



POST 130 FINISHES SIXTH AT STATE

The Jackson American Legion Post 130 baseball team played a trio of tight games at the state tournament, winning one to finish in sixth place.
Story, B1



JACKSON COUNTY PILOT

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A BLUE-RIBBON COUNTY FAIR

Photos by Pilot staff



Left: Kade Tewes competes in the Jackson County Fair's 4-H premier showmanship event this past Saturday. Right: Goldy Gopher hams it up with University of Minnesota mega-fan Charlie Arlandson during a special visit to the Jackson County Fair this past Friday.



Above: Digging into some fried food last Wednesday evening at the Jackson County Fair are (front, from left): Emma Bergeron and Lennix Bergeron. Back: Ryley Peterson and Ryker Reinitz. Left: Gayle, Chad and Carson Schneckloth ride in the fair's car and tractor parade on Saturday.



Inside...

B6-B16 See this week's B Section for 11 pages chock-full of Jackson County Fair coverage, results and photos.

Online...

.com Thousands of photos from last week's Jackson County Fair are online at jacksoncountypilot.com.

One day, two elections for local voters

Special election, state primary set for this Tuesday

by JUSTIN R. LESSMAN
Publisher

Jackson County voters will be asked to vote in two different elections on one day next week.

Not only is Tuesday the date of the statewide primary election, but it is also the day of the special election to fill the remainder of the term of local congressman Jim Hagedorn, who died earlier this year.

Polls open across the county either at 7 a.m. or 10 a.m. Tuesday — 7 a.m. in municipalities and at the county courthouse for precincts that conduct elections exclusively by mail, 10 a.m. in townships that do not — and close at 8 p.m.

Twelve of Jackson County's 20 townships — plus two cities — are conducting next week's elections by mail. Mail-in ballots and absentee bal-

lots must be received by the Jackson County Auditor/Treasurer's Office by end of day Tuesday. As of this past Monday, Jackson County Auditor/Treasurer Kevin Nordquist, the county's top election official, said his office had received 402 mail-in ballots and 36 absentee ballots.

Local voters casting ballots early and in person next week will not only be asked to fill the open local seat in Congress, but also to narrow the field of those running for a full term in the position in November. Candidates in the special election include primary victors Jeff Ettinger, a Democrat; Brad Finstad, a Republican; Haroun McClellan of the Grassroots-Legalize Cannabis Party of Minnesota; and Richard Reisdorf of the Legal Marijuana Now Party. Candidates for the full congressional term include Democrats Ettinger, George H. Kalberer and James Rain-

See **ELECTIONS** on **A3**

Inside...

A3 Those interested in serving on the Jackson County Central Board of Education or in city government in Jackson or Alpha have until Aug. 16 to file their candidacy.

A wetter July keeps county drought-free

Moderate temps have also helped

by JUSTIN R. LESSMAN
Publisher

As much of the lower half of Minnesota slips back into drought conditions, Jackson County remains right where it needs to be in terms of moisture.

That's according to the latest report from the U.S. Drought Monitor, a joint effort of the National Drought Mitigation Center at the University of

Nebraska-Lincoln, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

As of this past Thursday, the entirety of Jackson County was listed as free of drought conditions, even as all neighboring counties to the north and portions of Martin County to the east were listed as abnormally dry.

Jackson County's drought-free status is a product, in part, of a wetter-than-normal July. Ac-

See **WETTER** on **A2**

Inside...

A2 See the full weather summary — including daily highs and lows, precipitation totals and historical averages — for July.

Quilts, hugs and recognition for a group of local veterans

by JUSTIN R. LESSMAN
Publisher

One by one on Friday afternoon the names of local heroes were called. Ron Anderson. Terry Fife. James J. Hall. Harry Knutson. Don Kuehl.

One by one, they came forward, received a handmade quilt, a hug and — in some cases — recognition long overdue.

Members of the Riverbend Quilters' Guild distributed 21 handmade quilts to local veterans of the armed forces this past Friday at the Jackson County Fair. The distribu-

See **QUILTS** on **A8**



PHOTO BY JUSTIN LESSMAN

Riverbend Quilters' Guild member Ardy Palmer presents a handmade quilt to local veteran Ron Anderson during a special ceremony this past Friday at the Jackson County Fair.

Kruse, Vanderheiden top seniors

by JUSTIN R. LESSMAN
Publisher

Ken Kruse of Jackson and Mavis Vanderheiden of Heron Lake are Jackson County's 2022 Outstanding Senior Citizens.

The two were recognized at a special ceremony Friday morning at the Jackson County Fair in Jackson.

The man behind the fort

Kruse was honored for his long involvement with Fort Belmont in Jackson, as well as his service to various other community organizations and activities, including the Our Savior's Lutheran Church Council and Jackson's Holiday Fest celebration.

While he's helped with

See **SENIORS** on **A3**



PHOTO BY JEN TEWES

Sharon Smith presents Ken Kruse with the 2022 Outstanding Senior Citizen Award this past Friday at the Jackson County Fair.