Sanders stumps at Rodeo Park

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – About 200 people crowded an enclosed muddy shelter house Sunday afternoon to hear 2020 Presidential candidate Bernie Sanders rail against the current state of America.

Sanders made the stop at Fort Madison’s Rodeo Park as part of a swing through eastern Iowa. After a quick 30-minute speech to the crowd, many carrying “BERNIE” signs they used to wave off the humidity in the room, Sanders bolted into an SUV and headed to the airport for a flight to Vermont.

Sanders said he wanted to talk about issues that aren’t prevalent in the media and among other candidates. He said there is a massive attack against the working class in America.

“We are seeing efforts to break unions…efforts to throw millions out of health care that they have…efforts to refuse to raise the minimum wage to a living wage,” he said.

“Our path now is to make it very clear that the working class of this country is sick and tired of working two or three jobs to make ends meet - sick and tired of seeing their kids, in many respects, have a lower standard of living than they do, and very sick and tired of seeing all the new income and wealth created in America going to the top 1%,” Sanders said.

Sanders said it’s immoral that three people in this country own more wealth than the bottom half of the American people and the top 1% owning more wealth than the bottom 92%.

He said there is a need to end what he called “the dysfunctional health care system that currently exists”.

“We are going to do what every other major country does and that is to guarantee health care to all people as a human right, not a privilege,” Sanders said.

He said big pharma and the Republicans cannot defend a system where Americans pay the highest drug prices in the world, and so many people are uninsured or under-insured. He said the industry recorded a $96 billion profit last year.

“We say to the American pharmaceutical industry, you will stop ripping off the American people.”

Sanders said not only is it practical to move to Medicare for all, but it’s impractical not to make the move. He said in 1965 under Lyndon Johnson, the government realized seniors needed public health insurance, or Medicare, a human right, not a privilege, “Sanders said.

“We are going to do what every other major country does and that is to guarantee health care to all people as a human right, not a privilege,” Sanders said.

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Summer brings a little bitter with the sweet—Empty Nest

By Curt Swarm

o-mercy, those bugs don’t even discriminate between friend and foe!

I had heard this was a bad (or good) year for Japa-

nese Beetles. Is anyone else having the problem we are?

We’ve talked to a couple of people and they say they

have a few beetles on their plants, and they just pick

them off, but not the severe infestation we have. It

must be the fields of soybeans, corn and hay that surround

our property. “If it isn’t one thing, it’s six!” my mother

used to say.

That’s the ugly part the story. Now for the pretty part:

Ginnie and I noticed a gold finch, Iowa’s State Bird,

clinging to the screens of our windows, like it wanted to

come in. So, while at the farm supply store, we picked

up three finch feeders and a couple of bags of nyjer

seed. After spraying the Japanese Beetles, I filled and

hung the finch feeders outside our living room, bed-

room and kitchen windows.

It took about a day but, by golly, we had a female

Golden Finch! Amazingly, they had not bothered the green beans.

Aronia Berries. “Why? I dunno. I don’t pretend to understand the eating

gus! Amazingly, they had not bothered the green beans.

Aronia Berries. ”

Then I checked the garden. The rhubarb leaves were

covered with those nasty beetles, and also the aspara-

gus! Amazingly; they had not bothered the green beans.

Why? I dunno. I don’t pretend to understand the eating

habits of Japanese Beetles.

Then I noticed our weeping cherry tree and rose bush

were infested. It was like the Biblical plague of locusts,

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Downtown Summer Market
Fort Madison businesses will be hosting a Downtown Summer Market from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. Aug. 15 along Avenue G. For more information contact Darla at 319-371-8385 or by email at darlarae71@yahoo.com.

LCHD clinics
The Lee County Health Department is holding a children's immunization clinic in Fort Madison at the Lee County Health Dept. located at #3 John Bennett Drive from noon to 5:30 p.m. on the old prison grounds. Free lead testing is also available. The clinic is open to children with no private health insurance, or insurance that doesn't cover vaccines.

Cemetery Fall Clean-Up
The City of Fort Madison Cemetery Dept. will begin Fall Clean-up starting Monday, Aug. 12. All items must be removed from the gravesites before that date. Any items left will be disposed of during the cleanup. No items are to be placed on the graves until Aug. 19. Call City Hall with questions at 372-7700 ext. 206.

Old Settlers hosts Richie Lee
The Old Settlers Association will be hosting Richie Lee & The Fabulous 50's with dinner provided by Lee Co. Pork Producers serving 5 to 8:30 p.m. Free will donations are welcome. Rain location will be in the FM Methodist Church at 9th and Ave. E.

Mexican Fiesta candidate meeting
The Mexican Fiesta is looking for princess and queen candidates. A meeting will be held for interested candidates on July 28th at 3 p.m. at the shelterhouse. Contact Izzy at 319-470-1426 or Jessica at 319-470-4593 with questions.

Party on the Patio
The Fort Madison Partner's Friday, kick-off-your-weekend Party on the Patio at Baxter Sports Complex is on again Friday July 26, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. sponsored by Randolph Dentistry and Sunnybrook Senior Living with Caleb Booton providing the music.

YMCA Youth Soccer
Fall Little Tykes Soccer and Lee County Soccer leagues are currently forming with registration ending Aug. 17 for Lee County and Aug. 24 for Little Tykes. Registration is $20 for Little Tykes and $25 for Lee County for members, double for non-members. Practice and games are held at Baxter Sports Complex. Volunteer coaches are also needed for both leagues. Call Noah Dean at 372-2403 or email to noah.dean@fortmadison.org with questions.

Farmer's Market
Farmer's Markets at the Fort Madison Depot will start Monday June 3 and run every Monday through Sept. 30 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Old Santa Fe Depot. Every second Monday is Kid's Day at the Market.

Pen City Current encourages you to play responsibly.

IOWA LOTTERY WINNING NUMBERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Game</th>
<th>Draw Days</th>
<th>Sales Cutoff Time</th>
<th>Approx. Drawing Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lucky for Life</td>
<td>Mon &amp; Thu</td>
<td>8:30 pm</td>
<td>9:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mega Millions</td>
<td>Tues &amp; Fri</td>
<td>8:55 pm</td>
<td>10:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Powerball</td>
<td>Wed &amp; Sat</td>
<td>8:50 pm</td>
<td>9:55 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lotto America</td>
<td>Wed &amp; Sat</td>
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<td>Pick 3 - Midday</td>
<td>Daily</td>
<td>Noon</td>
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<td>Pick 3 - Evening</td>
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7/20
5 9 25 38
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Elementary. The Board was called to order by President Wondra at 6:06 p.m. Directors Hope, DiPrima, Hotop, Menke, Ross, and Steffensmeier were present. Also present were Superintendent Dr. Slater, Director of Curriculum and Student Services Harmon and Board Secretary Elmore.

II. Recognition of guests. President Wondra welcomed members of the audience in attendance and explained the procedures for the meeting.

III. Reading of Foundation documents. The Board read and reviewed the Foundation documents consisting of the Vision, Mission and Belief statements and the Goals for the Fort Madison Community School District.

IV. Monthly communications.

A. Curriculum Corner. Computer Science is Elementary. The Board was given an update on the Computer Science is Elementary project.

B. Superintendent Goal Report. The Board received an update on the Superintendent Goal Report.

C. District Presentations. There were none.

V. Approve the agenda. It was moved by DiPrima and seconded by Ross to approve the agenda as amended. The motion passed on a 7-0 voice vote.

VI. Consent agenda. It was moved by Hope and seconded by Steffensmeier to approve the consent agenda as presented. The consent agenda consisted of minutes from the June 19, 2019 regular meeting; financial reports including the June balance sheet, June revenue summary, Expenditure Report and Student Activity Report; accounts payable for the June General Account Board bills for approval, July General Account Board bills for approval, Student Activity Board bills for approval and Nutrition Account Board bills for approval; resignations from Tracy Madsen as band director at the high school, Tabatha Helmick as food service at Richardson, Paige VanFleet as associate at Lincoln, Dana Hemann as associate at Holy Trinity, Todd Mcigail as varsity girls basketball coach, Karen Kester as associate at Lincoln, Andrew Carrighth as middle school football coach, Christian Boyer as middle school football coach, Luke Rickelman as assistant varsity football coach, Christy Gallagher as 6th grade teacher at the middle school, Heather Harter as Student Government advisor; employment of Eran Terrell as 3rd grade teacher at Lincoln, Ron Walker as 1/2 assistant baseball coach, Albert Schinato as 1/2 assistant baseball coach, Sere Rothert as science teacher at the middle school, Frances Van Norman as teacher at the middle school, Andrew Cartwright as high school assistant football coach, Wayne MacEwan as 8th grade assistant football coach, Lynne Lange as Student Government advisor and Jeffrey Gerdes as automotive instructor at the high school with correct placement and salary; contract modification for Carol Hotop as associate at Richardson with change in hours and classification. The motion passed with a 7-0 voice vote.

VI. Action Items.

A. Director of Curriculum and Student Services. It was moved by Menke and seconded by Hotop to approve the ASFCMCSE Class E – Building Secretaries Salary List. The motion passed on a 7-0 vote.

B. Superintendent. It was moved by Hope and seconded by Ross to approve the Supplemental Letters of Assignment Salary List as presented. The motion passed on a 7-0 voice vote.

C. FMCSD SRO 28E Agreement. The Board reviewed the FMCSD SRO 28E Agreement. Discussion followed. It was moved by Menke and seconded by DiPrima to approve the FMCSD SRO 28E Agreement as presented. The motion passed on a 7-0 voice vote.

D. Teacher Leadership Salary List. The Board reviewed the Teacher Leadership Salary List. It was moved by DiPrima and seconded by Ross to approve the Teacher Leadership Salary List as presented. The motion passed on a 7-0 voice vote.

E. Supplemental Letters of Assignment Salary List. The Board reviewed the Supplemental Letters of Assignment Salary List as approved. The motion passed on a 7-0 voice vote.

F. Consider approval of policy changes.

a. 705.4 – Expenditures for a Public Purpose. It was moved by DiPrima and seconded by Ross to approve policy #705.4 as presented. The motion passed on a 7-0 vote.

b. 804.6 and 804.8 as presented. The motion passed on a 7-0 voice vote.

c. 705.4 - Expenditures for a Public Purpose. It was moved by DiPrima and seconded by Ross to approve policy #804.6 as presented. The motion passed on a 7-0 vote.

d. 905.1 - Community Use of School District Facilities, Sites & Equipment. It was moved by Menke and seconded by Hotop to approve policy #905.1-8 as presented. The motion passed on a 7-0 vote.

e. 905.1-R-1 - Fee Schedule for Use of School District Facilities. It was moved by DiPrima and seconded by Steffensmeier to approve policy #905.1-R-1 as presented. The motion passed on a 7-0 voice vote.

f. 905.1-E-1 - Community Use of School District Facilities & Equipment Indemnity and Liability Insurance Agreement. It was moved by DiPrima and seconded by Hope to approve policy #905.1-E-1 as presented.

G. 905.1-E-1 - Community Use of School District Facilities & Equipment Indemnity and Liability Insurance Agreement. It was moved by DiPrima and seconded by Hope to approve policy #905.1-E-1 as presented.
The motion passed on a 7-0 voice vote.

h. 507-2-3-E-4 - Athletic Training Concussion Protocol. It was moved by Hotop and seconded by DiPrima to approve policy #507-2-3-E-4 as presented. The motion passed on a 7-0 voice vote.

C. Board Secretary/Busi-
ness Manager.

I. IASB Legislative Priorities. The Board reviewed and discussed the IASB Legislative Priorities. Consensus was reached to submit Preschool, Mental Health, Teacher Leader-
ship and Bond Issue as the four priorities on behalf of FMCSD.

VIII. Discussion Items
A. Director of Curriculum and Instruction
B. Superintendent
1. Visual Identity Guide-
line Regulation proposal
2. Policies for 1st reading.
3. Board Member Atten-
dance
C. Board Secretary/Busi-
ness Manager
I. The meeting was called to order by President Won-
dra at 5:06 p.m. Directors Hotop, Hor-
pot, Menke, DiPrima, Ross and Steffens-
meier were present. Also present were Superintendent Dr. Erin Slater and Board Secretary Elmore.
II. The meeting was moved by Hope and seconded by DiPrima to approve the agenda as presented. The motion passed on a 7-0 voice vote.
III. Closed Session to con-
duct Superintendent evaluation as per Section 21.5(1)(i) of the Code of Iowa. A motion was made by Director Ross and seconded by Director DiPrima that a closed session be held as authorized by the Open Meetings Law codified at section 21.5(1)(i) of the Code of Iowa to evaluate the professional competency of an individual whose appointment, hiring, performance or discharge is being considered is necessary to prevent needless and irreparable injury to that individual’s reputation and that individual has requested a closed session. A roll call vote was administered and Directors Hotop, Hope, Ross, Stef-

The motion passed on a 7-0 voice vote.

The Board reviewed the policies for 2019-2020. The Board passed on a 7-0 voice vote.

The Board discussed potential meet-
ing dates for 2019-2020. The Board reviewed the Board calendar for the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month as consistently as possible.

3. Board Member Attendance
I. The meeting was called to order by President Won-
dra at 6:03 p.m. Directors Hope, Hotop, Menke, DiPrima, Ross and Steffens-
meier were present. Also present were Superintendent Dr. Erin Slater and Board Secretary Elmore.
II. The meeting was moved by Hope and seconded by DiPrima to approve the agenda as presented. The motion passed on a 7-0 voice vote.
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Kurtz, Sanders say science points to climate change realities

SANDERS - Continued from Page 1

program serving seniors very well. "They did that in 1965 without the technology we have today. Don't tell me we can't do that in four years what they did back then in one year." Sanders said in year one, he would lower the Medicare age from 65 to 55. He said in the following years, the program's eligibility would expand by 10 years each year with the fourth year covering every person in the country, and would expand to cover dental care, hearing aids, and eyeglasses.

He said the plan would also cap the amount any American would pay for prescription drugs to $200. Lynn Fingerhut, of Peoria, drove two hours with her children for the rally. Her 9-year-old son, Henry Hawkins was the only one in the crowd to get an auto-graph on his sign. Hawkins said he didn't know what the best thing about the campaign stop was, but he said he was happy to see Sanders.

Fingerhut said her family is a strong supporter of Sanders. "We're pretty passionate about Bernie and his message of Medicare for all, student loan forgiveness, and because we are very concerned about where Trump is taking things." Sanders also touted his plan to move the federal minimum wage to $15 living wage. He said four years ago when he campaigned he said the wage needed to move to that now and he pointed to seven states that have raised the wage to $15 and last week the House of Representatives passed a bill moving the federal minimum to $15 per hour.

He also said the country has the wealth to cancel all student debt. He said many colleges are moving toward programmatic free tuition or free tuition based on income. "Of course we can do that and of course we must do that," Sanders said. Back in 2008, Congress, against his vote, provided $700 billion in bailouts to Wall Street and trillions of dollars in interest loans from the federal reserve. "If we can bail out Wall Street... you know what, we can cancel student debt in this country." Sanders called Trump the most dangerous president in the modern history of America, and said scientists have proclaimed the world has 12 years to transition out of fossil fuels before irreparable damage is done to the planet.

"If we don't get our act together, cities like Miami will be partially under water in 40 or 50 years," he said. "What we're fighting for here is not just our-selves, but making sure our children, grandchildren, and future generations have a planet that is healthy and inhabitable. We cannot afford to fail in this struggle.

Tom Gooding traveled up from Quincy and said it was his first political rally ever.

"I supported Bernie four years ago and there was a huge anti-establishment uprising in the country, which is why Trump won, right?" Gooding said. "For the left, it was Hil-lary's turn quote-unquote, and so they chose her and that didn't work out. I just think Bernie has the right ideas for the country." State Rep. Jeff Kurtz served as part of the warm-up before officially endors-ing Sanders. Kurtz said the state is struggling under Republi-can leadership with regard to education and health care.

"This year in the state of Iowa, we only gave educ-a-tion a 2% raise in funding, which kind of keeps us in line with inflation, but coupled with last year's 1.5 percent and the year be-fore's 1%, we have actually underfunded education for the past 10 years," Kurtz said.

Kurtz also talked about rebuilding the state's public employees rights and giving those workers back their right to negotiate for benefits. "Iowa is a right to work state which means you can join a union but you don't necessarily have to pay union dues. So it starves the union out. On top of that, we have a system called Chapter 20 implemented back in the 20s under Robert Ray who was a Republican," he said. "He came up with this system to allow public union employees to negoti-ate and it would give them privileges so they wouldn't strike. A couple years ago our legislature in all its wis-dom decided they would gut that system."

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