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JORDAN  **INDEPENDENT**

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BREAKING NEWS ONLINE AT [WWW.JORDANNEWS.COM](http://WWW.JORDANNEWS.COM)



George Holasek, left, and Marcus Holasek stand with George's father's original 1949 tractor. The pair are both showing several tractors at the 2021 Scott County Thresher Festival.



PHOTO BY EDEN TELLER

A sign at InkHeart Tattoo parlor in Chaska directs all visitors to wear masks, though the state mask mandate has been lifted since July 1.

## Delta variant causes concern in Scott, Carver counties

'We're not out of the woods' with COVID-19, public health director says

BY EDEN TELLER  
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As the COVID-19 Delta variant has ripped through southern U.S. states and caused a national surge of cases, Minnesota and the southwest Twin Cities metro area have been no exception. While nowhere near the peaks of 2020, health officials in Scott and Carver counties are keeping close tabs on case numbers and the future.

Delta to 3 ▶



Jason Johnson, left, and Brad Atkins relax in the shade at the 2021 Scott County Thresher Festival. The contraption in front of them is an engine-powered ice cream maker that Johnson built.



A tractor pulls a train of children around the fairgrounds at the 2021 Scott County Thresher Festival.

# PASSING IT ON

Scott County Thresher Festival draws those with love for the past

BY EDEN TELLER  
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**S**andy Hess has volunteered at the Scott County Thresher Festival print shop for nearly 30 years. She and her friend Al Rostberg worked together for the last decade, with Rostberg's expertise on the linotypes and various printing machines, and Hess's in finishing and inking the products.

When Rostberg died at the end of 2019, Hess, 64, of Chaska, wasn't sure how she'd keep the shop open. But her lucky

stars aligned when Dave Zadra, 47, of Shakopee, wandered into her booth and started talking shop. The pair quickly realized that Zadra had the skills Hess needed to keep the shop going, and he joined the team.

"I said to Sandy, 'I'll help if you let me,'" Zadra recalled. The 2021 Thresher Festival, Aug. 6-8, was his first year behind the keys of the print shop's linotypes, and as a "newbie," a lot of learning has been by "trial and error," he added.

Zadra first dipped his toes into antique printing in 2016, after he built a small railroad in the back yard for his kids. He

wanted to print tickets for the trains with technology from railroads' heyday. As he began scavenging printing machines from old businesses around the metro area, he became fascinated with the art and history of printing.

"This machine revolutionized the world," he said of the linotype. "These youngsters need to know. They have the world at their fingertips with their phones, but it all started with this."

On day one of the festival, Hess, Zadra and Zadra's daughter Izabella, 19, had

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