

PEN CITY CURRENT

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Wednesday, March 20, 2024 | 9 pages | Volume 8 • Issue 52



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Wanting to keep The Faeth

100th Year: Faeth's Cigar Store closes on a century of business, but facing closure without a buyer

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – There's a quiet effort underway downtown to...well, keep the Faeth.

Faeth's Cigar Store is on the verge of celebrating its 100th year in business but has announced the store is up for sale – to the right person.

W.R. "Bill" Faeth III said Tuesday that he's not tired, but this is what God must have in store for him.

"Well, I've run out of help. My health is to the point where I can't run it myself. I can't do it on my own. My vision has gotten to the point where I can see some things, and I can't see some things," Faeth said.

"It's gotten to the point where it's not what I want to do, but what I have to do," he said.

Faeth has two sons, Rob and Randy, and two daughters, Becky and Rhonda. All the family members have found themselves in different careers, as have all the Faeth grandchildren.

"It's been a good run, but they got other plans for me, I guess," he said.

See **FAETHS**, page 5



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

W.R. "Bill" Faeth III stands at the bar in the business built by his grandfather, W.R. Faeth in the photo on the right, and his father W.R. Faeth, Jr. Faeth's Cigar Store is closing this year, its 100th in business, unless a buyer is found.

BETTER YOU COALITION Coalition to curb youth substance abuse pushes county for help

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

LEE COUNTY – The county's Best You Coalition is asking Lee County for help deterring youth access to alcohol, nicotine, and other substances.

Amanda Rogers, project director for the coalition based out of Keokuk, spoke with Supervisors on Monday about obstacles in front of the coalition to keep youth away from illicit substances.

Rogers brought about eight students involved in the program.

She said the group provides two-hour retail training to help businesses identify best practices to reduce student access to nicotine, alcohol, and tobacco products.

"There are 39 merchants in Keokuk alone and there are 115 or more in Lee County (that sell products). That's a lot," she said.

She asked if the county questions owners as to what they are selling in their establishments as part of the permits.

Supervisors approve permit applications, but then the applications are forwarded to the state beverage division for final approval.

Supervisor Ron Fedler said it's tough for the county to decline an application for tobacco or alcohol because of legal ramifications and that's why it goes to the state for final approval.

"I have never denied an application for tobacco," Fedler said.

Rogers asked if supervisors ever go into the establishments to see what they are selling. She said she went to almost all of the 39 in Keokuk.

"You'd be surprised to see what they are selling," she said.

See **AEAs**, page 9

See **BEST YOU**, page 2

2024 ELECTION

District 50 opponents sparring early in election cycle

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - Sparring in Iowa's Senate District 50 has started early as incumbent Jeff Reichman and first-time candidate Nannette Griffin of Fort Madison drew party lines on proposed legislation around the state's

Area Education Association and recent industry closures.

Last week, Griffin expressed deep concern over the closures of the Arctic Glacier Ice facility in West Point and Fort Madison's Independent Can Company.

"These closures represent a significant loss for Lee County, affecting

hardworking Iowans and their families. They underscore the urgent need for strong leadership in the Iowa Senate to address economic challenges in our district," she said.

"As a small business owner, I understand the importance of supporting

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WEATHER

WED 20 Mar Mostly sunny & chilly, 44° F/ 26° F ☀️
 THU 21 Mar Partly sunny & chilly, 46° F/ 33° F ☀️
 FRI 22 Mar Rain likely, 51° F/ 26° F ☁️

IOWA LOTTERY

DOUBLE PLAY 03/18 11 44 55 63 68, Powerball: 17
 LOTTO AMERICA 03/18 19 23 24 31 44, Star Ball: 2 All Star Bonus: 3
 LUCKY FOR LIFE 03/18 8 20 35 36 38, Lucky Ball: 16
 PICK 3 MIDDAY 03/18 127
 PICK 3 EVENING 03/18 446
 PICK 4 MIDDAY 03/18 9572
 PICK 4 EVENING 03/18 8113
 POWERBALL 03/18 10 17 20 39 44, Powerball: 16 Power Play: 3

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For the Record/From the Front

Some retailers are selling nefarious stuff

BEST YOU - Continued from Page 1

"After they get approved for nicotine, tobacco, alcohol licenses, it's almost open-game then for them to sell all kinds of products."

She said they are selling glass, which are bongs and crack pipes. She said they also sell stash cans, which are cans that look like cans of soda or chips that have secret compartments for hiding drug stashes. They sell incents and scent blocking packets for stash cans that block smell.

"You do not have to be 21 to purchase all of these items. My 10-year-old can go in and purchase a stash can without question," she said.

"I'm asking you today, and I know the state bears a lot of responsibility, but we can do more as a county to prevent some of this stuff. We want these businesses because we want the revenue, but there is a lot of costs involved with these products. These kids are ruining their futures by making what they think is a good choice that ends up not being one."

She said county officials should start asking questions of the business owners.

Supervisor Tom Schulz said many of the businesses are within city limits which don't come to

the county, but Rogers said there are some out in the county and she will also be talking with city officials in the county.

Supervisor Garry Seyb, Jr. asked if Rogers was aware of any regulatory authority to stop the sales. She said that was a good question and Rogers said she's unaware of any, but the county should push the businesses to take advantage of training available and make sure they are IDing purchasers.

Seyb said that's where the enforcement would need to come from but sharing information like Rogers was is critical to get to parents.

"I think its good that the information you're providing gets to parents so parents can keep an eye on things at home when they see these things start to show up. The can that they don't want to recycle that's been on the shelf forever, isn't a can, it's a hiding spot," Seyb said.

Rogers said Best You is holding a focus group Wednesday night at Keokuk's Hoerner YMCA at 6 p.m.

More information on the coalition and its efforts can be obtained by emailing the coalition at thebestyoucoalition@gmail.com.

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report

03/18/24 - 10:29 a.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Terry Marvin Stewart, Jr., 29, of Fort Madison, in the 1500 block of Avenue H, on charges of interference with official acts - inflicting bodily injury and 1st offense trespassing. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

03/18/24 - 3:11 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a property damage accident in the 900 block of Avenue G.

03/18/24 - 9:21 p.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Stuart Dixon McCalmont, 29, of Fort Madison, in the 5100 block of Avenue O, on a warrant for failure to appear - driving under suspension. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

Keokuk Police Report

03/18/24 - 2:05 p.m. - Keokuk police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the Keokuk area.

03/18/24 - 2:20 p.m. - Keokuk police cited and released Angelynn Erlene Wright, 35, of Keokuk, in the 1300 block of Des Moines Street, on a charge of assault with bodily injury.

03/18/24 - 8:06 p.m. - Keokuk police cited and released Kimberly Sue Harmon, 48, of Keokuk, at South 19th and Timea Streets, on a charge of driving under suspension.

03/18/24 - 11:03 p.m. - Keokuk police cited and released Richard Lee Lynch,

47, of Keokuk, in the 900 block of Palean Street, on a charge of driving under suspension.

03/19/24 - 12:11 a.m. - Keokuk police arrested Keyton William Lyons, 23, of Keokuk, in the 800 block of Johnson Street Road, on a warrant for failure to appear/contempt of court. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

Lee County Sheriff Report

03/18/24 - 10:40 a.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies responded to a two-vehicle accident in the 1200 block of Pilot Grove Road. According to the report, a vehicle driven by Shane Allen Bowen, 33, of Missouri, was at a stop sign on Pilot Grove Road northbound and attempted to turn left onto Hwy. 16 West when it collided with a vehicle driven by Brian Evertt Lutz, 41, of West Point, that was heading eastbound on Hwy. 16. No injuries or citations were reported. Bowen's vehicle did not sustain damages; Lutz's vehicle sustained functional damages. Both vehicles were driven from the scene.


03/18/24 - 11:30 a.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Jacob Alan Thompson, 29, of Hamilton, at the sheriff's office, on a charge of public intoxication. He was taken Lee County Jail.

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

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Obituaries

OBITUARIES

EDWIN G. ABOLT

It is with great sadness that we share the passing of Edwin G. Abolt (Jerry), 89, of St. Paul, IA on March 17th 2024 following a short illness.

Jerry was born December 3rd, 1934 to Eugene "Stanley" and Elizabeth M. (Moeller) Abolt, the seventh of nine children. He graduated from St. Paul High School in 1952 and married Janet S. Ludden on November 11, 1961.



ABOLT

Jerry spent his entire life in the St. Paul community where he farmed the family farm which consisted of soybeans, corn and even sun flowers on occasion. He also raised hogs and cattle. Upon retirement, he continued his passion for the outdoors through gardening, raising bulldogs and peacocks. Even when his childhood illness of polio eventually forced Jerry to utilize a motorized scooter, this did not prevent him from enjoying his day-to-day activities of building items, small farming projects and maintaining the family farm. His problem-solving skills constantly demonstrated his ability to "work smarter, not harder".

Jerry also had a passion for cooking and was always preparing the daily meals as well as holiday meals for the entire family. This past Thanksgiving he prepared a traditional meal for 18. He was at his happiest cooking and baking with his grandchildren.

Jerry was a member of the Knights of Columbus, served as Marquette High School President, and was a member of the St. Paul God's Acre Sale committee. He was proud of his hole in one on Hole 5 at Green Acres and liked to cajole family golfing members they needed to catch up.

Jerry's quick wit, genuine character, along with mischievous and prankish personality among his friends and peers will be missed by all. He continued making jokes and creating laughter all the way to the end.

Jerry is survived by his wife of 62 years, Janet Abolt; sons, Scott Abolt (Marybeth) and Todd Abolt (Jean) both of Cuba, MO; daughters Kathy Rogers (Todd) of Fairfield, IA and Sara McCartin of San Diego, CA; grandchildren David Abolt of Palm Beach Gardens, FL, Rachel Barrick (Dakota) of St. Louis, MO, Marisa Repp of Cedar Rapids, IA, Lindsey Repp of St. Louis, MO, Lauren and Paige McCartin of San Diego, CA; one brother Stanley (Mary) Abolt of Fort Madison, IA; two sisters, Doris Boeding and Helen (David) Hoenig both of West Point, IA; nieces and nephews.

Jerry was preceded in death by his parents; three sisters and two brothers.

Family will greet friends from 9:30 am to 10:30 am Friday morning, March 22, 2024 at the St. James the Less Catholic Church, St. Paul, with Mass of Christian Burial to follow at 10:30 am Friday, March 22, 2024 with Reverend Dan Dorau as Celebrant. Burial will be at St. James Cemetery, St. Paul. In lieu of flowers, a memorial has been established for the St. James the Less Catholic Church, contributions may be left at Barr Memorial Chapel or at the church during the service. Barr Memorial Chapel is honored to serve the Abolt family and an online guest book may be found at www.barrmemorialchapel.com.

Pen City Current obituary policy

Pen City Current runs obituaries one time at no charge to funeral homes and they run the day they are submitted in most cases. They are also run as submitted by the funeral homes. Reposting of obituaries due to changes can only be requested by the submitting funeral home and will be assessed a \$15 reposting fee.

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W-2319018

OBITUARIES

PATRICIA A. O'HARA

Patricia Ann O'Hara, the daughter of Hugh and Martha Riley, was born on July 5, 1941 in Keokuk, Iowa. She was a proud graduate of the Class of 1959 of Keokuk Senior High School, a class that still holds lifelong friendships and bonds.



O'HARA

She was a lifelong resident of Keokuk, always proud of her hometown. She married her high school sweetheart, Raymond O'Hara, on January 28, 1961. They had 3 children, Kimberly, Michael, and Suzanne. She was a proud wife & mother and an active community volunteer as her children were growing up. She never missed any of her children's activities. She was the best basketball, softball, golf, and dance mom there ever was. She was proud of the work she accomplished as an Auxiliary member for many years at the Keokuk Area Hospital, even earning Auxilian of the Year. Years later she would find new friends through her work at the Hallmark Store and as Activities Director at River Hills Village. She was an avid Iowa Hawkeyes fan but grew to like the Cyclones as well after Suzi attended ISU. She was a member of All Saints Catholic Church, where she and Ray were active in the church throughout their life together, taking on roles together such as eucharistic ministers and teaching Pre Cana marriage preparation classes to couples within the Church. To the end, nothing brought her more pride and joy than her family.

Patricia passed away peacefully at her home on Sunday, March 17th at the age of 82. She was preceded in death by her husband, Ray in 2003; her parents, David and Martha; and many extended family members.

Left to cherish her memory are her children: Kim O'Hara of Keokuk, Mike O'Hara of Quincy, IL, and Suzi Harper of Spencer, IA; her sister Kathy (Phil) Myers of Keokuk; grandchildren Mason O'Hara of Quincy, IL and Riley Harper of Spencer, IA; nephews David (Nhoth) Myers of Mt. Pleasant, IA and Jeff (Christy) Myers of Ashland, MO; great nieces and nephews, several loving cousins, and many friends.

A memorial service will be held at 11 am on Thursday, March 21, 2024, at DeJong-Greaves-Printy Funeral Home in Keokuk, with burial to follow at the Catholic Cemetery in Keokuk. Visitation will be held on Thursday from 10 to 11 am at the funeral home directly before the service. Memorials may be directed to Lee County Hospice or All Saints Catholic Church.

DeJong-Greaves-Printy Funeral Home of Keokuk is in charge of arrangements.

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From the Front

Faeths planning century celebration June 8

FAETH'S - Continued from Page 1

The iconic and unabashed "Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms" outlet on historic downtown Avenue G is full of history and a little bit of fame. Faeth, who has little emotion in his demeanor, seems a bit overwhelmed with the idea of giving up what may be best described as a charmingly cluttered wood and glass-drenched speakeasy.

But he said the irregular fame that's followed the cigar store is for other people.

"I guess other people think that way, I just come here and go to work," Faeth said.

His grandfather, W.R. Faeth, built the structure in 1910 with the hopes of moving in a lumber store. That never happened. The patriarch was a master tinner and created structural tin products like ceilings buckets and gutters, installed furnaces, and made casual tins for locals while he rented space to cafes and pool halls before his father took over and started selling cigars, beer, and ammo in a place called Faeth's Royal. The business has been in the family ever since. From soda fountains to lunch counters and to punch cards that were used to get meals on credit until the end of the week. Despite working his way through his eighth decade, Faeth has a grasp on every detail.

"We had a steam table we'd serve lunch from behind the bar and we cooked meals downstairs that probably would have had today's health department pulling their hair out," he said.

"People from Shaeffer's would come in and get lunch with a card, we'd mark it and they would come back at the end of the week when they got paid and pay us."

With the end of the store near, Faeth said he wasn't too picky about who bought the place, but he would like to find someone who would keep it the way it is.

"One person was in here a while back and Tina was showing them around. They thought they'd like to buy it and keep it the way it is. They said I might even be able to come back and go to work awhile," he deadpanned.

Tina Faeth, Bill's daughter-in-law, said with a chuckle that she told the potential buyers that allowing Bill to come in and work was a condition of sale.

Leaving the Cigar Store the way it is also keeps some pretty heavy history intact.

It's well-known that the main bar along the west side of the store came from the 1933-34 World's Fair from the Blue Ribbon Casino. Bill said when they brought the monstrosity in from Chicago they had to re-brace the floor due to the heavy weight of the marble built into the wood. The original bar was on the east side and it is currently stored in the basement.

The large piece of furniture behind the cigar counter on the east side just inside the front door is another piece from Chicago that was pulled from the

Chicago Sun Times building.

And a little known piece of history that Tina herself didn't even know about, was there was a baseball scoreboard that had been painted over where people used to track baseball scores during the day.

Faeth said at one point, when he was still a youngster, a ticker ran on the counter on the east side near the back of the store and a ticket agent from the railroad used to come up in the afternoons and read the tickers and hang emblems of teams playing each other on the board at the score.

His father came back from Chicago to help work in one of the businesses at the location for \$15 a week. Bill said his dad had to take a paycut at one point because the owners couldn't afford the rate.

Bill is a veteran of the Navy serving four years from 1956-60 and then returned to work at the local business. He did that on military leaves, as well. He graduated from Fort Madison High School in 1954. He went to the University of Iowa and quit after spring finals. They talked him into going back the following year and after his finals that year, he went to Cedar Rapids and enlisted.

"I came home and told them if they wanted a vacation they better go 'cuz I'm gonna be gone for four years," Faeth said. His parents went on vacation.

"That was not being talked into going back to school again. They took off."

Since that time, the Faeth family, including his daughter-in-law Tina, Rhonda, Rob, and Randy, have all taken turns working behind the counter. Becky, who farms on the west side of Donnellson, hasn't worked at the store.

Faeth said his grandchildren are all into other careers and educations and no one is left to run the century-old business and it's time to step away. But the look in his eyes, you can see just inside the patch he now wears over his left eye, shows hesitation and just a little emotion. He'd rather slide beer cans down the counter and sell fishing licenses, and bullets, and the wide variety of cigars. The bigger loss is giving the stories away. Stories from more than 80 years and beyond, stories that many know and others he's held close to the chest.

Either way, if he gets his way, things will go on and he'll still be there being Bill Faeth...until he's not.

The store is currently selling iconic items through its online store at <https://shirtstampmerch.com/shop/ols/categories/faeth-cigar-store> in a one-time sale that is closing soon. The store will also be celebrating its 100th anniversary with a reception on June 8 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. with food, beverages, and recollections, stories and fun.



Lunch Specials

March 18-22
11am - 1pm

Monday, March 18

Minit Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans

Tuesday, March 19

Meatloaf, Loaded Potato, Corn

Wednesday, March 20

Burnt End Sandwich, Cheese Potatoes

Thursday, March 21

Fried Chicken Dinners

Friday, March 22

Tuna & Noodles, Blueberry Fluff

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Classifieds/Public Notices

PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICES

2019 WATER QUALITY REPORT

West Point Municipal Water System

DWSID# 5691012

Information reported here is available on the public website at www.westpointia.gov.
 Water Quality Report for the West Point Municipal Water System, 2019. This report is available on the City of West Point website at www.westpointia.gov.
 The information reported here is available on the public website at www.westpointia.gov.

Location	Parameter	Value	Standard	Notes
West Point	Turbidity	0.1	1.0	Complies with maximum turbidity level.
West Point	Total Hardness	120	150	Complies with maximum total hardness level.
West Point	Lead	0.01	1.0	Complies with maximum lead level.
West Point	Copper	0.005	1.3	Complies with maximum copper level.
West Point	Chlorine Residual	1.5	0.5 - 2.0	Complies with chlorine residual requirements.
West Point	Free Chlorine	1.5	0.5 - 2.0	Complies with free chlorine requirements.
West Point	Total Chlorine	1.5	0.5 - 2.0	Complies with total chlorine requirements.
West Point	Chlorine Demand	0.5	0.5 - 2.0	Complies with chlorine demand requirements.
West Point	Chlorine Residual (at 100 feet)	1.5	0.5 - 2.0	Complies with chlorine residual requirements at 100 feet.
West Point	Chlorine Residual (at 200 feet)	1.5	0.5 - 2.0	Complies with chlorine residual requirements at 200 feet.
West Point	Chlorine Residual (at 300 feet)	1.5	0.5 - 2.0	Complies with chlorine residual requirements at 300 feet.
West Point	Chlorine Residual (at 400 feet)	1.5	0.5 - 2.0	Complies with chlorine residual requirements at 400 feet.
West Point	Chlorine Residual (at 500 feet)	1.5	0.5 - 2.0	Complies with chlorine residual requirements at 500 feet.
West Point	Chlorine Residual (at 600 feet)	1.5	0.5 - 2.0	Complies with chlorine residual requirements at 600 feet.
West Point	Chlorine Residual (at 700 feet)	1.5	0.5 - 2.0	Complies with chlorine residual requirements at 700 feet.
West Point	Chlorine Residual (at 800 feet)	1.5	0.5 - 2.0	Complies with chlorine residual requirements at 800 feet.
West Point	Chlorine Residual (at 900 feet)	1.5	0.5 - 2.0	Complies with chlorine residual requirements at 900 feet.
West Point	Chlorine Residual (at 1000 feet)	1.5	0.5 - 2.0	Complies with chlorine residual requirements at 1000 feet.

DEFINITIONS

- Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)-The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) -- The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
- ppb -- parts per billion.
- ppm -- parts per million.
- pCi/L-picocuries per liter
- N/A -Not applicable
- N/D -- Not detected at detection limit
- Treatment Technique (TT) -A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- Action Level (AL) - The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- NTU -Nephelometric Turbidity Units
- Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG) - The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do

not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

- Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) -The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
- RAA - Running Annual Average
- LRAA-Locational Running Annual Average
- IDSE - Initial Distribution System Evaluation
- SGL -Single Sample Result

GENERAL INFORMATION

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water posed a health risk. More information about contaminants or potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such

as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA and CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. WEST POINT MUNICIPAL WATER SYSTEM is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned

about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

ADDITIONAL HEALTH INFORMATION

For Lead levels above the action level (15ppm). Infants and children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are

concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

The City of West Point obtains its water from the Rathbun Regional Water Association, Inc. The Rathbun Regional Water Association, Inc., Ft. Madison System obtains its water from the City of Ft. Madison Water Department. The City of West Point obtains its water from the Mississippi River Alluvial Aquifer, a ground water source. For a summary of the watershed assessment results and additional information contact: The Keokuk Water Treatment Plant at 319-524-2585.

The City of West Point obtains its water from the Mississippi River, a surface water source. For a summary of the watershed assessment results and additional information contact: The West Point City Hall, 313 5th Street, West Point, IA. Decisions regarding the water system are made at regular scheduled meetings held on the second Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at the West Point City Hall, 313 5th Street, West Point, IA.

Original Supply ID	Original Water Name
IA5625062	Ft Madison Municipal Water Works
IA5640019	Keokuk Municipal Water Works

OTHER INFORMATION

Turbidity is an indicator of treatment filter performance and is regulated as a treatment technique.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For questions regarding this information, please contact West Point City Hall at 319-837-6313. Decisions regarding the water system are made at regular scheduled meetings held on the second Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at the West Point City Hall, 313 5th Street, West Point, IA.

Decisions regarding the water system are made at regular scheduled meetings held on the second Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at the West Point City Hall, 313 5th Street, West Point, IA.

PUBLIC NOTICE AGENDA FORT MADISON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES Thursday, March 21, 2024 5:30 P.M. Sheaffer Meeting Room and Online

- Optional Electronic Meeting
- I. The option of attending the meeting electronically is being offered. You can participate in the meeting via telephone and can comment on an agenda item by joining the Zoom meeting. Using your telephone, dial (312) 626 6799 and enter the meeting ID (886 6318 7962) when prompted. If you have trouble connecting to the meeting, please call (319) 372-5721.
- II. Excused absences
- III. Excused absences
- IV. Approval of Agenda
- V. Public Comments
- VI. Approval of minutes
- VII. Approval of the Bills
- VIII. Correspondence
- IX. Director's Report
- a. Financial
- b. Personnel
- c. Programming
- d. Collection Development
- e. Operations
- f. Facilities
- g. Professional
- h. Reports to City Council

- X. Unfinished Business
- XI. New Business
- a. Nomination of Officers
- b. Schedule beginning July 1, 2024
- c. 2024/2025 Holidays and Library Closings
- d. Approve using trust funds to supplement the general fund due to budget reductions
- e. Approve North Lee County Community Foundation Disbursement
- f. Meeting room policy
- XII. Trustee Education

PUBLIC NOTICE LEE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 15, 2024

The Board of Supervisors of Lee County, Iowa, met on Monday, January 15, 2024, at 10:00 a.m., at the County Administration Building, 933 Avenue H, Fort Madison, Iowa.

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

All votes are unanimous unless indicated otherwise.

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

Moved by Fedler, seconded by Holmes, to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

There was no Public

Input.

Seyb opened bids for the Keokuk Ambulance Building. Bids were submitted by S.G. Construction in the amount of \$1,166,201.00; Schickedanz Construction in the amount of \$1,064,000.00 and A.C. Contracting in the amount of \$1,478,249.85.

Moved by Holmes, seconded by Pflug, to approve a supplemental agreement with Calhoun-Burns and Associates for final design of Bridge 84.1 located in Denmark Township. Motion carried.

Moved by Pflug, seconded by Fedler, to approve Resolution #2024-27. Roll call: Pflug-aye, Fedler-aye, Schulz-aye, Holmes-aye and Seyb-aye.

RESOLUTION 2024-27

LEE COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE SECONDARY ROAD DEPARTMENT POLICY AND PROCEDURE MEMORANDUM SUBJECT: DUST CONTROL POLICY EFFECTIVE: JANUARY 15, 2024 PERMIT

The individual/commercial business applying dust control will be required to secure a permit from Lee County. Section

Classifieds/Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICES

318.8 of the Code of Iowa states that a permit be issued for any work performed in the right-of-way of a public highway. A permit will be issued per application of dust control and the cost shall be as follows:

1. Calcium Chloride/ Lignosulfonate(Tree Sap)/ Magnesium Chloride
A. Lengths up to 500 feet = \$50.00 per application

B. Lengths from 501 to 1000 feet= \$100.00 per application

C. Additional Lengths shall be calculated at a rate of \$50 per 500 feet with no proration

2. Soy
A. Lengths up to 500 feet = \$750.00 per application

B. Lengths from 501 to 1000 feet= \$1500.00 per application

C. Additional Lengths shall be calculated at a rate of \$750 per 500 feet with no proration

LIABILITY
All dust control applicators shall submit a certification of insurance in an amount not less than \$1,000,000 aggregate to the Lee County Engineer. Lee County shall be listed as an additional insured.

CERTIFICATION
Applicators shall certify that all materials used for dust control are free and

clear of toxic materials affecting the environment, the public, and livestock. A listing of ingredients stating the composition and percentage of each ingredient in the mixture shall be submitted with the permit application. Certification shall state that the mixture meets or exceeds applicable DNR and EPA regulations.

ADVERTISING
Advertising of the product and service shall state that the applicator will hold a permit issued by Lee County. Ad shall state that customers contact the business directly and not Lee County. All checks will be made payable and issued to the applicator and not Lee County. Ads should also mention date of application, sign up deadline, and cost.

NOTICE OF APPLICANTS
The applicator shall furnish Lee County a detailed list of customers showing name, location by section and township, E911 address, length of application, and telephone number WITH THE PERMIT APPLICATION. This listing shall be received by the Lee County Engineer a minimum of five working days prior to each application and be in Excel format (not PDF.)

Once permit application, customer list, Liability certificate, product certification, and payment has been received, a permit will be issued.

ROAD PREPARATION
Upon receipt of the listing of applicants, Lee County will blade and rock areas in need prior to the application of dust control. Lee County will attempt to not blade dust control areas after the first application up until October 15th. If roadways develop chuck holes and rough surfaces and blading is necessary, it will be performed. Service to the traveling public takes precedent over individual dust control. It is the responsibility of the applicator to furnish an accurate detailed list. In the event that inaccurate information is submitted to the Engineer resulting in a location being prepped by maintenance crews that was not planned to have a second application of dust control applied, the applicator shall be responsible for correcting the action with the customer.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the Lee County Board of Supervisors hereby approves the Driveway and Entrances Policy for the Lee County

Secondary Road Department:

Dated at Lee County, Iowa, this 15th day of January, 2024.

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

Moved by Pflug, seconded by Holmes, to approve Resolution #2024-28. Roll call: Pflug-aye, Holmes-aye, Schulz-aye, Fedler-aye and Seyb-aye.

RESOLUTION 2024-28

LEE COUNTY ENGINEER'S OFFICE SECONDARY ROAD DEPARTMENT

POLICY AND PROCEDURE MEMORANDUM SUBJECT: DRIVEWAY AND ENTRANCES POLICY

EFFECTIVE: JANUARY 15, 2024

For the establishment of an entrance in a location where no previous entrance existed or for modifying an existing entrance the following policy and procedures shall apply:

1. The property owner shall apply for an Entrance Permit from the

Lee County Engineer. The cost of an Entrance Permit is \$50.00. The Permit application will not be processed until payment is received.

2. For new entrances, The County Engineer or his representative will view the location and determine if there is adequate site distance, correct slope between the road and right of way line, and all other physical features about the site. If the application is approved, the County Engineer will determine if a culvert is required, the size of culvert opening required, and the length of culvert required. The culvert opening size shall not be less than a 15 inch diameter unless a special circumstance exists and is approved by the County Engineer.

For existing entrances, the County Engineer or his representative will view the location and, if there is an existing culvert, will determine the additional length of culvert required.

The County Engineer will determine the length of the required culvert based on the following minimum entrance top widths:

- a. Residential entrance 20 feet
- b. Farm building entrance

trance 20 feet
c. Field entrance 20 feet
d. Double field entrance 40 feet
Additional length required for side slopes shall be added to the above entrance widths as follows:

- a. Shallow fills(4 feet or less)- 3:1 (the depth of the ditch times 3 on each end of the culvert)
- b. Deep fills(deeper than 4 feet)- 4:1 (the depth of the ditch times 4 on each end of the culvert)
- c. Paved Roads or roads with daily traffic counts >400- 8:1 (the depth of the ditch times 8 on each end of the culvert)

If the permit application is approved, a signed copy will be sent to the property owner.

3. The property owner shall furnish and have delivered to the site the size and length of culvert specified by the County Engineer. The culvert shall be zinc coated corrugated steel, dual walled HDPE pipe, or Engineer approved equal.

If the required size is available in stock, Lee County will sell the culvert and/or any connecting bands to the permit holder at the current price plus 15% for handling

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charges. Lee County will not deliver the culvert to the site.

Lee County does not install new or maintain existing driveway and entrance culverts within Lee County right of way.

4. The County Engineer's Office shall be notified forty-eight (48) hours prior to the start of the construction within the right of way.

5. Section 318.8 of the Code of Iowa requires that all work performed under the entrance permit to be in conformity with the Specifications of the Lee County Secondary Road Department. If the property owner does not conform to the specifications, Lee County shall remove or correct the installation of the entrance at the property owner's expense.

6. The entrance and culvert shall be the property of the landowner upon installation and Lee County shall NOT maintain the drive or the pipe within the right of way.

7. Lee County will not surface the entrance with crushed stone, however, the property owner may add crushed stone at no cost to Lee County. A separate permit is required to pave the entrance with county right of way. Lee County will not maintain any surface placed on entrances within the right of way.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the Lee County Board of Supervisors hereby approves the Driveway and Entrances Policy for the Lee County Secondary Road Department:

Dated at Lee County, Iowa, this 15th day of January, 2024.

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

Moved by Schulz, seconded by Pflug, to approve a contract with Bound Tree Medical for inventory software for EMS. Motion carried.

Moved by Pflug, seconded by Fedler, to approve a quote from Mohrfeld Electric for ethernet cabling services, in the amount of \$159,295.00. Motion carried.

Moved by Holmes, seconded by Pflug, to approve a proposal from The Master's Touch for mailing House File 718 letters, in the amount of \$11,091.00. Motion carried.

Moved by Fedler, seconded by Holmes, to approve the Consent Agenda that included the January 8, 2024 Board minutes, the claims for payment and two Tax Abatement Resolutions. Roll call: Fedler-aye, Holmes-aye, Schulz-aye, Pflug-aye and Seyb-aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION # 2024-26

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Lee County has by Ordinance Number VI-11 adopted a plan for a County-wide Urban Revitalization Tax Exemption District in Lee County, Iowa; and,

WHEREAS, Iowa Code Section 404.4 provides for prior approval of eligibility for a tax exemption by the governing body of the County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF LEE COUNTY, IOWA, that they hereby approve the application of: Trenton and Amie Pieper 3338 175th Street Wever IA 52658

For exemption from taxation according to the provisions of Iowa Code Section 404.3, §3. Said applications shall be forwarded to the County Assessor for review pursuant to the provisions of Section 404.5 Code of Iowa.

PASSED AND AP-

PROVED this 15th day of January, 2024.

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

RESOLUTION # 2024-29

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Lee County has by Ordinance Number VI-11 adopted a plan for a County-wide Urban Revitalization Tax Exemption District in Lee County, Iowa; and,

WHEREAS, Iowa Code Section 404.4 provides for prior approval of eligibility for a tax exemption by the governing body of the County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF LEE COUNTY, IOWA, that they hereby approve the application of: Edward and Karen Kester 2114 West Point Road West Point IA 52656

For exemption from taxation according to the provisions of Iowa Code Section 404.3, §3. Said applications shall be forwarded to the County Assessor for review pursuant to the provisions of Section 404.5 Code of Iowa.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 15th day of January, 2024.

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

Moved by Pflug, seconded by Holmes, to approve a step increase for Zachary Boyd, EMT, from \$18.01/hr. to \$20.38/hr., effective 1/26/24, a step increase for Allison Herr, A-EMT, from \$20.01/hr. to \$21.62/hr., effective

1/30/24, a step increase for Matthew Wheeler, EMT, from \$18.58/hr. to \$18.96/hr., effective 1/17/24 and a reclassification for Kathy Burkhammer, from Records Clerk to Records Clerk II \$21.27/hr., effective 1/15/24. Motion carried.

Received and filed the Treasurer's Report of Fees Collected for the month of December 2023, the Auditor's Report of Fees Collected for the month of December 2023, the Sheriff's Monthly Report for December 2023 and the Treasurer's Semi Annual Report for the period July through December 2023.

Committee Reports: Pflug reported on a Board of Health meeting and a Best You Coalition meeting. Fedler reported on a RUSS Board meeting. Holmes reported on a Conservation Board meeting. Seyb reported on a Lee County Fire Association meeting, a Lee County EMS meeting and a Leadership Forum sponsored by Lee County Economic Development.

At 11:15 a.m. it was moved by Holmes, seconded by Fedler, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The next meeting will be held on Monday, January 22, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. at the Administration Building in Fort Madison.

Garry Seyb, Chairman
Attest: Denise Fraise,
Lee County Auditor

Claims paid January 15, 2024

Access Systems, svs 330.22
Airgas USA, splys... 50.94
Alliant Energy, svs 3895.40
E Andries, exps..... 30.00
Animal House, splys 8.80
Applied Concepts, equip 98.00
Axon Enterprise, equip 21433.56
Ball Volvo/GMC, splys 554.40
A Bauer, exps 22.00
E Biddenstadt, exps 10.50
J Booth, exps..... 547.50
Bound Tree Med, splys 5489.88
R Bradley/sons, svs 130.00
Brightree Home, svs 3621.82

C Casey, unif 115.00
ClickStart Web, svs 44.85
A Cook, exps 124.50
M Cook, exps..... 270.00
Cott Systems, svs 205.00
Cullen Cnstrctn, svs 2230.00
Cullen Pest Cntrl, svs 346.00
Culligan, water..... 72.95
Democrat Co, publ 1443.00
DM Co Hlth Dpt, svs 6109.34
LDettmers, exps 52.00
Donnellson Lmbr, equip 211.18
Donnellson Tire, svs 1460.78
Douds Stone, mtrl 12259.56
ES&S, svs..... 3355.54
Electronic Engrg, svs 2858.48
EMSLRC, edu..... 115.00
B Fader, exps 115.50
FM Chmbr, dues... 185.00
FM Water, svs..... 141.78
B Gaylord, exps..... 40.00
GRRWA, svs..... 13600.11
Hall Excvtng, svs .. 280.00
J Hall, exps..... 265.50
Hancock Co Hlth, svs 420.00
Harricks Lmbr, parts 1.99
A Hayes, exps..... 24.00
R Heidbreder, exps... 2.50
J Hudson, exps..... 90.50
H Huebner, exps... 120.00
Huffman Welding, equip 91.17
IA State Pen, meals 15000.00
ISAC, reg 840.00
Jays Auto, svs..... 60.75
S Jeffries, exps 123.00
Jet Gas, fuel 13356.83
C Johnson, exps... 247.00
J Johnson, exps..... 30.00
JW Medical, equip 2938.00
Kempkers, splys ... 336.00
Rivrfnt Brdctg, publ 250.00
Kimball Midwest, svs 129.76
BKRiesberg, exps... 18.00
Lee Co Auditor, Ctrl Pur 4987.20
Lee Co Hlth, svs 11746.07
McFarlands, splys 179.68
McKesson Med, rx 280.88
Mediacom, svs..... 245.56
MidAmer Enrgy, gas 1488.30
Midway Frtlnr, svs 459.96
O Miller, exps..... 439.50
L Mullins, exps..... 185.00
JJ Nichting Co, parts 257.30
OMG Midwest, svs 13786.08

Onmedia, adv 600.00
M Park, exps..... 216.50
Prairie Farms, splys 232.40
PSBA, svs..... 22500.00
Qdient Finance, pstg 4000.00
Red Lion Rnwbls, svs 929.59
RicohUSA, splys... 981.31
J Saunders, exps.. 294.00
Sentry Sec Fstnrs, splys 171.20
Shottenkirk, svs 79.95
Sidwell, svs..... 1240.00
SIEDA, cntrb..... 2498.21
SEIRMC, svs 450.00
St Hygienic Lab, svs 135.00
Stericycle, svs..... 604.69
StryKnrwrthy, splys 302.82
R Swainey, exps ... 129.00
M Terhune, exps 63.00
Truck Repair, parts 573.35
US Cell, svs 1456.26
VB Co Hosp, svs 11493.12
C Veihl, exps..... 80.00
Verizon, svs 201.46
Vertical Comm, svs 93.75
A Wagenhauser, exps 7.97
L Wallingford, svs 309.20
West Group, publ.. 963.00
West Pt Utility, svs 282.04
Wex Bank, Fuels .. 340.90
Windstream, svs ... 217.79
Winners Circle, svs 79.28
Xiphos Tech, svs 45690.00
B Zinnert, exps 351.00

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From the Front

Reichman, Griffin have different takes on AEA moves

AEAs - Continued from Page 1

local businesses and workers. That's why I'm running for the Iowa Senate—to bring opportunity back to Southeast Iowa."

Reichman said Democrats are playing politics with the closure and not focusing on families.

"Democrats are quick to attempt to politicize the plant closing but slow on any solutions for family businesses. Had they actually read the comments from leadership of Independent Can they would have realized it is the Biden Administration's steel policies causing that plant closing," he said.

"They have also continually opposed the most significant job creation project in southeast Iowa's history. I also found it interesting the Democrats only actual proposal wasn't for new job creation, just a longer term on unemployment.

Griffin voiced disappointment in the Senate Majority's denial of unemployment benefits for workers affected by plant closures.

"I will advocate for reinstating unemployment benefits to 39 weeks for workers affected by this plant closure to provide crucial support for workers during times of transition," she stated.

Reichman said his father played a role in bringing Independent Can to Fort Madison so it was especially sad for him to hear of the closure.

"My father was the purchasing director at Climax Molybdenum and played a part in bringing the can company to Ft Madison so it is especially sad to see it close and jobs lost," he said.

"Plant closings and layoffs are always a challenge for Iowans, their families, and our communities. I look forward to working with Iowa Workforce Development on new opportunities for the folks impacted by these layoffs."

The senator said Iowa's pro-growth, low-tax agenda is helping the state's population, and southeast Iowa needs career opportunities.

The two also are at odds over recent movement in bills to restructure the state's AEAs.



GRIFFIN



REICHMAN

The Iowa Senate passed their version of legislation Monday, which is a contrast to the bill proposed in the House. Leaders of both chambers will now get together and try to

hammer out a compromise to get to Governor Kim Reynolds.

The Senate bill would allow state districts to contract with private vendors for special education, general education, and media services. in a pay-for-service model. It also redirects 90% of AEA funding back to districts over the next two years with 10% staying with AEAs for special education funding.

It also sets a new minimum teacher's salary at \$46,251 up from \$33,000. The House version set that salary at \$50,000. The House bill also guarantees

that AEAs solely provide special education services, while allowing districts to see private contract services for general education and media services starting in 2025.

Griffin said she was disappointed in the bill.

"I'm extremely disappointed that our senator from district 50 isn't listening to the constituents. I will definitely hear them," she said.

Reichman said AEAs have been being warned for at least seven years they need to make broad changes.

"They have 12 employees who make more than the governor," Reichman said. "They're asking for independent studies, but we've had two of those in the last 11 years and they were told changes need to be made."

Reichman, who voted for the Senate bill, said this summer federal regulators are coming in to the AEAs and will start implementing those changes.

"They are coming. That's going to happen."

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- MARKET VALUE OF CROPS = \$75.2 MILLION
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- AVERAGE CORN YIELD PER ACRE = 173 BUSHELS
- 63,967 ACRES OF SOYBEANS
- AVERAGE SOYBEAN YIELD PER ACRE = 51 BUSHELS

