

# PEN CITY CURRENT

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

Thursday, January 26, 2023 | 8 pages | Volume 7 • Issue 26



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## Area man arrested on sex charges

FORT MADISON - The Fort Madison Police Department Detective Bureau announces the arrest of Nicholas Ray Bell, 35, of Burlington. This arrest stems from an ongoing investigation from 2021.

Bell is alleged to have had an ongoing sexual relationship with a minor within the city limits of Fort Madison between September and October 2021. The recent return of conclusive digital and DNA forensic evidence from the Iowa DCI Criminalistics Laboratory allowed investigators the opportunity to proceed with arresting Bell.



BELL

On January 25th, 2022 detectives of the Fort Madison Police Department, with assistance from the US Department of Homeland Security Investigations, and the Burlington Police Department arrested Bell at his residence without incident.

Charges against Bell are as follows: three counts of Sexual Abuse in the 3rd degree (C felony), three counts of enticing a minor (D felony), and a charge of prostitution (D felony). Additional charges are pending. The public is reminded that charges are an allegation of a committed crime, and defendants are presumed to be innocent until convicted in a court of law.

The Fort Madison Police Department thanks the following agencies for their assistance with this investigation: Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation, United States Department of Homeland Security Investigations, Cedar Rapids Police Department Criminal Investigations, Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, Burlington Police Department, Keokuk Police Department, and Iowa Department of Health and Human Services.

## HTC ROYALTY



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Jacob Pothitakis and Alexa Dingman were honored as the 2023 Holy Trinity Catholic Homecoming King and Queen Friday night ceremonies at Shottenkirk Gymnasium.

## Treasurer reminds taxes can be paid online

PCC Staff

LEE COUNTY - Lee County Treasurer Becky Gaylord reminds taxpayers that property taxes, mobile home taxes, drainage taxes and special assessments are due in March. The last day to pay in the office in Fort Madison and Keokuk is Monday April 3, 2023. All payments received by mail and postmarked April 3, 2023 will be accepted as timely payments. Penalties begin April 4, 2023. For more

information or to pay your taxes online please visit our website at [www.leecounty.org](http://www.leecounty.org).

Property Tax and Mobile Home Tax Credit Claims Reimbursement forms are now available at the Lee County Treasurer's office in Fort Madison and at the Lee County Assessor's Office or Lee County Recorder's/Treasurer's Office in Keokuk for those who have not received them by mail. Forms must be filed by June 1, 2023.



FMHS AD Jeff Lamb accepts a donation from Pilot Grove Savings Bank as part of the bank's annual donation to area booster programs.

Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

## FMHS NEWS

### Walker steps away as FMHS baseball coach

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - The four-year run of Fort Madison Head Baseball coach Ron Walker has come to an end.

Walker submitted his resignation effective immediately to Fort Madison Athletic Director Jeff Lamb on Wednesday.

Lamb said the move wasn't a surprise, but the timing wasn't expected.

"We were surprised by his resignation today. Ron's done a great job and has been very good for this program over the past four years," Lamb said.

"We we're kind of expecting it, though, when he took the job in Ottumwa. We would have loved to have kept him, but he has to make the best decision for him and his family."

Walker, a master plumber by trade, became part of a new plumbing upstart in Ottumwa, and said the decision has been an emotional one for him.

"I'll never say it didn't make sense to do both, but I would only be cheating the program, my new job, and my family - by trying to do all," he said.

"I can't be selfish and do what I want to do. I have to consider others here."

Walker racked up a 71-40 overall record and a 42-24 Southeast Conference record. He took over the program in 2019 from Ken Steeples and immediately took the Hounds to a winning 16-15 record in 2019 after the Hounds had just five wins in 2018.

"This has been a very emotional afternoon," he said. "I want Fort Madison to know that this has nothing against the community or the program I just didn't want to cheat them and it be more than I could give."

Walker said he gave Lamb his recommendations for the program as part of the resignation, and said he hopes all the coaches that have been part of the program for the last four years will stay with the program.

See **BASEBALL**, page 8

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## WEATHER

THU 26 Jan.....Cold with chance of snow, 21° F/16° F  
 FRI 27 Jan.....Mostly cloudy with chance of snow, 39° F/22° F  
 SAT 28 Jan.....Snowy and cold, 32° F/12° F

## IOWA LOTTERY

LUCKY FOR LIFE 01/24.....125 28 39 47, Lucky Ball: 10  
 MEGA MILLIONS 01/24.....33 41 47 50 62, Mega Ball: 20 Megaplier: 4  
 PICK 3 01/24 MIDDAY.....3 8 9  
 PICK 3 01/24 EVENING.....1 9 3  
 PICK 4 01/24 MIDDAY.....9 0 0 0  
 PICK 4 01/24 EVENING.....1 9 1 5

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# Obituaries/For the Record

## OBITUARIES

### KURT A. DRAGER

Kurt Andrew Drager passed away peacefully at home on January 23, 2023 in Farmington, Iowa at the age of 71. Originally from Lakewood, Colorado, a 1969 graduate of Lakewood, Colorado High School. Kurt was from a proud



DRAGER

family of Colorado pioneers. An avid rugby player for over 40 years, He played the position of a Prop for the Los Angeles Rugby Club before returning to Colorado to play for the Denver Barbarians and Colorado Senior Old Boys ("CSOBs"). He once said, "I always knew I'd grow up to be a SOB". Kurt was also heavily involved for many years with the Annual Rocky Mountain Rugby Challenge, America's Premier High School Youth Rugby Tournaments, High School Rugby Teams from many States came to Colorado to participate in these Tournaments.

Kurt was on the board of the Pioneer Historical Society, Inc., the Farmington Museum. He spent many hours volunteering in the Museum as well as volunteering to at the many garage sales the Museum had to raise funds to maintain the Museum.

Kurt had a beautiful voice; he sang many songs to his children when they were young. He also sang Karaoke and would sing in the car or whenever an oldies song came on the radio in the car.

Kurt's humor, wit and sarcasm never eluded him. He was always that guy at the party, that as fast as lightning could reply with a witty remark in conversation. He loved to laugh and to laugh with the people he loved most. He was a kind, caring gentle soul.

Kurt was an avid reader and history buff; he loved the Civil War and WWII history era, books and movies. He was someone to contend with in a game of Trivial Pursuit or Jeopardy. Many evenings were spent watching Jeopardy with his daughters and later with Heidi staring at him in awe as he rambled off every single answer. Kurt was also an excellent cook, cherished his cookbooks and prepared most of the evening meals, which were always amazingly delicious.

Later in life, Kurt met Heidi, they bicycled many miles on the 100s of miles of bike trails and hiked all over the mountains of Colorado. Traveled to the Copper Canyon in Mexico, a wonderful trip to Iceland, toured 3 Islands in Hawaii, and travelled extensively throughout the United States visiting many sites as well as civil war memorials.

He retired to the small town of Farmington, Iowa, renovating an old train depot for their home. Here he enjoyed his quiet small-town life, gardening, working in the yard and watching the wildlife. He loved it there, speaking often of the calmness and serenity of Iowa but his love for Colorado never waned.

Kurt is preceded in death by his parents: Kenneth and Gwen Drager, and brother: Clay Drager. He leaves behind his love, soulmate, and friend: Heidi Schutt; brother: Quentin Drager; daughters: Jennifer Drager, Kirsten Drager, and Kenna Drager (Jay Medina); as well as four grandchildren and three great grandchildren all of Colorado. As friends and family mourn Kurt's passing, his legacy of humor and humility will live on through those who loved him most.

Kurt's body has been entrusted to the crematory of Schmitz Funeral Home for cremation. Per his wishes, there will not be a service or memorial.

Memorials may be given to Every Step Hospice Foundation or the Farmington, Iowa EMT's and can be mailed to the family at: Heidi Schutt, 520 State Street, Farmington, Iowa 52626.

Online condolences may be made to the family at [www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com](http://www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com). Schmitz Funeral Home of Farmington is assisting the family with arrangements.

## OBITUARIES

### LINDA EHRSAM

Linda (DeBruyn) Ehrsam, 75, of Cleveland, Tennessee, passed away on Monday, January 23, 2023, at Bradley Healthcare and Rehabilitation in Cleveland, Tennessee. A private burial will be held at Oakland Cemetery in Keokuk, Iowa, at a later date. DeJong-Greaves-Printy Funeral Home of Keokuk, Iowa, is in charge of arrangements.

## For the Record

### Fort Madison Police Report

01/23/23 - 9:11 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a burglary in the 1200 block of Avenue I.

01/23/23 - 1:15 p.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Tommy Lee Cockrell, 39, of Fort Madison, in the 1400 block of Avenue I, on a charge of domestic assault - bodily injury - 1st. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

01/23/23 - 3:12 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a property damage accident at the intersection of 33rd Street and Avenue I.

01/24/23 - 7:41 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 1900 block of Avenue H.

01/24/23 - 1:35 p.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Andres Lee Diaz, 41, of Fort Madison, at the intersection of 27th Street and Avenue L, on a charge of assault w/bodily injury and several warrants. He

was taken to Lee County Jail.

### Lee County Sheriff Report

01/23/23 - 12:27 p.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Mathew Rohan Boon, 37, of Fort Madison, at the sheriff's office, on a charge of disorderly conduct - loud noise. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

01/23/23 - 3:09 p.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Darrien Isaiah Leeper, 24, of Keokuk, at the North Lee County Courthouse, on warrants for voluntary absence from custody and a judgment hold warrant. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

01/24/23 - 9:05 a.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Terry Lynn Douthart, 49, of Farmington, at the sheriff's office,

on a judgment hold warrant. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

01/25/23 - 5:07 a.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies responded to a single-vehicle accident in the 1700 block of Hwy. 61. According to the report, a vehicle driven by Robert Todd Farris, 57, of Burlington, lost control and left the roadway due to road conditions. No injuries or citations were issued.

Those listed above are arrested on suspicion of a charge and are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

### Fort Madison Fire & Rescue Report

01/23/23 - Fort Madison firefighters responded to one medical call and two burn complaints.

01/24/23 - Fort Madison firefighters responded to two medical calls.

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## Education News/Ag News

# Great River Health has scholarships open

**FOUR APPLICATIONS:** Two Auxiliary and two memorial scholarships are now available

WEST BURLINGTON – Applications for the Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center Auxiliary and Great River Health Foundation scholarships for the 2023-2024 school year are available. Applications for all scholarships are due April 1.

The types of scholarships are below.

- **Auxiliary High School Scholarship** – The Auxiliary High School Scholarship, offered by Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center Auxiliary, is for students pursuing healthcare careers. It is open to high school seniors in the hospital’s service area. Although scholarships are offered on both Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center campuses, applicants may receive only one scholarship.

- **Auxiliary Continuing Education Scholarship** – The Auxiliary Continuing Education Scholarship, offered by the Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center Auxiliary, is open to students who have completed their freshman year of college in a healthcare major. It is open to students who reside in the hospital’s service area.

- **Kathleen Canella Family Scholarship** – The Kathleen Canella Family Scholarship, offered by the Great River Health Foundation, is for students who are pursuing healthcare education, excluding medical school. This scholarship is open to seniors or recent graduates from Fort Madison High School, Central Lee High School, Holy Trinity High School, or Keokuk High School. Nontraditional students will also be considered.

- **Tracey Howe Scholarship** – The Tracey Howe Scholarship, offered by the Great River Health Foundation, is for students pursuing certain healthcare careers at Southeastern Community College and Iowa Wesleyan University. Multiple scholarships are to be awarded and are available to public and private high school graduates from Des Moines and Lee County schools. Nontraditional students living in Des Moines and Lee Counties are also eligible. Eligible career paths are listed in the application.

More information and scholarship applications are available at [greatriverhealth.org/about-us](http://greatriverhealth.org/about-us).



Photo courtesy of Fort Madison School District

FMCS School Board members sat in on Guiding Coalitions at Richardson last Wednesday. Early out Wednesdays are used as professional development days for our teachers. These P.D. days help our teachers develop a deeper understanding of multitiered systems of support and social-emotional learning. These efforts allow teachers to recognize ways to support their students best.

## AGRICULTURE

# Second round of pandemic funds on way to dairy farmers

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) today announced the details of additional assistance for dairy producers, including a second round of payments through the Pandemic Market Volatility Assistance Program (PMVAP) and a new Organic Dairy Marketing Assistance Program (ODMAP). The update to PMVAP and the new ODMAP will enable USDA to better support small- and medium-sized dairy operations who weathered the pandemic and now face other challenges.

“The Biden-Harris administration continues to fulfill its commitments to fill gaps in pandemic assistance for producers. USDA is announcing a second set of payments of nearly \$100 million to close-out the \$350 million commitment under PMVAP through partnerships with dairy handlers and cooperatives to deliver the payments,” said USDA Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs Jenny Lester Moffitt. “USDA is also announcing new assistance targeted to small to medium size organic dairy farmers to help with anticipated marketing costs as they face a variety of challenges from weather to supply-chain challenges.”

### Pandemic Market Volatility Assistance Program

PMVAP assists producers who received a lower value due to market abnormalities caused by the pandemic and ensuing Federal policies. As a result of the production cap increase, USDA’s Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) will make PMVAP payments to eligible dairy farmers for fluid milk sales between 5 million and 9 million pounds from July through December 2020. This level of production was not eligible for payment under the first round of

the PMVAP. Payment rates will be identical to the first round of payments, 80 percent of the revenue different per month, on fluid milk sales from 5 million to 9 million pounds from July through December 2020. USDA will again distribute monies through agreements with independent handlers and cooperatives, with reimbursement to handlers for allowed administrative costs. USDA will contact handlers with eligible producers to notify them of the opportunity to participate.

As part of the first round, PMVAP paid eligible dairy farmers on up to 5 million pounds of fluid milk sales from July through December 2020. The first round of payments distributed over \$250 million in payments to over 25,000 eligible dairy farmers. These dairy farmers received the full allowable reimbursement on fluid milk sales up to 5 million pounds.

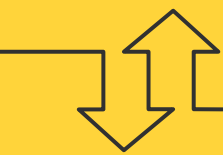
More information about the PMVAP production cap increase is available at [www.ams.usda.gov/pmvap](http://www.ams.usda.gov/pmvap).

### Organic Dairy Marketing Assistance Program

The new ODMAP, to be administered by USDA’s Farm Service Agency (FSA), is intended to help smaller organic dairy farms that have faced a unique set of challenges and higher costs over the past several years that have been compounded by the ongoing pandemic and drought conditions across the country. Many small organic dairy operations are now struggling to stay in business and FSA plans to provide payments to cover a portion of their estimated marketing costs for 2023. Final spending will depend on enrollment and each producers projected production, but ODMAP has been allocated up to \$100 million.

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# Classifieds/Public Notices

## PUBLIC NOTICES

**PUBLIC NOTICE  
MEETING MINUTES  
MOUNT PLEASANT  
CITY COUNCIL  
Mount Pleasant, Iowa,  
November 22, 2022**

The Mount Pleasant City Council met in adjourned session on Tuesday, November 22, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall, 307 East Monroe Street, second-floor meeting room. The meeting was called to order by the Mayor and the roll being called there were present Steven K. Brimhall in the Chair and the following named Councilmembers- Present: Engberg, Crull, Batty, McWilliams, Griffith, White Absent: None It was moved by Councilmember McWilliams and seconded by Councilmember White that the Council approve the following consent agenda items with one roll call motion vote: the minutes of the November 9, 2022, City Council meeting; the payment of bills totaling \$209,291.71; the Report of officers. Roll call vote 6-0. Councilmember Griffith moved and Councilmem-

ber Engberg seconded that the Council approve the agenda as printed. Roll call vote 6-0. Motion carried. 5:31 p.m. Public Hearing on ordinance amendment for electronic billboards. Danny Marler of Robertson Outdoor spoke to the Council in support of the ordinance and provided details of the electronic billboards. 5:35 p.m. Councilmember Crull moved and Councilmember McWilliams seconded that the hearing close. Motion approved, 6-0. It was moved by Councilmember McWilliams and seconded by Councilmember White that the Council read for the first time the following proposed ordinance: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MOUNT PLEASANT, IOWA, APPENDIX D, CHAPTER 19.09 "SIGNS AND BILLBOARDS", TO PERMIT REGULATE ELECTRONIC MESSAGE SIGNS USED AS BILLBOARDS Roll call vote 3-3. Engberg -Nay, Crull-Nay, Griffith-Nay. Motion defeated. 5:37 p.m. Public Hearing on ordinance amend-

ment for home occupations signs. 5:38 p.m. Councilmember White moved and Councilmember Crull seconded that the hearing close. No oral or written arguments were heard. Motion approved, 6-0. It was moved by Councilmember McWilliams and seconded by Councilmember Batty that the Council read for the first time the following proposed ordinance: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MOUNT PLEASANT, IOWA, APPENDIX D, TO INCREASE THE SIZE OF HOME OCCUPATION SIGNS FROM TWO SQUARE FEET TO SIXTEEN SQUARE FEET Roll call vote 1-5. Engberg-Nay, Crull- Nay, Batty-Nay, Griffith-Nay, White-Nay. Motion defeated. It was moved by Councilmember Batty and seconded by Councilmember Crull that the Council move to increase the size of home occupation signs from two square feet to four square feet. Roll call vote 5-1. Griffith-Nay. Motion carried.

Councilmember Griffith moved and Councilmember White seconded that the Council read for the second time the following proposed ordinance: RESOLUTION SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE APPLICATION FOR ZONING CHANGE FOR FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH LOCATED AT 910 E MAPLELEAF DR Roll call vote 6-0. Motion carried. It was moved by Councilmember Engberg and seconded by Councilmember McWilliams that the Council authorize the Mayor to sign the Public Professional and Maintenance Employees, IUPAT Memorandum of Understanding regarding School Resource Officer. Roll call vote 6-0. Motion carried. It was moved by Councilmember McWilliams and seconded by Councilmember Batty that the Council approve the hire of the School Resource Officer.

Roll call vote 6-0. Motion carried. Councilmember Engberg moved and Councilmember Griffith seconded that the Council authorize the Mayor to sign an Engineering Service Agreement with Warner Engineering for the West Washington 3 Lane Project. Roll call vote 6-0. Motion carried. It was moved by Councilmember White and seconded by Councilmember Griffith that the Council approve the 5-Year Capital Improvement Program-Mount Pleasant Municipal Airport Motion approved, 6-0. It was moved by Councilmember Crull and seconded by Councilmember Batty that the Council adjourn. Motion carried. Adjourned at 5:49 p.m. to meet in a regular session on Wednesday, December 14, 2022. Steven K Brimhall, Mayor ATTEST: Lori Davis, City Clerk

**PUBLIC NOTICE  
MEETING MINUTES  
MOUNT PLEASANT  
CITY COUNCIL  
Mount Pleasant, Iowa  
December 14, 2022**

The Mount Pleasant City Council met in a regular session on Wednesday, December 14, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall, 307 East Monroe Street, second-floor meeting room. The meeting was called to order by the Mayor and the roll being called there were present Steven K. Brimhall in the Chair and the following named Councilmembers- Present: Engberg, Crull, Batty, McWilliams, White Absent: Griffith It was moved by Councilmember McWilliams and seconded by Councilmember Engberg that the Council approve the following consent agenda items with one roll call motion vote: the minutes of the November 22, 2022, City Council meeting; the payment of bills

- Production Technician**
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# Classifieds/Public Notices

## PUBLIC NOTICES

totaling \$343,944.95; the Report of officers including the following receipts for November - \$91,983.74 General Fund; \$100,868.51 Road Use Tax; \$4,238.71 Local Option Sales Tax; \$12,704.47 TIF; \$18,137.89 Debt Service; \$4,845.59 Capital Projects; \$250.00 Trust & Agency; \$180,371.71 Sewer Revenue; \$45,571.68 Solid Waste; \$800.00 Library General Fund; \$297.31 Library Gift Fund. And the following disbursements for November- \$222,395.69 General Fund; \$256,265.14 Road Use Tax; \$126,952.50 Debt Service; \$382,407.68 Sewer Sinking; \$5,472 Sewer Plant Improvement; \$38,395.00 Capital Projects; \$200 Trust & Agency; \$57,988.08 Sewer Operation & Maint. \$762,461.27 Covid/ARP; \$44,452.29 Solid Waste; \$35,674.32 Library General Fund; \$2,579.32 Library Gift Fund. And Transfer Resolution 2022-96 for November transfers including - \$29,862 from General Fund to Library Fund 1/12 of FYE annual allocation for library

expenses; \$75,000 from Sewer Revenue Fund to Sewer Operation & Maint Fund to reimburse for current month expenses; \$92,834 from Sewer Revenue Fund to Sewer Sinking Fund 1.12 of FYE23 annual Sewer Revenue Bonds/SRF Loan interest & principal; \$17,878.98 from Local Option Sales Tax to Capital Projects to complete Saunders Park Road Project; \$9,972.84 from Local Option Sales Tax to Capital Projects to complete Transload Project; \$938,003.23 from Local Option Sales Tax to Capital Projects to complete Madison Street Project; \$39,794.04 from Local Option Sales Tax to Capital Project to complete cemetery road project; \$162,226.72 from 2020A Bonds to Capital Projects to complete Oakbrook Project; \$422,202.73 from 2020A Bonds to Capital Projects to complete Harvey Drive Project; \$47,506.04 from 2020A Bonds to Capital Projects to complete Winfield Avenue Asphalt Project; \$83,016.12 from 2020A Bonds to Capital Projects to complete MPCSD Lincoln Street

Project.  
the renewal of a Class C Retail Alcohol License and Outdoor Service Permit for Pressbox Grille and Bar at 1110 W. Washington Street.  
the renewal of a Class E Retail Alcohol License and Sunday Sales for T & L's PepStop, LLC at 901 E. Washington Street.  
Roll call vote 5-0.  
Councilmember White moved and Councilmember Crull seconded that the Council approve the agenda as printed.  
Roll call vote 5-0. Motion carried.  
It was moved by Councilmember Crull and seconded by Councilmember Batty that the Council read for the second time the following proposed ordinance:  
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MOUNT PLEASANT, IOWA, APPENDIX D, TO INCREASE THE SIZE OF HOME OCCUPATION SIGNS FROM TWO SQUARE FEET TO FOUR SQUARE FEET:  
Roll call vote 5-0.  
Councilmember Engberg moved and Councilmember McWilliams seconded that the Council read for the third time/adopt the following proposed ordinance:  
RESOLUTION SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE APPLICATION FOR ZONING CHANGE FOR FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH LOCATED AT 910 E MAPLELEAF DR  
Roll call vote 5-0. Motion carried.  
It was moved by Councilmember Crull and seconded by Councilmember White that the Council approve contract with Municipal Pipe and Tool to line sanitary sewer under the West Henry Street reconstruction project. The cost is \$19,275.00. Motion approved, 5-0.  
Councilmember McWilliams moved and Councilmember Batty seconded that the Council read for the third time and adopt the following proposed ordinance, waiving the first and second readings:  
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY CODE OF MOUNT PLEASANT, IOWA, CHAPTER 4 "ANIMALS AND FOWL", SECTION 4-35 "CAT TRAP, NEUTER, RELEASE (TNR) PROGRAM, TO REMOVE THE REQUIREMENT TO HOLD STRAY CATS FOR TWO DAYS BEFORE TREATING.  
Roll call vote 5-0. Motion carried.  
Councilmember McWilliams moved and Councilmember Crull seconded that the Council adopt the following entitled Resolution No. 2022-97:  
A RESOLUTION BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOUNT PLEASANT, IOWA, TO RECOGNIZE THE RETIREMENT OF JEFFREY L. BEAVERS FROM WITH THE CITY OF MOUNT PLEASANT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT  
Roll call vote 5-0. Resolution adopted, signed by the Mayor and hereby made a portion of these minutes.  
Councilmember Engberg moved and Councilmember McWilliams seconded that the Council adopt the following entitled Resolution No. 2022-98:  
A RESOLUTION BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOUNT PLEASANT, IOWA, TO RECOGNIZE, HONOR AND EXPRESS GRATITUDE AND APPRECIATION TO NICHOLAS A. ETTINGER FOR TEN YEARS OF DEDICATED AND LOYAL SERVICE TO THE CITY

OF MOUNT PLEASANT  
Roll call vote 5-0. Resolution adopted, signed by the Mayor and hereby made a portion of these minutes.  
Councilmember White moved and Councilmember Crull seconded that the Council adopt the following entitled Resolution No. 2022-99:  
A RESOLUTION BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOUNT PLEASANT, IOWA, TO RECOGNIZE, HONOR AND EXPRESS GRATITUDE AND APPRECIATION TO KEVIN E. ELMORE FOR FIVE YEARS OF DEDICATED AND LOYAL SERVICE TO THE CITY OF MOUNT PLEASANT  
Roll call vote 5-0. Resolution adopted, signed by the Mayor and hereby made a portion of these minutes.  
Councilmember McWilliams moved and Councilmember Batty seconded that the Council adopt the following entitled Resolution No. 2022-100:  
A RESOLUTION NAMING CANDIDATE TO SOUTHEAST IOWA REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 2023  
Roll call vote 5-0. Resolution adopted, signed by the Mayor and hereby made a portion of these minutes.  
Councilmember Engberg moved and Councilmember McWilliams seconded that the Council adopt the following entitled Resolution No. 2022-101:  
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PURCHASE OF REAL PROPERTY KNOWN AS 102 N HARRISON STREET, BEING DESCRIBED AS LOT 3 BLOCK 37, ORIGINAL PLAT MT. PLEASANT, IOWA  
Roll call vote 5-0. Resolution adopted, signed by the Mayor and hereby made a portion of these minutes.  
It was moved by Councilmember Crull and seconded by Councilmember Batty that the Council adjourn. Motion carried. Adjourned at 5:40 p.m. to meet in a regular session on Wednesday, December 28, 2022.  
Steven K Brimhall, Mayor  
ATTEST: Lori Davis, City Clerk

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BURLINGTON, IOWA CITY COUNCIL Meeting No. 25 January 3, 2023**  
The Burlington City Council met in regular session at 5:30 p.m. in the Thomas J. Smith Council Chambers, City Hall, 400 Washington Street, with Mayor Billups, Council Members Critser, Graham-Murray, Maupin and Wilson present.  
BURLINGTON CITY COUNCIL  
COMMENTS FROM AUDIENCE: Annie Wilson's mother shared her congratulations to Annie for returning to the City Council. Freddie Starling of 517 S. 7th Street stated that the MLK Jr. celebration would be held at The Loft of Burlington on Monday, January 16th at 5:00 p.m. He stated that the event will have speaker Orlando Dial and members of the community to celebrate. He stated that there will be food and attendants are encouraged to bring a covered dish. LaVonna Bennamon of 501 Division Street announced that she is starting a new drill team for area youth members to join and provide a positive space to be creative. She stated this will be similar to the drill team 'Step-perettes' from years ago but she is re-launching with a new name and will be fund-raising at some point to launch this team. All present had opportunity to speak and nothing additional was filed in the office of the City Clerk.  
COUNCIL MEMBER VACANCY  
Introduced By: Billups  
Seconded By: Graham-Murray  
\* Motion: That the resignation of Council Member Matthew Rinker, effective December 31, 2022 caused a vacancy to occur on the Burlington City Council.  
Section 372.13 of the Iowa Code provides that the City Council has the option for filling the vacancy by appointment. The Burlington City Council now appoints Antoinette Wilson to fill the Council vacancy created by the resignation of Council Member Matthew Rinker effective January 3, 2023 until Regular Election Canvass Certified and Top Non-Incumbent Winning Candidate is Sworn In.  
DISCUSSION: None (VOTE: 4 - "AYES")  
Critser, Graham-Murray, Maupin and Billups) CARRIED  
\* Swearing-In New Council Member (by Mayor)

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# Classifieds/Public Notices

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### CONSENT AGENDA: To the Public:

All matters listed under Item I., Consent Agenda, having been discussed were considered to be routine by the City Council and were enacted by one motion. There was no separate discussion of these items. If discussion was desired, that item was removed from the Consent Agenda and was considered separately.

Introduced By: Critser  
Seconded By: Maupin  
MOTION: To approve all items listed under Item I., Consent Agenda.

DISCUSSION: Mayor Billups reviewed the items listed on the consent agenda to the viewing audience. He announced those individuals appointed to various City commissions and boards. All present had opportunity to speak and nothing additional was filed in the office of the City Clerk.

(VOTE: 5 - "AYES")  
CARRIED  
ORDINANCE:  
Introduced By: Maupin  
Seconded By: Critser  
1. Motion to Amend the Motion for Preliminary Adoption of the Second

Reading of an Ordinance Rezoning the Properties Locally Known as 1815 and 1909 Des Moines Avenue from R-2, Single-Family Residential and C-2, General Commercial to M-1, Light Industrial Zoning District

DISCUSSION: The Development and Parks Director stated that Carl A. Nelson has requested the rezoning of the entire property to M-1. He stated that they had acquired a property at 1909 Des Moines Avenue that was demolished at some point and the property

was combined with 1815 Des Moines Avenue. He stated that the Planning Commission voted 5-0 to recommend approval to rezone the properties based on the current and planned use of the property, the hillside buffer and surrounding property uses. All present had opportunity to speak and nothing additional was filed in the office of the City Clerk.

(VOTE: 5 - "AYES")  
CARRIED  
Introduced By: Maupin  
Seconded By: Critser  
2. Motion for Waiver

of Preliminary Consideration and Adoption of the Second Reading and for Final Adoption of an Ordinance Rezoning the Properties Locally Known as 1815 and 1909 Des Moines Avenue from R-2, Single-Family Residential and C-2, General Commercial to M-1, Light Industrial Zoning District

DISCUSSION: None.  
(VOTE: 5 - "AYES")  
CARRIED  
Adjournment: 5:54 p.m.  
Approved: January 17, 2022

Jessica Gerling, Deputy City Clerk  
Jon D. Billups, Mayor  
(See recording on file in the office of the City Clerk for complete discussion and documentation.)

ITEM I.  
Consent Agenda  
FINANCES AND MISCELLANEOUS  
Minutes of Previous Meetings  
Payroll and City Claims  
BEER, LIQUOR, WINE AND CIGARETTES  
REPORTS AND BONDS  
RESOLUTIONS:

1. Resolution Approving the Termination of Communication Site Lease Tower Agreement with ICPS Wireless, Inc / SprintCom LLC

2. Resolution Approving the Purchase of a Heil 20-Yard Rear Load Packer Body with a 2024 Chassis with Specified Cab Conversion Garbage Truck

3. Resolution Approving an Agreement with HR Green, Inc. of Cedar Rapids, Iowa for Engineering Services at the Burlington Wastewater Treatment Facility for the Evaluation of Local Limits

4. Resolution Approving Refund of Beer, Liquor or Wine License for Burlington Beer, LLC dba/Bent River Brewing Company

5. Resolution Authorizing an Intergovernmental Agreement for Participation in the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS Master Agreement 2022)  
APPOINTMENTS:  
Renewable Energy Advisory Committee: Jerry Parks  
Tree Advisory Board: Robert Walker and David Hazell

## HELP WANTED

### Public Works General Operator

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#### DESIRED MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Education and Experience:  
• Graduation from high school education or GED equivalent and  
• Two (2) years of experience relating to construction, maintenance, or repair, or  
• Any equivalent combination of education and experience.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS  
• Valid State Driver's license  
• Class B CDL with the ability to obtain a Class A CDL within one year of hire

Necessary Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

- Some knowledge of equipment, facilities, materials, methods and procedures used in maintenance, construction and repair activities;
- Skill in operation of some of the listed tools and equipment;
- Ability to perform heavy manual tasks for extended periods of time; ability to work safely; ability to communicate effectively verbally and in writing; ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with employees, other departments and the public; ability to understand and carry out written and oral instructions.

Submit applications to Justina Cullen at City Hall, 811 Avenue E, Fort Madison, IA 52627 or via email at [jcullen@fortmadison-ia.com](mailto:jcullen@fortmadison-ia.com) by 4:30pm on Friday, February 3rd, 2023.



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From the Front/Lee County News

# District to post Walker's position immediately

**BASEBALL** - Continued from Page 1

"I love all those guys and couldn't be happier with what they've accomplished," he said.

"This is very bittersweet, I love baseball and want to be in a baseball world, but right now that's kind of tough.

"I've been supported by all three sides, baseball, work, and family. I've had a couple reach out to me and asked if I was sure about my decision even after it was made. It's just time. The kids deserve better and the last thing I want to do is cheat them from time they deserve."

Walker said the program has brought more value to him, than he gave to the program.

"You tell your players they need the program more than the program needs them. Well, I'd like this to be said - I needed that program more than that program needed me and I couldn't be more thankful for my time there."

Lamb said he has informed the Central office and asked them to post the position immediately.

He said there are three or four people he hopes will apply and one of those is current assistant Albert Schinstock.

"With my background in baseball, I've got some people in mind that I hope apply and he's one of those people. I hope to put a committee together of three or four people close to the program and select the best candidate," Lamb said.

# LCSO reminds motorists to celebrate safely

MONTROSE - During Super Bowl LVII, the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) is teaming up with the Lee County Sheriff's Office to remind football fans everywhere that Fans Don't Let Fans Drive Drunk. Super Bowl LVII is on Sunday, February 12, 2023. If you're heading out to a Super Bowl party and you plan to drink alcohol, make sure you plan for a designated driver to get you home safely at the night's end.

"We want our community members to enjoy Super Bowl festivities, but we also want responsible drivers on our roads," said Captain Craig Burch. "If you are planning to be away from home during Super Bowl, make a game plan to ensure you don't find yourself without a designated driver if you need one. If you're hosting a party, make sure you take care of your designated drivers. Remind your friends and family: Fans Don't Let Fans Drive Drunk."

### Be the DD MVP

If you're planning to be a designated driver, know that you're the night's MVP. Commit to a sober evening — people are relying on you. If you are attending a party or are at a bar or restaurant, enjoy the food, the company, and the nonalcoholic drinks. Encourage other designated drivers on social media by using the hashtag #DesignatedDriver. Your positive influence could help keep them on the right track. If someone you know has been drinking and tries to drive, take their keys and help them get home safely. They may complain, but they'll thank you later.

### Host a Winning Party

If you're hosting a party for this year's Super Bowl, prepare plenty of snacks and nonalcoholic drinks for your guests and the designated drivers.

Ask your guests to designate their sober drivers in advance. Remind drinking guests that they have a long evening ahead of them, and encourage them to pace themselves, to eat food, and to drink plenty of water. Another important reminder: Never serve alcohol to minors. If an underage person drinks and drives, the person who provided the alcohol can be held liable for any damage, injury, or death caused by the underage driver.

### Have a Game Plan

Whether you are attending a party or going to a bar or restaurant, make a game plan and follow these simple tips for a safe and happy evening:

Remember that it is never okay to drink and drive. Even if you've had only one alcoholic beverage, designate a sober driver or plan to use a ride service or call a taxi or sober friend to get home safely.

If available, use your community's sober ride program.

If you see a drunk driver on the road, contact your local law enforcement.

Do you have a friend who is about to drink and drive? Take the keys away and make arrangements to get your friend home safely.

Only one team wins Super Bowl, but if you drive drunk, you lose. Everyone should know by now that it is illegal to drive impaired. In 2020, there were 11,654 people killed in drunk-driving crashes. Drunk driving can have a range of consequences, including the possibility of causing a traumatic crash. These crashes could cause you, someone you love, or a total stranger to suffer serious injuries or even death.

Make a commitment today to refrain from drunk driving. For more information, visit [www.nhtsa.gov/risky-driving/drunk-driving](http://www.nhtsa.gov/risky-driving/drunk-driving).

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