PEN CITY CU

lt's Black & White and Read all over

Tuesday, March 26, 2024 | 8 pages | Volume 8 • Issue 56











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FMAAA, Empower team up

AREA YOUTH: Art gallery teams up with advocates to offer April programs

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG

ORT MADISON - The FMAAA Art Center is teaming up with Empowering Families of the Lee County Health Department with a focus on youth in April while bringing awareness to child abuse prevention month.

Empowering Families is sponsoring the April High School Exhibition, which brings together student artists from across the region for an annual exhibition and friendly competition across several categories.

The High School show will feature several 2D categories like drawing, painting in a variety of mediums, photography, and possibly mixed media and digital art. 3D categories generally include pottery/ceramics and sculpture, though 3D mixed media have also been submitted in past years.

"This is a fantastic exhibition of student work. I am always blown away by the talent we see from our area youth artists. It is a real testament to the quality of the instruction and to the creativity of our young people," said Lori Illner Greene, Executive Director

See **ARTS**, page 8



A free spring coloring contest is on tap at the Fort Madison Area Arts Association, highlighting a full lineup of events at the downtown Fort Madison gallery.

WEST POINT

Burlington man charged with arson in West Point fire

Former Burlington Fire Chief's son charged with setting garage fire

> BY CHUCK VANDENBERG **PCC EDITOR**

WEST POINT - A Burlington man has been arrested in connection with a March 21 fire in West Point.

According to a release from West



Point Police Chief Brad Roberts, the West Point Police Department arrested Anthony E. Ell, 56, at his residence in Burlington on two felony charges.

A homeowner in the 600 block of Avenue E in West Point filed a complaint with the police department on March 21st and an investigation revealed allegations that an intentional fire was set on a detached

garage and property damage was done to a fence.

The arrest followed a search warrant conducted at Ell's residence in Burlington and items believed to have been used in the crimes were seized.

Ell is charged with 2nd-degree arson, a Class C felony, and 2nd-degree criminal mischief, a Class D felony.

The West Point Police Department was assisted by the Lee County Sheriff's Office, Lee County Attorney's Office, and the Burlington Police Department.

COUNTY NEWS

Ombudsman wants review of county jail procedures

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG **PCC EDITOR**

LEE COUNTY - The Lee County jail is among multiple jails across the state reassessing how they charge inmates for medical fees, after a report from the Iowa Ombudsman's office was released Friday.

Adherence to a new Iowa code that was implemented almost 17 years ago is undergoing an investigation by the ombudsman's office after officials there

fielded complaints out of several counties including Scott and Wapello, of improper charges to inmates that haven't been convicted. According to the re-



port, Iowa's county jails are allowed to recover expenses from certain inmates who receive medical care during their incarceration. Restrictions are built into the law that allow jails to charge for medical expenses if the inmate is at least 18 years of age and has been convicted of a criminal offense or sentenced for contempt of court for violating a domestic abuse order.

State Ombudsman Bernardo Granwehr's report says practices among county jails have been inconsistent across the state. In 2016 a letter was sent out by the Iowa State Association of Counties at the request of the ombudsman to address the issue, but the state did not send out a public report at that

Granwehr is now asking that all of Iowa's county jails standardize practices of billing inmates for medical costs.

Lee County Sheriff Stacy Weber said the county, along with other county

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OPINION

WEATHER

TUE 26 Mar.... ... Rain then snow likely, 44° F/ 25° FClear & chilly, 45° F/ 28° F WED 27 Mar... ...Clear & cool, 57° F/ 38° F THU 28 Mar.....

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SUBSCRIBE





Obituaries/From the Front

OBITUARIES

ANNABELLE McCARTY

Annabelle McCarty, 92, of Nauvoo, Illinois, passed away at 5:02 a.m. Sunday, March 24, 2024 at River Hills Village in Keokuk, Iowa.

She was born on April 1, 1931 the daughter of Ray and Elsie (Isenberger) Boyles. On January 25, 1951 she married James B. "Jim" McCarty at the Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Nauvoo, he preceded her in death on March 25, 2022.

Survivors include two sons: James Edward McCarty of Colorado and Bryan Douglas (Janie) McCarty of Colorado; three grandsons; one granddaughter; many great grandchildren; and two brothers: John Boyles and James Boyles. Also surviving are several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband Jim; two sisters: Dorothy Herbert and Mary Hitch; and one brother Donald Boyles.

Annabelle loved the outdoors, nature, and especially birds. She was a good gardener and still mowed her own lawn at 92. She was an avid Chicago Bulls and Cubs fan, an avid reader, and she loved to travel the country to visit relatives. Her face was familiar to generations as she was a local waitress and bartender for over fifty years.

Her greatest joy was playing with her grandchildren and great grandchildren. She loved to watch their sports games with Jim, together they were their biggest fans.

She celebrated the birthdays of all her family members by baking a cake to eat in celebration. Annabelle always remembered her loved ones birthdays, she would send a card and a personal sentiment. She was always interested and had time for a good conversation.

Her body has be entrusted to the crematory of Schmitz - Banks & Beals Funeral Home for cremation. Per her wishes, no services will be held.

Memorials may be made to Saints Peter and Paul Catholic School and mailed to the family at: Schmitz-Bank & Beals Funeral Home, P.O. Box 201, Nauvoo, Illinois 62454.

Schmitz - Banks & Beals Funeral Home in Nauvoo is Assisting the family with arrangements. On-line condolences to the family may be left at www.sbbfuneralhome.

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

OBITUARIES

ELLYN R. MILLER

Ellyn Ruth Miller, 82, of Wever, IA, passed away at 8:36 p.m. on Saturday, March 23, 2024 at Southeast Iowa Regional Hospice House in West Burlington, IA. She was born on November 30, 1941 in LaHarpe, IL to Everett & Ada Wells



MILLER

Chapin. She married Charles H. Miller on July 22, 1961 in Burnside, IL. He preceded her in death on December 19, 2022. She was a member of the Denmark Congregational United Church of Christ. She loved to read and had a very strong faith. Her greatest love was her family.

Ellyn is survived by: 1-son: Bryan (Aimee) Miller of Spencer, IA; 2-daughters: Teresa (Landon) Rampy of West Point, IA & Denise McGowan (Roger Strunk) of West Point, IA; 7-grandchildren:

Ashley (Jay) Chrosniak, Ashley (Caleb) Booten, Aaron Miller, Brodey Mc-Gowan, Jakob McGowan (Kearstin Mason), Kaylee Alvarez (Stevie Saltzgaver) & Kortnee (Ricardo) Ramos; 8-great grandchildren & 1 on the way; 2-brothers: Ernest (Bonnie) Chapin of LaHarpe, IL & John (Mariane) Chapin of Anderson, SC; 3-sisters: Mary (Gary) Barr of Colchester, IL, Elaine (Tom) Ferguson of Nauvoo, IL & Pam (Jim) Jefferson of Cartage, IL and 1-sister in law: Mary Chapin of Colchester, IL. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, 1-grandson: P.J. Gray, 1-brother: Everett "Junior" Chapin & 1-sister: Evelyn Simmons.

A visitation will be held from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, March 27, 2024 at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. The funeral service will be held immediately following the visitation at 10:30 a.m. with Rev. Chad Savage officiating. Burial will be at Hillcrest Memorial Park Cemetery in Fort Madison.

A memorial has been established for Southeast Iowa Regional Hospice House. Online condolences to the Miller family may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: www.kinglynk. com.

State never updated administrative code

JAILS - Continued from Page 1

jails in the state, is reviewing policies in light of the ombudsman's report.

"I have reviewed the report and understand its conclusions. We are taking steps now to make policy changes to align with the report's recommendations and considering other action items that may be necessary," he said Monday.

The law that governs seeking reimbursement for medical costs in county jails is under section 356.7(1) of the Iowa Code.

The code also states the district court approves the claims for expenses at which point the sheriff may

The state appears to have conflicting enforcement where the Iowa Administrative Code puts the obligation for medical expenses on the inmate, and the ombudsman report concurs with the IAC statement. However, Granwehr said his office has been telling jails since 2016 that they shouldn't rely solely on the administrative rule as it is subservient to the Iowa code. He said the administrative rules were "unfortunately" never updated to conform with the change.







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Opinion/Local News

Ukrainians find home in Mt. Pleasant

They stand at their window and watch hey stand at their window and watch squirrels romp and play in their yard. "Never have I seen so many squirrels!" Ivanna Zimroz, laughs. "Even the squirrels are happy here!" Her five kids cluster around her and giggle at the sight. They also appreciate By Curt Swarm the positive change in lifestyle from what they left behind. They had been crammed into a small, two room apartment in Poland, seven of them—mother, father and five children—for two years, after fleeing Ternopil. They were waiting to find a sponsor in the United States. They had to be careful. There were disreputable sponsors who would take advantage of people fleeing war-torn Ukraine. Ivanna prides herself in having an intuition for knowing who they could trust. Her tuition told her she could trust Ken and Patty Madden from Crawfordsville, Iowa to be their sponsor.

"We are so happy here," Ivanna says. "This is home. We feel safe. This country cares a lot about its people. There is not the violence or the many widows in black, mourning their deceased husbands. We are so grateful and thankful for what everyone has done for us. People who don't even know us are bringing food and toys for the kids, and making contributions. Americans are so friendly! God is looking after us."

Her kids, Vadym, 14; Darii, 10; Makar, 9; Diana, 7; and Denys, 5 nod in agreement, and hug her. Volodymyr, her husband and the children's father, is in Pennsylvania attending truck-driving school. Iowa's CDL test is in English, which Volodymyr is still struggling with. Pennsylvania has a Russian Language test. He is staying with friends and will return to his family in a couple of weeks upon completion of his CDL. When he is home he spends a lot of time in the garage tinkering, arranging and building things. They did not have a garage in Poland.

The kids miss the friends they had in Poland, but love school here. Four of them are in grade school and the oldest in middle school. During spring break, the kids couldn't wait to get back to school. Ivanna was surprised that she didn't have to pay anything to get them enrolled in school. She thinks maybe an anonymous donor may have purchased the pencils, paper and supplies they needed. "Whoever you are," she says, and looks up, "Thank you."

In fact, the organization known as War





Sucks for Children in Mt. Pleasant, the First Presbyterian Church of Mt. Pleasant, and others, stepped forward, surrounded the Ukrainian family with love and all the material possessions they would need to start a new life. A home was found, furniture and utensils provided, clothes, a used vehicle, and so many other things, like computer tablets for the kids, bicycles, a larger computer and printer for the home, a refrigerator full of food, bunk beds, the list goes on. Ivanna is shocked and so grateful. "A lady even brings farm eggs once a week!" she proclaims.

Ivanna misses her family terribly. But she calls them daily, and hopes that maybe in the future she will be able to bring her family to the United States. There is another Ukrainian family in Mt. Pleasant, and they are friends. It helps with the home sickness.

Why are Americans so welcoming to Ukrainians? It probably relates to the barbaric attack on a sovereign nation by Russia, and the basic feeling by Americans that there's not a whole lot they can do about it. But they can help refugees. And also the realization that these European refugees are so much like Americans. They look like, act like and have the same aspirations as Americans: free will to achieve what they want without repression. So when the Ukrainians were brutalized and left homeless, Americans welcomed them with open arms, i.e., "Join us in the good life. Work hard, chase your dreams, and prosper. We have plenty of room."

Ivanna looked out her front door and saw iris coming up along the sidewalk. It's an early spring, and the iris are choked with leaves. She's itchy to spiffy up the flower bed. "They tell me this is the Iris City," she beams. "Those iris will be blooming and looking real pretty for Volodymyr when he comes home."

Have a good story? Call or text Curt Swarm in Mt. Pleasant at 319-217-0526, email him <u>curtswarm@yahoo.com</u>, or visit his website at www.empty-nest-words-photos-and-frames.com.

we'll be right back! Pen City Current will not publish an e-Edition Monday, April 1 through Friday, April 5 so we can enjoy Spring break. The e-Edition will resume Monday, April 8. News will still be published to our website & social media channels. Thanx for reading! PEN CITY C www.PenCityCurrent.com

FM celebrates national library week with giveaway

FORT MADISON -The Fort Madison Public Library invites children and young adults, from birth through high school, to celebrate National Library Week with a book giveaway. Visit the library on Saturday, April 6 between 1:15 and 3:15 pm to get a new free books, and participate in fun activities. Visit the library the following weekend for the Friends of the Library Book Sale from April 11 through 13.

National Library week will be celebrated this year from April 7 through April 13. Since its beginnings in 1958, National Library Week has been sponsored by the American Library Association (ALA) and observed in libraries across the country each April. This is a time to celebrate our nation's libraries, library workers' contributions and promote library use and support. In our increasingly online world, libraries give us a green light to something truly special: a place to connect with

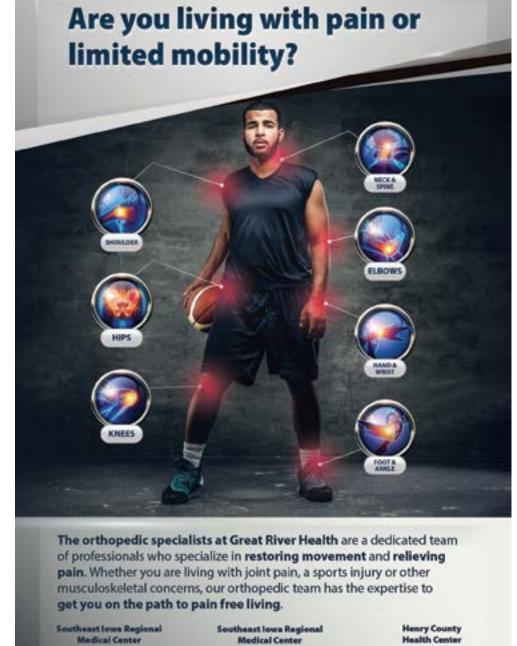
others, learn new skills, and focus on what matters most. At the library's author talks, children's programs, and book clubs, residents of Fort Madison and lee County can connect with fellow enthusiasts and local experts while building relationships that will last a lifetime. No matter where you find yourself on the roadmap through life's journey—preparing for a new career, launching a business, or raising a family—the library provides an inclusive and supportive community where every-

one belongs. There are a variety of fun activities planned for Saturday, April 6. As previously mentioned, youth of all ages, from birth through high school seniors, can receive their own new book. There will also be activities including a bookmark to color and outdoor activities, weather permitting. A balloon artist will be at the library making all sorts of wonderful balloon sculptures.

The event is free and open to the public. All giveaway items and activities are while supplies last.

There will be an additional opportunity to add to your library later in the week, though at a small cost. The Friends of the Library Book Sale will be held the following weekend from Thursday, April 11 through Saturday, April 13. Come on Thursday to get first pick at full price or wait until Saturday when you can get all the books you can fit in a grocery sack for \$2. However, even full price isn't that much at \$1 for hardcover books or ten cents for paperbacks, with the exception of some books published in the last 5 years. Stop in and check out the wide variety of books, magazines, movies and music available for you to purchase. Proceeds are used to support the library.

If you need more information or have questions, contact Sarah Clendineng, (319) 372-5721, Sarah-Clen@fortmadison.lib.ia.us.



Fort Madison

319-376-1135



Mount Pleasant

319-385-5374

Sports/Education News

HTC sets Silver & Blue fundraiser celebration

FORT MADISON - Holy Trinity Catholic Schools is delighted to announce the upcoming Blue and Silver Celebration, scheduled for Saturday, April 20, 2024. This amazing evening of food, drinks, and entertainment is dedicated to celebrating the dedication and hard work of Holy Trinity's esteemed teachers and staff.

The event will take place at McAleer Hall in Fort Madison. Guests will enjoy dueling piano entertainment from Felix & Fingers, a five-course meal (all beverages included) prepared by Rita Holt-kamp, and a live auction. Cocktail hour begins at 5:30 p.m, dinner will be served at 6 p.m. Tickets for the evening are \$100/person. All proceeds from the Blue and Silver Celebration will be applied

directly to the Holy Trinity Catholic Schools teacher and staff bonus fund.

"Each day our teachers go above and beyond to support our families and our students", said Craig Huebner, Holy Trinity CAO.

"The annual Blue and Silver Celebration is a way for us to recognize their dedication. I would encourage any community member who would like to enjoy an evening out with food, drinks and entertainment included to attend. Join us for an evening to honor the wonderful faculty and staff of Holy Trinity".

Individuals interested in attending or donating to Holy Trinity's annual Blue and Silver Celebration should contact Sash Rea at 319-372-2486 or sasha.rea@holytrinityschools.org.

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Goetz to step down at HTC

40 YEARS IN EDUCATION:

AD to retire at the end of the summer sports season at Holy Trinity Catholic

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG

FORT MADISON – The HTC athletic board will have its hands full this spring. The board accepted head girls basketball coach Tony Johnson's resignation this week, and will now have to fill another set of big shoes in Athletic Director John Goetz who will be retiring at the end of the summer sport season.

Goetz announced Monday that he will be calling it quits as the school's athletic director after 18 years with the school system..

"I just talked with my wife and daughter this year and we decided its time. Now we can get to watch our daughter coach more," he said.

"I've had so many great memories and will cherish everyone of them. The student athletes, coaches and administration has been wonderful and very supportive. I haven't decided if I will continue to teach, I'm getting a little old."

John ,and his wife Kim's daughter Jennifer is head coach at Pleasant Valley and has two state titles under her belt, the first at Davenport Assumption in her first year as head coach.

Goetz has been in education and athletics for more than four decades including stints at Marquette, Keokuk Cardinal Stritch and Holy Trinity Catholic. He started in 1979 coaching and teaching at Marquette until leaving for Stritch where he stayed until 2005.

He said the decision is completely a personal one and he wants to see how the spring plays out before he makes a decision on whether to continue teaching. He teaches junior high and high school mathematics.

The 67-year-old said the HTC system is starting to see bigger class sizes which has been a problem with athletics in the past few years prompting sharing programs with other area schools, predominantly Fort Madison

"(Numbers) has nothing to do with it. We've got some really good classes coming up in 7th-9th grades. I think you're going to see us try to get some our programming back," he said.

"But our kids do well when we coop with Fort Madison and they get to show off their talents over there."

He said he'll miss working with the students and staff of HTC, the media, and area schools.



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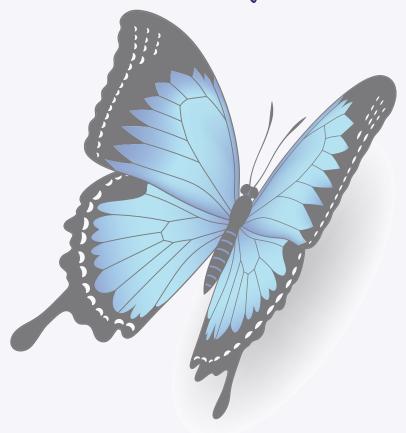
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PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE
LEE COUNTY BOARD
OF SUPERVISORS
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
JANUARY 22, 2024

The Board of Supervisors of Lee County, Iowa, met on Monday, January 22, 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.

Public Input: Ryan Drenner with Xiphos gave the Board an update on the ammonia pipeline project.

Moved by Pflug, seconded by Holmes, to renew a contract with Southeast Iowa Regional Planning Commission for Floodplain Management Services at a cost of \$21,000 payable in six installments. Motion carried.

Moved by Schulz, seconded by Pflug, to table awarding the bid for the Keokuk Ambulance Building. Motion carried.

Seyb announced that Brandon Bonar won the Green Bay Drainage District Election with 13 votes. Moved by Pflug, seconded by Schulz, to approve the canvass of the January 20, 2024 Green Bay Drainage District Election. Motion carried.

Moved by Fedler, seconded by Pflug, to approve the Consent Agenda that included the January 15, 2024 Board minutes, the claims for payment, five Tax Abatement Resolutions and a Class C Retail Alcohol License for Tri State Gun Club, for the period February 16, 2024 through February 15, 2025. Roll call: Fedler-aye, Pflugaye, Schulz-aye, Holmesaye and Seyb-aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION # 2024-30

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, lowa 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 SU-PERVISORS OF LEE COUNTY, IOWA, that they hereby approve the application of: Jarrod and Katherine Booten 1975 235th Avenue 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 AP-PROVED this 22nd 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 # 2024-31

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 SU-PERVISORS OF LEE COUNTY, IOWA, that they hereby approve the application of: Jason and Kayla Smith 1539 303rd Avenue Fort Madison IA 52627

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 22nd 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 # 2024-32

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 SU-PERVISORS OF LEE COUNTY, IOWA, that they hereby approve the application of: Corey and Angela Hawk 2521 180th Avenue Donnellson IA 52625

For exemption from taxation according to the provisions of lowa 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 lowa.

PASSED AND AP-PROVED this 22nd day of Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Garry Seyb, Chairman; /s/ Tom Schulz Vice-Chair: /s/

January, 2024.

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 # 2024-33

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 SU-PERVISORS OF LEE COUNTY, IOWA, that they hereby approve the application of: Patricia Holtkamp 3533 175th Street Wever IA 52658

For exemption from taxation according to the provisions of lowa Code Section 404.3, §3. Said applications shall be forwarded to the Coun-

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PUBLIC NOTICES

ty Assessor for review pursuant to the provisions of Section 404.5 Code of lowa.

PASSED AND AP-PROVED this 22nd 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 # 2024-34

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 SU-PERVISORS OF LEE COUNTY, IOWA, that they hereby approve the application of: LMW Farms 2598 121st Street 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 AP-PROVED this 22nd 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.

Committee Reports: Seyb reported on an Empowering Families meeting. At 10:50 a.m. it was moved by Pflug, seconded by Holmes, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The next meeting will be held on Monday, January 29, 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 22, 2024 ABC Fire Extng, svs271.90 Access Energy, svs Access Systems, svs 886.57 Ace Hardware, splys20.58 Airgas USA, splys 257.23 All Amer Sanitation, svs 240.00 All Seasons Music, svs 85.55 Alliant Energy, svs 8132.43 Altorfer, parts 846.70 Amazon, splys 60.17 B&B Propane, fuel 1008.65 Benco Dntl, svs.....118.78 Blessing Hlth, svs730.00 Bound Tree Med, splys 2415.83 Brozene Hydrlic, svs46.86 Cntrl Svs. svs......1194.00 CenturyLink, svs..... 70.81 Commerce Bank 1Password, IT...... 19.95 Adobe Acropro Subs, IT21.19 Alliant Energy, Util 554.32 American Heart Shop, Train 503.00 Amazon, Splys... 4,320.04 Attorney Reg, Train BP. Fuel 45.15 Caseys, Fuel...... 883.16 Centurylink, Phone2,961.97 Claim MD, Med Bill 200.00 Discount Tire, Tire 173.80 Dish, Dish...... 168.96 Collar General, Splys 157.65

Dropbox, IT...... 128.27

..... 22.00

DSM Parking, Park

LORFIC I
Dunkin Garage, Tire
EB First Responder, Train
214.96 EMC Ins, Ins 120,195.03 First Tactical, Kits 594.83 FlasUSA, Flags113.00 Galls, Unif 1,261.95 Cov Connect Iowa, Tax
243.54 Kohlmorgan Hauling, Util
Iowwa, Conf 892.00 Jim Baier, REP 222.91 Josh's Frog, Splys
8,600.00 Medpro Waste, Util
1,112.80 Natl Archery School, Splys298.00 Netflix, Netflix24.60 Business Solutions, Splys
1,894.83 Paypal ICEC, ICEC
30.00 Pitney Bowes, Ship

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Quadient. Mail

Quality Inns, Hotel

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Rogers Sporting Goods.

Splys.....

Sillworks LTD, IT.....

Sirchie Acquisition Co,

Rathbun Water, Util

Purchase Adj, Credit

49.72

-122.08

209.00

65.64

402.00

149.99

500.90

192.40
FM Comm Schl, svs
FM Water, svs 181.81
Garner FdMart, fuel
826.62 Glock Prof, edu 250.00
NGranaman, svs
1464.86
GBay Twnshp, cntrb
18854.78
H & H Lawn, svs 210.00
Health Sol, svs 1056.20
hibu Inc, publ 153.00
ICONNECTYOU, svs
160.00
IA DOT, svs 553.30
IA GEMT Pymnt, cntrb
5619.73
IA St Pen, meals
Jays Auto, svs 196.74
Jet Gas, fuel 18656.39
Keokuk Water, svs229.99
King-Lynk Fnrl, svs
1200.00
P Knustrom, exps
235.50
Kohlmorgan Hlg, svs
1362.50
KONE Inc, svs 12237.36
L Latham, edu 300.00
LeeCo Assessor, cntrb
8585.33
LeeCo Auditor, trfs
18499.24
LeeCo Auditor, Ctrl Purch
LeeCo Treas, fees
LeeCo Treas, costs
6418.98 Liberty Utility IA, gas
169.03

Lutheran Svs, edu
675.00 McFarland/Swan, splys
176.74
McKesson Med, splys
222.76
Mediacom, svs 245.45
MidAmer Enrgy, gas
156.59
MW Grp Bnfts, costs
Mdrn Imaging Sol, splys
854.55 NAPA Auto, parts 233.67
O'Reilly Auto, svs 45.92
Optum Phrm, splys
769.88
River Hills Village, svs
5692.00
SEIA HIth Care Cntr, svs
12323.42
G Seyb, svs 92.00
SIADSA, svs 10450.00
Snap-On-Tools, splys
SE Dist ISAA, edu
250.00
SCC, cntrb 20263.50
S Sproul, exps 160.00
St Peters Cmtry, svs
770.00
Stericycle, svs 70.00
P Tripp, exps 245.00
US Cell, svs 1828.35
Verizon, svs 40.01 Vertical Comm, svs11.44
Wilhite Auto, svs
2681.70
Windstream, svs 498.96
M Wooster, svs 3400.00
Place vour ad

online 24/7

VROOM. VROOM. Get Pre-Approved in Seconds.

*maybe even faster than this car gets to 60, just sayin'!



From the Front

FMAAA free youth coloring contest kicks off April 3

ARTS - Continued from Page 1

of the FMAAA Art Center.

"It seemed natural to team up with Empowering Families for April as we seek ways to support youth and provide outlets for creative expression with our new Art Connections initiative."

The Art Opening Reception for High School artists is Thursday, April 4 from 5pm to 7pm. Art openings are always free to attend and open to the public.

The FMAAA has several free programs geared towards youth this month, along with some fundraising to support youth initiatives at the Art Center.

A free youth coloring contest begins Wednesday, April 3. The theme of this contest comes from Pinwheels for PREVENTION, from Prevent Child Abuse Iowa. Participants can pick up a coloring sheet or they can color at the Art Center during regular business hours of 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

The FMAAA Art Center will also have a booth during the Kid's Carnival at the Fort Madison High School on Saturday, April 20th with coloring sheets and supplies on hand to provide a last chance to participate in the contest. Coloring contest submissions are due into the Art Center by 5 p.m. Saturday, April 20. Winners will be announced on Tuesday, April 24 and the contest art submissions will be on display through April 30th in the new Pop-up Gal-

lery for mini art exhibitions at the FMAAA Art Center.

More free or low-cost programs are also on the horizon. The FMAAA Art Center will once again benefit from a capacity building program offered by Volunteer Iowa who oversees VISTA volunteerism in the State of Iowa. Securing Jeri Sparks, local artist and AmeriCorps VISTA who fills the role of Program Director for one more year means the Art Center will continue to advance its Arts Connections initiatives.

Art Connections is a new program that provides a variety of creative opportunities targeted at developmentally disabled, youth, and hopefully eventually veterans. A qualified instructor is now secured and Art Connects is kicking off soon with programs planned for developmentally disabled individuals.

An April Showers paint-along fundraiser to benefit Art Connections occurs Wednesday April 10 led by Jeri Sparks with participants painting a charming acrylic canvas of a child in big rubber boots with an umbrella. You do not need to be an experienced painter to participate. Registration costs \$50 per person and is going on now at fortmadisonart.com.

Finish out the month with more high school programming. Lunch ala Art is a lunch and gallery talk which occurs at the end of most exhibitions and this month is on Friday, April 26 at noon. The gallery talk at 12:30 p.m. is free to attend as youth artists describe some of their art

impulses and expectations for future involvement with art.

If you would like to attend the luncheon at noon, reservations are recommended and the cost for lunch is \$10. Later in the evening attend FINALE, a free performance event, featuring members of the FMHS jazz band.

Other community wide programming also scheduled for April 26 includes a Plein Air competition at the FMAAA Art Center with winners announced at 6pm and a SOUP Supper fundraiser from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. across the street in the former Shug's toy store just before FINALE kicks off at 7 p.m. at the same location.

Visiting the FMAAA Art Center to take in the ever-changing exhibitions is always free. The High School exhibition will run from April 4 to the 30th. The coloring contest will run from April 20 to the 30th as well. The Plein Air competition will open on April 26 and run until May 11. The Main Gallery will feature an exhibition of figurative oil paintings by Macomb, IL artist Janice Rockwell for the month of May.

Wednesday, April 3; Coloring Contest kick off Thursday, April 4; 5-7pm High School Art Exhibition Opening Reception

Wednesday, April 10; 6-8pm April Showers paint-along, registration required

Saturday, April 20; Coloring Contest deadline to enter 5pm

1-3:30 p.m. Kid's Carnival at FMHS // FMAAA Art Center booth

Friday, April 26; noon Lunch ala Art; 12:30 Gallery talk by area high school artists; 3 p.m. Plein Air competition deadline: 5-7 p.m. SOUP Supper fundraiser to benefit Spoonfest; 6 p.m. Plein Air competition winners announced; 7-9 p.m. April FINALE featuring FMHS jazz band.





