

# PEN CITY CURRENT

It's Black & White and Read all over

Thursday, April 15, 2021 | 8 pages | Volume 5 • Issue 81



www.pencitycurrent.com

## LCCD to restructure staff

**FOCUS ON OUTREACH:** Move to increase efficiencies and program awareness

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

LEE COUNTY – An effort to find more efficiencies and outreach will result in a restructuring of staff at the Lee County Conservation District this year.

LCCD Director Nathan Unsworth unveiled the new plans to the district's board of directors at its regular meeting on Tuesday night.

“The goal here is try and keep a steady workflow throughout the year and create some different opportunities and engagement throughout the whole staff,” Unsworth said.

The new structure will also allow for more upward mobility for some of the staff that can't move up under the current structure.

Changes would include transitioning the current administra-

See STAFF, page 8

## Timm Lamb Relays



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg

Central Lee's Sydney Jones clears the hurdle in front of the grandstands at Jim Youel Field in Fort Madison as part of the Timm Lamb Pen City Relays Monday night. The Lady Hawks took first in the shuttle hurdle in the B-Division.

### AREA NEWS

## 'Our PROMise' group to help teens with prom needs

FORT MADISON – A group of Fort Madison locals have pulled their resources together to start what they are calling “Our PROMise”, a Prom assistance program for teens in need. The group is made up of volunteers with the Ft. Madison SDA Commu-

nity Service Center, Sheri Hawk with Eternellé Beauté Full Service Salon & Spa and Savanna Collier with the Fort Madison Chamber of Commerce.

What started with an idea between mother and daughter (Sheri and Savanna) a few years ago was reignited

during a membership conversation between Savanna and the volunteers with the Ft. Madison SDA Community Service Center.

“Janie had mentioned to me during

See PROM, page 7

### VACCINES

## Gov. calls J&J pause “surprising”

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

DES MOINES – Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds called Tuesday's temporary suspension of Johnson & Johnson COVID vaccines “sudden and surprising” at her weekly press conference from Des Moines.

Reynolds said no cases of the rare blood clotting events have been detected in Iowa, but the pause in usage will be manageable

“Yesterday the FDA and CDC made a sudden and surprising recommending the administration of the J&J vaccination be paused,” she said.

“This was a surprising setback at a time when our vaccine efforts are showing progress. And because states weren't informed in advance of the announcement, we were left to develop contingency plans in the moment for vaccine clinics scheduled yesterday and throughout the week.”

Lee County Health Department admin-

See FDA, page 8

### VOLUNTEERS

## Help still needed for Pollmiller project

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

WEST POINT – Volunteers are still being sought to help install the new playground equipment at Pollmiller Park in West Point starting next week.

Lee County Conservation District Director Nathan Unsworth said at the regular LCCD board meeting Tuesday that volunteers have been scheduled, but more are needed to help with the project that is set to start on Tuesday.

The project cost just under \$100,000 and was supported through funding from the Three Rivers Foundation and a \$50,000 matching grant from the Lee County Conservation Board.

Volunteers can choose from several four-hour

See PARK, page 8

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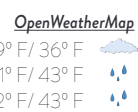
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### WEATHER

THU 15 Apr.....Broken Clouds, 49° F/ 36° F  
FRI 16 Apr.....Light Rain, 51° F/ 43° F  
SAT 17 Apr.....Light Rain, 52° F/ 43° F



### IOWA LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS 04/13.....10 15 19 45 68, Mega Ball: 9 Megaplier: 4  
PICK 3 04/13 MIDDAY.....6 6 3  
PICK 3 04/13 EVENING.....2 0 4  
PICK 4 04/13 MIDDAY.....1 6 8 8  
PICK 4 04/13 EVENING.....6 8 0 5

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# Obituaries

## OBITUARIES

### JOYCE J. SCHEVERS

Joyce Joanne Schevers, 76, of Keokuk was called home by the good Lord on Monday evening April 12, 2021 in the home she shared with her husband at 3490 Argyle Road. She passed peacefully at home and in the loving embrace of her family. Joyce's life was an



SCHEVERS

inspiration to her friends, family, and loved ones. She lived a life full of grace, kindness, and compassion, and a deep love for her lord and savior, Jesus Christ.

Joyce was born on November 1, 1944 in Keokuk to her mother Madge Carroll Fenton and father Paul Fenton of Hamilton, Illinois. She spent her entire childhood in Hamilton and graduated from Hamilton High School in 1962. She later attended GEM City Business College in Quincy, Illinois where she graduated in 1963.

Joyce married her husband of 57 years, Larry Ross Schevers of Keokuk, on December 21, 1963 in Carthage, Illinois. Together, Larry and Joyce raised four children, son Douglas John, daughter Larye Joanne, son Christopher Ray, and daughter Lori Lynne. Joyce partnered with her husband on many small business enterprises. She co-owned several advertising publications in Washington, Fairfield, Mt. Pleasant, and Oskaloosa. And was an instrumental part of two direct mail advertising companies, Mail Direct of Mississippi, and Mail Direct of Iowa. In an ambitious enterprise of her own, Joyce conceived, designed, produced, marketed, and sold a unique brand of Iowa Hawkeye gift wrapping paper which was sold across the state of Iowa. Scrapbooking, which became one of her passions, led her to a partnership in the Scrapbook Patch in Keokuk. Joyce lovingly compiled two family history scrapbooks for each of her children, and kept a scrapbook for each grandchild.

Joyce was member of the New Testament Christian Church, and a dedicated servant of her savior Jesus Christ. Very passionate about politics, Joyce was active with the Lee County Republican Party. She volunteered many times in political campaigns and was always eager to debate and seek converts to the GOP.

Joyce Schevers is survived by her husband Larry Ross Schevers of Keokuk. Three children, daughter Larye Joanne Thompson (Brad) of Macomb, Illinois, son Christopher Ray Schevers (Susan Jolynn) of Washington, Iowa, and daughter Lori Lynne Schevers of Keokuk. Seven grandchildren; Rachael Schevers of Washington, Iowa, Brantley Sanders (Faith) of Tiffin, Iowa, Kirbey Williams (Dan) of Coralville, Iowa Chandler Sanders of Nauvoo, Illinois, Judson Thompson of Iowa City, Iowa, Marlee Schevers of Long Beach, Mississippi, and Jackson Thompson of Macomb, Illinois. Three great grandchildren; Kase York of Washington, Iowa, Nora Harris of Washington, Iowa, Lena Graham of Washington, Iowa. Joyce is also survived by one sibling, her brother Allen Fenton of Hamilton, Illinois.

Joyce was preceded in death by her son Douglas John Schevers of Hamilton, mother Madge Carroll Fenton of Hamilton, father Paul Fenton of Hamilton, sister Nancy Fenton Monroe of Hamilton, brother Jim Fenton of Des Moines, Iowa, sister Patricia "Patti" Fenton Mahoney of Hamilton, and great grandchild Rylie York of Washington, Iowa.

Memorials may be made to the ALS Foundation.

The Schevers family will receive visitors Friday evening April 16, from 6 - 9 p.m. at the Schevers residence at 3490 Argyle Road in Keokuk. A Celebration of Life service will be held at 11 a.m., Saturday, April 17, at the New Testament Christian Church at 1578 Hilton Road in Keokuk. Social distancing requirements will be in place and masks are recommended at the church.

The service will be lived streamed on the New Testament Christian Church Facebook page and on Joyce's tribute wall on the Vigen Memorial Home webpage.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at [www.vigenmemorialhome.com](http://www.vigenmemorialhome.com).

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# Obituaries/For the Record

## OBITUARIES

### DEBORAH COTTER

Deborah Cotter, 73, of Mission, Texas and formerly of Fort Madison passed away on September 5, 2020 in Mission, TX.

She was born on April 8, 1947 in Ft. Madison to Wilbert and Aleda Ruble Ort.



COTTER

Deborah was a 1965 graduate of FMHS. She then went on to graduate from UNI where she also received her Masters Degree. On July 24, 1976 she married William Cotter in Janesville, WI. She taught Home Economics in Dubuque from 1970-1976 and then moved to Wisconsin to teach in Lomira. She received an Education Specialist Degree from the University of Wisconsin-Stout in 1982. She was a Dean of Home Economics at Black Hawk Technical College in Janesville, WI. She worked at North Iowa Area Community College in Mason City, IA as a curriculum coordinator. Deborah lastly was an editor at the University of Wisconsin, Madison in the career on education and work department and moved to Texas in 2017. She loved to travel, sew & garden. Deborah and Bill lived in ten different cities, moved fourteen times and owned and refurbished eight different homes together. She was a proud owner of six cocker spaniels throughout her marriage.

Survivors include her husband, Bill Cotter of Mission, TX; one sister, Willetta (Doug) Cuthbert of Jacksonville, FL and many other relatives. She was preceded in death by her parents.

A memorial service will be held on Monday, April 19, 2021 at 1:00 PM at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. Burial will follow in Oakland Cemetery.

Online condolences may be left at [www.kinglynk.com](http://www.kinglynk.com).

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## For the Record

### Fort Madison Police Report

04/13/21 – midnight – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 1200 block of Avenue I 04/13/21 – 1:31 p.m. – Fort Madison Police arrested Michelle Marie Decker, 35, of Fort Madison, in the 600 block of 20th Street, on a warrant for 3rd degree theft. She

was transported to the Des Moines County line. 04/13/21 – 7:24 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 2000 block of Avenue B. 04/14/21 – 8:09 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 2500 block of Avenue L.

04/13/21 – no activity reported  
*Those listed above are presumed innocent until proven guilty*

04/13/21 – no activity reported  
*Those listed above are presumed innocent until proven guilty*

### Fort Madison Fire & Rescue Report

04/13/21 – Fort Madison firefighters responded to three medical calls, one power line arcing and one investigation of fire.

### Lee County Sheriff's Report

### 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 fee.



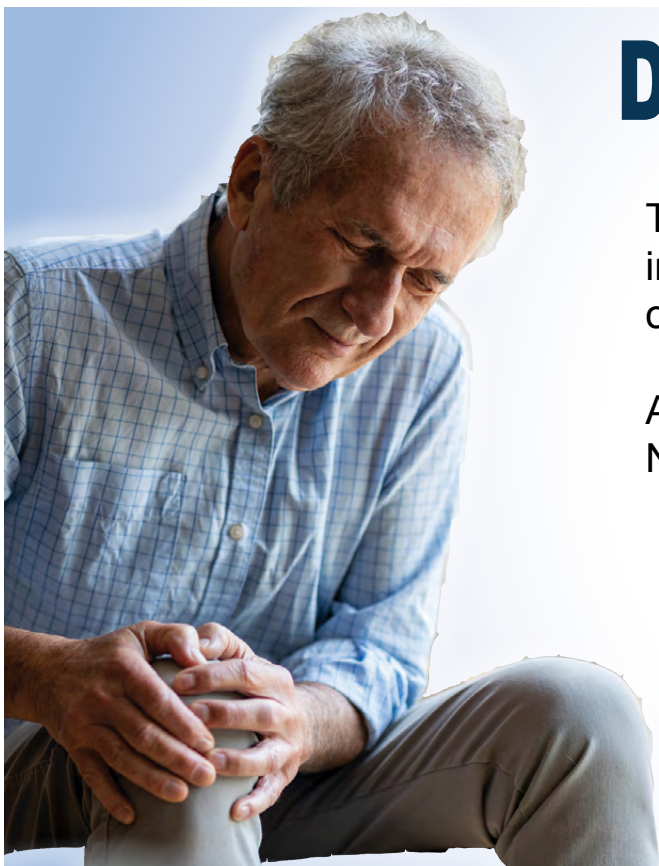
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Fort Madison  
COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

### Charles Vandenberg, Editor

(319).371.1670  
[editor@pencitycurrent.com](mailto:editor@pencitycurrent.com)

### Lee K. Vandenberg, Sales Manager

(319).371.4125  
[sales@pencitycurrent.com](mailto:sales@pencitycurrent.com)

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## PEN CITY CURRENT

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# Be Prepared To Get Vaccinated



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**Continue** to follow all recommended public health guidelines. . .for all of us.

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# Classifieds/Public Notices

# PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

## PUBLIC NOTICES

**PUBLIC NOTICE  
AGENDA  
FORT MADISON  
PUBLIC LIBRARY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
Date: Thursday,  
April 15, 2021  
Time: 5:00 P.M.  
Place: Sheaffer Meeting  
Room and Online

**5:00pm, Special Building Review Meeting, in-person**

Members of the Fort Madison Public Library Board of Trustees will be reviewing the library building to look for possible long term issues that will need to be addressed. They will not be making any decisions or determinations but will be reporting their findings back to the library board at the May meeting.

**5:30pm, Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees, in-person or electronic**

Electronic Meeting (Pursuant to Iowa Code Section 21.8)

An electronic meeting is being held because a meeting in person is impossible or impractical for the health and safety of Library Board members, library employees and the public presented by COVID-19. You can participate in the meeting via telephone and can comment on an agenda item by joining the Zoom meeting. Using your telephone, dial (312) 626 6799 and enter the meeting ID (840 4918 9681) when prompted. If you have trouble connecting to the meeting, please call (319) 372-5721.

- I. Excused absences
- II. Approval of Agenda
- III. Public Comments
- IV. Approval of minutes
  - a. Regular Meeting March 18
  - V. Approval of the Bills
    - a. Approval of April 2021 Bills
    - VI. Correspondence
    - VII. Director's Report
      - a. Financial
      - b. Personnel
      - c. Programming
      - d. Collection Development
      - e. Operations
      - f. Facilities - landscaping
      - g. Professional
      - VIII. Unfinished Business
      - IX. New Business
        - a. Time Clock Policy including discussion of scheduling and budget ramifications
        - b. Review Meeting

Room Policy  
c. Consider Purchase of Adventure Pass access to museums and other activities in Iowa.  
d. Use of Community Foundation Income  
X. Trustee Education  
a. Trustee Handbook  
XI. Upcoming Events and Information  
Next Meeting, Thursday, May 20, 2021 at 5:30.

**PUBLIC NOTICE  
FORT MADISON  
COMMUNITY SCHOOL  
DISTRICT BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS  
REGULAR MEETING  
April 19, 2021  
6:00 P.M.**

Note: To view this meeting please see the link on the FMCS Website Calendar or click on the link below  
<https://zoom.us/j/92879605355?pwd=K3dQQ0Vae-Uc1UDZqYzR1SVVn-bjQ3QT09>

Public Comments are welcome. They are limited to 3 minutes. Any member of the public who wishes to participate in public comments must be physically present at the meeting and follow the appropriate sign in procedures.

Finance: Steffensmeier/Wykert

**AGENDA**

- I. Call meeting to order and determination of a quorum
- II. Recognition of guests
- III. Reading of Foundation documents
- IV. Monthly communications
  - A. Student Rep Report - Kaylie McFadden and Logan Johnson
  - B. Curriculum Corner: Standards Based Learning Website
  - C. "Did You Know?"
  - D. Superintendent Goal Report
  - E. District Presentations
  - V. Approve the agenda
  - VI. Consent Agenda
    - A. Minutes
      - 1. March 15, 2021 Regular Meeting
      - 2. April 5, 2021 Public Hearing (1)
      - 3. April 5, 2021 Public Hearing (2)
      - 4. April 5, 2021

- Special Meeting/Work Session
  - B. Financial reports
    - 1. March Balance Sheet
    - 2. Revenue Summary Report
    - 3. Expenditure Report
    - 4. Student Activity Report
  - C. Accounts payable
    - 1. March General Account Board Bills for Approval
    - 2. April General Account Board Bills for Approval
    - 3. Student Activity Account Board Bills for Approval
    - 4. Nutrition Fund Board Bills for Approval
    - 5. American Express Board Bills for Approval
  - D. Consider personnel resignations
    - 1. Dallas Hodges, Asst. Girls Basketball Coach
    - 2. Susan Menke, HS Sp. Ed. Assoc.
    - 3. Dana Sieren, Food Service
    - 4. Emalee St. Clair, Food Service
    - 5. Brooke Wagner, LE Sp. Ed. Associate
  - E. Consider employment of personnel
    - 1. Kent Bailey, HS Girls Soccer Asst. Coach
    - 2. Allison Bowen, 1st Grade Teacher - LE
    - 3. Kyla Galusha, Nurse Assistant - Elementary
    - 3. Margaret Hermes, Sp Ed Assoc. - RE
    - 4. Michelle Huppenbauer, Secretary to the Superintendent
    - 5. James Jackson, 7 & 8 Science Teacher
    - 6. Jill Kruse, Food Service Delivery Driver
    - 7. Madalyn Lemek, 2nd Grade Teacher - LE
    - F. Consider contract modifications
    - G. Consider leave of absence
    - H. Consider open enrollment requests
    - I. Other reports
      - 1. Activity and athletic fundraisers
      - Director (blank) moved and director (blank) seconded the documents submitted in the consent section of the agenda be approved and/or filed as submitted.
    - VII. Action Items
      - A. Director of Curriculum and Student Services - Kim Harmon
      - B. Superintendent -

- Erin Slater
  - 1. Revised Third Trimester Online Stipends
  - 2. Consider approval of updated student illness guidelines for COVID-19
  - 3. Policy changes:
    - 403.5-E-1 Substance-Free Workplace Notice to Employees - **minor changes; recommend move to IASB model**
    - 405.5b School Closure and Employee Attendance - **ours only; recommend to delete**
    - 405.6 Licensed Employee Assignment - **minor changes; recommend move to IASB model**
    - 405.7 Licensed Employee Transfers - **minor changes; recommend move to IASB model**
    - 405.8 Licensed Employee Evaluation - **changes; recommend move to IASB model**
    - 405.8-R Observation and Evaluation License - **ours only; recommend to delete**
    - 405.8-E Pre-observation Form - **ours only; recommend to delete**
    - 405.9 Licensed Employee Probationary Status - **changes; recommend move to IASB model**
    - 406.1 Licensed Employee Salary Schedule - **changes; recommend move to IASB model**
    - 406.2 Licensed Employee Salary Schedule Advancement - **changes; recommend move to IASB model**
    - 406.3 Licensed Employee Continued Education Credit - **new policy; recommend adopt IASB model**
    - 406.5 Insurance - Teachers - **delete; recommend adopt IASB model**
    - 406.6 Licensed Employee Tax Shelter Programs - **new policy; recommend move to IASB model**
    - 406.7 Market Factor Teacher Salaries - **ours only; recommend to delete**
    - 407.1 Licensed Employee Resignation - **minor changes; recommend move to IASB model**
    - 407.2 Licensed Employee Contract Release - **minor changes; recommend move to IASB model**
    - 407.3 Licensed Employee Retirement - **minor changes; recommend move to IASB model**
  - 3. Consider approval of sharing agreement for Girls Cross Country- HTC

- 4. Consider approval of sharing agreement for Girls Swim- Burlington HS
- 5. Consider approval of sharing agreement for Wrestling- HTC
- 6. Consider approval of sharing agreement for Wrestling- Central Lee
- 7. Consider approval of sharing agreement for Boys Swim- Burlington HS
- 8. Consider approval of sharing agreement for Boys Track- HTC
- 9. Consider approval of sharing agreement for Girls Track- HTC
- 10. Consider approval of sharing agreement for Boys Soccer- HTC
- 11. Consider approval of sharing agreement for Girls Soccer- HTC
- 12. Consider approval of sharing agreement for Girls Tennis- HTC
- 13. Consider approval of sharing agreement for Boys Tennis- HTC
- 14. Consider approval of sharing agreement for Baseball- HTC
- C. Board Secretary/ Business Manager - Sandy Elmore
  - 1. Consider Approval of the Audit for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2020
  - 2. Consider Approval of IASB membership and dues renewal for FY2021-2022
  - 3. Consider Approval of Bus bids
  - 4. Consider Approval

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- of Construction Management Services
- 5. Consider Approval of Architect Services
- 6. Consider Approval of Moss Educational & Industrial Training Solutions virtual welder

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## Classifieds/Public Notices

# PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

### PUBLIC NOTICES

VIII. Discussion Items  
A. Director of Curriculum and Student Services – Kim Harmon

1. Online learning consortium

B. Superintendent – Erin Slater

1. Policy changes:

- 406.4 Licensed Employee Compensation for Extra Duty - **new policy; recommend adopt IASB model**

- 406.5 Licensed Employee Group Benefits - **change; recommend to adopt IASB model**

- 407.4 Licensed Em-

ployee Suspension - **minor changes; recommend move to IASB model**

- 408.1 Licensed Employee Professional Development - **changes; recommend move to IASB model**

- 408.2 Licensed Employee Publication or Creation of Materials - **minor change; recommend move to IASB model**

- 408.3 Licensed Employee Tutoring - **minor change; recommend move to IASB model**

- 409 Leaves - ours only; **recommend to**

**delete**

- 409.1 Holidays - old policy - **recommend to delete; adopt IASB model Option I**

- 409.1 Employee Vacation - Holidays - **new policy - adopt this IASB model Option I**

- 409.3 Employee Family and Medical Leave - **changes; recommend move to IASB policy**

- 409.3-E-1 Employee Family and Medical Leave Notice to Employees - **OLD policy; recommend move to IASB model**

- 409.3-E-1 Employee

Family and Medical Leave Notice to Employees - **NEW policy; recommend move to this IASB model**

- 409.3-E-2 Employee Family and Medical Leave Request Form - **minor changes; recommend move to IASB model**

- 409.3-E-3 Employee Family and Medical Leave Certification Form - **OLD policy; recommend move to new policy**

- 409.3-E-3 Substitution of Paid Leave - **NEW policy; recommend move to this new policy**

- 409.3-R-1 Employee

Family and Medical Leave Regulation - **changes; recommend move to IASB model**

- 409.3-R-2 Employee Family and Medical Leave Definitions - **minor changes; recommend move to IASB model**

2. Certified Staff Attendance

3. Board Member Attendance

C. Board Secretary/ Business Manager – Sandy Elmore

IX. Comments from the audience

X. Legislative update

XI. Announcements

A. May 3 - 7, 2021 Teacher Appreciation Week

B. May 3, 2021, 6:00 p.m. Work Session, Board Room, Central Office

C. May 17, 2021, 6:00 p.m. Regular Board Meeting, Board Room, Central Office

XII. Adjourn  
Exempt session pursuant to Iowa Code Section 20.17(3) for the purposes of a negotiations session

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## Sports/From the Front

# Lady Hawks 4th, FM 7th at Relays

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – Central Lee and Fort Madison both excelled in the hurdle events and dashes at the Timm Lamb Pen City Relays Tuesday night in Fort Madison.

Central Lee took 4th place overall and 3rd in the B Division claiming three titles, two in hurdle events and one relay.

Fort Madison's Raquel Schneider brought home two first-place finishes for the Bloodhounds in the 400 hurdles with a time of 1:09.14, and left the field behind with a 1:05.99 pace in the 400-meter dash.

Fort Madison finished with 77 points. Central Lee had 103. Mt. Pleasant won the annual event with 151 total team points.

For Central Lee, Zoe Eschman got the Lady Hawks off to a solid start in the first leg of the shuttle hurdle relay handing off to Hailey Tweedy, then Sydney Jones. Abby Wellman ran the final leg for a 1:17.97 good enough for first place in the B Division.

The Lady Hawks also got a first-place finish from Eschman in the 100-meter hurdles with a time of 18.33, 6th best overall and tops in the B Division. Wellman took first in the B-Division 400 hurdles with a time of 1:11.67, second fastest in the field behind Schneider.

Central Lee's Karlie Pohren, Rylee Matlock, Olivia Kraus and Wellman motored to a first-place finish in the B-Division Sprint Medley Relay with a time of 2:04.20. Pohren and Matlock ran the 100s, Krause ran the 200 and Wellman anchored the 400.

The Lady Hounds took 2nd place in the A Division Distance Medley with a time of 5:07.38. Paetyn Wiegand closed a gap on the 800 final leg to give Fort Madison a time of 5:07.38, for the all freshman squad of Aija Jenkins, Chloe Sokolik, Taylor Johnson and Wiegand.

Central Lee took 2nd in the B Division with Makayla



Fort Madison's Taylor Barnes clears a hurdle in the shuttle hurdle relay Tuesday night in Fort Madison.

Howard, Halo Arrowood, Pohren, and Brianna Gruntmeier running a 5:15.69.

Weigand took third in the Timm Lamm Memorial 3000-meter run with a time of 12:58.92. Mt. Pleasant's Abby Blint won the event with a 12:02.30 and Central Lee's Brianna Gruntmeier came in 3rd in the B division with a 15:05.03. The Lady Hawks claimed a 3rd-place finish in the 4x800 meter relay posting a time of 13:13.39, while Fort Madison took 3rd in the shuttle hurdle at 1:14.12.

# Prom shop open Sunday

PROM - Continued from Page 1

an introduction meeting that she wanted to help girls get prom dresses who can't afford them. It immediately reminded me of my mother's idea of donating her services to girls who normally wouldn't be able to get their hair and makeup done for prom. I arranged a meeting to discuss the idea and in the matter of an hour, the five of us had this whole thing planned out!" said Savanna Collier about how this quickly developed.

The group called upon friends right away to make this event happen. Beth and Matt Mohrfeld graciously donated the use of their building at 619 7th Street for shopping days and Prom day.

They are currently accepting donations of clean and gently used formal dresses, shoes, jewelry and accessories to stock the "shop". Dresses and accessories will be available to those in need with the promise to return the items to be used again next year. Donations are being accepted at Eternelle Beauté Full Service Salon & Spa, located at 1304 Avenue G in Fort Madison between the hours of 10 am – 6 pm. They will accept donations through Friday, April 16th.

Girls in need of an outfit for prom can come "shop" at 619 7th Street on the following dates: Saturday, April 18th from 2-4 p.m.; Monday, April 19th from 4-6 p.m.; and Thursday, April 22nd from 4-6 p.m.

During their shopping trip, the girls can schedule an appointment for their hair and makeup to be done by volunteers on the day of Prom.

Monetary donations are also being accepted to help with the purchasing of tickets for Prom, gift cards to local eateries for dinner that evening as well as the cleaning of the items once they've been returned.

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## From the Front

# LCCD board looking for board member

**STAFF** - Continued from Page 1

tive assistant position to an Administrative and Outreach Coordinator.

Unsworth said that position would continue to assist the director with functions and customer service, but would also take on some marketing and promotional activities.

“They would lead the social media and things that have become important for our parks. That’s the easiest and most efficient way to reach a lot of people,” Unsworth said.

The position would also take on some educational duties as far as coordinating schedules, and function as a liaison with the education specialists and groups wanting programming. There would also be some community relations and partnering responsibilities.

Unsworth also proposed to eliminate the Environmental Education Coordinator and transfer those job duties to a position called Environmental and Outdoor Education Specialist 2.

Naturalists will now be known as Environmental and Outdoor Education Specialist 1. Conservation Techs would be renamed Conservation Tech 1 and a Conservation Tech 2 position would be created.

Rangers and Operations Coordinator would also see an updated pay scale.

“There will be an impact to our budget a little bit in the short term and over the start of the new fiscal year, but we can absorb that with the delay of the second naturalist hire,” Unsworth said “Timing that to start with the new fiscal year allows us to shift the budget so we don’t have to

ask for additional funding from supervisors, which they appreciate,” Unsworth said.

Supervisor Matt Pflug, who sat in on the meeting, asked Unsworth why the new structure wasn’t brought up during budget negotiations.

“The first question the board is going to have is why it wasn’t brought up during the time of the budget,” Pflug said.

Unsworth said the plans weren’t far enough along to present to the board at that time. Unsworth said the total impact of the budget should be very similar to the budget that was approved earlier this year.

“This is something I think will help us achieve the long-term goals we’ve set for ourselves. It’s more efficient and will better utilize our time and we’ll see some gains in outcomes of the department. This is a big change that will bring some positive changes to the organization.”

New board member Mary Van Pelt asked if the pay scale was reflective of the staff’s tenure within the district.

“The pay scale has to be a concern. I know when I was working we hired a new person at the same rate I was making and I had been there 10 years and that hurt. I look at the pay scale and hope that people that have been their the longest are accommodated,” she said.

Unsworth said the district follows the county step process.

The board approved the new structure unanimously with a 4-0 vote.

The board is also looking for a replacement for one board member who had to resign the position.

# LCHD resets clinic for April 24

**FDA** - Continued from Page 1

istrator Michele Ross said all J&J clinics were canceled in Lee County including an open clinic set for this Saturday at the Old Iowa State Penitentiary grounds. That clinic has been rescheduled for next Saturday morning using Moderna’s two-shot vaccinations. Those getting the shot next Saturday, April 24, between 8 a.m. and noon, will be scheduled for the follow-up vaccine May 22 at the same time and location.

Reynolds said the state is working to allocate additional vaccine where it’s needed and asked for Iowans’ patience as those plans develop.

A slow down in manufacturing had Iowa’s projected weekly allocation for the Johnson & Johnson doses this week at just 5,400, down substantially from the 45,800 the state received last week. Next week’s allocation was just 1,800, Reynolds said.

But additional Modern and Pfizer doses are being shipped out to help minimize the impact on scheduled clinics.

“The immediate impact of this decision on our vaccine supply should be manageable. While news of a serious reaction is concerning, it’s important we don’t jump to conclusions prematurely before more details are known. Nearly 7 million doses were administered in the United States and at this time we’re aware of only six cases of this rare blood clot. Currently the odds of this reaction happening are literally 1 in 1 million,” Reynolds said.

“Putting even one vaccine on hold is disappointing especially as we’re approaching nearly 2 million being administered in Iowa, but ensuring a safe vaccinations process, one that everyone can be confident in, will remain a top priority in Iowa.”

The state is also seeing an uptick in the number of cases among children. One pool reporter said the state has seen more than 3,000 new cases in children in the past week.

Reynolds said health officials are continuing to monitor that data, as well as hospitalization rates and long-term care facility rates, which she said are stable.

“We continue to monitor like we normally we do. The effects on children are less than it is on our older population and we’ve known that from the beginning. But we’ll continue to watch especially with the new variant – we’re seeing cases of that in Iowa and across the country.”

# Pollmiller park work set to begin Tuesday

**PARK** - Continued from Page 1

time slots throughout the week and will help with a variety of construction tasks including building the playground structures, lifting and placing equipment pieces, etc. Volunteers should dress for the weather and wear comfortable footwear. The Three Rivers Conservation Foundation will provide water, soft drinks, and snacks for all volunteers. Masks will be encouraged due to COVID-19.

“We’ve got a few volunteers, Holy Trinity is coming out on

Wednesday. The more workers helping the faster we’ll get done,” Unsworth said.

Work will be being done from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the park and will run Tuesday through Friday until the equipment is installed.

“We hope people will join us for this exciting volunteer opportunity. This is a large project, and we would like to have about 15 people per time slot. We are also partnering with the United Way of the Great River Region and AmeriCorps Seniors to recruit volunteers.”



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