

PEN CITY CURRENT

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

Monday, March 29, 2021 | 8 pages | Volume 5 • Issue 70



www.pencitycurrent.com

Hounds win Roth Classic



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg

Fort Madison's Dayton Davis stretches over the high jump bar at Friday's Steve Roth Washington Re-lays. The Hounds won the B Division with 125 points. See inside for the full recap and more photos.



Politics has me rethinking my pizza

I've been thinking a lot about my political leanings lately. But to avoid being boring, I've also been thinking about Ron-DaVoo Pizza a lot, too.

We typically order our pizza in Fort Madison, but every now and then you gotta get some of those creations that Ron Litchfield conjures up in the kitchen on Angular in Burlington.

I'm a bit fickle with my pizza, the deeper the dish and the heartier the crust, the more I'm your friend. But the wonkie politician in me tends to lead toward common sense – like a pepperoni with extra cheese. Simple, effective, and typically mainstream.

At the outset of this political session there have been some things that make me think twice about my preferences.

One thing I don't think twice about is Rita Hart skipping the option to have Iowa's Supreme Court pick a bi-partisan panel of judges to verify the election results for the 2nd District U.S. Representative spot vacated by Dave Loebsack.

Hart, the Democrat, currently stands six votes away from the U.S. House of Representatives. Mariannette Miller-Meeks, the Republican has been seated provisionally with the win. It's a win that was validated by the state's canvass board after the 24 counties in the 2nd District recounted the November election.

Hart did an end-run around the state process and went directly to a House committee based on an age-old law that permits the U.S. House to evaluate the election results and ultimately seat the candidate based on that committee's findings.

Hart and her lawyers know Dems have the numbers in the House to overturn

See PIZZA, page 8

CORONAVIRUS

County seeing uptick again in COVID-19 cases

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

LEE COUNTY – County health officials are reporting 86 new positive cases of COVID-19, the disease caused by the novel coronavirus.

The new cases represent all new cases from Monday afternoon March 22, through Friday afternoon March 26, as the county has reduced reporting new cases to Mondays and Fridays. The 86 represents more than 20 per day this week. The county had multiple days with 0 new cases since the beginning of March leading up to Monday.

According to Lee County Health Department data, the new cases represented an uptick in the county's 14-day positivity rating which is still below 1% to .6%. However, the county's 7-day rate is now back at 1%.

The total number of cases is now 3,860 with 3,565 listed as recovered.

The state's positivity rate is closing in on 5% with a 4.7% 7-day positivity rating as of Saturday morning, and 4.3% 14-day rate. That number has hovered between 4% and 5% for the past 30

See CASES, page 3

United Way annual golf fundraiser set for May 7

PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON – The United Way of the Great River Region will be holding their annual 18-hole outing on Friday, May 7, 2021 at Sheaffer Memorial Golf Course in Fort Madison. Team check in begins at 10 am, boxed

lunch at 11 am and the shotgun start at 12 noon.

"There's lots of room for teams and hole sponsors," says Karen Siefken, Executive Director. "This is going to be a great event! We will still be following the health safety protocols we had in place from last fall's outing. There's

been a lot of progress with getting and keeping folks healthy and we are going to do our part to keep everyone that way. Everything will be outdoors, and masks are welcome. It will be great to kick off a more normal summer and

See GOLF, page 8

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WEATHER

MON 29 Mar.....Clear and Warm, 65° F/ 37° F
TUE 30 Mar.....Overcast, 53° F/ 41° F
WED 31 Mar.....Partly Cloudy, 43° F/ 33° F
IOWA LOTTERY
LOTTO AMERICA 03/27.....3 23 35 50 51, Star Ball: 10, All Star Bonus: 3
LUCKY FOR LIFE 03/25.....3 24 25 37 44, Lucky Ball: 5
MEGA MILLIONS 03/26.....4 25 37 46 67, Mega Ball: 15 Megaplier: 3
PICK 3 03/25, 03/26, 03/27 MIDDAY.....717, 357, 993
PICK 3 03/25, 03/26, 03/27 EVENING.....240, 132, 354
PICK 4 03/25, 03/26, 03/27 MIDDAY.....4 221, 0306, 3078
PICK 4 03/25, 03/26, 03/27 EVENING.....7654, 3795, 6776
POWERBALL 03/27.....6 14 38 39 65, Powerball: 6, Power Play: 3

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OBITUARIES

PAUL E. WILMESMEIER

Paul "Ed" Edward Wilmesmeier, 88, of Fort Madison, IA, passed away at 4:40 a.m. on Friday, March 26, 2021 at the New London Care Center. He was born on August 25, 1932 in Fort Madison, IA to Paul & Bertha Nuebel Wilmesmeier, Sr. He graduated from St.



WILMESMEIER

Joseph's High School, during which time he set bowling pins at the Sheaffer Club House bowling alley. He married Edith Houston on December 4, 1978 in Raritan, IL. He was a technician at the Sheaffer Pen Company in Fort Madison with 47 years of service and he served in the U. S. Army during the Korean War. He was a longtime blood donor and enjoyed mushroom hunting, traveling, cutting down trees, splitting wood, painting, playing golf, Nascar and was a proverbial packrat. He also liked to go out to eat with friends.

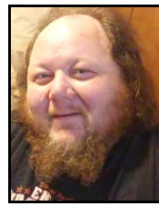
Paul is survived by: 1-daughter: Carol (John) Michaels of Fenton, MO; 3-step daughters: Anna (Brian) Chapin of New London, IA, Kris Schnedler of Cedar Rapids, IA & Vicki (Gene) Sqeskew of Portage, IN; 1-brother: James (Barb) Wilmesmeier of St. Cloud, MN; 4-sisters: Jean Gunn of Fort Madison, IA, Lois (Eugene) Kirchner of Fort Collins, CO, Patricia (David) Wellman of Overland Park, KS & Kay (Dan) Zumdom of Bettendorf, IA; several grandchildren & great grandchildren; his wonderful friend and companion: Margery Haganman of Wapello, IA and several nieces & nephews. He was preceded in death by: his parents, wife & 2-sons: Steve & Mike.



Cremation has been entrusted to the care of King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. A visitation will be held from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. on Monday, April 5, 2021 at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. The memorial service will immediately follow at 10:30 a.m. at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory with Rev. Joseph Phung officiating. Burial will be held at Soldiers' Circle in Oakland Cemetery with military rites performed by the Fort Madison Veterans Honor Guard. A memorial has been established in Ed's name. Online condolences to Ed's family may be left at www.kinglynk.com.

DWIGHT R. WILSON

Dwight Raymond Wilson, 45 years, of Farmington, Iowa died Friday, March 26, 2021 at Mercy Hospital, Iowa City, Iowa. He was born November 30, 1975 in Clearwater, Florida a son of Raymond Sr. and Marjorie (Reynolds) Wilson.



WILSON

Dwight attended Southeastern Community College and was in their automotive program. He was self-employed and did auto mechanic and salvage work. He enjoyed the races, playing video games, and watching movies, but more that anything he loved spending time with his family.

He is survived by his mother, Marjorie Collins of Fort Madison, Iowa; five children: Summer Wilson, Selena Stotts, Shelby Stotts, Dwight Wilson-Cowles, and Erin Wilson-Cowles; his fiance Katrina Bradshaw and her children, Lucas, Elijah, and Alexis; eight brothers and sisters:

Raymond Wilson Jr, Arthur Wilson (Sherry Cooper), John Wilson, Teresa (Frankie) Adams, Jerry (Brandi) Wilson, Tina (Chris) Hageman, Terry Wilson, and Daniel (Diana) Wilson; his maternal grandmother Marjorie Billing; several aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and cousins. He was preceded in death by his father Raymond Wilson Sr, stepfather Henry Collins Jr, paternal grandparents, and two nieces.

Per his wishes his body has been cremated. A private family celebration of his life will be held at a later date. Barr Memorial Chapel is honored to serve the Wilson family and an online guest book may be found at www.barrmemorialchapel.com.

MALISSA D. WEEKS

Malissa "Missy" Dawn Weeks, 49, of Warsaw, passed away on Saturday, March 27, 2021, at Blessing Hospital in Quincy, Illinois.

Missy was born on February 15, 1972, in Keokuk, Iowa, the daughter of Terry Weeks and Maureen Maloney. She graduated from Warsaw High School in 1990, and worked for many years at Methode in Carthage.



WEEKS

Missy was a fixture of the Warsaw community, and you could often find her walking down Main Street or visiting with her friends at the Geode Apartments. Missy had a vibrant and happy personality, and brought joy to everyone wherever she went. In her free time, Missy enjoyed crafting, gardening, mowing and her adult coloring books.

Family was important to Missy, and she cherished the Sundays she spent with her father and the road trips she took with her mother and sister, stopping for Culvers or Frosties along the way. Missy also loved animals, especially dogs.

Missy is survived by her parents Terry (Linda Asher) Weeks and Maureen Mahoney, both of Warsaw; her sister Malinda (David) Beaber of Rome, Iowa; two brothers: Russ (Karla) Weeks of Ottumwa, Iowa and Ryan (Lisa) Weeks of Sutter, Illinois; six nieces and nephews: Brittany (Alex) Howe of Warsaw, Katrina (Josh) Hemminger of Ottumwa, Iowa, Mikayla Weeks of Sutter, Randy (Ashley) Caudron of Galesburg, Illinois, and Devon and Noah Weeks, both of Sutter; and two aunts: Harriet (Dave) Rosenberg of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and Norma Jo Gryp of Pekin, Illinois.

Funeral services will be held at 10:30 am on Thursday, April 1, 2021, at Printy Funeral Home in Warsaw, with burial to follow at Oakland Cemetery in Warsaw. Visitation will be held at the funeral home on Wednesday, March 31, from 2 to 7 pm, with family meeting friends from 5 to 7 pm.

Memorials may be directed to the University of Iowa Stead Family Children's Hospital in Iowa City.

Tributes and condolences may be left at www.printyfuneralhome.com.

Printy Funeral Home of Warsaw is in charge of arrangements.

Obituaries/For the Record

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report

03/25/21 - 10:17 a.m. - Fort Madison Police cited Brandon Joseph Victory, 41, of Fort Madison, in the 3300 block of Avenue N, on a charge of driving under suspension.
 03/25/21 - 12:11 a.m. - Fort Madison Police cited Heather Ann Pierre, 34, of Fort Madison, in the 2700 block of Avenue L., on a charge of driving under suspension.
 03/25/21 - 12:48 p.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Brandon Ray Raszler, 29, of Fort Madison, in the 1700 block of 35th Street on a warrant for failure to appear and driving under suspension. He was taken to Lee County Jail.
 03/25/21 - 2:08 p.m. - Fort

Madison Police arrested Douglas Edward Rhodes, 52, of Keokuk, in the 900 block of Avenue H, on warrants for eluding, failure to obey traffic control devices, driving under suspension, fraudulent registration, and 4th-degree theft. He was taken to Lee County Jail.
 03/25/21 - 2:15 p.m. - Fort Madison Police cited Michael Jacob Cain, 44, of West Point, in the 1900 block of Avenue L, on a charge of driving while barred.
 03/25/21 - 5:27 p.m. - Fort Madison Police cited Alfred Griffen White, 48, of Burlington, in the 1800 block of Avenue H, on a charge of driving under suspension.
 03/25/21 - 8:51 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded

to a report of a hit and run in the 1000 block of Avenue E.

Lee County Sheriff's Report

03/25/21 - 5:18 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Wade Lee Schaffer, 19, of Fort Madison, at the sheriff's office, on a warrant for violation of probation.
 He was held in custody.
 03/26/21 - 4:05 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Steven Kyle Wear, Jr., 39, of Indianola in the 2300 block of 320th Street in Montrose, on charges of operating a vehicle while intoxicated and interfering with official acts causing bodily injury.
All persons in these listings are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

LCHD hotline to close at noon

CASES - Continued from Page 1

days.
 Lee County Health Department will be opening up their COVID Hotline number to continue to schedule appointments for the March 30 COVID Vaccination Clinic at the LCHD Offices (#3 John Bennett Drive) in Fort Madison. This includes those who are 64 and under with certain underlying medical conditions. Some of those conditions include: cancer, chronic kidney disease, COPD, Down Syndrome, heart conditions (heart failure, coronary artery disease, cardiomyopathies), Immunocompromised state (weakened immune system) from solid organ transplant, obesity, pregnancy, Sickle cell disease, smoking, and Type 2 diabetes mellitus.

Anyone who falls in that tier, along with those 65 and over, health care workers, first responders, K-12 school staff, child care staff, tier 2 essential workers (food processing, agricultural production, distribution, manufacturing), and individuals with disabilities living in home settings and their direct care staff can call (319) 376-1077 beginning Monday, March 29 from 8:30 a.m. to noon to schedule an appointment.
 At noon the hotline will be closed the remainder of the day. LCHD asks people wanting to make an appointment to only call the COVID Hotline number, to be patient as phone lines will be busy, and to please not call the main office number. After all appointments are filled a message

will indicate that. Please do not to leave a message with your information as we are no longer establishing a call back waiting list.
 LCHD will continue to update with their website www.leecountyhd.org, their Facebook page, and the media for future clinic time availability.

OBITUARIES

CAROL S. KROPP

Carol Sue Kropp, 81, of Fort Madison passed away at 8:40 PM on Saturday, March 27, 2021 at her son's home.

She was born on February 16, 1940 in Quincy, IL to Harvey and Racheal Phillips Specht. She married Robert Kistner and they later divorced. She then married Harold Kropp on February 4, 1972 and he passed away on February 6, 2006. Carol worked for the Lee County Health Department for thirty four years as a home health aide. She enjoyed reading, doing puzzles and adult coloring books and watching movies. Carol was a hospice volunteer for many years for Lee County Hospice. She loved gorillas and collected gorilla memorabilia. Her greatest love was her family and spending time with them.



KROPP

Survivors include four sons, Lester (Starr) Kistner of Ft. Madison, Gary (Diane) Kropp of Liberty, Mo, Dwayne (Dana) Kistner of Springfield, OR and Roger (Scarlett) Kropp of Clayton, NC; two daughters, Kathy (Bill) Slayton of Washington, DC and Stephanie (John) Warner of Ft. Madison; sixteen grandchildren and nine great grandchildren; six brothers, Paul Specht of Midwest City, OK, Phillip Specht of Mascoutah, IL, David Specht of LaGrange, MO, Frank Specht, Roy Specht and Harold Specht all of Quincy, IL; several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, one brother, Earl and one sister, Margaret.

The funeral service will be held on Thursday, April 1, 2021 at 10:00 AM at King-Lynk Funeral Home and Crematory with Rev. Kyle Sadler officiating. Burial will follow in Moss Ridge Cemetery in Carthage, IL. Friends may call after 2 PM on Wednesday, March 31, 2021 at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory where the family will meet with friends from 4:00-6:00 PM. The family encourages those attending to wear a mask.

A memorial has been established for Lee County Hospice, 2x4 For Hope or the St. Louis Zoo for the Gorilla Habitat. Online condolences may be left at www.kinglynk.com.

Pen City Current obituary policy

Pen City Current runs obituaries one time at no charge to funeral homes and they run the day they are submitted in most cases. They are also run as submitted by the funeral homes. Reposting of obituaries due to changes can only be requested by the submitting funeral home and will be assessed a \$15 reposting fee.

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Sports

Deacon, Johnson, Rhoer all take firsts at Roth Relays

Johnson's 100-meter dash top 5 in all classes at 11:53

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

WASHINGTON – Senior Ethan Deacon, and juniors Tate Johnson and Macaden Rhoer led Fort Madison to a first-place finish in the B Division of the Steve Roth Washington Relays Friday at Case Field Friday night.

The meet was moved to Friday after weather clogged things up on the originally scheduled date of Thursday.

Deacon took first place in the seven-team B division with toss of 45-2 in the shot put, a new personal best, and then scored a 3rd place sling in the discus with a 126-7.

Tate Johnson won the 8th heat of a 9-heat field in the 100-meter dash with an official time of 11.53. His time was top five time in all three classes.

Johnson then sprinted the anchor leg of the Hounds' winning 4 x 200 team (1:35.62) with Brock

Califf running the first leg to Jakob McGowan who handed to Andrew Schaefer, before Johnson cleaned things up.

Coach Mike Schneider was all smiles after the 100 meter dash and said Johnson's just a good kid who works hard.

"I think we could've got another .1 of a second out of him if we had him seeded in the final heat, but he was fast today," Schneider said. "I think he could also get a little better start, but I couldn't be happier with his run. He's just a good, hard working kid.

Macaden Rhoer then captured 1st place in the 400 hurdles in a time of 1:02.90.

The Bloodhounds finished with 125 points to take the B Division. They were without a couple varsity runners Friday with Miles Dear out, and Austin Miller, who qualified for state cross country last year, missing from the distance runs with an injury.

Also placing in the field events, Dayton Davis finished 2nd in the high jump clearing 5-8, a personal best for him. Landes Williams cleared 5-4 which was good for fourth place.

Jakob McGowan jumped his way to 3rd place in the Long Jump leaping 19-3.5. Landes Williams

competed in the High Jump clearing 5-4 good for 4th place. Rounding out the scoring in the field events was Kane Williams placing 6th in the Long Jump leaping 17-5.5, and Cuyrin Ross placing 6th with a Personal Best heave of 38-6.5 in the shot. Ross also threw the Discus 85-9 placing 12th. Jake Perry competed in the Shot Put with a 33-2 mark and Discus (88-11) placing 13th and 10th, respectively.

"We're a relatively young team experience wise, but this group collectively has a lot of potential. We still have work to do, but I saw a lot of good things from our guys last night," said Coach Chad Hannum.

The Shuttle Hurdle Relay team consisting of Kane Williams, Segoviano, Teague Smith, and Henry Wiseman hurdled to a 2nd place finish in a time of 1:18.10.

Garrett Hannum sprinted the quarter in 55.59. Brock Califf ran a 24.71 in the 200 and Rhoer ran in another hurdle race, the 110 High Hurdles with a time of 18.91, all good for 3rd place finishes. Two relays place 3rd – the 4 x 100 team of Gavin Wiseman, Jakob McGowan, Joey Dodson, and Tate Johnson posting a time of 46.09 seconds and the 4 x 400 team of Califf, Rhoer, Davis, and Nick Fullenkamp gutted out a 3rd place finish in a time of 3:51.81.

The Sprint Medley team of Tanner Stoermer, Landes Williams, Joey Dodson, and Dayton Davis sprinted to 4th place finish (1:44.52). Landes Williams also ran a good race in the 400 (57.09) taking 4th. A much improved Gavin Wiseman placed 4th in the 200 (25.05). Younger brother, Henry Wiseman placed 4th in the 110 High Hurdles (19.80). At this meet they run a fun race for our "weight men". Henry Wiseman joined throwers Deacon, Jake Perry Ross in the 4 x 100 where they placed 4th.

Sophomore Kane Williams takes off from the board in his first official long jump of the day Wednesday in Washington. Williams finished 6th in the event with a 17-5.5 leap. Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

The 4 x 800 team made up of three underclassmen John Cottrell, Dane Butler, George Hantzias and led by Junior Hayden Wolfe raced to a 5th place finish in a time of 9:59.24. Also placing 5th was Hayden Segoviano in the 400 Hurdles(1:08.83).

Others competing were: 3200-Will Gager 9th(11:45.46) and Cameron Shutwell 11th(14:14.54), 110 High Hurdles- Segoviano(20.37), 800- Cottrell 8th(2:21.75) and Fullenkamp 12th (2:29.39), 200-Kane Williams (25.53), 400 Hurdles- Teague Smith(1:09.18), and the 1600-Hayden Wolfe 9th (5:24.79), Gager 10th(5:28.23), and Hantzias 12th(6:00.64), 100-Kane Williams 7th(12.20) and Teague Smith 14th(12.92).

The boys run at the 12-team West Burlington Notre Dame Relays on Monday.

Pothitakis Law Firm Recognized for Professional Excellence

Firms included in the 2021 Edition of U.S. News-Best Lawyers "Best Law Firms" are recognized for professional excellence with consistently impressive ratings from clients and peers. To be eligible for a ranking, a firm must first have a lawyer recognized in The Best Lawyers in

America, which recognizes the top 5% of private practicing lawyers in the United States. Achieving a tiered ranking signals a unique combination of quality law practice and breadth of legal expertise. Mr. Pothitakis has been named to The Best Lawyers in America in 2020 and again in 2021.



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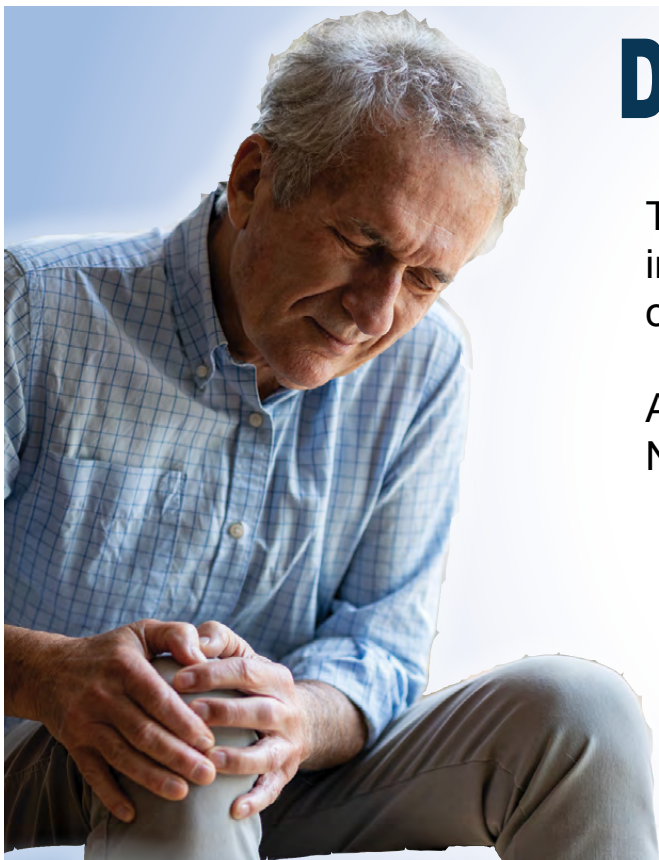
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Sports



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Sophomore Kane Williams takes off from the board in his first official long jump of the day Wednesday in Washington. Williams finished 6th in the event with a 17-5.5 leap.



Fort Madison Junior Tate Johnson blows past a Cedar Rapids Prairie runner as he closes in on the finish line in the 100-meter dash Friday afternoon at Case Field in Washington. Johnson won the "B" division with an official 11.53 and was a top-five placer in all classes at the meet.

Photo by Chuck Vandenberg

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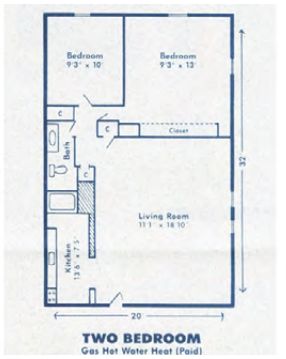
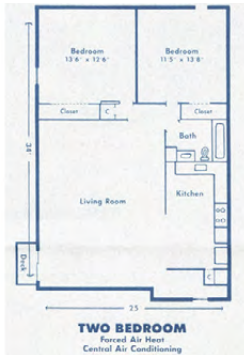
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Classifieds/Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE
Lee County Board of Supervisors Meeting
Mon, March 29, 2021
9:00 AM – 11:00 AM
(CST)
AGENDA

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://global.gotomeet-ing.com/join/473155629>

You can also dial in using your phone.

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Access Code: 473-155-629

If you would like to pose a question to the Board, please use the Chat feature and wait for the

Chairman to address you. If you are participating by phone, please wait until everyone is done speaking before addressing the Board. Please keep your microphone muted to cut down on background noise. If you are participating by phone, press #6, this will mute your phone.

Pledge of Allegiance
 Approve Agenda
 9:01 a.m. Public Hearing to Approve Fiscal Year 2022 County Budget

Consider Approval of Resolution Approving Fiscal Year 2022 County

Budget
 Consider Approval of Resolution Approving Inter-fund Transfer from Rural Basic to Secondary Roads
 Public Input

Consider Approval of Special Event Ambulance Service Policy

Consider Approval of Amendment to Agreement with Federal Engineering for Communication Equipment Project

Consider Approval to Allow Board Chairman to Sign Closing Documents on Refunding Bonds

Consider Approval of Class C Liquor License

for Fat Jimmy's Smokehouse, Montrose

Consider Approval of Class C Liquor License for Sheaffer Memorial Golf Course, Fort Madison

Consider Approval of March 22, 2021 Board Minutes

Consider Approval of Claims

Personnel Actions:
 A. New Hire-Recorder's Office (Replacement) Reports:

A. Manure Management Annual Update for Marvin Holtkamp in Franklin Township

Commission or Committee Reports
 Adjourn

Workshop to Follow

PUBLIC MEETING
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 319-372-3705

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Optimae LifeServices, a progressive mental health provider in Iowa, is seeking qualified individuals to fill a variety of roles working with individuals to achieve life goals in their daily living.

Opportunities include Service Coordinator out of our Burlington office, Site Team Leader out of our Keokuk office, and Direct Support Professionals out of our Keokuk, Fort Madison, and Burlington office.

Applicants can apply in office or online at www.optimaelifeservices.com

For questions, please reach out to HR at 319-237-1730 (Burlington) or 319-372-3566 (Lee Co.)

509 Ave. F, Fort Madison
 208 Bank St., Keokuk
 825 Nth 6th St., Burlington

Volunteer Services/ACS Program Director



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 (formerly RSVP). Ideal candidate will be a self starter, creative, outgoing, have excellent leadership and interpersonal relationship skills; grant management and writing skills; fundraising experience; strong office, computer and bookkeeping 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 April 5, 2021 to: United Way of the Great River Region, PO Box 251, Keokuk, IA 52632 or email director@unitedwaygr.org

NOW HIRING

Lee County Commission on Veteran Affairs Director/Administrator

The Lee County Commission on Veteran Affairs is looking to hire a replacement for our current Director/Administrator. Position includes providing assistance on obtaining benefits and services available to local veterans and their families.

High school diploma or equivalent required. Must be certified or able to obtain certification from Federal and State of Iowa Veteran Affairs. Must have excellent computer skills, valid driver's license, be eligible to work in the United States, reside in or be willing to relocate to Lee County. Must be willing to work flexible hours. Government budget experience is a plus.

Position will start July 6, 2021. Position will be part-time (20 hours per week) until January 1, 2022 then will be a full time position (30 hours per week, per Iowa Code). Certification must be reached by January 1, 2022. Starting wage will be \$14.00/hour and will increase to \$18.00/hour at full time status. Lee County benefits will be available. Veterans will be given preference but all candidates will be considered.

Application and job description may be found online at www.leecounty.org and may also be obtained at the Lee County Auditor's Office, 933 Avenue H Fort Madison Iowa or by calling the Auditor's Office at 319-372-3705 or the Lee County Commission on Veteran Affairs Chairperson at 319-470-9434. Please submit cover letter, resume, and completed County application to:

Lee County Auditor
 933 Avenue H, PO Box 190
 Fort Madison IA 52627
 Or email to dfraise@leecounty.org

Applications accepted through May 1, 2021 at 4:30 p.m.
 Complete background check and post-offer physical required.
 Lee County is an Equal Opportunity Employer



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www.KeywayManagement.com

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Eagle Bluff
APARTMENTS

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 Ft. Madison, IA 52627
 Call for information
319-376-1311

This institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

www.KeywayManagement.com

NOW HIRING LEE COUNTY CERTIFIED EMS PROVIDERS

Lee County is now accepting applications for full and part-time Iowa certified EMS providers. We are a county owned and operated ambulance service providing emergency services to Lee County, Iowa as well as critical care transport services. Our primary full-time schedule is based on a 24-48 rotation with a Kelly Day, flexible scheduling for part-time employment. Strong progressive protocols, new fleet power load equipped. Starting wage EMT \$15.82 per hour, \$42,777.28 per year. Starting wage paramedic \$20.16 per hour, \$54,512.64 per year, based on a 48-hour full-time work week. 2% wage increases annually for three years. 10 cents per hour increase for every year of EMS experience after your first year. Benefit package includes health insurance through Blue Cross Blue Shield (80/20 plan), chiropractic, prescription plan, annual wellness, vision, dental, life, protection class IPERS, optional 401K, Aflac, Lee County Credit Union. Annual uniform allowance provided. In house continuing education provided. Positions will start July 1, 2021.

Paramedic Qualifications:

- High School Diploma (GED or High School Equivalence Certificate)
- Current IDPH-BETS EMS Certification at the Paramedic level
- Valid Driver's License/insurable
- Current BLS
- Current ACLS
- Current PALS

EMT Qualifications:

- High School Diploma (GED or High School Equivalence Certificate)
- Current IDPH-BETS EMS Certification at the EMT level
- Valid Driver's License/insurable
- Current BLS

Applicants must be eligible to work in the U.S. Veterans will be given preference but all candidates will be considered. Applications and job descriptions may be found online at www.leecounty.org and may be also obtained at the Lee County Auditor's Office, 933 Avenue H, Fort Madison Iowa. Applications accepted through April 5, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. Complete background check, drug screening and post-offer physical required. Lee County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Please mail or email applications to or for more information:



Lee County EMS
 Attn: Dennis Cosby, EMS Director
 933 Avenue H, PO Box 190
 Fort Madison, Iowa 52627
dcosby@leecounty.org

From the Front

State partnerships making finding vaccines easier by the day

PIZZA - Continued from Page 1

Miller-Meeks' win. At issue is about 22 ballots in question that Hart said should be counted and could potentially overturn Miller-Meeks' win.

There's no doubt that every single valid vote should be counted.

The problem here is that it is very likely a political party will be the one determining what ballots are legit. That shouldn't be the way it works. Just like pineapple shouldn't be on your Canadian Bacon and mushroom pizza.

Election laws should begin and end in the state that are being cast - save for the unheard of dead tie.

Rita Hart needs to let this go. Even if she finds seven more votes, there will be a crazy loud and legitimate claim that Dems stole the election. We're saturated with that. If Hart had gone to the state court review, which in all fairness could have had a Republican tilt to it, she would look better in the long run - and in two years.

It was the closest election in the nation this cycle and there's always going to be that deeper hurt when it feels like some votes weren't counted properly that could've swayed the decision. There's no guarantee that the votes break Hart's way and there's no guarantee they won't. But what will be guaranteed is more divisiveness.

This could be a chance to heal some wounds.

It's also not lost on me the hypocrisy in Republicans threatening social media companies with footprints in Iowa, that pull down posts from public officials while at the same time and sometimes even on the same day,

those same Republican want to legislate what can and can't be said in state diversity trainings.

The learning curve on Republican election re-calibration bills has been very small with limiting early and absentee voting laws in Iowa. They claim it's security, but that's just window dressing. Don't use that window dressing in your bedroom or bathroom because you can see right through it.

This is an election re-calibration to remove some of the obstacles the GOP pointed to on a national scale in very, very close elections. This last cycle points to the emotion we have as a nation as to what direction we should head.

I was disappointed in President Joe Biden's treatment of a journalist this week who asked about the situation at the border and when he was planning to fix it. The President asked her if her question was serious? More of this garbage? That's a real situation and every question is serious.

But I've been overwhelmingly impressed with his ability to foster a partnership with competitors Merck and Johnson & Johnson to churn out vaccinations at an unheard of pace. Biden went from asking for 100 million doses by May to 200 million. And he's gonna get them. Let's hope we don't hiccup in the haste.

Many people have reached out to Pen City Current to help get the word out about extra vaccine openings at pharmacies around the area.

But we can, and do, update regularly the Lee County Health Department's efforts, hotline and vaccination openings. It's safe to say at this point, that a little bit

of early morning energy can just about find anyone a vaccination at this point, within a week or two. Maybe quicker.

I got my first shot two weeks ago in Hamilton at the Hy-Vee there. I took my daughter just in case there was something I needed to have her to drive home for. I asked if they had extra that day. She didn't have any underlying conditions, but she was here. They said they did have extra and she got her vaccine and was scheduled for her next one.

I've heard that Hy-Vee's actually make announcements in the stores that if anyone hasn't had the vaccine, they have extra and come back to the pharmacy. If you want a vaccine, and everyone should to insulate all of us, they really are getting easier and easier to find.

I made the trip to Washington to Case Field for the first outdoor track meet of the year. The season was canceled last year. Hearing Mike Jay announce the game was as fresh a reminder of the season as the spring breeze that blew in from the southwest. Jay, from Columbus Junction, is the public address guy for the state cross country meet and state track meet in Des Moines.

Being out was good and seeing Dayton Davis hanging in midair slipping over the high jump bar, and Tate Johnson opening some eyes in the last 25 meters of the 100-meter dash, brought a smile to my masked face. You can see it in my eyes - But that's Beside the Point.

Chuck Vandenberg is the editor/co-owner of Pen City Current and can be reached at editor@pencitycurrent.com.

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Still spots open for UW outing

GOLF - Continued from P.1

get outside to enjoy some golf. We're going to have some great Silent Auction baskets available along with a mystery raffle, 50/50 raffle, and fun hole games."

Team registration is \$400.00. This includes 4-person team, carts, boxed lunch, grab-and-go dinner, mulligans and drinks. Hole Sponsorships are \$100.00. The sponsorship includes hole/flag sign and a chance to be present at the course to promote your business. Hospitality Sponsorships are also available for \$300. There is room for more \$1,000 Corporate Sponsors also. "We want to thank American Eyecare, Fort Madison Community Hospital, Memorial Hospital in Carthage and Mississippi Valley Publishing our current Corporate Sponsors," said Siefken.

To sign up for the United Way Golf Outing or to donate an auction or prize item, click here: <https://unitedwaygrr.org/golf/>, or contact Karen Siefken at 319-524-4504, or director@unitedwaygrr.org.