

PEN CITY CURRENT

It's **Black & White** and **Read** all over

Monday, March 15, 2021 | 8 pages | Volume 5 • Issue 60



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County at 1% for 7 days

SPREAD EASING: Health officials still urging caution as virus still live in Lee County

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

LEE COUNTY – Despite very low positivity rates and vaccinations increasing daily, county health officials are encouraging people to watch what “hasn’t changed”.

Lee County Health Department Administrator Michele Ross said county residents should still be following Centers for Disease Control guidance even with the county seeing several days in the past two weeks with zero new cases.

Since the state began tracking testing Lee County has had 3,770 positive tests. However, according to the state’s reporting website, which has undergone several changes throughout the year in how



ROSS

positivity rates are calculated, Lee County has had just four positive cases in the past seven days and has a 7-day positivity rating of 1%.

Ross said she believes the committed efforts and hard work of individuals who have, over time, continued with effective public health measures and interventions has paid off in reducing the number of cases in the county.

“We do have many that are now vaccinated, too. All of these tools working together can certainly attribute to a decline in local and state cases,” Ross said.

See **COVID**, page 2



Fairways and friends coming very soon

My first trip to the golf course was Friday morning.

Granted, it was to pedal some ads and talk about the upcoming May 7th United Way golf outing at Sheaffer Memorial Golf Course.

When you make the turn onto 308th Avenue at the confluence of the 13th green, and the 14th and 18th tee boxes, the ‘feels’ start hopping.

Golf, for me, is a social game.

Whether I have a beer or not is usually determined by the first three holes. After the third hole I’m usually thinking, “boy, a beer sure would help relax the shoulders”. That’s usually code for, “I suck at this – might as well have a beer”.

I have a decent set of clubs, but they are old. My reasoning for not upgrading is that I’m just not good enough for the investment. But I have the tools to go out and breathe fresh air, hang with friends and family, and work a shot or two per round that I can be proud of.

I was playing with Gary, Rob, and Sara Sandburg at an event about two years ago and holed one in from about 15 yards off the green. That’s THE highlight of my golf career. And you know that’s true because I can recall it clearly.

Most of my ‘good shot’ moments have come at Sheaffer’s.

Playing with my brother and his “uncle-in-law” I once holed one in on No. 4 down below the green on the right side from about 45 yards – uhhh 65 yards – might have been 110, but who’s counting. But as luck would have it, I was so far below the green that I just slapped it up there and hear “Uncle-in-law Bill” who was already standing proudly on the green shout over... “Nice shot, man.”

I worked my way around the green to the cart and grabbed my putter. Removing my glove and walking to the green I didn’t see my

See **GOLF**, page 8



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg

Lincoln Elementary staff greets motorists Thursday evening while handing out goodie bags for a virtual Kindergarten round-up that was put on by both Richardson and Lincoln elementaries on Friday last week.

Locomotive wheel change was a site to see in Stronghurst

A day in the life of a writer: I was going to meet another writer for lunch in Stronghurst, Illinois. We both publish columns in various newspapers and thought it would be nice if we could meet and chit-chat about writing, life and the price of soybeans. It’s called “networking.” Of course I took my wife and editor, Ginnie, to (a.) keep me out of trouble, and (b.) Ginnie’s not going to miss an opportunity

EMPTY NEST

By Curt Swarm



for lunch out. She thought it sounded so “New Yorkish” – two writers “doing lunch.” We met at the writer’s house in rural

Stronghurst. She put on quite a spread of delicatessen sandwiches, potato salad, sliced tomatoes, tangerines and choice of apricot or pear juice for drink. Tough choices in a tough world.

No sooner had we sat down and were preparing to stuff our faces, when my phone rang, and it was the publisher and owner of the Henderson County Quill,

See **SWARM**, page 2

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WEATHER

THU 09 Jan..... Heavy Rain, 44° F/ 36° F
 FRI 10 Jan..... Overcast, 46° F/ 37° F
 SAT 11 Jan..... Rain, 41° F/ 37° F

IOWA LOTTERY

LOTTO AMERICA 03/13..... 7 30 40 49 50, Star Ball: 10, All Star Bonus: 5
 LUCKY FOR LIFE 03/11..... 15 19 28 30 48, Lucky Ball: 5
 MEGA MILLIONS 03/12..... 2 24 25 31 65, Mega Ball: 18 Megaplier: 4
 PICK 3 03/11, 03/12, 03/13 MIDDAY..... 9 8 0, 5 0 7, 5 0 7
 PICK 3 03/11, 03/12, 03/13 EVENING..... 5 4 9, 6 3 4, 1 4 8
 PICK 4 03/11, 03/12, 03/13 MIDDAY..... 7 7 11, 7 3 5 1, 3 4 5 5
 PICK 4 03/11, 03/12, 03/13 EVENING..... 0 2 9 7, 2 2 2 4, 5 1 1 5
 POWERBALL 03/13..... 5 11 51 56 61, Powerball: 2, Power Play: 2

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From the Front

CDC offers new guidance for those vaccinated

COVID - Continued from Page 1

But she also said the fight isn't over and there is still evidence of the virus being present in the county.

"We should still be following CDC guidelines and doing what we can to protect ourselves and others as stated in CDC guidelines for what hasn't changed," she said.

New updated information from the CDC breaks mitigation down into what has changed as vaccinations increase, and what hasn't changed.

According to the CDC:

What's Changed

If you've been fully vaccinated:

- You can gather indoors with fully vaccinated people without wearing a mask.
- You can gather indoors with unvaccinated people from one other household (for example, visiting with relatives who all live together) without masks, unless any of those people or anyone they live with has an increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19.
- If you've been around someone who has COVID-19, you do not need to stay away from others or get tested unless you have symptoms.
- However, if you live in a group setting (like a correctional or detention facility or group home) and are around someone who has COVID-19, you should still stay away from others for 14 days and get tested, even if you don't

have symptoms.

What Hasn't Changed

For now, if you've been fully vaccinated:

- You should still take steps to protect yourself and others in many situations, like wearing a mask, staying at least 6 feet apart from others, and avoiding crowds and poorly ventilated spaces. Take these precautions whenever you are:
 - In public
 - Gathering with unvaccinated people from more than one other household
 - Visiting with an unvaccinated person who is at increased risk of severe illness or death from COVID-19 or who lives with a person at increased risk
 - You should still avoid medium or large-sized gatherings.
 - You should still delay domestic and international travel. If you do travel, you'll still need to follow CDC requirements and recommendations.
 - You should still watch out for symptoms of COVID-19, especially if you've been around someone who is sick. If you have symptoms of COVID-19, you should get tested and stay home and away from others.
 - You will still need to follow guidance at your workplace.
- Iowa surpassed more than 1 million vaccinations being administered last week. While Iowa trailed at the outset of vaccination administration, Ross said the state seems to have corrected delays thanks to the hard work of vaccina-

tors.

"It has been amazing how many community volunteers, health care organizations, local public health agencies, and pharmacies have pulled together to vaccinate Iowans," she said.

But she said she's very happy to see Lee County at less than 2% on the 14-day positivity scale.

"That is incredible given that we were at one time over 20% for several days and weeks and we had substantial uncontrolled community spread," Ross said.

She said the continued perseverance of people doing what they can to limit the spread of the virus over time has been the biggest game change.

"We had many businesses and organizations including our schools who worked very hard at trying to keep their employees, consumers, and students protected by following recommended mitigation strategies," she said.

"Thankfully many are continuing these mitigation strategies as we know virus activity and the potential for spread is still live here."

But she said she holds a lot of hope that things are going in the right direction. She said people just need stick to guidance to stay ahead and win the fight.

Out of all tests given in the state today, Iowans have tested positive just over 11% of the time. The state has seen 5,461 deaths related to COVID-19, with Lee County losing 54 residents.

Writer adventure takes author to Stronghurst for train spectacle

SWARM - Continued from Page 1

Dessa Rodeffer. Knowing that two writers were having lunch, Dessa had a hot scoop. The BNSF railroad, that passes through Stronghurst, was going to change the front wheels on a locomotive in downtown Stronghurst. Would we be interested in covering the story? Is there a Writer God in Heaven?

The race was on as to who could cram this delicious food down our gullets faster, and tear off for the railroad yard to witness, take pictures of, and write about the front wheel change on a giant locomotive. Actually we played "Rock, Paper, Scissors" to determine who would write the story. I won—scissors cuts paper.

Neither of us had any idea how wheels

were changed on a locomotive, but we were about to get a most vivid and visual demonstration. One of the BNSF workers was quite helpful and courteous in explaining the exact procedure for a wheel change. (He also had his hands full keeping us off the tracks. The trains, dispatched out of Ft. Worth, Texas, were shut down, but no one is allowed on the tracks except for railroad employees.) Evidently the front wheels of the locomotive were worn and needed to be replaced. Two huge counter-weighted cranes, one on each side of the locomotive, lifted the front end of the locomotive up, like it was a toy. Unlike an automobile, where the wheels and axle are attached to

the frame, gravity is the only thing holding the gigantic steel wheels under this behemoth diesel powered engine. Can you believe it? Yup.

The two cranes lifted the front end of the locomotive up and the old wheels were rolled out. The new wheels were rolled under the locomotive, which looked like the mouth of a giant monster getting a tooth extracted. Then the locomotive was lowered back down on its new wheels. Slam bam, thank you, ma'am—baby has a new pair of shoes!

There was a whole lot of banging, pounding and hand signaling, but the whole wheel-changing procedure lasted less than half-an-hour. Who would have thunked it? The new wheels safely under the loco-

motive, and the engine ready to roll, we headed back to the writer's house for dessert—chocolate ice cream with raspberry sorbet, coffee and stimulating conversation. "Can you believe what we just saw?" "Naw, haven't had this much fun since the Cubies won the Series!" It was the perfect ending to an absolutely marvelous, sunny, Illinois, Land-of-Lincoln, spring day.

Ginnie has long since ceased to be surprised at what happens when she takes off with me for one of our "writer adventures." Even New York can't top this.

Have a good story? Call or text Curt Swarm in Mt. Pleasant at 319-217-0526, email him at curtswarm@yahoo.com or visit his website at www.empty-nest-words-photos-and-frames.com.

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PEN CITY CURRENT

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Obituaries/Current-Lee

CURRENT-LEE

Read Across Iowa

WEST POINT – Preschool story time through the Iowa State University Extension is being held on Mondays in March beginning at 10 a.m. at the West Point Public Library. This year’s theme is agriculture.

YMCA registering for programs

FORT MADISON – Little Tykes Soccer and Lee County Soccer registration is now open through the Fort Madison YMCA. Call 319-372-2403 to register and for more information. The YMCA is also scheduling private youth gymnastics lessons for boys and girls ages 10 and up.

Y Kids & Company preschool enrollment is now open for the 2021-22 school year. Call the YMCA for additional information.

Blue and Silver Celebration

FORT MADISON – Holy Trinity Catholic will hold it’s annual Blue and Silver celebration, an annual tribute to teachers. This year’s event will be Saturday, March 27, 2021 and limited to teachers and guests only. The HTC Teacher of the Year will be announced.

Community Clean-up

FORT MADISON – The annual community clean up has been set this year for April 24. Contact the Chamber at 319-372-5471.

Green Team Fundraiser

The Fort Madison Green Team is soliciting funds for One Tree Planted, a non-profit whose mission is to plant trees in every corner of the world. To make a donation, click on the link provided: <https://www.bonfire.com/the-green-team-fundraiser/>.

Fort Madison Public Library

All Booked Up! is held Thursdays at 1:30 p.m. This week discussion will focus on the Underground Railroad. At 3:30 each Thursday is Thursday Crafternoons at the library. Facemasks are required.

United Way Golf Fundraiser

This year’s event will take place on May 7 at Sheaffer Memorial Golf Course. Sponsorships are available and team registration is \$400. Contact Karen at the United Way offices at 319-524-4504 for more information, to register, or to become a sponsor. Shotgun start at noon with registration packet pickups beginning at 10 a.m.

OBITUARIES

SHANNAN FREEMAN

Shannan Freeman, 51 years, of Fort Madison, Iowa died at 5:16 pm Saturday, February 27, 2021 at the Select Speciality Hospital, Davenport, Iowa. She was born May 4, 1969, a daughter of William and Sharran (Quitt) Freeman.



FREEMAN

Shannan graduated from Fort Madison High School and attend Western Illinois University at Macomb, Illinois. She worked as a Medication and Nursing Aide at nursing homes and for home health. She also did day care for children. She worked for Walgreens and was part of the store set up in Fort Madison, as well as head cashier and photo specialist. She loved spending time in her flower and vegetable gardens. She loved her children and was both parents, as she helped with girl and boy scouts and

little league.

She is survived by two children: Payden and Amanda-Marie Jones of Fort Madison; her father; one sister: Shellie Piles; half siblings: Sharran Hermes, Earl Freeman, Annette Steffensmeier, Chris Freeman, Hazel Ann Gray and Carman Rivera; and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins. She was preceded in death by her mother and half brother, Rick Freeman.

No formal services are planned at this time. A memorial has been established, contributions may be made directly to Barr Memorial Chapel, 1919 Ave F, Fort Madison, Iowa 52627. Barr Memorial Chapel is honored to serve the Freeman family and an online guest book may be found at www.barrmemorialchapel.com.

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Sports

Bloodhounds will face unfamiliar foes on gridiron

Iowa City Liberty, North Scott, Clinton all join district

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – Not only will the Fort Madison Bloodhounds move up a class to 4A on the football field, they will also see some unfamiliar opponents in 2021.

The Hounds moved from 3A to 4A in announcements made last fall, but the district lineups released on Friday have Fort Madison holding only Mt. Pleasant and Burlington from last year's district.

This fall the Hounds will also face Iowa City Liberty, Clinton and

Class 3A defending state champion North Scott, who also made the jump to 4A.

The Lancers knocked off top-ranked Cedar Rapids Xavier in the semis 17-10 and then rolled Harlan 30-6 in the title game in 2020.

The new district has Fort Madison looking at substantial travel. But FMHS Athletic Director Jeremy Swink said that seems to be the trend across the new state.

"I got to peaking at some of the other districts and some of those people have some serious travel, too. Going to a place like Clinton would seem somewhat

normal for this redistricting," Swink said Saturday.

Head Coach Derek Doherty said his staff had narrowed it down to either going up the river, or going west where Pella and Oskaloosa could have been involved, which would have created close to the same travel times.

"We kind of had it narrowed down to them sending us that way or towards Pella. We were 50/50 on which way they would go," Doherty said.

"With that travel you hope you don't have to go North Scott and Clinton in the same year. We have no idea at this point what the home and away will look like."

He said he hopes, and

assumes, the state will take those travel times into consideration.

Fort Madison has had five home games each of the past two years and in normal rotations would then move to four home games and five on the road in a traditional nine-game schedule.

Doherty said he's hearing the state will use these districts for the next two years and then re-evaluate things in 2023.

Class 4A will have 36 teams with six districts. The top two teams in each district will qualify for the playoff and four at-large bids will be given based on the IH-SAA's Ratings Percentage Index (RPI). That index measures a team's strength compared to

other schools based on strength of schedules.

According to the states' BEDs documents, which list high school enrollment, Fort Madison has 480 students with Holy Trinity enrollment included in the coop program. That makes the Hounds currently the seventh smallest school in 4A ahead of Oskaloosa (469) Webster City (457) Glenwood (446), Winterset (436), Decora (431) and Perry (422).

Swink said without HTCs enrollment the Hounds still, in all likelihood, would have landed in the bottom of 4A.

Perry is tied with Keokuk and Carrol, but Perry was pushed up due to an alphabetic tie-

breaker leaving Keokuk tied as the largest class 3A school in the state.

But that lower class put Keokuk in a potentially tough district with powerhouse Solon, and Grinnell who beat Fort Madison in the state quarterfinals last year. Washington, Fairfield and West Burlington are also in that district.

Swink and Doherty still see Keokuk and potentially Fairfield as non-district possibilities this year.

"We're obviously talking with Keokuk and Fairfield, but the main goal is competitive games. That's what we're looking for. "Our district was competitive and what we consider our "conference" schools are the types of games we need to be playing in. There are some rivalries there we've had for years and years and it's been a lot of fun," Doherty said.

Swink said they can have conversations and submit who they would like to have as non district opponents, but ultimately the state makes the decision.

Doherty said the past records can go out the window. Clinton was 0-7 last year, but Doherty said he saw some film of them last year, not knowing that Clinton would be a district opponent this year, and said they have a very athletic quarterback and are improving.

He said Burlington is also improving and buying into the system, while Liberty is a young athletic team in a tough conference and knocked off Iowa City High last year. North Scott lost some production, but will likely reload well.

And Mt. Pleasant has always been a hill for the Hounds.

"Mt. Pleasant is just solid. They've been a thorn in our side for years and year and years."

Central Lee stays in Class 2A and has a very similar district with Mid-Prairie, Davis County and Eddyville-Blakesburg-Fremont and Williamsburg, joining the Hawks, Centerville slips in to round out District 6.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

**PUBLIC NOTICE
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COMMUNITY SCHOOL
DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR MEETING**

**HELP
WANTED**

**ASSISTANT
COUNTY
ATTORNEY**

JOB DESCRIPTION:
The Lee County Attorney is accepting applications for a full-time Assistant County Attorney. Primary duties involve all aspects of trial work including daily court appearances, assistance with investigations; charging of criminal cases; interaction and training with law enforcement, victim and witness contact, representing the State at hearings, trials, and in other legal proceedings; and other duties as assigned. The duties of this position may change as determined by the County Attorney.

REQUIREMENTS:
Graduation from an accredited law school and admission to practice law in the State of Iowa with a law license in good standing and no history of discipline.

Must be able to simultaneously handle multiple areas of responsibility with minimal supervision, properly prioritizing tasks and duties as dictated by changing demands. Must be able to simultaneously advance all assigned cases in a large trial case-load.

Prior trial experience and prosecution experience is preferred but not required.

SALARY:
Salary range to start at \$71,300.00 per year commensurate with experience, as well as a competitive benefits package.

Applicants should submit, by email or mail, a cover letter, resume, writing sample, and three references to:

Ross J. Braden
Lee County Attorney
710 Avenue F
Fort Madison, Iowa 52627
rbraden@leecounty.org

Applications must be received by March 19, 2021 at 4:30 PM.

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**March 15, 2021
6:00 P.M.**

Note: To view this meeting please see the link on the FMCSO Website Calendar or click on the link below
<https://zoom.us/j/94669890779?pwd=ZnE4ZkZYc-2thYVlpQlhHdk85ZDV-SUT09>

Public Comments are welcome. They are limited to 3 minutes. Any member of the public who wishes to participate in public comments must be physically present at the meeting and follow the appropriate sign in procedures.

Finance: DiPrima/Menke

AGENDA

- I. Call meeting to order and determination of a quorum
- II. Recognition of guests
- III. Reading of Foundation documents
- IV. Monthly communications
 - A. Student Rep Report - Lauren Otte and Ivy Arnold
 - B. Curriculum Corner - Standards Based Learning
 - C. "Did You Know?"
 - D. Superintendent Goal Report
 - E. District Presentations
 - Summer Capital Project Update
 - V. Approve the agenda
 - VI. Consent Agenda
 - A. Minutes
 - 1. February 16, 2021

HELP WANTED

**LEE COUNTY
SECONDARY ROADS**

**ENGINEERING
TECHNICIAN
SUPERVISOR**

Lee County is taking applications for an Engineering Technician Supervisor to work out of our Fort Madison, Iowa office. Duties will include: to direct and oversee the work of a small crew of engineering technicians, perform research and fieldwork for land surveys, engineering surveys, and construction surveys; drawing plans and preparing specifications, conduct inspections of work performed by contractors, and preparing right-of-way descriptions and drawings for the purchase of land to improve and construct roadways and operate survey equipment.

Lee County provides equal opportunity in employment to all persons regardless of age, race, creed, color, sex, national origin, religion or disability.

To apply, download an application from our county website, www.leecounty.org or request one from the Engineer office, and return your completed application, along with a resume to: Lee County Engineer, P.O. Box 158, Fort Madison, IA 52627, or email it to engineer@leecounty.org Applications will be accepted until 4:30 p.m., Monday, March 22, 2021.

If you have any questions please contact Lee County Engineer, Ben Hull, at (319) 372-2541 or email him at engineer@leecounty.org.



**LEE COUNTY
SECONDARY
ROADS**

**ASSISTANT TO
ENGINEER**

Lee County is taking applications for an Assistant to Engineer to work out of our Fort Madison, Iowa office. Duties will include conducting National Bridge Inspection Standards inspections of in-service bridges, preparing engineering plans and specifications for road-related construction or maintenance projects and serving as project lead inspector on construction projects, including directing and supervising contractors and County employees. Wage based on experience and qualifications.

Lee County provides equal opportunity in employment to all persons regardless of age, race, creed, color, sex, national origin, religion or disability.

To apply, download an application from our county website, www.leecounty.org or request one from the Engineer office, and return your completed application, along with a resume to: Lee County Engineer, P.O. Box 158, Fort Madison, IA 52627, or email it to engineer@leecounty.org Applications will be accepted until 4:30 p.m., Monday, March 22, 2021.

If you have any questions please contact Lee County Engineer, Ben Hull, at (319) 372-2541 or email him at engineer@leecounty.org.



- Public Hearing
 - 2. February 16, 2021 Regular Meeting
 - 3. March 1, 2021 Work Session
 - B. Financial reports
 - 1. February Balance Sheet
 - 2. Revenue Summary Report
 - 3. Expenditure Report
 - 4. Student Activity Report
 - C. Accounts payable
 - 1. February General Account Board Bills for Approval
 - 2. March General Account Board Bills for Approval
 - 3. Student Activity Account Board Bills for Approval
 - 4. Nutrition Account Board Bills for Approval
 - 5. AMEX Account Board Bills for Approval
 - D. Consider personnel resignations
 - 1. Christine Boyles, special education associate
 - 2. Carrie Burken, Asst. Girls Varsity Soccer coach
 - 3. Susan Johnson, K-3 Reading Interventionist
 - 4. Beth McClellan, Kindergarten teacher
 - 5. Heather McKasson, Food Service
 - 6. Brian Mendez, HS teacher
 - 7. Rhonda Mueller, 5th grade teacher
 - 8. Haley Norvell, special education associate
 - 9. Danika Roth, special education associate
 - E. Consider employment of personnel
 - 1. Kim Anderson, Pre-school teacher
 - 2. Carrie Burken, Varsity Girls Soccer coach
 - 3. Cory Byrne, National Honor Society Sponsor
 - 4. Andrew Cartwright, Asst. Track Thrower's coach
 - 5. Noah Dean, MS Asst. Soccer coach
 - 6. Kyle Doherty, HS Asst. Softball coach
 - 7. Christopher Howe, Sp. Ed. Bus Associate
 - 8. Carissa Marx, Sp. Ed. Assoc.
 - 9. Lurena (Rena) Philp, LE Guidance Coun/Soc. Worker
 - 10. Sarah Tweedy, 7/8 English-Language Arts teacher
 - F. Consider contract modifications
 - 1.
 - G. Consider leave of absence
 - H. Consider open enrollment requests
 - I. Other reports
 - 1. Activity and athletic fundraisers

- director (blank) seconded the documents submitted in the consent section of the agenda be approved and/or filed as submitted.
 - VII. Action Items
 - A. Director of Curriculum and Student Services - Kim Harmon
 - 1. Consider approval of K-12 Math & Language Arts materials purchase for 2021-2022
 - B. Superintendent - Erin Slater
 - 1. Consider approval of AD HOC Committee Recommendation
 - 2. Consider approval of the dissolution of the AD HOC Committee
 - 3. Online Learning Stipend Board Memo 3/15/2021
 - 4. Consider recommendation for E-Rate Internet Service Provider
 - 5. Consider recommendation for 1:1 Refresh Cycle devices
 - 6. Consider request for out of state travel for National School Safety Conference
 - 7. Consider Girls soccer sharing agreement with HTC for the 2020-2021 spring season
 - 8. Consider football sharing agreement with HTC for the 2021-2022 and the 2022-2023 school years
 - 9. Policy changes:
 - 403.8 Bloodborne Pathogens - **ours only; recommend to delete**
 - 404 Employee Conduct and Appearance - **changes; recommend move to IASB model**
 - 404-R-1 Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics Regulation - **changes; recommend move to IASB model**
 - 404-R-2 Code of Rights and Responsibilities Regulation - **minor changes; recommend move to IASB model**
 - 405.1 Licensed Employee Defined - **minor changes; recommend move to IASB model**
 - 405.2 Licensed Employee Qualifications, Recruitment, Selection - **changes; recommend**

- move to IASB model
 - 405.2a Appointment of Professional Personnel - **ours only; recommend to delete**
 - 405.2b Selection of Department Head(s), Department Chair(s), Vacation Chair - **ours only; recommend to delete**
 - 405.2c Qualifications for School Nurses - **ours only; recommend to delete**
 - 405.3 Licensed Employee Individual Contracts - **minor changes; recommend move to IASB model**
 - 405.4 Licensed Employee Continuing Contracts - **changes; recommend move to IASB model**
 - 405.5 Licensed Employee Work Day - **minor changes; recommend move to IASB model**
 - C. Board Secretary/ Business Manager - Sandy Elmore
 - 1. Set Public Hearing Date for Certified Budget - April 5, 2021
 - 2. Set Public Hearing Date for ISL - April 5, 2021
 - 3. Consider Approval of Budget Guarantee Resolution
 - 4. Consider Approval of the State of Iowa, Lee County, Iowa, Abstract of Votes - Revenue Purpose Statement
 - VIII. Discussion Items
 - A. Director of Curriculum and Student Services - Kim Harmon
 - 1.
 - B. Superintendent - Erin Slater
 - 1. Consider Policy Changes
 - 403.5-E-1 Substance-Free Workplace Notice to Employees - **minor changes; recommend move to IASB model**
 - 405.5b School Closure and Employee Attendance - **ours only; recommend to delete**
 - 405.6 Licensed Employee Assignment - **minor changes; recommend move to IASB model**
 - 405.7 Licensed Employee Transfers - **minor**

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PUBLIC NOTICES

changes; recommend move to IASB model

- 405.8 Licensed Employee Evaluation - changes; recommend move to IASB model
- 405.8-R Observation and Evaluation License - ours only; recommend to delete
- 405.8-E Pre-observation Form - ours only; recommend to delete
- 405.9 Licensed Employee Probationary Status - changes; recommend move to IASB model
- 406.1 Licensed Employee Salary Schedule - changes; recommend move to IASB model
- 406.2 Licensed Employee Salary Schedule Advancement - changes; recommend move to IASB model
- 406.3 Licensed Employee Continued Education Credit - new policy; recommend adopt IASB model
- 406.5 Insurance - Teachers - new policy; recommend adopt IASB

model

- 406.6 Licensed Employee Tax Shelter Programs - new policy; recommend move to IASB model
- 406.7 Market Factor Teacher Salaries - ours only; recommend to delete
- 407.1 Licensed Employee Resignation - minor changes; recommend move to IASB model
- 407.2 Licensed Employee Contract Release - minor changes; recommend move to IASB model
- 407.3 Licensed Employee Retirement - minor changes; recommend move to IASB model

3. Certified Staff Attendance
4. Board Member Attendance
C. Board Secretary/Business Manager – Sandy Elmore
1. Certified Budget FY2021-2022 discussion
IX. Comments from the audience
X. Legislative update

XI. Announcements
March 17 - 19, 2021 No School - Spring Break
April 1, 2021 No School - Professional Development
April 2, 2021 No School - Holiday
April 5, 2021 - 6:00 p.m. Public Hearings/Special Meeting/Work Session Board Room, Central Office
April 19, 2021 - 6:00 p.m. Regular Meeting, Board Room, Central Office
XII. Adjourn

PUBLIC NOTICE
Lee County Board of Supervisors Meeting
Mon, March 15, 2021
9:00 AM – 11:00 AM
(CST)
AGENDA

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Pledge of Allegiance
Approve Agenda
Public Input
Consider Awarding Countywide Pavement Marking Contract for Project# M2021-1
Consider Approval of Drug and Alcohol Testing Services Agreement for Secondary Roads And Lee County EMS with C.J. Cooper & Associates
Consider Setting Monday, March 29, 2021 at 9:01 a.m. For County Budget Hearing
Consider Approval to Replace a Records Clerk in the Recorder's Office
Consider Approval of East Parking Lot Usage for Pen City Cruisers' Car Show
Consider Approval of Two Year Agreement with Administrative Union
Consider Approval of Memorandum of Understanding with Administrative and Roads Unions
Consider Approval of Resolution Appointing Barb Schmidt to Regional Planning Loan Review Committee
Consider Approval of Class C Native Wine Permit for Appleberry Orchard, Fort Madison
Consider Approval of Class C Liquor License for Green Bay Bar and Grill, Wever
Consider Approval of

Class B Beer Permit for Wever Junction, Wever
Consider Approval of Tax Abatement Resolution
Consider Approval of March 8, 2021 Board Minutes
Consider Approval of Claims
Personnel Actions:
A. Step Increases (3)
Health Department
B. Transfer from Recorder's Office to Auditor's Office
C. Salary Change for Emergency Management Director Reports:
A. Manure Management Annual Update for Kruse Bros. in Cedar Township
Discussion on American Rescue Plan Funds

Discussion on Temporary Redistricting Commission Commission or Committee Reports
Closed Session - Chapter 21.5 (c)
Adjourn

Workshop to Follow

PUBLIC MEETING
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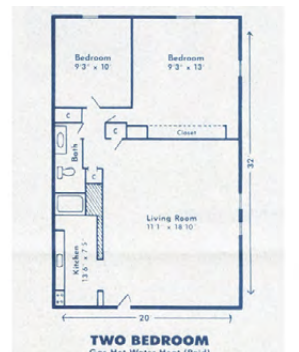
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From the Front

This year's charity golf outings more important than ever

GOLF - Continued from Page 1

ball.

"D'you pick up my ball?"

"No...it's in the hole."

Didn't even get to see it.

Another ball strike I 'technically saw' happened on No.

3. Like an idiot, I was ball-hawking (that means looking for my golf ball), along the east timber and turned around to see where the rest of my foursome was.

FORE!-head.

I looked up to a black object against the blue skies, and twisted my head just in time to avoid taking a ball to the eye that former city councilman and cigar aficionado Brian Wright, had lofted with a 7-iron just about 150 yards out.

The dimples on a golf ball create an unmistakable hum as they cut through the wind at your face. Many of us in the golf fraternity have the pleasure of experiencing that first hand. I have twice. Years back, also at Sheaffer's, my nephew Hayden, a very young and energetic boy similar to a tightly wound and freshly released top, decided to practice his driving skills with a putter on a green and sent one cleanly passed my head just missing my ear. Vzzzzmmmm.

He got an earful from dad. I just thanked the Lord in whisper as I walked calmly to the 18th tee box.

At Finkbine in Iowa City, former Bloodhound and Octagon fighter Tyler Blind, who knows about eight ways to bend you into a pretzel, was standing about 10 yards from me and navigating a punch shot around a tree. I was standing to his left, about 15 feet to the side and back, holding my club centered in front of me with the club head on the ground.

Tyler's ball came out clean, hit the tree square, and and came back at me in a place we don't talk about. My only reaction was to throw my hips directly back to avoid some-

thing that would have taken quite a few holes to laugh off. But the club saved me as the ball hit it directly, causing a carom sending his shot back into the fairway.

It took us about 20 minutes to recover from the laughter of that one and a superintendent had to move us along.

FORE is part of the game. We all know how to pull up our shoulders and cover our head. Everything else is sacrificed.

Sure, I've made some putts and wrote my name on placards at tourneys but rarely win anything. It's the exhale I play for. The rare golf shot is just icing for me. I laugh hard and smile a lot. I rib others about bad shots, when in reality almost everyone of those people take me to school. Because you're supposed to...then compliment like crazy when someone hits a good one.

"Good ball."

The conversations in the golf cart are where you learn about people, and they learn about you. I always ask for advice on my game and try never to give it, although that's against most people's natures.

But who cares. It's a slice of life... I just have more slice than most.

I still play the game trying to lift the ball with my swing, but the good one's say the club lifts the ball and you're supposed to swing down on the ball. With irons in most cases your club is to hit the ground just in front of where your ball was. And if you do it correctly, you get a nice peel of turf that flies up as your ball finds its track.

For some reason, that never, ever happens to me.

That's going to take time on the range that I don't have. So then you just rely on your mind to tell your body what it's supposed to do, but without the muscle memory. It's a crap shoot for me. I just try to stay away from the FOREs.

The reverse C finish that Roy McIlvoy tributes to Jack Nicklaus in "Tin Cup" is for those more serious about the

game than me. I look at a good shot like, "that's what you're supposed to do", but repeating it is elusive.

I actually play better when I walk. And that makes sense to me because you can get to bad shots quicker in a cart so there's nothing punitive except embarrassment in the ride into the other fairway. You have to walk to a bad shot when you're carrying your bag. That's motivation enough for me to spend a little more time trying to keep it straight. I would guess that's the case for most.

You come around the 18th hole of the day and think about a hot dog and maybe another mug. More conversation about the game, or the kids, or just about anything is fine. It's about the exhale, and telling your wife you made a couple putts when she asks how the game went.

This year the golf outings put on by non-profits at local courses will mean twice as much. Plans are in full swing, if you will, for the Fort Madison Chamber's Florida of Iowa, the Fort Madison Community Hospital Foundation, football teams, baseball teams and on and on.

Give extra thought to playing this year in these events that will almost assuredly help a neighbor, friend, or family member at some point. Many budgets were hit hard by these events not happening during the pandemic and they need our help.

With vaccines more prevalent, public health officials easing restrictions, and a spring that's shaping up pretty well, it will be a good time to get back to those fun afternoons and charitable giving.

The laughs and smiles will certainly have more value.

Speaking of smiles. Taylor and I stopped in at Major Oak in downtown Fort Madison Friday afternoon. Taylor has a goal of traveling in Europe and my daughter was literally doing a happy dance as Tony Alexander described his Curry Soup offering for the day. Talk about dad feels. - But that's Beside the Point.



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