

PEN CITY CURRENT

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

Wednesday, September 8, 2021 | 11 pages | Volume 5 • Issue 162



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RODEO WEEK IS HERE



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg

Parker Overberg gets thrown from a calf during the Lil Spurs Rodeo Monday afternoon at C.E. "Eddie" Richards Arena. Events for the 2021 Tri State Rodeo kicked off Saturday and run through the end of the week.

TRI STATE RODEO 2021: Kids days kick off Rodeo Week; CINCH Chute-Out Wed.

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – The hard work for the year is over for 2021 Tri State Rodeo Chairman Tony Johnson.

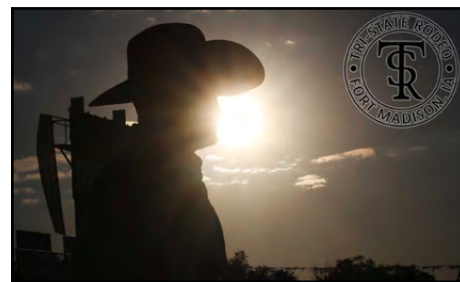
And although his days are still long for the next seven days, he's enjoying the fruits of what is really almost two years of work. The Tri-State Rodeo's Ready to Rodeo kicked off Saturday as Johnson meandered around C.E. "Eddie" Richards Arena and talked to volunteers, kids, and

families at the annual Pancake Breakfast, and the Special Kids Rodeo.

Johnson said the Special Kids Rodeo is one of the most memorable things he'll take with him from his time as chairman.

"That's just a great event to be a part of. It's probably the most rewarding thing we do."

Saturday's attendance was down a bit from previous years, but Johnson said that's probably still due to the vulnerabilities of the those who typically come out for the event. The pandemic forced the



cancellation of last year's rodeo.

Mentors and volunteers usher chil-

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2021 Kids Royalty set: Swan, Simmons win All-Around Cowboy/Lil Miss Rodeo

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – Mondays of Ready-to-Rodeo Week are typically a day set aside for the kids and for the first time in two years, the kids again took center stage at C.E. "Eddie" Richards Arena on the Tri-State Rodeo grounds.

With 2021 being canceled due to the pandemic, fans and family loaded the north side of the rodeo arena Monday to

watch kids of all ages test their skills with livestock and barrels.

Monday night, toward the end of the Hy-Vee pork dinner, 21 kids dressed up and did their best to earn the title of Lil' Miss Rodeo and All-Around Cowboy.

At the end of the night it was Jansen Swan, a 7-year-old from Montrose and Mia Simmons, a 5-year-old from Donnellson who walked away with the annual titles of top kid cowboy and

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COUNTY NEWS

Supervisors give SIREPA \$1.95M for broadband

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – Lee County Supervisors approved an application for \$1.95 million in county funds to build a fiber optics backbone in Lee County from Keokuk to Hwy. 16 and east to Hwy. 61.

At Tuesday's regular meeting of the board, which was moved from Monday due to the Labor Day holiday, the board approved, 5-0, to allocate the funds from the county's share of the American Rescue Plan Act funds it has already received.

The county has \$3.25 million in an interest bearing account from a payment received in May this year. They are expecting another \$3.25 million in May 2022.

The map and legend show the proposed new fiber optics network that is being planned for Lee County. Image courtesy of Southeast Iowa Regional & Economic Port Authority.

Southeast Iowa Regional Planning Commission Director Mike Norris, serving as an administrator for the Southeast Iowa Regional and Economic Port Authority (SIREPA) spoke to the board about the specifics of the funding.

Norris said the funds will be used as matching funds for a state grant out of the State Office of the Chief Information Officer to help offset the costs of building the \$5.5 million fiber optic "backbone" structure in Lee County.

Danville Mutual Telephone Co. is the company applying for the grant through the OCIO, but SIREPA is applying for the matching funds from the county. SIREPA would then provide the funding as part of the grant qualifications, if the project is approved.

In return SIREPA would own the fiber optics main line and lease it back to Danville Telecom for 10 years. SIREPA could then use those funds for future economic development projects. The lease payments to SIREPA would amount to 50% of the depreciated value of the main fiber optics line over the 10 year period. Danville Telecom would retain ownership of all the residential service lines. SIREPA would just own the main line.

The fiber infrastructure would be, as Norris called it, "future proof" because the speed

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WEATHER

OpenWeatherMap
WED 08 Sep.....Clear, 80° F/ 56° F
THU 09 Sep.....Broken Clouds, 77° F/ 53° F
FRI 10 Sep.....Sunny and Warm, 81° F/ 55° F

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LUCKY FOR LIFE 09/06.....3 6 18 38 44, Lucky Ball: 8
PICK 3 09/06 MIDDAY.....416
PICK 3 09/06 EVENING.....9 2 2
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POWERBALL 09/06.....11 20 22 33 54, Powerball: 24, Power Play: 2

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Obituaries

OBITUARIES

NANCY S. STUEKERJUERGEN

Nancy Sue Stuekerjuergen, 86, of the Kensington, formerly of West Point passed away at 2:40 p.m. Wednesday, September 1, 2021, at The Kensington in Fort Madison, Iowa.



STUEKERJUERGEN

Nancy was born on August 20, 1935, the daughter of Henry and Hilda (Galle) Sprenger. On October 15, 1955, she married Paul H. Stuekerjuergen at St. James the Less Catholic Church, in St. Paul, Iowa. He preceded her in death on August 24, 2004.

She is survived by her four sons: Greg (Doris) Stuekerjuergen of West Point, Brad (Bonny) Stuekerjuergen of West Point, Kevin (Tami) Stuekerjuergen of Donnellson and Dennis (Traci) Stuekerjuergen of West Point; two daughters: Paula (Mark) Spiekermeier of West Point and Christy (Jerry Wilson) Powell of Fort Madison; fifteen grandchildren; fourteen great grandchildren; three great – great grandchildren; two sisters: Dorothy Betts and Isla Stuetelberg; sisters and brother-in-law; Sue Sprenger, Vivian Stuekerjuergen, Phyllis Frey, Mary and Dick Klesner. Also surviving are several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband; daughter: Amy; granddaughter: Shalyn; grandson: Mitch, great grandson: Dante; four brothers and four sisters.

Nancy was a graduate of Fort Madison High School. She worked at Mt. Hamill Tap for seventeen years as a waitress. She also worked at Sheaffer Pen and retired after twenty years. She was a member of St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church in West Point. She was an avid bingo player and loved to read, crochet and cross stitch. Nancy loved to preserve the wealth of the large garden planted by her husband, Paul. She also loved spending time with friends and family at the Idol Inn (Sanford's Cabin).

Friends may call after 12:00 noon Friday, September 3, 2021, at Schmitz Funeral Home in West Point, where the family will receive friends from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. A Christian wake service will be held at 6:30 p.m. at the funeral home.

A funeral service will be held at 10:00 a.m. Saturday, September 4, 2021, at Schmitz Funeral Home in West Point with Father Dennis Hoffman officiating. Nancy's service will be live streamed and posted to her obituary "Tribute Wall" on our website following at: www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com.

Burial will be at Calvary Cemetery in West Point.

In lieu of flowers, a memorial has been established in her memory for the West Point Library and West Point Fire & Rescue.

Schmitz Funeral Home of West Point is assisting the family with local arrangements. Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com.

OBITUARIES

HOWARD D. MENKE

Howard Donald Menke, 68, of West Point, Iowa, passed away at 2:56 p.m. Wednesday, September 1, 2021, at his home in West Point surrounded by his family.

Howard was born on March 15, 1953, in Fort Madison, Iowa, the son of Arnold G. and Anna Marie "Dolly" (Korte) Menke. On July 29, 1978, he married Tina J. Siemens at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Fort Madison.

He is survived by his wife: Tina; one son: Bradley W. (Samantha) Menke; one daughter: Kelsey M. (Shawn) Bales; grandchildren: Nillie, Nora, Owen and Mia Menke, Bennett, Hudson and baby Bales on the way; siblings: Danny (Brenda) Menke, Greg Menke, Anna (Stan) Thornburg, Susan (Merle) Coffey, Eric (Mary) Menke and sister-in-law: Susan Menke. Also surviving are several nieces, nephews, cousins and two aunts.

He was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers: Harold and Tom Menke. Howard was a graduate of Fort Madison Community High School. He was a retired material specialist at Case New Holland. He was a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church, Fort Madison Knights of Columbus and the International Order of Odd Fellows. He served on the Wever Fire and Rescue for over thirty years. Howard enjoyed coaching and playing baseball and softball, golfing, camping, playing cards, attending the Tri-State Rodeo and his horse with "no name". He was an avid Chicago Cubs, Bears and Iowa Hawkeye fan. His family was of most importance to him.

The family received friends from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Sunday, September 5, 2021, at Schmitz Funeral Home in West Point where an Odd Fellows Service was held at 1:30 p.m. and a parish rosary was recited at 3:30 p.m. A Mass of Christian burial was held at 10:00 a.m. Monday, September 6, 2021, at St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church with Father Dennis Hoffman as celebrant. The mass was livestreamed on the church Facebook page and posted on his obituary "Tribute Wall" on our website following the service at: www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com.

Following the Mass of Christian burial, his body has been entrusted to Schmitz Funeral Home for cremation.

Burial will be at Appanoose Township Cemetery at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, a memorial has been established in his memory for Wever Fire and Rescue, West Point Fire and Rescue or Southeast Iowa Regional Home Health Care and Hospice.

Schmitz Funeral Home of West Point is assisting the family with local arrangements. Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com.



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Charles Vandenberg, Editor

(319).371.1670
editor@pencitycurrent.com

Lee K. Vandenberg, Sales Manager

(319).371.4125
sales@pencitycurrent.com

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PEN CITY CURRENT

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Obituaries/Business News

OBITUARIES

AGNES B. SCHILLER

Agnes B. Schiller, 98, of Ft. Madison, passed away on Thursday, September 2, 2021 at 7:50 PM at The Kensington.



SCHILLER

She was born on March 3, 1923 in LaCrew, IA to Nathan and Blanche Buttrick Nelson. Agnes was a graduate of Bonaparte High School and in her early years she worked at Sheaffer Pen Company where she met her Oscar. On April 3, 1947 she married Oscar C. Schiller in Ft. Madison and he passed away on February 6, 1998. Agnes worked in food service for the Ft. Madison High School and was a member of St. John United Church of Christ. Agnes loved to cook and go out to eat. She and Oscar loved traveling together and they also enjoyed gardening.

Survivors include one son, Randal (Beverly) Schiller of Basalt, CO; one daughter, Marcia Armstrong of Ft. Madison; three grandchildren, Deanna (Frank) Armstrong, Drew & Crystal Schiller and Lindsay & Chris Dunkin; four great grandchildren, Jace & Beck Dunkin and twins, Christopher & Heath Schiller; one sister, Ilene Sauer of Bellingham, WA; several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, two brothers and two sisters.

Per her wishes, cremation has been entrusted to King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. There will be a private family graveside service that will be held at Soldiers' Circle, Oakland Cemetery with Rev. Jim Luder officiating. The family requests that masks and social distancing be required. The graveside service will be able to be viewed after the graveside service at www.kinglynk.com.

A memorial has been established for St. John United Church of Christ and online condolences may be left at www.kinglynk.com.

Got a news tip?
Call Chuck (319)371.1670

OBITUARIES

RUTH I. BLINT

Ruth I. Blint, 101, of Mediapolis, IA, passed away at 12:00 a.m. on Friday, September 3, 2021 at Prairie Ridge Care Center in Mediapolis. She was born on October 22, 1919 in Stockport, IA to Fredrick & Jessie Wise Smith. She worked at the Iowa Army Ammunition Plant for several years and finished her career at Winegard Company in Burlington. She enjoyed watching the Grand Old Opry & professional wrestling and cooking for her family. She also enjoyed watching her grandchildren grow.



BLINT

Ruth is survived by: 1-granddaughter: Tammy (Randy) Strunk of Donnellson, IA; 3-great grandchildren: Ashley (Adam) Hayes of West Point, IA, Jacob (Kristen) Strunk of Argyle, IA & Jared Strunk of Donnellson, IA and 3-great great grandchildren: Hudson, Hinnsley & Gannon. She was preceded in death by her parents and 1-son.

Cremation has been entrusted to the care of King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory in Fort Madison, IA. A private family celebration of life will be held at a later date. Online condolences to Ruth's family may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: www.kinglynk.com.

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Alliant makes Top Utility list

CEDAR RAPIDS – For the third year in a row, Alliant Energy was named on Site Selection magazine's Top Utility in Economic Development list. The annual list recognizes the company for its contributions to community development and job creation.

In its September issue, Site Selection credits Alliant Energy's economic development team, in collaboration with local, regional and state partners in Iowa and Wisconsin, for delivering more than \$906 million in new capital investment and more than 2,200 new jobs in 2020. The 21 Iowa-based projects alone account for nearly \$580 million in capital investment and created 1,540 jobs.

Alliant Energy is one of 20 companies nationally named to the list and the only one in Iowa. In all, there are 3,300 utility companies, including 900 electric cooperatives, in the United States.

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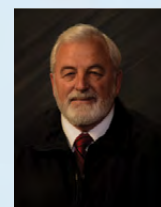
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73RD TRI-STATE RODEO

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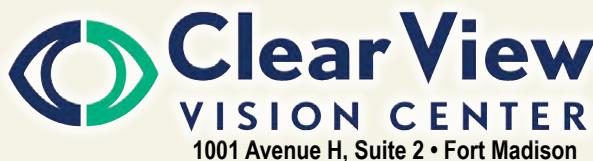


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ANNIVERSARY

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From the Front

Pageant sets record for amount of canister donations

PAGEANT - Continued from Page 1

cowgirl.

Swan is the son of Cody and Keegan Swan, while Simmons is the daughter of Justine Johnson and Jake Simmons.

Swan belted out a shortened version of a song about a six pack, of Coca-Cola, and Simmons did a little song and air guitar complete with guitar to take the titles.

The day started with the Lil Spurs Rodeo where kids from ages 3 to 14 rode calves, sheep and stick horses, and even tried to chase down some greased pigs to the delight of a full VIP section that even spilled out into the regular grandstands.

Lil Spurs Chairman Scott Meller said some logistical changes were the only hiccup to the day, but the volunteers pulled off another great rodeo for the kids.

"It went very well, I think. It was a little warm, but it seemed everyone enjoyed their day. We had a lot of volunteers again and that always helps," he said.

"The volunteers are literally the biggest part of this aside from the kids, and there are so many moving parts that people don't get to see down below with trying to get livestock and kids ready and positioned."

The Connection Bank crows nest where announcing and judging for all rodeo events takes place is typically on the northwest corner of the arena, but that was moved at the last minute to above the east grandstands, so volunteers had to adjust to where they were relaying event information and chute action, but Meller said it was a small adjustment to an otherwise successful day.

"It was a different vantage point and communication was a bit different this time because we're not in line of sight anymore so we may have to tinker with that a bit," he said.

Attendance was back to pre-pandemic levels at both events and the evening dinner.

"I don't have any real numbers yet. I think some people left a bit early because of the heat and sitting in the sun for several hours, but I think it was another successful Lil Spurs," Meller said.

Trish Eaves-Fedler said she was very happy with the crowd, the number of participants in the pageant, and the great support of the community.

"This was an amazing night. The crowd was great, the kids were excited. This is probably the most money we've raised with the canisters in all the time I've been involved. I think we're all so excited to be here and be back at it"

The money raised from the canisters goes to help defray costs associated with the Miss Rodeo pageant and the year long commitment of the winners of that pageant.

Eaves-Fedler said the number of participants in the pageant was higher than it's been in the past several years and the show moved easily.

"It's been a while since we've had that number of kids. The number of girls is always a little higher, but I think the most I've seen since I've been here is 28, so 21 is a great number and we got done in great time."

The 1st Runner-Up for Lil Miss Rodeo was Ali Bergmann, 5, the daughter of Beau and Megan Bergmann of Mt. Pleasant. The 2nd Runner-Up was Mallory Weirather, 7, daughter of Jordan and Taylor Weirather of Montrose.

First Runner-Up for All-Around Cowboy was Lane Palmer, 6, son of Cory and Melissa Palmer of Keokuk. Miles Eastin, 7, son of Chi Eastin of Fort Madison was the 2nd runner-up.



Photos by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Above, Mia Simmons gets decorated after being named the 2021 Lil' Miss Rodeo at the Tri State Rodeo Fairgrounds. Below, Jansen Swan gets his sash as the 2021 All-Around Cowboy at the end of Monday night's pageant.



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Sports/From the Front

No. 1 Nikes spoil Hawks gym christening

Notre Dame, Central Lee girls play first game in Hawks' new gymnasium

BY JOHN BOHNENKAMP
PCC SPORTS



Superconference South Division) stayed close to the Nikes (14-4, 2-0) in the early part of each of the three games before Notre Dame would go on big runs. The Nikes scored seven consecutive points to erase a 7-6 lead to Central Lee in the opening game, 10 consecutive points after being up 14-12 in the second game, and the final eight points of the third game.

"They can spray the court pretty good," Cook said. "Our passing wasn't there to where we could run a quick offense. We need to hone in on that, too."

Gabriella Deery led Notre Dame with nine kills, while Joslyn Bentz had five. Meghan Hopp led Central Lee with six kills and eight digs.

It is still early in the season, and quite early in the life of the Hawks' new home. The victories, Cook said, will come with work.

"We need to work more on our passing, and sealing the block," Cook said. "The girls are good, they recognize what they need to (work on), and we'll get better."

DONNELSON - Central Lee's volleyball team got to play in its new gym for the first time on Tuesday night.

The 25-15, 25-13, 25-11 loss to top-ranked (Class 1A) and defending state champion Notre Dame was another lesson in the young season for the Hawks.

"Notre Dame, they're a state champion team, so they're good," Central Lee coach Amy Cook said. "We want to play people like that. It's only going to make us better."

The new gym was finished just hours before the match — the bleachers were finished late Monday night, and the fire marshal inspection was completed Tuesday morning. So the Hawks didn't have much time to get acquainted with their new home.

"It's nice to be in here — it was our first time to be in here, too," Cook said. "We're very fortunate to have this, for sure."

The Hawks (3-4 overall, 0-2 SEI

Non-profits could lose county ARPA funds

COUNTY - Continued from Page 1

of the service would be dependent on the equipment at the ends of the line and could be upgraded without rerunning and replacing the line. The new project would bring service to about 120 rural homes in Lee County.

The state is targeting Tier 1 areas, which are areas with service less than 25 mbps download speeds and 3 mbps upload. Norris said current mapping is not correct on those services in Lee County, and shows more coverage that is actually provided.

Supervisor Garry Seyb said the project is just what the county was looking for in terms of the ARPA funding allocation.

"This sets up future expansion of service in Lee County," Seyb said. "Without this, we would struggle to get that."

Norris said the timeline for the work is still fluid, but he said if all goes according to plan, work could begin in the next 15 to 18 months and then service would be available about 15 months after that.

"These are really terrible ranges I'm giving you, it's really kind of a spit in the wind, but I would say between two and two and a half years is when we would have megabits flowing," Norris said.

If Danville Telecom's project isn't approved for funding, which Norris said could come any day now, then he would come back to the board with the best option moving

forward.

Danville Telecom's request from the OCIO is \$3.459 million. The \$1.95 million request from SIREPA on behalf of the project would make up the rest of the project funding.

Norris said there are some engineering costs that aren't done in Lee County, but the rest of the money would go toward construction and administration costs locally.

The county had allocated 30% of the APRA funds to broadband expansion. This approval would constitute that full allocation from the county's expected \$6.5 million in ARPA funds.

However, Seyb said other companies interested in broadband projects in Lee County should submit applications for funding because as of yet the Danville Telecom project hasn't been approved. He also said other areas of allocation, such as child care, tourism, county projects etc. could come up short of the funding total, which would allow those extra funds to be used elsewhere.

The panel overseeing the funds recommended eliminating non-profits from the previous allocation formula under guidance from the Iowa State Association of Counties. They had allocated 5% of the ARPA Funds to non-profit requests, but those funds were re-allocated to pay for a fund administrator at 3%, while the other 2% was moved into the county projects allocation.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

**PUBLIC NOTICE
 NOTICE TO BIDDERS
 Iowa Department of
 Natural Resources
 NEW CONSTRUCTION
 ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Sealed bids will be received by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Engineering Bureau, at the Wallace State Office Building, 502 East 9th Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0034 until 11:00 A.M., September 23, 2021 for the public improvement projects listed below, at which time they will be opened publicly. In addition to attending the bid opening in person, interested parties may also call in to the following number to listen to the bid opening:


Conference call number: (617) 675-4444
 PIN: 144 768 110 7295#

In order to improve sound quality, please mute your phone by pressing *6. If you have questions, you can unmute your phone by

pressing *6.
 Please Note: emailed bids will no longer be accepted; all bids must be submitted via hard copy originals

If you intend to hand-deliver your sealed Bid Proposal and Proposal Guarantee Bond, you will need to enter the Wallace Building through the main entrance/front doors. This is the only entrance open to the public. Upon arrival, please use the phone by the sliding glass doors that lead to the front elevators, to call the front desk and a DNR Receptionist will come down to obtain the sealed bid documents and to date and time stamp them. On the bid opening day, a DNR Receptionist will be available in the lobby to receive sealed bid documents and to date and time stamp them upon arrival. No bids shall be accepted by FAX OR EMAIL. After the bid opening, information concerning bid results may be obtained by visiting the

HELP WANTED

**FM POLICE DEPARTMENT
 PATROL CAPTAIN**


- Hourly, non-exempt, 2184 hours annually
- Base Wage \$73,800 plus overtime, shift differential, longevity, and educational premium
- Benefits include uniforms, health/drug insurance, paid holidays, paid vacation, personal days, sick days, deferred compensation
- Supplemental pre-tax insurance available
- \$10,000 hiring incentive, DAQ
- 20-mile residency within one year of employment

DESCRIPTION:
 Fort Madison is a thriving community in Iowa with a population of 10,200. Located along the Mississippi River, we are regarded for our parks, schools, manufacturing base, and being the home of the Tri-State Rodeo. Recent initiatives undertaken by the city has driven changes and created economic development. In response, the Police Department has begun reforms to broaden services, create new staffing assignments, and implement the latest in technology.
 To reach our goals, we are seeking qualified individuals to apply for this senior-level position. Each captain supervises a single, 12-hour shift, working cycles of 7 rotating days in a 2-week period. The department is composed of 20 sworn positions and 3 civilian staff members, including a drug task force, community service, and a school resource officer.

QUALIFICATIONS:
 Applicants must be law enforcement certified and meet ILEA standards for fitness, medical, and psychological requirements. Must possess an Iowa driver's license and have abilities as defined in the department job description. A bachelor's degree in criminal justice or a related field is preferred, along with 10 years of job experience and supervisory background. Supplemental supervisory training certification, such as FBI-NA or Northwestern SPSC is desired. For the right individual, any combination of education, experience, and demonstrated abilities may be considered.

TO APPLY:
 Interested persons may submit requests for a PDF application packet to: fmpd@fortmadisonpd.com or, obtained in person M-F 7:00 AM-4:30 PM at the Police Department lobby at 811 Avenue E, Fort Madison, IA 52627. The City of Fort Madison is an Equal Opportunity Employer. The deadline for applications is October 1st, 2021 at 4:30 PM, or until the position is filled.

Classifieds/Public Notices

PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICES

Department's website at www.iowadnr.gov.

Note: The United States Postal Service (USPS) does not deliver mail or packages directly to the address provided above but rather to the Capitol Complex Mail Room. Extra time should be allotted for proposals sent by the USPS. The Iowa Department of Natural Resources shall not consider bids if they are not received by the Department of Natural Resources, either at its mail room or at its Fourth Floor Reception Desk, by the time and date described in this Notice

to Bidders, regardless of whether the bid was mailed prior to that time and date or whether the bid was received at the Capitol Complex Mail Room or other state government location prior to that time and date.

Project documents, including drawings, specifications, proposal forms and addenda items for the project are available at Beeline and Blue, at 2507 Ingersoll Ave., Des Moines, Iowa 50312. Please visit www.beelineandblue.com or contact (515) 244-1611 for more information. Alternatively,

Bid Documents can be viewed or printed online at <https://programs.iowadnr.gov/engreal/projectlist.asp>.

The Department shall comply with all public improvement procurement laws, as outlined in the plans and specifications and including but not limited to: Iowa Code chapter 26 related to public construction bidding; Iowa Code chapter 73 related to preferences; Iowa Code chapter 573 related to labor and materials on public improvements; rules promulgated by the Department of Administrative Services – General

Services Enterprise as they may apply; rules promulgated by the Department of Natural Resources and the Natural Resources Commission, as they may apply; and any federal statutes, rules and/or executive orders that may be associated depending on funding sources. Bidders shall comply with these laws to be considered and are encouraged to be familiar with public improvement procurement requirements and the bidding documents before submitting a bid.

Each bidder shall accompany the bid with a

bid security as defined in Iowa code section 26.8. The bid security must be in an amount set forth in the bidding documents and made payable to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. Failure to execute a contract for the proposed work and file an acceptable Performance Bond in an amount equal to 100% of the contract price and a certificate of liability insurance within thirty (30) days of the date of the award of the contract will be just and sufficient cause for the rescinding of the award and the forfeiture of the bid security.

UNION COUNTY PROJECT NO. 19-04-88-01

Three Mile Lake Restoration Phase 1 Proposal Guarantee: \$25,000.00

Completion Date: 6/30/2022

Project Description: This project consists of constructing two new sediment ponds, digging out two existing sediment ponds, and improving an existing stream by constructing floodplain benches and log vanes.

HELP WANTED

Church Choir Accompanist Wanted

This person will accompany the choir for the 9:00am traditional worship service. A strong candidate will have experience in accompanying and have knowledge of a wide variety of musical styles. Piano/keyboard proficiency required. Candidate must have good organizational skills and have music prepared for practice held each Wednesday evening (September-May). Candidate will collaborate with both the Choir director and support First Christian Church's music ministry.

Please send cover letter and resume to
First Christian Church
Attn: Personnel Committee
3476 Main Street
Keokuk, IA 52632

FENCE AND DECK INSTALLER

Must be 18 years of age or older. Construction experience required. Must be willing to work at least 40 hours a week. Have a valid driver's license. Vacation and 401k package offered after first year.

Apply in person at
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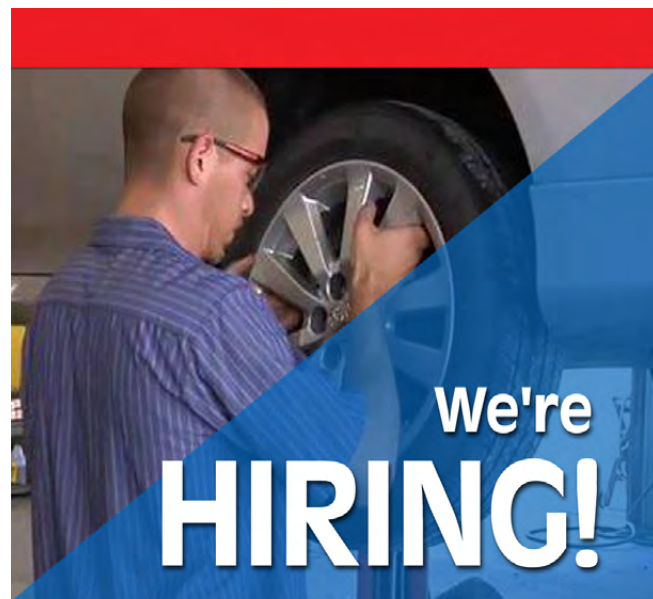
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PEN CITY CURRENT
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From the Front

Ticket sales brisk for this year's featured rodeo nights

RODEO - Continued from Page 1

dren and adults alike with disabilities to experience horse rides, barrel riding, roping and calf riding for several hours as MC Craig Kelly, who's also this year's Tri State Rodeo Parade Grand Marshal, runs around getting everyone a turn on the microphone, including the kids and adults.

Lisa Woods has been running the event for almost two decades as this is the 20th year of setting aside time on the Saturday before Rodeo at the rodeo grounds to welcome those physically and mentally challenged.

Johnson said ticket sales have been brisk. A check on Thursday showed the Wednesday night Cinch Shoot-out almost sold out. But Johnson said walk-up sales will probably be better than ever as people are anxious to get back to the rodeo.

Campers have been rolling down 15th Street from the Hwy. 61 bypass all week and the grounds are teeming with people who are taking an extended Labor Day weekend to watch some of the best cowboy action in the Midwest. You could take that a step further with it being one of the top outdoor rodeos in the country.

"Obviously not having 2020 we really don't have anything to compare it to for last year. But we are right in line and maybe just a hair above of 2019 and that was great year. If we can match those it's going to be a very successful year for the rodeo," Johnson said.

"If we can be on the pace of 2019 we'll be happy with that. We'll see a lot of walk up sales this year. People are waiting to see what the weather is like, just like they always do. So let's hope the rain stays away."

Thursday through Saturday is the regular PRCA Rodeo action brought by Cervi Rodeo. The buckin', ropin' and ridin' action gets underway at 7 p.m. Thursday is Tough Enough to Wear Pink Night and then Nelly hits the stage.

"Who doesn't know who Nelly is?," Johnson said. "We kind of took an unfortunate situation (in last year) when an act cancelled on us at the last minute. This was an opportunity we thought we should take and obviously it's not full-on country, but he does some cross-over stuff with Florida-Georgia Line."

The rodeo got another small setback this year when Mark Chestnut cancelled due to a back issue, but the rodeo's talent agent went to work and secured Tyler Rich, who fits into Friday's 90's theme.

"He's kind of an up-and-comer but fits that theme well. He's got three or four singles charted and has another out right now. He's gonna do a good show and will open for David Lee Murphy. He did fill in for Mark about a month ago somewhere else to a very goo reception," Johnson said.

Saturday's wrap up night following the Tri-State Rodeo Parade Saturday morning, will carry a military and first responder theme due to the day falling on the 20th Anniversary of 9/11.

"Everybody active military or retired will get a free ticket and then the local law enforcement agencies and first responders will be catching Billy Reid's flag as he comes in out of the sky," Johnson said.

Cole Swindell will be the main stage entertainment Saturday. The Bud Light Stockyard is the location for all the post main stage music.

Rodeo buttons can be purchase on site for all the Ready to Rodeo events. Tickets for the nightly performances can be purchased at the ticket window on the southeast corner of the rodeo grounds, or online at the following link: <https://www.tristaterodeo.org/>.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

The rodeo bullfighter's work is never done. Piper McGee gets saved from a runaway sheep during the Mutton Bustin' competition Monday at the Lil Spurs Rodeo at C. E. "Eddie" Richards arena on the Tri State Rodeo grounds.

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September 25, 2021

Registration 10am- NOON

Kickstands up at 12:15

Last bike in at 6pm

\$10/bike-\$15/2 riders

Route:

Sign up Montrose Sandbar-Montrose
Charleston Board of Trade –Charleston

The Stumble Inn – Donnellson

Fourth Street – West Point

Tena’s Tap – Ft. Madison

Finish – Montrose Sandbar

Best Hand called at 6:15pm

Silent Auction 10-7:30

50/50 Raffle Winner called at 8:30pm

Free Will Donation Dinner 6-8

Stay for Lip Sync Battle in honor of another
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Proceeds of ride will go to family for
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Present by:
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9/25/2021 at 6:00 PM

Burlington Memorial Auditorium
200 Front Street
Burlington, IA 52601

Live Auction

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**For more information contact Jeff Strause at 319.753.2908 or
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MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2021

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**DINNER INCLUDES SPAGHETTI & MEATBALLS,
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