

# PEN CITY CURRENT

It's Black & White and Read all over

Wednesday, August 5, 2020 | 8 pages | Volume 4 • Issue 152



www.pencitycurrent.com

## Two killed in Tuesday accident

Few details in Hwy. 2 accident east of Donnellson

BY PCC STAFF

DONNELLSON – Two motorists were killed Tuesday night on Hwy. 2 east of Donnellson when the motorcycle they were riding on was crushed between a construction dump truck and a pickup truck.

Lee County Sheriff Stacy Weber confirmed Tuesday there were two fatalities as a result of the accident, which remains under investigation.

Weber didn't provide any additional information on the accident, but said a formal release could come on Wednesday with additional details. The accident occurred just before 6:30 p.m. near the 1900 block of Hwy. 2.



Emergency crews work on clean up at the site of an accident involving a construction dump truck, a pickup, and a motorcycle that claimed the lives of the cyclist and a passenger.

Montrose Fire & Rescue Chief Jason Dinwiddie is the new Lee County Emergency Management Services coordinator replacing Steve Cirinna who retired Friday after 17 years of service.

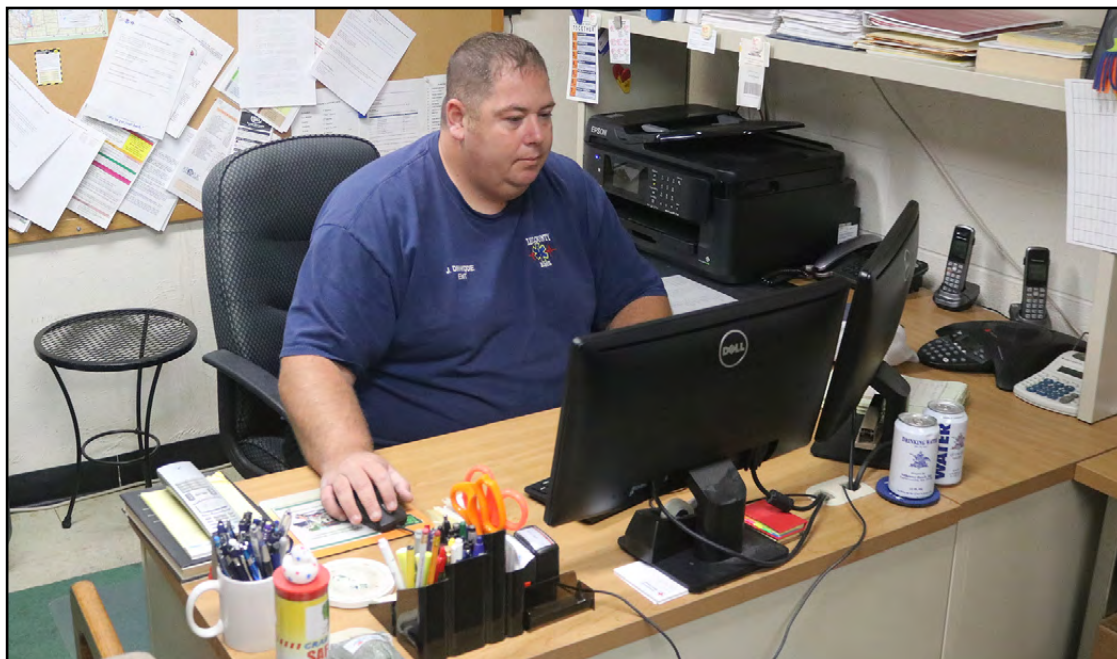


Photo by Chuck Vandenberg

RETIRED: Cirinna ends 17-year run as Emergency Management coordinator

## Dinwiddie moves into LCEMA post

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

LEE COUNTY – He's no stranger to first responder work and now has a job that seems to be right up his alley.

Montrose Volunteer Fire Chief and Lee County EMS staffer Jason Dinwiddie took over as Lee County Emergency Management Agency Coordinator Monday replacing Steve Cirinna, who retired after 17 years.

Dinwiddie said Tuesday most of the transition into the position has been made easier due to the connections he has with area first responders.

"I know almost all the players there," Dinwiddie said. "It's gonna be getting to know the leaders of the industries and their safety officers that's going to take some time. That's huge for the emergency services side of this job. I already knew everybody, so there wasn't a lot of introductions locally needed."

He said the real work will be in getting to know people in the private sector and navigating the grants that keep funding streams active.

"There's quite a bit of red tape in any government work

See FUNDING, page 8

### RETURN TO LEARN

## Schools get warning from Governor for non-compliance

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

JOHNSTON – Gov. Kim Reynolds said Tuesday afternoon that schools not complying with the state's 50% in-person instruction could face penalties from the state.

Those penalties include not having days count toward instructional days, which would require making up the days, as well as discipline for school administrators.

"It's the law. It's the statute and it passed unanimously," Reynolds said.

"If they fail to comply or follow the law then the days they're not in compliance will not count toward instructional time and it will have to be made up. School administrators could also be subject to licensure discipline as well."

Reynolds' proclamation regarding school openings requires a minimum of 50% in-person instruction. Schools that are in counties seeing higher than 15% positive testing and seeing at least 10% absenteeism among staff and students can apply for two-week periods of remote learning.

Anything outside of those parameters violates the law, which was Senate File 2310. The law passed unanimously in the legislature and requires in-person learning as the primary mode of education

"That's what we're working to implement," Reynolds said.

The law also gives Reynolds authority to adjust those parameters and reporters in the pool pressed her on why the rules were so stringent.

One reporter drew some emotion for the governor when asked if the risk was worth a student getting sick or a teacher potentially dying from an infection.

"Right there – these scare tactics from the media when we're trying to balance opening safely and responsibly, Reynolds said.

"We have an obligation to these children and the underprivileged already left behind.



REYNOLDS

See SCHOOLS, page 4

### INDEX

BeRecycled.org.....	P.5
BeyondDo.org.....	P.5
Business Directory.....	P.6
CLASSIFIEDS.....	Ps.5-6
Complete Rental.....	P.8
EDUCATION NEWS.....	P.4
Edward Jones – Tony Fullenkamp.....	P.4
Fort Madison Family YMCA.....	P.2
FROM THE FRONT.....	Ps.4,8
Fullenkamp Insurance.....	P.3

Great River Regional Waste Authority.....	P.2
HEALTH NEWS.....	Ps.3,5-6
IOWA NEWS.....	Ps.2,4
Lee County Health Department.....	P.7
LEE COUNTY NEWS.....	Ps.2,8
LOCAL NEWS.....	P.8
Mobile Nursing Services.....	P.5
OBITUARIES.....	P.3
• June A. Clippert, 67	
• Ray P. McCarl, 89	

Pen City Current.....	Ps.3,5-6
Pothitakis Dentistry.....	P.3
Rashid Pharmacy & Wellness.....	P.4
Scotts Miracle-Gro Company.....	P.5
Sonny's Super Market.....	P.8
SPORTS.....	P.8
Tony Wolfe Insurance Services.....	P.2

### WEATHER

WED 05 Aug.....	Overcast, 73° F/ 56° F
THU 06 Aug.....	Scattered Showers, 76° F/ 58° F
FRI 07 Aug.....	Scattered Showers, Warm, 81° F/ 62° F

### IOWA LOTTERY

LUCKY FOR LIFE 08/03.....	4 10 20 32 46, Lucky Ball: 15
PICK 3 08/03 MIDDAY.....	5 4 7
PICK 3 08/03 EVENING.....	9 7 5
PICK 4 08/03 MIDDAY.....	2 1 7 4
PICK 4 08/03 EVENING.....	8 2 7 3

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## Health News/Iowa News

Lee County Health Department Lee County COVID-19 Case Numbers 8/4/2020	
<b>New Confirmed Cases reporting today</b>	
Child (0-17):	
Adult (18-40):	5
Middle Age (41-60): 1	
Older (61-80): 3	
Elderly (>80): 1	
<b>Current # of active cases</b>	<b>48</b>
<b>Current # of recovered cases</b>	<b>52</b>
<b>Total confirmed cases to date</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Reported deaths</b>	<b>3</b>

Reported cases from Coronavirus.iowa.gov and Lee County Health Department may differ due to reporting timing and procedures.

# Hy-Vee now takes SNAP for online pickup orders

WEST DES MOINES, Iowa (Aug. 4, 2020) — Hy-Vee, Inc. announces today that all of its store locations that offer Hy-Vee Aisles Online grocery pickup now accept Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)/Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) as payment at time of pickup. SNAP/EBT beneficiaries

now can shop online for groceries at [Hy-Vee.com](https://www.hy-vee.com) or via the Hy-Vee Aisles Online mobile app and collect their order curbside at a Hy-Vee store. Pickup service is available at more than 250 Hy-Vee stores throughout its eight-state region.

To use Aisles Online pickup, SNAP/EBT recipients can select their preferred store location on [Hy-Vee.com](https://www.hy-vee.com) or the Hy-Vee Aisles Online app, shop for their groceries, choose a pickup date and time, and pick SNAP/EBT as the payment method.

Once notified that their groceries are ready, customers go to the store, look for the pickup signs in the parking lot, and pull into the designated spot and call the number on the sign. An employee then brings out the order and loads it into the customer's car.

When customers go to pick up their order, they must bring both their SNAP/EBT card and a credit/debit card to pay for those items that are not EBT-eligible. Cash or checks will not be accepted

as payment for curbside pickup orders.

Please note that Hy-Vee cannot currently accept SNAP/EBT payment for home delivery orders.

“By offering SNAP/EBT as a payment option for pickup, we can now serve more customers with our Hy-Vee Aisles Online pickup service,” said Tom Crocker, senior vice president of e-commerce for Hy-Vee. “As we work to continually improve our e-commerce offerings, this is just one more way we can help our customers who want to shop from the comfort of their home versus venturing to the grocery store.”

With pickup service experiencing higher order volume during the COVID-19 pandemic, Hy-Vee has hired more Aisles Online team members, added more order pickup slots and increased communication.

For more information, please visit [#Snapebt](https://www.hy-vee.com/grocery/customer-service/frequently-asked-questions.aspx).



## 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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# Obituaries

## OBITUARIES

### JUNE A. CLIPPERT

June Anne Clippert, 67, of Keokuk, IA died Tuesday, August 4, 2020 at her home.

She was born September 28, 1952 in Burlington, IA the daughter of Raymond and Wilma Edgington Smith. She graduated from Ft. Madison High School in Ft. Madison, IA with the Class of 1970.



CLIPPERT

June was first united in marriage to Ron Kemp, they later divorced. To this union two daughters, Mindy and Kari were born. In 1996, June was united in marriage to Kent Clippert. He survives.

Other survivors include, her children, Mindy Jones (Wade) of Ft. Madison, IA, Tony Clippert (Mary Beth) of Solon, IA, Kent Clippert (Lauren) of Detroit, MI and Kari C. Crawford (Jimmy) of Lake of the Ozarks, MO, one sister, Gale Andrews (Wayne) of Beulah, N.D., her mother-in-law, Darlene Clippert of Keokuk, six grandchildren, Bradie Reed (Matthew Bailey), Kole and Hank Clippert, Charlotte, Kenny and Daniel Clippert and four great-grandchildren, Bleyn, Ryker, Maddyx and J'Kiya.

She was preceded in death by her mother, grandparents, her father-in-law, Keith Clippert and sister-in-law, Donna Foulkes.

June had been employed in her younger years at Ortho as a groundskeeper. She later had been a school bus driver at Central Lee High School, a driver for UPS and lastly was employed at St. Louis Gear, until her retirement.

She was a member of St. Paul United Church of Christ in Keokuk.

June enjoyed spending time outdoors gardening and watching the hummingbirds. She loved being on her computer and adored her dogs.

A graveside service will be held at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, at Hickory Grove Cemetery in rural Keokuk with Elaine Foley officiating.

Visitation will be held after 1 p.m., Friday, at the Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk, IA with family meeting with friends from 6-8 p.m. Social distancing requirements will be in place at both the visitation and the funeral and attendees may be limited according to those requirements. Masks are strongly encouraged. Memorials may be made to PAW Animal Shelter in Ft. Madison, IA.

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

## OBITUARIES

### RAY P. McCARL

Ray P. McCarl, 89, of Ft. Madison passed away on Monday, August 3, 2020 at 6:41 PM at Sunnybrook Assisted Living.

He was born on August 3, 1931 in Corydon, IA to Ray and Iva Farr McCarl. On August 20, 1949 Ray married Olive "Margie" Tory in Ft. Madison.



MCCARL

Ray was owner and operator of McCarl & Son Tree Service for over seventy years. He also worked at Burrows Paper Company and retired in 1997. Ray enjoyed camping, fishing and wintering in Texas.

Survivors include his wife, Margie McCarl of Ft. Madison; one son, William McCarl of Ft. Madison; one granddaughter, Jeri McCarl of Highlands Ranch, Colorado; one great grandson, Cameron McCarl of Highlands Ranch, Colorado; one brother Richard McCarl of Keokuk. He was preceded in death by his parents, three sisters and two brothers.

The funeral service will be held on Friday, August 7, 2020 at 11 AM at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory with Rev. Timothy Greenwald officiating. The family will meet with friends from 10 AM until the time of the service at 11 AM. Burial will follow in Oakland Cemetery.

A memorial has been established for Southeastern Renal Dialysis and on-line 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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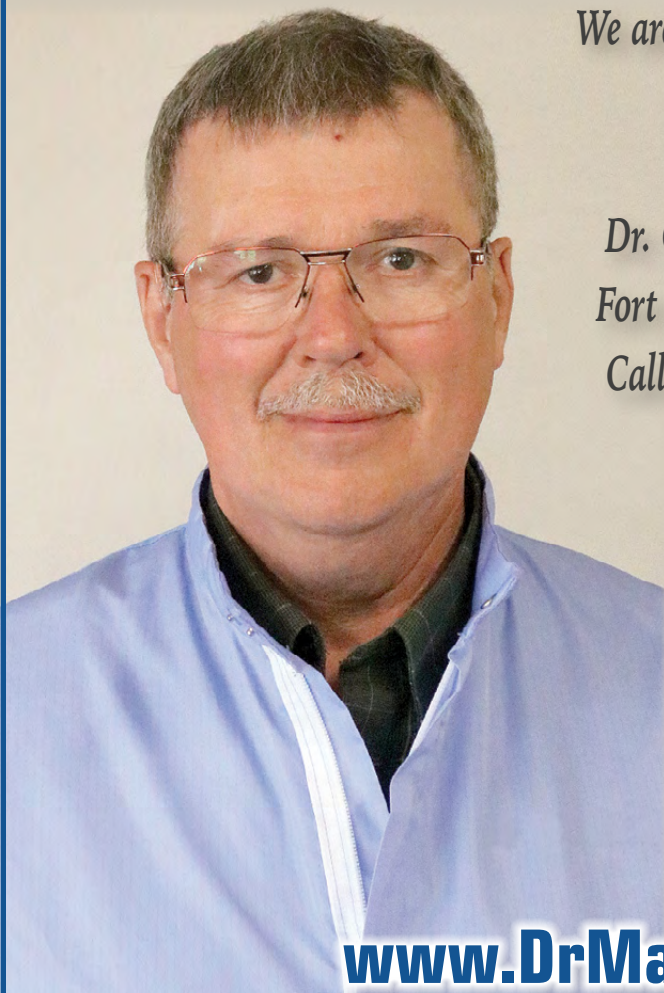
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# PEN CITY CURRENT

It's Black & White and Read all over

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# Emotions surface as reporters push Governor on school requirements

**SCHOOLS** - Continued from Page 1

We're gonna see the gap continue to widen. They've had five months without any type of instruction."

She then asked the media to help with solution.

"I want the media to give the numbers in context. Help us. You're a part of the solution," she said. "Hold me accountable... ask me anything, that goes with being the governor. But we need to put numbers into context."

Reynolds reiterated that the school setting is a safe zone for children, and a place where they get a hot meal, social and emotional learning and behavioral support. For some she said, it's the only place they get it.

"What we're doing to these kids is unconscionable. The fear that were instilling in them," she said visually holding back her emotions. "And so we all have a responsibility to do better including me - and we can - and I'm working on it every single day."

According to her order, parents have the flexibility to put their children in remote learning within the school districts, but she asked for a compromise to help schools fulfill the 50% in-person learning.

All of Lee County's three public and private school districts have set up a return to learn that includes at least 50% in person instruction with on-line remote learning available.

Reynolds said hospitalization rates are showing that Iowans are doing the right thing. However, according to the state's official website [coronavirus.iowa.gov](http://coronavirus.iowa.gov), hospitalization and ICU rates have more than doubled since a low of 118 on June 27.

Those numbers are substantially below the state's peak hospitalization day of 417 on May 6, however, and the state still has more than 3,000 hospital beds and 340 ventilators available.

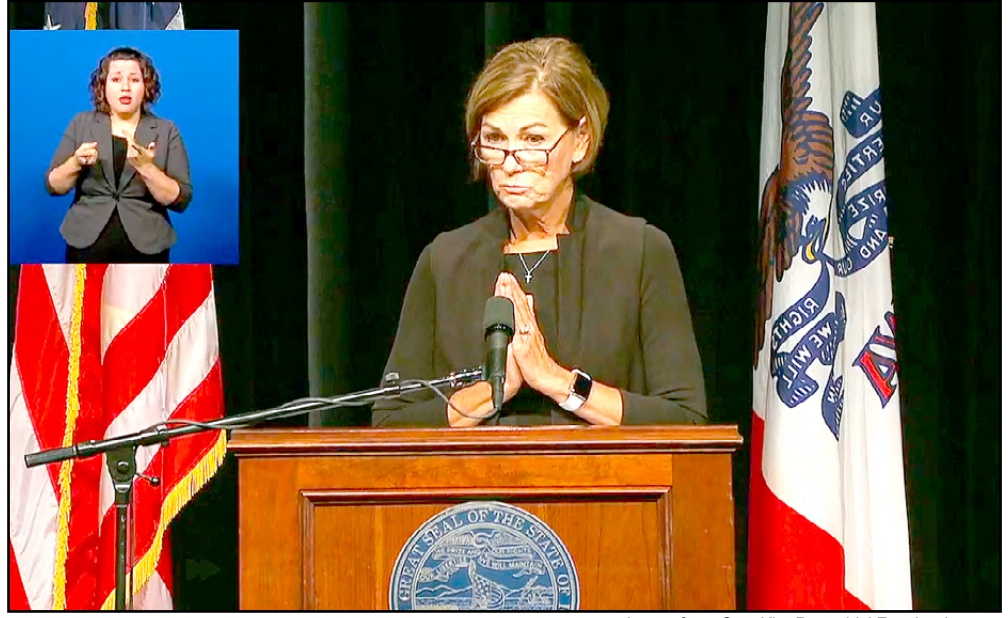


Image from Gov. Kim Reynolds' Facebook page.

Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds holds back some emotions as she pleads with media to stop scare tactics and work with the state on putting pandemic numbers in context as reporters pushed about the state's Return to Learn mandates.

Lee County will probably see its 100th case in the next 24 to 48 hours when considering its sharp increase in the 14-day rolling total of cases. The county has witnessed 13 new positive cases in the past seven days with two new cases on Tuesday for a total of 97 to date.

Despite the increase, the county still has less than 3.5% of those being tested coming up positive, which requires the schools to be in 50% in-person instruction.

To date 886 Iowans have died from the disease, 617 are listed as complicated by other pre-existing conditions. The site shows that only 55 are reported to have died from the coronavirus without any preexisting conditions.

The governor also announced that \$125 million from the state's \$1.25 billion in CARES Act funding allocations will be split 60/40 between state municipalities and counties to help offset expenses incurred as a result of the COVID pandemic.

## Registration now open for the 10th annual Healthiest State Walk

DES MOINES, IA (Aug. 3, 2020) — Registration for the Healthiest State 10th Annual Walk, presented by Delta Dental of Iowa, is now open. On Wednesday, October 7, thousands of Iowans across the state will participate in walks at schools, workplaces and in their communities.

Registration is free and easy: Visit [IowaHealthiestState.com/Walk](http://IowaHealthiestState.com/Walk) to sign-up as a group, household or individual. The Healthiest State Annual Walk started in October 2011, when Gov. Terry Branstad invited all Iowans to take part in a "Start Somewhere Walk" The event was a call to action for Iowans to improve their health. Ten years later, we are still making strides towards becoming the healthiest state in the nation!

"Taking steps to improve your health is more important now than ever," said Jami Haberl, executive director for the Healthiest

State Initiative. "Due to COVID-19, we know that your Annual Walk team may look a little different this year, but walking is still a safe and accessible way to stay active during this unprecedented time."

Walking is not only good for your physical health, but also has benefits for Iowans' mental, social and emotional wellbeing. The theme "Team Up For 10" celebrates the decade milestone and encourages Iowans to "team up" to reap the health benefits of walking - whether that is by walking with members of your household, in small groups, in a socially-distant manner or by cheering on your team members virtually.

"Delta Dental of Iowa is proud to be the presenting sponsor and longtime supporter of the Healthiest State Annual Walk," said Jeff Russell, president and CEO of Delta Dental of Iowa and

Board President of the Healthiest State Initiative. "As a health and wellness company, we know the benefits of getting preventive dental and vision exams, but overall health also includes physical activity like walking. Walking 30 minutes a day can have a positive effect on your overall health and emotional wellbeing.

Those who register for the Healthiest State 10th Annual Walk will have access to resources, such as communications templates, social media guide, customizable posters and a month-long walking calendar. The Healthiest State Initiative is also hosting two contests:

**School Mascot Challenge:** The first 64 schools who register will automatically be entered in the School Mascot Challenge. Fans will be able to vote weekly in the bracket-style competition and the winner will be announced following the Annual Walk on October 7. The winning mascot will earn their school \$1,000 to spend on a health and wellness project.

**Community Walk Mini Grant:** The Healthiest State Initiative has partnered with the Iowa Parks and Recreation Association to award mini grant(s) to community parks and recreation departments to promote walking in their community and register for the Healthiest State 10th Annual Walk. Applications due Sept. 4. See full details and apply at [IowaHealthiestState.com/Walk](http://IowaHealthiestState.com/Walk).

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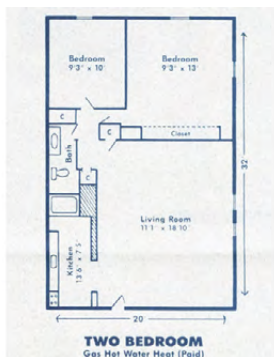
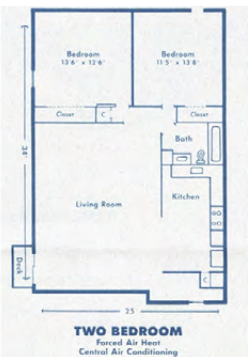
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## Sports/From the Front

# Fort Madison YMCA to move ahead with fall soccer leagues

FORT MADISON - The Fort Madison Family YMCA will proceed with their Fall 2020 Youth Soccer Leagues with practice slated to begin as early as August 31st. Additional health safety protocols are being put in place to help protect players, volunteer coaches, and the community. Those protocols will be published prior to the season's starting dates on The Y's website at [www.fortmadison.org](http://www.fortmadison.org) as well as on their social media sites.

The Y's Fall Youth Soccer Program is broken into two leagues; Little Tykes and Lee County. Both leagues are designed to prepare and instruct players on the fundamentals of the sport while playing in game situations.

Little Tykes Fall Youth League is open to girls and boys 3 to 6 years of age. This league emphasizes on fun, with players having the opportunity to learn the basic skills of youth soccer while preparing them for the next level through game situations. The importance of teamwork, fair play, sportsmanship and cooperation are also emphasized in this league. This league is divided into two divisions: 3/4 years old and 5/6 year olds.

Registration deadline for Little Tykes is August 22nd. A \$10 late fee will be applied to all late registrations and shirts are not guaranteed. Practices for Little Tykes slated to begin on Tuesday, September 1st with the season ending October 8th. Practices and games are held at the Baxter Sports Complex on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. 3 & 4 Year olds will be from 5:30-6:00pm and 5 & 6 Year olds will be from 6:00-6:30pm.

Registration fees for Little Tykes is \$20 for YMCA members and \$40 for nonmembers.

Lee County Fall Youth League is open to 1st - 6th grade boys and girls. This league focuses on the fundamentals of the game of soccer giving players the ability to expand on skills all while continuing to build positive sportsmanship to their foundation. Lee County Soccer League is divided into the following divisions: 1st/2nd grade, 3rd/4th grade, and 5th/6th grade with all levels playing 6v6 to limit roster sizes.

Registration Deadline is August 22nd. A \$10 late fee will be applied to all late registrations and shirts are not guaranteed. Practices for Lee County Soccer League slated to begin on Monday, August 31st with the season ending October 17th. Games are held at the Baxter Sports Complex on Saturday mornings, practices are held at time and locations chosen by volunteer coaches.

Registration fees for Lee County is \$25 for YMCA members and \$50 for nonmembers.

Online registration is available at [www.fortmadison.org](http://www.fortmadison.org). Forms are also available at the Fort Madison Family YMCA main facility at 220 26th St. Fort Madison, Iowa. Early registration is encouraged prior to deadlines to ensure a shirt for your player and to avoid the late registration fee of \$10.

# Cirinna sees Lee County through 17 years of emergency management

**FUNDING** - Continued from Page 1

and a lot of our funding comes from grants passed through from the state that are passed down from the federal level," he said.

"You wanna talk about red tape, there's all kinds of double and triple checking. But the folks at the state are awesome," Dinwiddie said.

Dinwiddie began his career at 19 as a medical staffer on Catfish Bend Casino until Lee County EMS hired him when he could be legally run on ambulances. He's also been a reserve police officer and a reserve sheriff's deputy.

He said the state's emergency management operations are likely going to be changed permanently due to the response to the coronavirus, but some of the lessons of pandemic can and should be applied going forward regardless of the COVID-19 outbreak.

"Everybody says they've upped their game, but why. We should have been doing that along."

Dinwiddie also serves on the Public Service Answering Point (PSAP) board so he's familiar with the budgeting side of things.

"I'm on the PSAP board so that part of it I've already been dealing with. It seems like big dollars, but it's mostly just pass through money."

Cirinna said the state's emergency management systems has gone through many changes in his 17 1/2 years going from a terrorism focus, back to natural disaster focus, and now to virus containment.

"Since I started we've always been planning for pandemics, epidemics and that sort of thing," Cirinna said. "But with this one, the plans we looked at and what we were planning for was a lot different than what COVID is doing."

He said prior planning was for things like smallpox and diseases where you would go to a specific spot and give shots and dispense meds. He said this issue doesn't involve any meds you can hand out.

The U.S. Coast Guard veteran said natural disasters are different because they come to an end eventually, then you go into recovery and clean up and bring things back to where they were.

"With COVID it's a whole different ball game," he said. "It changes all the time. Don't wear a mask, wear a mask, social distance, increased testing."

He said the only true way to know the toll of the virus is the hospitalization and death data, and he said we don't know the long-term effects of this virus. So emergency management is now focusing on planning for rebounds of the virus.

Cirinna put his replacement in the last fiscal county budget year to help pay for training for Dinwiddie, which is something that Cirinna didn't get.

"I got one day with my predecessor. That's why it was important for me to be able to work with Jason for the past four months, but with COVID, he kind of got focused on that issue and not much training on the other things," he said.

Dinwiddie started April 1, but was immediately engaged with COVID webinars and then officially took over duties Monday.



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