

PEN CITY CURRENT

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

Tuesday, July 13, 2021 | 9 pages | Volume 5 • Issue 137



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JR. HOUNDS WIN TITLE



Courtesy photo

Left to right, Head Coach Todd Herdrich, Hunter Edlin, Brody Cashman, Caden Barnes, Leif Boeding, Tristan Marshall, Chandler Fullenkamp, Luke Hellige, Ethan Huffman, Brayden Wyrick, Aiden Mitchell, Bo Herdrich, Adam Sobczak, and John Hellige, assistant coach, won the 14U USSSA Division 1 state title over the weekend.

GO 5-0: Junior Bloodhounds go clean through bracket to state championship

PCC SPORTS

FORT MADISON - The Fort Madison Junior Bloodhounds went 5-0 over the weekend as they won the 14U AAA Division 1, USSSA State tournament over the weekend.

In pool play on Friday the Jr. Hounds beat Johnston Rampage 9-0. Then in pool play on Saturday they beat the Altoona Rams Black team 7-2.

With the wins the Fort Madison team was seeded No. 1 in bracket play.

In the quarterfinals Fort Madison beat Indianola Baseball Club 4-1. They then advanced to the semifinals where they knocked off Urbandale Knights 15-9.

The championship game had the Junior Hounds faced off against the West Des Moines Grand Slam Mavericks 16-1, going through the tournament outscoring the opposition 47-12.

COUNTY NEWS

LCHD head pleads for higher vaccination rate

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

LEE COUNTY - With the Delta variant of the COVID-19 coronavirus taking over coronavirus headlines, Lee County has seen a slight

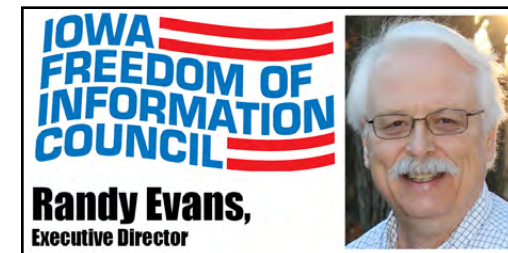
uptick in 7- and 14-day positivity rate as Iowans try to return to more normal routines.

According to a now-weekly report from the Lee County Health Department, the 7-day rate as of Monday morning was 3.6% of all

tests coming back positive. The 14-day rate is a little lower at 2.5%. Currently 37.9% of Lee County residents are now fully vaccinated.

The county has had 4,115 total

See **COVID**, page 4



Government cuts corners on public participation

Several times a week, someone contacts me because they had difficulty learning about a government meeting or ran into obstacles trying to get government records.

These calls and emails to the Iowa Freedom of Information Council come more frequently than just a few years ago. This is a troubling trend because there is growing citizen distrust of government at all levels.

It should not be this way. Government officials in Iowa already have the power to make these citizen frustrations disappear — if they want to.

Some recent examples illustrate this obstruction.

MEETING MINUTES: An Iowan with an interest in civil rights contacted me, irritated the Iowa Civil Rights Commission, the state's principal civil rights enforcement agency, has not posted its meeting minutes on its website since September 2019.

This is unfortunate, because the minutes provide an overview of what the commission is doing. This is important information, because the commission investigates and enforces laws prohibiting discrimination in employment, public accommodations, housing, education, and credit.

The commission's executive director takes the position the minutes are not on the website because Iowa law does not require them to be posted there. That's true, but nothing in the law stops his staff from posting them.

It is cumbersome and costly to require citizens to drive to Des Moines to read

See **EVANS**, page 8

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WEATHER

TUE 13 JulOvercast, 77° F/ 63° F
WED 14 JulLight Rain, 84° F/ 66° F
THU 15 JulHeavy Intensity Rain, 80° F/ 68° F

IOWA LOTTERY

PICK 3 07/11 MIDDAY364
PICK 3 07/11 EVENING.....489
PICK 4 07/11 MIDDAY.....4666
PICK 4 07/11 EVENING.....6918

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CURRENT-LEE

Fort Madison Farmer's Market

The summer farmer's markets are back in Central Park each Monday through Oct. 4 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Interested vendors should call the Fort Madison Chamber at 319-372-5471. Visit @FMFarmersMarket for more information.

Iowa Works Job Fair

IowaWorks, in partnership with Mississippi Valley Workforce Development Board, is holding an outdoor regional job fair July 15 at Heartland Harley-Davidson in Burlington, 117. S. Roosevelt from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. New businesses are welcome to set up a booth

Fort Madison Partner's Annual Dinner

This year's event is a Luau at the Baxter Sports Complex on July 16th. For more information contact the Fort Madison Chamber of Commerce at 319-372-5471.

SCC Annual Alumni Golf Outing

The 26th annual outing takes place at Sheaffer Memorial Golf Course. Early registration deadline is July 9 and teams are limited to the first 40. Rain date is July 19. Entry is \$90 per person or team sponsorships start at \$600. For more information contact Val at 319-208-5065.

Party on the Patio

Baxter Sports Complex is hosting a Party on the Patio from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. on July 29 with Caleb Booten performing. Free live music, and food and beverage specials offered with proceeds headed toward the Community Beautification efforts.

FMAAA Kids Art Camp

Two camps are being held this year. Ages 5 to 7 is

July 12 and 13th from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Cost is \$70 per student. Ages 8 to 12 is July 14-16 from 9 a.m. to noon and the cost for that group is \$100 per student. Snacks are included and instruction from local artists and art professionals. Space is limited. Call 319-372-3996 for more information.

Vacation Bible School

The Salvation Army of Lee County is sponsoring a Vacation Bible School July 19-23rd for children ages 4 years old through 6th grade.

"Music in the Park"

The Old Settlers Park associations annual summer concert series continues on Friday, July 23 from 5 to 8:30 p.m. with Richie Lee & The Fabulous 50s" performing Buddy Holly tributes and other hits from the era. Pen City Cruisers will also be there with classic cars and "Pink Ladies". Food and beverages will be available. To help sponsor, contact Sheryl Decker at 372-7813.

Baxter Sports Complex Golf Outing

The first ever event will be held July 17, 2021 with a 12 p.m shotgun start at Sheaffer Memorial Golf Course. Live and silent auctions will be held and the event will feature 8" cups. Dinner and drinks will take place at Baxter Sports Complex after the event starting at 6:30 p.m. Teams are \$400 and hole sponsorships are \$150 each. For more information contact Jeff Woodside at 372-2932 or baxtersportsdirector@gmail.com.

Pollinator Walk Series

Lee County Extension and Lee County Conservation are hosting the final of their pollinator walk

series featuring flowering plants and their role in pollination. The walk is free with an RSVP requested at 835-5116 and will be from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Aug. 28.

Summer Downtown Markets

This year's remaining downtown market will be held Aug. 19th in historic downtown Fort Madison. Food, beer, wine, donuts, boutiques, home decor, signs, fresh garden plants, music and more from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m starting at 7th and Avenue G. Be a vendor by contacting darlarae71@yahoo.com.

Preschool Story Time

The Lee County Conservation hosts a preschool story time the first and third Fridays of the month at Wilson Lake Picnic Shelter from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. The next story time is June 18th

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.

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.

Pollmiller Fishing Derby

Three Rivers Conservation Foundation will host a fishing derby at Pollmiller Park. There will be food for the whole family, fun activities and prizes and awards for kids ages 3 to 16. Saturday Aug. 21, from 9 a.m. to noon at the Pollmiller Park Shelter.

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PEN CITY CURRENT
It's Black & White and Read all over

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Founded in 2016
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Obituaries/Scene Around Town

OBITUARIES

WILLIAM F. MERSCHMAN

William F. Merschman, 93 years, of West Point, Iowa died Sunday, July 11, 2021 at his home. He was born January 29, 1928 in Lee County, Iowa, a son of Henry J. and Agnes W. (Rauenbuehler) Merschman. On April 23, 1949, he married Bernice Elaine Mettenburg in Houghton, Iowa. They were married almost 70 years.



MERSCHMAN

Bill farmed for six years on his grandfather's farm. In 1954, Bill and Bernice, established Merschman Seed Company, now known as Merschman Seeds, Inc., and it remains under family management. He was a member of St. Mary's of the Assumption Church in West Point; West Point Knights of Columbus - served as past Grand Knight; West Point Community Club - served as past president; Marquette School Board - served as past president; and Fort Madison Elks Lodge. He served as co-founder and vice-president of Merschman Fertilizer LLC, served as co-founder and chairman of Agrineed, Inc.; served as chairman of Lee County Bank; and served as past chairman of Wolf Packaging Corporation. He was a founding member of the Iowa Soybean Association and served on numerous agricultural boards at the state and national level. Bill enjoyed working with Merschman customers and employees, family time at his pond and cabin, and his pets.

Bill is survived by two daughters: Kathleen (John) McKillip and Jean (Greg) Humphrey, both of Fort Madison, Iowa; three sons: Joseph (Barb) Merschman and Henry (Katherine) Merschman, both of Fort Madison, Iowa and George (Linda) Merschman of Springfield, Illinois; eight grandchildren: Megan (Jason) Glass, Brian (Dawna) McKillip, Julie (Eric) Duplessis, Jeff Merschman, Alex Stewart, Adam Stewart, Ashley (Collin) Bartels and Kaitlyn (Chris) Rude; nine great grandchildren: Samantha and Madison Glass, Peyton and Jayden Duplessis, Jacara Ivey, Haiden and Austyn Bartels; Kech and Avery Rude; many nieces and nephews; and brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Clarence (Mary) Mettenburg. He was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Bernice; one brother, Robert Merschman; and three sisters: Marian Dingman, Wilma Panther and Martha Menke.

Per his wishes, his body has been cremated. A Rosary will be recited at 3:00 pm Thursday July 15, 2021 at St. Mary's of the Assumption Church, West Point, followed by his family greeting friends until 6:30 pm Thursday at the church. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:30 am Friday, July 16, 2021 at St. Mary's of the Assumption Church, West Point, with Reverends Dennis Hoffman, Apo Mpanda, Dennis Martin and Robert McAleer, as concelebrants. Burial will be at Calvary Cemetery, West Point. In lieu of flowers, a memorial has been established for St. Mary's of the Assumption Church, Holy Trinity Catholic School and P.A.W. Animal Shelter, contributions may be sent to the Barr-Holtkamp Funeral Home, P.O. Box 247, West Point, Iowa 52656 or at the church during the time of services. Barr-Holtkamp Funeral Home is honored to serve the Merschman Family, online condolences may be made at www.barr-holtkamp-funeralhome.com.

OBITUARIES

KARLA J. GILBERT

Karla J. Gilbert, 65, of Marion, IA died Wednesday, August 19, 2020 at UnityPoint Health St. Luke's Hospital in Cedar Rapids, IA.



GILBERT

She was born July 16, 1955 in Keokuk, IA the daughter of Kenneth W. and Peggy Colleen Shoemaker Howard. She was united in marriage to Justin Gilbert. He survives.

Other survivors include two sons, Ken (Leah) Gilbert and Keith (Amanda) Gilbert of two grandchildren, a sister, Judy Messina of Tucson, AZ, along with many aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, a son, Kory James Gilbert, two sisters, Karen Jewel Howard in infancy and Marlene J. Schultz and a brother, Clifford L. Howard.

She enjoyed horses, painting and making craft projects.

Graveside services will be held at 11:30 a.m., Saturday, at Oakland Cemetery in Keokuk.

The Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk is assisting the family with arrangements.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.vigenmemorialhome.com.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg

Meller Construction crews continue work on a new parking lot in front of City Hall Monday afternoon once the rain subsided.

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Obituaries/From the Front

OBITUARIES

WILLIAM D. VORHIES

William D. "Bill" Vorhies, 85, of Keokuk, died Friday Dec. 11, 2020 in Marion IA.



VORHIES

He was born January 25, 1935 in Lucas IA, to Laurel "Jack" and Eva (Wornstaff) Vorhies.

Bill is survived by his wife of 64 years Mary Alice "Holly" Vorhies; son Douglas (Jane) Vorhies of Oxford MS, son James Vorhies of Oxford MS, and daughter Katherine Vorhies of Marion IA.

Bill graduated in 1953 from Keokuk High School and received a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Iowa. He served in the US Army Corps of Engineers and attained the rank of Captain. He worked for Ameren (Union Electric) for 39 years serving as Keokuk Plant Manager from 1989-1999. He served on the board of directors of the Keokuk Community School District, Chairman of the American Red Cross Board of Directors, Board of Trustees of the Keokuk Area Hospital and on the vestry of St. John's Episcopal Church. He was a member of Rotary, the Keokuk Country Club and Keokuk Yacht Club. Bill loved to play tennis and golf, and take his sailboat out on the Mississippi.

A graveside service with military rites will be held at 12 noon on Monday, July 19, 2021 at the Keokuk National Cemetery.

Memorials may be directed to the Keokuk-Hamilton Dam Museum, the Keokuk Humane Society or St. John's Episcopal Church.

The Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk, IA is assisting the family with arrangements.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at

www.vigenmemorialhome.com.

LCHD working on improving county vaccination rates

COVID - Continued from Page 1

positive tests since the outbreak began. In the last seven days the 18-29 age group has seen 29% of all the positive tests.



ROSS

Des Moines County currently has a 7-day positive rating of 10% and is now one of the highest counties in 7-day positivity rates.

At Monday's Lee County Board of Supervisors meeting, LCHD Administrator Michele Ross took a few minutes at the end of the meeting to plead with county leaders and parents to encourage vaccinations.

Ross said the state of Iowa is at about 46% overall so Lee County

is lagging behind and the number of people interested in getting vaccinated through the health department has dropped off significantly. The southern third tier of the state lags behind the rest of Iowa in getting residents vaccinated. Linn County has the highest vaccination rate in the state at 52.3%.

Lee County currently has 653 two-dose vaccine series started and has completed 11,207. The vaccine providers have also administered 1,529 single dose Johnson & Johnson vaccines, and have administered 24,600 total doses.

"I can tell you, as we all know, the Delta variant is widely distributing across the United States. Addi-

tional cases were identified in Iowa in early May and since then the state has identified increasing occurrences of the variant," Ross said.

"We don't receive county specific data at this point, but the State Hygienic Lab is collecting data from all over Iowa to do some sequencing to see how prevalent it is in Iowa and how far it's spread."

She said all positive samples go to the Iowa Hygienic Lab for sequencing to create a better picture of the spread. But Ross said everyone should be assuming this variant is widely circulating in most communities in the state.

"I would say it's safe to assume we have it here in Lee County." Ross then challenged all city and county officials, school administrators and leaders, faith based leaders and parents to reconsider getting vaccinated.

I want to throw out a challenge here. The best way to protect ourselves against this virus including the

delta variant is getting vaccinated," Ross said.

She said LCHD is developing strategies to increase the vaccination rates, especially for the 12-18 year old group and said they are looking at partnerships with local hospitals and schools to get those numbers increased.

"We still have work to do. The highest population testing positive is 18-29 year olds. We really want to encourage those age groups to get vaccinated," she said.

Aside from Lee County Health Department, most area pharmacies and health care providers have vaccines. Ross said there is some data that people who are fully vaccinated have tested positive, but the severity of the illness is drastically reduced.

Supervisor Ron Felder said news reports showed the 99% of the people who are dying from the disease are unvaccinated.

"That should be a huge motivator to get this vaccine," he said.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE PROCEEDINGS FORT MADISON CITY COUNCIL 7/6/2021

The Fort Madison City Council met in regular session at 5:30 P.M. on Tuesday, 7/6/2021, at City Hall, 811 Avenue E. Mayor Mohrfeld presided with Council Members Andrews, Bowker, Lair, Schulz, Rink and Amanus present. Council Member Cangas was absent.

On motion, Council approved the agenda. On motion, Council approved the Consent Agenda: Minutes of 6/15/2021; Payroll of 6/18 and 7/2/2021; June Manual Claims, June Financial Report and Claims dated 7/1/2021; Liquor License Renewals: Quality Inn & Suites, 6169 Reve Court, effective 7/1/2021, Faeth's, 832 Avenue G, effective 6/30/2021, Hy-Vee Gas, 2632 Avenue L, effective 9/5/2021 and Lost Duck Brewing Company, 723-725 Avenue H, effective 7/15/2021.

At 5:34 P.M., Mohrfeld opened the public hearing concerning the sale of platted Avenue C from the west line of Vica Lane to a point approximately 115 feet west. With no oral or written comments, Mohrfeld closed the public hearing at 5:35 P.M. On motion, Council approved Ordinance No. D-075, vacating the platted Avenue C from the west line of Vica Lane to a point approximately 115 feet west. On motion, Council adopted Resolution No. 2021-37, approving the sale of the south half of the platted Avenue C from between the west line of Vica Lane to a point approximately 115 feet west to Kelly L. Heagy. On motion, Council adopted Resolution No. 2021-37, approving the sale of the north half of the platted Avenue C from between the west line of Vica Lane

to a point approximately 115 feet west to Mary F. Berry/Mary L. Peterson.

On motion, Council adopted Resolution No. 2021-38, setting public hearing for 7/20/2021 at 5:30 P.M. on the sale of city-owned property located in Outlot 1078 (southeast corner of 17th Street and Avenue D) to Jacob N. Thompson.

On motion, Council approved the Mayor's signature on a Professional Services Agreement with Stanley Consultants of Muscatine, Iowa, for a Wastewater Treatment Plant Nutrient Study. On motion, Council approved the Mayor's signature on Change Order No. 1 for PIP 2019-09, Connecting Fort Madison! Phase 3 Hospital Connector. On motion, Council approved the Mayor's signature on Change Order No. 2 for PIP 2020-05, Reconstruction of Old Highway 61, 6th to 10th Street. On motion, Council approved the Mayor's signature on Change Order No. 5 for PIP 2020-03, GRHS-FMCH Community Health Foundation – Fort Madison High School to Rodeo Park Trail. On motion, Council approved the Mayor's signature on the First Amendment to the Old Station Revitalization Agreement between the City of Fort Madison and the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak). On motion, Council approved the purchase of a pool filter for the Fort Madison Municipal Pool from ACCO of Johnston, Iowa, in the amount of \$162,000 and to approve the Mayor's signature on a service agreement to complete the filter replacement. On motion, Council moved to accept the Civil Service Commission's Police Captain Promotional List.

At 6:39 P.M., the meeting adjourned until July 20, 2021, at 5:30 P.M.
/s/ Matt J. Mohrfeld, Mayor

ATTEST: /s/ Melinda L. Blind, City Clerk

EXPENDITURES

General	\$45,989.63
Special Revenue	114,311.62
Road Use	52,065.88
Debt	150.00
Capital	730,016.12
Water	86,462.43
Sewer	47,131.17
Solid Waste/IWC	11,374.07
Storm Water Util.	1,181.53
	<u>\$1,088,682.45</u>

PAYROLL 6/18/2021

General	\$ 223,762.46
Old Fort	5,842.47
Road Use	28,203.10
Emp. Benefits	7,319.89
Marina	396.13
Tourism	1,090.43
Water	29,853.19
Sewer	35,562.79
Solid Waste	12,215.04
Airport	488.59
Storm Water	3,736.22
	<u>\$348,470.31</u>

CLAIMS 7/6/2021

ACCESS SYSTEMS LEASING, PRINTER LEASE	900.85
AHLERS & COONEY,	1,085.14
AUTOZONE, GLOVE/STROBE	62.49
BARCO MUNICIPAL PROD INC., SIGNS	2,579.46
BATES SANITATION & ASPHALT, PORTA POTTIE RENTAL	150.00
BEACH & ENKE TRUCKING, ROADSTONE/HAULING	9,782.07
BITUMINOUS MATERIALS & SUPPLY, HOT-PATCH	1,538.80
BJ 'S PERFORMANCE, TIRE REPAIR UNIT #3	115.00
BROWN SUPPLY CO. INC., CLAMPS/COPPER	5,415.00
BURLINGTON MUNI WATER, BACTERIA SAMPLE	85.00
CORE & MAIN LP, RISER	614.65
CRAZY CROW TRADING POST, MERCHANDISE	907.61
CURE BUSINESS SOLUTIONS, INC, JULY AGREEMENT	4,641.25
DAILY DEMOCRAT, ADVERTISING	2,184.50
DANA ZUMDOME, CERTIFICATION RENEWAL	60.00
DAVE VRADENBURG, REPLACE TILES @ CH	650.00
DIAMOND VOGEL PAINT CO., YELLOW PAINT	

REVENUES 6/30/2021

General	\$17,341.14
Special Rev.	853,775.05
Road Use	140.00
Debt	775.89
Capital	10,808.47
Water	345,398.93
Sewer	306,594.74
Solid Waste/IWC	68,110.21
SW Utility	18,382.93
	<u>\$1,621,327.36</u>

PAYROLL 7/2/2021

General	\$ 195,283.33
Old Fort	5,650.82
Road Use	28,050.59
Emp. Benefits	517.79
Marina	237.37
Tourism	1,260.71
Water	29,475.89
Sewer	31,445.84
Solid Waste	11,913.83
Airport	312.77
Storm Water	3,800.08
	<u>\$307,949.02</u>

PC, URBAN REVIT AMENDMENT 93.00
ALLIANT ENERGY, ELECTRIC..... 30,640.11
ARAMARK UNIFORM SERVICES, UNIFORM

HELP WANTED

Volunteer Services Program Director



United Way of the Great River Region

United Way of the Great River Region is seeking a full time Volunteer Services/AmeriCorps Seniors Program Director in our Fort Madison office to manage all aspects of the Volunteer Services Program. Director will oversee a long standing AmeriCorps Seniors program. Ideal candidate will be a proven self starter, creative, outgoing, have excellent leadership and interpersonal relationship skills; grant management and writing skills; fundraising experience; strong office, computer and budgeting skills; and ability to work with and manage volunteers and the organizations and businesses who utilize volunteers. The ability to multi-task is a must. Some travel may be required. COVID protection measures include personal protective equipment, sanitizing supplies, low office traffic, some virtual meetings. EOE

To be considered, send your cover letter and resume with three references, on or before July 30, 2021 to: United Way of the Great River Region, PO Box 251, Keokuk, IA 52632 or email director@unitedwaygr.org

IowaWORKS

JOB FAIR

July 15, 2021 2:00 pm to 6:00pm

Heartland Harley-Davidson Parking Lot
117 S. Roosevelt Ave, Burlington, IA 52601



Attention businesses

Are you looking for new employees to add to your team?

Join us for the Job Fair on July 15, 2021 and meet with applicants.

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Please contact Jennifer Pope if you have any questions

jennifer.pope@iwd.iowa.gov

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Classifieds/Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICES

..... 136.40
 DODD PRINTING & STATIONERY, FILE JACKETS..... 209.35
 DOUDS STONE, LLC, ROADSTONE/WASHED CHIPS..... 5,943.96
 EBERT SUPPLY, JANITORIAL SUPPLIES 238.50
 ELLIOTT EQUIPMENT CO., JET HOSE 2,073.05

FORT MADISON COMM. HOSPITAL, ON-JOB INJURY..... 261.00
 GRAY QUARRIES, INC, STABILIZED BASE 929.25
 GREAT RIVER REGIONAL WASTE, INTEGRATED WASTE..... 4,607.63
 GREENWOOD CLEANING SYSTEM, JANITORIAL SUPPLIES..... 685.83
 HOENIG LAWN SERVICE INC, TREE REMOVAL @ 1226 G

..... 2,100.00
 HOWARD R GREEN COMPANY, PROF FEE - AWIA..... 51,650.56
 HUFFMAN WELDING & MACHINE, BOLTS/NUTS 661.74
 HUMBURD'S AUTO SERVICE, REPAIR A TIRE 19.50
 IDEAL READY MIX COMPANY, INC, PEA GRAVEL 3,384.46
 INTOXIMETERS, DRY-GAS 125.00

IOWA BRIDGE & CULVERT, AMTRACK PLATFORM..... 656,780.36
 IOWA LEAGUE OF CITIES, MEMBERSHIP 7/21-6/22 4,830.00
 IOWA MUNICIPAL WORKERS, WORKMAN'S COMP.. 23,866.00
 IOWA ONE CALL, LOCATES..... 116.20
 JL TIME & ATTENDANCE COMPANY, TIME CLOCK - PARKS 1,214.45
 KEMPKERS TRUE VALUE, RENTAL/PARTS/SHIPPING 1,564.79
 KLINGNER & ASSOCIATES, P.C, PROF FEE - DEPOT 45,009.93
 LAND & WATER VEGETATION CONTROL, VEGETATION CONTROL @ AIRPORT 260.00
 LIBERTY UTILITIES, HEAT 335.67
 LINK MEDIA, OUTDOOR ADVERTISING .. 1,768.00
 LYNCH DALLAS P.C., PROF FEE - GENERAL 2,228.00
 MACQUEEN EQUIPMENT, INC, FLAP SEAL 49.48
 MADISON TURF & TIMBER, 4 CYCLE OIL 255.01
 MARTIN EQUIPMENT, BACKHOE TEETH 148.96
 MCFARLAND, GLOVES 180.67
 MENARD - WEST BURLINGTON, AIR CONDITIONER UNIT..... 663.86
 MENKE PROFESSIONAL AUTO PARTS, FILTERS 2,215.55
 MES-MUNICIPAL EMERGENCY SERVICE, HYDRANT WRENCHES 192.80
 MID AMERICAN ENERGY CO., HEAT..... 776.08
 MID-IOWA SOLID WASTE EQUIPMENT, HOSE END..... 747.48
 MIDLAND SCIENTIFIC INC., THERMOMETER 154.78
 MIDWEST SAFETY COUNSELORS, SENSOR..... 956.84
 MIGUEL LANDEROS, NUISANCE..... 3,606.63

MOHRFELD ELECTRIC, REPAIR CIRCUITS/RECEPTACLE..... 160.00
 MOTION INDUSTRIES INC, V-BELT 14.69
 MUNICIPAL SUPPLY COMPANY, VALVES AND SUPPLY PARTS 28,310.50
 MWCNC, CONTROL ARM..... 650.00
 O'REILLY AUTO PARTS, PARTS/BATTERIES/SUPPLIES 346.81
 PARKVIEW VETERINARY CLINIC, RENTAL/VACCINATION .. 1,428.00
 POEPPING STONE & BACH, PROF FEE - PHASE III 700.00
 POSTMASTER, FORT MADISON, WATER BILLS/PAST DUES 1,463.40
 QUALITY FLOW IOWA, INC, INSPECT/CLEAN PUMP 637.22
 QUARRY CREEK ELK AND BISON, BOOT ALLOW - L WILSON 417.15
 RAINBO OIL COMPANY, GREASE..... 402.80
 RATHBUN REG'L WATER ASSOC, WATER 28.09
 RHINO INDUSTRIES, INC., CHEMICALS 1,490.00
 SERVICE MASTER, CLEANING SERVICES 1,311.50
 SHOTTENKIRK SUPERSTORE, TRIM FOR '12 CHEVY 2,315.94
 SUBSURFACE SOLUTIONS, PANEL/CONNECTORS 282.37
 TEAGAN HAMILTON, IPLEDGE PROGRAM 70.00
 TESTAMERICA INC., SLUDGE SAMPLE 486.68
 THACHER TREE CARE, REMOVE TREE @ FD 350.00
 TIM'S REPAIR SHOP, OIL..... 394.14
 TRUCK REPAIR INC., BRADER SOCKET 618.93
 U.S. CELLULAR, PHONES 1,508.01
 UMB BANK, N.A., BOND

INITIATION FEES 500.00
 UPS, SHIPPING... 147.72
 USA BLUE BOOK, EAR PLUGS 518.03
 VEENSTRA & KIMM, INC, PROF FEE - 10TH ST COMBINE SWR 22,618.00
 VISTAPRINT, BI-FOLD BROCHURES..... 455.99
 TOTAL 950,078.67
 GENERAL 30,656.84
 SPECIAL REVENUES 20,779.40
 DEBT SERVICE ... 150.00
 ROAD USE..... 36,847.42
 CAPITAL PROJECTS 730,021.73
 WATER..... 85,275.14
 WASTEWATER 34,195.45
 SOLID WASTE 10,487.33
 AIRPORT..... 483.83
 STORM WATER 1,181.53
 TOTAL 950,078.67

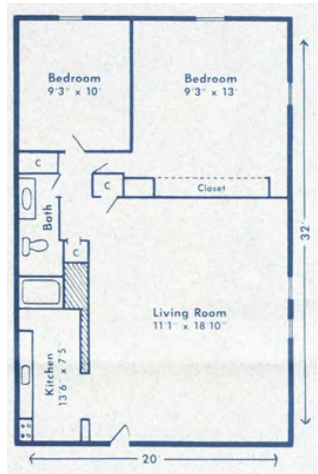
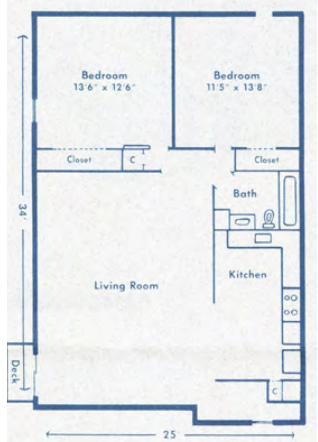
MANUALS - JUNE 2021
 ALLIANT ENERGY, ELECTRIC..... 23,205.87
 AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES, NOTARY STAMP 13.99
 AMAZON.COM, MISC SUPPLIES 174.9
 CENTURY LINK, PHONE 183.85
 DISCOUNT SCHOOL SUPPLY, DUCK TAPE 79.92
 FORT MADISON WATER DEPT, WATER..... 33.87
 HUFFMAN WELDING & MACHINE, HELMET 798.31
 HY-VEE ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE, TRAINING SNACKS/CLEANING SUPPL..... 60.76
 IOWA ONE CALL, LOCATES..... 161.5
 KIESLER'S POLICE SUPPLY, AMMO 1,379.45
 LEE COUNTY TREASURER, RENTAL PENALTY PD THRU TAX SAL 336
 RATHBUN REG'L WATER ASSOC, WATER 28.09
 VERIZON WIRELESS, HOT SPOTS..... 320.08

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

For a job description and to apply, download an application from our county website, www.leecounty.org, or pick them up at the Engineer's office and return your completed application along with a resume to Lee County Engineer, P.O. Box 158, Fort Madison, Iowa 52627, or email it to bhull@leecounty.org and copy it to shartson@leecounty.org. Applications will be accepted until Monday, July 19, 2021 at 3:30 p.m.

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



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Classifieds/Public Notices

PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICES

WELLMARK BC/BS, PREMIUMS.....	92,391.56	130,323.93
WEX BANK, FUEL USAGE.....	11,155.78	
.....	130,323.93	
GENERAL.....	7,438.97	
ROAD USE.....	15218.46	
SPECIAL REVENUES.....	92,566.46	
CAPITAL PROJECTS.....	-5.61	
WATER.....	1,187.29	
WASTEWATER.....	12935.72	
SOLID WASTE.....	886.74	
AIRPORT.....	95.9	

LIBRARY CLAIMS 6/2021

AMAZON.COM, SHELF MATERIAL.....	1,111.53
BAKER & TAYLOR, SHELF MATERIAL.....	1,501.81
BILL ANDERSON, STAIN SHED/GARBAGE CAN.....	540.00
CONTINENTAL FIRE, SPRINKLER FIRE INSPECTION.....	250.00
CULLEN PEST CON-	

TROL, QUARTERLY PEST CONTROL.....	60.00
DE SOLUTIONS, NEW LAMP.....	20.00
DISCOUNT SCHOOL SUPPLY, MISC SUPPLIES.....	254.82
FRANK MILLARD & CO. INC, REPAIR ROOF.....	303.75
HAWK-EYE, NEWSPAPER SUBSCRIPTION.....	192.40
INFOUSA MARKETING, INC, POLK COUNTY DIRECTORY.....	265.00

IOWA LIBRARY ASSOC., ANNUAL CONFERENCE.....	50.00
J&S ELECTRONIC BUSINESS, INK.....	203.16
JL TIME & ATTENDANCE COMPANY, TIME CLOCK.....	998.00
KANOPIY, INC., SHELF MATERIAL.....	54.00
KEMPKERS TRUE VALUE, SHIPPING/STORAGE TOTES.....	251.54
MEDIACOM, PHONE.....	364.68
MICROFILM PRODUCTS	

COMPANY, SUPPLIES.....	250.00
MID AMERICAN ENERGY CO., HEAT.....	50.35
PENGUIN RANDOM HOUSE, SHELF MATERIAL.....	26.25
PETTY CASH - SARAH CLENDING, CLEANING SUPPLIES/SNACKS.....	98.25
QUILL CORPORATION, TONER/TOILET PAPER.....	329.21
SERVICE MASTER OF FORT MADISON, JANI-	

TORIAL SERVICE.....	905.10
YMCA, FORT MADISON POOL RENTAL.....	200.00
TOTAL.....	8,279.85
GENERAL.....	7,893.82
SPECIAL REVENUES.....	386.03
TOTAL.....	8,279.85

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Few reasons to shut the public out

EVANS - Continued from Page 1

the minutes at the commission office or to write to ask to have copies of the minutes mailed to them.

“The law doesn’t require us to do that” is an explanation you often hear from government. Of course, the law doesn’t require meeting room lights be turned on, either, but officials do that without being told.

PUBLIC MEETINGS: The Davis County Board of Supervisors does a very good job of posting its meeting notices and minutes on the county website. In fact, the Iowa Civil Rights Commission could learn from these officials.

The supervisors met on June 14 to approve a contract for building a new entrance to the courthouse. But a meeting notice and agenda were not posted ahead of time online. I know, because I checked the day before the meeting and the day of the meeting.

Slip-ups happen, even when officials have good intentions. But when the Iowa FOI Council pointed out the missing agenda online, the response from the county attorney was frustrating: Iowa law does not require meeting notices and agendas be posted on a government body’s website, and the county complies with legal requirements by posting agendas on the bulletin board inside the courthouse.

During the pandemic, when buildings were closed to walk-in visitors, government websites were the go-to place for citizens wanting to know when meetings would be held. Many people still rely on this convenience.

While Iowa’s public meetings law does not require agendas be online, good constituent service should make this a no-brainer.

REMOTE MEETINGS: For almost a year, boards typically met by video-conference technology because of anxiety about coronavirus. Now that half of eligible Iowans are vaccinated, most boards and councils are back to meeting in person.

I applaud boards giving citizens the choice to “Zoom” in to meetings or to attend in person. Providing the Zoom option makes it possible for the elderly, those without transportation, people with disabilities or people with young children to participate from home.

It is troubling to see government bodies like the Grundy County Board of Supervisors no longer giving people the ability to monitor the board meetings from someplace other than the cramped office in Grundy Center. There is no good reason why “Zoom” access cannot continue — especially when controversial issues like wind turbines are before the supervisors.

I attended a supervisors’ meeting in Grundy Center a few months ago to encourage them to resume offering remote access. During the meeting, it was ironic when an insurance agent was allowed to remain in her office and use “Zoom” to discuss employee disability insurance with the supervisors.

Allowing Zoom “attendance” for the public is good government. Leaders should make it possible for more people to attend, either in person or by Zoom.

ADVISORY COMMITTEES: Davenport residents have been shocked this year by near-weekly shootings there. In one incident, scores of bullets were fired from a downtown parking ramp, breaking windows at the nearby Figge Art Museum and at the Skybridge, a downtown tourist attraction.

The mayor formed a citizen task force to dig into the problem of gun crimes, particularly involving gangs, and make recommendations to city officials. But the committee meetings are not open to the public — even though police regularly plead for citizen help to fight crime.

As I told a Quad-City Times reporter in one of those calls I receive, it is hard to imagine Davenport will be able to make headway against persistent gun violence by shutting the public out from the information-gathering process or the process of making recommendations to the city council or police department.

Yes, the task force is not required by law to meet in public. But nothing prevents those meetings from being open to concerned people — just as the law does not prevent other government bodies from doing more than the bare minimum the law requires.

Randy Evans is the Executive Director of the Iowa Freedom of Information Council and can be reached at DMRevans@gmail.com.

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