

Henry County Sheriff’s Office launches sweet safety initiative

New program rewards kids for bike safety such as wearing helmets and riding safely, with support from local businesses

By AnnaMarie Kruse, Southeast Iowa Union

MT. PLEASANT — Shortly after a local child was injured in a bicycle accident, the Henry County Sheriff’s Office has launched a new summer initiative aimed at encouraging safe riding habits among children.

On May 16, a 7-year-old boy was struck by a pickup truck near Mt. Pleasant Middle School after he rode his bicycle off the sidewalk and into the street. The child suffered non-life-threatening injuries and was transported to Henry County Health Center, according to officials.

While not a direct response to the incident, the Sheriff’s Office

recently announced a program rewarding kids who practice safe bicycling. Deputies in uniform and in official vehicles or on foot patrols will be handing out “tickets” to children seen wearing helmets and riding safely. These tickets can be redeemed for free ice cream treats at participating local businesses.

“We’re excited to announce we have partnered with local ice cream establishments to promote bicycle and scooter safety this summer,” the department said in a statement. “We have an amazing and supportive community!”

Several local businesses have contributed to the program by donat-

ing ice cream coupons, including Jet Stop in New London, Kramer’s Sinclair, Uptown Scoops, Oakie J’s Lunch Box, Short Stop, St. Ave Stop BP, Wayland BP, A & W, McDonald’s and Dairy Queen.

The Sheriff’s Office emphasized that the goal of the initiative is to promote safety in a positive, engaging way while strengthening relationships between deputies and the community.

As summer begins and more children are out biking and scootering, officials are hopeful the campaign will lead to safer habits and fewer injuries.

Comments: AnnaMarie.Kruse@southeastiowaunion.com

Air quality drops due to wildfires

Southeast Iowa dodges much of predicted pollution, after statewide warning. Nobody knows if more smoke is coming

By Kalen McCain, Southeast Iowa Union

DES MOINES — The Iowa Department of Natural Resources issued an air quality warning across the state from Tuesday to Thursday morning, saying “thick smoke from Canadian wildfires” could prove hazardous to anyone getting active outdoors.

Forecasts from the Environmental Protection Agency June 3 and 4 showed levels of air pollution “moderate,” then “unhealthy for sensitive groups” in much of Southeast Iowa east of Ottumwa on Tuesday and Wednesday of this week, and heavy smoke covered northwest Iowa on Tuesday morning, according to the DNR.

Canadian-run air quality monitor firesmoke.ca showed the worst of the pollution covering northwest Iowa Tuesday morning, before another bout of particulate blew from the state’s northeast corner down to its central southern and southwestern edges.

While Southeast Iowa avoided the worst of the air quality expected on Tuesday, its particulate levels were among the highest in the state by Wednesday afternoon, according to the EPA-run AirNow map, which said outdoor conditions were “unhealthy” in much of Johnson and Washington counties as of noon June 4.

“The worst stuff has

stayed north throughout the day,” said Iowa DNR Air Quality Bureau Environmental Specialist Todd Russell, in an interview on Tuesday. “The western half of Iowa is still unhealthy for sensitive groups, but the eastern half of Iowa right now ... is showing good air quality. It was expected to move further south throughout today and tonight.”

Russell said air pollution levels were notoriously difficult to model, comparing it to weather forecasts with a mind-boggling number of factors at play.

“Science tries to predict when that smoke will be brought down close to the ground, you don’t exactly know where the line’s going to be,” he said. “In your part of the state, it is significantly less now than was predicted. But it’s very possible that a cloud or a big blob of smoke might come through this evening.”

Also difficult to predict is whether Iowans can expect more air quality issues going into this summer.

Canadian wildfires in 2023 caused left Southeast Iowa with the worst air quality levels recognized by the EPA for several days at a time, clouding the skies and noticeably reducing visibility outdoors. Russell said it was anyone’s guess whether similar conditions might return this summer.

“It’s totally dependent on where the doggone jet stream is, whether the smoke in Canada is going to be pulled south, but we do have very, very big fires in three provinces right now,” he said. “Hopefully rain will put them out or the wind will be favorable and keep them away from Iowa, but at this point, it’s kind of a day-by-day deal.”

In its guide for outdoor activities, AirNow.gov says “unhealthy” conditions exist when the air quality index falls between 150 and 201, at which point officials suggest reduced outdoor activities whenever possible.

“The DNR recommends that people reduce long or intense activities, and take more breaks during outdoor activities until air quality conditions improve,” the Iowa DNR said in its press release. “This recommendation is especially pertinent to individuals with heart or lung disease, older adults, children and teenagers, and outdoor workers. People in these categories should consider rescheduling or moving outdoor activities indoors.

The statewide air quality advisory expires Thursday, June 5 at 6 a.m., according to the DNR’s press release.

Comments: Kalen.McCain@southeastiowaunion.com

Burning

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Melanie Patton, a resident in attendance, said she had difficulty accessing the draft and called for more time and transparency. “It would be really nice to be able to read it, because I can’t really comment on something that I can’t really read,” Patton said. She added, “In the interest of transparency and letting people have input into the actual wording,” another public hearing should be considered.

Supervisor Marc Lindeen referenced the board’s initial discussion of the ordinance on April 3. “Most everybody said, why don’t we just pass it today? In my mind, it was a done deal ... be-

cause of the incidences that have happened with our fire departments being called out for stupidity,” Lindeen said. “I can say in my mind, we’re as transparent as can be, because we have been discussing this ... we are following all the legal channels that we had to do.”

Though the idea of another hearing was discussed, no decision was made to schedule one. Several residents urged the board to delay further action until the public has more opportunity to review the full ordinance.

The draft includes exemptions for recreational fires, grills, outdoor fireplaces, and

properly outfitted burn barrels. Officials said the language was developed with input from local fire departments, the sheriff’s office, and the county attorney.

“This is a compilation of all the fire chiefs in the area ... the sheriff, county attorney’s office have all blessed off all this,” said Emergency Management Director Walt Jackson.

The ordinance now moves into the reading phase, where revisions can still be made. Residents are encouraged to review the draft through the Henry County Auditor’s Office and provide feedback.

Comments: AnnaMarie.Kruse@southeastiowaunion.com

LEGAL NOTICES	
<p>May 22, 2025 Mt Pleasant, IA The Board met in regular session at 9:00 a.m. Members present: Chairman, Marc Lindeen, Vice Chair Chad White, and Steve Detrick. Attended the meeting, Asst. County Attorney Steve Giebelhausen, Deputy Treasurer Kellie Sloan, Recorder Lynnae Buffington and members of the public attended the meeting. It was moved by Detrick and seconded by White to approve May 22, 2025, Agenda. Motion carried. 3 ayes. It was moved by White and seconded by Detrick to approve May 15th and May 20, 2025, the Comutes that were presented. Motion carried 3 ayes. County Engineer Jake Hotchkiss, Permits: Sanitary Sewer: 310th Street. Maintenance Update: Blade Operators – blading roads. Seeding & Mulching – Quincy Ave & 305th St. Spot rock hauled to various locations. Stone – replaced signs on 305th Ave and Quincy St. Mowing shoulders on gravel roads. Hickory Avenue – between 140th St and 150th St will be closed next week dependent on schedule for culvert replacement and work will take approximately 1 week. Atheneous & Condemnation – Norris Asphalt. Franklin Ave. (W-55) – contractor wrapped up topsoil waiting on seeding and mulch. - Old HWY 34 – rock placed for interlayer and waiting on sealcoat. Douds Stone: continues crushing operation completed crushing yesterday shv of 125,000 tons processed. Concrete Patching Tools – working with Washington County on shared agreement for tools and trailer. Northland Securities, Heidi Kuhl presented a detailed overview of Henry County’s general obligation debt and bond capacity. The county’s growth has grown steadily over the past five years, with an average annual increase of 6% in total valuation and 2% in Taxable value which has been impacted by the changes in state-set rollback rates. Sheriff Rich McNamee met with the Board to discuss and request the use of Outside Counsel. The Board will revisit Sheriff McNamee’s request. The Board reviewed revisions to the second reading of the Alternative Eriergs Overlay District Ordinance, with legal guidance provided by Assistant County Attorney Giebelhausen. Amendments Approval, A motion was made by Detrick and seconded by White to approve the amendments from the first reading. Motion carried with 3 ayes. Planning & Zoning Director made Buffington made a recommendation to the board on Section 6-2-11-2: the removal of the entire paragraph which pertains to district boundaries. Motion to approve this recommendation was made by White and seconded by Lindeen. Motion carried 2 ayes and Detrick 1 nay. Road Use Agreement: A motion was made by Detrick and seconded by White to approve that the road use agreement be implemented under the direction of the County Engineer, Motion carried, 3 ayes. Roll call vote, Detrick -ate, Lindeen -ave, White -Ave. The Boards approved claims, General Basic Fund Access Energy Cooperative Util -Henry County \$134.91 Access Systems Supplies \$269.18 Agrinreed Inc Construction & Maint. \$300.00 All American Pest Control Exterminator \$85.00 All God’s Creatures Pet Care \$1,680.00 Garry Allender Mow \$556.64 Amazon Capital Serv Billing De Office Supplies \$961.23 AMHealthcare Language Language Services \$18.31 Bailey Office Outfitters Office Supplies \$397.64 C&D Cleaning Window Cleaning \$2,565.00 Cedar Creek Cemetery Assn Vet Graves \$81.00 Charm-Tex, Inc. Clothing & Dry Goods \$786.00 Marion Conner Med Exam \$324.00 Cyber Security Source Household & Instll. Equip \$377.80 Douds Stone LLC Grounds Maintenance \$161.67 East End Automotive Car Expense \$674.23 Electronic Engineering Co Car Expense \$490.00 Elliott Bulk Services, LLC Vehicle Fuel \$299.62 ESI Building-Repairs & Maint \$230.00 Family Medicine of Mt Pleasant Med Exam Fees/Autopsies \$425.00 Fellowship Cup Food & Prov \$500.00 Gall’s Inc Wearing Apparel & Uniform \$311.24 Grant Cern Assn Jeff Murph Care of Graves \$330.00 Henry County Sec Road Dept Fuel \$3,482.81 Iowa Department of Revenue April HTL/MTL Tax \$200.15 J&A Multi cleaning Services Custodial \$735.00 JJ Niching Company Parts \$29.01 Kemper’s True Value & JAR Maintenance supplies \$11.87 Kings Lawn Service Ground Maintenance \$2,295.00 Lambirth Cemetery Care of Graves \$211.50 Lance Refuse Serv Sanitation & Disposal \$157.50 Mail Services LLC May MV Renewal \$774.36 Mark Haan Mark Haan IT Contr. IT Contract \$350.00 Mastercard Pilot Grove Mastercard Needs \$5,352.91 Amanda McArlor-Morin Mileage \$177.00 Mediacom Wireless Internet \$229.95 Medico-Mart, Inc. Vaccine/Meds \$1,432.18 Mt Hamill Elevator/Lumber BLDG Repairs & Maint \$24.30 Mt Pleasant Correctional Facil Food Preparation Services \$16,644.00 Mt Pleasant Electric Contractor Maintenance \$1,052.80 Mt Pleasant Utilities Utilities -County \$6,686.82 Pep Stop Maintenance Supplies \$27.94 Roger Pittsenbarger Mileage \$46.60 Robin Poole Tele/Mlg \$58.00 Quadient Finance USA, Inc Post - Cths \$3,103.27 Quadient, Inc Dept 3689 Postage - Cths \$387.18 Radar Road Tec Car Expense \$752.00 Rathbun Regional Water Hotel Motel Tax \$115.50 Katie Reuter 468 Miles- PH \$379.59 Richwood Cemetery Assn c/o Vet Cemetery \$139.50 Rock Valley Physical Therapy Employment \$335.00 Sector, LLC Car Expense \$10,000.00 Shield Technology Corp Data Processing \$13,062.50 SIACC Sheriff Transport \$17,585.10 Stericville Shred It Shred-It \$173.06 -Mobile Telephone \$321.90 Truax Company Inc Parts \$93.25 US BANK Office Needs \$2,638.55 Verizon Telephone \$7.02 Westwood Pharmacy Outpatient \$238.13 Wilson Distributor Serv Customer supplies \$2,153.75 WMPE Group LLC Bd Proc \$1,182.65 General Supplemental Fund Martha Allen Precinct Election \$205.00 Amazon Capital Serv Billing De Office Supplies \$9.95 Amy Boecker Precinct Election \$206.50 Robert Griffith Special Election \$1,160.00 Chad Hinnrichs Special Election \$48.00 Iowa Secretary of State Activity Cards \$286.10 Cheyenne Patterson Precinct Election \$238.00 Kelly Patterson Special Election \$1,354.50 Marlene Pittsenbarger Precinct Election \$320.00 Penny Rauenbuhler Special Election \$48.00 Bobbi Jo Salzer Precinct Election \$200.00 Heidi Shilling Mileage for Election \$45.50 SIACC Sheriff Transport \$674.21 SIADSA Lee/ Lucas Detent - Juvii \$8,550.00 WMPE Group LLC Bd Proc \$2,394.00 Pioneer Cemetery Fund Garry Allender Mow \$900.00 David Gates Grave Repair \$233.50 Ted Klopfenstein Mowing \$50.00 American Rescue Plan Fund Fairfield Precast Concrete Conservation Project \$29,258.68 Secondary Road Fund Access Energy Cooperative Lighting Shop & Office \$26,445 All American Pest Control Pest Control Sec Rd \$60.00 Alliant Energy/IPL Lighting Sec Rd \$541.73 Cessford Construction Co Granular - Resurface Sec \$8,138.91 Diamond Mowers LLC Blades/Bits Sec Rd \$112.78 Douds Stone LLC Rock Crushing Sec Rd \$455,827.68 Elliott Bulk Services, LLC Diesel Sec Rd \$26,918.22 Iowa State University Sherrie School &</p>	<p>Meet fees Sec Rd \$125.00 M&K Truck Center Parts Sec Rd \$199.32 Mastercard Pilot Grove Meals & Lodging Sec Rd \$690.97 Mt Hamill Elevator/Lumber Box Culverts Sec Rd \$53.60 New London Utilities Lighting Sec Rd \$68.47 O'Reilly Automotive Inc Parts Sec Rd \$178.02 River Products Co Contract Rock Sec Rd \$268,030.67 Stout Companies IRVM-Seed & Fert Sec Rd \$3,966.71 Tractor Supply Credit Plan Dep Parts Sec Rd \$25.97 USA Bluebook Parts Sec Rd \$1,649.04 Verizon Engineer Equipment Sec Rd \$40.01 Vestis Group, Inc Uniforms, Towels & Rugs \$5880.46 Wilson Distributor Serv Supplies Sec Rd \$151.89 Recorder Records Mgmt. US Records Midwest LLC Covers for Books \$596.40 Community Betterment Fund LISCO Internet \$5,852.46 Mastercard Pilot Grove Mastercard Sec Rd \$75.81 Menards - Burlington Office Supplies \$429.99 WEMIGA Waste Sanitation \$81,558.75 K-9 Fund US BANK Office Needs \$108.86 Emergency Management Des Systems Supplies \$363.54 Alliant Energy/IPL Util -County \$128.12 Amazon Capital Serv Billing De Office Supplies \$59.98 AT&T Mobility Phone \$86.23 Henry County Sec Road Dept Fuel \$147.23 Joan Dougherty Joan's Cleaning Clean Serv - EJM \$145.00 Mastercard Pilot Grove Mastercard Needs \$303.73 Mt Pleasant Utilities Utilities -County \$544.71 Rubey Lawn Care Lawn Care \$300.00 Co. Assessor Agency Fund Bailey Office Outfitters Office Supplies \$132.36 Henry County Sec Road Dept Fuel \$72.13 Solutions Inc, Harris Local Go Software Serv & Supp \$6,468.24 Joann Vond Reimbursement \$12.98 E911 Surcharge Fund Electronic Engineering Co Car Expense \$3,608.04 Iowa APCO Attn: Eric Nevins Education & Training Serv \$600.00 Iowa Communications Network Radio & Equipment \$452.00 Language Link Software Service & Support \$25.54 LISCO Internet \$350.00 Shield Technology Corp Data Processing \$6,675.00 Verizon Telephone \$680.17 WINDSTREAM Telephone Windstream \$1,026.26 Grand Total \$1,029,905.55 Supervisor’s subcommittees, Lindeen attended Great River Regional Waste and attended Glenwood Head Start Preschool & Early Head Start Open House. Detrick attended the SEIRPC SEIBUS meeting. It was moved by Detrick and seconded by White to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried, 3 ayes. /s/ Robin Detrick Robin Detrick, County Auditor /s/ Marc Lindeen Marc Lindeen, Chairman</p> <p>NOTICE OF PROBATE OF WILL, OF APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTOR AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS PROBATE No. ESPR006540 IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR HENRY COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF CHARLES L. HAFFARNAN, DECEASED. To all persons interested in the Estate of Charles L. Haffarnan, Deceased, who died on or about April 21, 2025: You are hereby notified that on May 22, 2025, the Last Will and Testament of Charles L. Haffarnan, deceased, was admitted to probate in the District Court of Henry County, Iowa, on February 13, 2015 was admitted to probate in the above-named Court and that James W. Haffarnan was appointed Executor of the Estate of Charles L. Haffarnan. Any action to set aside the Will must be brought in the District Court of said county within the date to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice to all heirs of the Decedent and devisees under the Will whose identities are reasonably ascertainable, or thereafter be forever barred. Notice is further given that all persons indebted to the Estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned, and creditors having claims against the Estate shall file them with the Clerk of the above named District Court, as provided by law, duly authenticated, for allowance, and unless so filed by the later to occur of four months from the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice (unless otherwise allowed or paid) a claim is thereafter forever barred. Dated May 22, 2025. Executor of Estate: James William Haffarnan 103 E Mill St Mt. Pleasant IA 52641</p> <p>Attorney for Estate: Vanessa M.Y. Willman Foss, Kuiken, Cochran, Helling & Willman P.C. P.O. Box 30 Fairfield, Iowa 52556 AT001731 Date of second publication: 5th day of June, 2025</p> <p>NOTICE OF PROBATE OF WILL, OF APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTOR, AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS CASE No. ESPR006538 THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR HENRY COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF ANNA MARIE PETERSON, DECEASED. To All Persons Interested in the Estate of Anna Marie Peterson, Deceased, who died on or about May 12, 2025: You are hereby notified that on May 19, 2025, the Last Will and Testament of Anna Marie Peterson, deceased, bearing date of November 13, 2015, was admitted to probate in the above-named court and that Carroll Peterson was appointed Executor of the estate. Any action to set aside the will must be brought in the district court of said county within the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice to all heirs of the decedent and devisees under the will whose identities are reasonably ascertainable, or thereafter be forever barred. Notice is further given that all persons indebted to the estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned, and creditors having claims against the estate shall file them with the clerk of the above-named district court, as provided by law, duly authenticated, for allowance, and unless so filed by the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice (unless otherwise allowed or paid) a claim is thereafter forever barred. Dated May 21, 2025. Carroll Peterson, Executor of Estate 924 Big Rock Park Road, Pella, IA 50219 Michael J. Breneman, ICIS#: AT0001095 Attorney for Executor Honohan, Epley, Braddock & Breneman, LLP 330 E. Court St., Iowa City, IA 52240 Date of second publication: 5th day of June, 2025</p> <p>Regular Meeting Wayland City Hall 7:30 P.M May 21, 2025</p> <p>Roll Call Council met in Regular Session with Mayor Pro-Tem Caylon DeVaul, and the following council members present: Jamie Roth, Mike Miller, Chad Rohe, Kathie Grimm, and Caylon DeVaul. Others present: JulyAnne Stauffer. Consent Agenda Rohe moved and Roth 2nd a motion to approve the minutes of May 7, 2025, approved building permits and the following list of bills for payments. 5 ayes. Motion carried. Grimm moved and Miller 2nd a motion to renew \$50K and \$100K CDs at Pilot Grove Savings Bank for 11 months at 4.35% and renew two \$50K CDs at White State Bank for 6 months at 4.00%. 5 ayes. Motion carried. Utility Refund and refunds 280.00 payroll wages 9443.69 EFTPS-IRS fed wh/fica/medicare 3105.01 IPERS ipers 3875.17 FTOTC def comp 1128.40 Delta Dental bc/bc 480.52 Delta Dental emp benefits 267.48 Clayton Energy gas/serv/trans 4975.43 PEFA natural gas 7911.00 Treas, State of IA sales/use/lost tax 972.85 Treas, State of IA water excise tax 1197.56 ACCO chlorine 533.60 Ace N More potting soil/wtr kit 33.98 Alliant Energy utilities 5041.51 AT & T cell phones 322.02 Boshart Sales grasses 68.25 Conrad, Beverly milling & meal 112.50 Davis Brothers Farm salf freight 478.50 Egli Landscapes trees/maintenance 9142.01 Elliott Oil fuel 57.82 Flags USA flags 152.87 IAMU training 70.00 KGM gas regulators 1562.59 Lynch-Dallas legal services 40.00 Quill paper towels/env/paper 180.07 State Hygienic Lab tests 1262.50 Stauffer, JulyAnne mileage 100.80 Wellmark bc/bc 4324.81 Rescue Van Rohe moved and Grimm 2nd a motion to accept \$3500 offer for 2002 rescue van from Zach Jepson. 5 ayes. Motion carried. No other offers were received. Training Rohe moved and Roth 2nd a motion to approve training for Beverly Conrad to Iowa League of Cities Conference in Des Moines from September 17-19, 2025. 5 ayes. Motion carried. Ord. 23-2025 Due to change in Iowa Code regarding fireworks, DeVaul moved and Miller 2nd a motion to approve 1st reading of Ord. 23-2025 Amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Wayland, Iowa by Amending the Days of Use and Type of Fireworks Allowed to be Used in the City of Wayland. Roll call vote. 5 ayes. Motion carried. Adjournment DeVaul moved and Rohe 2nd a motion to adjourn. 5 ayes. Motion declared carried. Next Meeting Wayland City Council will meet in Regular Session on at 7:30 pm on Wed. June 4, 2025 in Council Chambers at City Hall, 218 W. Main St. Deputy CLERK JulyAnne Stauffer Mayor Pro-Tem Caylon DeVaul</p>