

PEN CITY CURRENT

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

Monday, January 10, 2022 | 8 pages | Volume 6 • Issue 15



www.pencitycurrent.com



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Wever's Joe Lemberger shares samples of wine at the Newberry Senior Center in Fort Madison Friday afternoon. Lemberger gave a lesson on wine making and provided samples and bottles to those in attendance. The event was sponsored by The Madison in Fort Madison who does regular programming at the senior center.



Being a Wing Nut harkens a better time

This holiday was a short one. It seems like it came and went very fast.

People I see out and about ask me how my holidays were and I've said repeatedly this year that it was nice and easy.

We went back to my family's for Christmas after taking last year off. It would have been too hard to be part of something Kelsey loved so much.

We fought through it this year. We gave our niece a collection of books that were Kelsey's favorites and Lee started to weep. It was one of my favorite, and least favorite, moments of day.

The funny part of that whole thing is that Lee gave this child homework for Christmas. She has to write a book report for each book she reads. Each book report triggers a \$5 donation to an American Girls doll. She gave her our niece Amelia homework for Christmas.

My other favorite part of the holiday is my daughter Taylor is an avid West Wing fan. Aaron Sorkin is the creator of the show and in tighter Sorkin circles, we're called Wing Nuts.

That's funny, too.

So for the past two weeks we've been slowly working our way back through the seven-season series. The series was actually created to feature the role of Rob Lowe as Sam Seaborn, but Martin Sheen was so endearing as President Josiah Bartlet, that the whole track of the show changed.

I'm a Wing Nut.

The show brings me back to my Democratic roots, and that's a bit of a problem right now in Lee County. The Republicans in the county are buttoned down and rolling, and a candidate with an R next to their name on a ballot is in a good position right now.

See **SHOW**, page 8

Iowa official says state won't enforce OSHA mandate

BY PCC STAFF

DES MOINES – Friday, the U.S. Supreme Court heard oral arguments related to the OSHA Vaccine Mandate and has not yet issued a decision in the case. But as required by federal regulations, Iowa Labor Commissioner Rod Roberts has submitted a notice that Iowa will not be adopting or enforcing the mandate.

"As a state plan state, the Iowa Division of Labor is charged with protecting the health and safety of those in the workplace and has the authority to enforce workplace safety and health standards for Iowa businesses," explained Commissioner Roberts.

"Iowa doesn't have a standard requiring the Covid-19 vaccine or testing. But after closely reviewing the federal OSHA Vaccine Mandate, Iowa has determined it will not adopt the federal standard. Iowa has concluded that it

is not necessary because Iowa's existing standards are at least as effective as the federal standard change."

In response to Commissioner Roberts' decision, Gov. Reynolds has released the following statement:

"I applaud Commissioner Roberts' decision," said Gov. Reynolds. "We are going to continue to protect the freedoms and liberties of Iowans. The Biden Administration continues to ignore the constitutional rights afforded to all Americans, which our country was built on. Instead, they'd rather dictate health care decisions and eliminate personal choice, causing our businesses and employees to suffer and exacerbating our workforce shortage."

With Commissioner Roberts' decision, Iowa OSHA will not be enforcing the federal OSHA Vaccine Mandate. Iowa employers and their employees are not required to comply with the federal OSHA Vaccine Mandate.

IOWA NEWS

Burlington's Schier appointed next 8B judge

BY PCC STAFF

DES MOINES– Gov. Kim Reynolds today announced her appointment of Joshua Schier as a district court judge in Judicial Election District 8B.

Schier, of Burlington, Iowa, currently practices law with the Cray Law Firm in Burlington. Schier received his bachelor's and master's degrees from Western Illinois University and his law degree from the University of Iowa College of

Law.

Schier fills the vacancy created by the upcoming retirement of District Court Judge Mark Kruse. Judicial Election District 8B includes Des Moines, Henry, Lee, and Louisa counties.

INDEX

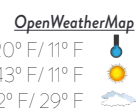
Business Directory.....P.7
CLASSIFIEDS.....Ps.5-7
 Complete Rental.....P.2
 Connection Bank.....P.2
FROM THE FRONT.....P.8
 Fullenkamp Insurance.....P.3
 Lee County Health Department.....P.4
OBITUARIES.....Ps.2-3
 • Stanley J. Barrows Sr., 68

OBITUARIES.....Ps.2-3
 • Robert E. Benton, 76
 • Kayden A. Nott, infant
 • Barbara J. Troutman, 84
 • Floyd Welch, 97
OPINION.....P.8
 Pen City Current.....Ps.2-3,7
 Pothitakis Law Firm, P.C.P.3
 Public Notices.....Ps.5-7

RonDavoo.....P.8
 SeizeTheAwkward.org.....P.4
 Southeast Iowa Regional Airport.....P.8
SPORTS.....Ps.4,8
 StopTextsStopWrecks.org.....P.6
 Trailways Travel.....P.8

WEATHER

MON 10 JanClear & Cold, 20° F/ 11° F
 TUE 11 JanClear Skies, 43° F/ 11° F
 WED 12 JanScattered Clouds, 42° F/ 29° F



IOWA LOTTERY

LOTTO AMERICA 01/08.....5 6 34 37 50, Star Ball: 5, All Star Bonus: 2
 LUCKY FOR LIFE 01/08.....10 32 44 45 47, Lucky Ball: 16
 MEGA MILLIONS 01/07.....7 29 43 56 57, Mega Ball: 6 Megaplier: 3
 PICK 3 01/06, 01/07, 01/08 MIDDAY.....4 7 5, 3 2 3, 4 0 3
 PICK 3 01/06, 01/07, 01/08 EVENING.....2 6 5, 8 2 5, 8 0 6
 PICK 4 01/06, 01/07, 01/08 MIDDAY.....8 0 9 4, 2 5 6 0, 6 1 6 2
 PICK 4 01/06, 01/07, 01/08 EVENING.....9 6 1 4, 9 4 3 9, 4 8 3 5
 POWERBALL 01/08.....20 21 36 60 65, Powerball: 13, Power Play: 10

SUBSCRIBE

Scan the code to subscribe today
 Paid & Free Options Available!



Obituaries

OBITUARIES

STANLEY J. BARROWS, SR.

Stanley James Barrows, Sr., 68, of Bonaparte, Iowa, passed away at 8:12 a.m. Tuesday, January 4, 2022, at his home in Bonaparte.

He was born on May 12, 1953, in Oneonta, New York, the son of Kenneth Leroy and Pearl Leona (Warner) Barrows. He was married to Gale Emma Vermeesch, who preceded him in death.

Survivors include his children: Lena Tuttle Barrows, Melissa Carlson Barrows, Peggy Barrows, Crystal Becker, Stanley Barrows, Jr., John (Colleen) Stuzman, James Humphrey, and Amanda Money Penny; several grandchildren and great grandchildren; brothers and sisters: Elwood (Janice) Barrows, Lloyd Barrows, Janet (Steve Cross) Burke, Kathy Casey, Jack (Grace) Barrows and Karen (Larry) Bevard. Also surviving are several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; loving wife: Gale; three grandchildren; brother Kenneth Barrows; brother-in-law: JR Burke and three son-in-laws: Shane Tuttle, Gary Carlson and Lewie Greer.

Stanley enjoyed puzzles, playing cards, going to auctions and sale barns, spending time with his family and friends. His grandchildren were of utmost importance to him.

The family will receive friends from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Monday, January 10, 2022, at Schmitz Funeral Home in Farmington.

A funeral service will be held at 11:00 a.m. Monday, January 10, 2022, at Schmitz Funeral Home in Farmington with Pastor Sally Barrett officiating.

Burial will be at the Bonaparte, Cemetery.

A memorial has been established in his memory and can be mailed to the family at: Crystal Becker, P.O. Box 87, Bonaparte, Iowa 52620.

Online condolences may be made to the family at www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com. Schmitz Funeral Home of Farmington is assisting the family with arrangements.

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.

OBITUARIES

BARBARA J. TROUTMAN

Barbara J. "Barb" Troutman, 84, of Fort Madison, formerly of Bonaparte, Iowa, passed away at 2:40 p.m. Sunday, January 2, 2022, at Southeast Iowa Regional Home Health and Hospice in West Burlington, Iowa with daughter Sherri and son Bob by her side.



TROUTMAN

She was born on December 11, 1937, in Bonaparte, Iowa, at her parent's home. She was the daughter of Louis, Sr. and Bessie (Winters) Parker. On June 9, 1954, she married the love of her life, Gerald "Bud" Troutman. He preceded her in death on December 16, 2016, after sixty-two years of marriage.

Survivors include her daughter: Sherri (Armando) Hernandez of Fort Madison, Iowa; two sons: Robert (Deb) Troutman of Keosauqua, Iowa and Dennis (Peggy) Troutman of Bonaparte, Iowa; nine grandsons; seven great granddaughters; four great grandsons and many nieces and nephews. She is also survived by her sister: Beverly (Dan) Medaris of Bonaparte, Iowa; brothers: Ron (Kim) Parker of Fort Madison, Iowa and Rick (Lori) Parker of Salem, Iowa.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband; sister: Carolyn Morris and three brothers: Louis Jr. (Margaret) Parker, Gary (Selma) Parker and Don (Sandy) Parker.

Barbara was a 1955 graduate of Bonaparte High School. She was a lifelong member of the Bonaparte Presbyterian Church. Barbara and her husband Bud ran a Service Station in Bonaparte, Iowa for over sixty-two years. During the sixty-two years of business, Barb and Bud met hundreds of people and enjoyed many generations of each family. She especially enjoyed spending time with her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Her body has been entrusted to the Crematory of Schmitz Funeral Homes for cremation.

An open visitation will be held at 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, Saturday, January 8, 2022, at Schmitz Funeral Home in Farmington. The family will not be present due to COVID restrictions.

A graveside service will be held at 1:00 p.m. Saturday, January 8, 2022, at the Bonaparte Cemetery in Bonaparte with rev. ellis andrews officiating.

A memorial has been established in her memory for the Bonaparte Cemetery and can be mailed to the family at: Schmitz Funeral Home, PO Box 56, Donnellson, Iowa 52625.

Online condolences may be made to the family at www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com. Schmitz Funeral Home of Farmington is assisting the family with arrangements.

Winter Has Come

15% OFF

Snow Removal Equipment



Complete Rental
5636 Avenue O, Fort Madison
319-372-8105



Images for reference only. Actual product may vary.

www.CompleteRentalFM.com

Mention this ad at time of reservation.

Not valid with any other discounts. Offer expires January 31, 2022.

Got a news tip?
Call Chuck
(319)371.1670

Follow Us @pencitycurrent



CONNECTION BANK

We've got this.

www.myconnectionbank.com

Burlington • Fort Madison • Montrose • Keokuk

Member FDIC

Charles Vandenberg, Editor

(319).371.1670

charles.v@pencitycurrent.com

Lee K. Vandenberg, Sales Manager

(319).371.4125

lee.v@pencitycurrent.com

Copyright © 2022 by Pen City Current

All published materials are property of Pen City Current and cannot be used without express written permission.

PEN CITY CURRENT

It's Black & White and Read all over

Member LION Publishers

www.lionpublishers.com



Pen City Current, www.PenCityCurrent.com, and Pen e-Saver are products of Market Street Publishing, LLC. Pen City Current is published Monday through Friday mornings by 6AM.

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

Obituaries

OBITUARIES

ROBERT E. BENTON

Robert (Bob) E. Benton, 76 of Lewistown, MO, passed away peacefully, surrounded by family, on Sunday, January 2, 2022. He was born September 13, 1945 in Bartow, FL, to Edith and Boragard Benton.



BENTON

Bob was a compassionate and loving husband, father, grandfather and friend. He served his country as a veteran of the U.S. Navy.

Bob loved traveling and finding adventure with his family, and making his children and grandchildren laugh. He also loved NASCAR, model railroading and hiking and canoeing, all the while capturing the beauty of our country with his photography wherever he went.

Most of all, he loved.

He is survived by his wife, Jamie Bowles of Lewistown, MO, and his previous wife, Rose Mary Pasciuta. Bob is also survived by two daughters, Rochelle Mester (A.J.) of Brandon, FL, and Robyn Henke (Andrew Widell) of Odessa, FL, stepchildren, Cecilee Radel (Adam) of Keokuk, IA, and Otis Houston (Emily Miller) of Portland, OR, granddaughters, Riley Campbell and Everly Mester, and Eva and Erica Radel, sister-in-law, Marcia Howren (Max) of Mobile, AL, cousin, James Bradford (Charlotte) of Smyrna, TN, nieces and nephews. He is also survived by his loyal beagle, Blue.



There will be no memorial service at this time, but a gathering of remembrance will be announced for spring 2022. He will be laid to rest at the Durham Cemetery in Durham, MO.

Memorial donations may be sent to St. Jude Children's Hospital.

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.

OBITUARIES

KAYDEN A. NOTT

Kayden Andrew Nott, infant son of Bryant Nott and Hannah Dooley passed away on Tuesday, January 4, 2022 at the OSF Saint Francis Medical Center in Peoria, IL.

Kayden was born at 5:29 a.m., Thursday, December 16, 2021 at Memorial Hospital in Carthage, IL. Besides his parents, Kayden was also welcomed into this world by his two brothers, Malakye Nott of Hamilton, IL and Maddyen Nott of Keokuk, IA, maternal grandparents, Rick and Brandy Dooley of Hamilton, IL, paternal grandparents, Michael Nott of Galesburg, IL and Heather Beckner of Dallas City, IL, maternal great-grandparents, Craig and Bonnie Brisby of Montrose, IA and Jerry and Kathy Woodworth of Warsaw, IL, paternal great-grandparents, Rebecca Nott of Galesburg, IL and Ronald and Kathy Beckner of Bushnell, IL and great-great-maternal grandpa, Jack Brisby. He is also survived by five aunts and uncles, Tyler and Kylee Dooley, Chase Dooley, Jackson Dooley, Madison Dooley all of Hamilton, IL and Brandon and Megan Nott of Cedar Rapids, IA and one cousin, Kaislee Dooley.



NOTT

He was preceded in death by his great-great maternal grandmother, Shirley Brisby, great-great-maternal grandparents, Melvin and Ann Kisor and great-great paternal grandmother, Virginia Link.

From the moment Kayden was expected, he captured the hearts of his family. He was a beautiful baby boy who touched the lives of so many in such of brief time. He will lovingly be remembered forever in the hearts of his family.

A visitation will be held from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m., Sunday, at the Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk, IA with family meeting with friends at that time. A private family service will be held at a later date.

Memorials may be made to the family.

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

FLOYD WELCH

Floyd Welch, 97, of Fort Madison, Iowa passed away on Tuesday, January 4, 2022 at 8:00 pm at Aspire of Donnellson, Donnellson, Iowa. He was born in



WELCH

Macon, Missouri on September 29, 1924, to Edgar and Letha (Lucas) Welch. On February 2, 1948 he married Hazel McGlothlin at the Santa Fe Methodist Church in Ft. Madison.

Floyd was a veteran of the United States Army, serving in World War II. He made his career and supported

his family working as a conductor for the Santa Fe Railroad for 40 years. Floyd was a member of the First Assembly of God and was baptized. He was a believer in God and accepted Jesus into his life and heart. He was a lifelong member of the Kaaba Shriners in Fort Madison.

Survivors include his children: Ron Welch, Sharon (Jack) Snodgrass, Sheila (Larry) Ayers and Janet (Ivan) Stottmeister; twelve grandchildren: Veronica Welch, Theresa Potter, Jessica Gruener, Stacy Welch, Michael Tabor, Sherry Tabor, Philip Tabor, Jeff Rehm, James Rehm, Melissa Navntoft, Liz Ross and Ross Stottmeister; nineteen great grandchildren, two great great grandchildren; one sister Alice O'Donnell of Texas, several nieces and nephews.



He was preceded in death by the love of his life, Hazel Welch, his loving parents, two sisters and two brothers.

Services for Floyd will be held at the Barr Memorial Chapel, Fort Madison on Monday, January 10, 2022. Viewing will begin at 10:00 am Monday morning with the services starting at 10:30 am with Military Hon-

ors (inside the funeral home) followed by a Funeral Service, with Pastor Preston Smith, officiating. Burial will be at Oakland Cemetery, Fort Madison. Friends are invited to join the family for a meal at the Nazarene Church in Montrose following the burial. A memorial has been established, contributions may be left at or mailed to Barr Memorial Chapel, 1919 Ave F, Fort Madison, Iowa 52627. Barr Memorial Chapel is honored to serve the Welch family and an online guest book may be found at www.barrmemorialchapel.com.

Follow Us
@pencitycurrent



Proud to Provide Exceptional Service and Professional Excellence Since 1963



Home • Auto • Commercial
Bonds • Farm • Crop
Health • Life • Disability

FULLENKAMP INSURANCE



307 5th Street West Point
319-837-6178 or 800-292-2208
Monday through Friday 7:30-5
& Saturday 8:30-11 or by appointment
www.FullenkampIns.com



Fighting to get you
the compensation
you deserve.



ACCIDENT & INJURY LAW

320 North 3rd Street, Suite 100, Burlington, Iowa 52601-0337
1603 Main Street, Keokuk, IA 52632

www.PothitakisLaw.com

Sports

Bloodhound boys stay perfect over weekend

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Fort Madison's Dayton Davis gets a block on a Central Lee shot in the first quarter of Saturday's 89-20 win over the Hawks.

DONNELSON – Central Lee coach Kritter Hayes said the Fort Madison basketball program is something he'd like to emulate.

Hayes' Hawks were humbled by the Bloodhounds Saturday night in an 89-20 non conference matchup at Central Lee High School.

It was all Fort Madison after Central Lee's Brayden Wyrick got two of the Hawks' five total offensive rebounds on the night on the Hawks' first possession to go up 2-0.

After that Fort Madison senior Miles Dear, who finished with 21 points on the night, hit a 3-ball from just right of center to give the Hounds a lead they would never give up.

A stifling full quarter press that had all five of the Hounds lineup in front of the timeline resulted in three consecutive steals from senior Dayton Davis working the front of the press. Davis scored 10 of the Hounds next 12 points off steals in the press.

Davis led all scorers with 29 points on the night.

Fort Madison jumped out to a 32-5 first quarter lead and Bloodhounds' head coach Ryan Wilson went right to the bench.

The Hounds are ranked 9th in the latest AP poll in Class 3A. Central Lee is still looking for its first win of the year.

Wilson said the Hawks are very young and learning, but the game allowed

him some opportunities that don't always come along.

"I told the guys before the game, the first half we're going to play our basketball. We kinda called it off in the second

quarter, but we were still able to do things," Wilson said.

"They're 0-8 and struggling and they're young. It's nice to have those opportunities where everybody gets to play, especially after a grinder of a conference game last night."

The Hounds pushed the lead to 51-8 at the half holding Central Lee to just three second quarter points. The Hawks couldn't put a run together in the second half as Fort Madison subbed liberally getting 11 players in on the scoring.

Leif Boeding also was in double figures for Fort Madison with 10.

Wyrick led Central Lee with six points.

Hayes said the Hawks are getting better at handling pressure, but the Hounds were at a different level with Davis causing chaos at the front end.

"He's just a great basketball player," Hayes said. "I told our guys before the game that if I were to emulate a program, they would be something we could aspire to be."

"They know how to

play basketball and our guys are starting to figure it out. But we didn't back down at all. It is what it is at this point and they're giving their all."

Wilson said the Hounds won't always have that kind of success pressing other teams, but when it works it's a handful for opponents.

"(Davis) does what he does in that press. Not every night will he be that successful in the press, but he sparked that 11-2 run to get us going."

Fort Madison takes on Burlington in a huge Southeast Conference matchup this Friday in Burlington. The Grayhounds are 6-5 overall but have faced some larger 4A schools and are coming off a 48-45 win over West Burlington Saturday.

In the jayvee contest, Fort Madison won 63-19. Boeding had 15 in the win, and Hunter Cresswell put in 14 for the Bloodhounds.

Central Lee will be looking to get its first win of the year on Tuesday when they travel to Van Buren (1-8). They host West Burlington on Friday night.

HTC girls rack up 70 in win over Tigers

BY PCC STAFF

NEW LONDON – Mary Kate Bendlage put up 22 points in HTC's 70-23 win over New London in girls Southeast Iowa Superconference action Friday night.

The Crusaders sit at 7-2 in conference action and are in 3rd place in the south division behind 5th-ranked Burlington Notre Dame and West Burlington.

New London fell behind 26-5 in the first quarter as Bendlage got off to a quick start with 12 first-quarter points.

HTC then clamped down on the Tigers allowing just two points in the second quarter pushing to a 47-7 lead at the half.

It was much of the same in the 2nd half with Holy Trinity giving up just 16 points in the half, while putting up 38 points on the Crusader end.

Natalie Randolph scored 17 including four 3-pointers and Kayla Box had 11 in the win.

Teagan Snaadt had six, Raquel Schneider and Reagan Holvoet each had four, Mary Hellige hit a 3-ball in the fourth quarter for her three points, while Jenna DiPrima had two and Brooke Mueller scored one to round out the Crusader scoring.

The Crusaders (7-4) travel to Mt. Pleasant Monday night.

You good?

Reach out to a friend about their mental health.

Find more ways to help at SeizeTheAwkward.org

SEIZE THE AWKWARD   

We're in this Together.

Protect your family & community:

- COVER COUGHS & SNEEZES
- STAY HOME WHEN ILL
- WASH HANDS OFTEN

LEE CHD

#3 John Bennett Drive
Fort Madison
www.leecountyhd.org
(319) 372.5225

Classifieds/Public Notices

SHOP Classifieds

PLACE YOUR AD ONLINE AT WWW.PENCITYCURRENT.COM OR CALL (319)371.4125

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE MEETING NOTICE

Lee County Conference Board Chairman, Matt Pflug has scheduled a Conference Board meeting at the North Lee County Office Building, 933 Ave H, Fort Madison, Ia on Thursday, January 27, 2022 at 6:00p.m. This meeting can be attended in person or electronically.

Lee County Assessor and EMA Budget workshops Thu, Jan 27, 2022 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CST)

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

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/688675509>

You can also dial in using your phone.

United States: +1 (872) 240-3412

Access Code: 688-675-509

New to GoToMeeting? Get the app now and be ready when your first meeting starts: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/install/688675509>

AGENDA

Roll Call
Approve Agenda
Approval of the August 12, 2021 Conference Board Minutes

Motion to Approve the new Assessor's Pay Grid for hourly staff

Motion to Approve to pay the 2021 longevity in July 2022

Motion to Approve Lee County Policies for Assessors Office

Discussion of the 2022-2023 Proposed Budget

Motion to Approve the preliminary 2022-2023 budget and set public hearing date

Roll Call
Motion to Adjourn

PUBLIC NOTICE
Lee County, Iowa
Board of Supervisors
Agenda
DATE: Monday,
January 10, 2022
MEETING

CONVENING TIME:
10:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.
(CDT)

LOCATION:
933 Avenue H
Fort Madison, IA

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

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/927173261>

You can also dial in using your phone.

United States: +1 (872) 240-3212

Access Code: 927-173-261

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
Public Input

Consider Approval of 28E Agreement with City of Fort Madison Regarding Maintenance of X32 Along PORT Trail

Consider Second Reading and Possible Waiving of Third Reading of Voting Precinct Ordinance

Consider Agreement with City of Fort Madison for Combined Voting Precincts

Consider Approval of Agreement with Physician's Claims Company Ambulance Billing Service

Consider Approval of Resolution Transferring Funds from Rural Basic to Secondary Roads

Consider Approval of Tax Abatement Resolutions (2)

Consider Approval of January 3, 2022 Board Minutes

Consider Approval of Claims

Personnel Actions:

A. Step Increase-Secondary Roads

Reports:

A. Auditor's Report of Fees Collected

B. Treasurer's Report of Fees Collected

C. Commission of Veteran Affairs Minutes of Meeting

D. Treasurer's Semi Annual Report

Commission or Committee Reports

Adjourn

Workshop to Follow

PUBLIC MEETING
CITIZENS WELCOME

Vision and hearing assistance available upon request

Contact Title VI

Administrator

319-372-3705

County Website:

www.leecounty.org

PUBLIC NOTICE IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES NEW CONSTRUCTION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Notice to Bidders Iowa Department of Natural Resources

Sealed bids will be received by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Engineering Bureau, at the Wallace State Office Building, 502 East 9th Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0034 until 11:00 A.M., January 20, 2022 for the public improvement projects listed below, at which time they will be opened publicly. In addition to attending the bid opening in person, interested parties may also call in to the following number to listen to the bid opening:

Conference call number: +1 (484) 416-2391
PIN: 133 543 968#

In order to improve sound quality, please mute your phone by pressing *6. If you have questions, you can unmute your phone by pressing *6.

Please Note: emailed bids will no longer be accepted; all bids must be submitted via hard copy originals

If you intend to hand-deliver your sealed Bid Proposal and Proposal Guarantee Bond, you will need to enter the Wallace Building through the main entrance/front doors. This is the only entrance open to the public. Upon arrival, please use the phone by the sliding glass doors that lead to the front elevators, to call the front desk and a DNR Receptionist will come down to obtain the sealed bid documents and to date and time stamp them. On the bid opening day, a DNR Receptionist will be available in the lobby to receive sealed bid documents and to date and time stamp them upon arrival. No bids shall be accepted by FAX OR EMAIL. After the bid opening, information concerning bid results may be obtained by visiting the Department's website at www.iowadnr.gov.

Note: The United States Postal Service (USPS) does not deliver mail or packages directly to the address provided above but rather to the Capitol Complex Mail Room. Extra time should be allotted for proposals sent by the USPS. The Iowa Department of Natural Resources shall not consider bids if they are not received by the Department of Natural Resources, either at its mail room or at its Fourth Floor Reception Desk, by the time and date described in this Notice to Bidders, regardless of whether the bid was mailed prior to that time and date or whether the bid was received at the Capitol Complex Mail Room or other state government location prior to that time and date.

Project documents, including drawings, specifications, proposal forms and addenda items for

the project are available at Beeline and Blue, at 2507 Ingersoll Ave., Des Moines, Iowa 50312. Please visit www.beelineandblue.com or contact (515) 244-1611 for more information. Alternatively, Bid Documents can be viewed or printed online at <https://programs.iowadnr.gov/engreal/projectlist.asp>

The Department shall comply with all public improvement procurement laws, as outlined in the plans and specifications and including but not limited to: Iowa Code chapter 26 related to public construction bidding; Iowa Code chapter 73 related to preferences; Iowa Code chapter 573 related to labor and materials on public improvements; rules promulgated by the Department of Administrative Services – General Services Enterprise as they may apply; rules promulgated by the Department of Natural Resources and the Natural Resources Commission, as they may apply; and any federal statutes, rules and/or executive orders that may be associated depending on funding sources. Bidders shall comply with these laws to be considered and are encouraged to be familiar with public improvement procurement requirements and the bidding documents before submitting a bid.

Each bidder shall accompany the bid with a bid security as defined in Iowa code section 26.8. The bid security must be in an amount set forth in the bidding documents and made payable to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. Failure to execute a contract for the proposed work and file an acceptable Performance Bond in an amount equal to 100% of the contract price and a certificate of liability insurance within thirty (30) days of the date of the award of the

contract will be just and sufficient cause for the rescinding of the award and the forfeiture of the bid security.

IOWA COUNTY PROJECT NO. 17-06-48-01

Kosza Access WMA Bank Stabilization Proposal Guarantee: \$6,250.00

Completion Date: 9/30/2022

Project Description: This project consists of roadway embankment stabilization (riprap) along a river channel and granular roadway maintenance; blading/shaping and spreading new rock.

POLK COUNTY PROJECT NO. 22-02-77-01

Big Creek State Park Parking Lot Paving Proposal Guarantee: \$150,000.00

Completion Date: 11/30/2022

Project Description: This project consists of paving four boat ramp parking lots and an access road.

WARREN COUNTY

HELP WANTED

We're Not Southeast Iowa's Favorite Dental Office Without Our Great Team

APPLY TODAY TO JOIN US!

Pothitakis Dentistry currently needs a Full-Time Hygienist.

Complete an application at or mail your resume to
1223 S. Gear Avenue,
Eastman Plaza, Suite 302
West Burlington, IA 52655
or email burldental@gmail.com
EOE



POTHITAKIS DENTISTRY
Burlington • West Burlington • Ft. Madison West • Ft. Madison East • New London • Malvern

Classifieds/Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICES

**PROJECT
NO. 22-05-91-01**

Lake Ahquabi
Campground Upgrade
Project

Proposal Guarantee:
\$200,000.00

Completion Date:
5/1/2023

Project Description:
This project consists of the removal of the existing asphalt roads, campground camp pads, electric service lines, disposal stations, and removal of trees and vegetation that are in conflict within the work zone and installing new Portland Cement Concrete roads, new gravel camp pads, electric services, water services, sanitary sewer services, installing a new disposal station, and seeding and mulching all disturbed area located at Lake Ahquabi State Park in Warren County, Iowa.

meeting by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moved by Fedler, seconded by Seyb, to approve the agenda, adding introduction of the new General Manager of the Landfill. Motion carried.

Austin Banks, new General Manager of the Landfill introduced himself to the Board and gave them an update on things happening at the landfill.

Public Input: Mary Van-Pelt, Montrose, asked the Board to consider paving the gravel road that leads to Wilson Lake.

Breanna Kramer with the Lee County Health Department gave the Board an update on the Lee County Resilient Communities Grant Project.

Moved by Fedler, seconded by Larkin, to table approval of the Lee County Disaster Mitigation Plan until the next Board meeting. Motion carried.

Lee County Conservation Director Nathan Unsworth gave the Lee County Conservation Annual Report.

Moved by Fedler, seconded by Seyb, to approve a Training Agreement for Lee County EMS Employees. Motion carried.

Moved by Seyb, seconded by Larkin, to approve a contract with the Medical Investigators. Motion carried.

Moved by Seyb, seconded by Fedler, to approve the Policy for

Disclosure of Security Related Information. Motion carried.

Moved by Seyb, seconded by Larkin, to approve a Class C Liquor License for Keokuk Hy-Vee to cater the Rosas Wedding at Small Grand Things, West Point, for the period December 2, 2021 through December 6, 2021. Motion carried.

Moved by Fedler, seconded by Seyb, to approve the Monday, October 11, 2021 Board minutes. Motion carried.

Moved by Seyb, seconded by Larkin, to approve the payment of claims. Motion carried.

Moved by Fedler, seconded by Seyb, to approve a new hire for the Health Department, Laura DeFord, Family Support Worker, \$17.17/hr., effective 10/18/21 and a new hire of an ARPA Funds Manager/Grant Writer, Chuck Vandenberg, \$63,000/annual salary, effective 10/20/21. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:
Fedler reported on a RUSS meeting. Seyb reported that he was involved with the interviews for the ARPA Funds Manager/Grant Writer and attended an Empowering Families Committee meeting. Larkin reported on a Regional Mental Health Board meeting, a Landfill Board meeting and a Workforce Development Board meeting. Harlow asked for an update

from Sheriff Stacy Weber on the roaming cows. Health Department Administrator Michele Ross gave a weekly Covid numbers update.

At 10:25 a.m., a motion was made by Fedler, seconded by Seyb, to adjourn. Motion carried. The next meeting will be held on Monday, October 25, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.

Matt Pflug, Chairman
Attest: Denise Fraise,
Lee County Auditor

**Claims paid
October 18, 2021**

Access Enrgy, svcs	683.10
Agriland, fuel	747.37
Allen Precsn, equip	62.92
Alliant Enrgy, svcs	1198.35
Barr Mem Chapel, svcs	674.75
Blessing Health, svcs	130.00
Bnd Tree Mdcl, equip	2897.73
R Bradley, svcs	130.00
CE Sol Grp, exps	936.00
Commerce Bank	
4imprint, svcs	538.41
Ace Hardware, svcs	145.98
Adobe, adobe	14.99
Airport Holiday Inn, ldg	732.48
Alebrije, meals	33.26
Amazon, svcs	8,140.22
Apple.com, sbcsptn	53.49
B Bops, meals	20.91
Beer Park, meals	46.19
Booking.com, hotel	103.77
Brownells, svcs	298.47
Burger King, meals	14.37
Burlington Trailways, bus fare	150.00
Buzzard Billy's, meals	42.76
Cardboard Box, postage	75.52
Casey's, fuel	214.78
CDW Govt, equip	1,376.46
Centurylink, svcs	3,534.43
Claim MD, sftw	100.00
Comfort Inn, ldg	179.20
Courtyard, mtg	124.32
Covert Tracking, rnl	1,920.00
Critical Incident, training	1,195.00
Curb Service, taxi	32.51
Dish, tv	69.36
Dollar General, svcs	77.25
Donnellson Lumber, lumber	10.78
Donnellson Tire, svcs	25.00
Equiparts, mirror	316.89
Facebook, ad	6.78
Fareway, svcs	19.95
Fastenal, screws	13.60
Fastenere, parts	12.19
Fluid Manuf., equip	357.85
FM Farm & Home, svcs	109.98
Fox Valley Paint, paint	736.40

Galls, svcs	20.00
Giordano's, meals	32.80
Golden Corral, meals	14.74
Green Valley Seed, seed	730.00
Griffin Muffler, svcs	85.05
Hancock Journal, publ	1,698.10
Helm, svcs mnl	759.90
Hilton, lodging	931.41
Hulu, svcs	12.83
Hobby Lobby, svcs	96.96
Huffman's, svcs	81.20
Hyatt, ldg	247.60
HyVee, meals	77.44
IA Breastfeeding, dues	20.00
IA Co ME, reg	200.00
IA EMS Assoc, reg	560.00
IA Environ. Health, reg	150.00
Il Tollway, toll	6.90
Jim Baier, svcs	92.55
Kempker's, svcs	864.98
Kimmes, Fuel	53.99
Kirby Built, bench	928.85
Love's Travel, fuel	46.00
Lowe's, svcs	88.22
Lyft, trnspt	28.70
Maxie S, meals	52.96
Mediacom, svcs	9,600.00
McFarland-Swan, svcs	2,976.56
Menard's, svcs	398.70
Metro Airport, parking	30.00
Monarch Watch, svcs	20.00
Nasp Inc, svcs	354.00
Ncsu Reporter, reg	250.00
Netflix.com, svcs	19.25
Office Depot, svcs	20.29
Office Max, svcs	1,099.10
O-Reilly's, parts	80.82
Pancake House, meals	10.48
Paris Casino, lodging	609.97
Per Mar, security	1,032.00
Pizza Ranch, meals	26.73
Plumbzilla, svcs	83.54
Precision, locker	2,765.68
Quarry Creek, apparel	228.99
Quill, Toner	597.97
Rathbun Water, wtr	122.20
Safe Kids, reg	55.00
Senor Frogs, meals	35.96
Shell Oil, fuel	66.25
Sherwin Williams, svcs	40.17
Shottenkirk, svcs	2,410.54
Smokey D's, meals	42.89
Staples, svcs	587.91
SurveyMonkey, svcs	407.04
Sushi Station, meals	41.00
Tasty Tacos, meals	14.31
Texas Roadhouse, meals	94.46
Turbo Wash, wash	59.00
US Cellular, phone	335.70
USPS, postage	80.52
Verizon, svcs	1,682.11
Wal Mart, svcs	170.11

Wiss & Wiss, svcs	2.76
WM Supercenter, svcs	1,730.79
A Cook, exps	110.70
M Cook, exps	156.60
D Covert, svcs	40.00
D Cosby, edu	407.68
Cnslng Assc, svcs	240.00
Democrat Co, publ	2235.00
Daniels Jntrl, svcs	4328.41
DM Co Hlth Dpt, svcs	7945.79
Dodd Prtg, svcs	51.64
Ebert Sply, svcs	157.50
ES&S, svcs	4054.95
Elctrcn Engrg, parts	240.00
EMSLRC, edu	46.00
Ferguson Entr, equip	1349.30
5th Dist Officers, edu	25.00
Garner FdMart, fuel	983.11
GRRWA, svcs	6256.00
Hartricks Lmbr, parts	7.96
Hlth Sol, svcs	2935.20
hibu, publ	145.15
Hill Prtg, svcs	956.00
IA DOT, reg	360.00
JW Mdcl, equip	1452.00
Rvrfrnt Brdctg, publ	200.00
R Larkin, exps	153.00
LeeCo Auditor, IT rb	29327.00
LeeCo Treas, fees	267019.47
LeeCo Treas, costs	8523.86
C Liles, svcs	360.00
Lynch Dallas, svcs	3393.50
McFarlands, svcs	2850.45
B Meyers, exps	262.53
MidAm Enrgy, gas	58.79
MW Grp Bnfts, svcs	926.10
Mohrfeld Elect, svcs	573.25
Mntrse Hlth Ctr, svcs	5157.30
Mncpl Emrg, svcs	226.00
JJ Nichting, equip	1651.27
Optum Rx, svcs	666.11
R PptrsnRhn, exps	20.70
Pen City, publ	1132.48
Polk Co Treas, svcs	184.77
Pritchard Brdctg, publ	350.00
Quincy Med Grp, svcs	455.12
Red Lion Rnwbl, svcs	2410.31
M Ross, exps	82.35
J Saunders, exps	93.60
J Schneider, svcs	385.00
M Shaffer, svcs	4500.00
R Shenkor, svcs	604.50
C Spann, exps	40.00
St Hygienic Lab, svcs	25.00
Stericycle, svcs	487.76
R Swainey, exps	108.00
M Terhune, exps	562.95
US Cell, svcs	2526.07
Untd Mthdst Chrch, rfn	50.00
L Wallingford, svcs	209.64
West Pt Care Ctr, svcs	5049.65
Wex Bank, fuel	7521.72
Windstream, svcs	489.12

**PUBLIC NOTICE
LEE COUNTY BOARD
OF SUPERVISOR
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
October 18, 2021**

The Lee County Board of Supervisors met at the Lee County Office Building on Monday, October 18, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.

Present: Rich Harlow, Ron Fedler, Garry Seyb and Rick Larkin. All votes are unanimous unless otherwise indicated.

The Board opened the

**TEXT AND
WHATEVER
JUST
DON'T
TEXT
AND**



STOPTEXTSSTOPWRECKS.ORG



Classifieds

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Call Lee at 319.371.4125 today to advertise!

Coverage that works when they can't

Let's face it — accidents can happen in any workplace. Farm Bureau Workers' Compensation insurance can protect you, as the owner, from the high cost of unexpected injuries to your employees. Call me to schedule a SuperCheck® to make sure your most valuable resource — your employees — are protected.



Larry Holtkamp
1301 37th St
Fort Madison
(319) 372-9145
LARRYHOLTkamp.COM



Farm Bureau Property & Casualty Insurance Company* & Western Agricultural Insurance Company* West Des Moines, IA. *Company providers of Farm Bureau Financial Services WC010 (7-16)

**Buying or Selling?
Call Karen first!**

- Real Knowledge
- Real Experience
- Real Dedication

HOPE ASSOCIATES REAL ESTATE

Real Results! **Karen Hope**
(319) 372-4040

**Short-Term Rehabilitation
Long-Term Care
Memory Care
Ventilator Care**

The Madison
senior living
kind • compassionate • care

NOW HIRING RN, LPN, & CNA POSITIONS

Patrick Profeta
General Manager

Keokuk Auto Credit
We Tote the Note

No Credit Check Low Weekly Payments
www.keokukautocredit.com

1728 Main Keokuk, IA 52632 Office: 319-524-2334 Fax: 319-524-2373

Dirty Dog Detailing & Boarding

Grooming by appointment
Monday, Wednesday, Friday & Saturday
319-371-9044

Over 51 Years Combined Professional Animal Experience

2090 250th St, Donnellson, IA 52625
Owners Barb Ball & Natalie Dauma
Family owned & operated

How can chiropractic therapy help you?

BENEFITS OF CHIROPRACTIC

- Improved joint mobility, function, and health
- Decreased degeneration of joints and connective tissues
- Improved circulation
- Increased energy, vitality, and improved sleep
- and many, many more

DR. ROBERT BROCKMAN
Brockman Chiropractic
2311 Avenue L, Suite 3, Fort Madison • 319-372-3800
<http://brockmanchiropracticdrbob.com/>

Extremity Adjustment Cranial Adjustment
Myofascial Relaxation Muscle Facilitation

ADVERTISE YOUR SERVICE BUSINESS

1 month • Only \$50⁰⁰

2x2 Business Card Size Ad plus Social Media

Place your ad online 24/7 www.pencitycurrent.com
Email your ad classifieds@pencitycurrent.com
Call Lee at 319.371.4125

Auto Detailing . Car Wash . Sign Rental

Turbo Wash

(319) 372-WASH (9274)
Fort Madison

Gift certificates available

Locally owned & operated

Advertise in a brand new way.

Reach thousands of potential customers each day & grow your business. Call today!

Lee (319)371.4125 • Chuck (319)371.1670

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

KEMPKER'S

True Value **RENTAL**

Treating our customers like family since 1970

Fort Madison • Burlington • Mount Pleasant

www.kempkerstruevalue.com

DIP-N-JOE

Candy Matter
Sales Affiliate
mattercandy25@gmail.com

<https://dip-n-joe.myshopify.com/#Cmatter1021>

Coffee, Tea, Dip Mixes and More

Nursing Rehabilitation Long-Term Care

Montrose
HEALTH CENTER

319-463-5438

WHERE COMPASSION & QUALITY COME FIRST

Never Shiver. Don't Sweat.

YOUR Heat & Air guy

Just call

Ft. Madison: 319-372-4328
Burlington: 319-752-4328
All Areas: 877-380-4328

24 Hour Service • Never An Overtime Charge
FREE Estimates • Servicing All Makes

www.YourHeatAndAirGuy.com

DODD PRINTING & STATIONERY
Est. 1877

Business Cards Photo Correction Flyers Office Supplies Vinyl Banners T-Shirt Printing

Coffee Mugs Posters Art Supplies Printing Office Furniture Trifold Brochures

621 Avenue G Fort Madison, IA 319.372.2721 doddprinting.com

ENJOY FREE DELIVERY TO FORT MADISON, KEOKUK, BURLINGTON & THE SURROUNDING AREAS!

General Insects Termites Mice Bed Bugs

Cullen
PEST CONTROL

(319) 372-1060

Toll Free 1-888-818-7378
Email: cullenpest@hotmail.com
www.cullenpest.com

Residential Commercial "Cause who needs bugs?"

Surprisingly great rates right around the corner.

Jess Sutcliffe, Agent
2623 Avenue L
Fort Madison, IA 52627
Bus: 319-372-5982
www.fortmadisoninsurance.com

I'm your one-stop shop for the service you deserve at a price you want. Call me for surprisingly great rates and Good Neighbor service right in your neighborhood.

Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.®

Individual premiums will vary by customer. All applicants subject to State Farm® underwriting requirements.

State Farm
Bloomington, IL
2001878

State Farm

Sports/From the Front

Lady Hounds keep finding ways to win

Central Lee's Baldwin notches 200th win Friday at Cardinal

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

DONNELSON – The best characterization of the Fort Madison Lady Hounds team this year is that they are a streaky team.

On Saturday, senior Malarie Ross got hot in the final minutes hitting on two-three pointers in back-to-back possessions that helped the Bloodhounds to a 43-37 non conference win over Central Lee.

“This is the fourth game now that we’ve come out strong, we had them down 18-4, and then we act like we didn’t even know what we’re supposed to do,” Head Coach Tony Sargent said.

“We got three or four offenses and we don’t run any of them and I don’t know why.”

Ross, and Camille Kruse, helped the Hounds to a quick 13-4 lead in the first quarter. Aija Jenkins would score in the paint on a nice interior move and then Ross would hit another 3-ball from the left wing to give Fort Madison the 18-4 lead at the end of one.

Central Lee Head Coach Jay Baldwin then switched to a sagging zone that chased Fort Madison around the perimeter and the moved paid off. Ross, who had nine points in the first quarter, was held to a 3-ball in the second quarter and the Hounds went just 2 of 12 from the floor.

The Lady Hawks were able to close the gap to eight at the half at 24-16.

The shooting woes continued in the third quarter for Fort Madison converting just 3 of 13. Central Lee meanwhile continued to chip away at the lead. While the Hounds were mired in a 2 for 10 slump, the Hawk’s Mya Lampe scored five straight to cut the lead to three at 28-25. Karlie Pohren would hit the front end of a one-and-one to make it 28-26 as the Hawks capped a 10-4 run.

The two teams exchanged punches early on in the fourth until Maura Watkins scored inside to tie things up at 33. The Hawks would take the first lead since the opening minute with 2:40 left in the game when Alivia Myhre made a move on the baseline and tossed one in for a 35-34 Hawks lead.

Ross would take over with a 3-pointer on Fort Madison’s next possession. Myhre would counter with another bucket to tie things back up a 37, but

Ross would come through again with another 3-ball from the left side for a three-point Fort Madison lead.

Central would get the ball over the time line and then get stuck in the half court forcing Baldwin to call a timeout.

“We were getting discombobulated and I wanted to get some structure and run a play,” Baldwin said.

Central Lee would get two shots off in the final 25 seconds out of the time out, but couldn’t get either to drop before committing a foul and sending Ross to the line at the other end.

“They’re still learning how to win so these types of games will be good for us down the road,” Baldwin said.

Sargent said his 8-2 Bloodhounds have to find ways to put teams away. One of their losses came in December against 13th ranked Keokuk, where the Hounds led into the fourth quarter.

The Lady Hounds knocked off Mt. Pleasant Friday night in what Sargent said he thought was a turning point.

“Last night I thought we had this kind of break through. Molly (Knipe) shot well and I think she shot just a couple times tonight. I don’t understand it. I’m a bit disappointed tonight because we keep getting out in front of these teams and then we let them back in. But this kind of win will help us down the road,” Sargent said.

Baldwin said the switch to a zone threw Fort Madison off for a while.

“This was fun game. They were vicing us up man-to-man so we went to a match up amoeba type zone. Basically it’s man on one side and zone on the other. We hadn’t used it in a while,” Baldwin said.

Baldwin said Fort Madison’s guard court is one of the best the Hawks will see all year, so the game was good for Central Lee

“Those are two of the best guards we’ll face all year and that’s no disrespect to anybody else” Baldwin said of Ross and Kruse.

Ross led all scorers with 23 points. Central Lee’s Alivia Myhre has 12 for Central Lee and Maura Watkins had 10. Kruse had nine points.

Baldwin got his 200th win Friday night in Cardinal. His tenure spans Fort Madison Aquinas, Holy Trinity Catholic and now Central Lee.

“Honestly, I hadn’t given it any thought. Once I quit a couple years ago I was like naahhh,” Baldwin said.

He said his brother asked him how close he was over the holidays and they put together the numbers.

“I was thinking that was going to jinx it and I wouldn’t win another game,” he laughed.

Lots to learn from 90s political drama

SHOW - Continued from Page 1

But here’s the thing. This show talks about, among other things, public education being the silver bullet to societal problems. The writing talks about government being a place where people come together “and no one gets left behind”.

It heralds the value of socioeconomic stratification, while at the same time being just a bit giddy about tax-and-spend. I believe that in times of economic struggle tax-and-spend makes sense. Not only does it put people to work, it also establishes infrastructure than can be capitalized as the economy inevitably turns around.

Like building marinas and rehabbing roads, building trails, improving schools and health facilities. It does make sense in Econ 101 to consider those as rational approaches to digging out of recession... or, and this is one of my most frequently read phrases now, “the negative economic impact of the pandemic.”

This cast won many, many, many awards for the show over its run. It actually made me want to run for office at some point. My journalism interactions with professional politicians over the past 25 years has given me a different view of that now.

I do dream at night sometimes that I’m on the staff, but for some reason in those dreams, I’m never involved in decisions, just – in the room – like a reporter.

It does make me long for a day when true leadership was in the oval office. For sure, there was partisanship and bickering, but it was part of a smoother, less emotional process. The wins were wins, and the losses were losses and people moved on with their lives.

We carry things so deeply and personal now. The anniversary of the insurrection on Capitol Hill was three days ago. Just Google that mess and you get an up close look at deep and personal. Also a bit of fanaticism.

My point is this, wouldn’t it be great to go back to the age of politics where we elect a president without the visceral contention that exists now. We grumble about it for four years and do it all over again. But in the interim we went about our lives as a citizenry.

We live in a world where finance is a bigger piece of the global economy than production. I think that’s part of why people don’t value work so much. It’s not what moves the world – lending and borrowing does.

Hy-Vee has started their own financial services division, including checking and savings accounts, after its market reaction to the pandemic. They did very well, they just expanded into four other states. Not cities – states; Indiana, Tennessee, Alabama, and Kentucky.

Sure, Sorkin romanticizes the Oval Office. I don’t think he dramatizes it – I don’t think that’s possible. But if nothing else, if my wife, daughter, and I can sit in the living room and put the show on and just enjoy each other’s company while daydreaming about a Sam Seaborn presidency or “four more years.” I can deal with the romanticism.

Speaking of enjoying a quiet evening at home with the family, Jim Lemberger taught about 12 residents at the Newberry Center in Fort Madison about wine-making on Friday. I sampled some cranberry wine and needed a Metformin afterward. It was an enlightening presentation put on by The Madison – But that’s Beside the Point.

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

BOOK NOW

OCTOBER 3-14, 2022

Fall Foliage

OF NYC & HUDSON VALLEY

Talk about a two-for-one tour – here you get the best of both, New York City AND the beautiful fall foliage of the Hudson Valley all wrapped up into one! New York City has so much to offer that it is hard to pack everything in to just a few days, but we have included a great variety for you. Enjoy a Broadway play, take in great city tours, a few solemn moments at the 9/11 memorials, be dazzled at the NYC skyline and the beauty of the Statue of Liberty on a harbor dinner cruise, visit a few museums including the Guggenheim and even have a bit of time on your own to explore. Then there’s the glorious colors Mother Nature presents us with for fall. We will be in the Hudson Valley during what is generally considered “peak season” for leaf peeping. Here you will tour the Rockefeller Estate and the Vanderbilt Mansion, tour West Point Military Academy, visit the Sleepy Hollow Lighthouse and so very much more!

For More Information:
TrailwaysTravel.com
319.753.2864 x162

Trailways Travel

THE MIDWEST MADE EASY.

Traveling from Burlington just got easier with daily flights to St. Louis & Chicago O’Hare. For seamless connections, book both your Cape Air flight and your connecting flight directly on aa.com or united.com.

CAPE AIR

SOUTHEAST IOWA REGIONAL AIRPORT | **DAILY FLIGHTS Chicago and St. Louis**
capeair.com / 800-CAPE-AIR

ITALIAN SAUSAGE

FRESH-MADE DOUGH
SPECIAL RECIPE SAUCE
HAND-PINCHED, FRESH ITALIAN SAUSAGE
100% WISCONSIN CHEESE

Ron Davoo
always fresh, always friendly
fried chicken & pizza pies

baked to perfection in our “WOW” ovens!

Open Monday-Saturday 11AM - 8:30PM | Closed Sunday

Ron Litchfield - Owner/ Pizzapreneur 605 South 10th St. Burlington, Iowa 52601
Phone (319) 752-5767 / Cell (319) 572-2495 | Email: RonLitch4176@msn.com | <https://www.facebook.com/RonDavooPizza/>

Ron's All-time Favorite!

BEST OF S.E. IOWA 2018