

Table of Contents

<i>Introduction.....</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Chapter One /Democracy.....</i>	<i>17</i>
Defending Democracy	17
Let's Seize Our Opportunity, Take Responsibility Seriously	20
Include People in Process	23
Focus on Our Common Values	25
Public Comments About Public Comments Guidelines.....	26
<i>Chapter Two/Education.....</i>	<i>31</i>
<i>A. Higher Education.....</i>	<i>32</i>
What Is It With the Iowa State Board of Regents?!	32
What Putin Can Teach Rastetter	35
Better Ways to Pick a New UI President	37
Parallels Between School Systems Are Staggering	40
Regents' Multi-Million-Dollar Unused Asset.....	43
Public Universities Not Using Radio Well.....	45
Will Germany's Economic Formula Work for Iowa?	47

Can Biz Leaders Save Education?.....	50
Saving Higher Ed; Step1: Listen to What Iowans Want.....	52
<i>B. Beer and Football</i>	56
Re: 21-Ordinance is Human-Rights Violation	56
Bars, Students Should Be Thankful	58
NFL Football: It's Only Television.....	60
Let's Stop Making Players Pretend to Be Students	62
Should Sports Allow Drugs that Enhance Performance?	65
Enhancing Everyone's Experience at Kinnick...	68
<i>C. K-12</i>	71
Is Superintendent Criticism "Defamation"?	72
A Win-Win Advisory Board for District.....	73
<i>Chapter Three/Policy</i>	77
"Never Happen Again" Is Not Enough	77
Create a Caring Community	79
Building Consensus on Iowa City's Vision, Future	82
Design Communities to Support Communication, Interaction and Learning	85
Cancer: "Of Course; But Maybe"	87
Recognizing and Reducing Racism.....	90
Health Care, Housing Rights?	93
Curbing Waste: Bad News, Good News	95

Some Basic Facts About Water	98
Working Our Way Through the McGinness Kerfluffle	100
<i>Chapter Four/Politics</i>	103
When Believing Is Seeing	104
Senate Ignoring the People's Voice	106
Trump Might Not Be Blundering in Race	110
Republicans Need to Get Their Party Back From Trump	112
Sanders the Right Democrat for Caucus	115
Throgmorton Is City Treasure	118
Re-elect Rettig for Supe, She Knows What She's Doing	119
<i>Chapter Five/Taxes</i>	121
Decisions Must Come Before Taxes	121
Congress' First Step in Long Journey	124
On the Local Option Sales Tax, Think Before You Vote	126
Think Long and Hard Before Diluting the Gasoline Tax	129
Like Death and Taxes, TIFs and TIFing Seem Here to Stay	131
TIF: If You Can't Beat 'Em, Insist on More Transparency	134
Too Many Negatives, Too Little Upside to TIFs	137

Talking TIF: Costs Outweigh Possible Benefits	138
Sycamore TIF Unnecessary.....	142
City is Putting Lipstick on TIFs	143
Vote “No” on Justice Center, But “Yes” for Courthouse	144
Getting To “Yes” by By Voting “No” on Justice Center	147
Still Many More Options for Jail.....	150
Residents Deserve Courthouse Annex	151
<i>Chapter Six/Technology</i>	<i>153</i>
Why Net Neutrality is Our Friend	153
Is Texting the Problem, or Just Part of the Problem?	155
<i>Chapter Seven/War</i>	<i>159</i>
The Militarization of America.....	159
Spending on Military Always Comes at a Cost.....	163
Is War the Best Answer?	165
Six Step Program for Avoiding War.....	167
Syria’s Refugees: Job One and Job Two	170
Sober Risk Assessment Needed to Respond to Terror	173
What Motivates “Terrorist Thugs”?	176
Focus on Muslims Misplaced After Shooting ..	179
Is Boston Bomber's Photo Worth 11,000 Words?	182

About the Author	185
Cover Photo Credits	187
Index	189