PEN CITY CUR.

It's Black & White and Read all over

Friday, January 29, 2021 | 8 pages | Volume 5 • Issue 29



www.pencitycurrent.com

LCHD has list of 3,300

VACCINES: County has 200 doses for 65 and over starting next week

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG PCC EDITOR

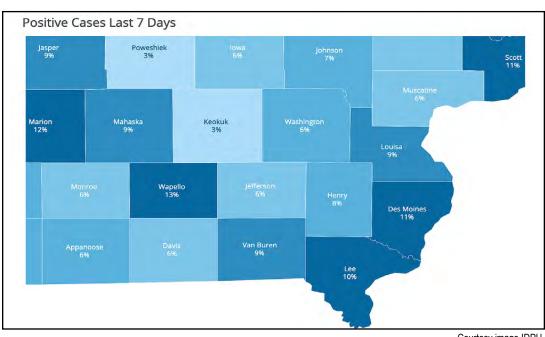
FORT MADISON - Lee County Health officials said they are expecting to see an increase in doses received from the state Monday, a move outlined by Gov. Kim Reynolds on Tuesday.

But with the increase, the county could see a doubling of what they received in their last allocations, which was just 100 doses.

Lee County Health Department Administrator Michele Ross said the county is expecting 200 doses the first week of February, compared to their last allotment of 100.

"Starting next week, 200 individuals from our 65 years of age and older call back list will be vaccinated," Ross said. "Our call back list now includes over 3,300 individuals from that group."

Those appointments have already been set for those 200 65 and over vaccinations. The LCHD staff has planned to test a drive-thru



Courtesy image IDPH

Lee County Health Department will be setting up drive-through clinics starting next week for those age 65 and older with pre-scheduled appointments.



clinic outside the John Bennett center in Fort Madison starting next week.

Those

ROSS

clinics will not be advertised as people

without a prescheduled appointment will not be able to show up for a vaccine. Only those 65 and older

who have been contacted by LCHD officials and received a time slot will be able to enter the clinic to get a vaccine.

Ross said the Iowa Department of Public Health determines allocations of doses based on population data from Iowa's 99 counties. Ross said the doses are prime, or 1st doses. Booster vaccinations will be set up

as the county receives the booster allocations, and should be conducted 28 days after the first dose.

Lee County Health Department has received 600 prime doses to date and 500 booster doses to date.

"These all have been accounted for and no doses have been wasted," Ross

See **VACCINES**, page 8

SCHOOL ELECTION MARCH 2

Absentee ballots ready for district RPS special election

Revenue Purpose Statement would allow board to borrow

Submitted article

FORT MADISON - Denise Fraise, Lee County Auditor, announces that absentee ballots for the Special Fort Madison Community School District Revenue Purpose Statement Election to be held on Tuesday, March 2, 2021 are now available in the Auditor's

If passed with a simple majority of 50%+1, the district will be able to potentially bond against the 1-cent SAVE tax through 2051.

You may vote in person at the Auditor's Office in the Lee County Office Building, 933 Avenue H, Fort Madison, IA, from 8:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M through Monday, March 1st, when this office will remain open until 5:00 PM. If you do not wish to enter the building, curbside voting is available in the alleyway of the same location,

simply call 319-372-3705 when you arrive and someone will come out to your vehicle.

Eligible voters wishing to vote early may complete THE IOWA OFFICIAL ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST FORM available from the Lee County Auditor or by downloading the form at http://sos.iowa.gov. The request for an absentee ballot may be hand delivered to the Auditor's office in Fort Madison or mailed to the Lee County

See **ELECTION**, page 8



2020 CAMPAIGN

UWGRR gives out 2021 agency allocations

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG PCC EDITOR

LEE COUNTY - The United Way of the Great River Region held their annual agency allocation event virtually on Wednesday.

And despite a year of cancellations, closures, suspensions, and other pandemic-related issues, the UWGRR, still managed to provide much needed funding to agencies in Clark, Lee and Hancock counties serving more than 58,000 people.

At Wednesday annual meeting, UW-GRR Executive Director Karen Siefken said 93 partnering companies, agencies and individuals brought a pandemic-filled 2020 to a bright conclusion of the budget year which allowed many requests for funding to be honored.

The United Way also gave out three corporate awards.

Keokuk Community School District had the highest percentage of growth from employee dollars with a 55.7% increase over 2019 contributions.

Two Rivers Bank and Trust in Keokuk again had every single employee make contributions, while Climax Molybdenum, Freeport McMoRan, had the largest corporate foundation match for

The United Way also got a \$25,000 grant from the United Ways of Iowa to either use for future uses or provide immediate assistance to local agencies faced with added pandemic expenses.

The United Way distributed those funds in their entirety to each school district in the three-county area based

<u>OpenWeatherMap</u>

Rain, 35° F/ 29° F

See **FUNDING**, page 4

INDEX

Business Directory	
Complete Rental	P.3
Connection Bank	P.8
EDUCATION NEWS	P.8
Farm Bureau Financial Services –	
Tammy Reynolds	P.4
FOR THE RECORD	P.3
FROM THE FRONT	Ps.4,8

Great River Regional Waste Authority	√P.3
HEALTH NEWS	P.8
Lee County Health Department	P.5
LEE COUNTY NEWS	Ps.4,8
LOCAL NEWS	
OBITUARIES	P.2
 Betty D. Smalley, 93 	
• Anna L. Varner, 99	
Pan City Current	Pc 6-7

Pilot Grove Savings Bank	P.4
Pothitakis Dentistry	P.8
Rashid Pharmacy & Wellness	P.2
Sonny's Super Market	P.2
SPORTS	
StopTextsStopWrecks.org	P.7
Test Kitchen Education Foundation	
Welch's Insurance	P.8

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PICK 3 01/27 MIDDAY	836
PICK 3 01/27 EVENING	 757
PICK 4 01/27 MIDDAY	0333
PICK 4 01/27 EVENING	 6925
POWERBALL 01/27	

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Obituaries

BETTY D. SMALLEY

Betty D. Smalley 93, of Denmark, IA passed away on Wednesday, January 27, 2021 at 8:30 AM at The Madison.

She was born on March 17, 1927 in Niota, IL to Frank E. and Anna E. Charles Privia. On June 30, 1956 she married Harry Smalley in Carthage, IL and he passed away on December



SMALLEY

22, 1990. She was a member of the Denmark Congregational United Church of Christ. Betty worked throughout her life in food service, tending bar, manual labor and keeping her family in line. She was an incredibly supportive wife, mother, grandmother, sister and aunt. She loved playing cards, board games, listening to country music, spending time with family and friends. Betty was a friend to all. Betty was a woman ahead of her time. She was fiercely independent which Harry recognized and appreciated. Betty and Harry ensured that family was first and were always cared for and loved.

Survivors include one daughter, Sandra (Terry) Lassmann of Fort Madison; one granddaughter, Tereasa Lassmann of Davenport, special family members Dave, Nancy, Daniel & Katherine Carey of Ft. Madison; two brothers, Larry Privia of Ft. Madison and Albert (Carolyn) Privia of Riverside, CA; one sister, Lucille Traut; several nieces and nephews, step children, step grandchildren and friends. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, three brothers and three sisters.

The family wants to express sincere gratitude to the staff of The Madison for the care and love they gave Betty. In the last year when family could not physically spend time with her due to the pandemic the staff of The Madison ensured her health, happiness and needs were met in a respectful and loving manner.

The family will meet with friends on Monday, February 1, 2021 from 10-11 AM at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. The funeral service will follow at 11 AM. Masks and social distancing will be required for those attending. Burial will be in Denmark Cemetery.

A memorial has been established in her memory and online condolences may be left at www.kinglynk.com.

ANNA L. VARNER

Anna Louise Varner, age 99, passed into the arms of her Lord and Savior on Wednesday, January 27, 2021. Anna was born in Clark County, Missouri, on September 20, 1921, to Charles and Pearl (Kimball) Haage.

On September 23, 1939, Anna Haage married Alfred C. Varner at the First Baptist Church in Keokuk, Iowa, and were married 52 years. Of their union three children were born. Alfred L., Joyce Kinman (George) and Henry ("Hank") (Jan) of Keokuk, Iowa.



VARNER

Preceding her in death were her parents, her husband, Alfred C., son, Alfred L. and daughter, Joyce and her husband George Kinman, as well as a sister in infancy. Also preceding Anna in death were her two sisters, Janett Haage and Ellen Corr.

Those left to cherish her memory are Henry (Jan) Varner; grandchildren, Debra (Brent) Haas, Randy (Sharon) Kinman, Earl Varner, Brent (Rita) Varner, Sara Helms and Matthew (Becky) Varner. Great grandchildren – Rebecca and Amanda Haas, Regan Helms, McKenzie Hunter, Landen, Lilyann, Louis, Annabelle, Olivia and Everett Varner. Great-great grandchild – Annie Haas and several step great grandchildren.

Visitation will be held at the DeJong-Greaves-Printy Funeral Home in Keokuk, Iowa, on Saturday, January 30, 2021, from 9:00 a.m. to the time of funeral service at 11:00 a.m. Due to the Covid Pandemic family is requiring masks and social distancing will be followed. For those unable to attend, the funeral service will be available for live-streaming via Facebook Live on the DeJong-Greaves-Printy Funeral Home Facebook page.

A private family burial will be held at Sunset Memorial Garden Cemetery in Keokuk, Iowa, following the service.

Memorials can be made to the Maintenance Program at Forest Lake Camp in Bloomfield, Iowa or the donor's choice.

Tributes and condolences may be left at www.dejongsfuneralhome.com. DeJong-Greaves-Printy Funeral Home in Keokuk is in charge of arrangements.





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Founded in 2016 P.O. Box 366 | Fort Madison, IA 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.

For the Record

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report

01/20/21 – 4;16 p.m – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a stolen vehicle in the 900 block of Avenue F. 01/21/21 - 2:50 a.m. - Fort Madison Police cited Daniel Killoren, 41, no hometown listed, in the 200 block of Avenue H. on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of a controlled substance. 01/21/21 - 12:16 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 2000 block of Avenue B. 01/21/21 - 8:50 p.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Tracy Lynn Meyers, 53, of Fort Madison, in the 900 block of Avenue H, on a charge of driving while barred. She was released on a promise to appear. 01/21/21 - 9:31 p.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Misty Ann Grant, 27, of Fort Madison, in the 2000 block of Avenue M, on a charges of aggravated domestic assault, serious domestic assault, 1st-degree harassment and child endangerment. She was taken to Lee County Jail. 01/25/21 - 7:26 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 1200 block of Avenue G. 01/25/21 - 9:08 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a vandalism in the 1200 block of 26th Street. 01/25/21 - 12:18 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 500 block of 8th Street. 01/25/21 - 3:36 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 800 block of Avenue F. 01/25/21 - 4:02 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 200 block of Avenue G. 01/25/21 - 6:10 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 1700 block of Avenue I. 01/26/21 - 4:02 a.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Jacob Paul Kottenstette, 29, of Fort

Madison, in the 1200 block of

Avenue H, on a warrant for failure to appear. He was released on a promise to appear. 01/26/21 – 4:52 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 400 block of Avenue E. 01/26/21 - 6:06 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1300 block of Avenue G 01/26/21 - 9:39 p.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Tyson Lassen, Jr., 19, of Clinton, Iowa, in the 3500 block of Avenue L, on a charge of possession of paraphernalia, possession of methamphetamine -3rd offense, and a warrant. He was taken to the Lee County Jail. 01/27/21 – 3:01 a.m. – Fort Madison Police arrested Chevy, Allen Frueh, 38, of Fort Madison, in the 2600 block of Avenue I, on a warrant for contempt. He was taken to Lee County Jail. 01/27/21 - 8:56 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 2600 block of Avenue L. 01/21/21 - 11:38 a.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Jennifer Lynn Morris, 40, of Donnellson, in the 800 block of Avenue G, on a warrant for probation violation and charges of possession of methamphetmine-3rd offense, and possession of drug paraphernalia. She was taken to Lee County Jail. 01/21/21 – 9:38 a.m. – Fort Madison Police arrested Louis Eugene Metcalf, III, 32, listed as homeless, at the police station, on a charge of 5th-degree theft. He was released on a promise to appear. 01/27/21 - 5:25 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 3000 block of Avenue P.

Lee County Sheriff's Report

01/25/21 – 11:02 a.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Jace Kanyon Prado, 21, listed as homeless, at the Lee County Jail, on a charge of 4th-degree criminal mischief. He was held in custody. 01/25/21 – 12:46 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies

arrested Ashley Kay Philp, 37, of Montrose at Heron Bend and 263rd Avenue on a warrant for failure to appear. She was taken to Lee County Jail. 01/25/21 - 3:06 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Brittany Marie Goldie at the Iowa Women's Prison in Mitchellville on a warrant for violation of probation. She was released on bond. 01/25/21 - 3:36 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a one-vehicle accident on 303rd Avenue near the Hwy. 61 overpass. According to the report, a vehicle driven by Jack Dee Vicker, 84, of Fort Madison lost control on slick overpass and struck a guard rail. No injuries or citations were reported. 01/25/21 - 4:37 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a one vehicle accident in the 3500 block of Argyle Road. According to the report, a vehicle driven by Michael Allen Settles, 39, of Keokuk, lost control due to slick conditions. The vehicle came to rest with the front end in Sugar Creek. Settles was taken by family to the hospital. No citations were reported and injury status was unknown. 01/25/21 - 9:50 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a one-vehicle accident in the 1500 block of Hwy. 218. According to the report, a semi tractor driven by Fahed Mikhled Mahamid, 23, of Memphis, TN struck a deer causing minor damage to his vehicle. No injuries or citations were issued. 01/26/21 - no activity reported 01/27/21 - no activity reported Those listed above are presumed innocent until proven guilty in court of law.

Fort Madison Fire & Rescue Report

01/25/21 – Fort Madison firefighters responded to one false alarm and one medical call. 01/26/21 – Fort Madison firefighters had no calls. 01/27/21 – Fort Madison firefighters responded to four medical calls and two lift assists.

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From the Front/Sports

Area United Way to boost digital presence

FUNDING - Continued from Page 1

on enrollment.

Seifken said the United Way is working diligently to improve on the 2020 season with a revamped website and growing social media platforms.

"Whatever 2021 brings we will face it together and we will get through it because we are united, we will find a way....a United Way," Siefken said.

Some changes taking place include the rebranding of the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) to AmeriCorps Seniors. The program continues to focus on areas of service in Lee County with regard to health, literacy, the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program and general community priorities.

Last year RSVP volunteers donated more than 7,200 hours of service in the communities of the three-county service area.

The United Way was still be able to raise just over \$175,000 through the annual giving campaign, spaghetti dinner, golf outing and Restaurant Days.



The 2020 total was just \$35,500 less than 2019. The United Way also received 13 grants for \$72,000 up about \$2,000 from 2019.

The grants provided funding to support volunteer efforts, agency funding and the annual Back-to-School Backpack event.

Ninety-three participating company's and organizations had employees give donations in 2020.

Seifken said 2021 will be a year of change and additional adaptation as the pandemic begins to release it's hold on the region.

"In 2021 we will work diligently to increase our annual giving campaign and grow our fundraising efforts," she said. "We will be releasing our new and improved website and we will continue to improve and grow our social media presence as well.

"We will continue to focus on long-range planning to insure the future and structure of the organiza-

Incoming 2021 United Way President Julie Schilling thanked the agencies in the coverage area for their perseverance through the pandemic.

"I want to thank all our partner agencies for all the hard work you did during the COVID pandemic with your services," Schilling said.



1301 37th St., Fort Madison | 319-372-9145

Fairfield holds on to upset Hounds

FAIRFIELD - The Fort Madison Bloodhounds didn't get on the board until three minutes were left in the first quarter as they fell to Fairfield on the road Thursday night

The Trojans, previously winless in Southeast Conference play, opened up a 14-8 lead at the end of the first quarter, behind J.J. Lanes's six points.

But Fort Madison would outscore the hosts the rest of the way 44-41, but in the end, the Bloodhounds couldn't overcome the early deficit.

Fairfield held leads by as much as seven midway through the second quarter and then it was a dogfight the rest of the way. Fort Madison scored five points in the final minute of the first half to cut the lead to three at 28-25 at the half.

The Hounds would get within one at 35-34 with three minutes left in the third, but Fairfield would push the lead back to three at 39-36. A Hound bucket near the end of the third made it a 1-point game again.

The teams would hold at a one point game for the first three minutes of the final period. Fairfield would go up by five with back-to-back buckets at 47-42, but Fort Madison wouldn't go away and knotted things back up at 52 all with a minute left.

Lane, who finished with a game-high 23 on the night would bury a 3-ball for Fairfield and Fort Madison couldn't find an answer in the final seconds.

Junior Dayton Davis led Fort Madison with 18, followed by Miles Dear with 16 on the night. Reiburn Turnbull had seven, Philip Goldie had seven and Tate Johnson had four.

Fort Madison moves to 3-7 in the conference and 7-7 overall on the year and hosts Pleasant Valley in an early 1:30 start due to potential for weather. The varsity girls follow hosting Iowa City Liberty.

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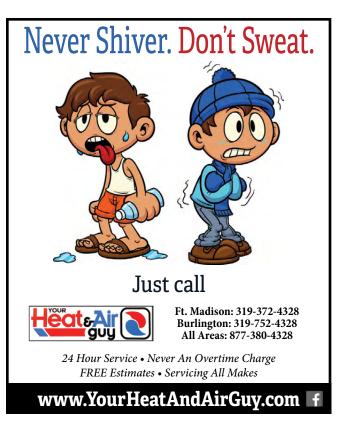
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Hounds suffer rare dual loss

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG

FORT MADISON – A makeshift lineup and some forfeits caused the Fort Madison Bloodhounds to drop just their second dual meet of the year in a triangular with Centerville and Kirksville, Mo.

Kirksville started with a pin in third period when Lane Patterson took out Brock Califf at 132 lbs. at the 5:12 mark.

Then Gavin Wiseman and Dominic Cahalan left it all on the mat at 138. Wiseman battled through a tough first period and then seized the momentum in the third scoring a two-point reversal to get to 9-11 in the final minute, but couldn't get into a nearfall to get the extra points for the win before time ran out.

Aiden Pennock got the Hounds on the board at 145 with a pin over Prophett Krepps in just :57 to the cut the lead to 9-6. The Hounds forfeit at 152 gave the lead back to Kirksville.

Brant Booten then recorded a pin over Ryan Harvey at 3:19 to give Fort Madison a 15-12 cushion. Kirksville would win the next three before Dan Sokolik won at 220 lbs on a forfeit. Fort Madison didn't field anyone at 285 and then Henry Wiseman won by forfeit at 106. FM forfeit 113 and then Matthew Steffensmeier and Owen Kruse each scored by falls to set the final 41-33.

The Hounds rolled over Centerville in the final match of the night. 58-17 Teague Smith, Austin Ensminger, Levi Lowney, Sokolik scored wins on the mat. Fort Madison won its other matches by forfeit..

Gavin Wiseman, rated 10th in Class 3A this week by The Predicament, went up against Class 2A's top rated Nathanial Genobana at 138. Genobana scored a 24-9 tech fall over Wiseman at the 5:04 mark of the 3rd period in the final match of the night.

The Hounds are now 14-2 in dual meets entering the final two weeks of the season. They wrap up the conference season next Thursday with a home meet against Burlington.

Kirksville (KIRKSVIL) 41.0 Fort Madison (FOMA) 33.0

132: Lane Patterson (KIRKSVIL) ver Brock Califf (FOMA) (Fall 5:12) 138: Dominic Cahalan (KIRKSVIL) over Gavin Wiseman (FOMA) (Dec 11-9) 145: Aidan Pennock (FOMA) over Prophett Krepps (KIRKSVIL) (Fall 0:57) 152: Logan Blickhan (KIRKSVIL) (Fell 0:57) 152: Logan Blickhan (KIRKSVIL) (Fall 3:19) 170: Jaden Ballinger (KIRKSVIL) over Austin Miller (FOMA) (FIRKSVIL) (Fall 3:19) 170: Jaden Ballinger (KIRKSVIL) over Austin Miller (FOMA) (FIR 1:50) 195: Colton Hannah (KIRKSVIL) over Levi Lowney (FOMA) (Dec 7-1) 220: Daniel Sokolik (FOMA) over (KIRKSVIL) (For.) 285: Bryce Kertz (KIRKSVIL) over (FOMA) (For.) 106: Henry Wiseman (FOMA) over (KIRKSVIL) (For.) 130: Anathew Steffensmeier (FOMA) over Lathon Wilcox (KIRKSVIL) (For.) 130: Matthew Steffensmeier (FOMA) over Lathon Wilcox (KIRKSVIL) (Fot Madison (FOMA) 50: Centerville (CENT) 17.0

145: Matthew Lewis (CENT) over Aidan Pennock (FOMA) (Fall 1:41) 152: Teague

145: Matthew Lewis (CENT) over Aidan Pennock (FOMA) (Fall 1:41) 152: Teague Smith (FOMA) over Leland Henderson (CENT) (Fall 5:34) 160: Austin Miller (FOMA) over (CENT) (For.) 170: Lucas Henderson (CENT) over Brandt Booten (FOMA) (Fall 1:40) 182: Austin Ensminger (FOMA) over Ryan Messamaker (CENT) (MD 10-2) 195: Levi Lowney (FOMA) over Josh Oldfield (CENT) (Fall 1:00) 220: Daniel Sokoliik (FOMA) over Cruize Flanders (CENT) (Fall 2:52) 285: Double Forfeit 106: Henry Wiseman (FOMA) over (CENT) (For.) 113: Emmett Kruse (FOMA) over (CENT) (For.) 120: Matthew Steffensmeier (FOMA) over (CENT) (For.) 126: Owen Kruse (FOMA) over (CENT) (For.) 132: Brock Califf (FOMA) over (CENT) (For.) 133: Nathaniel Genobana (CENT) over Gavin Wiseman (FOMA) (TF 24-9 504)



Photos by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Above, Matthew Steffensmeier gets the upper hand on Kirksville's Lathon Wilcox, while below Brant Booten gets a mat slap for a pin over Kirksville's Ryan Harvey. The Hounds split the triangular.



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From the Front

New drive-up clinic set for next week

VACCINES - Continued from Page 1

said.

LCHD has not yet scheduled any employer based clinics as part of the Iowa Department of Public Health's Phase 1b Tier listing. Ross said that won't happen until adequate vaccine supplies have been allocated to meet the demand.

Fort Madison Community Hospital and county long-term care centers have been vaccinated through their respective allotments and protocols. All nursing homes in northern Lee County have received primary doses through the federal partnership with national pharmacy chains, including Walgreens.

Reynolds said Tuesday the boosters should be completed by the first week of February and she's hoping to get any remaining doses not used by pharmacies back in the state's hands for Phase 1b's rollout.

Through Wednesday, 1,943 Lee County residents has received vaccinations. That number includes residents vaccinated by all providers and not just LCHD, including the hospitals and pharmacy chains.

LCHD has been receiving the Moderna vaccine



which requires the booster at 28 days. Moderna sends vials with 10 doses in them, so the LCHD has received 60 vials of prime doses and 50 vials of booster doses.

According to the state coronavirus.iowa.gov website, 1,943 county residents have received a vaccine, while 1,997 vaccines have been given in the county. The difference is individuals that work in health care settings that don't live in the county.

The site reports that 380 county residents have received the full series of vaccines in Lee County, 290 of those have been through county providers.

Statewide 209,575 doses have been administered through Wednesday, 198,764 went to Iowa residents, while the rest have gone to those working in Iowa but living outside the state. The doses statewide are almost split evenly between Pfizer and Moderna.

Across the state 1,460,880 million residents have been tested and 3,568,223 test have been conducted. The state has had 316,679 individuals test positive and 341,976 total positive tests. That would indicate a total number of positive test results to total tests given of 9.6%, where as 21.7% of those residents tested have, at some point, tested positive.

Lee County's 14-day positivity rate of Thursday is 14% tied for 10th highest in the state. It's 7-day rating is 10%, tied for 14th highest currently in the state.

The county has had 3,319 total positive cases through Wednesday and has seen 34 deaths, 28 attributed to underlying causes but positive for COVID, and six directly attributed to COVID-19. The county has seen 2,860 recover from the illness.

Polling locations set for March 2 school district election

ELECTION - Continued from Page 1

Auditor, P.O Box 190, Fort Madison, IA 52627. Requests must be received by 5:00 P.M., Friday, February

Fort Madison School District polls open at 7 a.m. and close at 8 p.m.

Election Day Polling Locations are as follows: FORT MADISON COMMUNITY SCHOOL DIS-**TRICT**

FM Wards 1-5 Madison/Jefferson Twps Fort Madison Public Library....1920 Ave E Fort

Washington/Green Bay Twps & Union Twp in Des Moines County

Grace Bible Church....3526 175th St. Wever Denmark/Pleasant Ridge/West Point/Cedar/Franklin/Marion & West Point Twps/WestPoint/Houghton/ St. Paul Cities & Baltimore Twp in Henry County

West Point American Legion Hall....309 5th St. West Point

You may locate your correct polling place by going on-line to http://sos.iowa.gov . Click on "Find your Precinct/ Polling Place." Follow directions to find the correct precinct for the SCHOOL ELECTION.

Anyone having questions regarding absentee voting may contact the Auditor's office at 319/372-3705.



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