



## Words For Thought...

By Editor Terry Schwartzenberger

### Almost In The Majority

Most times when it comes to voting, the majority will rule. Meaning at least just over half or 50% of those voting on a certain issue will reign.

During last week's primary election across the state there were only 20.84% of the eligible voters who took the time to vote. Meaning right around 20 people for every 100 eligible voters took the time to fill out a ballot. That's a rather sad static. However, in Logan County there were 675 (47.01%) out of a potential 1,436 voters who tended to their civic duty of taking the time to cast a ballot. Logan County had the second highest percentage of voters who cast a ballot. Billings County led the state with a 55% voter turnout.

Even though Logan County residents slipped under the 50% mark, it is great to see that nearly half of the voting population in the county took the time to vote.

It seems over the course of the past couple of elections Logan County voters slipped under the 50% threshold. In 2024 the county reported a 43.05% voter turnout; in 2022 only a 37% voter turnout. It was six years ago, 2020 when 53% of voters in Logan County took the time to vote.

There really can't be a valid excuse for not voting as an absentee ballot is a viable option. Just fill out the request for a ballot, receive a ballot in the mail and return ballot to county auditor's office no later than election day. Sounds pretty simple. And of course, there's also the option to vote in person on election day.

Thanks to all who took the time to vote at the June 9th primary, however here's a challenge for the 2026 general election in November. As time goes on, ask a friend or neighbor if they voted in the June 9th primary. If they didn't, encourage them to cast a ballot. This is just one way of being involved in the democratic process. Let's get back above the that imaginary 50% threshold. I think this is a realistic goal, especially since Logan County voters have a couple of races which will be on the November ballot. Make your wishes heard by casting an official ballot in November.

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### Here's What I Have To Say

... By Jessica Faye

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#### Re-united

And just like that, in what seems like a blink of an eye, it has been 17 years. That's right; 17 years ago I graduated from college, went on a month long stay-cation to Alaska, then in June I started full-time at the Napoleon Homestead (as I had interned here the summer prior).

Along with moving and starting the job, I also parted ways with all my college friends and suite-mates that I had become very good friends with in the previous four years. A few are scattered around the state, two in Montana and one in Minnesota. I've been able to get together with a couple, but most I haven't been able to see, only keep connected through social media or apps.

A couple weeks ago, my college roommate's sister planned a surprise birthday party for her since she would be back in the state and invited the suite-mates/friends. It was quite the surprise since it was really only her "half birthday", as her actual day is in December.

The second we all gathered, we were re-connecting with stories, life updates and lots of laughs reminiscing. It was surreal thinking it had been 17 years since I had seen some of them and yet it felt just as we left off. Everyone's personalities and qualities showed through, but it was apparent how all have grown and prospered to where we are today.

It was wonderful seeing those who had the chance to re-unite and get an update on life and it's happenings, and really hoping to see the others soon as well. I only had one regret leaving the party - that we all waited so long to make a point to get together. Guess we may need to host another surprise for the next in line soon!



Tori Gross receives a Napoleon School Election ballot last Tuesday, June 9 with election workers, Terri Jangula, Connie Olson, Claudia Schulz and Pat Stein as election workers.



Joe Gallagher, Woodbury, MN: "The best part of my week is receiving the *Napoleon Homestead* in the mail! Thank you!"

# Election

Continued From Front

#### Statewide Races

Only four of the 10 statewide races on the June ballot were contested in this year's primary.

In the congressional Republican primary, U.S. Rep. Julie Fedorchak handily beat challenger Alex Balazs, who had the state party's endorsement, to advance to the November general election, where she will face Trygve Hammer, who was unopposed in the Democratic-NPL primary.

In Republican Public Service Commission races, incumbent Sheri Haugen-Hoffart defeated challenger Deven Styczynski for a full six-year term and incumbent Jill Kringstad beat Chris Olson for a two-year unexpired term. Haugen-Hoffart faces Democrat John Pederson in November; Kringstad will face Democrat Scott Kelsh

In the nonpartisan race for superintendent of public instruction, incumbent Levi Bachmeier and Tracy Layne Foss will advance to November.

A statewide ballot measure to limit all future proposed constitutional amendments to one subject won the yes vote.

Logan County voters followed the path of the state-wide voters. Below are vote totals in Logan County.

- Representative in Congress Republican**
- Julie Fedorchak .....387
- Alex Balazs .....146
- Representative in Congress Democratic**
- Trygve Hammer ..... 58
- Secretary of State Republican**
- Michael Howe .....485
- Secretary of State Democratic**
- Ryan Braunberger..... 57
- Attorney General Republican**
- Drew Wrigley.....490
- Attorney General Democratic**
- Tim Lamb..... 56
- Agriculture Commissioner**

- Republican**
- Doug Goehring .....498
- Agriculture Commissioner Democratic**
- Vern Thompson..... 57
- Public Service Commissioner Republican**
- Sheri Haugen-Hoffart .....281
- Deven Styczynski .....209
- Public Service Commissioner Unexpired 2-year term**
- Jill Kringstad .....256
- Chris Olson .....250
- Public Service Commissioner Democratic**
- John M Pederson ..... 56
- Public Service Commissioner Unexpired 2-year term**
- Scot Kelsh ..... 54
- Tax Commissioner Republican**

- Brian Kroshus 484
- Tax Commissioner Democratic**
- Mark Nelson ..... 58
- Superintendent of Public Instruction**
- Levi Bachmeier.....341
- Tracy Layne Foss .....134
- Charles Tuttle..... 89
- Justice of the Supreme Court**
- Jerod Tufte .....364
- Ariston E Johnson .....186
- Justice of the Supreme Court Unexpired 8-year term**
- Douglas A Bahr 534
- Constitutional Measure No 1**
- Yes .....410
- No .....168
- Vote totals are considered unofficial until county, city and school canvassing boards meet and results are certified.

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