

# PEN CITY CURRENT

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

Friday, June 12, 2020 | 8 pages | Volume 4 • Issue 118



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## City, YMCA ready pool

**THURSDAY:** YMCA may do test run on Thursday, Friday with full opening Saturday

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – Get out your swimming trunks and those arm floatie things. City and local YMCA officials are gearing up for a possible opening of the city pool starting next weekend.

According to Fort Madison Mayor Matt Mohrfeld and Fort Madison YMCA Executive Director Ryan Wilson, the goal at this point is for a soft opening with lap swimming on Thursday and Friday, with a full pool open on Saturday.

“Sunshine, chlorine and exercise... sounds pretty healthy to me,” said Mohrfeld Thursday morning.



MOHRFELD

“I’ve said all along when the Governor says we can open up I want to be ready the next day. Obviously it doesn’t work like that, but you set a goal and we go from there.”

Wilson said the opening is dependent upon chemicals arriving in time and some painting getting done on the bottom of the pool, but he said his conversations with city officials and suppliers look pretty good for a soft start on Thursday.

A soft start could be just lap swimming from noon to 1 p.m. and possibly 5 p.m. to 6 p.m., but he’s still finalizing

See **POOL**, page 3

## NAUVOO

### Lafferty gets 55 years for sex crimes

*34-year-old Illinois man originally charged with 53 counts on May 28, 2019*

BY PCC STAFF

NAUVOO – Nauvoo Police Department Chief of Police Mike Boley reports the conviction of Daniel Scott Lafferty, 34, of Nauvoo, IL on charges stemming from his arrest on May 28, 2019. Lafferty’s arrest came as the result of an investigation by the Nauvoo Police Department into allegations of sexual assault of a child having occurred in Nauvoo, Illinois.

On Thursday June 11, 2020, Lafferty plead guilty and was sentenced to 35 years on Predatory Criminal Sexual Assault of a Child, 10 years on one count of Child Pornography, and 10 years on another count of Child Pornography. All counts and cases are mandatory consecutive to each other for a total sentence of 55 years.



LAFFERTY

The prosecution was led by State’s Attorney Rachel B. Mast who called multiple witnesses at the hearing including Chief Michael Boley and Hancock County Jail Administrator Kelly Van Fleet. Mast admitted the victim’s bedroom door into evidence, along with jail calls of the defendant and child pornography images.

In Mast’s closing argument she presented evidence of sexual abuse that spanned a 2-year period across multiple jurisdictions. Mast referenced the victim’s bedroom door and asked the judge to “put the defendant behind a door he can’t bust in. So that [the victim] knows that door will not open for a very, very, long time.”

Assisting the Nauvoo Police Department in the investigation were 18 other Iowa, Illinois and Nevada law enforcement agencies and child advocacy groups.

## DALSTRA PHOTOGRAPHY

### “Fotog” sets up shop in Old Lee County Bank

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – Dan Dalstra has spent his professional life chronicling lives and capturing moments. Now he’s capturing those moments in Fort Madison.

Dalstra and his wife Leslie moved to Fort Madison last summer after Leslie was offered the senior pastor position at First Christian Church on 10th Street.

Dalstra packed up his gear and left El Paso, where they were living at the time, to move the Midwest, where he tells people in a video on his Facebook page ‘Dan Dalstra’, it’s “really cold”, as he walks down on the riverfront.

Dalstra is a photojournalist who’s transitioned to studio work for the most part. But still dabbles here and there with the journalism side of things.

With his Sony and Nikon gear, Dalstra offers wedding packages from basic ceremony services, to full-on day services complete with albums, prints, and online galleries. And he travels just about anywhere.

The two brought their children Eva, who graduated from Fort Madison High School this year and is on her way to Iowa State University, and their son Harry, who just completed eighth grade.

The move to the Midwest is a story heard often... to get closer to family. Leslie grew up in St. Louis, so the move puts her three hours from her mother’s front door. Dalstra said he flies frequently out of St. Louis back to Texas for work in the fall.

“She had several interviews in different parts around the country.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg

Dan Dalstra has opened a portrait studio in the Old Lee County Bank building as part of his Dan Dalstra Photography brand.

And every time she would hang up the phone with the people at First Christian, she had a big smile on her face,” he said. “She would turn and say those people are so nice, and here we are.”

Fall is the in-season for photographers covering weddings in

See **DALSTRA**, page 7

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## WEATHER

**FRI 12 Jun** .....Clear & Warm, 78.6° F/ 62.8° F  
**SAT 13 Jun** .....Broken Clouds, 68.8° F/ 56.9° F  
**SUN 14 Jun** .....Broken Clouds, 65.6° F/ 60.8° F

OpenWeatherMap

## IOWA LOTTERY

**LOTTO AMERICA 06/10**.....13 16 33 38 52, Star Ball: 7, All Star Bonus: 4  
**PICK 3 06/10 MIDDAY**.....3 9 7  
**PICK 3 06/10 EVENING**.....8 1 7  
**PICK 4 06/10 MIDDAY**.....2 5 9 9  
**PICK 4 06/10 EVENING**.....5 1 0 0  
**POWERBALL 06/10**.....10 33 41 52 54, Powerball: 18, Power Play: 5

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# For the Record

## For the Record

### Fort Madison Police Report

06/09/20 – 11:11 p.m. – Fort Madison Police arrested Dustin Adam Hartley, 21, of West Point, at the police department on a charge of unauthorized use of a global positioning device. He was released on a promise to appear. 06/09/20 – 9:25 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a vandalism in the 100

block of 26th Street. 06/09/20 – 1:25 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 1700 block of 53rd Street. 06/09/20 – 5:16 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1500 block of Avenue B. 06/10/20 – 8:21 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a hit and run in the

600 block of Avenue E. 06/10/20 – 2:54 a.m. – Fort Madison Police cited and released Gene Allen Green, Jr., 59, of Fort Madison at the intersection of 8th and Avenue E on a charge of driving under suspension. 06/10/20 – 4:40 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a hit and run in the 700 block of Avenue E. 06/10/20 – 5:47 p.m. – Fort Madison Police

responded to a report of a property damage accident at the intersection of Avenue H and 7th Street.

### Lee County Sheriff's Report

06/05/20 – 12:08 a.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Aaron Lee Hamner, 36, of Keokuk, was arrested in the 1800 block of William Street, on a warrant for violation of probation and a charge of a felon in control of a fire-

arm. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held. 06/05/20 – 5:27 a.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies cited and released Lucky Shania Ackley-King of Keokuk, in the 1800 block of William Street on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia. 06/09/20 – 1:53 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Douglas Duane Gates, 55, of Alexandria, Mo., at the Iowa/Missouri state line, on a warrant for felony forgery. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held. 06/09/20 – 1:54 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a one-vehicle accident in the 5200 block of Bluff Road. According to the report, a vehicle driven by Melissa Dawn Nelson, 37, of Ankeny, was headed west bound and was allegedly using her cell phone, lost control of the vehicle and struck an overpass support. No injuries were reported and Nelson refused medical treatment. She was cited for failure to maintain control and failure to provide proof of insurance. 06/09/20 – 1:58 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Vanetta Louise Booth Johnson, 51, of Alexandria, Mo. at the Clark County Jail, on

charges of felony forgery, and contempt of court. She was held in custody. 06/09/20 – 9:53 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a two-vehicle accident, in the 1900 block of 300th Street. A vehicle driven by Richard James Courtney, 24 of Montrose was struck by a semi-trailer driven by Mark Richard Smith, 58, of Springfield, Mo., as Courtney was turning into a driveway. No citations or injuries were reported. 06/09/20 – 11:03 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Aaliyah Vondyon Williams, 25, of Burlington, at the sheriff's office on a charge of disorderly conduct. She was held in custody. 06/09/20 – 11:05 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Carrie Nichole Morris, 32, of Keokuk, at the sheriff's office on a charge of disorderly conduct. She was held in custody. 06/10/20 – 10:48 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Justin Michael Hemphill, 27, of Keokuk, in the 3500 block of Mississippi River Drive in Keokuk, on a warrant for probation violation. *Those listed above are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.*



# 2020 To Do List

## Save Our Planet

*Thank you to all our customers who worked to reduce their environmental footprint last year. We look forward to helping you continue your efforts and to educating our communities on more ways to help this year.*

### Here are just a few ways you can help:

- Don't put plastic bags in recycling bins
- Rinse & clean all food jars & cans before recycling
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## Obituaries/From the Front

### OBITUARIES

## ANN FULLENKAMP BENDLAGE

Ann Fullenkamp Bendlage, 100, of West Point, IA, passed away at the West Point Care Center on June 11, 2020 at 3:55 am. While Ann did not pass from COVID-19, the isolation in her final weeks actually contributed to her overall health and well-being.

Born on November 13, 1919 in West Point, IA, she was the daughter of Bernard and Adele (Mudd) Fullenkamp. On January 7, 1950, she married James (Jim) Bendlage. Ann and Jim raised 5 children: Sue (Tony) Kahalekulu of Denver, Colorado; Mari (Dale) Rude of Houston, Texas; Ruth (Gary) Mansheim of Burlington, Iowa; Jan (Bill) Shoemate of Quincy, Illinois; and John (Connie) Bendlage of West Point, Iowa.

As she turned 100 years old this past fall, Ann was the last of her generation. She was preceded in death by her husband, Jim; daughter, Margaret Mary; her brothers and their wives: Abie and Agnes Fullenkamp, Walter and Erma Fullenkamp, Glen, Jean, and Edna Fullenkamp; and her sisters and their husbands: Iola and Louis Neuweg, and Bernice and Bob Winnike. She is survived by her 5 children, 12 grandchildren, 19 great grandchildren with the 20th due next month.

Before her marriage, she worked at IAAP during WWII and at Schaeffer Pen Company. When she married, Ann and Jim owned and operated the Sinclair Station in West Point where she worked as a bookkeeper. Later in life, she worked at the West Point Post Office until retirement. She was also a member of St. Mary of the Assumption Parish, Altar and Rosary, Daughters of Isabella, and the American Legion Auxiliary.

She was active in the West Point community and Church. Ann took great pride in her garden and yard, and was a zealous card player. Notably, one of her card groups played together for 50 years! She spent many years fishing, taking small trips, and hosting get-togethers with her friends, family, and neighbors. Ann was even part of the early Sweet Corn Festival days and made many floats for the parade! Her greatest love was spending time with those she loved. Except for a few years, Ann lived in her home in West Point and considered it to be the best town in the world to live! She lived life with a positive attitude and was loved and respected by many. We choose to celebrate all of her experiences over the past 100 years, and ask that you share in this feeling with us.

Friends may call Sunday from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Schmitz Funeral Home, West Point. Family will receive friends from 2:00p.m. to 4:00 p.m. with a parish rosary at 2:30 p.m.

Funeral service will be held at 10:30 a.m. Monday, June 15, 2020 with Father Dennis Hoffman officiating.

#### Pen City Current obituary policy

The 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.

### OBITUARIES

## CECIL E. COSSEL, JR.

Cecil Eugene Cossel, Jr., 81, of Montrose, IA, passed away at 11:39 a.m. on Wednesday, June 10, 2020 at Great River Medical Center in West Burlington. He was born on February 13, 1938 in Downing, MO to Cecil E. & Mariale V. Weeks Cossel, Sr. He married Marjorie Jean White on October 26, 1967 in Pittsfield, IL. He was a truck driver for 54 years and served in the U.S. Navy on the USS Guadalupe. He was a member of the Teamster's Union and was an avid race car driver in Lee County & Burlington for 49 years.



COSSEL, JR.

Cecil is survived by: his wife: Marjorie Cossel of Montrose, IA; 4-sons: Charles (Robyn) Gould of Fort Smith, AR, Robert (Linda) Gould of Hillsboro, IA, Phillip (Brenda) Cossel of Montrose, IA & Adam Gould of Montrose, IA; numerous grandchildren & great grandchildren; 1-great great granddaughter; 2-sisters: Karen (Ronald) Koontz of Marietta, GA & Kay Parrish of Rockford, IL. He was preceded in death by: his parents, 1-daughter: Jana Lorraine Moore & 1-grandson: Adam.

Cremation has been entrusted to the care of King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. A graveside service will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, June 15, 2020 at Montrose Cemetery with Jeri Duncan & Robyn Gould speaking. In lieu of flowers, a memorial fund has been established in Cecil's memory and sent to Robert & Linda Gould, 210 North King Street, Hillsboro, IA 52630. Online condolences for the family may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: [www.kinglynk.com](http://www.kinglynk.com).

## Open swim could start Saturday

**POOL** - Continued from Page 1

what that would look like with pool staff.

"It might be just some lap swimming, and making sure everything is in place and we're prepared. But the way we're reading things is there won't be a limit on the number of people," Wilson said.

He's also reviewing language from the Iowa Department of Public Health and the Centers for Disease Control on guidance for pool opening and safety of swimmers as the pandemic continues to impact the nation.

Wilson said because of the late start to the season, there will be no season passes, only day passes will be sold at the pool.

"Everything's going to be a little different. Business could be different and there will be no season passes, just day passes and paying at the pool itself."

Mohrfeld said he was excited about the opening and is hoping nothing gets in the way.

"We have to get it ready, fill it, get the chemicals in, but as long as their are no glitches, we could be ready to go Thursday or Friday. That's the plan."

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## Sports/Iowa News

# Jobless claims drop 1.6% for the week

DES MOINES - The number of initial claims in Iowa, filed between Sunday, May 31, and Saturday, June 6, was 10,112. There were 9,265 initial claims by individuals who work and live in Iowa, and 847 claims by individuals who work in Iowa and live in another state. The number of continuing weekly unemployment claims for May 31-June 6 was 159,966, down 2,596 from the previous week.

Unemployment insurance benefit payments totaled \$40,515,869.87 for the week of May 31- June 6. The following industries had the most claims:

Manufacturing (2,080); Industry Not Available - Self-employed, Independent Contractors, etc. (1,421); Health Care & Social Assistance (1,010); Education Services (722); Accommodation & Food Services (693)

A total of \$99,184,800 in Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC) benefits was paid during the week of May 31-June 6, 2020. Since April 4, 2020, a total of \$865,975,800 in FPUC benefits has been paid. A total of \$5,963,233 was paid in Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) benefits during the week of May 31-June 6, 2020.

A total of \$3,715,715 in benefits has been paid in Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) benefits for the week of May 31-June 6, 2020. Since May 27, 2020, a total of \$11,262,531.98 in PEUC benefits have been paid.

Employees and employers who have questions regarding returning to work should review the Frequently Asked Questions for each group on our website. Assistance for employers can be found here: <https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/sites/search.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/files/content-files/FAQs%20Employers%2006.05.20.pdf>

Employees can find assistance here: [https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/sites/search.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/files/content-files/FAQs%20Workers%2005.30.20\\_0.pdf](https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/sites/search.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/files/content-files/FAQs%20Workers%2005.30.20_0.pdf)

### 2020 SOFTBALL PREVIEW

# Central Lee again fields young team



BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – Head Coach Tiffany Woodruff has a lot of firsts going to into the girls high school softball season.

The high school summer sports season, brought to you in limited release by Coronavirus 2020, happens to be Woodruff's first year as head coach of the the Central Lee Hawks.

She's also starting a fairly young lineup with just three seniors and even some eighth graders throw into the mix.

The Hawks play in the Southeast Iowa Superconference south division and finished the year 9-18 and just 3-7 in loop action in 2019.

But the Hawks started the year 0-9 and played the rest of the season at .500 ball.

The top two hitters from last year's squad are gone including freshman Bella Steffensmeier. Woodruff won't have the youngster this year, as the Steffensmeiers moved during the offseason. Steffensmeier

hit .318 with 15 RBI and three homers last year.

Makenna Hall hit .317 in her senior year and is lost to graduation.

Woodruff said she's just doesn't have a read on who's going to lead the team offensively, but said she's looking for some leadership.

Juniors Daly Brisby and Andrea Benner are the only juniors from last year's squad returning. Macy Watkins returns from a freshman year where she hit .254. She also started 26 games behind the plate.

Brisby hit .259 last year with 15 RBI at the plate and fielded at 84% from 3rd base.

"We got three seniors this year and their leadership has shown a lot during practice. That's gonna help out a lot this year," Woodruff said.

"They're just the kind of kids that wanna play ball, and they wanna win."

Hall threw about 60 innings last year, but freshmen Meghan Hopp and Sophie Turner combined for a 3-10 record and more than 100 innings in the circle.

"Sophie and Meghan will handle most of the pitching, but we'll also have Shanna Buford, who's an eighth grader and freshman Makayla Morrison pitching too. They'll handle most of the jayvee games, but they'll help out in varsity games. They've been working pretty hard."

Zoe Eschman hit .250 last year in 80 at bats anchoring right field as a sophomore. Hopp hit .222 and led the team in steals with four.

Woodruff said it will be a unique year with the condensed season and the extra rules for players' safety dealing with the coronavirus.

"It's going to be a unique season. I definitely didn't want to play a season like this. It will keep us on our toes, but we're just happy to be playing softball," she said.

Holy Trinity Catholic joins the Superconference this year, joining West Burlington, Cardinal, Van Buren, Danville and New London.

Woodruff said West Burlington should be the team to beat, but the rest of the field will be competitive.

"Danville, New London, and Cardinal are teams that can sneak up on you. They are teams that always seem to find a way to come back. It's kind of anybody's game in our conference. It just depends on how bad you want to win," she said.

The Lady Hawks kick off the season Monday night with a 7 p.m. game at home against Danville. They play every night that week and take on Holy Trinity in West Point on Tuesday.

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# PEN CITY CURRENT

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# Classifieds

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Job Type: Full-time with benefits

Please contact Judi at [judi.dinwiddie@holyltrinity-schools.org](mailto:judi.dinwiddie@holyltrinity-schools.org) for application information.



## HOME HEALTH AIDE

Lee County Health Department is seeking a full-time Certified Home Health Aide to work in the agency's homecare and hospice programs. This position requires travel to client homes in the agency's service area. Submit either a Letter of Interest or Resume to Tammy Wilson, Finance Director, at LCHD, PO Box 1426, Fort Madison, IA 52627 or email to [twilson@leecountyhd.org](mailto:twilson@leecountyhd.org) by June 12, 2020. LCHD is an EOE.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS



Lee County Iowa Sheriff's Office  
Law Enforcement Testing  
Saturday, July 11, 2020  
9 AM – 12 PM  
Lee County Iowa Sheriff's Office  
2530 255th Street,  
Montrose, Iowa 52639

Applications are available at the Lee County Sheriff's office or on the Lee County website at <https://www.leecounty.org/announcements.htm>

Application to test must be returned to the Lee County Sheriff's office by Thursday, July 2, 2020 at 3:30 PM.

Lee County Sheriff's Office  
C/O Detective Sgt. Clint Wray  
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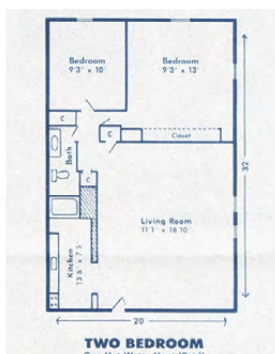
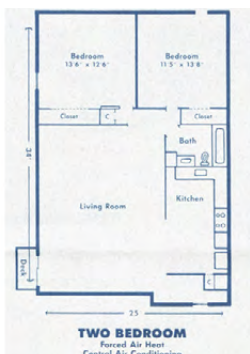
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## Scene Around Town/From the Front



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Ralph and Colleen Krogmeier dish up some of the locally renowned Hinterland Cheese Curds Thursday afternoon at the first of three Fort Madison Downtown Summer Markets on Avenue G in Fort Madison. Below, Julie Hohl of Harvestville Farms in Donnellson and Harvestville Mercantile in downtown Fort Madison waits on customers at the east end of the festival. The market will be on July 9 and the final market is Aug. 20 each one from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m.



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# Studio work originally wasn't in the cards

**DALSTRA** - Continued from Page 1

Texas. Dalstra said he was gone just about every weekend last year with bookings, and will be traveling again this year when the fall rolls around.

Smaller towns have opened up some marketing opportunities for Dalstra. He said he's done some free things early to get his name out there, but also attended a bridal show in Burlington.

"I never had done a bridal show before.. never. But I picked up three bookings from those," he said. "I know this is a smaller community, but things are starting to pick up. And there are a lot of other photographers here that do a good job."

After graduating from the University of Missouri with his degree in photojournalism, Dalstra went to work for newspapers including the Hannibal. Mo paper. He's also worked outside of Houston for a paper called "The Facts". There he didn't have to deal with the larger city element, but he did get to shoot the Houston Astros and Houston Texans games.

"I loved it... I absolutely loved it. But slowly people started asking me if I would shoot there weddings and I said 'No.. hell, no.' I said you have to be bleeding or scoring a point for me to take your picture," Dalstra said.

"After a while I gave in and decided, OK let's do it, and I had the best time."

He said being a professional photographer covering weddings and doing studio work pays better than the news field, but he's enjoying the work just as much. So much so, that's he just passed a decade in the field, and he said the work really isn't that much different.

"I realized that all sorts of the same elements that I learned in photojournalism applied to weddings - capturing moments and telling stories," he said. "In the photojournalism world you can't move anything, it's raw and true, so as the bride's getting ready I would think, 'I can't clean up the room' .. and it took me a couple years to break that cycle."

Dalstra said business is slowly picking up as people realize he's open, and as they get to know the town more.

In the meantime, he's drumming up business at his studio on the back side of the Old Lee County Bank building at 615 8th Avenue. He can be reached for bookings by calling 915-342-3574 or by email at [www.dandalstra.com](http://www.dandalstra.com).

His work can be found on Facebook by searching Dan Dalstra Photos or on Instagram at [dan\\_dalstra\\_photography](https://www.instagram.com/dan_dalstra_photography).

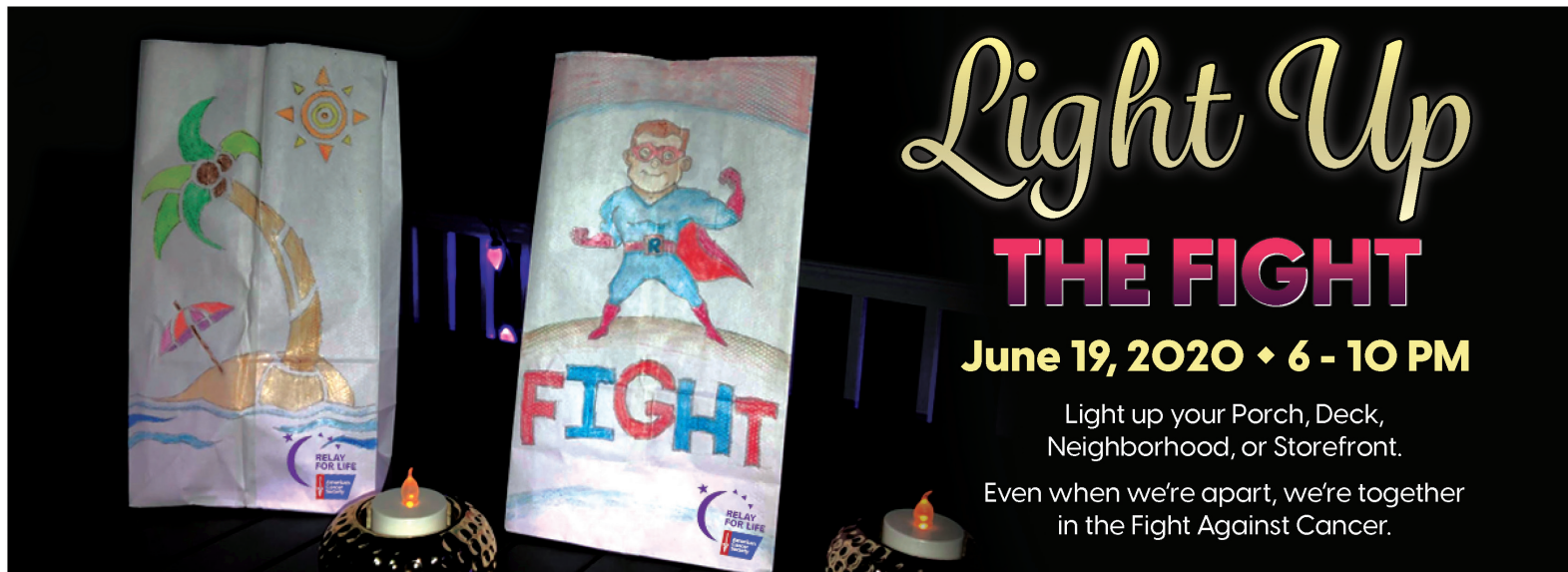
## It Takes a Community

- Wash your hands frequently with soap & water - 20 seconds or more
- Cover your coughs & sneezes with your elbow or a tissue
- Keep your hands away from your face - eyes, nose, mouth are doorways for germs
- Stay home when you are ill
- Avoid gatherings of more than 10 people
- Help protect our elderly or those with health conditions



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# Light Up

## THE FIGHT

**June 19, 2020 ♦ 6 - 10 PM**

Light up your Porch, Deck,  
Neighborhood, or Storefront.

Even when we're apart, we're together  
in the Fight Against Cancer.

*Cancer didn't stop because of COVID-19 and neither have we!*

## Join us as we *Light Up The Fight* on **June 19 from 6:00 - 10:00 PM.**

*This year we are asking our community members to purchase Luminaria Bags and place them at their home, neighborhood, or storefront then cruise around, taking pictures & posting on the North Lee County Relay for Life Facebook Page.*

**Undecorated bag with "In Honor of" or "In Memory of" with the name of Recognized Person on Label.**

**Want a community member to decorate your bag for you? Will also include Recognized Person Label.**

**1 bag for \$5**

**1 bag for \$10**

**5 bags for \$20**

**5 bags for \$40**

**12 bags for \$50**

**12 bags for \$100**

Deadline for purchase with customized label is Monday, June, 15.

Deadline to purchase decorated bags is Monday, June 15.

Un-customized bags available for purchase Wednesday, June 17 from 3-6PM at Central Park.

A Relay for Life Committee Member can also deliver your bags and glow-sticks to your door for a \$5 fee.

Pick up your luminarias at Central Park from 3-6 PM on Wednesday, June 17.

Please call 319-376-2249 if you have any questions. Thank you for your continued support of The American Cancer Society and the Fight for more Birthdays!

*~ The North Lee County Relay for Life.*

