

# PEN CITY CURRENT

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

Monday, January 13, 2020 | 8 pages | Volume 4 • Issue 20



[www.pencitycurrent.com](http://www.pencitycurrent.com)

## HEALTH NEWS

### FMCH puts on restrictions at Birthplace

Submitted article

FORT MADISON – Fort Madison Community Hospital is closely monitoring the progression of influenza in the community. The Iowa Department of Public Health has declared the influenza virus as widespread for Southeast Iowa. Therefore, the decision has been made to implement visitation restrictions in the FMCH Birthplace and postpartum suites. Birthplace visitors are limited to Coach or significant other,

immediate grandparents who do not display any flu like symptoms, and siblings that are 72 hours symptom free, to include: no fever, cough, diarrhea, vomiting, rash, or persistent runny nose

This restriction will last until the time that the threat of increased exposure has passed.

The staff of the Birthplace understands having a new baby

See **FLU**, page 5

## BESIDE THE POINT



### FCC's rural broadband effort a good next step

We've been keeping a close eye on what is happening with rural broadband service in Lee County.

We started reporting on it close to a year ago, when state legislators and economic development officials began barking that current Lee County maps were inaccurate and what is called "census block data" wasn't providing a clear picture of the real service levels in our rural areas.

On Friday, the FCC firmed up a commitment to put \$20.4 billion, into a Rural Digital Opportunity fund to help address some of the issues facing poor broadband service in rural parts of America.

Our look into rural broadband has revealed a couple basic points. Number 1, the current mapping system based on what's called a Form 477, does not paint a clear picture of rural Internet service in America, specifically the tri-state area and Lee County. No. 2, we're all going to pay to fund rural broadband improvements.

And we should. It's an economic development must, like natural gas, rail access, river access and other things that make this area an attractive location for business and industry looking for new locations.

The 477 form is based on information provided by Internet Service Providers that indicates a minimum level of service (minimum meaning a minimal level of download/upload speeds) in any particular polygonal census block.

But the punch there typically lies in the fact that one building, say a school, could

See **INTERNET**, page 3



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg

**MEATLOAF MADNESS** - Volunteers at the Moose Lodge in Fort Madison serve up meatloaf dinners as part of a "Best Meatloaf" contest Saturday evening. Fort Madison Mayor Matt Mohrfeld, FMHS Principal Greg Smith, Moose President Mike Richards, and Pen City Current editor Chuck Vandenberg judged 10 different entries. Monty Butler had the top dish.

## OPINION

### Thank You notes have 2020 started off on the right foot

"If you have one friend, you're a wealthy person." I don't know where I heard this, I thought it was a famous quote, maybe from Shakespeare. But Googling it turned up nothing.

A few years back, I wrote a column about one of my readers who wrote a thank you note a day for nine months, and it changed her life. She read of the concept in a book about a guy who was on the verge of suicide. He wrote a thank you note a day for a year, and turned his

### EMPTY NEST

By Curt Swarm



life around.

This December, at the beginning of Advent, I struck upon the idea of writing a thank you note a day for the month of Advent. The period of Advent is the four

Sundays preceding the birth of Jesus. It means, "Coming." It's a good time to be thankful.

Mind you, I'm not a note writer. My handwriting is terrible, just ask Ginnie, who has to decipher what that word is that I've put on the grocery list! People judge who you are by your handwriting. And if you're a poor speller, like I am, well, the die is cast. If I can type something out, like I'm doing right now, I'm

See **SWARM**, page 8

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## WEATHER

OpenWeatherMap  
 MON 13 Jan .....Clear, 37.8° F / 35.5° F  
 TUE 14 Jan .....Few Clouds, 39.2° F / 31.1° F  
 WED 15 Jan .....Light Rain, 41.7° F / 19.8° F

## IOWA LOTTERY

LOTTO AMERICA 01/11.....121253034, Star Ball: 7, All Star Bonus: 3  
 PICK 3 01/11 MIDDAY.....377  
 PICK 3 01/11 EVENING.....356  
 PICK 4 01/11 MIDDAY.....5102  
 PICK 4 01/11 EVENING.....3938  
 POWERBALL 01/11.....321233159, Powerball: 3, Power Play: 2

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## Obituaries

### JACKIE D. CARTER

Jackie "Jack" D. Carter, 73, of Fort Madison, IA, passed away at 7:55 p.m. on Saturday, January 11, 2020 at his home. He was born on October 11, 1946 in Burlington, IA to Jack & Violet Loving Carter. He married Sharon K. McIlmoil on January 29,



CARTER

1966 in Carthage, IL. He was a mechanic at Stoyer Motors and was a truck driver for the City of Fort Madison for 35 years. He was a member of the Fort Madison Moose Lodge, Eagles Club & the Past Time Club and was a former member of Vintage Rodders Street & Rod Club. He enjoyed his cabin, boating and spending time with his family. He was an avid Iowa Hawkeye fan & Pittsburgh Steelers fan.

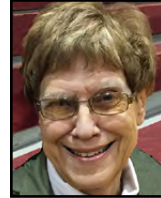
Jack is survived by: his wife: Sharon Carter of Fort Madison, IA; 2-sons: Gregory (Michelle) Carter of Rapid City, SD & Bradley Carter of Coralville, IA; 2-grandsons: Brandon (Jennifer) Carter of Mountain Home, ID & Tyler (Kelcy) Carter of Tucson, AZ; 5-great grandchildren: Elizabeth, Sierra, Jayce, Mason, Caroline & 1-on the way; 1-brother: Jimmy Carter of Marshalltown, IA; his dog lucky and many close friends whom he considered family. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Friends may call after 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 15, 2020 with the family to receive friends from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday evening at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. The funeral service will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, January 16, 2020 at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. Burial will be held at Oakland Cemetery. A memorial has been established in Jack's memory. Online condolences to Jack's family may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: [www.kinglynk.com](http://www.kinglynk.com).

### KATHRYN A. WEMETTE

Kathryn Ann "Kathy" Wemette 77, of Keokuk, IA died Friday, January 10, 2020 at UnityPoint Health-Keokuk.

She was born May 14, 1942 in Toledo, IA the daughter of Hugo and Helen Bernatz Joens.



WEMETTE

Kathy graduated from Toledo Public High School with the Class of 1960, then furthered her education at the State College of Iowa (University of Northern Iowa) where she received her Bachelor of Arts degree.

On June 1, 1968 she was united in marriage to Thomas Wemette at St Patrick's Church in Tama, Iowa. He preceded her in death on November 12, 2006.

She had been employed as a high school social history teacher before becoming a homemaker. Although she stopped teaching, she was a lifelong student of history and loved learning through experiences.

Kathy was a member of The Church of All Saints in Keokuk and was actively involved in the Religious Education and other church programs. She was also an active member of multiple Keokuk High School booster programs and was involved with fund raising and working sporting events. Those who attended Keokuk Football games during the 1990s would know Kathy as the "Keokuk Cart Lady" where she proudly sold Keokuk apparel. She served on the Lee County Historical Society Board for over twenty years, where she managed the Miller House and worked the annual Civil War reenactment. Kathy was always willing to volunteer, and participated in a Mother's Study Club, Relay for Life, Girl Scouts, and Little Feathers. Kathy faithfully supported many community programs over several decades.

Throughout her life, Kathy enjoyed traveling nationwide. She never missed an opportunity to take off on an adventure with her beloved friend, Joyce Sapp. She also enjoyed watching sports and was an avid Iowa Hawkeye, Chicago Cubs and Green Bay Packers fan. Friends and family knew her to be a bit competitive regarding sports and card games. Kathy adored her four grandchildren and was an enthusiastic fan of all their school and sport activities. She had a zest for life and filled each day with love, laughter, and memories to treasure.

She is survived by: one daughter, Nicole Nemecek (Bryan) of Keokuk, IA; one son, Mark Wemette (Jessica) of Fairfax, VA; four grandchildren, Thomas Nemecek, Zachary Nemecek, Lissa Nemecek, and Avery Kathryn Wemette; in-laws, Bob Wemette (Bev) of Alma, WS, Mary Strangstalien of Westby, WS, and Pat Daniel (Bruce) of Belvidere, IL; and many nieces and nephews.

Besides her husband, she was also preceded in death by her parents, one sister, Jerrie Kueny and many brothers and sisters-in-law.

A Mass of Christian burial will be held at 10:30 a.m., Wednesday, at The Church of All Saints with Reverend David Brownfield, Ph.D. officiating. Burial will be in the Hickory Grove Cemetery in Keokuk.

Visitation will be held after 3 p.m., Tuesday, with family meeting with friends from 6-8 p.m. at the Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk. A Christian Vigil will be held at 8:00 p.m.

Memorials may be made to the Grand Theatre or The Church of All Saints.

Online condolences may be left for the family at [www.vigenmemorialhome.com](http://www.vigenmemorialhome.com).



## Baby It's Cold Outside!

But don't hibernate! Keep your blood pumping with a daily exercise routine. Just 30 minutes a day of moderate exercise like walking can help you live longer, sleep better and feel good about yourself.

But when staying active becomes more difficult or you have suffered an injury or illness that has left you struggling to regain your good health, the FMCH Rehabilitation Services team is here to help. Ask for a referral from your health care provider today!

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Left to right: Chris, Erin, Judy, Jill, Brian, Shelby, and Desiree

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**Charles Vandenberg, Editor**

(319).371.1670  
[editor@pencitycurrent.com](mailto:editor@pencitycurrent.com)

**Lee K. Vandenberg, Sales Manager**

(319).371.4125  
[sales@pencitycurrent.com](mailto:sales@pencitycurrent.com)

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It's Black & White and Read all over

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Obituaries/From the Front

# New rural broadband efforts will still take time

**INTERNET** - Continued from Page 1

have minimum-service, or better, and the ISPs report that “census block” which obviously includes more than just the school, has a certain level of service. But the home 1/4 mile down the road from the school may have reduced service or no service at all.

Under pressure from legislators, service providers and the public, the Federal Communication Commission created the Digital Opportunity Data Collection on Aug. 1 to help formulate a more accurate, or “granular” look at rural broadband access. The new rule from the FCC also creates a public input model to verify accuracy. The FCC said during commission hearings that Form 477 would still remain in use for now.

According to the FCC report of Aug. 1, the commission will limit the new data collection obligations to fixed broadband providers at present, and seek comment on how best to incorporate mobile wireless coverage data into the Digital Opportunity Data Collection.

A second notice from the FCC in that report focuses on the data collection from satellite broadband services, as well as providing an avenue for specific homes and business that do not have broadband service at some level.

The commission in August directed the following groups, the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC), under the oversight of the Commission’s Office of Economics and Analytics (OEA), the Wireline Competition Bureau (WCB), Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB), and the International Bureau (IB) to develop a new portal to accept broadband coverage maps, called polygons from fixed providers, as well as public feedback on the accuracy of these broadband maps.

The public feedback, it seems, is going to be collected through a system called “crowdsourcing”.

The irony seems to be that ‘crowdsourcing’ is usu-



ally done via the Internet. So that would mean rural homeowners would have to go somewhere else to access Internet service to alert the collection service as to their poor level of service.

Guess it’s back to restaurants and libraries for free wifi access, but it may be worth doing. According to the report, the FCC has a consumer complaints division, and they are directing USAC to come up with a tracking method for inaccurate data.

The news is good. We’ve had conversations with ISP providers, economic development officials and legislators and all have said this won’t be a quick fix. But because conversations are taking place, a bright light is being shined on the issue. Throughout history, that’s how progress has been made.

Providers say they can’t make sense of investing millions in fiber optic cable to connect every home in every county in their service areas. When you think of what the average homeowner pays for Internet service at their homes, and what it would cost to physically run rural cabling to catch homes that are sometimes miles apart, they have a point.

So they turn to the government to help subsidize the connections. Without the government’s help the market will determine when and if rural customers get better service. And that’s a bleak picture to be sure.

Getting your hands on a piece of the \$20.4 billion

will be left to the providers in what’s called a “reverse auction” where providers can show where they can best provide additional service for the least amount of money. A timeline hasn’t been set on when that money can or will be disbursed.

But it’s big news for rural Iowans. Something’s being done. We hear stories of parents having to take their children into places like McDonald’s to do homework because almost all is done through laptops even at the youngest grade levels. Poor internet speeds, or no service at all, handicaps those students and families.

That’s sad because we live in country where everyone has access to utilities in their homes. The Internet is essentially a utility and it won’t be long before it’s a legal utility that has to be provided to every citizen.

Governmental agencies, schools, emergency responders... everyone is using the Internet and those that don’t have access are at a disadvantage.

A lot of the information coming out of the FCC is still being argued amongst commission members, but they’re arguing as the walk down the road and not digging their heels in.

It’s still going to take some time to connect all of America, it just gets more attention here in the rural areas, where people already feel left behind. The fact the wheels are turning, means energy toward that connection is being generated.

Speaking of the Internet at some point being classified as a consumer utility like gas and electric, newspapers of record need to be wary of that change because it’s doubtful governmental agencies will be required to pay for legal ads when everyone can access them online. Newspapers make hundreds of thousands of dollars off legal advertising...and they’re already bleeding ad revenue. 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](mailto:editor@pencitycurrent.com).

**OBITUARIES**

## TILDEN A. BOTTGER

Tilden A. Bottger, 81 of Keokuk, died Sunday, January 12, 2020 at the Montebello Health Center in Hamilton, IL.

He was born on July 3, 1938 in Fairfield, IA the son of Cecil A. and Eulalia McCabe Bottger. He was united in marriage to Duilio Cordoba in Cedar Rapids, IA. He survives.

He graduated from Keokuk High School with the Class of 1956.

Tilden was the owner and operator of Bottger Novelty in Keokuk.

He was a member of the Keokuk Yacht Club. He loved traveling throughout the world.

Besides his husband he is survived by one sister, Tracy Bottger of Keokuk.

Tilden was preceded in death by his parents.

There will be no service or visitation. Burial will take place in the Oakland Cemetery in Keokuk at a later date.

Online condolences may be made to the family at [www.vigenmemorialhome.com](http://www.vigenmemorialhome.com).

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



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# Sports

## CENTRAL LEE SPORTS

Lady Hawks knock off HTC 46-25

# Merschman hits 1,000 in Friday Hawks win

Junior scores 35 of Lady Hawks' 46

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR



Photos by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

FORT MADISON – Holy Trinity had no answer for Central Lee's Mya Merschman on Friday night.

The junior scored 35 of the Lady Hawks 46 points as Central Lee downed Holy Trinity 46-25 Friday night at Central Lee.

When Merschman hit 31 points an announcement was made that she had eclipsed 1,000 points in her three years playing for the Lady Hawks. A celebration is set for halftime of Tuesday's game against New London.

"I knew I was close but I didn't know if I was going to get it tonight or not," Merschman said. "But I really wanted to get there."

The Central Lee girls school record is 1,589 points, which seems quite a ways away, but

Central Lee's Mya Merschman (24) fronts up Holy Trinity's Claire Pothitakis (12) Friday night in the fourth quarter at Central Lee. Merschman scored 35 points and passed 1,000 career points in the 46-25 loss.

Merschman said it's something she's shooting for.

She's average of about 26 points per outing with a season and half left, barring any setbacks she could get close.

Most of Merschman's points came inside the lane as Holy Trinity couldn't move with her regular two-step cross in the lane. She was 16-28 from the field and went 3-of-4 at the free throw line.

But she said her team-

mates are making things possible for her.

"The passes were really good tonight so that allowed me get me the points. My teammates have always helped me out a lot."

Holy Trinity got behind early in the first quarter 6-0 before sophomore Kassi Randolph got the Crusaders on the board with a bucket underneath. It would be one of the few times HTC would score in the lane as Central Lee

packed the defense at the blocks.

So HTC head coach Tony Johnson moved to a perimeter game, but the lid was on for sure as the Crusaders shot just 3 of 11 in the first quarter. A 3-ball by Ashlyn Haas at the buzzer cut the lead to 8-10, with Merschman scoring all Central Lee's points.

The Lady Hawks wouldn't get a bucket from any other player until the 4:25 mark of the second period



Holy Trinity Catholic's Ashlyn Haas brings the ball up the floor in heavy traffic Friday night.

Central Lee would then go cold out of the halftime break missing their first seven shots from the field before Daly Brisby put in a 3-pointer with 3:38 left in the third. Holy Trinity would only manage a free throw during the stretch, and found themselves in a hole they couldn't recover from down 27-13.

Junior Bailey Hellweg would bang in a couple 3-pointers down the stretch but HTC would only get as close as 12 the rest of the way.

Head Coach Tony Johnson said it wasn't a matter of not getting open looks, but the Lady Crusaders couldn't find the range. And with Central Lee forcing HTC to shoot from outside by keeping the post clogged

shoot more so I wasn't going to rein them back.

"If it's not inside you have to be able to make them from outside, but if they're playing a pack-line defense, your not going to get anything inside."

Hellweg led the Crusaders with six points on the night, followed by Randolph with five, Pothitakis four, Haas three and Brooke Mueller added a bucket.

In addition to Merschman's 35, Central also got four points from Makayla Morrison and Summers, and three from Brisby.

The Lady Crusaders fall to 5-6 on the year and travel to Mt. Pleasant on Monday. The Lady Hawks take on New London Tuesday at home.



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# Lee County News/Classifieds

## Still not too late for flu shot

**FLU** - Continued from Page 1

is an enjoyable and rewarding time that everyone wants to share in but the safety and health of both the mother and infant are our top priorities. FMCH team members are following the CDC's guidelines, as well as the FMCH infection control procedures to help protect our patients, employees and hospital visitors.

In addition, we ask that all visitors to FMCH help us limit the spread of the influenza virus by adhering to the following recommendation:

If you are experiencing any of the symptoms of the flu including: fever, cough, sore throat, diarrhea, vomiting, body aches, runny or stuffy nose we ask that you refrain from visiting both inpatient and outpatient surgery areas of the hospital.

People who have influenza can be contagious beginning one day before symptoms develop and up to five to seven days after becoming sick. Some people, especially young children and people with weakened immune systems, might be able to infect others for an even longer time.

Most importantly, the hospital is working to educate the community about ways to prevent the spread of

influenza and other viruses. These measures can help prevent spreading the illness:

Wash your hands frequently with soap and water; if soap and water are not available use an alcohol based hand sanitizer.

Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze and throw the tissue in the trash after you use it and then sanitize your hands; or cough and sneeze into your elbow if a tissue is not available.

Avoid close contact with sick people.

Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth, as germs spread this way.

If you get sick with influenza, stay home from work or school and limit close contact with others to help prevent the spread of flu.

If you are sick, stay home for at least 24 hours after your fever is gone.

And remember it is not too late to get a flu shot!

Fort Madison Community Hospital is concerned about the health of the community and want to do their part to protect everyone from the spread of flu viruses during this time of heightened awareness.

## Lee County Democrats set Feb. 3 caucus locations

LEE COUNTY – The Lee County Democratic Party committee has released the Feb. 3 caucus locations. It was also announced that there will be to satellite caucus locations at 1 p.m for those that can't make the regular 7 p.m. caucuses.

By precinct, the 2020 caucus locations throughout Lee County are listed below:

### KEOKUK

- KE1 Keokuk Labor Temple, 301 Blondeau St., Keokuk
- KE2 Heritage Center, 508 Main Street, Keokuk
- KE3 George Washington Elementary School (gym), 116 N. 8th St., Keokuk
- KE4 First Christian Church, 3476 Main St., Keokuk
- KE5 Keokuk Middle School (cafeteria), 2002 Orleans St., Iowa
- KE6 First Christian Church, 3476 Main St., Keokuk
- KE7 Hawthorne Elementary School (gym), 2940 Decatur St., Keokuk

### FORT MADISON

- FM1 St. John's United Church of Christ, 501 10th St., Fort Madison
- FM2 Lincoln Elementary School (gym), 1326 Avenue E, Fort Madison
- FM3 Fort Madison High School (multipurpose room), 2001 Ave. B, Fort Madison
- FM4 Eagles Club, 4821 Avenue O, Fort Madison
- FM5 Richardson Elementary (gym), 3301 Avenue L, Fort Madison
- Jefferson Twsp. – Richardson Elementary (library), 3301 Avenue L, Fort Madison
- Montrose – Ivor Fowler Community Center, 710 Main St., Montrose
- Charleston/Des Moines/Van Buren – Central Lee High School (gym), 2642 Hwy 218, Donnellson
- Franklin/Cedar/Marion/Harrison – Pilot Grove Savings Bank Community Room, 506 Main St., Donnellson
- West Point/Pleasant Ridge/Denmark – Fort Madison High School (multipurpose room), 2001 Ave. B, Fort Madison
- GreenBay/Washington – Newberry Center, 728 Avenue G, Fort Madison
- Jackson – Jackson Township Fire Station, 3640 Argyle Road, Keokuk

# PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### PUBLIC NOTICE 2019 CITY OF Fort Madison Employee Wages

Deborah Albee	33,446.43	Courtney Dalton	57,084.72	Dawn Helling	4,473.85	Matthew Mohrfeld	3,001.44	David Varley	116,718.72	Lawrence Woods	18,297.00
James Andrews	3,001.44	Randy Davis	60,124.10	Jeffrey Helling	79,042.10	Robert Morawitz	2,995.20	Brent Vogelgesang	14,459.60	Dakota Worley	64,993.42
Kelsey Bales	35,015.58	Michael Degen	46,380.25	Kyle Henderson	7,807.59	Bryan Morehouse	11,636.80	Joshua Wade	49,601.21	Dana Zumdom	46,485.81
Edmun Barthlomew	47,909.65	Norman Dodson	72,379.25	Joey Herren	82,992.80	Amy Morris Boyer	16,711.71	Gregory Warosh	14,459.60	Shane Zumdom	42,520.87
Linda Baxter	2,735.00	David Doyle	63,441.35	Kevin Hoenig	46,002.12	William Moyer	16,668.00	Eugene Watkins	44,257.56	Timothy Watkins	5,327,476.36
Doug Bergquist	49,919.23	Larry Driscoll	110,608.48	Robert Hogan	69,066.45	Jordan Nagel	3,330.00	Timothy Watkins	2,819.46	Drew Weisinger	64,178.72
Kathleen Berry	19,021.45	Christopher Eastin	61,710.87	Kenneth Honadel	45,650.92	Joseph Nelson	6,270.00	Brian Wiegand	52,969.22	Leon Wilson	47,335.88
Dale Beuning	14,148.00	Nichalus Ellison	10,989.07	Heather Horey	54,189.01	Bruce Niggemeyer	78,960.12	David Woodley	10,803.52	Alan Woods	13,396.00
Jay Blanchard	81,805.02	William Estrada	42,600.02	Daniel Horn	59,848.15	Cecelia Owens	5,900.03	Leon Wilson	47,335.88		
Melinda Blind	74,597.26	Nichalus Fedler	46,433.21	Casey Huebner	59,553.31	Nathan Parker	63,089.81	David Woodley	10,803.52		
Randy Boe	44,523.52	Caleb Ford	4,562.38	Kelsey Hugg	13,167.38	Jean Peiton	29,877.73	Alan Woods	13,396.00		
Eric Bohnenkamp	48,274.15	Charles Fullenkamp	60,955.14	Kendall Irwin	2,443.25	Joe Peitz	48,255.12				
Kent Brisby	60,579.45	Mike Fullenkamp	71,040.66	Daniel Johnson	63,108.13	Don Peterson	46,306.04				
Emeline BriTon	19,976.01	Dustin Fullhart	72,981.39	Karl Judd	68,609.19	Billy Pohlpete	42,709.13				
Benjamin Brown	67,185.43	Gerilyn Gardner	10,723.58	Michael Kempker	48,745.33	Elmer Puckett	49,829.91				
Brandon Brown	3,080.00	Neal Gathers	71,455.64	Eric Kern	83,580.07	Bradley Randolph	5,512.00				
Robert Brown	48,493.13	Brent Gibbs	10,396.62	Robert Kern	48,037.40	Janie Rees	35,876.85				
Bradley Bryant	43,963.37	Jack Gray	62,853.40	Nathan Koser	55,443.49	Chloe Rempe	16,866.79				
Justin Cain	61,102.45	Brian Green	69,990.15	Douglas Krogmeier	75,680.53	Kevin Rink	3,001.44				
Chad Cangas	3,001.44	Christopher Greenwald	3,001.44	Jason Kuhlmeier	56,158.48	Mark Rohloff	26,152.80				
James Carle	82,748.82	Matthew Griffin	55,589.94	Mark Lair	3,001.44	Ronald Russell	12,020.00				
Mark Cartwright	4,595.00	Wendell Groene	56,342.58	John Lambert	16,596.00	Kayla Schleidt	33,899.01				
Dawn Clark	1,883.70	Luke Gruening	45,948.37	Jonathan Lange	63,506.99	Mike Schneider	79,974.72				
Sarah Clendineng	72,691.77	Bruce Gustafson	62,595.25	Donald Manning	16,176.00	Travis Schroeder	47,830.56				
Ty Clute	45,860.25	Austin Haas	15,240.77	Andrew McFall	56,357.61	Kelly Shields	16,060.37				
Christine Cowles	40,500.88	Chad Hannum	72,623.46	Alexander Meierotto	60,745.01	Timothy Sittig	48,098.47				
Justina Cullen	19,483.75	Cling Harland	61,017.44	Emilee Meierotto	54,190.19	Vicki Slater	54,165.38				
				Edward Mendez	4,158.00	Peggy Steffensmeier	78,075.86				
				Mario Mendez	16,374.00	Brian Stein	25,624.78				
				Carol Miner	37,646.82	Clifford Stewart	50,246.11				
						Marina Templin	1,305.00				
						Francisco Trejo	2,965.27				

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### PUBLIC NOTICES

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**Lee County, Iowa**  
**Board of Supervisors**  
**Agenda**  
**DATE: TUESDAY,**  
**January 14, 2020**  
**MEETING**  
**CONVENING TIME:**  
**9:00 A.M.**  
**LOCATION:**  
**Correctional Center**  
**2530 255th Street,**  
**Montrose, IA**

**AGENDA**

Pledge of Allegiance  
 Approve Agenda  
 Approve Tuesday, January 7, 2020 Board Minutes  
 Consider Approval of Claims  
 Public Input  
 Library Board Budget Request Presentation  
 Discussion of Wellness Program  
 Consider Approval of Third Reading of Tanning Facilities Ordinance  
 Consider Approval of

Third Reading of Amend- ed Smoking Ordinance  
 Discuss and Consider Setting Percentage of Salary Raise for Board of Supervisor Members  
 Discuss and Consider Setting Percentage of Salary Raise for Elected Officials and Employees Covered Under Personnel Policy  
 Consider Approval of Class B Beer Permit for Tri State Gun Club, Montrose  
 Consider Approval of Class C Beer Permit for Dollar General, Montrose  
 Consider Approval of Class C Liquor License for Mt Hamill Tap  
 Consider Approval of Tax Abatement Resolu- tions (5)  
 Personnel Actions:  
 A. Step Increase-Trea- surer's Office  
 B. Step Increase-Sher- iffs Office  
 C. Step Increase-Health Department Reports:

A. Semi Annual Settle- ment of Board of Super- visors  
 B. Auditor's Report of Fees Collected  
 Commission or Com- mittee Reports  
 Adjourn

Workshop to Follow

**PUBLIC MEETING**  
**CITIZENS WELCOME**

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**Lee County**  
**Conservation Board**  
**Agenda**  
**January 14, 2020**  
**Regular Meeting:**  
**4:00 p.m.**  
**Lee County**  
**Conservation Center**  
**2652 Highway 61**  
**Montrose, IA 52639**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**Agenda**

1. Call to order
  2. Oath of Office
  3. Introductions
  4. Approval of minutes from December 10, 2019
  5. Public Input
- This is the time of the meeting that a citizen may address the Board on any matters pertaining to the

Lee County Conservation Board. The Board cannot take formal action at the meeting on matters not included on the regular agenda, but may ask the staff to research the matter or have the matter placed on a subsequent agenda.

6. Elect President
7. Elect Vice President
8. Approval of Bills
9. Approval of Financial Report
10. Lee County Pheas- ants Forever banquet sponsorship
11. Review and approve bids for new forestry mower attachment
12. Review and ap- prove bids for new tiller
13. Staff Reports

14. Board Member Comments
15. Adjournment

**Workshop to Follow**  
**Regular Meeting**

Next regular meeting will be February 11, 2020

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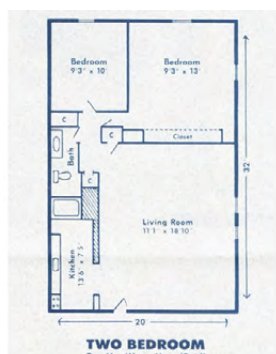
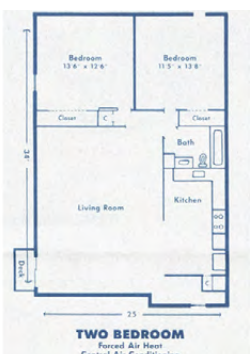
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## Sports/From the Front

## Thank You notes returned with inspiring messages

**SWARM** - Continued from Page 1

better off—Spell Check is a game changer.

When I asked Ginnie if she had some thank you notes I could use, her eyes lit up. Of course she had thank you notes, boxes of them! That's what women do. I soon had a box of thank you notes sitting on my desk ready for me to reveal my inner most thoughts. Ugh. It was the first of December. Note one: my hand shook so badly, I threw the first two attempts away. Should I print so people can read my writing, or use cursive? It's called "cursive" for a reason—I curse while performing it.

I won't tell you who I wrote my first thank you note to. All I'll reveal is that I wrote out (scribbled) what I should have said to the person anyway. I was sweating in the armpits and it was a cooling relief to walk out to the mailbox in the December breeze to post it.

The second thank you note was a little easier.

One immediate reward of the daily thank you notes is that Ginnie and I now know if the mail has arrived. Our mail box is at the end of our driveway, and it's a little bit of a chore walking out to get the mail, especially in inclement weather. If it's not there, it's a wasted trip, and we got wet for nothing. We've been trying to figure out a way to determine if the mail has arrived. (Creative designs using electric eyes and flashing lights come to mind.) We can see the mail box from our house. With a thank you note a day being deposited in the mail box, if the little red flag is down, the mail has arrived. Perfect!

After a few days of writing thank you notes, I noticed things going smoother. Being grounded in gratitude (attitude of gratitude) puts a whole new perspective on otherwise harried days. God and I came to an agreement:

I do what He puts in front of me, don't ask questions, and things work out marvelously. I may be getting more from the thank you notes than the recipients.

I have now completed the 30 days of Advent thank you notes. It's not really that much of a burden to think of someone to say thank you to. (Yes, I sent one to Ginnie.) There are friends, family, and acquaintances. Ginnie's address book is a big help. Most all of my notes begin with "Thank you for being my friend." I have received back some heartwarming messages of how my note helped them in time of need. That makes me feel good.

With the 30 days up, I've decided to extend the thank you notes through January, maybe Easter. Ginnie and I are going to Israel in February with our church group (God willing). I'm wondering what effect a thank you note posted from the Holy Land will have on the recipient. Or me.

I'm a wealthy man!

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## Mohrfeld helps lead BHS to dual win Thursday

BY PCC STAFF

BURLINGTON – The Grayhound swim team won 7 of 11 varsity events on Thursday enroute to a 114-45 win over Davenport West at the BHS pool.

Burlington finished one and two in the 200-yard medley with Colby Geiger, Jordan Watznauer, Jacob Mohrfeld and Nathan Parks taking first with a time of 1:55.51, just .73 seconds in front of their teammates.

Jacob Venvertloh won the 200-yard freestyle with a time of 2:08.65. Wyatt Hellman took third place at 2:13.55.

Mohrfeld won the 200-yard individual medley touching the wall at 2:06.91 highlighted by a 28.45 first leg. The Grayhounds Taden Jameson was second at 2:33.48.

Mohrfeld also took first in the 500-yard freestyle with a time of 5:21.14.

Logan Crank, of Burlington was second at 6:06.14 and Geiger was third at 6:12.95.

The 200-yard freestyle relay team of Jameson, Crank, Mohrfeld and Geiger took first by 3.3 seconds with a time of 1:38.32.

Nathan Parks won the 100 backstroke in 1:18.77 followed by the Grayhounds' Will Neises 1:21.96 and Neil Macomber 1:23.48.

The Hounds won the final varsity event, the 400-year freestyle relay with Cade Hillyer, Venvertloh, Parks and Welman anchoring in a time of 3:54.41. Watznauer, Matthew Smith, Rece Reiman and Macomber took 2nd at 4:09.54.

Crank and Geiger finished 2nd and 3rd in the 50-yard freestyle. Jameson, Smith and Venvertloh came in 2nd-4th in the 100 butterfly.

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