

# PEN CITY CURRENT

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

Friday, November 20, 2020 | 8 pages | Volume 4 • Issue 211



[www.pencitycurrent.com](http://www.pencitycurrent.com)

## RECOUNT UNDERWAY



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg

Lee County Auditor's office Administrative Assistant Sara Helenthal feeds a ballot in the Fort Madison Ward 1 voting machine at the start of the 2nd Congressional District recount Thursday morning. The race between Mariannette Miller-Meeks is separated by just 47 votes with Miller-Meeks (R-Ottumwa) holding a slight edge over Rita Hart (D-Wheatland). Hart won Lee County by 2,176 votes, but Hart called for a complete recount of the district's 24 counties. The race likely won't be called until the end of November.

### BREAKING

## Community Thanksgiving cancelled

*Chamber still trying to hold onto remainder of FM holiday events*

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON – Due to concerns with rising coronavirus numbers curbing the number of volunteers, the Community Thanksgiving Dinner Committee has decided to cancel this year's event.

"I feel so bad for all the people. That's over 900 meals to people who need it," said Fort Madison Chamber Coordinator Savanna Collier.

Collier said the committee struggled with the decision and finally decided to cancel the event Monday night.

In a message to Chamber members on the groups online Out and About weekly email blast, Collier said people should safely check on their neighbors and friends over the holidays.

"Many people are alone over the holidays anyway, but adding the extra isolation that this pandemic has brought upon us is very hard. Our community is great at stepping up when needed, I've seen it first hand, and the time is now," Collier wrote.

Governor Reynolds issued a new proclamation on Monday pleading with Iowans to avoid group settings over the holidays and issued a quasi-face covering mandate when self-distancing isn't possible.

Reynolds also limited indoor groups to 15 which would make final meal preparation at the Eagles Club difficult. She limited outdoor groupings to 30.

Collier said all the rest of the holiday plans including the Parade of Lights on Nov. 27 are still a go.

"We've had a few floats pull out because they didn't want to be exposed to large



COLLIER

See HOSPITAL, page 4

See HOLIDAYS, page 4

### BURCHETT: Masking up, social distancing will help ease pressures at FMCH

## Hospital CEO pleads for accountability

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – Iowa is closing in on 200,000 positive cases of coronavirus and is now over 2,100 deaths.

Statistically speaking, that means currently 1.1% of the people who get COVID in Iowa die from it.

Fort Madison Community Hospital CEO Shelby Burchett said that's an incredibly high price to pay for not wearing a mask and keeping socially distant.

"You can look at this in the aggregate if you want to, but 1% to all of us will seem like 100% if it's a loved one," Burchett said Thursday morning in an interview with Pen City Current.

Burchett said hospital resources locally and throughout the state are being stretched thin in all areas from equipment, to staffing, to facilities and even transport abilities, due to the record setting numbers throughout the state.



BURCHETT

Great River Health System CEO Matt Wentzel and Medical Director Dr. Michael McCoy will be giving a system update on Friday sponsored by the Greater Burlington Partnership. FMCH now operates as part of Great River Health.

Burchett said social distancing and wearing face coverings are the two biggest arrows in the quiver, but personal accountability will be the biggest driver in slowing the spread. She pleaded with everyone to follow local health department and Centers for Disease Control recommendations because the coronavirus doesn't discriminate.

"It matters. And the scarier thing is you just don't know how it will affect each person. Someone who is seemingly healthy could succumb to this," she said. "It takes on its own

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### WEATHER

FRI 20 Nov.....	Partly Cloudy, 60° F/49° F
SAT 21 Nov.....	Light Rain, 51° F/43° F
SUN 22 Nov.....	Light Rain, 50° F/40° F

### IOWA LOTTERY

LOTTO AMERICA 11/18.....	17 35 39 42 43, Star Ball: 5, All Star Bonus: 2
PICK 3 11/18 MIDDAY.....	3 9 8
PICK 3 11/18 EVENING.....	7 2 2
PICK 4 11/18 MIDDAY.....	8 2 6 8
PICK 4 11/18 EVENING.....	1 8 3 7
POWERBALL 11/18.....	4 5 17 43 52, Powerball: 5, Power Play: 2

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## Local News

# Library has full slate of holiday events in the works

**BY SARAH CLENDINENG**  
Fort Madison Public Library Director

FORT MADISON – We have a variety of holiday activities planned at the library during the month of December. Our Take and Make craft, put out for pick-up on December 3, will be Christmas present gift tags decorated with buttons. This is also the first Thursday of the month so don't forget to take this opportunity to bring back that overdue book that slipped under the car seat without having to pay the fine.

Next, Martina Mathison will talk about American Christmas traditions in her program "Twas the Night Before Christmas". This program will be live, online at 3:30 p.m. on December 8. After that, the recorded program will be available to watch, at your convenience, through the end of December. Watch the library's Facebook page for the link to the recording or register at the library's Facebook event page to have the link e-mailed to you.

Don't miss our annual Christmas Ornament workshop on Christmas Eve morning from 9:30-12:30. At this time, we are planning on holding this event in person with masks and social distancing. However, we are also prepared to provide take and make kits if in-person programming is not available at the end of December. Plan to pick up a kit or spend some time at the library making ornaments, getting ready to put the finishing touches on your Christmas tree.

Finally, during winter break, we are again planning to offer our fine read down program. Open to all ages, though targeted to kids, for every 15

minutes you read in the library, you can earn 1 Book Buck that can be used to pay down library fines or redeemed for prizes from the treasure chest. Check in with our children's librarians, Amy or Chloe, to have your minutes counted.

**Bridge to Reading Picture Book Award**  
The purpose of the Bridge to Reading Picture Book Award is to promote early literacy and reading to children through the introduction of quality picture books nominated by a committee of librarians, teachers, preschool and early literacy leaders. The award book will be chosen based on quality and characteristics of a good "read aloud". The award will engage children in the voting process and develop a lifelong love of books and reading.

The 2020 winner of this award was "There's a Dragon in Your Book" by Tom Fletcher. This book was one of the ones we used during story hour this past summer as it encourages participation between the reader and listener. After all, if there is a dragon in your book, you need to find a way to get it out, don't you?

There are 10 nominees for the 2021 award and they are (in alphabetical order by author):

- Salsa Lullaby by Jen Arena
- Hair Love by Matthew Cherry
- The Yawns are Coming! by Christopher Eliopoulos
- Swim Swim Sink by Jenn Harney
- We Will Rock Our Classmates by Ryan T. Higgins
- Fry Bread by Kevin Noble Maillard
- Saturday by Oge More
- Bear Come Along by Richard Morris

Bilal Cooks Daal by Aisha Saeed  
Library Books are Not For Eating! by Todd Tarplay

Anyone who reads five or more of these books can vote on their favorite between February 1 and April 30, 2021. We will have the books on this list displayed at the library and encourage you to stop in and read them, though they will not be available to check out and take home until after April 30.

For more information about this program, including previous winning books, visit <http://www.bridgetoreading.com>.

Face masks are required for patrons over 2 years of age attending library programs.

Minecraft –4:00-5:30 on Mondays in December.  
Hang Teen – Tuesday, December 1, 15, 22 and 29, 3:30-5:00, for ages 12-18.

Pre-School/Toddler Story Hour –Wednesday morning at 10:30 for toddlers and pre-school age children.

Wacky Wednesday – Marvelous Marshmallow STEAM program with Lee County Extension at noon on December 2. Craft day December 16, 2:00-4:00 p.m.

Thursday Crafternoon –Thursday, 3:30-5:00, for ages 12 and older, including adults. This program involves a month long activity so we recommend joining at the beginning of the month in order to have time to finish the project.

All Booked Up! – The library's book discussion group meets on the first Thursday of the month at 1:30 p.m. On Thursday, December 3, we will be discussing "The Journey to Christmas" by Bess Streeter Aldrich. Copies of the book are available at the library for check out. Join us for a lively discussion. On January 7, we will be discussing "The Girl Who Reads on the Metro" by Christine Feret-Fleury.

## FMCH Pediatrics Welcomes Dr. Bryan Blacker



*"I love to watch my patients grow, learn and change from year to year. The most rewarding part of my day is empowering and educating parents. Most parents work hard to be the best they can and do the right thing for their children. My job is to help give them the tools and knowledge to keep their kids healthy."*  
– Dr. Bryan Blacker

Fort Madison Community Hospital is pleased to welcome Dr. Bryan Blacker. Dr. Blacker is a Board eligible Pediatrician and will join the FMCH Pediatric Clinic on Monday, August 3, 2020.

Dr. Blacker is coming to FMCH after completing his Pediatric Residency at the University of South Dakota. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in Nutritional Sciences from Brigham Young University and his Doctor of Medicine degree from the University Of New Mexico School Of Medicine.

Pediatricians specialize in the health care of children from preventive to diagnosis and treatment of acute and chronic diseases. They collaborate with the child's parent or guardian to deal with the physical, emotional and social development of their children.

Dr. Blacker will see patients from newborn through the teenage years in the clinic along with Dr. Kolleen Burnett, Dr. Libby Balbort, Dr. Greg Gorski and Pediatric Nurse Practitioner, Susan Holtkamp.



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## Obituaries/Scene Around Town

### JUDITH K. KROGMEIER

Judith Kay Patricia "Judy" Krogmeier, 64 years, of Fort Madison, Iowa died November 18, 2020 at her home. She was born May 29, 1956 in Fort Madison, Iowa, a daughter of Anthony Joseph and Marcella Elizabeth (Kruse) Krogmeier.



KROGMEIER

Judy was a 1974 graduate of Fort Madison High School. She worked at Sheaffer Pen for many years before they closed. Later she work at Scotts Company and retired Spring 2020. She was of the Catholic Faith. She loved her dogs and enjoyed reading, crocheting, and doing puzzles. She loved her family, especially her nieces and nephews.

She is survived by five siblings: Carol (Paul) Brown of Nauvoo, Illinois; Keith (Lollie) Krogmeier of Fort Madison; Marie Wilson (Rick Grisham) of Keokuk, Iowa; Adam Eugene "Gene" (Pat) Moore of Fort Madison; and Marci (Dave) Adams of Mt. Pleasant, Iowa; one aunt, one uncle, numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins. She was preceded in death by her parents, step-father Joseph Moore, one brother Bill Moore, and one niece Kristin Smith. A private family burial will be at Claypoole Cemetery, rural Wever, Iowa. A memorial has been established, contributions may be made at the Barr Memorial Chapel, Fort Madison, Iowa. Barr Memorial Chapel is honored to serve the Krogmeier family and an online guest book may be found at [www.barrmemorialchapel.com](http://www.barrmemorialchapel.com).

### DENNIS R. STEIN

Dennis R. Stein, 62, of Muscatine and formerly of Ft. Madison passed away on Thursday, November 19, 2020 at 7:14 AM at the University of Iowa Hospital.

He was born on December 29, 1957 in Ft. Madison to Robert I. and Frances R. Bennett Stein. Denny was a member of St. Paul Lutheran church and attended the Fort Madison Community Schools. He loved music, especially The Beatles. He was an avid collector of many things, including DVD movies. Denny also enjoyed vintage items, especially Studebaker cars.



STEIN

Survivors include one brother, David (Marilyn) Stein of Burlington; one sister Sharon (Bill) Van Cleave of Bloomfield; nieces and nephews including Bob (Grace) Stein, Laura Stein, Elizabeth (Jason) Graber, Mitch (Tess) Stein, Mindy (Graham) Schardt, Lissa (Clay) Biggs, Kathy (Chad) Otto, Carrie (Rich) Miller, J.R. (Kim) Boyer and Kevin (Jordan) Boyer; several great nieces, nephews and cousins. He was preceded in death by his parents and a sister, Judy Boyer; his brother in law, John Boyer and a nephew Jason Boyer.

The family will meet with friends from 10:30 AM until 11:30 AM on Monday, November 23, 2020 at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. A graveside service will be held at 11:30 AM at Hillcrest Memorial Park Cemetery with Rev. Pete Haggelund officiating. Masks are required for those attending the visitation. A memorial has been established to the donor's choice and online condolences may be left at [www.kinglynk.com](http://www.kinglynk.com).

### JAMES E. JENKINS

James E. Jenkins, 81, of East Moline, Illinois, formerly of Farmington, Iowa, passed away at 11:15 p.m. Sunday, November 15, 2020, at his home in East Moline.

He was born on October 20, 1939, in Revere, Missouri, the son of Eugene Paul and Ella M. (Shuler) Jenkins. On November 16, 1958, he married Vera E. Huff in Farmington, Iowa.

Survivors include his wife: Vera; two children: Alicia (Terry) Edwards of Carbon Cliff, Illinois and Sean (Denise) Jenkins of Carbon Cliff, Illinois; five grandchildren; three great grandchildren; three sisters: Nelma Hammond, Marie Toothacre and Vickie Randolph and two brothers: Carroll Jenkins and Melvin Jenkins.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one brother: Ottis Jenkins.

James was a member of the Bonaparte Baptist Church, the UAW and the Farmington Cemetery Association. He worked as a machine operator for John Deere Harvester for 31 years. He enjoyed hunting, fishing and his woodworking projects became gifts for family and friends.

His body has been entrusted to Schmitz Funeral Home for cremation.

Burial will be at a later date at Greenglade Cemetery, Farmington. Memorials have been established in his memory for Bonaparte Baptist Church or a charity of your choice and can be mailed to the family at: Schmitz Funeral Home, P.O. Box 56, Donnellson, Iowa 52625.

The Schmitz Funeral Home of Farmington is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences may be sent to the family at [www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com](http://www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com).



Courtesy photo from Jan Garza

### Serving the heroes

Dawn Laughary, Mary Morgan, Lorrie Bird, John Bird, and Kyle Grube worked at Shopton Park Shelter House Sunday preparing to serve lunch to police officers, firefighters, Lee County Sheriff's Department, and EMS personnel. It's the second Hero's Lunch the group has put on.



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## From the Front

# Committee donates purchased food to churches, food pantry

**HOLIDAYS** - Continued from Page 1

groups of people, but we're still moving ahead. If more floats pull out we may have to just go to lighting in the park," she said.

"We're gonna put it out there that people need to social distance but the parade route is fairly long so there is room to spread out. Wear a mask," Collier said.

The Enchanted Forest, which is being held this year behind Aldis, is still on as Collier said she can control the flow of people through the display. Mistletoe on Main is still on as planned from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. November 28.

The committee has made calls to all those who had reserved Thanksgiving dinner deliveries and informed them of the cancellation. Collier said more than 500 pounds of turkey had already been purchased with some of the donations and those were donated to area churches and the Fort Madison Food Pantry.

The Food Pantry also received a donation of close to 2,000 pounds of food, equal to about \$3,200 of groceries from OCI Iowa Fertilizer Co. So the Pantry has supplies for those in need over the holiday.

Collier said the group is committed to doing the event next year.

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# Increase in admissions puts strain on hospital resources

**HOSPITAL** - Continued from Page 1

form for every person it affects. It's very scary."

The Lee County Board of Health put out a directive earlier this week saying it expects everyone over the age of 2 to be 100% compliant in wearing masks, with the exception of medical conditions that make it difficult.

Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds got as close as she ever has to instituting a mask mandate on Monday requiring masks indoors where social distancing isn't possible and at all high school, college and professional sporting events.

She also limited indoor groups to 15 and outdoor groups to 30 and pleaded with Iowans to stick with immediately family over the holidays.

Burchett said she agreed with tougher stance and asked again for residents to give value to those recommendations.

"Those requests may seem extreme coming up on the holidays, but it is really critical to focus on enjoying our immediate families and using other methods like Zoom, Face-time, and even the telephone for extended family," she said.

"Whoever you're around, you're also around every-

**LEE CHD** LCHD is reporting **42** additional cases added to the total case count in the last 24 hours.

Total Positive Cases (as of 3:30pm 11/19/2020)	1,783
Total Cases Reported as Recovered	904
Current 14-day average Positivity Rate (number of people tested positive/number tested in last 14 days)	21.6%

LCHD continues to encourage the public to practice social distancing, wash your hands, avoid large crowds where social distancing is not possible, and to #MaskUpLeeCounty.

one they have been around. It's not what we can do, but what we have to do to get this under control."

FMCH has seen COVID admissions increase as most hospitals have in recent weeks. She said the hospital had a 1 to 2 admissions day-to-day during the summer spike, but now there are 9 to 10 patients daily and they are sicker than the patients in the summer.

With the increased admissions, staff is also at greater risk and Burchett said staff has to quarantine two weeks like everyone else. That presents a challenge.

"We're struggling with staffing at times and then we have to stretch the staff we have, which results in fatigue and burnout. Then we have extended use of ventilators, other respiratory support, and ICU beds.

And with other hospitals in the state seeing the same phenomenon, transfer capability decreased," Burchett said.

"All this compounds the problem when you factor in other patient types affected with other critical illnesses like heart attacks or heart failure who then need ICU beds and face the same constraints.

"Our doctors and staff are doing an amazing job, but it's taken its toll and people are getting tired. Our staffing is a day-to-day thing, even an hour-to-hour thing. It's really wearing on us."

Burchett put out a plea to those who think wearing a mask is an infringement on personal liberties or rights.

"I would plead with them to think beyond themselves and to think about their family, loved ones, and

friends – and healthcare workers," she said.

"I really feel like it has to do with the realization that everyone has to take personal accountability. Not everybody has been abiding by guidelines and recommendations. People can still interact, but with the main determinant of practicing social distancing and wearing a mask. That's the main thing – those two elements we know are directly related to the spread of this."

Despite the heavy weight of the surging virus, Burchett said the hospital is staffed and ready to take care of patients.

"We're committed to serving the patients in our communities whether its because they are not feeling well or they have questions," she said.

"We are here – and we will be here."

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## Business News

# Weisinger earns Extension honor

AMES – In her four years with the Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Lee County office, Whitney Weisinger has already made a big impact internally and across her county.

Weisinger is the program coordinator for Lee County and is one of two County Professional Excellence in Ag and Natural Resources Programming award winners named this fall.

She joined Lee County Extension in 2016 as an office assistant and became program coordinator in 2018. A Linn County 4-H alum, she develops and oversees programs that serve Lee county.

Weisinger has developed programs for women in ag, gardeners, youth, chemical applicators, livestock producers and conservation enthusiasts. She also works closely with 4-H and FFA, county schools, the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Farm Service Agency and the Iowa Farm Bureau Federation.

“She has already proven herself as a highly competent professional and is currently mentoring new extension employees,” said Janet Smith, regional director for ISU Extension and Outreach. “Whitney has brought new energy and excellence to Extension programming in Lee County in the two short years that she has served as county program coordinator.”

She works closely with the local ISU Extension and Outreach Farm Management Specialist, Charles Brown, and has implemented programs related to the fam bill, estate planning, farmland leasing and Annie’s Project. She keeps clients updated through a monthly e-newsletter, social media, direct mailing and is not afraid to make direct calls and send text messages to producers, to keep them involved.

Weisinger was officially presented with the award and plaque during a video announcement, by Jay Harmon, associate dean in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and director for agriculture and natural resources with Iowa State, and Jamie Benning, assistant director for agriculture and natural resources with ISU Extension and Outreach.

# Pothitakis makes “Best Firm List” for 11th consecutive year

BURLINGTON – On November 15, 2020, U.S. News & World Report for the eleventh consecutive year, announced the “Best Law Firms” rankings.

Pothitakis Law Firm, P.C., has been ranked in the 2021 U.S. News “Best Law Firms.”

Firms included in the 2021 “Best Law Firms” list are recognized for



POTHITAKIS

professional excellence with persistently impressive ratings from clients and peers. Achieving a tiered ranking signals a unique combination of quality law practice and breadth of legal expertise.

Ranked firms are listed

on a national and/or metropolitan scale. Receiving a tier designation reflects the high level of respect a firm has earned among other leading lawyers and clients in the same communities and the same practice areas for their abilities, their professionalism, and their integrity.

Pothitakis Law Firm, P.C., received the following rankings in the 2021

U.S. News – Best Lawyers “Best Law Firms”: Regional Tier 1 – Workers Compensation – Claimants

The Pothitakis Law Firm is excited to be chosen for this honor. “To be recognized by a national publication, U.S. World Report, as a top law firm evidences the hard work of the employees of Pothitakis Law Firm,” said Niko Pothitakis.



# Everyone can be a Recycling Superhero

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Recycle only clean, dry, and loose materials such as:

- Cardboard (without inside packing materials)
- Paper Products (i.e. newspaper, junk mail, office and school paper)
- Paperboard such as cereal & cracker boxes
- Plastic bottles & jugs (Nos. 1-7)
- Tin & aluminum cans
- Glass bottles (please don't place these in residential curbside bins or rural recycling trailers – there are bins specifically for glass at both facilities)

Place all recyclables loosely in all bins, residential pick up, rural trailers, and bins at either of our facilities

These materials should be thrown in the trash, as they aren't recyclable:

- Plastic, latex, cloth disposable gloves, masks
- Household trash
- Food waste & liquids
- Disposable plates, cups, cutlery
- Styrofoam in any form
- Plastic bags and film wrap, bubble wrap
- Wrapping paper & gift bags
- Dishes, windows, ceramic, crystal, bakeware, car glass, etc.

If you're uncertain as to whether something is recyclable, please call our office to inquire.

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# Classifieds/Public Notices

# PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

## PUBLIC NOTICES

**PUBLIC NOTICE  
FORT MADISON  
COMMUNITY SCHOOL  
DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
REGULAR MEETING  
November 23, 2020  
6:00 P.M.**

Note: To view this meeting please see the link on the FMCS D Website Calendar or click on the link below

<https://zoom.us/j/97895996372?pwd=b-FRFWGDsd3BMNkYvVllhSkhnOGRGUT09>

Public Comments are welcome. They are limited to 3 minutes. This meeting will be 100% via Zoom. No in person meeting will take place. If you wish to participate in public comments or wish to speak to an agenda item you must text (319) 371-5817 by 6:00 PM on November 23, 2020. You may also email [tim.wondra@fmcscd.org](mailto:tim.wondra@fmcscd.org) by 6:00 PM on November 23, 2020. You will not be recognized to speak

unless you have made a contact via text or email as indicated above.

Finance: Ross/Hope  
AGENDA

- I. Call meeting to order and determination of a quorum
- II. Recognition of guests
- III. Reading of Foundation documents - resume at December 21, 2020 meeting
- IV. Monthly communications
  - A. Student Rep Report - resume at December 21, 2020 meeting
  - B. Curriculum Corner - CTE at FMHS - reschedule to December 21, 2020 meeting
  - C. "Did You Know?" - resume at December 21, 2020 meeting
  - D. Superintendent Goal Report - resume at December 21, 2020 meeting
  - E. District Presentations - reschedule to December 21, 2020 meeting
    - Tech Plan - 5 Year

- Plan
- V. Approve the agenda
  - VI. Consent Agenda
    - A. Minutes
      1. October 12, 2020 Special Meeting
      2. October 19, 2020 Special Meeting
      3. October 19, 2020 Regular Meeting
      4. November 2, 2020 Work Session
    - B. Financial reports
      1. October Balance Sheet
      2. Revenue Summary Report
      3. Expenditure Report
      4. Student Activity Report
    - C. Accounts payable
      1. October General Account Board Bills for Approval American Express
      2. November General Account Board Bills for Approval
      3. Student Activity Account Board Bills for Approval American Express
      4. Nutrition Account Board Bills for Approval American Express

- D. Consider personnel resignations
  1. Kent Bailey, varsity volleyball
  2. Jade Nabors, associate at Lincoln
  3. Nancy Butler, associate at the high school
- E. Consider employment of personnel
  1. Scott Roen, assistant softball
- F. Consider contract modifications
- G. Consider leave of absence
- H. Consider open enrollment requests
  1. Other reports
    1. Activity and athletic fundraisers
- Director (blank) moved and 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. Superintendent - Erin Slater
      1. Consider approval of the termination of Jerry Junkins
      2. Approval of Request for Modified Supplemental Amount (MSA) to the School Budget Review Committee (SBRC) for Open Enrollment Out in the amount of \$433,440

3. Approval of Request for Modified Supplemental Amount (MSA) to the School Budget Review Committee (SBRC) for Limited English Proficient (LEP) Instruction beyond 5 years in the amount of \$1,550
4. Consider annual Board appointments
  - a. Kim Harmon, Title IIA, Title VI, Title IX, ADA and 504 coordinator
  - b. Kim Harmon, compliance officer (Step II) of grievance procedure as it relates to discrimination issues
  - c. Erin Slater, child abuse (Level 1)/harassment alternate investigator (Level I), AAO/EOE officer
  - d. Kim Harmon, child abuse (Alt. Level 1)/harassment investigator (Level I)
  - e. Nic Chiri, asbestos coordinator
  - f. Sandra Elmore, insurance trustee IEBP
  - g. Reconsideration committee
  - i. Licensed employee - Cory Byrne
  - ii. Media specialist - Michelle Bentler
  - iii. Administrator - Kim Harmon
  - iv. Community member - Janice Burch
  - v. High School representatives - Lily Arnold, Kiley Bohenkamp

- h. Affirmative Action Officer - Erin Slater
  - i. Bus Driver Testing Program - Nic Chiri
  - C. Board Secretary/ Business Manager - Sandy Elmore
    1. VIII. Discussion Items
      - A. Director of Curriculum and Student Services - Kim Harmon
        1. Special Education Count
        - B. Superintendent - Erin Slater
          1. Board instructional virtual tour - December 21, 2020 meeting: FMMS
          2. Consider approval of 100% online learning stipends for Trimester 2
          3. Certified Staff Attendance
          4. Board Member Attendance
        - C. Board Secretary/ Business Manager - Sandy Elmore
          1. IX. Comments from the audience
          - X. Legislative update
          - XI. Announcements November 16-20: American Education Week
            - December 7, 2020 6:00 PM, Special Meeting/ Work Session, Board Room, Central Office
            - December 21, 2020 6:00 PM, Regular Meeting, Board Room, Central Office
          - XII. Adjourn



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Please contact Brian Graham, Search Committee Chair - Holy Trinity Board of Education, with any questions at [brian@holytrinity-schools.org](mailto:brian@holytrinity-schools.org).



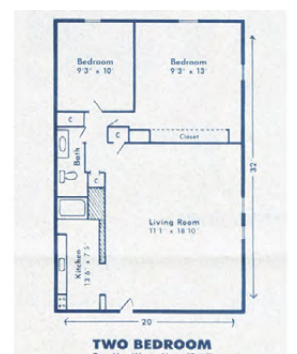
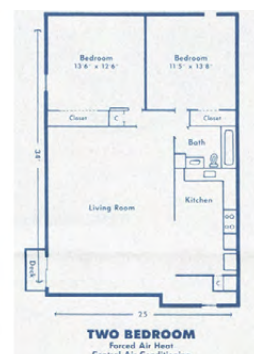
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## Scene Around Town/Iowa News

### Henry County Health Center extends partnership with Great River Health

MOUNT PLEASANT – Today, the Henry County Health Center (HCHC) Board of Trustees approved a Memorandum of Understanding to pursue an expanded lease agreement with Great River Health (GRH). In the coming weeks, the two organizations will perform due diligence and formalize the decision with a HCHC Board vote to approve the plan at its December 15 meeting. The lease agreement will be put to a vote before Henry County residents and finalized if the special proposition is approved in a March 2021 special election.

“For more than 10 years, we have partnered with Great River Health under a management agreement at HCHC,” said Henry County Health Center CEO Robb Gardner. “This expanded relationship is a great opportunity to continue serving the healthcare needs of Henry County residents into the future.”

Under the lease agreement, many of HCHC’s current ties to the community will remain unchanged: Henry County Health Center will continue to be the name of hospital, and HCHC Foundation funds will stay within the community.

“This is an investment in our region. As a community-based health center, HCHC patients are oftentimes family members, friends, and neighbors. As the landscape

changes for rural healthcare across the country, it’s important we maintain the trust and connection our hospital provides to Mount Pleasant and surrounding communities,” said Kent Severson, Chairman of the HCHC Board of Trustees. “This decision means continued, quality access to healthcare for everyone in the region – and a way for us to better manage anticipated challenges that lie ahead.”

“Many of us know GRH is a trusted partner with a proven track record of strengthening local healthcare. We have known and worked with Great River Health employees for many years, and its providers and leaders already know and value their commitment to Henry County Health Center,” said Gardner. “GRH is located here in Southeast Iowa and its leadership team understands the importance of local healthcare management.”

“The trustees are all Henry County residents who, after weighing several options in the last year, came to this decision with our friends and neighbors in mind,” said HCHC Board of Trustees member Carla McNamee. “HCHC is currently in a strong position and acting now to prepare for the future will ensure we all will have the healthcare services we need, close to home.”



Courtesy photo

### Iowa Fertilizer filling the cupboards

Fort Madison Food Pantry officials thanked OCI Iowa Fertilizer Company and all its employees for their incredible food drive benefiting the Fort Madison Food Pantry! Last week, they came like Santa Claus with a U-Haul truck and unloaded nearly a ton (1,921 pounds) of nonperishable items that will be delivered to residents and families in our community. According to the 2016 Feeding America Product Valuation Study, this donation amounts to a grocery basket costing \$3209.07. The Pantry and its clients are exceedingly grateful for the generosity of OCI IFCo!

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*We wish you a very warm & wonderful Thanksgiving.*

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