

# PEN CITY CURRENT

It's Black & White and Read all over

Tuesday, June 2, 2020 | 9 pages | Volume 4 • Issue 110



www.pencitycurrent.com

## FM grads get film time



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg

FMHS 2020 graduate Shea Dinwiddie gets his picture taken after going through a simulated graduation Monday afternoon at the high school.

### SIMULATION: Seniors help piece together video of 2020 graduation ceremony

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – It's going to take three full days, but Fort Madison High School is actually holding 136 individual graduation ceremonies over the next three days.

With plans still up in the air regarding a regular graduation ceremony, school officials went with a video graduation where each senior crosses the stage with family in attendance, as photos are taken and school staff made a video segment of each student crossing the stage.

Seniors are scheduled in 10 minutes increments all day Monday through Wednesday. Senior speakers and admin-

istration presentations are also being recorded and will be included in the video presentation.

Senior Kenya Davis-Robinson brought five family and friends with her and said she was happy the school made the effort to create some kind of ceremony in the uncertainty of future plans.

"I feel like it's better than no ceremony at all," she said. "This is pretty great considering everything that's going on in the world."

Davis-Robinson is planning on attending Southeastern Community College in a computer science program.

See SENIORS, page 4

### SUMMER MEALS

## School district to continue curbside meals in summer

FORT MADISON – The meal program that provided meals to children in the Fort Madison School District during the pandemic closure, will continue into the summer.

The Ft. Madison Community School District is again participating in the

Summer Food Service Program.

Meals will be provided to all children without charge and are the same for all children regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability, and there will be no discrimination in the course of the meal service. Meals

will be provided, on a first-come, first-served basis, at the sites and times below.

From June 11th – August 12th meals will be provided from 11 a.m. to 11:30

See MEALS, page 4

### COVID-19 RELIEF

## County gets \$58,000 in virus relief

LEE COUNTY – Congressman Dave Loeb sack today announced that Lee County has been awarded a grant through the Department of Justice's (DOJ) FY20 Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding Program. Lee County will receive \$58,008 to support a broad range of activities to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus.

Specifically, funded projects or initiatives may include, but are not limited to: overtime, equipment (including law enforcement and medical personal protective equipment), hiring, supplies (such as gloves, masks, sanitizer), training, travel expenses (particularly



LOEB SACK

See GRANT, page 3

### FMCH

## Hospital releases revised visitor restrictions

FORT MADISON – As Fort Madison Community Hospital moves toward increasing access to patient care, visitor restrictions have been revised.

Visitor restrictions were implemented at the height of COVID-19 planning to protect patients, staff and community from exposure to the virus.

Effective June 1, 2020, the following visitor restrictions and rules will be in force at FMCH.

- All visitors will be screened for COVID-19 symptoms at one of the screening entrances
- Visitors must be at least 18 years of age
- Any visitor who fails the COVID-19 screening will not be allowed into the facility
- All visitors must wear a mask at all times in

See FMCH, page 8

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### WEATHER

OpenWeatherMap  
TUE 02 Jun..... Sunny & Clear, 82.2° F / 71.9° F  
WED 03 Jun..... Broken Clouds, 80.3° F / 65.4° F  
THU 04 Jun..... Moderate Rain, 82.5° F / 73.5° F

### IOWA LOTTERY

PICK 3 05/31 MIDDAY.....	620
PICK 3 05/31 EVENING.....	961
PICK 4 05/31 MIDDAY.....	4705
PICK 4 05/31 EVENING.....	1135

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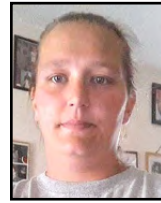
# Obituaries

## OBITUARIES

### VICTORIA M. GREEN

Victoria Marie Green, 35 of Keokuk, died Friday, May 29, 2020 at her home in Keokuk.

She was born December 8, 1984 in Burlington, IA the daughter of Jeff Hogberg and Teresa Green.



GREEN

Victoria had been employed with Walmart, Wendy's and Dollar General in Keokuk.

She enjoyed playing games on her phone, fishing and collecting wolves. She also enjoyed watching TV series "Charmed" and "Grey's Anatomy".

She is survived by three daughters, Lillian Wilson, Krista Mason and Amara Potter, a son, Ivan Wilson, her father, Jeff Hogberg of California, two sisters, Wanda (Cory) Gohsman of Burlington and April Burtlow of Oregon, one brother, Larry Burtlow of Cedar Rapids, IA, her significant other of ten years, Phil Potter of Keokuk, two half-sisters, one half-brother and three nieces and one nephew.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Teresa Burtlow, her grandparents and two uncles Robert and Danny Green.

Services will be held at a later date.

### DAVID L. RICHERS

David L. Richers, Jr. 54, of Keokuk and Ft. Madison, passed away on Monday, May 25, 2020 at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics. He was born on April 6,



RICHERS

1966 in Ft. Madison to David L. and Carolyn James Richers, Sr. David worked production at Scotts MiracleGro. He loved going to Saturday night bingo and drawing numbers. Sarcasm was a way of showing you were "in" and he loved to put a smile on everyone's face.

Survivors include one son, Steven Richers of Glendale, AZ; his mother, Carolyn Richers of Shawnee, KS; two sisters, Deb Anson of Shawnee, KS and Mary McCollum of Ft. Madison. He was preceded in death by his father and his sister, Angel Richers.

Per his wishes, cremation has been entrusted to King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. Online condolences may be left at [www.kinglynk.com](http://www.kinglynk.com).

#### 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.

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



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# For the Record/From the Front

## For the Record

### Fort Madison Police Report

05/28/20 – 11:54 p.m. – Fort Madison Police cited Candi Medina, 26, of Wapello, in the 3400 block of Avenue L, on a charge of driving under suspension. She was released.  
 05/28/20 – 8:22 p.m. – Fort Madison Police arrested Eric E. Fortune, 27, of Fort Madison, in the 2400 block of Avenue L on a charge of driving while barred. He was released on a promise to appear.  
 05/28/20 – 9:44 p.m. – Fort Madison Police cited Jeremy Gillette, 19, of Fort Madison, in the 5000 block of Avenue O on a charge of driving under suspension. He was released.  
 05/28/20 – 11:58 p.m. – Fort Madison Police arrested Isiah Ramirez-Savala, 22, of Fort Madison in the 1700 block of Avenue H, on a charge of OWI-1st offense. He was released on a promise to appear.  
 05/29/20 – 4:15 a.m. – Fort Madison Police arrested William Paul Cochenour, 27, of Fort Madison, at the police department on a charge of simple assault. He was released on a promise to appear.  
 05/29/20 – 2:35 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a hit and run on Richards Drive.  
 05/29/20 – 3:12 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in

the 1200 block of Avenue H. 05/30/20 – 8:21 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 2000 block of Avenue G.  
 05/30/20 – 2:12 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 1000 block of Avenue D.  
 05/30/20 – 3:48 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of property damage accident in the 4800 block of Avenue O.  
 05/30/20 – 4:44 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 3100 block of Avenue M.  
 05/30/20 – 7:56 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a stolen vehicle in the 200 block of Avenue G.  
 05/30/20 – 8:03 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 2500 block of Avenue J.  
 05/31/20 – 2:14 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 4600 block of Bluff Road.  
 05/31/20 – 7:26 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 200 block of Vica Lane.

### Lee County Sheriff's Report

05/28/20 – 4:36 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Jerry Dean Hardman, 40, of Keokuk, at the Lee County Jail on a charges of possession of controlled substance -subse-

quent offense, and possession of drug paraphernalia.  
 05/28/20 – 8:51 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Ethan Joseph Walte, 18, of Keokuk, in the 2600 block of 320th Street, on a charges of 3rd-degree burglary, eluding, possession of drug paraphernalia, driving on wrong side of highway, speeding, reckless driving, unsafe passing, and littering. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.  
 05/29/20 – 2:41 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Andrew Shayne Kelly, 34, of Keokuk, in the 3400 block of 277th Avenue in Keokuk, on a charge of public intoxication. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.  
 05/29/20 – 2:41 a.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Andrew Shane Kelly, 34, of Keokuk, in the 3400 block of 277th Avenue in Keokuk, on a charge of public intoxication. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.  
 05/29/20 – 3:55 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested a 17-year-old male juvenile from Fort Madison at the Juvenile Detention Center, on a charge of 2nd-degree criminal mischief. He was held

pending a juvenile court hearing.  
 05/30/20 – 7:27 a.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Morgan Belle Elizabeth Hammes, 19, of Davenport, at 150th Street and Hwy. 218, on a charges of speeding, possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of a control substance. She was taken to Lee County Jail and released on a promise to appear.  
 05/31/20 – 2:14 a.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a one-vehicle accident on Bluff Road. According to the report, a vehicle driven by Shieghe Menausha Donald, 27, of Fort Madison struck a large rock in the roadway causing damage to the vehicle. No injuries or citations were reported.

*Those listed above are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.*

### Fort Madison Fire & Rescue Report

05/28/20 – Fort Madison Firefighters had no calls.  
 05/30/20 – Fort Madison Firefighters responded to three medical calls  
 05/31/20 – Fort Madison Firefighters responded to three medical calls, one gas smell and one assistance call.


# Pandemic relief headed to vital workers

**GRANT** - Continued from Page 1

related to the distribution of resources to the most impacted areas), and addressing the medical needs of inmates in state, local, and tribal prisons, jails, and detention centers.

“It is clear that many local and state governments are struggling to balance their budgets in the wake of the financial toll being placed on them by the COVID-19 pandemic. I have been working to ensure these communities have the support they need to be able to fund healthcare workers, teachers, police officers, firefighters and other vital workers,” Loeb sack said. “I am pleased that Department of Justice has moved to get these funds to Lee County to help them respond to this pandemic.”

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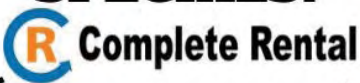
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**JUNE SPECIALS!**  


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From the front

# FMHS trying to hang on to graduate events

**SENIORS** - Continued from Page 1

Her father Terry Robinson said despite the pandemic causing closures and cancellation's, the video will be something his daughter will have to remember her senior year.

"I kinda think this is wonderful. They're going to remember this for the rest of their lives and they'll have something else positive to remember it by," he said.

"Here we can take pictures up close and everyone that needs to be here is here as far as her family."

High School Principal Greg Smith said the school is trying to hang on to everything it can for the seniors, but social distancing just isn't something educators are prepared for.

"Everything is just so upside down right now. "This is not what educators want to do, we're people people and social distancing is foreign to us," he said.

"But it's the best we can do right now. From what we've seen this morning families are showing up dressed up, and they're cheering. So that's something."

Smith said he doesn't believe anyone thinks it's the best way to do things and school officials are still hoping a regular graduation ceremony can happen at the end of the month.

"We'd love to have that ceremony and we're hoping at the end of June we can do that. But there are quite a few schools around us that are starting to cancel everything," Smith said. "But we're gonna hang on as long as we can."

The graduation parade that took place Friday was a big success, Smith said, and he hopes to make that an annual event.

Shea Dinwiddie, a senior who was filmed Monday afternoon, said the parade was fun, but a bit chilly.

"It was cold sitting up in the back of that Mustang, but it was fun,"

Dinwiddie said he would have preferred the traditional graduation ceremony so he could celebrate with all his classmates and friends.

"I guess we all would wish that everyone could be here including our friends, but at least we were able to bring our family, and the people that are most important could watch us," he said.

"I don't think if everything is normal that we need all this other stuff, but it's nice recognition."

Dinwiddie, is planning on attending Iowa State University in the fall and majoring in aerospace engineering.

The video is scheduled to be released on June 27, which is still the date planned for the regular graduation ceremony pending approval of Centers for Disease Control and Iowa Department of Public Health guidance.

Prom is still planned for the seniors on June 13, but Smith said a decision won't be made on confirming that date until June 8.

A full graduation ceremony is still being planned for June 27,



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

FMHS Senior Kenya Davis-Robinson crosses the stage after Assistant Principal Pat Lamb called her name during a video ceremony Monday at the high school.

## Summer meals will be handed out curbside this year

**MEALS** - Continued from Page 1

a.m. at: Ft. Madison High School Old Settlers Park, Ft. Madison Middle School Victory Park, Lincoln Elementary School Ivanhoe Apartments, Richardson Elementary School, Denmark Park, Ft. Madison Central Office, and on the West Point town square.

No meals will be provided on July 2 or 3.

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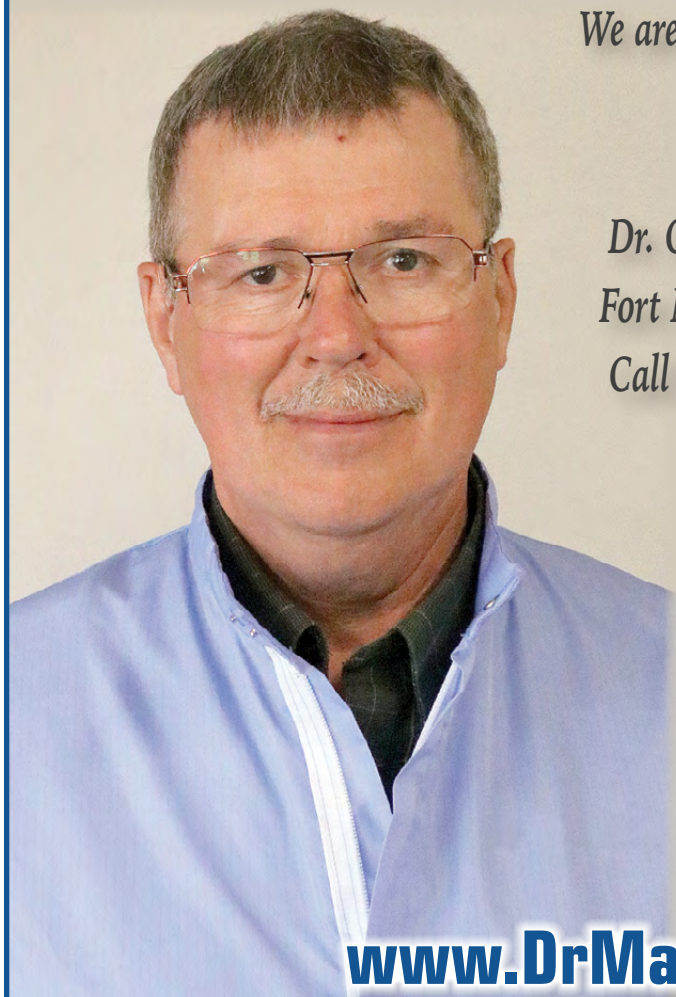
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## Opinion

# No fine print in Constitution for lawlessness

I don't get it. The right of the people "peaceably to assemble and petition their government for a redress of grievances" is part of our national fabric. I think it's important enough that I print it on our page each week. Nowhere is there fine print that includes rioting, looting, arson. But that's what consumed our television screens last weekend.

I was in Iowa City for something quite different on Saturday, but there were two simultaneous events taking place within a couple miles of each other – an irony to me.

Those familiar with Iowa City and the University of Iowa campus know the Pentacrest is essentially the gathering spot for rallies. Peaceful rallies. When I was a student it was the time when Iranians took Americans hostage in Tehran.

There were almost daily rallies on the Pentacrest. Peaceful ones. And Saturday there was a peaceful rally on the lawn in front of the historic old capitol building, conducted in the wake of the senseless killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis just days earlier.

Authorities cordoned off the first block of Clinton Street in front of the Pentacrest, anticipating a good-sized crowd. And that's what they got. Organizers Lujayn Hamad, 18, and Rameen Hamad, 20, said they

wanted to create a safe space for people to express their grievances with police violence and create a dialogue. And that's what they got.

We drove by as my daughter, Hannah, and I took my son, Connor, to the other side of the Iowa River where we dropped him off at the Iowa National Guard Armory so he could begin his assignment as a member of the guard's Ironman Battalion.

Hundreds of family members were there to say goodbye to our citizen soldiers as they prepare to leave for the Middle East for more than a year.

The send-off was more of a drop-off.

After the drop off, we assembled along a street near the Iowa recreation facilities to wave goodbye as two buses filled with guard members followed an escort led by more than 200 motorcycles, police and state patrol vehicles, and fire trucks from the area.

We left afterward to head out of town, which took us past the Pentacrest. By then, the streets were reopened, and you couldn't tell there was a large crowd there just an hour prior conducting a rally.

I came back to Guthrie Center while my daughter headed back to her apartment in Milwaukee.

I no sooner got in the door when my phone buzzed. It was her. Protests in downtown Milwaukee near her apartment were taking place. The city had

imposed a curfew. The governor had summoned Wisconsin National Guard troops to keep order.

Her boyfriend's parents live north of Milwaukee in Saukville. They called her and encouraged her to spend the night there, which she did.

Citizen soldiers from Iowa, including my son, will train and eventually leave for foreign soil to, among other things, protect the right to "peaceably assemble and petition our government for a redress of grievances" on our soil.

The founding fathers thought it so important that this be a government of the people – not tyrants or dictators – that they put the power of governing to the people. And it was of utmost importance to them that the guiding document started with select freedoms upon which Congress can do nothing about.

There are five freedoms in the First Amendment, but for me those five aren't the most important words of the amendment. To me, the most important words are the first five – "Congress shall make no law. . ."

There's no ambiguity in those five words. Translated: Don't even think about it Congress.

If you want to effect change, you don't do it by setting fires and stealing big-screen televisions and destroying and defacing private property. Lawlessness won't impart change for the better. It's not what the founders intended to protect when they crafted that magnificent document.

What we're seeing isn't what the First Amendment intended.

What we're seeing isn't why young men and women sign up and serve.

Steve Delaney, former editor-publisher of *The Hawk Eye* in Burlington, is owner/editor/publisher of the *Guthrie County Times Vedette* and can be reached at [editor@gctimesnews.com](mailto:editor@gctimesnews.com).



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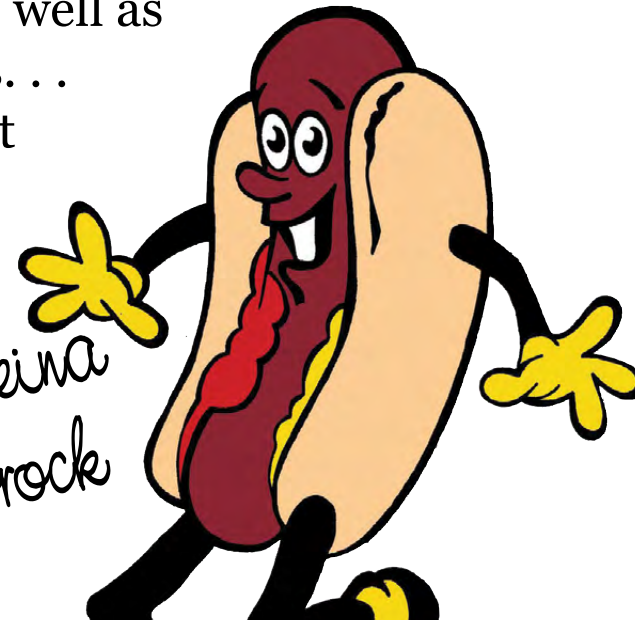
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**HELP WANTED**

**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.lee-county.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  
 2530 255th Street  
 Montrose, IA 52639  
 (319) 372-1152



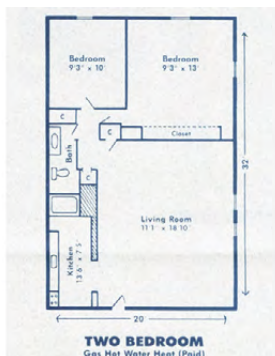
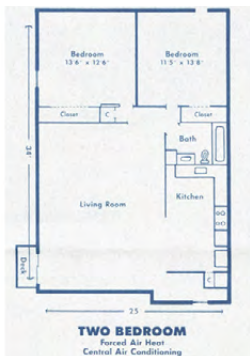
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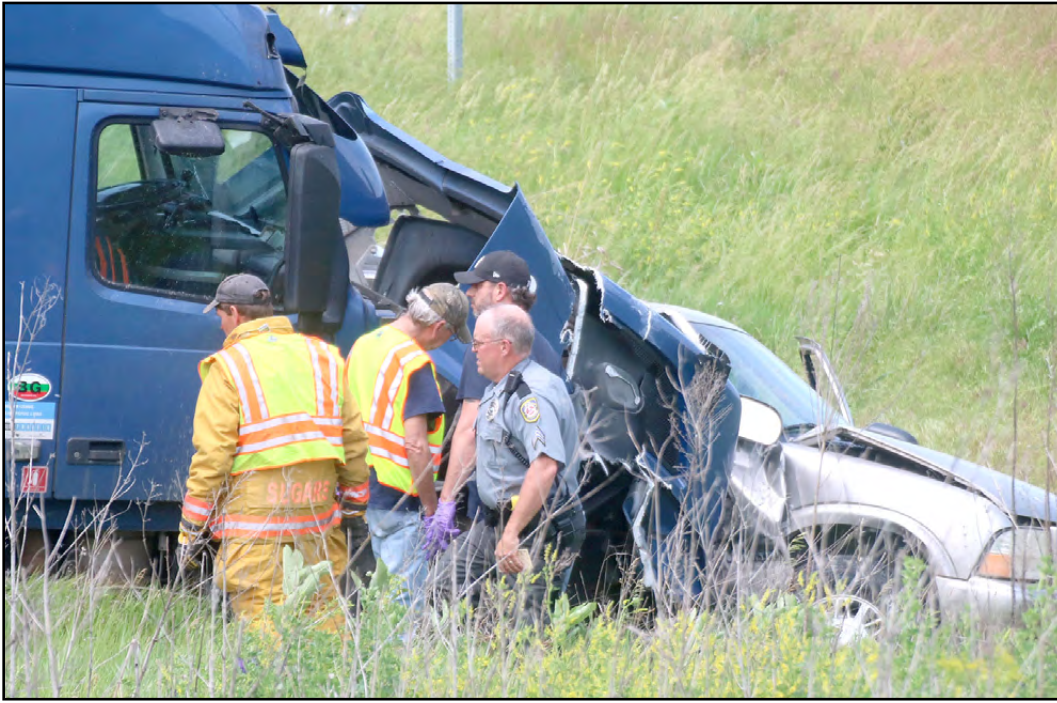
Get the facts at [BeyondIDo.org](http://BeyondIDo.org)



## Scene Around the Area/From the Front

Emergency crews responded to a semi-tractor and SUV collision Monday afternoon at Wever Junction. The SUV was turning into the gas station and, according to sheriff's deputies, the semi rear ended the vehicle. Only minor injuries were reported.

Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC



## New visitor guidance at FMCH facilities

FMCH - Continued from Page 1

the facility

- Each patient may only have one visitor per day
- Visitors may not leave and return in the same day
- Permitted visitors must stay in the patient's room during their visit or a designated visitor area, such as the surgical waiting room.

For visitors of inpatients, visiting hours are from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. with the following restrictions.

- One visitor per patient, per day, during visiting hours only

- Visitors must remain in patient's room
- Actively dying patients, patients who are at the end-of-life where death is imminent may have two visitors and one Clergy member.

- No visitation for patients who are in the COVID-19 Unit or patients considered under investigation for COVID-19. Support will be provided via telephone or video visits.

- No visitation for patients in isolation precautions.

- For inpatient overnight surgeries, one visitor per patient, per day. During surgery, visitor must remain in Ambulatory Surgery patient room. Visitors may visit patient in their inpatient room during visiting hours only.

Visiting hours do not apply to the following areas:

- Obstetric inpatients may have one dedicated partner or birth support person to accompany them.

- Patients 17 years old and younger may have one parent or guardian. This person must remain with the pa-

tient for the entire visit.

- Emergency Department patients may have one visitor, who must remain in the patient's room for entire visit (may not come and go). The Emergency Department may allow additional visitors based on clinical patient situation.

- Same Day Surgery patients may have one visitor, who must remain in the patient's room for entire visit.

- Outpatient Area (Annex / Cancer Care) patients are not allowed visitors unless one of the exceptions below is met.

- FMCH Clinic patients, adult patients requiring caregiver, or child 17 and under can have one visitor/guardian who must remain in patient's room entire visit.

- Women's Center patients may bring one visitor for ultrasound appointment only.

- Radiology, one visitor allowed for obstetrical ultrasounds.

Exceptions that require approval for visitation outside of visiting hours by the Provider and Administration include:

- Patients with disruptive behavior, where a family member is key to their care, may have one visitor overnight.

- Patients who have altered mental status or developmental delays (where caregiver provides safety) may have one visitor overnight.

- Any other special circumstances approved by Unit Director, Administration and Provider.



# 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
- Flatten empty boxes for better storage & volume reduction
- Place all recyclables loose in bins
- Don't recycle wrapping paper
- Properly dispose of all electronics and household hazardous waste



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# OPEN HOUSE

June 7th 11am—4pm



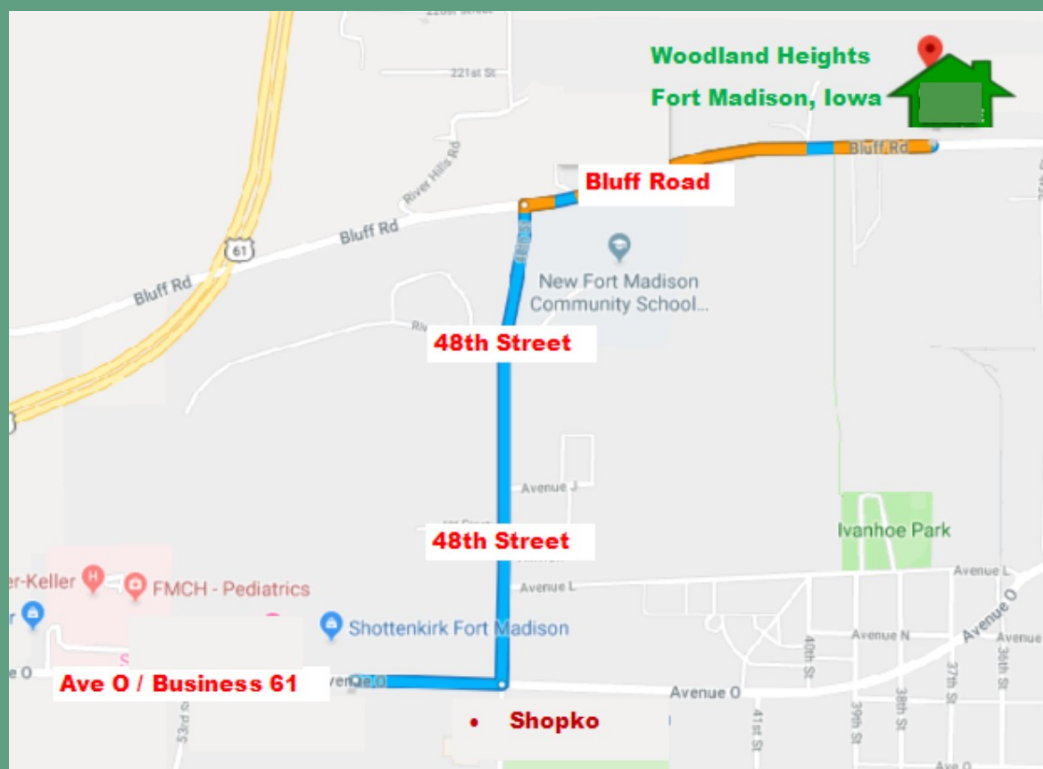
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