

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY:** When you see Chuck today, wish him a Happy Birthday!

# PEN CITY CURRENT

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

Tuesday, August 8, 2023 | 8 pages | Volume 7 • Issue 138



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

## More internet growth coming

**MEDIACOM:** Rep says Mediacom may apply for state funding for county expansion

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

LEE COUNTY – While Lee County looks to expand broadband service with one local provider, a larger, more regional internet provider is looking at capitalizing on government funding to bring better service to the area.

Another round of broadband expansion under the Empower Rural Iowa Broadband Grant program has opened an Invitation to Qualify process for the next round of funding.

Mediacom is now working on preparing an application for that funding to expand services in southern Lee County for unserved and underserved homes and businesses.

Southeast Iowa Regional Planning Commission Executive Director Mike Norris said Mediacom sent him a letter expressing their interest in applying for funds for the south Broadband Intervention Zone, known as Lee County Broadband Expansion Zone #2 with the state's Office of the Chief Information Officer. The Notice of

See INTERNET, page 4

### EDITORIAL



## Big Ten moves sound like a good idea

It did sound good, anyway.

It was a little more than a week ago when we were sitting on the field at Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis, listening to new Big Ten commissioner Tony Petitti speak at the conference's football media days.

Colorado was getting ready to move from the Pac-12 to the Big 12, so naturally Petitti was asked about any further expansion plans for the conference with USC and UCLA coming into the league next season.

Nope, Petitti said.

"What I'll say is all the direction I'm getting from leadership, our presidents and chancellors, athletic directors, is to focus on UCLA and USC," Petitti said.

The conference had released its 2024 and 2025 football schedules, with every school playing everyone else once in a two-year period.

Petitti was so proud of that.

"I think it touches on all the right things," he said. "We have significant work to do on scheduling of other sports, especially our Olympic sports, to come up with the best solutions. I believe we have a good plan in motion. I think we'll learn from it. Like anything, there will be tweaks and changes. Overall that's really where we are."

The final sentence seemed so final.

"I'm not getting direction to do anything else other than that in terms of just what the conference looks like right now," Petitti said.

I mean, it did sound good.

A week later, what do you know? The

See EXPANSION, page 5



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Fort Madison School Board members Brad Menke and Dianne Hope work on a training project Monday night in a special work session of the board. At the other side of the table, board member Carol Ross and Board President Josh Wykert work on a different part of the session aimed at improving board performance.

### EMPLOYMENT

## Seyb pleads with public to look inside county for jobs

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

LEE COUNTY – With Lee County officials working to fill staffing shortages in many departments, a supervisor pleaded with parents to

remind students that there are very good jobs in the county.

Supervisor Chairman Garry Seyb said he wants to get more information out to the area about the number of quality jobs that are available in the county.

Several department heads, including Lee County Attorney Ross Braden, Lee County Treasurer Nancy Booten, and Lee County IT Director Kevin Harter all talked

See JOBS, page 8

### INDEX

Business Directory.....P.6  
CLASSIFIEDS.....Ps.6-7  
Complete Rental.....P.4  
Fort Colony Family Restaurant.....P.4  
FOR THE RECORD.....P.3  
Fort Madison Family YMCA.....P.4  
Fort Madison Food Pantry.....P.3  
FROM THE FRONT.....Ps.4-5,8  
Fullenkamp Insurance.....P.5

Jim Baier, Inc.....P.7  
LCK Roofing.....P.4  
Lee County Health Department.....P.2  
LEE COUNTY NEWS.....Ps.4,8  
OBITUARIES.....P.3  
• Larry R. Metzger, 87  
OPINION.....P.5  
Pen City Current.....Ps.3,5-7  
Pilot Grove Savings Bank.....P.3

Pothitakis Dentistry.....P.5  
Pothitakis Law Firm, P.C.....P.8  
Public Notices.....Ps.6-7  
Ron Davoo.....P.4  
Southeast Iowa Regional Airport.....P.8  
SPORTS.....P.5  
Tony Wolfe Insurance Services.....P.4  
Tri-State Rodeo.....P.8

### WEATHER

OpenWeatherMap

TUE 08 Aug.....Cool with chance of showers and storms, 77° F/ 63° F ☁  
WED 09 Aug.....Mostly sunny and warm, 81° F/ 66° F ☀  
THU 10 Aug.....Mostly sunny and warm, chance of showers, 83° F/ 65° F ☀

### IOWA LOTTERY

LUCKY FOR LIFE 08/06.....4 6 22 25 48, Lucky Ball: 8  
PICK 3 MIDDAY 08/06.....2 5 4  
PICK 3 EVENING 08/06.....6 3 2  
PICK 4 MIDDAY 08/06.....8 4 5 9  
PICK 4 EVENING 08/06.....3 8 8 5

### SUBSCRIBE

Scan the code to subscribe today  
Paid & Free Options Available!





Touching the Community with Care

**Lee County Health Department Hospice**

Your Choice for Compassionate Hospice Care

in Lee, Des Moines, Henry, and Van Buren counties in Iowa  
& Hancock and Henderson counties in Illinois

**Hospice Services include**

*24/7 on-call nursing staff • Skilled nursing services  
Social worker visits • Music & massage therapy  
Homecare aide assistance • Volunteer services  
Spiritual & grief support*

Providing comforting end-of-life care since 1989



**LEE**  
**CHD**

**#3 John Bennett Drive, Fort Madison**  
**(319) 372-5225 or (800) 458-6672**  
*Medicare Certified*

[www.LeeCountyHD.org](http://www.LeeCountyHD.org)



# Obituaries/For the Record

## OBITUARIES

### LARRY R. METZGER

Larry Ray Metzger, 87, of Ft. Madison, IA, passed away on Friday, August 4, 2023 at 11:26 AM at River Valley Place in Ft. Madison. He was born on September 15, 1935 in Donnellson, IA to Raymond and Lucille Weber Metzger. On August 10, 1958 he married Sara Margaret Hutchinson in Ft. Madison and she passed away on February 25, 2021. He served in the US Army after which he attended Northeast Missouri State University (Truman State University) on the GI Bill and earned a degree in Business Management.

Larry worked at Sheaffer Pen Company in Ft Madison; Alcan Aluminum in Warren, Ohio; Hutchison Motors in Ft Madison; Business Office Manager at Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center in Burlington, IA; and Business Office Manager at Keokuk Area Hospital where he retired. He was a member of the Elks Lodge. Larry loved to travel, was an avid Hawkeye basketball and football fan and loved watching his grandchildren's activities.

Larry is remembered and survived by his three children, Julie (Randy) Bush of Flora, IN; Jeff (Kellie) Metzger of Escanaba, MI and Jaime (Lynee) Metzger of Harlan, IA; eight grandchildren, Jonathan (Nicole), Jacob (Sydney) and Jarin (Samantha Pash) Bush, Matthew (Mercedes Miller) and Karlee (Grant Edwards) Metzger and Lindsey (Ben Simodynes), Lucy and Lilly Metzger; one great granddaughter, Reagan Virginia Bush. Larry was preceded in death by his parents and his wife, Sara Margaret.

A special thank you to his caregivers at River Valley Place in Ft. Madison. Your hard work, excellent care, and selfless devotion to our dad/grandpa made him happy. All of you are loved and appreciated not just for all that you do but for the people you are. You treated him like family.

The visitation will be held from 1-3 PM on Tuesday, August 8, 2023 at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. A private burial will be held in Soldiers' Circle, Oakland Cemetery. Online condolences to the Metzger family may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: [www.kinglynk.com](http://www.kinglynk.com).



**Charles Vandenberg, Editor**

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

**Lee K. Vandenberg, Sales Manager**

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

**Copyright © 2023 by Pen City Current**

All published materials are property of Pen City Current and cannot be used without express written permission.

## For the Record

### Fort Madison Police Report

08/03/23 - 10:59 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a burglary in the 1700 block of 38th Street.

08/03/23 - 1:16 p.m. - Fort Madison police cited William Marion Kryzak III, 38, of Fort Madison, in the 1700 block of 38th Street, on a charge of city: discharging firearm.

08/04/23 - 4:46 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1500 block of 36th Street.

08/04/23 - 7:23 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 5400 block of Avenue O.

08/04/23 - 11:47 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 5000 block of Avenue O.

08/04/23 - 4:10 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 3600 block of Avenue O.

08/04/23 - 5:05 p.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Andres Lee Diaz, 42, of Fort Madison, in the 1800 block of Avenue H, on a charge of public intoxication. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

08/04/23 - 6:36 p.m. - Fort

Madison police responded to a report of personal injury accident in the 1100 block of 48th Street.

08/05/23 - 8:18 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 4600 block of Avenue J.

08/05/23 - 11:07 a.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Ian Van Beveren, 31, of Fort Madison, at the North Lee County Courthouse, on a warrant for failure to appear - pretrial conference public intoxication. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

08/05/23 - 8:14 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of burglary in the 400 block of Avenue H.

08/05/23 - 8:47 p.m. - Fort Madison police cited Raymond Evan Hymes, 30, of Fort Madison, at 21st Street and Avenue A, on a charge of driving while barred.

08/05/23 - 10:22 p.m. - Fort Madison police cited Terry Lee Parsons, 60, of Burlington, at 18th Street and Avenue I, on a charge of driving while barred.

08/05/23 - 10:55 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a property damage accident at 15th Place and Avenue M.

08/06/23 - 9:52 a.m. - Fort

Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 3100 block of Avenue N.

08/06/23 - 1:24 p.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Paul Douglas Bowden, 38, of Montrose, in the 2700 block of Avenue I, on a warrant for failure to appear - driving while barred, and charges of driving while barred, possession of a controlled substance - marijuana 1st, and possession of drug paraphernalia. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

08/07/23 - 12:00 a.m. - Fort Madison police cited Raymond Evan Hymes, 30, of Fort Madison, in the 1600 block of 33rd Street, on a charge of driving while barred.

08/07/23 - 7:14 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 1700 block of 35th Street.

08/07/23 - 8:39 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 2000 block of Avenue B.

### Lee County Sheriff Report

08/03/23 - 10:53 a.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Austin Dean Schuelka, 34, of Fort Madison, at the North Lee County Courthouse, on a

charge of violation of probation. He was taken to Lee County Jail and later released on bond.

08/03/23 - 3:21 p.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies responded to a single-vehicle accident in the 2300 block of Hwy. 61 S. According to the report, a vehicle driven by Robin Lynn Grelk, 56, of Donnellson, was traveling south in the 2300 block of Hwy. 61 when the driver suffered a possible medical issue and drove off the road onto the right shoulder. The vehicle crossed the road again into the median, rolled several times, and landed on its top. The driver was taken to Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center Fort Madison by EMS. The vehicle sustained disabling damages and was towed from the scene. No citations were reported.

08/03/23 - 9:07 p.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Damien Ray Pope, 25, of Fort Madison, at the North Lee County Courthouse, on a warrant for violation of probation. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

Those listed above are charged with a suspicion of a crime and are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

## Advertise in a brand new way.

Reach thousands of potential customers each day & grow your business. Call today!

**Lee (319)371.4125**

**Chuck (319)371.1670**

**PEN CITY CURRENT**  
It's Black & White and Read all over

## Contact Tracy to Schedule Your COMPLIMENTARY REVIEW

Securities offered through Registered Representatives of Cambridge Investment Research, Inc., a Broker-Dealer member FINRA/SIPC. Advisory services through Cambridge Investment Research Advisors, Inc., a Registered Investment Adviser. Cambridge and Pilot Grove Investment Services are not affiliated. Insurance and investment products are not FDIC insured, are not a bank deposit, are not guaranteed by the bank or any Federal Government Agency and may go down in value.



LEARN MORE >>>

**Pilot Grove Savings Bank**  
INVESTMENT SERVICES

**888-283-2265**

**PEN CITY CURRENT**  
It's Black & White and Read all over

Member LION Publishers  
[www.lionpublishers.com](http://www.lionpublishers.com)



Pen City Current, [www.PenCityCurrent.com](http://www.PenCityCurrent.com), and Pen e-Saver are products of Market Street Publishing, LLC. Pen City Current is published Monday through Friday mornings by 6AM.

Founded in 2016  
P.O. Box 366 | Fort Madison, IA



# Lee County News/From the Front

## More Internet work could be coming to south Lee County

**INTERNET** - Continued from Page 1

Funding Opportunity is the eighth generated out of the Empower Rural Iowa effort.

Norris said Mediacom is looking to enhance service to about 4,500 addresses in Iowa, many in the south Lee County area.

A spokesperson for Mediacom confirmed the efforts Monday afternoon in an email to Pen City Current.

She wrote this round of funding is different than previous rounds because the state has identified the Intervention Zones through past Invitations to Qualify.

“One of the ITQ proj-

ects we are interested in applying for and building is a rural area located immediately north and west of Keokuk. Mediacom already has fiber optic facilities in and around Keokuk. As part of our application, we are proposing to service over 80% of the homes and businesses located in that zone with fiber-to-the-home (FTTH) broadband that can support gigabit internet speeds both downstream and upstream,” she wrote.

“As part of the application process, we are reaching out to community leaders in an effort

to obtain local support for our project application. We are confident that, if funded, this project would drastically improve the ability of residents to connect to the internet and create remote work, study, and healthcare opportunities for them.”

The new funding is in a program called Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) 8.

Danville Telecom received funding under NOFO 6 with a partnership with Southeast Iowa Regional and Economic Port Authority and Lee County to build a resiliency loop in the same service area. Danville is also going to use \$1.2 million of the county's America Rescue Plan Act money to run FTTH to about 135 residents in Wever, rural Wever, and Green Bay Bottoms.

## Supervisors OK broadband pivot

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

LEE COUNTY – A change in direction in broadband improvements underway in Lee County was approved by supervisors without much discussion Monday.

Southeast Iowa Regional and Economic Port Authority administrator Mike Norris made a brief update to supervisors about the changes to a plan that was originally set to build a fiber optic backbone up through Lee County from Keokuk to Hwy. 16 and then east to Hwy. 61. That project would have provided internet to 125 unserved customers on 57 miles of backbone.

The project would have created just under \$1 million in lease payments back to SIREPA over 10 years.

However, due to a 39% increase over projected costs of the project, Danville Mutual Telephone Co., the company that would be providing the broadband service, had to pivot to a less costly option.

The company secured \$1.9 million in America Rescue Plan Act funding from the county to trigger another \$3.5 million in state grants to expand the infrastructure in the county.

The state grant came from the Office of the Chief Information Officer. That office had to approve the changes, then SIREPA had to approve the changes, and finally supervisors had to give approval.

Norris said the next thing to do to drive at the original purpose of the effort, which was to provide service to unserved and underserved while at the same time creating the redundant capabilities for Danville Telecom, was to retool the plan to fit current budgeting.

“We brought in Danville Telecom, as well as remaining in constant contact with SIREPA liaisons to the board in Tom (Schultz) and Garry (Seyb), we had a couple meetings to really see how we could drive the purpose and make it affordable to the resources we had,” Norris said.

The new project will serve more addresses than the original project, but with the backbone being the expen-

sive part it was shrunk down to the point where the resiliency was maintained but at a lower cost, he said.

“We will serve 134 addresses now. We’re looking at 14 miles of backbone, but still creating the resiliency that we set out to do in the first place. The cost is going to be a little bit lower.”

He said the county's ARPA funds will still be used for a match, but then direct spent to run fiber optics directly to homes in the Wever area.

Supervisors had no questions about the change in plans despite the project changing substantially. The fiber optic upgrade will now include a redundant loop from Keokuk to Argyle that is currently under construction. That gives Danville more reliable service to customers as well as cellphone towers.

Danville Telephone CEO Tim Fencil told supervisors that his company provides data service to more than 30 cell towers and this infrastructure helps solidify that service as well.

Fencil said Danville Telecom serves about 230 businesses with fiber service

See DANVILLE, page 8

**STABLE. PREDICTABLE.**  
That's what you can expect from a Wellmark Medicare supplement plan.  
Call today to find coverage that's right for you.  
**319-372-5201**



**Tony Wolfe**  
Insurance Services  
Fort Madison, IA  
52627  
Tony@tawins.com

An Authorized Independent Agent for **Wellmark** Iowa

This is a solicitation of insurance. Wellmark Medicare supplement insurance plans are not affiliated with any government agency. To be eligible, you must reside in the service area of the plan. Wellmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Iowa is an independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association. W-2319024 11/18

**Fort Colony**  
Family Diner

**Open 7 Days A Week**  
**DAILY SPECIALS**  
**Breakfast All Day**

**(319) 372-5759**  
5102 Ave. O, Fort Madison, IA 52627

**LCK ROOFING AND REPAIR**  
Gutters & More  
**JASON STOTT**  
OWNER/OPERATOR  
(319) 371-2554  
lckroofofingandrepair1@gmail.com

SENIOR/MILITARY DISCOUNTS

**SICK OF RISING PRICES?!  
US, TOO!!!**

**Complete Rental PRICE BEAT GUARANTEE**

Show us an advertised price or quote  
**WE'LL BEAT IT BY 15%**

\*Not valid with any other discounts

**5636 Avenue O, Fort Madison, IA**  
**(319) 372-8105**  
Located right across the road from Jim Baier Ford in Fort Madison

LEARN. GROW. THRIVE!  
**FREE**  
4 Year Old Preschool

Class space is limited!  
**ENROLL TODAY**

Fort Madison Family YMCA

220 26th St. Fort Madison, IA  
fortmadison.org | 319-372-2403

Are you ready to lower your electric bills?

**Mohrfield Solar**  
Energy Audit  
Solar System Design  
Solar System Installation  
System Monitoring

P: 319-372-5536  
E: mohrfield@mohrfieldelectric.com

**ITALIAN SAUSAGE**

FRESH-MADE DOUGH  
SPECIAL RECIPE SAUCE  
HAND-PINCHED, FRESH ITALIAN SAUSAGE  
100% WISCONSIN CHEESE

**RonDavoo**  
always fresh, always friendly  
fried chicken & pizza pies

baked to perfection in our "WOW" ovens!  
Open Monday-Saturday 11AM - 8:30PM | Closed Sunday

Ron Litchfield - Owner/ Pizzapreneur 605 South 10th St. Burlington, Iowa 52601  
Phone (319) 752-5567 / Cell (319) 572-2495 | Email: Ron.Litch4176@msn.com | https://www.facebook.com/RonDavooPizza/

Ron's All-time Favorite!



**From the Front**

# Big Ten trying to pull nationwide television market

**EXPANSION** - Continued from Page 1

Big Ten added two more teams, Oregon and Washington, picking at the carcass of the conference it helped mortally wound a couple of years ago.

The fascinating part of the whole two days in the Indianapolis was a commissioner and coaches talking about “guardrails” for the earning power of their players through name-image-likeness deals, when in fact the only guardrails out there need to be on big conferences careening down roads, carving each other up for TV money.

No, a quarterback can’t get a nice deal from a car dealership in exchange for appearing in an ad or two, but schools can pack their checkbooks with money from FOX or ESPN, the puppet masters of all of these moves over the years, and we’re fine with that.

I believe in the free market, I truly do. Adding USC and UCLA, despite all of the hand-wringing that went with it, made sense as the Big Ten was trying to negotiate a new media rights package, because it meant the conference had a foothold in the nation’s top four media markets. And while we worried about the Trojans and the Bruins traveling around the country for games in every sport, and schools from the East Coast and the Midwest going to them, it was those schools who went to the Big Ten for help, not the other way around.

And you can make an argument for adding Oregon and Washington, because it gives USC and UCLA some West Coast neighbors, easing a bit of

the travel burden. Two more teams in the Western time zone now help fill that last open TV window on late Saturday night, although you know it’s not going to be Ohio State, Michigan or Penn State playing until after midnight in Seattle or Eugene or Los Angeles.

Yes, the Pac-12 screwed the Pac-12. Poor leadership put the conference in its own mess, and poor leadership failed to put together a media rights package that was good enough to keep everyone together.

But it could have been just as easy for the Big Ten to sit out this round of expansion chess moves, to stay at 16, count the money, and wait to see what happens everywhere else. The league could have been choosy — yes, waiting on Notre Dame is futile — but upheaval somewhere else could have found some better partners.

We don’t know what the media landscape will look like when the current Big Ten deal expires. ESPN is having its money issues. FOX seems to have deep pockets, but eventually it will have other deals to make with professional sports leagues. NBC and CBS are willing participants, but how much more money can they bring?

And while everyone seems to think there’s money in the Amazon Prime and Apple TV world, that might be on shaky ground.

Iowa fans were among everyone else cackling on Friday at the Pac-12’s misfortune. But there are a lot of new voices in the Big Ten, and who’s to say some of them won’t be whispering in the ears of the old

guard of the conference in a few years, wondering if the league really needs the TV markets of Des Moines or Omaha or Minneapolis. Why split the money 18 or 20 ways when you can split it 14 or 16?

Sound far-fetched? Well, yeah. But it was also far-fetched not long ago that Iowa would be playing a Big Ten football game at USC or UCLA would be coming to Kinnick Stadium, and here we are.

And if it seems all so far away, remember that a conference commissioner was saying the league was happy with 16 teams, and then a week later those same presidents said yes to two more.

It did sound good, though.

*John Bohnenkamp is an award-winning sports reporter and a regular contributor to Pen City Current.*

The average person is on their device  
3+ hours per day.

**Reach your customers  
wherever they are  
with digital ads.**

**Call Lee (319)371.4125**

**PEN CITY CURRENT**  
Black & White and Red all over

*we'll be back soon!*

*Pen City Current will not publish an e-Edition Wednesday, August 9 through Thursday, August 24 for our annual summer break. The e-Edition will resume Friday, August 25. The news will still be published on our website.*

**Thank for reading!**

**PEN CITY CURRENT**  
Black & White and Red all over

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

**Celebrating 60 Years of Service to You.**

**60 YEARS**  
Since 1963

**ANNIVERSARY**

**Integrity.  
Commitment.  
Teamwork.**

**FULLENKAMP INSURANCE**

307 5th Street West Point | 319-837-6178 or 800-292-2208  
Monday through Friday 7:30-5 · Saturday by appointment  
[www.FullenkampIns.com](http://www.FullenkampIns.com)

**GENTLE, CARING DENTISTRY FOR YOUR WHOLE FAMILY**

*Now accepting new patients*

**POTHITAKIS DENTAL GROUP**

- Family Dentistry
- Teeth Whitening
- Dental Implants
- Extractions

**Ft. Madison East** | **Ft. Madison West**  
(319) 372-3614 | (319) 372-4882

West Burlington (319) 753-2515 | New London (319) 367-2311 | Mediapolis (319) 394-3255 | Burlington (319) 752-7993

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



# Classifieds/Public Notices

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### PUBLIC NOTICE MEETING CANCELLATION NOTICE

The Fort Madison Board of Adjustments & Appeals meeting scheduled for August 9, 2023 has been cancelled and will now take place September 13, 2023.

### PUBLIC NOTICE CENTRAL LEE COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT DONNELLSON, IOWA 52625 DISTRICT OFFICE REGULAR MEETING AUGUST 8, 2023 7:00A.M.

#### TENTATIVE AGENDA

1. Roll Call
2. Approve agenda
3. Receive Visitors:
- a) Visitors to speak

about items not on the agenda

4. Superintendent's Report:
    - a) September Board Meeting - 9/12/23 at 7:00 a.m.
    - b) IASB Convention: 11/16/23
    - c) Finance Update
    - d) Back to School Night & Freshmen Orientation - 8/21/23
    - e) Back to School Board Sponsored Luncheon - 8/16/23 @ HS Commons (12:00 p.m.)
    - f) District Financial Audit FY21-22
    - g) Vacancies
  5. CONSENT AGENDA: (Motion) (Exhibit I)
    - a) Approve minutes
    - b) Financial Reports: General and Schoolhouse Funds, Clearing account, Hot Lunch Account
    - c) Approve prepaid bills
    - d) Approve monthly bills
- NEW BUSINESS:

1. Approve Purchase of Honda Side by Side for Maintenance Department (Motion) (Exhibit II)
  2. Set school hours for FY2023-2024: (Motion)
    - 8:25 a.m. to 3:25 p.m. K-5
    - 8:20 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. 6-8
    - 8:20 a.m. to 3:21 p.m. 9-12
  3. Approve FY2023-2024 Teacher Listings: (Motion) (Exhibit III)
  4. Approve Teacher Quality Committee Team - Admin. (Motion)
  5. Approve Second Reading of Board Policies: (Motion) (Exhibit IV)
    - a) 104 - Anti-Bullying/Anti-Harassment Policy
    - b) 104.R 1 - Anti-Bullying/Anti-Harassment Investigation Procedures
    - c) 213 - Public Participation in Board Meetings
    - d) 402.02 - Child Abuse Reporting

- e) NEW! 402.05 - Required Professional Development for Employees
- f) 408.01 - Licensed Employee Professional Development
6. Approve Second Reading of Board Policies (Motion) (Exhibit V)
  - a) NEW! 503.07 - Student Disclosure of Identity
  - b) NEW! 503.07E1 - Report of Student Disclosure of Identity
  - c) NEW! 50307E2 - Request to Update Student Identity
  - d) 505.04 - Testing Program
  - e) 505.05 - Graduation Requirements
  - f) 507.02 - Administration of Medication to Students
  - g) 507.02E1 - Authorization-Asthma, Airway Constricting, or Respiratory Distress Medication Self-Administration Consent Form

- h) 507.02E2 - Parental Authorization and Release for the Administration of Medication or Special Health Services to Students
  - i) NEW! 507.02E3 - Parental Authorization and Release Form for the Independent Self Carry and Administration of Prescribed Medication or Independent Delivery of Health Services by the Student
  - j) NEW! 507.02E4 - Parental Authorization and Release Form for the Administration of Voluntary School Stock Over-The-Counter Medication to Students
7. Approve Second Reading of Board Policies (Motion) (Exhibit VI)
  - a) 601.01 - School Calendar
  - b) 603.05 - Health Education
  - c) 60501 - Instructional

- Materials Selection
- d) 605.01 R1 - Selection of Instructional Materials
  - e) 605.02 - Instructional and Library Materials Inspection and Display
  - f) 605.03 - Objection to Instructional and Library Materials
  - g) 605.03R1 - Reconsideration of Instructional and Library Materials Regulation
  - h) NEW! 605.03E5 - Request to Prohibit a Student from Accessing Specific Instructional and Library Materials
  - i) 605.05 - School Library
  - j) 605.07R1 - Use of Information Resources Regulation
  - k) 607.02 - Student Health Services
  - l) 607.02R1 - Student Health Services Regulation
  - m) 804.05 - Stock

# BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Call Lee at 319.371.4125 today to advertise!

**Dirty Dog Detailing & Boarding**

Grooming by appointment  
Monday, Wednesday, Friday & Saturday  
319-371-9044

2090 250th St  
Dennettshar, IA 52625

Over 37 Years  
Combinal Professional  
Animal Experience

Daners Barb Ball & Natalie Dauma  
Family owned & operated

Your Neighborhood Hardware and Rental Store!

## KEMPKER'S

*True Value* RENTAL

1904 Avenue H | 608 S 9th St | 1405 E. Washington St  
Fort Madison | Burlington | Mt Pleasant

Visit us online: [kempkerstruevalue.com](http://kempkerstruevalue.com)



### Life insurance can be life-changing

**Jess Sutcliffe, Agent**  
2623 Avenue L  
Fort Madison, IA 52627  
Bus: 319-372-5982  
[www.fortmadisoninsurance.com](http://www.fortmadisoninsurance.com)

Life won't always go as planned. That's why there's life insurance. It can help you protect your family's future, no matter what happens. Call me today.

Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.®

Individual premiums will vary by customer. All applicants subject to State Farm® underwriting requirements.



Auto Detailing . Car Wash . Sign Rental

## Turbo Wash

(319) 372-WASH (9274)  
Fort Madison

Gift certificates available

Locally owned & operated

**DODD**  
PRINTING & STATIONERY  
Est. 1877

Coffee Mugs  
Posters Art Supplies  
Printing  
Office Furniture  
Trifold Brochures

621 Avenue G  
Fort Madison, IA  
319.372.2721  
[doddprinting.com](http://doddprinting.com)

ENJOY FREE DELIVERY TO FORT MADISON, KEOKUK, BURLINGTON & THE SURROUNDING AREAS!

# YOUR AD HERE

## for as little as \$50 per month

Call Lee at 319.371.4125  
or email [classifieds@pencitycurrent.com](mailto:classifieds@pencitycurrent.com)

Patrick Profeta  
General Manager



## Keokuk Auto Credit

We Tote the Note

No Credit Check Low Weekly Payments  
[www.keokukautocredit.com](http://www.keokukautocredit.com)

1728 Main Keokuk, IA 52632      Office: 319-524-2334  
Fax: 319-524-2373

General Insects Termites      Mice Bed Bugs

## Cullen

PEST CONTROL

### (319) 372-1060

Toll Free 1-888-818-7378  
Email: [cullenpest@hotmail.com](mailto:cullenpest@hotmail.com)  
[www.cullenpest.com](http://www.cullenpest.com)

Residential Commercial      "Cause who needs bugs?"

## Generations of Great Service

- 24 Hour Service
- FREE Estimates
- Servicing All Makes



**Full Service HVAC Company**  
Serving Fort Madison, Burlington, and surrounding areas with over 30 Years Experience!

**Ft. Madison: 319-372-4328**  
**Burlington: 319-752-4328**  
**All Areas: 877-380-4328**

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



## Classifieds/Public Notices

# SHOP Classifieds

PLACE YOUR AD ONLINE AT [WWW.PENCITYCURRENT.COM](http://WWW.PENCITYCURRENT.COM) OR CALL (319)371.4125

### PUBLIC NOTICES

Prescription Medication Supply  
 n) NEW! 804.05E1 - Parental Authorization and Release Form for the Administration of a Voluntary School Supply of Stock Medication for Life Threatening Incidents  
 8. Approve Elementary, Middle School, High School, and Athletics Handbooks (Motion) (Exhibit VII)  
 9. Volunteer Coach Approvals: (Motion)  
 a) Shane Weirather - Middle School Football  
 b) Carter Colby - High School Football  
 10. Resignations: (Motion)  
 a) Jesse Day - Seventh Grade Baseball Coach  
 b) Sara Barnes - 9-12 Student Success Coordinator  
 c) Stephanie Banks - High School Special Education Associate  
 11. Contract Approvals: (Motion)  
 a) Lisa Kemper - Food-service  
 b) Debra Moore - Food-service  
 c) Michelle Vandenberg - Foodservice  
 d) Adrian McFadden - High School Special Education Associate (1: 1)  
 e) Abigail Sugars - Special Education Associate  
 f) Kristopher Hayes - Middle School Football Coach  
 g) Christina Ball - Seventh Grade Volleyball Coach  
 12. Board Reports  
 13. Adjourn

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ron Teater, Kathy Newberry, Andy Crowner, Therese Lees, and Melanie Young  
 MEMBERS ABSENT: John Johnson  
 ALSO PRESENT: Police Chief Jesse Logan, Fire Chief/Building Inspector Shaun Ryan, Public Works Director Mike Brissey, City Clerk Kelly Fry, Finance Manager Angela Moore, City Administrator Gregg Mandsager, Police Sergeant Eldon Melssen, and Police Sergeant Nathan Dunham  
 CALL TO ORDER  
 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE  
 ROLL CALL  
 PERFECTING & APPROVAL OF AGENDA  
 Moved by Lees, seconded by Newberry, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried by the following votes:  
 Ayes: Newberry, Crowner, Lees, and Young  
 CONSENT AGENDA  
 • Minutes from the Regular City Council meeting on July 5, 2023  
 • Payment to Snyder & Associates for engineering services related to the Gear Ave. Trail Extension - Phase 2 - \$36,160  
 • Payment to French-Reneker-Associates for engineering services related to the Mt. Pleasant St. Resurfacing Project - \$1,1776.50  
 • Approve the purchase of a replacement nozzle for Tower 1 from Heiman

Fire Equipment - \$5,117  
 • Approve the purchase of a Supervac fan from Heiman Fire Equipment - \$5,176  
 • Approve the purchase of tires for Tower 1 from Bauer Built for \$9,993.40  
 • Payment of Claims as listed on the Expense Approval Report - \$730,559.89  
 Moved by Young, seconded by Lees, to approve the Consent Agenda items as presented. Motion carried by the following votes:  
 Ayes: Newberry, Crowner, Lees, and Young  
 COUNCIL & STAFF REPORTS  
 CITIZEN INQUIRIES  
 No inquiries.  
 NEW BUSINESS  
 Consider a Resolution accepting the Mt. Pleasant Street Water Tower and Booster Station Improvement Project and release of retainage  
 Council reviewed Snyder & Associates recommendation to approve Change Order #9 from Boomerang Corporation for the Mt. Pleasant Water Tower and Booster Station Project and approve the final payment and release of retention monies to formally accept the Project. Snyder & Associates recommended approval of the project and final payment, which included \$102,000 in deductions for not completing the project on schedule and \$11,400 in deductions for the City to

manage the final Right-of-Way restoration efforts that have not been completed. The final payment for the project will be \$231,973.12.  
 Moved by Crowner, seconded by Young, to approve Change Order #9 and pass a Resolution accepting the Mt. Pleasant Street Water Tower and Booster Station Improvement Project and release of retainage.  
 Motion carried by the following votes:  
 Ayes: Newberry, Crowner, Lees, and Young  
**HELP WANTED**  
**CHURCH SECRETARY**  
 Part time - 9 + hours a week Trinity United Methodist church is looking for a part-time church secretary. This person will be asked to work 9 hours a week with the availability to work more hours when needed. Hours are flexible and pay will be based on experience.  
 If you are interested in this position please send your resume and cover letter to Trinity United Methodist Church, 2330 Plank Road, Keokuk, IA 52632 att: SPRC  
 Deadline August 16, 2023.

OLD BUSINESS  
 CITIZEN INQUIRIES  
 ADJOURN  
 Moved by Lees, seconded by Young, to adjourn at 6:07 p.m. Motion carried by the following votes:  
 Ayes: Newberry, Crowner, Lees, and Young  
 Approved  
**HELP WANTED**  
**CHOIR ACCOMPANIST**  
 First Christian Church in Keokuk is seeking a choir accompanist, to help with our full church choir!  
 This person will accompany the choir for the 9:00am Traditional Sunday worship service and rehearsals Wednesday nights.  
 A strong candidate will have experience in accompanying choirs and have knowledge of a wide variety of musical styles. Piano proficiency required. Feel free to call the church office (319) 524-5266 with anyquestions!  
 Please send cover letter and resume to  
 First Christian Church  
 Attn: Personnel Committee  
 3476 Main Street  
 Keokuk, IA 52632

Ron Teater, Mayor  
 Kelly D. Fry, City Clerk  
**HELP WANTED**  
**DUPONT**  
**NOW HIRING**  
**(Fort Madison)**  
**Operations Assistant**  
**Job # 234425W**  
 We Offer Competitive Wages and a Comprehensive Benefits Package  
**Operations Assistant** will work an 8-hour schedule (days and nights).  
 This position is an entry level position starting at \$22.86/hour that leads into the General Operator positions working a 12-hour rotating schedule (days and nights) with wages up to \$33.26/hr.  
**Apply Online at:**  
<https://careers.dupont.com>  
 Under Search Jobs: Enter job #234425W or refine your search by City (Fort Madison) for information and requirements  
**On-line applications accepted for a limited time**  
 DuPont is an Equal Opportunity Employer  
 DuPont is an E-Verify Employer  
 DuPont supports the "I Hire Vets" program

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**West Burlington**  
**Regular City Council**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday,**  
**July 19, 2023**  
 The West Burlington City Council met in regular session on Wednesday, July 19, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at West Burlington City Hall, 122 Broadway Street, West Burlington, Iowa, with Mayor Ron Teater presiding.

**YOUR AD**  
**HERE**  
 Call Lee  
**(319) 371.4125**

**VROOM. VROOM.**  
**Get Pre-Approved in Seconds.**  
*\*maybe even faster than this car gets to 60, just sayin'!*



**Jim BAIER, INC**  
**www.JimBaier.com**  
 Click here to visit us online now



# Lee County News/From the Front

## Wever to get focus of Danville build-out

**DANVILLE** - Continued from Page 4

including Iowa Fertilizer. Additionally, they serve 31 cell towers.

"The redundancy gives us the ability to serve those cell towers even if we have a fiber cut. We serve those with up to 10G of data service and if we have this ran, that creates that redundancy so even in a bad situation, those towers stay online," Fencil said.

"This also allows us the ability to cover locations in Green Bay bottoms and also expand into Wever and rural Wever with more locations than we originally talked about."

The grant now entails \$400,000 of ARPA funds to build the resiliency loop with state and private funds making up the rest of the project. The rest of the county money will be spent on running direct fiber cabling to homes in the Wever area.

Supervisor Seyb said he was happy that the project was able to be kept on track and get some expansion in Lee County.

"We've experienced the problems associated with inflationary costs, specifically with the Lee County Health Department building, so it shouldn't be unexpected to see these modifications happening."

**FLY SOUTHERN AIRWAYS EXPRESS**  
 Now booking your flights from Burlington to St. Louis & Chicago O'Hare at  
**IFlySouthern.com** Get There Faster

**SOUTHEAST IOWA REGIONAL AIRPORT**

## Parents can look here to keep kids around

**JOBS** - Continued from Page 1

about the need to add staff, but are struggling to find candidates.

"I'm just hoping we can get the word out. What we heard here today, I really think there are opportunities here in Lee County and I think it's important that we get the word out to our younger generation, high school students, and college students, that we are here, and we have great paying jobs," Seyb said.

Seyb said the county has a great working environment with great pay and solid benefits.

"Whether it be with our IT Department, emergency medical, sheriff's department, attorney's office or even engineers with our major companies in the county," he said.

"Everybody is hiring. When I drive down the road in Keokuk all I see is hiring all the way down. I see the hirings in the paper at all the different businesses...everybody is hiring. These are not low-paying starting jobs. These are high paying jobs. So I'm encouraging everyone to take a look at us."

Supervisor Tom Schulz said he's hearing at economic development meetings that employers are looking at adding \$31 million in payroll to this county.

"That's significant. That number is massive and I just hope we can fill the jobs," Schulz said.

Seyb said parents need to pay attention and talk to their kids, saying it would be great to see our kids making more money than we made.

"These jobs, those folks are making more than I'm making. I can tell you that," Seyb said.

He said the effort needs to continue to focus on freshmen, sophomores and juniors so they can

go get what they need in their first couple years of college so they can be prepared to grab those spots.

He said blue collar jobs are also in high demand.

"Tried to get a plumber on short notice lately?" Seyb asked.

Supervisor Chuck Holmes said the staffing in the child care industry is also becoming a critical issue.

He referred to the YMCA's announcement this past week that they are closing two child care centers in Donnellson.

"They didn't close because they didn't have the clients, they couldn't find the employees to staff the place," he said.

Seyb said anyone who's willing to work can find a job in the county.

Braden said he was struggling to find a fourth Assistant County Attorney. Thomas Gage held the position but resigned in May. Braden said he immediately started advertising for the position but has not received a single application for the spot.

Braden said the case load in Lee County is close to the case load in Des Moines County and he could use five or six attorneys in the office, but wasn't asking for that.

Harter said he wanted to hire another IT professional for South Lee County staff and had it in his budget this year to bring the person on. The board approved the measure 4-0 with Schulz abstaining because he hadn't seen numbers to show that the department could maintain the salary of another person.

Schulz said each department could use more staff, but at the end of the day there has to be revenue to support the payroll and benefits of each new position.

## ACCIDENT & INJURY LAW



*Fighting to get you the compensation you deserve.*



320 North 3rd Street, Suite 100, Burlington, Iowa 52601-0337  
 1603 Main Street, Keokuk, IA 52632

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

**TRI-STATE RODEO**  
 SEPT 6 - 9, 2023 FORT MADISON, IOWA

*Ian Munsick* **ALABAMA** *CHRIS JANSON*  
**RILEY GREEN**

**ALSO FEATURING:**  
 BOYD POLHAMUS (ANNOUNCER) • JUSTIN RUMFORD (BARRELMAN)  
 COWBOY KENNY STEEL RODEO FREESTYLE MOTOCROSS  
 DUSTY TUCKNESS & NATHAN HARP (BULLFIGHTERS)  
 STUMPTOWN • NATU BAND • THE TANK ANTHONY BAND

FORT MADISON, IOWA  
**TRI-STATE RODEO**  
 1948-2023

**GET TICKETS ONLINE AT**  
**WWW.TRISTATERODEO.ORG** OR  
**CALL THE RODEO TICKET OFFICE AT**  
**(319) 372-2550**