

# PEN CITY CURRENT

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

Tuesday, April 18, 2023 | 12 pages | Volume 7 • Issue 73



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## Crusaders, Hawks out at FM



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Holy Trinity parent Keith Gehling holds up two pictures of the Fort Madison boys' and girls' soccer teams to try to convince the Fort Madison school board to keep the shared programs. The board voted to let the agreements with HTC and Central Lee expire at the end of the 2022-23 athletic calendar.

### **VOTE:** Split 4-3 vote ends shared programming with HTC, Central Lee

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - A crowd of HTC advocates hung out at the Fort Madison Community School District parking lot in a post-game huddle of sorts after the FMSCD board voted to allow all HTC shared activities to expire at the end of the 2022-23 athletic calendar.

The board had put out a statement that it had decided to let all the district's shared athletic programs expire at the end of the calendar, but didn't hold a vote.

On Sunday night, the board issued another statement indicating that the agreements would be put on the agenda for Monday night's

meeting.

After eleven people spoke up in favor of continuing the shared programs and one supporting the district's direction, the board debated for about 20 minutes, before board member Lois DiPrima called for the question.

DiPrima, along with board members Paul Wilkerson and Carol Ross, voted to continue the shared agreements for one year, but Board President Josh Wykert, Vice President Mio Santiago, Dianne Hope, and Brad Menke all voted to end the shared agreements, resulting in a 4-3 decision to let the shared agreements expire.

See **PROGRAMS**, page 7

### COUNTY NEWS

## County hikes general fund levy 81%

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

LEE COUNTY - Lee County Supervisors are looking at a steep increase in the county's portion of the annual property taxes.

At a public hearing during Monday's regular Lee County Board of Supervisors meeting, the board discussed the maximum tax levy being proposed by the county and Lee County Budget Director Cindy Renstrom said the county was moving the general basic levy from \$3.50/\$1,000 of assessed valuation to \$5.85, an increase of 81% in that portion of the county's levy.

That new levy rate will generate \$18,615,530 during that fiscal year.

The new assessments that went out in the mail over the last several weeks won't take effect until the fall tax payments in 2024.

"The reason why is our fund balance has gotten drastically low is because of overestimating revenue, and we didn't raise the levy prior to that to help cover the \$2 to \$3 million budget and that was eating into our fund balance," Renstrom said.

The rate is part of the county's \$13.53 tax levy that is being proposed for the 2023-24 fiscal year which starts July 1, 2023 and runs through June 30, 2024.

Other parts of the county budget include the general supplemental fund, which pays the majority of the county's employee benefits, at \$3.94; Rural basic services levy at \$2.32, EMS levy of \$0.75, a debt service levy of \$0.65; and a Pioneer Cemetery levy of \$0.02.

"We need to do this in order to start to get our balance back up," Renstrom said.

Supervisor Garry Seyb said there were also some significant necessary upgrades around the IT network and security, but he said the county's carryover over the past several months was critical.

"We want to make sure we're not in the same position next year. There will not be funds available to right the ship unless we do this," Seyb said.

See **COUNTY**, page 8



FEDLER

### AREA NEWS

## Wever's OCI Nitrogen wipes out area schools' lunch debt

WEVER - OCI Nitrogen Iowa (formerly OCI Iowa Fertilizer Company, a wholly owned subsidiary of OCI Global) announced today it will donate \$11,500 to eliminate the entirety of the school lunch deficits students and families are facing in the three public school districts in Lee County.

The donations to the Fort Madison Community School District, Central Lee Community School District, and Keokuk

Community School District build on OCI's decade-plus efforts to support students, local schools, teachers, and educational programs in southeast Iowa.

"OCI Nitrogen Iowa is proud to continue partnering with public school districts throughout southeast Iowa to ensure students are living healthier lives and are prepared as possible to learn and succeed while in the classroom," Mickey McHale,

OCI Nitrogen Iowa Plant Manager, said.

"In the more than ten years since we broke ground in Wever, OCI our team members have been committed to investing in the community and helping meet critical local needs, with a focus on promoting STEM education and food security. We wholeheartedly believe in supporting our young people as they move through our public-school system

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### WEATHER

**TUE 18 Apr**..... Widespread frost in a.m., sunny and cool, 65° F/ 51° F  
**WED 19 Apr**..... Warm with chance of showers and storms, 75° F/ 59° F  
**THU 20 Apr**..... Warm with chance of showers and storms, 71° F/ 43° F

### IOWA LOTTERY

**LUCKY FOR LIFE 04/16**..... 6 21 29 34 47, Lucky Ball: 18  
**PICK 3 04/16 MIDDAY**..... 3 1 8  
**PICK 3 04/16 EVENING**..... 0 7 4  
**PICK 4 04/16 MIDDAY**..... 1 6 6 3  
**PICK 4 04/16 EVENING**..... 2 4 3 7

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# Obituaries/From the Front

## OBITUARIES

### CATHERINE S. GUESS

Catherine Sue Guess, 80, of Keokuk, IA, died Saturday, April 15, 2023 at River Hills Village in Keokuk.



GUESS

She was born on July 4, 1942 in Keokuk, IA, the daughter of John and Marcine (Dupy) McDevitt. She graduated from Keokuk High School with the Class of 1960.

Catherine was united in marriage to Robert R. Guess on November 19, 1960, in Keokuk. They later divorced in 2013.

Catherine was a member of the First Christian Church in Keokuk and the Tri-State Quilting Guild.

Catherine had a very strong work ethic and held many jobs throughout her lifetime. While living in Keokuk she had been employed at both Chuckwagon Restaurants, Central Laundry, Swifts, Drydens, Graham Hospital and the Ammunition Plant. After moving to Texas she worked at Texas State Tech College in Amarillo, TX as a custodian for twenty-three years and at Target for seven years.

She enjoyed sewing, quilting, needle craft and embroidery. She had won thirteen blue ribbons and best in show at the Texas State Fair for her Swedish embroidery on tablecloths and flower arranging. She also enjoyed collecting eagles. She was an avid fan of NASCAR and Jimmy Johnson. Catherine had been a volunteer for Special Olympics, riding and walking in parades with her children, attending their events and tournaments and helping out in their classrooms. Her grandchildren and great grandchildren were her pride and joy. She had been very involved with her grandchildren in the "Just Say No" Club.

She is survived by one son, Darrell Lee (Mary) Guess, Sr. of Amarillo, TX, two grandchildren, Christina Diane (David, Jr.) Flowers of Elk City, OK and Darrell Lee Guess, Jr of Amarillo, TX, three great-grand-children, Skyler Lynn Flowers, Leah Bell Flowers and David Flowers, III all of Elk City, OK. She is also survived by one sister, Marcia (Richard) Olesen of Charles City, IA, one brother, Michael John (Jane) McDevitt of Coatesville, PA, several nieces and nephews, a cousin Don Dupy and her good friend, Linda Apple of Warsaw, IL.

She was also preceded in death by her parents, grandparents, two daughters, Debra Lynn Guess and Diana Lou Guess and several aunts and uncles.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m., Thursday at the Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk with Pastor David Turner officiating. Burial will be in the Sunset Memorial Park in Keokuk.

Visitation will be held from 5 - 7 p.m. Wednesday at the Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk.

Memorials may be made to the University of Iowa Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center for research.

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

## OBITUARIES

### GERALD L. CLARK

Gerald Lee "Jerry" Clark, 75, of Keokuk, IA died Monday, April 17, 2023 at his home. He was born June 17, 1947 in Quincy, IL the son of Leo and Letha Scott Clark. He graduated from Plymouth High School in Plymouth, IL with the class of 1966.



CLARK

On October 17, 1992 Jerry was united in marriage to Susan Shimmin in Plymouth, IL. She survives.

Other survivors include three step-sons, Brad Gilpin (Jeannie) of Keokuk, Scott Gilpin (Denise) of Burlington, IA and Michael Gilpin of Keokuk, five grandchildren and one great-grandson. He is also survived by two brothers,

Gene Clark of Texas and Jackie Clark of Macomb, IL, one sister, Joyce Schowner of Colchester, IL and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Jerry had been employed as an EMT for Tri State Ambulance Service for fourteen years in Plymouth and later worked at Memorial Hospital in Carthage, IL. He then was employed by the Mississippi Terrace in Keokuk as after hours emergency personnel for nineteen years.

Jerry enjoyed watching YouTube and playing card games, especially pitch.

There will be no services.

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

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

## OCI adding value to area education chain

### DONATION - Continued from Page 1

and encouraging their pursuit of an education in STEM."

The Fort Madison Community School District, Central Lee Community School District, and Keokuk Community School District together serve more than 4,700 total students.

OCI Nitrogen Iowa and its more than 260 employees have endowed time and resources to the entire

education value chain in southeast Iowa, including a \$250,000 donation to the Lee County Career Advantage Center, \$250,000 donation to Southeastern Community College's Building the Dream Fund, donations to the public libraries in Donnellson, Mt. Pleasant, Burlington, and Keokuk, annual participation in the Southeast Iowa Regional STEM Festival, among many others.

"All of us at the Fort Madison Community School District - from students to

teachers to staff - greatly appreciate OCI's donation to our district and commitment to assist families across our community," Dr. Erin Slater, Superintendent of the Fort Madison Community School District, said.

"The Central Lee Community School District thanks OCI and their team members for once again stepping up to support students and helping improve educational outcomes in the area," Dr. Andy Crozier, Superintendent of the Central Lee Community School District, said.

Contact Tracy  
to Schedule Your  
COMPLIMENTARY  
REVIEW



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Charles Vandenberg, Editor

(319).371.1670  
charles.v@pencitycurrent.com

Lee K. Vandenberg, Sales Manager

(319).371.4125  
lee.v@pencitycurrent.com

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# Obituaries

## OBITUARIES

### STEVEN V. BURKE

Steven V. Burke, 74, of Denmark, Iowa, passed away Friday, April 14, 2023, at the Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center in West Burlington, Iowa.

He was born on February 14, 1949, at Sacred Heart Hospital in Fort Madison, Iowa, the son of Edmund and Shirley (Lingenfelter) Burke. On June 21, 1968, he married Monica Pollpeter at St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church in West Point, Iowa.

He is survived by his wife: Monica; brother: William (Deanna) Burke; sisters-in-law: Jane Bell, Alice (Gary) McCannon and Dorothy Pollpeter. Also surviving are several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; sone: Chad; nephew: Joe Burke and two brothers-in-law: Carl Bell and Mark Pollpeter.

Steve was a graduate of Fort Madison High School. He worked as a superintendent at Raid Quarries then worked at First Miss, Excide and Lee County Secondary Roads as a motor grader. He was a member of Holy Family Parish in Fort Madison. His greatest joy was his John Deere lawn tractor. Steve was a die hard St. Louis Cardinals fan and also enjoyed spending time outside tending to his yard and helping others.

His body has been entrusted to the crematory of Schmitz Funeral Home for cremation.

Visitation will be held at 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, April 18, 2023, at Ss. Mary & Joseph Catholic Church, Holy Family Parish in Fort Madison.

A Mass of Christian burial will be held at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, April 18, 2023, at Ss. Mary & Joseph Catholic Church, Holy Family Parish in Fort Madison with Father Joseph Phung as celebrant.

Burial will be at Calvary Cemetery in West Point, Iowa.

Memorials have been established in his memory for Denmark Ball Association or Denmark Fire and Rescue.

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



BURKE

## OBITUARIES

### DENNIS P. SCHRECK

Dennis Paul Schreck of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, passed away peacefully at his Iowa home on Tuesday, April 11, 2023, surrounded by his loving, faithful wife, Jayne, family and Mercy Hospice Caregivers.



SCHRECK

Dennis' life was celebrated with a funeral service at Noon on Monday, April 17, 2023, at DeJong-Greaves-Printy Funeral Home in Keokuk. Visitation was held at DeJong-Greaves-Printy Funeral Home in Keokuk from 10 am to Noon on Monday directly before the service.

Dennis loved Jesus. Dennis was born in Keokuk, IA, on December 7, 1956, the 2nd of 7 children to Shirley (Decker) Schreck Kerr and Paul Schreck. Paul later died of a brain tumor. Leon Kerr and Shirley married and loved raising the children. Dennis was a favorite child, and he knew it. Dennis was the older identical twin to Douglas. Dennis attended the Catholic Church and served as Altar Boy. He participated in Holy Mass, Church Services and the Sacraments. He was a faithful Christian practicing God's teachings and adjusting to on-line services during COVID-19. He also attended New Covenant Church in Toddville, IA, and Stavanger Lutheran Church in Minnesota. He graduated from Keokuk High School in 1976. He then attended a 5-year apprenticeship where he graduated a Journeyman and was initiated on 11-18-1988. He was a BTJ STEAMFFITTER and served with the LOCAL 125 Union after LOCAL 562. Throughout his life, he continued a disciplined hard work ethic. He was a determined provider for his family, making sure they had all that was needed for a healthy life. As a younger man, he loved the water and all the activities that went with it, swimming, water skiing, diving, fishing, noodling for catfish-the bigger, the better.

He enjoyed hunting trips, road trips, family, going to Arkansas Lake of the Ozarks, cutting trees. In all his work, he was a hard worker, meticulous in everything he did. He served others his good cooking-from-scratch foods. He was very proud of all the special, detailed work he did and proud to be a Union Worker. In his social life, he was the Social Butterfly. His true friends and family knew him, loved him and trusted him. He was very community minded in politics and as a voter, took care of snow removal for neighbors, chain-sawed trees for the community without any reimbursement. Just another good deed. He was generous to all things military, animals, cancer research, no-kill shelters, sick children, human rights, supporting American Indians, Nature, the Arbor Society.

He had a cultured, refined side as a Published Author of Poetry, and his works have copyright status at the United States Library of Congress. He was consistently the consummate gentleman- opening doors for others and seating family in their chairs. He loved his Harley Davidson Motorcycles and riding was the most freeing feeling he experienced when he rode. He once said, "I feel like I am free whenever I ride my motorcycle." The other most important art of his life was his son, Brad. Even though Dennis and Brad's mother divorced early, Brad was the pride and joy and reason for much of the happiness in Dennis' life.

Dennis was preceded in death by his grandparents, numerous aunts and uncles, cousins, his father and his twin brother.

He leaves many to celebrate his life, including his son, Brad, wife-Jayne and children Joey, Jeffrey and Jenny, siblings, cousins, nieces, aunts and uncles, as well as special friends who he worked with at jobs, factories and manufacturing plants.

### MARGARET A. BAILEY

Margaret Alys Bailey, 90, of Donnellson, passed away on Saturday, April 15, 2023 at 1:35 PM at The Kensington.

She was born on May 25, 1932 in Washington county, IA to Lee Roy and Bernice L. Shidler Fread. Margaret was a 1951 graduate of Winfield High School and married James B. Bailey of Mt. Pleasant on June 2, 1951. James preceded her in death on February 13, 2023. Margaret worked at Sheaffer Pen Company in Mt. Pleasant and lived with her in-laws while her husband served in the US Navy. Margaret and Jim lived in the Montrose community for thirty five years before moving to Mt. Hamill in 1995. She enjoyed spending time with her family, cooking, gardening, reading, coffee with the Mt. Hamill Sunshine Girls and watching squirrels and wild birds.

Survivors include two daughters, Deborah (Sam Strange) Bailey of Donnellson and Sandra (Greg) Smith of Ft. Madison. Also surviving are nieces, nephews, sisters and brothers in-law and their families. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband; mother and father in-law; four brothers, Kenneth (Patricia) Fread, Terry (Sandra) Fread, Bentley (Lorraine) Fread and infant brother Keith Fread.

Per her wishes, cremation has been entrusted to King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory and there will be no services at this time.

Online condolences may be left at [www.kinglynk.com](http://www.kinglynk.com).



BAILEY

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## PUBLIC NOTICES

### PUBLIC NOTICE LEE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

#### HELP WANTED

#### Public Works General Operator

Performs a variety of unskilled or semi-skilled maintenance work, operates a variety of equipment in the construction, operation, repair, maintenance and replacement of City street, sanitary and storm drainage facilities and systems.

#### 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 or the ability to obtain one within six months 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 Monday, April 24th, 2023.



### FEBRUARY 21, 2023

The Lee County Board of Supervisors met at the Lee County Administration Building in Fort Madison on Tuesday, February 21, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.

Present: Garry Seyb, Ron Fedler, Chuck Holmes, Matt Pflug and Tom Schulz.

All votes are unanimous unless indicated otherwise.

The Board opened the meeting by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moved by Holmes,

#### HELP WANTED

#### Immediate Opening JOURNEYMAN LINEMAN

The West Point Municipal Utility System has an immediate opening for a Journeyman Lineman. Applicants must have a strong journeyman rating and must be able to perform all duties with regard to overhead and underground electric line construction.

Grade 1 water distribution certified or willing to obtain. Must live or be willing to comply with on-call requirements and possess and comply with Iowa CDL regulations.

We offer a comprehensive benefit plan including health and dental coverage, plus IPERS retirement. Pre-employment physical and drug screening will be required.

Send a confidential resume to West Point Utility System, PO Box 69, West Point, IA. 52656  
Or to: [billingclerk@westpointiowa.com](mailto:billingclerk@westpointiowa.com).

Applications are available per request. Any questions please feel free to call Dawn @ 319-837-3100 West Point, IA 52656 or to [cityofwestpointiowa@gmail.com](mailto:cityofwestpointiowa@gmail.com)  
No phone calls, please



seconded by Pflug, to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

At 10:01 a.m. Seyb opened a Public Hearing for comments on whether the Board should enter into non-current debt for body cameras. There were no comments received prior to the hearing and none received during the meeting. At 10:02 a.m., Pflug made a motion to close the Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by Fedler. Motion carried.

Moved by Pflug, seconded by Schulz, to approve Resolution #2023-43. Roll call: Pflug-aye,

#### HELP WANTED

#### WATER DISTRIBUTION FULL TIME DISTRIBUTION CREWMAN

**GENERAL PURPOSE**  
Under the general direction of the Distribution Supervisor, prepares excavations, installs and repairs water mains and appurtenances, reads water meters, and completes service work orders.

#### DESIRED MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Education and Experience:  
1. Graduation from high school diploma or GED equivalent  
2. Valid Iowa driver's license  
3. Obtain an Iowa Grade II Water Distribution License within four years from hire date  
4. Ability to operate tools and equipment pertinent to the water distribution field.  
5. Work in confined spaces  
6. Frequently stands, squats, bends over, kneels, reaches, and lifts above and below shoulder height.

Apply at City Hall 811 Avenue E Fort Madison, IA or email applications to [jcullen@fortmadison-ia.com](mailto:jcullen@fortmadison-ia.com) by Friday, April 28th

Applications can be found on the city website at [www.fortmadison-ia.com](http://www.fortmadison-ia.com)



Schulz-aye, Holmes-aye, Fedler-aye and Seyb-aye.

#### Resolution #2023-43

FINAL RESOLUTION ON A PROPOSAL FOR NONCURRENT DEBT WHEREAS, Section 331.479, Code of Iowa provides:

Before the board may institute proceedings for the incurrence of debt for the purposes listed in section 331.478(2), a notice of the proposed action, including a statement of the amount, a purpose and form of the debt, the proposed time of liquidation and the time and place of the meeting in which the board proposes to take action to authorize the debt shall be published as provided in section

#### HELP WANTED

#### WATER TREATMENT PLANT FULL TIME OPERATOR

**GENERAL PURPOSE**  
Operates and repairs all pumps and appurtenances necessary to produce high quality and adequate quantity of water to meet system demands. Performs routine maintenance on equipment, collects and analyzes water samples, and completes inspections.

#### DESIRED MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Education and Experience:  
1. Graduation from high school diploma or GED equivalent  
2. Valid Iowa driver's license  
3. Obtain a Grade II Water Treatment License in the State of Iowa  
4. Ability to perform basic laboratory analyses

Apply at City Hall 811 Avenue E Fort Madison, IA or email applications to [jcullen@fortmadison-ia.com](mailto:jcullen@fortmadison-ia.com) by Friday, April 28th

Applications can be found on the city website at [www.fortmadison-ia.com](http://www.fortmadison-ia.com)



331.305. At the meeting, the board shall receive oral or written objections from any resident or property owner of the county. After all objections have been received, the board, at that meeting or at the date which it adjourned, may take additional action to authorize the debt or abandon the proposal; and

WHEREAS, Section 331.477 defines current debt as a debt payable from a resource which will have accrued in a fund by the end of the physical year in which the debt is incurred. A noncurrent debt is any other debt; and

WHEREAS, Axon has proposed selling to the Lee County Sheriff's Office body cameras and accompanying software in an amount not to exceed \$271,869.08; and

#### HELP WANTED



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WHEREAS Lee County has held the public hearing as required by §331.478 and published notice thereof in accordance with §331.305.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Lee County Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes the proposed noncurrent debt as set forth in the purchase agreement.

Dated and signed at Fort Madison, Iowa on this the 21st day of February, 2023.

Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Garry Seyb, Chairman; /s/ Ron Fedler, Vice-Chair; /s/ Chuck Holmes, Member; /s/ Matt Pflug, Member and /s/ Tom Schulz, Member. Attest: /s/ Denise Fraise, Auditor. Motion carried.

There was no Public Input.

Moved by Pflug, seconded by Holmes, to approve an amendment to the SEIL/Lee Memorandum of Understanding

#### HELP WANTED

#### We're Hiring Maintenance Tech

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• Competitive Benefit Package (Vacation, Sick, PTO, Insurance Options)  
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• Teamwork Environment

What you Bring:  
• Trainability  
• Residential/Building Maintenance Experience (Preferred but not required)  
• Service Mindset  
• Dependability is a must

Applications are available at Fort Madison Housing Authority, 1102 48th Street, Fort Madison IA or call our office during business hours Monday-Friday 8am to 4pm 319.372.6083. Application deadline is Friday, April 14th.



# Classifieds/Public Notices

## PUBLIC NOTICES

for FY23 sub-fund costs associated with the region. Motion carried.

Moved by Fedler, seconded by Holmes, to approve hiring seasonal employees for Conservation using funds from beach concessions, park fees and boat rentals. Motion carried.

Moved by Holmes, seconded by Pflug, to allow Pen City Cruisers to use the East Parking Lot for car shows on April 1, June 24, August 26 and September 23, 2023. Motion carried.

Moved by Pflug, seconded by Holmes, to approve Resolution #2023-42. Roll call: Pflug-aye, Holmes-aye, Schulz-aye, Fedler-aye and Seyb-aye.

### RESOLUTION #2023-42

BE IT RESOLVED this 21st day of February, 2023 the appointment of the COUNTY COMPENSATION COMMISSION IN EMINENT DOMAIN

### REALTORS

Sue Lee ..... Fort Madison  
Vicki Briscoe ..... Keokuk  
Penny Logsdon.... Keokuk  
Daniel B. Fraise ..... Fort Madison  
Cynthia Otte ..... Fort Madison  
Corey Fraise ..... Fort Madison  
Lori Sproul Fort Madison

### OWNERS OF CITY/TOWN PROPERTY

Bobby Reid ..... Montrose  
Dave Ellingboe ..... Donnellson  
Helen Fowler .... Montrose  
Lisa Hansen.....Houghton  
Rebecca Bowker ..... Fort Madison  
Steve Celandia ..... Keokuk  
Vicki Kokjohn .. West Point

### FARMERS

Larry Lang ..... Donnellson  
Steve Newberry..... Argyle  
Dave Houston..... Wever  
Chris Lindner ..... Keokuk  
Harry Mabeus..... Wever  
Dusty Wellman ..... Donnellson  
Mary Weisinger ..... Fort Madison

### BANKERS

Matt Morrison ..... Pilot Grove  
Matt Morris ..... Fort Madison  
Tonya Gaylord ..... Wever  
Barb Smidt..... Keokuk  
Linda Mullen ..... Keokuk  
Kevin Adams ..... Fort Madison  
Tamara Dietsch ..... Fort Madison  
Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Garry Seyb, Chairman; /s/ Ron Fedler, Vice-Chair; /s/ Chuck Holmes, Member; /s/ Matt Pflug, Member and /s/ Tom Schulz, Member. Attest: /s/ Denise Fraise, Auditor. Motion carried.

Moved by Pflug, seconded by Fedler, to approve a Letter of Support for a RAISE Grant for the Keokuk Rail Bridge. Motion carried.  
The Board receive and filed the following salaries for 2022:  
Employee Name ..... Gross Wage  
David A Ackles .. 17208.00  
Barbara S Altgilbers ..... 35342.83  
William P Anderson ..... 54294.33  
Erin E Andries... 49828.09  
Terry J Aplara..... 7960.99  
Brandy Atwood ..... 41203.50  
Rocky S Azbill Jr ..... 85545.53  
Hannah E Baker ..... 49594.94  
Katarina B Banks ..... 8871.24  
Sandra L Barker ..... 11573.60  
Kelly Barton ..... 4483.27  
Amy K Beavers..97618.11  
Eric M Benge ..... 11172.72  
Kenton Benner.. 55017.64  
Evan H Bentley ..... 66293.94  
Emily Biddenstadt ..... 64285.65  
Heather L Billings ..... 51553.02  
Katelynn M Blindt ..... 55367.87  
Justin M Boecker ..... 5760.42  
DeAnne L Bonar ... 220.00  
Joseph L Booten ..... 55081.01  
Nancy L Booten ..... 71812.07  
Jackquiline K Booth ..... 61906.24  
Jonathan E Boudewyn ..... 43989.42  
Rebecca L Bowden ..... 47125.12  
Samuel W Boyer ..... 16371.34  
Ross J Braden ..... 119572.42  
Chad L Brotherton ..... 54342.53  
LouAnn Bruster ..... 14491.01  
Larry J Buechel..... 40.00  
Craig D Burch... 87415.52  
Keagan M Burke ..... 14208.29  
Kathy J Burkhammer ..... 34951.60  
Dustin M Cackley ..... 2175.52  
Lily N Cadwallader ..... 3430.87  
John C Canida.. 81827.03  
Paul R Carroll ..... 2671.58  
William V Carson ..... 61595.42  
Catherine L Casey ..... 4186.88  
Candice L Chapman ..... 48957.00  
Amy J Chase .... 46775.12  
Tabatha M Cleveland ..... 37984.72  
Crystal A Coffman ..... 38594.04  
Jeffrey S Cole ..... 2865.80  
Glenn V Conlee .... 672.60  
William F Conlee ..... 92954.02  
Amy N Cook ..... 45447.99  
Margaret Cook.. 65659.62  
Jeanne M Cooper ..... 61944.01

Dennis L Cosby ..... 77622.03  
Justin D Counts ..... 10436.44  
Deborah O Courtney ..... 50418.49  
Joan E Crowe ..... 150.00  
Amber N Daugherty ..... 35881.27  
Donald D Davis III ..... 47921.65  
Craig A Davis .... 67171.53  
Jack D Davis..... 33794.88  
Jack D Davis..... 448.00  
Malinda C Davis ..... 28486.88  
Tracey L Davis.. 37904.85  
Michael L Dawson ..... 30718.50  
Laura R DeFord ..... 36984.10  
Samuel T Derr .. 54271.95  
Leslie A Dettmers ..... 67554.96  
Stacie D Dickens ..... 62741.84  
Joshua L Dilks .. 84573.80  
Jason L Dinwiddie ..... 85410.21  
Michelle R Dodson ..... 50421.07  
Chad E Donaldson ..... 67933.08  
Nicholas R Dooley ..... 9812.68  
Daniel L Douglas ..... 4136.25  
Jason W Dunagan ..... 48750.22  
Russell L Dyer .. 72470.37  
Scott J Edwards ..... 52325.98  
Princess Ephraim ..... 4999.20  
Coleman J Ertzinger ..... 81482.05  
Tobin R Evans .. 28902.20  
Rebecca Fader ..... 94477.23  
Nathan D Farmer ..... 18713.04  
Ronald R Fedler ..... 27660.95  
Scott A Fedler ..... 448.60  
Dakota H Foley... 2052.62  
Tammy L Forseen ..... 46173.08  
Kerri L Fountain .... 409.00  
Brent J Fraise ... 53271.47  
Denise L Fraise ..... 72711.56  
Heather M Fraise ..... 93123.48  
Nicole D Fraise ..... 50223.27  
Ryan D Freitag ..... 36738.27  
Audrey J Friday ..... 62620.92  
Jacob L Frueh... 54494.39  
Dan J Fullenkamp... 50.00  
Roger Fullenkamp .. 80.00  
Zachariah S Fuller ..... 53855.63  
Thomas B Gage ..... 69119.62  
Roslyn A Garcia ..... 50961.23  
Matthew L Garmoe ..... 20.00  
Anthony R Garza ..... 48146.01  
Rebecca K Gaylord ..... 60300.56  
Samantha R Geers ..... 8640.48  
Kimberly K Gerling ..... 57682.81  
Jeri C Giebelhausen ..... 58867.54

Keith A Gilman.. 76695.72  
Steven W Gipson ..... 50341.64  
Lonnie Glasscock ..... 720.80  
Stacy R Graber ..... 14164.94  
Kendell J Gregory ..... 49978.85  
Kylie S Grogan ... 4155.00  
Jessica C Hall... 88180.40  
Joseph M Hambleton ..... 66612.17  
Kalyn N Hammel ..... 47203.00  
Deneen L Hamner ..... 50156.47  
Kyle L Haney .... 60672.70  
Richard L Harlow ..... 10369.03  
Kevin T Harter .. 70528.76  
Sherri L Hartson ..... 54214.71  
Milvoj L Hasek .... 6160.00  
Michael Hasenclever ..... 40.00  
Amy L Hayes .... 58846.75  
Lynda A Hayes.. 37891.84  
Rachel M Heibredner ..... 38072.68  
Sara A Helenthal ..... 64469.11  
Michael D Hellige ..... 59092.44  
Kyle P Helling ... 53656.48  
Bryson G Hennigar ..... 40782.81  
Lisa J Henshaw ..... 46119.84  
Erica E Heston... 11719.78  
Elizabeth E Hinkle ..... 3828.38  
Nicole M Hirte .... 5159.50  
Michael J Hoenig .... 20.00  
Roylynn Hoenig ..... 41796.56  
Charles Holmes ..... 14852.13  
Jeffrey D Hoskins ..... 66331.65  
Tasha L Howard ..... 48086.57  
Jeffery J Hoyer .... 100.00  
Kierra L Huddleston ..... 10496.58  
Bruce W Hudson ..... 79710.72  
Jamee J Hudson ..... 55746.97  
Heather A Huebner ..... 71353.94  
Justin C Huling ..... 55081.54  
Benjamin J Hull ..... 125598.03  
Kent M Hummell ..... 54470.08  
Avery W Jacobs ..... 27142.16  
Daniel G Jannusch ..... 107455.15  
Payton L Jarvis ..... 47212.86  
Susan M Jeffries ..... 38185.94  
Barbara Johnson ..... 37461.04  
Cara L Johnson ..... 54789.95  
Donald B Johnson ..... 32971.10  
Janie Johnson .. 51705.68  
Wade L Johnson ..... 63127.11  
Lane C Johnston ..... 1666.40  
Bobby D Jones ... 8710.07  
Jackson C Jones ..... 49283.28  
Sammie L Jones ..... 6507.62

Andrea N Jorgenson ..... 42364.64  
Robert M Juarez ..... 70623.56  
Patrick J Kaltefleiter ..... 7429.50  
Chastity D Kearns ..... 41666.16  
Tony M Keefe... 59691.70  
Denise A Kemper ..... 8369.62  
Jon H Kemper... 54631.22  
Matthew S Killoren ..... 56270.17  
Joseph W Kirchner ..... 15.00  
Megan L Kirchner ..... 49853.21  
Shane R Kirchner ..... 55196.03  
Mark Klesner .... 72977.01  
Ginger L Knisley ..... 55575.33  
Patricia A Knustrom ..... 99650.03  
Breanna J Kramer-Riesberg ..... 43500.50  
Jessica S Kramer ..... 7226.50  
Alvin F Krebill.... 53977.98  
Bradley Lake..... 20.00  
Erica Lambert ... 45123.18  
Mary J Lambert ..... 37891.84  
Richard L Larkin ..... 27660.95  
Cole E Lee..... 43265.01  
Greg H Lemke .. 44485.44  
Christopher A Lindner ..... 410.80  
Lindsey M Lofthus ..... 43932.08  
Mark R Long .... 23668.35  
Trisha A Lowman ..... 41965.36  
Michele A Lozano ..... 60807.19  
Amber E Lucas ..... 50548.85  
Jordan D Maag ..... 69558.39  
Sean V Malcolm ..... 81543.80  
Morgan K Malone ..... 4567.51  
Marcus A Martin...2595.11  
Seth D Mayes... 31339.24  
Krista S McGinn ..... 81433.83  
Emilee McKay..... 7253.63  
Bryor J McMillen ..... 33050.55  
Daniel A Mehl.... 53450.75  
Daniel A Mehl..... 15.00  
Patricia A Meierotto ..... 70927.28  
Ted G Menke ... 57239.83  
Jacob J Mentele ..... 17514.73  
Jeff Metcalf ..... 1301.88  
Bethany L Meyers ..... 37786.63  
Deryk F Milks.... 62279.48  
Olive Miller..... 39812.74  
Zachary D Mixer ..... 62169.69  
Dean M Moeller ..... 50.00  
Robert W Moeller.. 215.00  
Rebekah A Moore ..... 51292.41  
David L Morgan ..... 62869.56  
George Morgan ... 742.50  
Tammy L Morgan ..... 42646.72  
Justina M Mortimer ..... 4631.26  
Jason A Mott.... 44658.80  
Laurie A Mullins ..... 45630.41  
John W Munier Jr

..... 84353.13  
Tammy L Myers ..... 14088.77  
Kirk E Nafziger.. 62054.86  
Tiffany N Newberry ..... 9680.97  
David E Newton ..... 13513.23  
Thomas R Oberman ..... 66217.61  
Clint A Oldfield .. 61570.75  
Calista B Ortiz..... 47.46  
Melissa Park ..... 75557.78  
Rachael N Patterson-Rahn ..... 76244.82  
Andrew C Patterson ..... 51585.30  
Joshua D Patton ..... 49030.45  
John Q Pawling II ..... 61076.53  
Linda Peacher .... 1664.98  
Philip R Peitz ..... 323.00  
Peggy J Peterson ..... 35668.32  
Travis J Pezley ..... 55353.16  
Matthew L Pflug ..... 31211.50  
Joshua J Pihl .... 51677.00  
Paula G Pohren.... 270.00  
Katherine J Printy ..... 27891.36  
Steven L Rairden ..... 48923.17  
James R Rea Jr. .... 53106.07  
Michelle L Reed ..... 48102.05  
Cynthia L Renstrom ..... 80579.60  
Warren Rickelman .. 40.00  
Jacob T Riley .... 64405.14  
Lia C Risser..... 42479.22  
Amber S Roberts ..... 52452.78  
Emily J Roberts ..... 37649.12  
Karl B Rokosz... 51731.69  
Terry L Roskamp ..... 89700.91  
Michele D Ross ..... 93437.12  
Peggy Ross ..... 43910.70  
Todd W Ross ..... 220.00  
Charles Ruschill.... 220.00  
Linda S Sammeli .. 660.10  
Julia A Saunders ..... 40210.91  
Rick Schiller..... 90.00  
Jeffrey W Schmitz ..... 54342.70  
Brenda S Schnedler ..... 48228.97  
Quentin A Schneider ..... 4687.51  
Daniel R Schreur ..... 15509.39  
Tessa M Schroeder ..... 50534.12  
Bret H Scott ..... 53833.82  
Peter S Settles.. 54818.85  
Garry W Seyb Jr ..... 27660.95  
Julie M Shanstrom ..... 47692.90  
Michael R Shelangoski ..... 74044.62  
Todd A Shields..... 601.75  
Diane E Smith... 36671.00  
Travis J Solem.. 70605.03  
Christine L Spann ..... 72169.35  
Kimberly M Spear ..... 47398.52  
Dustin C Sperry ...6011.28  
Steven R Sproul ..... 16437.85  
Clayton D Steele ..... 54137.08  
James B Steffen

**Classifieds/Public Notices**

**PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS**

**PUBLIC NOTICES**

..... 30961.59  
 Steven C Steffensmeier ..... 29647.35  
 Jonathan M Stensvaag ..... 20638.76  
 Sherry L Stice ... 21837.51  
 Robert D Stidham ..... 48005.72  
 Justin C Stonerook ..... 77357.33  
 Shauna M Stuart ..... 35305.23  
 Kevin J Stuekerjuergen ..... 66435.48  
 David L Sugars ..... 52165.18  
 Jeffrey E Sugars ..... 47487.68  
 Nikki D Sugars.. 41601.94  
 Raegan Swainey ..... 56814.38  
 John M Symmonds ..... 15436.69  
 Michelle M Terhune ..... 41299.20  
 Abigail R Thompson ..... 5750.50  
 Charles R Thompson ..... 8396.44  
 Brian V Thye ..... 44184.56  
 Patricia L Tripp...30118.16  
 Jacquelyn M Tuck ..... 4785.00  
 Jeff Tungate..... 30.00  
 Christine M Van Berkum ..... 51319.70  
 Matthew A Van Berkum ..... 70461.39  
 Jackson M Van Hamme ..... 4319.00  
 Ellie M Vance..... 7990.96  
 Charles R Vandenberg ..... 65679.27  
 Raymond B Vandenberg ..... 185.00  
 William E Vandenberg ..... 6363.00  
 Caroline M Veihl ..... 51721.97  
 Lori A Vermazen ..... 57264.53  
 James J Vincent ..... 49360.22  
 Craig J Vorwaldt ..... 20.00  
 Jeana L Vradenburg ..... 41509.47  
 Amanda Walden ..... 27296.88  
 Deedra D Warner ..... 56022.25  
 Andrew D Wear ..... 48409.61  
 Dean C Weber..... 90.00  
 Stacy S Weber ..... 108769.49  
 Joshua L Weeks ..... 3490.50  
 Chad M Wells ....64758.11  
 Uriah J Wheatley ..... 66975.45  
 Matthew J Wheeler ..... 43957.66  
 Kandie E White ..... 83220.78  
 Berl G Wilcox.... 13779.68  
 Joshua M Wilcox ..... 47491.61  
 Trena J Wildrick ..... 49218.69  
 Bryce Wilson..... 6790.58  
 Tamara L Wilson ..... 84726.86  
 Rynne L Wood ..... 101252.16  
 Randolph W Woodroffe ..... 330.00  
 Clinton J Wray .. 70418.70  
 Sherri R Yasenchock ..... 14823.75  
 Dustin D Young..55116.92  
 Tiffany I Zagorski ..... 61496.69  
 Bobbi L Zinnert ..... 65804.23  
 Moved by Pflug, seconded by Holmes, to

approve a Class C Retail Alcohol License for The Hidden Tower Event Center, Keokuk, for the period June 1, 2023 through May 31, 2024. Motion carried.  
 The Board received a recommendation from the Building Committee to hire Ames Contracting, Keokuk, as the General Contractor for the Keokuk Ambulance Base. Motion carried.  
 Moved by Fedler, seconded by Holmes, to accept no raise for the Supervisors. Motion carried.  
 Moved by Holmes, seconded by Schulz, to approve the Monday, February 13, 2023 Board Minutes.  
 Moved by Pflug, seconded by Holmes, to approve the payment of claims. Motion carried.  
 Moved by Schulz, seconded by Holmes, to approve a promotion for Shauna Stuart, from Records Clerk \$18.00/hr. to Second Deputy Recorder \$41,673.95/annually, effective 3/1/23; new hire for the Treasurer's Office, Shana Sanders, Records Clerk, \$17.02/hr., effective 2/27/23 and a new hire for Information Technology, Daniel Kern, Network Administrator, \$60,000/annually, effective 2/21/23. Motion carried.  
 Received and filed a Manure Management Annual Update for Full-

kamp Farms in Pleasant Ridge Township.  
 Committee Reports:  
 Schulz reported on a Landfill Board meeting. Holmes reported on a Conservation Board meeting, the Employee Insurance Committee meeting and a meeting regarding opposition to the CO2 pipeline. Pflug reported on a meeting at Keokuk Area Hospital with a company that is interested in establishing an emergency care unit. Seyb reported on going to the Iowa Capital and discussing SSB1124 with legislators.  
 At 10:55 a.m. Pflug made a motion to adjourn. Fedler seconded the motion. Motion carried. The next meeting will be held on Monday, February 27, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. at the Administration Building in Fort Madison.  
 Garry Seyb, Chairman  
 Attest: Denise Fraise, Lee County Auditor  
**Claims paid  
 February 21, 2023**  
 Access Energy, svcs ..... 164.57  
 Access Systms, svcs ..... 156.72  
 Advd Crctnl Hlth, svcs ..... 5979.65  
 Agriland FS, fuel ..... 13203.65  
 Airgas USA, splys ..... 279.96  
 Alliant Enrgy, svcs ..... 2118.68

Am Home Fndng, svcs ..... 699.75  
 Bnd Tree Med, splys ..... 1603.04  
 R Bradley/Sons, svcs ..... 130.00  
 CenturyLink, svcs ..... 8.73  
 DChaney, svcs ..... 140.00  
 CJ Cooper/Assc, svcs ..... 270.00  
 D Coovert, svcs ..... 349.14  
 Cullen Pest, svcs ..... 50.00  
 CVS Caremark, splys ..... 92.72  
 Daniels Jntrl, svcs ..... 4328.41  
 Denning Bro, rent ..... 185.00  
 Diamond Drugs, rx ..... 630.40  
 Dodd Prtg, splys ..... 65.00  
 Donnellson Tire, svcs ..... 79.45  
 Drake Hdwr, svcs ..... 4727.34  
 EMSLRC, mtrls ..... 8.50  
 Garner FdMart, fuel ..... 817.17  
 GB Auto, svcs ..... 136.02  
 N Granaman, svcs ..... 1412.64  
 GrtAmer Fnnc, svcs ..... 206.77  
 Griffin Muffler, parts ..... 181.24  
 H Schein, svcs ..... 123.52  
 hibu, publ ..... 143.00  
 Hope Haven, svcs ..... 2261.00  
 ICONNECTYOU, svcs ..... 160.00  
 ICS Jail Splys, splys ..... 381.17  
 IHS Pharmacy, rx.. 103.92  
 IA Bridge/Clvrt, svcs ..... 1396.50  
 IA Law Enfnt, ed .. 150.00

IA St Pen, meals ..... 13289.25  
 Jet Gas, fuel ..... 12504.64  
 Jireh Inc, fuel ..... 1328.78  
 Johnson Cntrls, svcs ..... 3045.53  
 JW Medical, equip ..... 466.00  
 Rvrfrnt Brdctg, publ ..... 250.00  
 Kiesler's Pol, equip ..... 427.75  
 Khlmrng Hlg, svcs .. 840.15  
 Liberty Util, gas... 6825.86  
 Mediacom, svcs..... 224.88  
 Oakland Sand, svcs ..... 300.00  
 MidAm Enrgy, gas ..... 299.93  
 Dly Gate City, publ ..... 778.21  
 Mohrfeld Elect, svcs ..... 80.00  
 JJ Nichting, parts ..... 4080.40  
 OMG Midwest, svcs ..... 22138.09  
 Postmaster, svcs ..... 68.00  
 Prairie Farms, splys ..... 379.20  
 Rainbo Oil, oil ..... 1803.96  
 RSM US LLP, svcs ... 33.00  
 Shred-It, svcs ..... 699.67  
 SE IA Reg Med, svcs ..... 300.00  
 Stewart Auto, svcs.. 201.91  
 Trinity Msctn Hlth, svcs ..... 14629.13  
 TW training, edu ... 500.00  
 US Bank Equip, svcs ..... 235.35  
 Verizon, svcs ..... 40.01  
 Vigen Mmrl, svcs.. 4800.00  
 Wshngtn Co Hlth, svcs ..... 6443.59  
 Winners Circle, svcs ..... 119.97  
 911 Custom, unif... 343.00

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## Classifieds/From the Front

# No confirmation on what will happen with shared swimming

### PROGRAMS - Continued from Page 1

After the meeting, Wykert couldn't confirm whether the non-hosted swimming agreement with Burlington High School would be allowed to expire or not.

With the district saying Tuesday that all shared agreements would be allowed to expire, Fort Madison Activities Director Jeff Lamb said Monday night he couldn't confirm whether that program would continue or not.

The statement from the board on Tuesday referenced the Student's First Act signed into law by Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds during this legislative session, as a reason for ending the programs. The district indicated that the law is "a dramatic shift, engineered by state lawmakers that will result in many state schools to reconsider their sharing agreements as private schools now have more resources to fund their own athletic programs."

Kollin Crompton, the deputy communications director for Gov. Kim Reynolds, issued an emailed statement Monday night to Pen City Current on the district's action.

"Implicating the Students First Act in the Fort Madison Community School District's arbitrary decision to end shared athletic programs with other area schools is unfair and misguided," Crompton wrote.

"In short, it's punishing kids. Funding provided through educational savings accounts (ESAs) are the primary purpose of paying the student's tuition.

"In no way do ESAs provide private schools 'more resources to fund their own athletic programs' as suggested in a written statement issued to the district on April 11."

Crompton said using current year data, there are 296 nonpublic school students living within the FMCS D boundaries which would equate to an additional \$355,200 in funding for the district.

Fort Madison coaches Ryan Smith and Albert Schinstock both spoke on behalf of keeping the agreements in place. HTC students were able to wrestle and play baseball at HTC under the current programs. Central Lee was also able to wrestle under the current agreements.

Central Lee's agreement for wrestling was also among programs being allowed to expire.

Schinstock the newly hired Fort Madison baseball coach said both schools need the sharing agreement to keep baseball viable.

"The sharing agreement is wanted by many people from both schools and there is the other side where some may not want it," Schinstock said.

"As a coach who's coached at both FMHS and HTC, I can tell you, as a baseball program, we need each other to succeed."

He said the program has been successful since the two programs merged four years ago after five years of wins in single digits.

Smith, who's been coaching in the Fort Madison system for 25 years, said the decision isn't a good look for the district.

"This will be devastating to me and to the program itself," Smith told the board.

Nick Peitz, also speaking on behalf of the Crusader program, said the community "was bigger than politics".

Jim Platt said the district had a tough decision, but he commended them on making those tough choices. He reminded the board that during the 2018 softball season, HTC said they were no longer going to participate in the shared program.

"There was no discussion there either, so folks, don't be pointing fingers, it works both ways," Platt said. "There has to be discussion from both sides of the table before these decisions are made so the educated decision can

be made for what's best for our kids."

Platt said they should throw all the sports into one community program.

"Don't cherry pick what we're going to offer based on, 'we can do better at this, so we're going to keep that'."

After the meeting, HTC Principal and Chief Academic Officer Craig Huebner, said he was surprised by a comment from board member Brad Menke who asked Wykert if the district received any notice about a \$10,000 offer from HTC to help with shared program costs before information was released by the board. Wykert answered "No".

Huebner said the Holy Trinity's board president did send Wykert an email before the information was released but said maybe HTC could have done a better job communicating the decision.

"We had to make sure we had the votes at the meeting before we could really let anyone know."

He said now HTC will look at other options, first of which would be to see if there is enough interest internally to field their own programs.

"After that, we'll reach out to other schools who have showed interest in us joining their programs.

FMCS D Board member Paul Wilkerson told the board before the vote that the board could look terrible if some of the impacts of the Students First Act aren't realized. He also said the district is now looking at athletes who have identified as Bloodhounds despite coming from a different school, will now be wearing other schools' uniforms, and playing against Fort Madison.

"And I hate to see three or four years down the road we start losing students and sports. Who are we going to go to? Who's gonna take us," Wilkerson said.

"And more important than anything else is, I've watched HTC athletes and Central

Lee athletes give up their identity to be Fort Madison athletes."

Board member Carol Ross said it was unrealistic to think that HTC students would come running to Fort Madison to play sports because of the decision to end the agreements.

"I just don't see anything we stand to gain by dropping these sports, I only see a downside."

Dianne Hope said every student the district loses to Holy Trinity amounts to a loss of \$6,400 for the district and the Student's First Act opens the door to that lost revenue. Hope said that was too much of a loss to overlook at this point.

Board member Mio Santiago said the decision was very tough for him personally, but he had to vote for what he felt was the best interests of the Fort Madison district.

"The reason I was elected was to safeguard, grow, and develop our district, and the kids in our district. That's where I struggle here."

After the meeting, Wykert said the decision was terribly difficult.

"100% a no-win situation. It's an emotional thing for sure and it's taken its toll on every single board member and every single person sitting out here tonight. I appreciate all them coming out and speaking about something very important in their life," he said.

"It certainly was not an easy decision to come to."

Wykert is a member of the coaching staff with Ryan Smith on the FMHS football teams.

"It's tested everybody's friendship, but in Fort Madison, you stick together through the thick and thin. As a school district everything will be okay," he said.

Wykert said he knows the state is watching what Fort Madison decided to do, but said that's out of his hands.

"We've been on their radar for a bit now. Whatever comes, we don't control, so why worry about it," he said.

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## For the Record/From the Front

### For the Record

#### Fort Madison Police Report

04/14/23 - 8:04 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 2400 block of Henry Ladyn Drive.

04/15/23 - 2:40 a.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Jessica Leigh Thompson, 42, of Fort Madison, in the 5000 block of Avenue O, on an unspecified warrant. She was taken to Lee County Jail.

04/15/23 - 10:06 p.m. - Fort Madison police cited Ty Edward H. Hancock, 46, of Fort Madison, in the 1600 block of Avenue M, on a charge of driving under suspension.

04/16/23 - 2:10 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a property damage accident at the intersection of 48th Street and Avenue O.

04/16/23 - 03:00 a.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Logan Laverne Worrell, 31, of Fort Madison, at the police station, on a charge of 1st offense OWI. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

04/16/23 - 4:25 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 4500 block of Avenue O.

#### Lee County Sheriff Report

04/14/23 - 4:54 a.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Randy Eugene Tedrow, 38, of West Burlington, at the South Lee County Courthouse, on a warrant for failure to appear. He was taken to Lee County Jail and later released on his own recognizance.

04/14/23 - 10:23 a.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Deahjae Deveyon Seay, 22, of Keokuk, at the South Lee County Courthouse, on a warrant for failure to appear. He was taken to Lee County Jail and later released on bond.

04/14/23 - 11:37 a.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Jenny Lynn Leis Rook, 36, of Keokuk, at the sheriff's office, on a judgment hold warrant. She was taken to Lee County Jail and later released on serve weekends.

04/14/23 - 2:20 p.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Trenton John Atterberg, 27, of Keokuk, at the South Lee County Courthouse, on a warrant for violation of parole. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

04/15/23 - 1:13 p.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Jerry Lee Blackwell, 31, of West

Burlington, at the South Lee County Courthouse, on a warrant for violation of parole. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

04/16/23 - 7:06 a.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Kolton Alan Enke, 26, of Denmark, at the North Lee County Courthouse, on a charge of 1st offense domestic abuse assault. He was taken to Lee County Jail and later released on his own recognizance.

04/16/23 - 4:07 p.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies responded to a single-vehicle accident on Peach Orchard Road. According to the report, a vehicle driven by Wayne Jacob Schneider, 38, of Montrose, was traveling westbound on Peach Orchard Road when Schneider's vehicle blew a tire, he lost control of the vehicle and it left the roadway, colliding with the ditch. Minor injuries were reported. No citations were reported. Schneider's vehicle sustained disabling damages and was towed from the scene.

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

## County to spend \$42M in fiscal year '24

### COUNTY - Continued from Page 1

Supervisor Charles Holmes said insurance payments are up 9.28% and that will cost the county an additional \$300,000 plus.

"This isn't going to stop. This is going to be year after year after year. Theoretically the insurance could consume the entire budget if we don't do something about it," Holmes said.

Seyb said the county is facing the same problems that everyone else is privately.

"We're facing the same problems in the county that we are in our homes. Inflation rates going up, costs of items are going up, insurance is going up, and we've got these other issues," he said.

"The levy can't stay the same levy forever. At some point it has to increase just to be able to do business."

Supervisor Ron Fedler said he had a conversation with a constituent that was so upset, he thought he was going to strike him.

"I've had a very long week with people talking about taxes. In fact, one person approached me and he was so upset I thought he was going to hit me. No matter what I told him, he didn't want to hear it," Fedler said.

Supervisor Tom Schulz said the increased levy really isn't fixing anything. He said this has been a growing problem over the last several years.

"This isn't fixing anything. We're looking at a levy that's barely keeping pace. And really, it's not keeping pace. We're going to have to find other funds just to operate. We've been headed this way for a while," he said.

Supervisor Matt Pflug said the county is starting to get a clearer picture on ambulance revenue and the IT situation had to be

corrected.

"Anytime the levy goes up you're gonna have people that are upset. I did try to let them know why we're doing it," he said.

"We have a better feel now on the revenue from the ambulance, and the IT thing was a wake-up call and we had to address that," Pflug said.

Seyb said the county should have increased the levy prior to this, but now they must take corrective action.

"We don't want to increase the levy to the point where we have some huge surplus, but we do have to have that carry over budget to function. It's not a rainy-day fund, it's necessary to pay the bills," he said.

"People see that we're sitting with this \$2.5 million at the end of the year to get us through til December each year. It's necessary for the county to function."


According to revised budget numbers, the county is projected to have a beginning fund balance in the general operating fund of \$303,504 on July 1, 2023, and with the additional levied funds, the fund is projected to have \$1.3 million at the end of June 2024.

The total county budget, which includes just under 30 funds, is projected to have a carryover of \$14.5 million on July 1, 2023, with an ending balance on June 30 of \$13.2 million.

Renstrom is predicting revenues of \$40.5 million in fiscal year 2024, and expenditures of \$41.8 million. General Basic has the most expenses with \$17.3 million, followed by Secondary Roads at \$9.5 million.


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**Friday, May 5, 2023 • Sheaffer Memorial Golf Park • Fort Madison, Iowa**  
**Friday, Oct. 6, 2023 • Deer Run Golf Course • Hamilton, Illinois**  
**12:00 Noon Shotgun start for both**

**Team Sponsor** - Includes cart, lunch, free soda & water,  
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**Oct**  
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**Both**  
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4/24/23

9/25/23

4/24/23

\*\*\*May event team roster due 5/1/23. October event team roster due 10/2/23.\*\*\*

Registration deadlines in red

**Please fill out the Sponsorship Opportunities page for payment options**

Packet pick-up will begin at 10:00 am.  
Waiver & release must be signed before play begins.  
Lunch at 11:00 am.

Team Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Team Contact: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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<b>Team Sponsor</b> - Includes cart, lunch, free soda & water, 2 mulligans/golfer & 5 drink tickets/golfer.	\$400 4/24/23	\$400 9/25/23	\$720 4/24/23
<b>Hospitality Sponsor</b> - Includes name & logo on beverage carts, at the buffet line & throughout the golf course. Provide a jpeg of your logo to UWGRR.	\$300 4/28/23	\$300 9/29/23	\$540 4/28/23
<b>Hole Sponsor</b> - Includes sign by green & marketing opportunity. Provide a jpeg of your logo to UWGRR.	\$100 4/24/23	\$100 9/25/23	\$180 4/24/23

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