

PEN CITY CURRENT

It's **Black & White** and **Read** all over

Tuesday, September 21, 2021 | 10 pages | Volume 5 • Issue 171



www.pencitycurrent.com

A fall wedding - who dunnit



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg

Richar Abel, Sterling Barnes, Ty Clute, and Sydney Amberger, from left to right, quiz each other over their relationship to the first murder victim in "As Long As We Both Shall Live" the theater's October production.

Old Fort Players: First performance of new season set to open Oct. 8

DOROTHY SCHULTE
Old Fort Players

FORT MADISON – This October 8th Old Fort Players' kicks off its 2021-2022 season with "As Long As We Both Shall Live" by Sean Grennan. The show is directed by Judy Milks, who has previously performed in "A Taffeta Christmas" for OFP. This fall's production features the only wedding where people are dying to get on the guest list as the audience quickly discovers that 'as long as we both shall live' isn't really very long at all.

Professional poker playing genius Addison Ashe, played by OFP and Youth Summer Theater Program regular, Sydney Amberger, has finally met Mr. Right. The role of the wealthy and

charming Mr. Right, Jamie Wilcox, has been filled by Sterling Barnes, fresh off his success as the lead in "Leaving Iowa."

But marrying her soul mate means the bride must survive several confrontations with his disapproving mother. Veteran actor and Youth Theater Director, Richar Abel ("The Queen of Bingo") is having a great time on stage as the snarky, meddlesome mother of the groom.

Joining this talented trio is a quartet unto himself, Richard Martindale ("Vintage Hitchcock" & Carol Burnett skits). Richard plays four total parts: Raul, the flamboyant wedding planner, Paul and Dennis, the flamboyant wedding planner's triplet

See **OFP**, page 8

COVID

Hospitals begin cancelling some elective surgeries

Chief of Medicine at SIRMC says he'll feel better when the number of hospitalizations drops

BY **CHUCK VANDENBERG**
PCC EDITOR

LEE COUNTY – Dr. Michael McCoy, the top doctor at Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center, confirmed this morning that some surgeries are being postponed effective today to relieve pressure on facilities and staffing as a result of surging inpatient numbers due to COVID.

McCoy, chief of medicine at SIRMC, said only elective in-patient surgeries are being postponed effective Monday because of a reduction in the number of staffed-care beds for patients with emergency situations whether COVID-related or not.

"The emergency and outpatient, or day surgeries where patients can go home the same day, we're still doing those, but there are a few cases that we know a patient is going to need to stay in the hospital following the surgery," McCoy said.

"If waiting two weeks or a month might cause some pain or be a hassle, but won't affect their overall health, those are the cases we're delaying."

"I would say 80-90% of the surgeries, the supermajority, are outpatient. Those surgeries are still being done as normal."

McCoy said the top reason for the change is the number of staffed beds the system has is being challenged by breakthrough COVID infections and infections from those who are not vaccinated.

"Our hospitals are full every day," he said. "We're trying to make sure we have staffed beds to take care of the patients that need to be in the hospital."

During COVID, the federal government under Medicaid and Medicare were giving 3-day waivers to long-term care facilities for patients that needed some additional care

See **HOSPITALIZATIONS**, page 8



McCoy

FMCS D

School district unveils new website design, format

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON – The Fort Madison Community School district is thrilled to announce the launching of a brand new website. The FMCS D surveyed families in the spring of 2021. The results showed that many of our families had issues while using our website on their phones or other mobile devices. The district discovered that 68% of our users viewed our website on a mobile

device.

This feedback established our mission to create a mobile-friendly website that can be accessed by all of our users.

FMCS D will be launching our new website on September 20, 2021. The FMCS D website will be mobile friendly and will continue to be fully accessible. On our launch date, we will be hosting a virtual challenge for our FMCS D families to participate in. To

view the challenge, please visit our school district Facebook page (Fort Madison Community School District).

The district would like to thank our families that responded to our survey to help us continue to prioritize communication with our stakeholders. The design work continues on the FMCS D app that will be released soon. Visit our new website at <https://www.fmcsd.org/>. Go Bloodhounds!

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WEATHER

OpenWeatherMap
TUE 21 Sep.....Cool and Rainy, 71° F/ 57° F
WED 22 Sep.....Cool and Clear, 68° F/ 48° F
THU 23 Sep.....Cool and Clear, 73° F/ 48° F

IOWA LOTTERY

LUCKY FOR LIFE 09/19.....3 4 31 37 43, Lucky Ball: 6
PICK 3 09/19 MIDDAY.....5 5 9
PICK 3 09/19 EVENING.....0 9 9
PICK 4 09/19 MIDDAY.....5 7 2 6
PICK 4 09/19 EVENING.....5 5 8 9

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For the Record

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report

09/16/21 - 10:27 a.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Cody Sheridan Collins, 31, listed as homeless, on a charge of violation of a no-contact order and 1st degree harassment. He was taken to Lee County Jail.
 09/16/21 - 10:35 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 2000 block of Avenue B.
 09/16/21 - 10:05 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 2400 block of Henry Ladyn Drive.
 09/16/21 - 11:13 p.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Eric Eugene Fortune, Jr., 28, of Fort Madison, on a charge of violation of a parole. He was taken to Lee County Jail.
 09/17/21 - 12:20 p.m. - Fort Madison Police cited Tony Albert Woodman, 49, of West Point in the 3500 block of Avenue O, on a charge of driving while barred.
 09/17/21 - 12:30 p.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Donald O'Rein Bell, 20, of Fort Madison, at Madison Apartments on a warrant for failure to appear. He was taken to Lee County Jail.
 09/17/21 - 1:06 p.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Colin Jess Brooks, 28, of Burlington, in the 3400 block of Avenue L, on charges of interference with official acts, possession of controlled substances, and possession of drug paraphernalia. He was taken to Lee County Jail.
 09/17/21 - 1:47 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 2500 block of Hwy. 61.
 09/17/21 - 2:32 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a stolen vehicle in the Fort Madison area.

09/17/21 - 7:05 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 500 block of 15th Street.
 09/17/21 - 10:14 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 1200 block of 48th Street.
 09/18/21 - 12:31 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 1600 block of Avenue L.
 09/18/21 - 2:06 a.m. - Fort Madison Police cited Adam Rooney, 21, of Fort Madison in the 2400 block of Avenue G, on a charge of driving under influence. He was taken to Lee County Jail.
 09/18/21 - 1:10 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 5000 block of Avenue O.
 09/18/21 - 2:47 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a stolen vehicle in the 5100 block of Avenue O.
 09/18/21 - 6:16 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a vandalism in the 1300 block of Avenue B.
 09/18/21 - 9:58 p.m. - Fort Madison Police cited Charles Franklin Bruner, 59, of Fort Madison in the 1900 block of Avenue F, on a charge of driving while suspended.
 09/19/21 - 9:43 a.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Tracy Lynn Meyers, 53, of Fort Madison, in the 3400 block of Avenue N, on a charge of driving while barred. She was released on a promise to appear.
 09/19/21 - 11:51 a.m. - Fort Madison Police cited Mitchell Lynn Helmick, 34, of Fort Madison in the 2100 block of Avenue A, on a charge of driving under suspension.
 09/19/21 - 4:04 p.m. - Fort

Madison Police responded to a report of a vandalism in the 1700 block of 36th Street.
 09/19/21 - 4:59 p.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Brett Allen Michael Montgomery, 29, of Fort Madison in the 2700 block of Avenue O, on a warrant for probation violation. He was taken to Lee County Jail.
 09/19/21 - 8:04 p.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Kimberly Sue Althide, 40, of Warsaw, Ill., in the 2600 block of Avenue L, on a warrant for failure to yield right for a vehicle. She was taken to Lee County Jail.
 09/19/21 - 9:44 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a vandalism in the 500 block of 11th Street.

Lee County Sheriff's Report

09/17/21 - 2:52 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Aaron Lee Bennett, 31, of Keokuk, in the 100 block of North 7th Street in Keokuk, on warrants for failure to appear. He was taken to Lee County Jail.
 09/17/21 - 1:43 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Nathen E. Benstine, 53, of Keokuk, in the 100 block of North 7th Street on a warrant for failure to appear. He was taken to Lee County Jail and released on bond.
 09/17/21 - 6:19 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a two-vehicle accident at 193rd Street and 295th Avenue. According to the reports, a vehicle driven by Alexandra Joanne Glenn, 35, of Fort Madison was backing and struck an-

other vehicle. Both vehicles suffered minor damage and were on private property. No citations were listed.
 09/17/21 - 11:29 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Jeremy S. Terrell, 45, of Fort Madison, in the 700 block of Avenue F in Fort Madison, on a charge of failure to appear. He was taken to Lee County Jail and released on bond.
 09/18/21 - 11:46 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a two-vehicle accident at the intersection of Hwy. 61 and the Hwy. 61 bypass south of Fort Madison. A motorcycle driven by Robert Joe Parker, 60 of Burlington, failed to yield right way from the stop sign off the bypass and was struck by a vehicle driven by Triston Stephen Miller, 21, of Fort Madison. Parker and a passenger on the motorcycle, Julie Anne Parker, were both ejected from the motorcycle and were transported to Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center by Lee County EMS. No citations were listed on the report.
 09/18/21 - 1:43 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a report of a two vehicle accident on 303rd Avenue. According to reports, a vehicle driven by Brandy Nichole Popejoy, 37, of Donnellson, couldn't stop in time to avoid striking a vehicle driven by Katherine Lynn McDonald, 40, of Davenport, who had slowed to allow bus traffic to merge onto 303rd Avenue. No injuries or citations were reported.

Hancock County Sheriff's Report

09/13/21 - Ryan S Graves, age 39, of Orland Park, IL was arrested and charged with Leaving the Scene of an Accident and Failure to Reduce Speed. Graves was released after given a Notice to Appear

at a future court appearance.
 09/14/21 - Colby J Pilkington, age 22, of Niota, IL was arrested on a Des Moines County Warrant charging her with Violation of Probation on original charges of Controlled Substance. Pilkington was released to Des Moines County Authorities.
 09/14/21 - Amie T Schmitz, age 46, of Fort Madison, IA was arrested on a Hancock County Warrant charging her with Failure to Appear on original charges of Unlawful Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. Schmitz was also arrested on a McDonough County Warrant charging her with Failure to Appear on original charges of Unlawful Possession of Drug Paraphernalia. Schmitz remains lodged in the Hancock County Jail in lieu of bail awaiting her next court appearance.
 09/14/21 - Jeremy W Kindhart, age 36, of Tioga, IL was arrested on a Marion County, MO Warrant charging him with Failure to Appear on original charges of Failure to Register as a Sex Offender. Kindhart was released to Marion County, MO Authorities.
 09/14/21 - Joshua N Kinman, age 34, of Niota, IL was arrested and charged with Driving While License Revoked. Kinman was released and given a Notice to Appear at a future court date.
 09/15/21 - Melissa J Frakes, age 35, of Plymouth, IL was arrested and charged with Disorderly Conduct. Frakes was released and given a Notice to Appear at a future court date.
 09/15/21 - Tammy M Janssen, age 51, of Plymouth, IL was arrested and charged with Disorderly Conduct. Janssen was released and given a Notice to Appear at a future court date.
 09/16/21 - Matthew H Middleton, age 32, of Quincy, IL was arrested on a Hancock County Warrant charging him with Failure to Appear/

Failure to Pay on original charges of Unlawful Possession of Methamphetamine and Driving While License Suspended. Middleton was released after posting the required bond and given a future court date.
 09/17/21 - Diamond H Bence, age 33, of Warsaw, IL was arrested on a Hancock County Warrant charging her with Failure to Appear on original charges of Driving While License Suspended. Bence was released after posting the required bond and given a future court date.
 09/18/21 - Rickey D Taylor, age 53, of Basco, IL was arrested and charged with Driving Under the Influence. Taylor was released after posting the required bond and given a future court date.
 09/19/21 - Hunter K Jones, age 26, of Lexington, TN was arrested on a Hancock County Warrant charging him with Failure to Appear/ Failure to Pay on original charges of Unlawful Consumption of Alcohol. Jones was released after posting the required bond and given a future court date.
 09/19/21 - Devin J Watwer, age 26, of Lexington, TN was arrested and charged with Driving While License Revoked and Illegal Transportation of Cannabis. Watwer was released after posting the required bond and given a future court date.
 Those listed above are arrested on a suspicion of a charge and therefore are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Fort Madison Fire & Rescue Report

09/17/21 - Fort Madison Firefighters responded to one burn complaint, six medical calls, two burn permits, and two assistance calls.
 09/18/21 - Fort Madison Firefighters responded to four medical calls and one burn complaint
 09/19/21 - Fort Madison Firefighters responded to seven medical calls and two assistance calls.

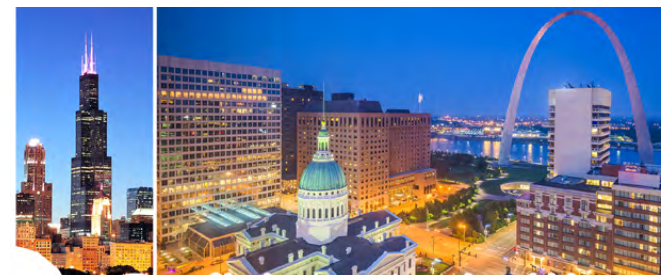


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Obituaries

OBITUARIES

SUNDE L. NELSON

Sunde Lynn Nelson, 54, of Keokuk, passed away on Wednesday, September 15, 2021, at MercyOne Medical Center in Des Moines, Iowa.

Sunde was born on July 15, 1967, in Keokuk, Iowa, the daughter of Thomas Fredrick Greer and Sandra (Mortimer) Greer Ellis. On December 15, 1986, she was united in marriage to Brad Nelson in Keokuk, Iowa. They later separated. Sunde had the unique talent of taking yard sale finds and turning them into treasures. She was always decorating and could make any house a home. She loved Marilyn Monroe, and doted on her three chihuahuas: Eisen, Isabella Lynn and Angel. Throughout her physical issues, Sunde stayed connected with friends and family through Facebook and social media, logging on every day.

Sunde is survived by her husband Brad Nelson of Bonaparte, Iowa; her boyfriend Chris McVeigh of Keokuk; her brother Martin Greer; her sister Quianna (David) Brookhart; her aunt Mona Heger (Mortimer, Bawden); her uncle Percy (known also as "Bub", "Marty" or "Mort") Mortimer; her sister-in-law Belinda Greer (Moore, Balentine); and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

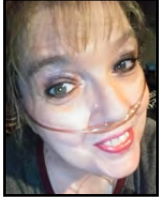
Sunde is preceded in death by her parents; her step-father George Ellis; and two brothers: Thomas Greer, II and Lewis Greer.

Due to Covid-19, services will be held at a later date.

Memorials may be directed to PAWS Animal Shelter in Fort Madison.

Tributes and condolences may be left at www.dejongsfuneralhome.com.

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



NELSON

OBITUARIES

CARL . A. CLINGMAN

Carl Alan Clingman, 65 of Phoenix, AZ passed away on September 15th, 2021 in the comfort of his home after a fight with cancer and pneumonia.

He was born in Fort Madison, IA on June 3rd, 1956, son of Leroy and Audrey Clingman. He is survived by his husband David Fauser, sisters Lynn Ritter (Steve) and Kathy Barber, and brother Ron Clingman (Sherry), daughter Priscilla Story (Brett) along with many nieces, nephews, grandchildren, and great grandchildren

He was preceded in death by his parents Audrey and Leroy Clingman, daughter Jessica Rojas, and brother-in-law Jack Barber.

Carl was a compassionate and loving husband, son, father, brother, uncle, grandfather, and friend. He was the type of man who would do anything for anyone. He was a true animal lover and had 5 dogs of his own and fostered dogs with medical needs.

There will not be any memorial services for Carl and in lieu of flowers he asked that donations be made to M.A.I.N. Rescue (medicalanimalsinneed.com) via the website or mailing address: P.O. Box 758, El Mirage, AZ 85335 or The Arizona Humane Society via the web at azhumane.org.

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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.

We need YOU to let us know about your healthcare needs in Lee County!

Please take a few minutes to fill out the 2021 Community Health Needs Assessment. Your opinion on the needs of Lee County will help guide healthcare officials on creating the Health Improvement Plan.

SCAN ME



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Sports

HTC girls roll to Crusader Classic championship

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – The 5th-ranked Holy Trinity Catholic volleyball team put a pronounced finish on the annual HTC Volleyball Classic dispatching of runner-up Wapello 21-1 in the final game of the night.

The Crusaders rolled to a 5-0 record in the round robin event at Shottenkirk Gymnasium Monday night in a six-hour affair.

Teams from Wapello, Central Lee, Winfield-Mt. Union, Fort Madison High School, Danville and Burlington High School made up the eight-team field.

Wapello knocked off Winfield Mt. Union in two straight to get to the finals against HTC.

The Crusaders went 3-0 in pool play with wins over Burlington, Fort Madison and Winfield-Mt. Union. They rolled Central Lee 21-9, 21-15 to advance to the finals against the Arrows.

“I think our kids were ready to play tonight,” Head Coach Melissa Freesmeier said following the win.

“We just haven’t played much. We played one time last week and the Bondurant tournament two weeks ago. So the girls were hungry and kinda tired of sitting around.”

Holy Trinity downed Burlington in the first round by identical 21-14, 21-14 scores. In the second round they held another team to single digit points taking a 21-5, 21-13 win over Winfield-Mt. Union. The final round of pool play in the blue pool, saw the Crusaders go up against cross-town rival Fort Madison High School. The Lady Crusaders held Fort Madison to just four first game points 21-4, and then won handily 21-14 to advance to the championship bracket.

Central Lee went 2-1 in the Silver Pool playing with Wapello, Keokuk and Danville. The Hawks downed



Central Lee’s Alivia Myhre pushes a shot over the net trailing Wapello 11-7 in the last match of the Silver Pool play Monday night in Fort Madison.

Danville 21-10, 21-14 and then needed a tie breaker game to get past Keokuk 21-16, 19-21, 16-14. Wapello then downed the Hawks 21-19, 21-16 to take the No. 1 seed from the Silver group into the championship.

The Hawks, as the No. 2 seed out of the Silver, found themselves up against the Crusaders.

Brooke Mueller took over serving early at a 1-1 tie and scored on 10 straight getting three kills from Mary Kate Bendlage to spot HTC a 10-1 lead over Central Lee. Bendlage would miss on an attack for the side out, but the Crusaders, as they did regularly

throughout the night, kept any big runs at bay.

The Hawks never put together a string of more than two points at any point in either game. Holy Trinity would push the lead to as many as 12 before Central Lee’s Meghan Hopp would get a kill to make it 20-9. A service error would end the first game immediately after.

Central Lee tried to keep things closer in the second game, staying within a couple points until Holy Trinity took control at 11-10. The Crusaders would go on an 8-4 run highlighted by three kills from Kassi Randolph coming in from the HTC right side. Randolph would get another kill to make it 20-15 before the Crusaders wrapped up the match.

Wapello hung around for about one point in the championship match. The Crusaders opened up a 6-0 lead in the first game behind Mueller’s serving. At 12-6, Taegen Denning would almost match that scoring on five consecutive service points with the help of three combined kills from the Randolph sisters, and a Kayla Box shot.

Mueller would score on a kill to make it 20-9, and a Wapello service error ended the first game.

The Arrow’s only point in the second game came at 5-1 when Lyndsy Massner found an open center court. Mueller would serve the rest of the way out for the win including three aces. Natalie Randolph would record three kills in the stretch.

“I think we fought hard and we didn’t let the ball drop. The girls did the things I know we can do,” Freesmeier said. “We stayed focused all night and didn’t let teams take big runs at us and that’s key to our success. It may have looked lopsided – Wapello’s a good team, I think we just played better tonight.”

The Southeast Superconference tournament kicks off on Thursday with Holy Trinity in pool play. Holy Trinity enters the tournament as the No. 3 seed behind Class 1A top-ranked Burlington-Notre Dame and Class 3A 7th ranked West Burlington. The Crusaders will play in pool play at Wapello starting at 5 p.m. They will play all four teams in the pool and the top two finishers from each pool will advance to Saturday’s final at SCC.

Freesmeier said the Crusaders are improving each time they take the floor.

“Each game I feel like we’re getting better and I think we’re going to continue to grow and get better. It’s exciting for us to go in as the 3rd seed and do what we need to do to get to Saturday,” she said.

Fort Madison finished the HTC Classic at 1-2, knocking off Burlington for the second time in one week. The Hounds lost to Winfield-Mt. Union and Holy Trinity in the blue pool.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

**PUBLIC NOTICE
PROCEEDINGS OF THE
REGULAR MEETING OF
THE WEST POINT
CITY COUNCIL
WEST POINT, IOWA
52656
AUGUST 9, 2021**

Mayor Paul Walker called the properly noticed regular meeting of the City Council of the City of West Point to order in the Conference Room of the Public Library, 317 Fifth Street, West Point, Iowa 52656 on August 9, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. In addition to Mayor Walker, the following indicated Council Members were present: Joe Loving; Brian Meierotto; Will Stuekerjuergen; Dan Waters; and, Bruce Wellman. Absent: None. The tentative agenda was approved by consensus. Nathan Unsworth and Cameron Hertzler discussed Lee County Conservation moving forward with planning an 18-hole disc golf course at Pollmiller Park and discussed its planned proximity to South Park etc. On motion approved fundraising efforts begin to sponsor holes and materials needed for the course. Mayor extended appreciation for improvements to the en-

trance sign to South Park made possible through the Margaret Schierbrock Memorial Fund. Mayor reported on the following: attendance at a conference in Iowa City: Shuckfest will be held August 11, 2021; Sweet Corn Festival will be held August 12 – 15, 2021; a Car Show is scheduled for August 28, 2021; and, he appointed various positions on Boards and Commissions. Mayor reported meeting date and time for upcoming meetings of Library Board; Municipal Utility Board; and, next regular Council Meeting of September 13, 2021. Dennis McGregor presented the City Administrator's Report. On motion approved the Fireworks Committee Car Show utilize the City Park on August 28, 2021. On motion approved liquor license applications for extended service areas for four businesses. On motion approved second reading, by title only, of Ordinance No. 297-21 adjusting Council Member compensation. On motion approved second reading, by title only, of Ordinance No. 298-21 adjusting Mayor compensation. On motion approved urban revitalization tax exemp-

tion from Daryn Fraise for a new garage at 618 Seventh Street. On motion minutes of prior regular Council Meeting of July 12, 2021 were approved as presented. On motion Treasurer's Report for July 2021 was approved as presented. On motion warrants payable for August 2021 were approved as presented. On motion meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m., August 9, 2021.

**EXPENDITURES FOR
JULY 2021**

3rd Generation Electric, lamps 75.00
Altorfer Inc, hose .. 172.77
Anaka Sanders, assistance..... 220.50
Armstrong Small Engine, parts..... 87.13
Baker & Taylor, books 532.67
Cessford Construction, rock..... 1503.74
City Clerk – FM, fees 320.00
Courtesy Door, repair 458.00
Daily Democrat, publication/subscr 132.34
Demco Inc, supplies 110.99
Delta Dental, premiums 101.02
Drake Hardware, services 427.50
EMC Insurance, deduct-

ible 2500.00
Flavian Boeding, boot allowance..... 160.49
Floyd's E-Z-Way, services 47.00
FMCH, workers comp 113.00
GRRWA, fees 432.00
Hawk Eye, subscription 202.80
HK Solutions Group, services 1575.00
Hoenig Tree Service, fees 400.00
Holtkamp Auto Repair, services 1184.00
Huffman Welding, supplies 7.59
IA Dept of Revenue, taxes

..... 233.00
IAWEA Region 6, fees 120.00
Jet Gas, fuel 1746.03
John Rempe, services 135.00
Junior Library Guild, subscriptions 828.00
LJ Neuweg Rental, fees 65.00
Margaret Fehseke, assistance..... 90.00
Mary Jane Pranger, cleaning 132.00
Mastercard, supplies 337.56
McFarland-Swan, supplies 97.45
Mediacom, telephone

..... 261.27
Midamerican Energy, utilities..... 10.63
Paul's Plumbing, supplies 1.00
Petty cash, supplies.. 7.25
Quill Corp, supplies 50.70
RICOH USA, copiers 409.21
Safety Mtg Outlines, subscription 33.00
Sonny's, supplies..... 6.94
Speer's Farm Finds, memorial..... 100.00
Sun Life Financial, premiums..... 248.13
SYNCB/Amazon, supplies 18.14



Administrative Assistant/Biller

Lee County Health Department is seeking a full-time experienced Administrative Assistant/Biller. High School graduate or equivalent. Three to five years in Administrative Assistant experience. One year experience in medical office preferred. Highly sufficient in all Microsoft Office applications, especially Excel. Clinical billing experience preferred. Please send or email resume to Tammy Wilson, Finance/Operations Director at LCHD, PO Box 1426, Fort Madison, IA 52627 or to twilson@leecountyhd.org by September 27, 2021. LCHD is an EOE.

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Lee County provides equal opportunity in employment to all persons regardless of age, race, creed, color, sex, national origin, religion or disability. This is a union position with a starting pay range of \$19.83 to \$22.85 per hour.

For a job description and to apply, download an application from our county website, www.leecounty.org, or you pick an application up at the Engineer's office and return your completed application along with a resume to Lee County Engineer, P.O. Box 158, Fort Madison, Iowa 52627, or email it to bhull@leecounty.org and copy it to shartson@leecounty.org. Applications will be accepted until September 27, 2021.

If you have any questions please contact Lee County Engineer, Ben Hull at (319) 372-2541 or email him at bhull@leecounty.org.



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PUBLIC NOTICES

Tumbleweed Press, subscription 799.00
 Tyler Snaadt, assistance 765.00
 US Cellular, telephone 65.85
 US Postal Service, postage 185.18
 Verizon Wireless, data plans 120.03
 Wellmark BC/BS, premiums 2935.49
 West Point Lumber, supplies 125.46

West Point Prof Group, fees 685.00
 West Point Utilities, utilities 2075.89
 Wex Bank, fuel 538.97
 Windstream, telephone 197.10

RECAPITULATION

FUND: PREV BAL, RCPTS, DSBSD, CUR BAL: Gen. Govt.: 445286.07, 18357.25, 37342.27, 426301.05; Grants: 1045.26, ---, ---, 1045.26; Capital Equip: 4127.06, ---, ---, 4127.06; Lib County: 5560.13, 348.20, 889.57, 5018.76; Lib Mem: 13851.37, 553.80, 1724.22, 12680.95; Hoenig Estate: 553197.88, 21.61, ---, 553219.49; Roads: 31654.49, 15110.96, 9136.24, 37629.21; Local Option: ---, 8974.29, 8974.29, ---; Walk Path: (3974.58), ---, ---, (3974.58); Sewer: 42373.30, 24938.07, 20779.92, 46531.45; Sewer Sinking: 8401.68; 8401.68, ---, 16803.36; Landfill: 259.53, ---, ---,

---, 259.53

/s/ Paul Walker, Mayor
 Attest: Diane Smith,
 City Clerk

PUBLIC NOTICE PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE WEST POINT CITY COUNCIL WEST POINT, IOWA 52656 SEPTEMBER 13, 2021

Mayor Paul Walker called the properly noticed regular meeting of the City Council of the City of West Point to order in the Conference Room of the Public Library, 317 Fifth Street, West Point, Iowa 52656 on September 13, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. In addition to Mayor Walker, the following indicated Council Members were present: Joe Loving; Brian Meierotto; Will Stuekerjuergen; Dan Waters; and, Bruce Wellman. Absent: None. Tentative agenda was approved by consensus. Upon invitation, Greg Stuekerjuergen addressed the Council regarding a Community Unity Project he started to acknowledge and promote businesses in West Point. He then presented handmade wooden flags to the Mayor and Police Chief to display in their respective offices. The Public Works report was reviewed. Upon invitation Chief Roberts presented the Police Department report. The Mayor reported on the following: City election nominations papers are due September 16, 2021; IARBGAR will be held on September 18, 2021; Broken Anvil Backyard Ultra will be held September 25, 2021; St. Mary's Fall Festival will be held October 9-10, 2021; expressed appreciation to Fireworks Committee for a successful Car Show; meeting date and time for meet-

ings of Library Board; the upcoming Municipal Utility Board; and, next regular Council Meeting of October 11, 2021. On motion approved various appointments to Boards and Commissions. Upon invitation Dennis McGregor presented the City Administrator's report. Upon invitation Councilor Stuekerjuergen thanked Public Works and the Police Department for assisting with the Car Show. Upon invitation Councilor Loving discussed installing baby changing stations in the park rest rooms. On motion approved liquor license application for Corner Tap with no outdoor service. On motion approved liquor license application for St. Mary's Fall Festival. On motion approved Resolution No. 811-21 approving Street Financial Report for FYE21. On motion approved third reading, by title only, of Ordinance No. 297-21 adjusting Council member compensation. On motion approved third reading, by title only, of Ordinance No. 298-21 adjusting Mayor compensation. Discussion was held regarding a sewer backup issue. On motion minutes of prior regular Council Meeting of August 9, 2021 were approved as presented. On motion Treasurer's Report for August 2021 was approved as presented. On motion meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m., September 13, 2021.

EXPENDITURES FOR AUGUST, 2021

Delta Dental, premiums 101.02
 LJ Neuweg Rental, fees 65.00
 Mediacom, telephone 280.24
 MidAmerican Energy, utilities 10.02

Sun Life Financial, premiums 252.15
 Verizon Wireless, data plans 120.03
 West Point Prof Group, lease 685.00
 West Point Utilities, utilities 2244.00
 Wex bank, fuel 614.71
 Ia Dept of Public Safety, fees 20.00
 Tyler Snaadt, assistance 550.00
 Wellmark BC/BS, premiums 2935.49
 SYNCB/Amazon, supplies 1155.08
 Demco Inc, supplies 58.14
 Ebert Supply, supplies 30.70
 Margaret Fehseke, assistance 27.00
 Mastercard, supplies 73.57
 Petty Cash, supplies 63.59
 Mary Jane Pranger, cleaning 165.00
 Quill Corp, supplies 22.92
 Ricoh USA, copier 189.60
 Anaka Sanders, assistance 135.00
 Windstream, telephone 196.86
 Gary Glasscock, stump removal 250.00
 Huffman Welding, supplies 139.98
 McFarland-Swan, supplies 27.98
 West Point Lumber, supplies 1155.76
 Paul Walker, reimb & mileage 197.53
 Daily Democrat, publications 78.80
 Floyd's E-Z-Way, trash hauling 105.00
 Storey Kenworthy, supplies 124.86
 Lee County Abstract, fees 800.00
 Baker & Taylor, books 734.78
 Per Mar Security, services 288.27
 Cessford Construction, rock 664.73
 Kempker's True Value, supplies 36.45
 Alan Environmental, supplies 434.85
 City Clerk - FM, fees 590.00
 GPM, supplies 3445.00

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The Fort Madison Public Library is seeking a year round library page. 10 hours/week August through May, 12 hours/week June and July. Tasks will include shelving books, helping to prepare for children's programming, assisting during children's program and cleaning up from children's programming. Must be 16 years or older and live within 10 miles of the Fort Madison city limits. Applications can be picked up and returned to the Fort Madison Public Library through October 1, 2021. Contact Sarah Clendinning at (319) 372-5721 if you have any questions.



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HK Solutions, services	US Cellular, telephone	RCPTS, DSBSD, CUR	755.90, 4941.16; Lib	9278.91, 9278.91, ---;	259.53
..... 1250.00 65.77	BAL: General: 426301.05,	Mem: 12680.95, 89.20,	Walk Path: (3974.58),	
IAMU, dues..... 298.26	US Postal Service, post-	26615.73, 27164.11,	1502.87, 11267.28; Hoe-	---, ---, (3974.58); Sew-	/s/ Paul Walker, Mayor
la Dept of Revenue, taxes	age..... 20.27	425752.67; Grants:	nig Estate: 553219.49,	er: 46531.45, 22783.15,	Attest: Diane E. Smith,
..... 319.00		1045.26, ---, ---, 1045.26;	14.38, ---, 553233.87;	20432.81, 48881.79;	City Clerk
la DNR, fees..... 210.00	RECAPITULATION	Capital Equip: 4127.06,	Roads Use: 37629.21,	Sewer Sinking: 16803.36,	
J&M Komer, mtg expense		---, ---, 4127.06; Lib	8974.61, 5323.73,	8401.68, ---, 25205.04;	

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From the Front

Hospitalizations on rise, resources limited

HOSPITALIZATIONS - Continued from Page 1

following a procedure, in order to free up critical staffed-bed space.

McCoy said those waiver guidelines are changing at the state and federal level, but he said the biggest concern is that now the long-term care facilities don't have any more skilled care beds open than the hospitals do.

He said people need to make the choice to get vaccinated to help get the viral outbreaks under control. With data being reported in different ways with different values, McCoy said people need to pay attention to the hospitalization rates, especially for pediatric patients.

He said confusion on reporting is even prevalent at the hospital level where decisions on care are very fluid and constantly changing.

"I totally get how the public must feel," he said. "The hard part is the state was putting out data weekly, but now they are doing it twice or three times a week, but a lot of these home test kits aren't being reported in the state's data," he said.

Iowa's reporting database at [coronavirus.iowa.gov](https://www.coronavirus.iowa.gov) has Lee County currently at an 8% positivity rate for nasal swab (PCR) and antigen testing, with PCR testing being the "gold standard" for COVID testing. However, the Centers for Disease Control, which doesn't include antigen testing, is showing Lee County at 19.5% as of Monday at 2 p.m. The CDC tracker also shows 52% of Lee County residents with at least one vaccine dose.

LCHD officials said today that number was 48%, which is fairly close, comparatively.

But McCoy said the top three pediatric hospitals in the state are basically full and the number of pediatric ICU beds are very limited, similar now to adult cases.

"Doctors are now saying they are seeing sicker and sicker young kids. Early on you had some breakthrough infections, but now you're seeing some of those are less mild as

some of the immunities and antibodies are wearing off."

He said he thinks the FDA will go back to offering boosters in the same way they rolled out vaccines - to the most vulnerable first. Boosters are available for those over 65 and those immuno-compromised now.

He also said supplies are running low at hospitals, including monoclonal antibodies. McCoy said the system used to be able to request those from pharmacies. Then it went to state control and now is back under federal distribution because of the reduction in supplies.

"This is a result of more people getting sicker," he said. "But I'm going back to the number of patients hospitalized. That number has crept up and continues to creep up. We're at 24 hospitalized right now in our three hospitals. 23 of those as of yesterday were (in Burlington). Until that number comes down and we have staffed beds to take care of those people and those who need emergent care, I'm not going to feel better until that happens."

McCoy said people need to be careful about where they go for care. He said emergency rooms are for emergency situations, but he said data shows people are flooding emergency rooms looking for a rapid test, which is overwhelming those staffs and resources.

"Think about choosing the location of your care as carefully as you can. Emergency Rooms are for emergencies. Going there for a rapid test is just making it harder for an already-stressed staff," he said.

He added that urgent care clinics and walk-in clinics are overwhelmed as well, so people need to be "patient patients."

"We've got providers taking care of patients, especially in ERs and in hospitals, differently than they normally would because we don't have those other choices, and you may be waiting longer," he said. "If you sense that and are frustrated, trust me, it's no more frustrated than we are."

Fall show promises "twisty-turny" end

OFF - Continued from Page 1



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Richard Martindale lies dying as one of the four characters he plays in OFF's October production of "As Long As We Both Shall Live", a murder mystery comedy set for the Fort Madison playhouse.

brothers and Lieutenant Dobbs, the bumbling detective.

Former Board President, Ty Clute rounds out the cast as Reverend Mountain, a man of God with an unhealthy fear of the dark and a few other secrets better kept in the shadows.

When the wedding planner is poisoned at the rehearsal dinner, tensions between the clever bride and her mother-in-law-to-be go from heated, to full-on inferno as Mrs. Wilcox points to Addison as the killer. Can Addison solve the case before sashaying down the aisle, or is she in for a honeymoon behind bars?

As the cast got a look at the entire script for the first time at the read-through

there were several surprised gasps at the twisty-turny ending. The hilarious verbal jousting between the bride and mother of the groom are second only to Raul's over-the-top ideas for the ceremony and reception. Get your tickets now for this comedy/murder mystery. It's a great who dunnit - so why missit?

"As Long As We Both Shall Live" is produced by special arrangement with Playscripts, Inc. (www.playscripts.com) and runs October 8-10 & 15-17. Evening shows begin at 7:30 and Sundays at 2:00 pm. The theater will offer a discounted season ticket for the first time in many years. Season Ticket Prices: Adult: \$50, Senior/Military/Vet: \$40, Student: \$35. They are available at www.oldfortplayers.com and at the door. Individual show tickets are also available. Adult: \$15, Senior/Military/Vet: \$12, Student (Age 5-17): \$10.

Leading sponsors for the season are Jim Baier Ford and Lee County Bank. Our partners include the Fort Madison Daily Democrat and Scotts. Additional funds have been provided by Connections Bank.

Last season would have been Old Fort Players' 40th anniversary but the celebration was postponed due to Covid. So, this will be the "40+1 Anniversary Season." Join OFF directors, actors, crew and volunteers at the Season Launch Party on Sunday, September 26th at 6pm to officially cut the ribbon and roll out the red carpet.

The theater is located in downtown Fort Madison at 725 Avenue G. Send a Facebook message, send an email to oldfortplayersfm@gmail.com or call 319-372-9559 for more information. Like them on Facebook (Fb@oldfortplayers) or visit www.oldfortplayers.com to keep up with everything that's going on at the theater.

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Fourth Street – West Point

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