

PEN CITY CURRENT

It's Black & White and Read all over

Thursday, February 25, 2021 | 8 pages | Volume 5 • Issue 48



www.pencitycurrent.com

Future depot platform



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg

The retaining wall for the Amtrak Passenger Depot platform was poured in January by Iowa Bridge and Culvert. The new passenger depot is being relocated just west of the North Lee County Historical museum in Riverview Park. Work on the project has been halted due to the recent cold snap that swept the plains.

2.4% Growth

School officials react to state funding increase

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

LEE COUNTY – Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds got all but .1% of the public education funding growth she had asked for in January.

On Tuesday, the governor signed into law a 2.4% increase in per-pupil state aid to the state's public schools. The increase represents a .1% increase over 2020 numbers and will provide schools with an additional \$179 per pupil.

However the move could still require budget guarantees at close to 100 districts. Budget guarantees allow for additional property taxes by the district to cover costs due to dwindling enrollments.

According to the Iowa Department of Education, public schools in Iowa lost more than 6,000 K-12 students during the COVID pandemic. Schools with steep declines will rely on the budget guarantee allowance to balance their budgets

See FUNDING, page 5

Spring is in the air at the Fort Madison Public Library

BY SARAH CLENDENING
Fort Madison Public Library

FORT MADISON – Spring is coming and soon plants will be starting to grow and, for many people, it's time to start thinking about getting out into the garden. On March 4, at 5:30 pm, Lee

County Conservationist Clay Steele, will be talking about plants to encourage butterflies and pollinators and ways to successfully grow them. This program will be held at the library or you can contact Sarah, 372-5721, for a link to watch via Zoom. If you want to research other gardening tips and tech-

niques, check out some of these new gardening books at the library:

- Complete Container Herb Gardening by Sue Goetz (635.7 GOE)
- Growing Under Cover: Techniques for a More Productive, Weather-Resis-

See READ, page 8

CORONAVIRUS

COVID rates fall, even with state data shift

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

LEE COUNTY – As the state positivity rates for the COVID infection continue to fall and state data releases change, Lee County officials continue a steadfast approach to administering vaccines.

According to the Iowa Department of Public Health's [coronavirus.iowa.gov](https://www.coronavirus.iowa.gov) website, the 14-day and 7-day positivity rates are now both under 5% at just 4.3% and 4.1% statewide. Lee County's 7-day rate is at 3%.

However the state is now reporting those percentages measured against all COVID tests administered, not individual tests, which almost doubled the figures used against the positive tests.

More than 2.6 million nasal swab tests have been administered to date to about 1.3 million individuals, with 278,410 testing positive for the virus since testing began. Previous reports using individuals tested would have produced an overall rate of 21.4% of individuals tested having positive results.

The new calculations show an overall positivity rate of 10.4%, and will also impact the 14-day and 7-day reporting.

The state has lost 5,415 residents to complications from the disease, including 51 in Lee County as of Wednesday at 2 p.m. As of Tuesday, only 133 Iowa residents were in hospitals with COVID as the "primary diagnosis", the lowest rate since July 23, 2020. An additional 100 are currently hospitalized with COVID as the "secondary diagnosis".

Lee County Health Department Administrator Michele Ross said LCHD has given at least one dose to 1,400 adults 65 and older off a list of about 3,800.

The county has also given close to the same amount of vaccines to individuals in the first tier of Phase 1B including first responders, educators and child care workers. LCHD volunteers and staff held clinics

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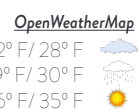
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WEATHER

THU 25 Feb Overcast, 42° F / 28° F

FRI 26 Feb Rain Showers, 49° F / 30° F

SAT 27 Feb Sunny and Warmer, 56° F / 35° F



IOWA LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS 02/23.....	5 79 20 57, Mega Ball: 15 Megaplier: 3
PICK 3 02/23 MIDDAY.....	8 6 0
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PICK 4 02/23 MIDDAY.....	3 9 8 8
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Obituaries

OBITUARIES

KAY WELLMAN-PEEL

Kay Wellman-Peel, 77 years, of West Point, Iowa died Saturday, February 20, 2021 at her home. She was born February 8, 1944, the daughter of Kenneth and Irene (Tollman) Whittemore. She first married Norbert Wellman, they had three children:



WELLMAN-PEEL

Tim, Lori, and Eric. They later divorced. She married Robert "Bob" Peel on October 31, 1993. He preceded her in death on August 28, 2007. For the past 5 years, Kay shared her life with a special friend, Bill Newton. He survives.

Kay grew up in Dallas City, Illinois. She moved to West Point when she was first married and lived here the rest of her life. She worked in the Physical Therapy Department of the Fort Madison Community Hospital for many years. She was owner and operator of Peel's Pub (now Phil's Pub) in West Point. She did day care in her retirement years. She was a beautiful and caring person who enjoyed cooking, reading, and telling stories to anyone who would listen. She was known to open her home to anyone and everyone in need of a home-cooked meal, a laugh, and a place of rest. She loved her fire pit and used it to gather with family and friends. She also enjoyed dancing, golfing, and ceramics. Because of her big heart she fostered many children throughout the years. Her family is grateful she is at peace in Heaven. She will be dearly missed.

She is survived by three children: Tim Wellman of West Des Moines, Iowa; Lori (Shannon) Burke of Walker, Iowa; and Eric (Kelley) Wellman of Lenexa, Kansas; three step-children: Robert J Peel Jr., Christine Richmond, and Gena Garcia; five siblings: Donna Tenpenny, Bill Whittemore, Carol Huss, Sally Brickey, and Greg Whittemore; nine grandchildren: Mariah, Allisyn, Taylor, Connor, Sydney, Alex, Luke, Sarah, and Ryan; many nieces, nephews, and cousins; and her special foster daughter, My Huynh, of Arkansas. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband Bob, and three siblings: Larry Whittemore, Reva Gorman, and Beverly Hohl.

Per her wishes, her body has been cremated. Her family will greet friends from 5:00 - 7:00 pm Thursday, February 25, 2021 at the Barr-Holtkamp Funeral Home, West Point, Iowa. A private family burial will be held at a later date at Sacred Heart Cemetery, Fort Madison, Iowa. A memorial has been established and contributions may be left at or mailed to the Barr-Holtkamp Funeral Home, 412 Ave C, P.O. Box 247, West Point, Iowa 52656. Sign an online guest book and send a message to her family at www.barrholtkampfuneralhome.com. Barr-Holtkamp Funeral Home is honored to serve the Wellman-Peel family.

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OBITUARIES

DONALD I. HOTOP

Donald Irvin Hotop, 69, of Fort Madison, IA, entered into eternal rest with his Heavenly Father at 2:25 p.m. on Monday, February 22, 2021. He was born on January 10, 1952 in Fort Madison, IA to Martin Charles & Patricia Louise Wolfe



HOTOP

Hotop. He married Terena Sue Kramer on October 29, 1994 in Fort Madison, IA. He was a master custom bike builder, fabricator and parts designer. He owned Don's Speed & Custom & Hotop MC Designs for more than 40 years. He was a member of ABATE and Hamsters USA Motorcycle Club and was inducted into the Sturgis Motorcycle Hall of Fame.

Don is survived by: his wife: Terena Hotop of Fort Madison, IA; 1-son: Garrett Hotop of Fort Madison, IA; 2-daughters: Alexis (Dustin Gordy) Hotop of Cedar Rapids, IA & Tara Newton and her children: Morrigan, Genevieve & Loethan all of Altoona, IA; 2-sisters: Darla Hotop-Farrell & Debra Kruse of Fort Madison, IA & his mother in law: Tillie Kramer of Fort Madison, IA. He was preceded in death by: his parents & 1-brother, Steve Hotop.

Cremation has been entrusted to the care of King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. A visitation will be held from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 27, 2021 at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. A memorial service will immediately follow at 3:00 p.m. with Pastor Earl Beal officiating. A memorial has been established in Don's memory. Online condolences may be left at www.kinglynk.com.

JIM MEINHARDT

Jim "Pinky" Meinhardt of Keokuk passed away Saturday February 20, 2021, at the age of 73.

He was born March 14, 1947, the son of Ed and Edna Meinhardt. He was united in marriage to Dinah (O'Shea) Meinhardt October 16, 1981. He was employed at Stone Container until he retired.



MEINHARDT

Family was Jim's entire life. He found his greatest joy in watching his grandchildren grow and enjoy life. He loved to travel, exploring and sight-seeing with Dinah, frequenting their favorite destinations New Orleans and Las Vegas.

He is survived by his mother Edna Meinhardt of Keokuk, children Dalyn (Manny) Huizar of Las Vegas, Shawn (Jaime Carter) Meinhardt and Steffanie (Ryan Toops) Meinhardt both of Keokuk. Grandchildren Kelsey Beloate, Steve Huizar of Las Vegas, Zoe Huizar of Cedar City Utah, Keegan Carter, Brodie Meinhardt, Jace, Jaren, Jolie Wade and Paige Toops all of Keokuk. He is also survived by numerous nieces, nephews, great nieces and great nephews.

Jim was preceded in death by his wife Dinah, his father Ed Meinhardt and brother Steve Meinhardt.

There will be a celebration of Jim's life at a later date.

Friends and family may leave memories and condolences at www.dejongsfuneralhome.com.

DeJong-Greaves-Printy Funeral Home of Keokuk is in charge of arrangements.

Pothitakis Law Firm Recognized for Professional Excellence

Firms included in the 2021 Edition of U.S. News-Best Lawyers "Best Law Firms" are recognized for professional excellence with consistently impressive ratings from clients and peers. To be eligible for a ranking, a firm must first have a lawyer recognized in The Best Lawyers in America, which recognizes the top 5% of private practicing lawyers in the United States. Achieving a tiered ranking signals a unique combination of quality law practice and breadth of legal expertise. Mr. Pothitakis has been named to The Best Lawyers in America in 2020 and again in 2021.

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PEN CITY CURRENT

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Pen City Current and www.pencitycurrent.com are products of Market Street Publishing, LLC. Pen City Current is published Sunday through Friday mornings by 6AM.

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Obituaries

OBITUARIES

ADAM D. STEFFENSMEIER

Adam David Steffensmeier, 37, of Ankeny, Iowa, formerly of West Point, Iowa, passed away at 5:00 a.m. Monday, February 22, 2021 at Mercy Hospice in Johnston, Iowa.



He was born on November 20, 1983 in Fort Madison, Iowa, the son of David J. and Carol A. (Plassmeyer) Steffensmeier.

Survivors include his son: Bryant Steffensmeier; mother: Carol (Mike) Arnold of West Point; father: David (Carrie) Steffensmeier of Nauvoo, Illinois; three sisters: Holly (Jonathon) Thompson of Santa Barbara, California, Kara Tweedy of West Point, Iowa and Morgan (JASTEFFENSMEIER son) Gonzalez of West Point, Iowa; grandparents: Vern Steffensmeier, Gene and Alvera Merschman; mother of Bryant: Courtney Hill. Also surviving are several aunts, uncles and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his maternal grandparents: Billy and June Plassmeyer; paternal grandmother: Phyllis Steffensmeier and step-mother: Jeanne Steffensmeier.

Adam was a 2002 graduate of Marquette Catholic High School and a 2006 graduate of Iowa State University. He was working on his MBA at the University of Iowa. He was an IT auditing team leader at Wellmark and Meredith Publishing where he worked on certified information auditor systems. Adam enjoyed fishing, golfing and participating in fantasy league football. He was an avid Chicago Cubs fan and most of all, he enjoyed spending time with his son.

A Memorial Mass will be held at 1:30 p.m. Friday, February 26, 2021, at St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church in West Point with Father Dennis Hoffman as celebrant. Mass will be lived streamed on the church Facebook page and following the service, will be posted to his "Tribute Wall" on his obituary page at www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com.

Burial will be at Calvary Cemetery in West Point.

In lieu of flowers a memorial has been established in his memory for his son Bryant's education. Checks can be made payable to Dave Steffensmeier and mailed to the family at: Schmitz Funeral Home, P.O. Box 22, West Point, Iowa 52656.

Online condolences may be made to the family at www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com. The Schmitz Funeral Home of West Point is assisting the family with arrangements.

Pen City Current obituary policy

The Current runs obituaries one time at no charge to funeral homes and they run the day they are submitted in most cases. They are also run as submitted by the funeral homes. Any additions to obituaries after they are originally posted will be assessed a \$15 republishing fee.

OBITUARIES

SHARON M. BELL

Sharon Marie "Maw Maw" Bell, 77, of Keokuk, passed away on Saturday, February 20, 2021, at Unity Point Health in Keokuk.

Sharon was born on July 1, 1943, in Keokuk, Iowa, the daughter of Walter Frye and Opal (Galbreath) Falkner. On March 9, 1972, she was united in marriage to Richard Bell in Quincy, Illinois. He survives.



BELL

Sharon was a lifelong resident of Keokuk and a member of God's Way Christian Center in Keokuk. Her family remembers her wonderful cooking and meals shared together. Sharon spent many years raising her children and spoiling her grandchildren. She was a fixture at every one of her grandchildren's sports and loved her family dearly.

Sharon is survived by her husband Richard Bell of Keokuk; four daughters: Kimberly (Spencer) Jones of Keokuk, Andrea Tinder of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Julie Tinder of Wichita, Kansas, and Heather (Mike) Davis of Keokuk; fourteen grandchildren: Kimber, Larry, Justin, Shannon, Rick, Logan, Braedon, Kae-dyn, Ryan, Andre, Derrick, Michaela, Michenna, and Michael "MJ" Jr.; thirteen great-grandchildren; her brother Melvin (Veronica) Parker of Milwaukee, Wisconsin; and her sister-in-law Betty Frye of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Other survivors include numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

Sharon is preceded in death by her parents, her son Richard "Ricky" Bell and four brothers: Kenny, Larry, Ronald and Roger Frye.

A homegoing celebration will be held at noon on Thursday, February 25, 2021, at DeJong-Greaves-Printy Funeral Home in Keokuk, with private burial to follow at Keokuk National Cemetery in Keokuk, Iowa. Visitation will be held at the funeral home on Thursday from 10 am until noon directly before the service. For the safety of those attending, masks will be required. For those unable to attend, the service will be livestreamed on her obituary page at www.dejongsfuneralhome.com.

Memorials may be directed to Keokuk Activities Department.

Family and friends may leave condolences and memories at www.dejongsfuneralhome.com.

DeJong-Greaves-Printy Funeral Home in Keokuk is in charge of arrangements.

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Honor Rolls/From the Front

Holy Trinity releases 1st semester, 2nd Q honor rolls

FORT MADISON – Holy Trinity Catholic Schools has announced its second quarter and first semester honor rolls for the 2020-2021 school year. Pen City Current joins our advertisers and readers in congratulating these students on their academic success. Job well done!

2nd Quarter Honor Roll

4.0 Honor Roll

- 7th Grade – Addison Link
- 8th Grade – Teagan Snaadt
- 9th Grade – Jenna Hellman, Natalie Randolph
- 10th Grade – Kayla Box, Alexa Dingman, Laura Mehmert
- 11th Grade – Lucy Graham, Abby Holtkamp, Jack Malinski, Mitchell Pothitakis, Cassidy Randolph, Anna Sobczak
- 12th Grade – Danny Caruso, Taylor Crabtree, Tina Huang, Ava Peitz, Claire Pothitakis, Maria Rauenbuehler, Alison Robu, Chandler Rung, Annabelle Scheetz, Jason Thurman, Vasin Thurman, Emma Torgler

A Honor Roll

- 7th Grade – Nathan Box, Chase Hemann, Sarah Menke, Emma Mohrfeld, Carson Pauly, Layne Rung, Brock Scheetz, Henry Steffensmeier, Corbin VanNiewaal, Isabella Wheatley-Behne
- 8th Grade – Anna Bendlage, Isabella Callison, Kylie Fortune, Henry Graham, Luke Hellige, Koby Jones, Ellie Lake
- 9th Grade – Mary Kate Bendlage, Daltin Boeding, Michael Chapman, Taegan Denning, Conner Gehling, Andrew Mehmert, Maddox Rung
- 10th Grade – Emily Boeding, Mary Hellige, Rachel Menke, Brooke Mueller
- 12th Grade – Bailey Hellweg

B Honor Roll

- 7th Grade – Jameson Denning, Lia Fullenkamp, Emily Hummel, Blake Mohrfeld
- 8th Grade – Ellianna Boyer, Cade Goodrich, Mason Kruse, Regan Schmitz, Adam Sobczak
- 9th Grade – Jacob Hummel, Seth Moeller, Ethan Peitz, Mary Beth Scheetz, Edward Schroeder
- 10th Grade – Jacob Pothitakis, James Scheetz
- 11th Grade – Jackson Blint, Tessa Gendron, Blake Hemann, Kelli Meierotto, Raquel Schneider, Tyler Snaadt, Jackson VanHamme
- 12th Grade – Kyle Knepp, Kadin Medland, Trevor Mohrfeld, Anna Schroeder

1st Semester Honor Roll

4.0 Honor Roll

- 7th Grade – Addison Link
- 8th Grade – Ellie Lake, Teagan Snaadt
- 9th Grade – Michael Chapman, Connor Gehling, Jenna Hellman, Natalie Randolph
- 10th Grade – Kayla Box, Alexa Dingman, Laura Mehmert
- 11th Grade – Lucy Graham, Abby Holtkamp, Jack Malinski, Mitchell Pothitakis, Cassidy Randolph, Anna Sobczak
- 12th Grade – Danny Caruso, Taylor Crabtree, Tina Huang, Ava Peitz, Claire Pothitakis, Maria Rauenbuehler, Alison Robu, Chandler Rung, Annabelle Scheetz, Jason Thurman, Vasin Thurman, Emma Torgler

A Honor Roll

- 7th Grade – Nathan Box, Chase Hemann, Emma Mohrfeld, Carson Pauly, Layne Rung, Brock Scheetz, Henry Steffensmeier, Corbin VanNiewaal, Isabella Wheatley-Behne
- 8th Grade – Anna Bendlage, Isabella Callison, Kylie Fortune, Henry Graham, Luke Hellige, Koby Jones, Regan Schmitz
- 9th Grade – Mary Kate Bendlage, Daltin Boeding, Taegan Denning, Andrew Mehmert, Maddox Rung
- 10th Grade – Rachel Menke, Brooke Mueller
- 11th Grade – Jackson Blint, Jackson VanHamme
- 12th Grade – Bailey Hellweg

B Honor Roll

- 7th Grade – Jameson Denning, Lia Fullenkamp, Emily Hummel, Jonathan Hummel, Sarah Menke, Blake Mohrfeld, McKayla Schinstock
- 8th Grade – Spencer Barnes, Cade Goodrich, Mason Kruse, Brayton Schneider, Adam Sobczak, Tobias VanHamme
- 9th Grade – Reagan Holvoet, Jacob Hummel, Sheldon Kruse, Seth Moeller, Ethan Peitz, Mary Beth Scheetz, Edward Schroeder
- 10th Grade – Emily Boeding, Mary Hellige, Jacob Pothitakis, James Scheetz
- 11th Grade – Cody Briggs, Tessa Gendron, Sophie Gram, Blake Hemann, Kelli Meierotto, Raquel Schneider, Tyler Snaadt
- 12th Grade – Elizabeth Ebbing, Kyle Knepp, Trevor Mohrfeld, Anna Schroeder

More clinics planned

COVID - Continued from Page 1

during the past week in the county, the largest of which was at First Baptist Church in Fort Madison where 400 first-dose vaccines were given to those 65 and older.

Ross said she's aware that people are getting impatient for the vaccine, but the county is calling and scheduling as many appointments as supplies will allow.

"We ask for continued patience as we can only work as fast as we receive vaccine, and we schedule appointments around the number of doses on hand," Ross said Wednesday.

"Many people are very concerned they have not been called back yet as it has been a few weeks since they called. We want to acknowledge the long wait and hope people understand we will get to you as soon as we can and that we are coordinating clinics around vaccine supplies received each week."

She said if anyone currently on the list has access to a vaccine through another provider they should take that opportunity and then contact LCHD to be removed from the list so others can be moved up.

A closed, appointment-only drive-thru clinic will be held Thursday starting in the morning in the parking lot of First Christian Church in Keokuk, specifically for those 65 and older from the LCHD call back list.

Friday vaccinations will focus on Tier 1 eligible child care workers in the county. Next week there will be two large scale clinics in Fort Madison at the former ISP parking lot for second dosing of those vaccinated at the same location on Feb. 2 and 4th.

First dose appointments will start being scheduled again Wednesday next week based on vaccinations shipment information from the state.

Counties in the state are still under an 80% efficiency mandate from the state and Ross said LCHD continues to work with the two hospitals to meet that standard. She said by doing so the county will continue to receive it's standard shipment of 500 doses per week.

She didn't want to guess what March shipments will look like, but federal health officials have said both Pfizer and Moderna plan to increase their production and have additional doses available in March.

A single-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine is also close to getting FDA emergency use authorization

See DATA, page 8



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W-2319018

Honor Rolls/From the Front

FMCS D, Central Lee won't use budget guarantee tax

FUNDING - Continued from Page 1

for the next fiscal year beginning July 1, 2021.

Fort Madison Superintendent Dr. Erin Slater said she's thankful for the increased funding.



SLATER



CROZIER

FMCS D is appreciative of the Iowa legislature's support and the governor's recognition of the funding issues surrounding public education in general but especially during the COVID-19 pandemic," Slater said.

The Fort Madison district is in the middle of its budgeting process and has a meeting set for March 1. But District Business Manager Sandy Elmore said the district will not be one of the schools that will be eligible for the budget guarantee.

Elmore said she hadn't yet looked at updated financials from the state to know what the district's property tax would be for the next fiscal year.

Central Lee Superintendent Dr. Andy Crozier said his district also will not be eligible for the budget guarantee. Crozier was hoping for a number closer to 3% from the legislature.

"I'm always appreciative of the legislature taking action in a timely manner so we can set our budgets for the following

year," Crozier said.

"I'm disappointed we couldn't get to 3% this year. It would have been a political win for all to get to 3%. And with the drop in enrollment throughout the state, it would have been a minimal cost to the State of Iowa compared to normal years.

"At 2.4% Central Lee will not be on a budget guarantee, but numerous districts around the state will see a tax increase. We are thankful to continue to be growing enrollment at Central Lee."

Crozier said early indications point to Central Lee's property tax levy being down 8 to 10 cents per \$1,000 equalized assessed valuations for the upcoming year, despite the debt load on the \$12.9 million facilities improvement upgrade currently underway.

The package signed by Reynolds will increase the overall annual spend on public education in the state from \$3.381 billion to \$3.415 billion in the next fiscal year.

"I am proud to once again sign legislation into law that supports our strong public education system in the state of Iowa," Reynolds said.

"Our children are our greatest asset and we have to do everything we can to set them up for success. Our record of increasing school funding year-over-year shows our commitment to Iowa's public schools."

Central Lee releases 2nd Q honor rolls

DONNELSON - Central Lee Community Schools has announced its second quarter honor roll for the 2020-2021 school year for its middle school students. Pen City Current joins our advertisers and readers in congratulating these students on their academic success. Job well done!

Principal Scholar

8th Grade - Moeller, Kodi Lee

7th Grade - Jones, Taylor Kay; Sturdivant, Audrey G

6th Grade - Cook, Brett Roger; Jones, Max James; Moeller, Korben M; Morrison, Carson Matthew; Smith, Ivy Victoria

A Honor Roll

8th Grade - Bergman, Ethan Bryan; Clark, Gabriel James William; Cook, Alivia Lynn; Krogmeier, Owen Andrew; McGlasson, Madison Elizabeth; Richardson, Zachary Ryan; Sanders, Lauren Elizabeth; Snook, Abigail Rose Ellen; Thomas, Leo Cooper; Underwood, Andrew Brandon; Weber, Drake Reid

7th Grade - Denbow, Abigail Faye; Edens, Aurora R; Hand, Abigail Noel; Larson, Caleb D; McGlasson, Tanner James; Prainito, Juliet; Seyb, James Peter; Swan, Owen J; Barlow, Elaina Kay

6th Grade - Barlow, Elaina Kay; Barnhardt, Chad W; Benner, Jack Patrick; Cannon, Karley Jean; Capps, Ethan B.D.; Clark, Lukas Robert; Cox, Make-nah Faith; Crozier, Caden Andrew; Day, Jesse Wyatt; Doty, Macie Kay; Estrada, Zachary James; Fogarty, Austin Steven; Fogarty, Evan Parrish; Fraise, Julia Ann; Fry, Jordyn LeAnn; Jones, Carter M; Lampe, Nora Kathleen; Mason, Elizabeth Marie; Newberry, Sage; Riley, Sienna K; Sanders, Mason D; Sirucek, Mattisen Emma; Swan, Kaden A; VanAusdall, Gage Michael; Vineyard, Anderson Blaine; Weber, Caden Reece

B Honor Roll

8th Grade - Azinger, Katherine Brooke; Calfee, Kayden Arthur Joe; Canida, Lara Jo; Clark, Cale Michael; Cox, Kamryn Lynne; Derr, Aidan Michael; Doty, Maren Elizabeth; Galati, Anthony Michael;

Gram, Sydney Ellen; Hall, Alexis LeeAnn; Hawk, Jaly-n Jo; Hayes, Gavin Gerald; Johnson, Chase Orion; Kimball, Jacob John Francis; Kruse, Albert Danie;l Lampe, Halle Adrienne; Larkin, Kayleigh Rose; Lovell, Torrence Nikole; McDonald, Ian William; Rudd, Chadie Mae; Shepard, Lila Isabelle ;Suminski, Brandon William; Tweedy, Isabella Rose; Vollmer, Jacob Allen; Wellman, Kennedy Brice; Wyrick, Brayden Nathaniel

7th Grade - Clay, Charlee R; Conlee, Addison E; Fraise, Ward Francis; Gerber, MacKenzie Jean; Hayes, William A; Howard, Gracie Marie; Jenkins, Frankie Dean; Kraciun, Brant Joseph; Lowenberg, Mylan Ray; Manwill, Mackinzie Belle; Moeller, Bro-dy Eugene; Mueller, Jayden Danielle; Nabors, Carter David; Peterson, Avery Delayne; Robbins, Eliza Jane; Sandoval, Kenna Marie; Seitz, Emma Marie; Smith, Lily Grace; Summers, Kendra Renae; Taft, Colton Dean; Thomas, Lily Rose; Weber, Aubrey Donna; Young, Marie Sybil Rose

6th Grade - Boyer, Nadia Ann; Brown, Jenna C; Cannon, Kaitey Susann;

Clair-Rhoer, Destanie Pearl Brookh; Craig, Sammy Johnathon; Crank, Lucas Ryan; Edmondson, Emery John Charles; Ferreira, Baylor J; Figge, Andrew W; Gallerick, Tate J; Howard, Brynnlie C; Hunold, Summer R; Kirchner, Conrad Dean; Leeper, Cole Ridgely; Moore, Ethan Daniel; Peterson, Addison Katherine; Putnam, Ashton Rose; Rice Mullins, Odin Davohn; Smith, Haylee Marie; Son, Hunter W; Stark, Larissa Willow; Vanderpool, Luke R; Vollmer, Bella Leah; Ward, Aida Rae; Wenke, Kayla Ann; Young, Gabriel Joseph

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Classifieds/Public Notices

PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

HELP WANTED

Iowa State Penitentiary is accepting applications for the following positions:

Correctional Officer Location: Fort Madison Iowa

JOB DESCRIPTION:
Correctional officers serve as the backbone to the correctional system. Their careers are both challenging and rewarding as they balance their security mission with the mission of helping those incarcerated reform themselves into a successful, law-abiding citizen upon their reentry. Once fully trained, Correctional Officers can make a lasting impact on an incarcerated person's life while also helping maintain safe and secure correctional facilities. New Correctional Officers earn a full time salary as they go through their training, and the State offers one of the most competitive benefits packages in the private or public sector.
Starting Salary:
(\$20.34/\$30.14 (Max))

Correctional Food Service Coordinator

Supervise incarcerated dietary workers in the performance of all assigned duties and responsibilities relating to food preparation, tray assembly, meal delivery and dietary sanitation. Teach food service techniques and procedures to incarcerated individuals. Demonstrate ability to prepare food items by frying, baking, roasting, etc as appropriate. Monitor food temperatures, ensure foods are served and stored at a safe temperature. Supervise tray line/main line; ensure proper assembly and portions of meals. Demonstrate ability in performing stock inventories and purchasing requirements. Demonstrate knowledge of weights and measures used in determining proper amounts of food ingredients for mass food production.
Starting Salary:
(\$21.46 - \$31.56 (Max))

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To set up a time for a showing please contact Dixie Lung, at 319-316-3467 after 4pm on weekdays.

\$70,000 selling outright

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Project No. M2021-1

Sealed bids will be received by the Lee County Auditor at her office in Fort Madison, Iowa until **10:30 a.m.** on **March 9, 2021** for the various items of construction work listed below.

A Certified check, made payable to the County, or a Cashier's check, made payable to either the County or to the contractor drawn upon a solvent bank or a bid bond, shall be filed with each proposal in an amount as set forth in the proposal form. Cashier's check, made payable to the contractor, shall contain an unqualified endorsement to the County signed by the contractor or his/her authorized agent. Failure to execute a contract and file an acceptable bond and certificate of insurance within 30 days of the date of the approval for awarding of the contract, as herein provided, will be just and sufficient cause for the denial of the award and the forfeiture of the proposal guarantee.

Plans, specifications and proposal forms for the work may be seen and may be secured at the office of the Lee County Engineer.

All proposals must be filed on the forms furnished by the County, sealed and plainly marked. Proposals containing any reservations not provided for in the forms furnished may be rejected, and the County Board of Supervisors reserves the right to waive technicalities and to reject any or all bids.

Attention of bidders is directed to the Special Provisions covering the qualifications of bidders and subletting or assigning of the contract.

As a condition precedent to being furnished proposal forms, a prospective bidder must be on the current Iowa Department of Transportation list of qualified bidders; except that this requirement will not apply when bids are received solely for materials, supplies, or equipment. Prospective bidders not currently on the list may submit a proposal upon demonstration they were previously qualified along with an explanation for lapse in qualification and references of completed project similar in nature.

Lee County shall issue sales tax exemption certificates through the Iowa Department of Revenue and Finance to the successful bidder and subcontractors to enable them to purchase qualifying materials for the project free of sales tax.

Description of Proposed Work: M2021-1 Pavement markings throughout Lee County Secondary Road System

ITEM	UNIT	QUANTITY
2599-9999006 White - Waterborne Paint	GAL	5160
2599-9999006 Yellow- Waterborne Paint	GAL	2595
2599-9999005 Stop Bars- Waterborne Paint	EACH	29
2599-9999005 Railroad Symbols- Waterborne Paint	EACH	14
2599-9999005 Stop Ahead Symbols- Waterborne Paint	EACH	13

Total Proposal Guaranty is \$6250.00; 30 Working Days; Late Start Date: May 10, 2021; \$800.00/Day Liquidated Damages.

STANDARD SPECIFICATION OF THE IDOT, SERIES 2015, SECTION 2527, AND CURRENT SUPPLEMENTAL SPECIFICATIONS SHALL APPLY, WITH THE EXCEPTION THAT WATERBORNE PAINT ITEMS SHALL BE BY GALLONS OF YELLOW AND WHITE PAINT APPLIED, EACH STOP BAR, EACH STOP AHEAD SYMBOL, AND EACH RAILROAD SYMBOL. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL HAVE A SUITABLY SIZED POWER BROOM TO CLEAN THE ROAD PRIOR TO PLACEMENT OF STANDARD PAINT. PRICE TO INCLUDE COST OF ALL PAINT, GLASS BEADS, LABOR, EQUIPMENT AND TRAFFIC CONTROL NECESSARY TO COMPLETE THE WORK, A TWO-GUN SYSTEM SHALL BE UTILIZED WITH WATERBORNE PAINT AND 4" LINES, EXCEPT WHERE PLAN DOCUMENTS REQUIRE 6" WHITE WATERBORNE PAINT.

Approved by the Lee County Board of Supervisors on February 22, 2021.

By: Denise Fraise
Denise Fraise, Lee County Auditor

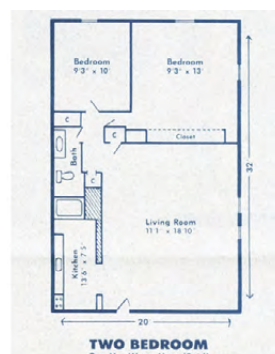
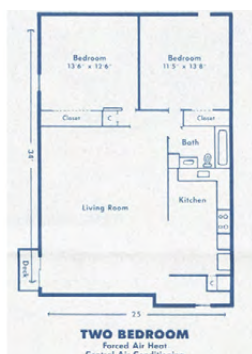
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READ - Continued from Page 1

tant, Pest-free Vegetable Garden by Niki Jabbour (635 JAB)

The Complete Guide to No-Dig Gardening by Charlie Nardozzi (631.5 NAR)

Plant Partners: Science-based Companion Planting Strategies to Minimize Disease, Reduce pests, Improve Soil Fertility, and Support Pollination in the Vegetable Garden by Jessica Walliser (635 WAL)

Deer-Resistant Design: Fence-Free Gardens that Thrive Despite the Deer by Karen Chapman (635.049 CHA)

March 14 is Pi Day

Pi, 3.14159 and so on, is the ratio of a circle's circumference to its diameter, a very important number in geometry and any field that involves circles (including sewing, believe it or not). March 14 (3/14) shares the first three numbers of pi and, therefore, is the day chosen to celebrate pi. Want to learn more about pi? PBS has a brief video with some facts and a couple of fun ideas for celebrating Pi day, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mC3Vj1q5rXo>.

One punny way to celebrate Pi day is to bake a pie. Or, keep with the circle theme and make cakes or cookies. Looking for some new pie, cake, cookie or

other desert recipes? The library has some cookbooks for that:

1. Pie Camp: The Skills You need to Make Any Pie You Want by Kate McDermott (641.86 MCD)

2. True Comfort: More than 100 Cozy Recipes Free of Gluten and Refined Sugar by Kristin Cavallari (641.3 CAV)

3. BraveTart: Iconic American Desserts by Stella Parks (641.86 PAR)

4. America's Best Pies by the American Pie Council (641.86 AME)

5. The Violet Bakery Cookbook by Claire Ptak (641.86 PTA)

6. Icebox Desserts: 100 Cool Recipes for Icebox Cakes, Pies, Parfaits, Mousses, Puddings, and More by Lauren Chattman (641.86 CHA)

7. Short & Sweet: Sophisticated Desserts in No Time at All by Melanie Barnard (641.8 BAR)

8. Martha Stewart's Cake Perfection by Martha Stewart (641.8653 STE)

9. Martha Stewart's Cookie Perfection by Martha Stewart (641.86 STE)

10. Milk and Cookies: 68 Heirloom Recipes from New York's Milk & Cookies Bakery by Tina Casaceli (641.8654 CAS)

Taxes

The library has received all of the Federal tax forms we will be getting this year. This includes the 1040 forms and instruction booklets. The State of Iowa is no longer sending out forms to libraries but you can find forms to either print or fill out online at their website, tax.iowa.gov. The Iowa Department of Revenue also has a phone number you can call to ask them to mail tax forms to you, 1-800-532-1531. For federal tax questions, you can visit the IRS website, www.irs.gov or call 1-800-829-1040 (1-800-TAX-1040). Finally, United Way of the Great River Region is offering tax help by appointment only through their VITA program until April 13. Call (319) 520-6859 to make an appointment.

Upcoming Events at the Fort Madison Public Library -

Masks are required to be worn in the library and at all in-person library programs.

1st Thursday @ the Library - March 4- Make the 1st Thursday of the month library day with no fines on overdue books returned that day, our book discussion group meeting at 1:30 and the launch of our monthly Take and Make craft, a 3-D greeting card. We will also have an in-person and virtual program about "Garden Plants for Butterflies and Pollinators" presented by Clay

Steel at 5:30 pm.

Pre-School/Toddler Story Hour - Wednesday morning at 10:30. Rhythm and Music story hour is the last Wednesday of the month.

Thursday Crafternoon - Thursday, 3:30-5:00, for ages 14-adult. This program is an opportunity to spend some time working on an in-depth project for the whole month.

Hang Teen - Tuesday, 3:30-5:00 (except for March 24) for ages 12-19.

Minecraft - 4:00-5:30, ages 9-18 on Mondays. Space is limited by the number of computers we have and we are not taking registrations this year. Please arrive promptly.

Wacky Wednesday - School is out early March 3, 10, 24, and 31. We will have a craft day from 2pm to 4pm on March 3, 24, and 31. On March 10, Lee County Extension will have a STEAM program "Sensational Seeds" beginning at 2pm.

All Booked Up! - The library's book discussion group meets on the first Thursday of the month at 1:30 p.m. On Thursday, March 4, we will be discussing "The Underground Railroad" by Colson Whitehead. April 1 (no fooling) will be the book "Chesapeake Requiem" by Earl Swift. Copies of the book are available at the library for check out.

County gets 500 doses per week for now

DATA - Continued from P.4

that could add to states' supplies.

IDPH data shows that 5,470 Lee County residents have been vaccinated with 2,605 series started and 1,424 residents having received both shots. Lee County providers have administered 6,100 total doses.

Ross said she hopes to see vaccine numbers increase in March so other approved IDPH providers, which includes Hy-Vees in Fort Madison and Keokuk, Rashid Pharmacy in Fort Madison, could begin administering vaccines as well.

She also said she would anticipate the state activating Phase 1C when the majority of the state is finishing up 1B. That would indicate that surplus vaccines in other areas of the state could be mobilized to areas where Phase 1B is lagging to help keep the state balanced.

DO YOUR PART

CORONAVIRUS PRECAUTIONS



WEAR MASKS



WEAR GLOVES



WASH HANDS OFTEN



KEEP DISTANCE

Great River Regional Waste Authority urges you to wear gloves when moving bins for residential trash pick-up.

Workers can touch over 2000 bins a day before even touching yours.

Don't forget to wash your hands after bringing in your bin!



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