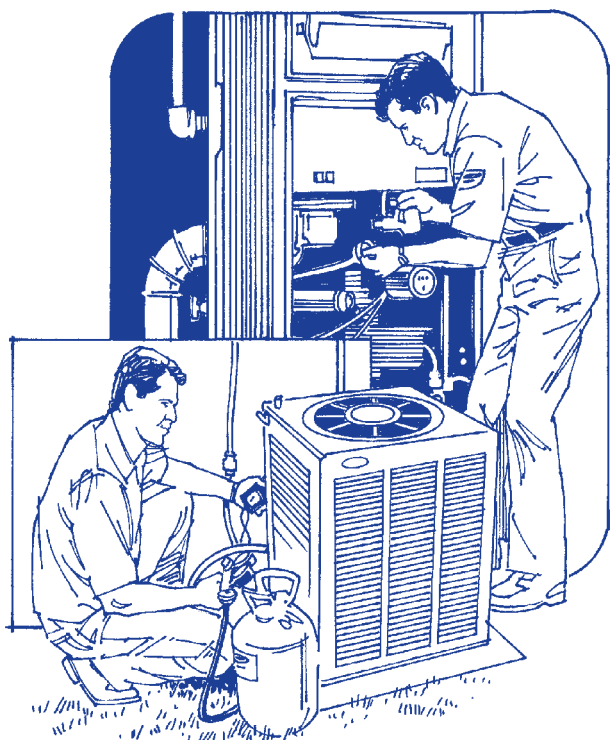
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