

# PEN CITY CURRENT

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

Friday, April 16, 2021 | 8 pages | Volume 5 • Issue 82



[www.pencitycurrent.com](http://www.pencitycurrent.com)

## Shooting injures Missouri man

**FATHER/SON:** Stand Your Ground law leaves son facing charge after being shot by dad

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

LEE COUNTY – A 28-year-old Missouri man was charged with simple assault after an incident with his father turned physical in southern Lee County Wednesday night.

Rex Allen Wright, II was accidentally shot in the leg with a .22 pistol by his father after the two got in an altercation about a dog. According to reports the son had assaulted his father and knocked him to the ground when the father pulled out a gun and accidentally discharged it striking his son in the leg.

The incident took place in the 1800 block of 340th Street in

Lee County.

Wright tried to drive to an area hospital for help, but called 911 and was instructed to pull over and apply pressure to stop the bleeding as emergency crews were sent to the scene.

According to Lee County Sheriff Stacy Weber, the only charges in the case were a simple assault against Wright for knocking his father down. A review of the evidence with the Lee County Attorney's office determined the father was within his rights on his property to defend himself with the weapon under Iowa's Stand Your Ground laws.

See **ASSAULT**, page 3

## FMAAA

## Riggs stepping down as FMAAA art director

*April exhibit will be director's last, citing shrinking revenues*

BY BRIAN RIGGS  
Fort Madison Area Arts Association

FORT MADISON – Fort Madison Area Arts Association is mission driven to arts education. The Annual Regional High School Competition had occurred annually for over twenty years without interruption until last April. Covid-19 was the cause for the pause; but the Annual is back in action this year featuring student work from Central Lee, Holy Trinity, Ft. Madison High School, and Eldon. Reception for the artists occurs April 17th from 2:00-4:00pm. Lee County Bank is the sponsor for the exhibition (FMAAA thanks them for sponsoring the lost show in 2020 as well).

Categories were condensed into the following: black and white drawing, colored pencil and pastel, painting, three-dimensional, and mixed media. Best of Show receives \$40 from Personal Touch Portraits. First, second, and third place ribbons were awarded in each category. Honorable Mention ribbons awarded at the judge's discretion. Kathy Neff, retired art educator from Van Buren and FMHS, was the judge this year. Black and White Drawing: 1st place Kylie Hernandez of FMHS for "Field Grazer"; 2nd place Brooklyn Jones of Central Lee for "Neck View"; 3rd place Alexia Osborn of FMHS for "Wet Lady"; Honorable Mention Ellie Sanders of Central Lee for "Eye of the Beholder". Pastel and Colored Pencil: 1st place Lilli Scott of FMHS for "Sunday Afternoon"; 2nd place Abigail Stockwell of FMHS for "Melancholy and Bliss"; 3rd place Hanna Leech of Central Lee for "Kaleidoscope of Color"; Honorable Mentions are Mya Merschman for "Layup", Lydia Garmoe for "Beauty"

See **ART**, page 8



Photo by Lee K. Vandenberg/PCC

Crews with Meller Excavating start getting materials and equipment ready to tear up the parking lot at Avenue H and 8th Street. The new parking lot will have permeable pavers over gravel to help reduce the amount of storm water in the city's sewer systems. Funds for the project come from a state storm water mitigation grant.

## FUNDRAISER

### Lincoln Elementary PTG holding raffle/online auction

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON – The Lincoln PTG will be hosting an online auction through Fraise Auction & Real Estate is a substitute to it's annual carnival fundraiser.

The carnival is being postponed again this year out of abundance of COVID caution. PTG officials said they hope to bring the carnival back next year.

The top prize in the cash raffle will be

\$1,000, followed by a second place prize of \$250. A third prize of \$100 and a fourth prize of \$50 will also be offered. Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5. There is also a full sheet of 30 for \$25, and can be purchased from any Lincoln Elementary students or by contacting Lincoln PTG through the Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/ftmadisonlincolnptg>.

Fraise Auction & Real Estate will be host-

ing the auction April 25th thru 7pm May 1st. Auction items include an assortment of classroom and school projects, including but not limited to, artwork, games, and cookbooks as well as community donated items such as a Downtown Fort Madison Gift Basket filled with goodies and gift certificates to our downtown businesses, metal signs, golfing gift certificates, and two fire pits.

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## WEATHER

**FRI 16 Apr**.....Light Rain, 51° F / 39° F  
**SAT 17 Apr**.....Light Rain, 51° F / 43° F  
**SUN 18 Apr**.....Light Rain, 53° F / 42° F

## IOWA LOTTERY

**LOTTO AMERICA 04/14**.....2 3 6 38 39, Star Ball: 9, All Star Bonus: 2  
**PICK 3 04/14 MIDDAY**.....8 8 6  
**PICK 3 04/14 EVENING**.....9 3 6  
**PICK 4 04/14 MIDDAY**.....3 6 0 1  
**PICK 4 04/14 EVENING**.....9 2 2 1  
**POWERBALL 04/14**.....13 30 33 45 61, Powerball: 14, Power Play: 2

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# Chamber seeking Small Business Award nominations

FORT MADISON, IA – Each May during National Small Business Week the Fort Madison Area Chamber of Commerce honors the greater Fort Madison small business community for their efforts and achievements during the previous calendar year. The Small Business of the Year and the Micro Business of the Year awards are presented and ALL nominees are acknowledged during the Annual Salute to Small Business Breakfast.

Eligible businesses will be based on the following criteria:

- Is organized for profit
- Has a place of business in Fort Madison
- Is independently owned and operated
- Is not dominant in its field on a national basis
- Made an impact on the community or economy over the past year (2020)
- Has changed and/or grown in the past year (2020)

New this year, the Chamber will be awarding a small business for Innovator of the Year. The Innovator

of the Year Award will recognize one business that changed their business model to accommodate their customers in a way they hadn't before. "2020 made many businesses rethink their way of doing things and we want to recognize that," states Chamber Coordinator Savanna Collier.

To nominate a business, please contact the chamber at [chamber@fortmadison.com](mailto:chamber@fortmadison.com) or 319-372-5471. A committee of former award winners and Chamber Event Committee members will review the nominations, and make a decision based on the above criteria. Nominations will be accepted through Wednesday, April 21st.

This event is sponsored by Huffman Welding & Machine and Huffman Farm & Home.

The Salute to Small Business Breakfast will be held on Thursday, May 6th at Small Grand Things; doors open at 7:00am to browse the expo displays and a buffet breakfast will be available starting at 7:30am (\$15/per person for Fort Madison Area Chamber member employees, \$20/per person for non-members).

# State health officials find Brazilian COVID strain

DES MOINES - Today, the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) has confirmed one case of the COVID-19 variant, SARS-CoV-2 P.1 in Iowa. This variant is also referred to as the Brazilian variant. We are still learning about the characteristics of this strain including any potential impact on vaccine effectiveness.

The case was detected in Johnson County. IDPH and local public health have already initiated contact with the individual to understand exposures and initiate the health monitoring process. The process includes notifying anyone with whom the individual has been in close contact. As

always, affected individuals are advised to isolate in accordance with IDPH and CDC guidance.

The case was identified by the State Hygienic Lab (SHL). SHL is doing sequencing to understand what strains are circulating here in Iowa and contribute to the understanding of COVID-19 activity in the United States. Routine analysis of genetic sequence data assisted in identifying the new variant strain in Iowa.

The emergence of new variants underscores that it remains critical for Iowans to continue the mitigation efforts that we know work to slow the spread of COVID-19.



## CURBSIDE PICKUP

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## Pothitakis Law Firm Recognized for Professional Excellence



Firms included in the 2021 Edition of U.S. News-Best Lawyers "Best Law Firms" are recognized for professional excellence with consistently impressive ratings from clients and peers. To be eligible for a ranking, a firm must first have a lawyer recognized in The Best Lawyers in America, which recognizes the top 5% of private practicing lawyers in the United States. Achieving a tiered ranking signals a unique combination of quality law practice and breadth of legal expertise. Mr. Pothitakis has been named to The Best Lawyers in America in 2020 and again in 2021.



320 North 3rd Street, Suite 100,  
Burlington, Iowa 52601-0337  
1603 Main Street, Keokuk, IA 52632  
[www.PothitakisLaw.com](http://www.PothitakisLaw.com)

**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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Founded in 2016  
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# Obituaries/From the Front

## Shooting called self-defense

**ASSAULT** - Continued from Page 1

This is the second case in the past two weeks where the law has been applied and charges have been dismissed against someone for the use of a firearm in an altercation.

On March 20, Adam Shaffer, a 19 year-old Fort Madison man was originally charged with attempted murder in the shooting of Zachariah Raines during an altercation in the 2600 block of Avenue I. However the charges were dropped when evidence showed that Shaffer was defending himself in a fight with Raines, who, according to trail information filed in the case, pursued Shaffer onto a neighbor's property.

In 2017, Iowa adopted legislation allowing law-abiding citizens to use deadly force in defense of themselves, their property or others on their own land and in public when they perceive they are in a dangerous situation.

Iowa code also allows for the person using deadly force to be wrong in their estimation of the danger or the force nec-

essary as long as the belief of danger was reasonable. Iowa code also provides that no one has a duty to retreat from any place they are lawfully present.

"After going through the witness statements with the County Attorney's office, the only charges filed will be against the son for assaulting his father," Weber said Thursday afternoon.

He said the Stand Your Ground law is pretty clear.

"It used to be we had some laws to apply here and there was some common sense to it. But it's pretty clear now. If you're at your place and you're not doing anything wrong and someone is there and committing a crime against you, you have a right to defend yourself," Weber said.

"That would have been the case here even if the shooting was intentional. But evidence shows that wasn't the case. It was an accidental discharge."

Wright was booked into the Lee County Jail and then released after being treated at Fort Madison Community Hospital.

## New ABUS device improves dense breast cancer screenings

WEST BURLINGTON – Fort Madison Community Hospital and Great River Medical Center have begun offering the only FDA-approved ultrasound screening device for women with dense breast tissue. Automated breast ultrasound (ABUS) with the Invenia ABUS 2.0 has been shown to improve breast cancer detection by 35.7% for women with dense breast tissue.

Breasts are made of fat and breast tissue. A breast with more tissue than fat is considered dense. About 40% of women in the U.S. have dense breast tissue.

"Mammograms are still the gold standard and first step for breast cancer screening for all women," said Steven Davis, MD, medical director, Diagnostic Imaging. "The ABUS screening would be ordered as an additional test for women

with dense breasts to provide a more complete evaluation of dense breast tissue. Early detection of hidden cancers offers the opportunity for better long-term outcomes."

Breast density has been found to be the most common risk factor for breast cancer, over family history and other risk factors. Women with dense breast tissue are at four to six times higher risk of developing breast cancer than women without dense tissue. A 2019 national law requires patients to be informed of their breast density in their mammogram report letters.

ABUS screening is a comfortable and relatively short examination that doesn't use radiation. Harmless sound waves create 3D images of breast tissue for radiologists to review. With a health care provider's order,

the screening can be done during a patient's mammography visit. There is an additional charge. Patients are encouraged to check with their insurance companies about coverage.

"Supplemental screening with ABUS has been shown to improve breast cancer detection over mammography alone in women with dense breasts," said Dr. Davis. "It helps provide a more complete evaluation."

### OBITUARIES

## PEGGY S. BELL

Peggy S. Bell, 77, of Fort Madison, passed away at 9:02 p.m. Wednesday, April 14, 2021, at Fort Madison Community Hospital in Fort Madison.

She was born on December 21, 1943, in McKees Rocks, Pennsylvania, the daughter of James and Rose (Newburg) Harris. On April 6, 1961, she married Boyd Isam Bell in Clinton, Iowa. He preceded her in death on March 1, 1997.



BELL

Survivors include her children: Amanda (Kevin) Young of Mankato, Minnesota, Christopher (Shelia) Bell of Farmington, Iowa, Matthew (Kim) Bell of Fort Madison, Iowa, Brett (Kayla) Bell of Davenport, Iowa and Bart (Shellie) Bell of Fort Madison, Iowa; step-children: Carol (Sam) Simpson of Brothel, Washington and Virginia Auwae of Baker, Montana; sixteen grandchildren; fifteen great grandchildren; brothers: David (Nancy) Harris of Boise, Idaho, James (Karalee) Harris of Lake Havasu City, Arizona, Michael (Karen) Harris of Lake Havasu City, Arizona and Pat Collins of Mesa, Arizona.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband and sister.

Peggy was a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Fort Madison and the Old Fort Players. She was a very cheery, upbeat checker at HyVee in Fort Madison and people would shop when Peggy was working just to go through her line. She enjoyed quilting (especially creating her own designs), "Tabu" perfume, owls, collecting salt and pepper shakers, her Wii and her home. Peggy was a loving wife, mother and grandmother.

The family will receive friends from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Saturday, April 17, 2021, at Schmitz Funeral Home in Donnellson.

A funeral service will be held at 1:00 p.m. Saturday, April 17, 2021, at Schmitz Funeral Home in Donnellson with Pastor Pete Hagglund officiating.

Following the service her body has been entrusted to Schmitz Funeral Home for cremation.

A private family burial will be Monday, April 19, 2021, at Soldier's Circle in Fort Madison, Iowa.

A memorial has been established in her memory.

Online condolences may be made to the family at [www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com](http://www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com). Schmitz Funeral Home of Donnellson is assisting the family with arrangements.

### 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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## Sports

# FMMS 8th graders 3rd at MP Relays

BY PCC SPORTS

MT. PLEASANT – The Fort Madison 8th Grade boys took 3rd place at the Don Taft Junior High Relays Monday night in Mt. Pleasant.

The Little Hounds got first-place finishes from Caden Barnes in the shotput with a throw of 40-11". Barnes older brother Elijah throws shot for the University of Iowa. Fort Madison also got a first place in the distance medley with Kaden Durbin, Mason Koser, Marcus Guzman and Aiden Mitchell running a 4:28.02, 4.24 seconds ahead of the pack.

Fort Madison finished with 96 points to Mt. Pleasant's 104 and champion Ottumwa's 120.

Mitchell earned a second in the 800-meter run with a 2:33.08, just 2.37 off the pace. Julian Dear leaped to 5-02" for

a runner-up finish in the high jump.

Third place finishes came from Dayton Lamar in the 100 hurdles at 17.68, and the 4x800 relay team of Koser, Zayne Speer, Richard Pennington and Waylan Plant at 12:25.42.

The 7th graders took fifth place with 46 points. Mt. Pleasant won the 7th grade meet with 152 points.

Nolan Guzman took first place for FMMS in the 1600 with a time of 5:55.68, while the 4x800 relay team of Mason McLey, Jake Haessig, Jackson Haessig and Guzman captured first with a mark of 10:40.08.

The distance medley team of Case Fraise, Karson Dixon, Jake Haessig and McLey also crossed the line first at 4:51.77.

Guzman was third in the 200 meter hurdles at 32.46 and third in the high jump at 4-10".

The only other top five finish for the 7th graders was a 4th place finished by Fraise in the 800 at 3 minutes flat. Complete results are below.

**7th GRADE RESULTS**  
Eric Cornelis 17th in 100 dash; Case Fraise 18th in 200 meter; Cornelis 19th in 200 meter; Jackson Haessig 6th in 400 meter 1:10.16; Logan Pomberg 10th 1:17.59; Fraise 4th in 800 3:00.00; Nolan Guzman 1st in 1600 at 5:55.68 (10 pts); Jake Haessig 6th in 100 meter hurdles 19.82; Karson Dixon 16th, Pomberg 17th Guzman 3rd in 200 meter hurdles 32.45; Mason McLey 10 36.92; 4x100 6th 1:06.09; 4x800 FIRST 10:40.08, McLey Jake Haessig, Jackson Haessig, Guzman; Distance Medley: FIRST 4:51.77 Fraise, Dixon, Jake Haessig, Mclay; High Jump Guzman 3rd 4-1"; Long Jujmp Jake Haessig 10-0" 15th; Discus – Dixon 56-07" 14th, Cornelis 39-10" 16th.

**8TH GRADE RESULTS**  
400-meter Kendon Bowie – 17th; 800 meter Aiden Mithcell 2nd 2:33.08 (2.37 off); 1600 Mitchell 5:43.00 (4th)

100 hurdles Dayton Lamar 3rd 17.68, Julian Dear 18.28 (7th); 200 meter hurdles Thomas White 33.49 (9th), Zayne Speer (14th); 4x100 FM 4th 54.46 Caden Barnes, Tristan Marshall, Lamar, Brody Cashman; 4x200 FM 3rd Marcus Guzman, Dear, White, Cashman 1:54.08; 4x400 FM 5th Bowie, Chandler Fullenkamp, Kaden Durbin and Mason Koser 4.44.92; 4x800 FM 3rd Koser, Speer, Richard Pennington and Waylan Plant; 800 sprint medley FM 5th Marcus Guzman, Jesus Oronia, Fullenkamp and Gavin Callahan 2:08.45; Distance Medley FIRST FM Kaden Durbin, Mason Koser, Marcus Guzman and Aiden Mitchell 4:28.02; 4x100 shuttle hurdle 5th: Callahan, Fullenkamp, Durbin and Cashman 1:19.27; High Jump Dear 5-02" (2nd) Lamar 5-0" (3rd); Long jump Mitchell 15-03" (3rd) Cashman 13th, White 17th, Callahan 18th; Shot Caden Barnes 40-11" FIRST, Tristan Marshall 28-7.5" (10th), Aaron Warner 19th, Isaiah Jenkins 20th; discus Marcus Guzman 86-8" 5th, Barnes 79:09" (7th) Jenkins 19th, Warner 20th.

# CL looking for HOF nods

DONNELSON, IOWA — The Central Lee Community School District is seeking nominations for the 2021 inductees into its three Halls of Fame.

The Halls of Fame are part of the district's alumni recognition program, launched last year. Through the effort, Central Lee will honor nine individuals who achieved excellence in academics, athletics and the fine arts during their time in the district.

"We are thrilled to open up our nomination process to select our next round of distinguished alumni for our Halls of Fame," said Dr. Andy Crozier, Central Lee Superintendent. "This program has become a great way for us to highlight the people who have made Central Lee such a wonderful place to live, work and learn. We look forward to moving ahead with the nomination and induction process again this year."

The Central Lee Academic Hall of Fame recognizes top scholars and staff from the past. This year, the district will be introducing three students and/or former staff members who have excelled in academics before or after their time at Central Lee. The Athletics Hall of Fame recognizes top athletes, teams and coaches from the past. This year, the district will induct three athletes, teams or coaches who achieved greatness in athletics.

The Fine Arts Hall of Fame recognizes students, directors and others who have excelled in band, choir, art and other areas of the fine arts. Central Lee will introduce three inductees who have achieved greatness in the fine arts.

Committees have been established to help with the selection of inductees. For someone to qualify for a nomination, they must have graduated from Central Lee or have been a staff member. They also must be at least five years removed from the district.

Nominations are due by Friday, May 14. To submit a nomination, visit <https://bit.ly/CLHOFNomination>.

# Krehbiel scores four in Hawks 11-1 win over Wapello Tuesday night

BY PCC SPORTS

DONNELSON – Cole Krehbiel scored a hat trick plus on in Central Lee's 11-1 win over Wapello Tuesday night at Central Lee High School.

Krehbiel had all four of his goals in the first half, two were unassisted on breaks. The other two were assisted by Landan Crank with 7:23 left in the half. The second was on a pass from Dante Merschman with 4:24 left in the half as the Hawks moved out to a quick 6-0 at the half.

Seth Mayes had three goals on the days, two on assists from Landon Lowenberg for the Hawks first two goals of the night.

Mason Schaul and Dante Merschman each had two goals in the 10-run mercy win. Lowenberg had three assists, while Landan Crank, Merschman, Mayes and Krehbiel each had saves.

Blake Moeller had six saves on the night, while Avery Lyon had one in relief as the keeper.

Central Lee is now 1-1 on the year and and plays Keokuk on Friday in a girls/boys double header at home.

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## Sports

# Pothitakis' penalty kicks lift Hounds over Fairfield

BY JOHN BOHNENKAMP  
PCC SPORTS

FORT MADISON – Fort Madison's 2-1 boys soccer win over Fairfield at the Baxter Sports Complex on Thursday night was a test of the Bloodhounds' toughness.

Fort Madison (4-1 overall, 3-0 Southeast Conference) played one man short over the final 26 1/2 minutes after a red card on sophomore Xander Wellman, but the Bloodhounds were able to hold on.

"It was toughness," Fort Madison coach Kevin Wellman said. "Mental toughness, and some physical toughness too. But mostly mental toughness. We obviously didn't have many opportunities with one guy out, because we went without a forward up top. But we were going after those balls, we were challenging when they had the ball, applying pressure properly. I'm very proud with what the guys did, all of them, even the guys on the bench."

Fort Madison got two goals off penalty kicks by Mitchell Pothitakis, the second one with 35:45 left in the match. Less than 10 minutes later, Xander Wellman was sent off, and the Bloodhounds had to tighten up.

The Bloodhounds' defense was solid, keeping the No. 8 Trojans (3-1, 2-1) away from the Fort Madison goal.

And as the time ticked away, Fort Madison's bench players got louder and louder. "You could feel the energy," Kevin Wellman said. "That's what you want from your bench."

When the clock hit all zeroes, the Bloodhounds celebrated as they sat at the top of the conference standings.

"That part in itself is huge," Wellman said. "But they're a tough school in our conference, year after year. This is a great win for us, puts us in the driver's seat in the conference, which is where we want to be. That's one of our goals."

Fort Madison took a lead in the opening minutes. Xander Wellman was brought down on a foul near the net, leading to Pothitakis' first goal with just 1:33 gone in the match.

"We had a nice through ball over the defense, and Xander ran it down," Kevin Wellman said. "He got a half-step on the defender, and the defender was trying to do everything he could. It was nothing malicious, he was just trying to do everything he could to stop him."

Fairfield tied it with 27:44 left in the half on Xavier Kapijimpanga's goal.

The Trojans had nine shots on goal in the first half, but only three in the second half.

It was the fourth consecutive win for the Bloodhounds, who have outscored their opponents 27-4 in the winning streak.

Fort Madison plays at Mount Pleasant on Monday.

# Hawks take four titles at Fairfield

BY PCC SPORTS

FAIRFIELD – Central Lee's Thomas Eschman set a personal best in another long jump win at Fairfield Tuesday night.

Eschman captured one of four first-place finishes with a leap of 19-10" to help Central Lee to a tie for 4th place in the six-team field.

Chance Hocker won both the 100- and 200-meter dashes Tuesday with times of 11.70 and 24.09 respectively, and Wyatt Schulte ran the 400-meter hurdles in 1:04.89 for the other Hawk 1st place.

Logan Kearns finished 3rd in the 400-meter dash in 59.34 and Derick Denning took third in the 400 hurdles at 1:07.98. The other 3rd place finish that helped the Hawks amass 74 points was in the shuttle hurdle relay with Denning, Schulte, Kearns and Eschman who crossed the line at 1:12.65.

Host Fairfield won the event with 140 points, followed by Pekin with 116 and Oskaloosa with 111. Central Lee tied Van Buren with 74, and Keokuk took sixth with 66 points.

The Hawks run again tonight in the Denny White Relays at Mt. Pleasant.

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# Classifieds/Public Notices

# PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

## PUBLIC NOTICES

**PUBLIC NOTICE  
PROCEEDINGS OF THE  
REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE WEST POINT  
CITY COUNCIL  
WEST POINT, IOWA  
52656  
APRIL 12, 2021**

Mayor Paul Walker called the properly noticed regular meeting of the City Council of the City of West Point to order in the Public Library, 317 Fifth Street, West Point, Iowa 52656 on April 12, 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. Members of the Sweet Corn Festival Committee requested changing the fencing on Avenue D to accommodate setting up a corn hole game and installing plexiglass windows in the food service area of the shelter house during the festival. The Council reviewed the Public Works Department report. Chief Roberts presented the Police Department report. Mayor welcomed Kim's Confections to its new location. Mayor announced the following upcoming events: City-wide garage sales will be held on June 12, 2021; and, meeting date and time for meetings of Library Board, the upcoming Municipal Utility

Board, and next regular Council Meeting on May 10, 2021. Councilor Stuekerjuergen thanked the community for attending the Fireworks fish fry fundraiser. Councilor Meierotto thanked the community for supporting the Fire Department's Pork Loin meal fundraiser. Councilor Loving reported on the progress of the South Park Trail and invited the community to assist with installation of new playground equipment at Pollmiller Park. Dennis McGregor presented the City Administrator's report. On motion approved urban revitalization tax exemption for Randy & Kim Cook at 423 Avenue D. On motion approved minutes of prior regular Council Meeting of March 8, 2021. On motion Treasurer's Report for March 2021 was approved as presented. On motion warrants payable for April 2021 were approved as presented. On motion approved City Clerk attend IMFOA Conference on April 22-23, 2021. On motion meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m., April 12, 2021.

**EXPENDITURES  
MARCH, 2021**

Delta Dental, premiums .....101.02  
Fullenkamp Insurance, premiums.....28504.00  
L J Neuweg Rental, fee .....65.00  
Mastercard, supplies .....519.32  
Mediacom, telephone

.....261.27  
Midamerican Energy, utilities.....73.35  
Sun Life Financial, premiums.....235.04  
Verizon Wireless, data plans.....80.02  
West Point Prof Group, lease.....685.00  
West Point Utilities, utilities.....3795.65  
Wex Bank, fuel .....540.12  
Brozene Hydraulic, snow blade.....174.00  
Paul's Plumbing, part...96  
Agrineed, parts .....153.72  
Holtkamp Automotive, repairs.....415.82  
SYNCB/Amazon, supplies.....327.91  
Wellmark BC/BS, premiums.....2726.89  
Drake Hardware, services .....403.75  
Micromarketing LLC, books.....47.17  
Mary Jane Pranger, cleaning .....132.00  
RICOH, copier .....141.88  
Windstream, telephone .....196.67  
West Point Lumber, supplies .....26.55  
Robins Sales, services .....257.82  
Daily Democrat, publications.....133.37  
Floyd's E-Z-Way, trash hauling.....47.00  
McFarland-Swan, supplies .....85.23  
U S Postal Service, postage.....75.65  
Aspelmeier & Fisch, legal fees.....105.00  
Baker & Taylor, books .....750.09  
Pilot Grove Savings Bank, P&I.....20776.08  
Cessford Construction, rock.....102.81  
Huffman Welding, sup-

plies .....130.95  
Ideal Ready Mixed, sand .....46.51  
City Clerk-FM, fees .....320.00  
CJ Cooper, fees .....20.00  
GRRWA, fees .....432.00  
IA Dept of Revenue, taxes .....240.00  
U S Cellular, telephone .....71.25

**RECAPITULATION**

FUND; PREV BAL; RECEIPTS; DISBURSED; CURRENT BAL: General: 409017.29, 19523.22, 71258.97, 357281.54; Grants: 1045.26, 20776.08, 20776.08, 1045.26; Cap Equip: 4127.06, ---, ---, 4127.06; Lib County: 7992.48, ---, 856.13, 7136.35; Lib Mem: 17130.64, 38.51, ---, 17169.15; Hoenig Estate: 551686.54, 25.70, ---, 551712.24; Road Use: 11917.89, 4181.45, 6018.76, 10080.58; LOST: ---, 15296.04, 15296.04, ---; Sewer: 20967.94, 25849.58, 19319.03, 27498.49; Sewer Sinking: 61555.45, 7809.86, ---, 69365.31; Landfill: 259.53, ---, ---, 259.53

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Local News/From the Front

# Director cites Hotel/Motel tax cut as reason for stepping down

ART - Continued from Page 1

and Ellie Sanders for "Tropical Path" all from Central Lee; also Alita Bosler of Eldon for "Italy Street".

FMHS' Kylie Hernandez captured 1st place in the Black and White division at the FMAAA's Regional High School Art Competition with her "Field Grazer" work. Image courtesy of FMAAA

Painting Division: 1st place Kylie Kemper of FMHS for "Frankbarny"; 2nd place Camilla Cummings of Central Lee for "Feathered Fiends"; 3rd place Abigale Stuekerjuergen of FMHS for "Imaginary Friends"; Honorable Mentions to Mya Schmitz for "Life" and Kendell Wells for "Woman and Glass" of FMHS; and Mary Hellige of Holy Trinity for "Making Wishes by Moonlight". Mixed Media: 1st place Kyndall Wells of FMHS for "Lady in Red"; 2nd place Paige Dettmers of FMHS for "Behind the Scenes"; 3rd place Aleaya Klesner of FMHS for "Roped". Three Dimensional: 1st place Alexis Gaylord of Central Lee for "Slice"; 2nd place Morgan Bride of Eldon for "Cow Pattern Dish Set"; 3rd place Makayla Leach of FMHS for "Gnome".

FMAAA invites visitors to peruse the YART SALE running this month on the Member Artist Gallery side.

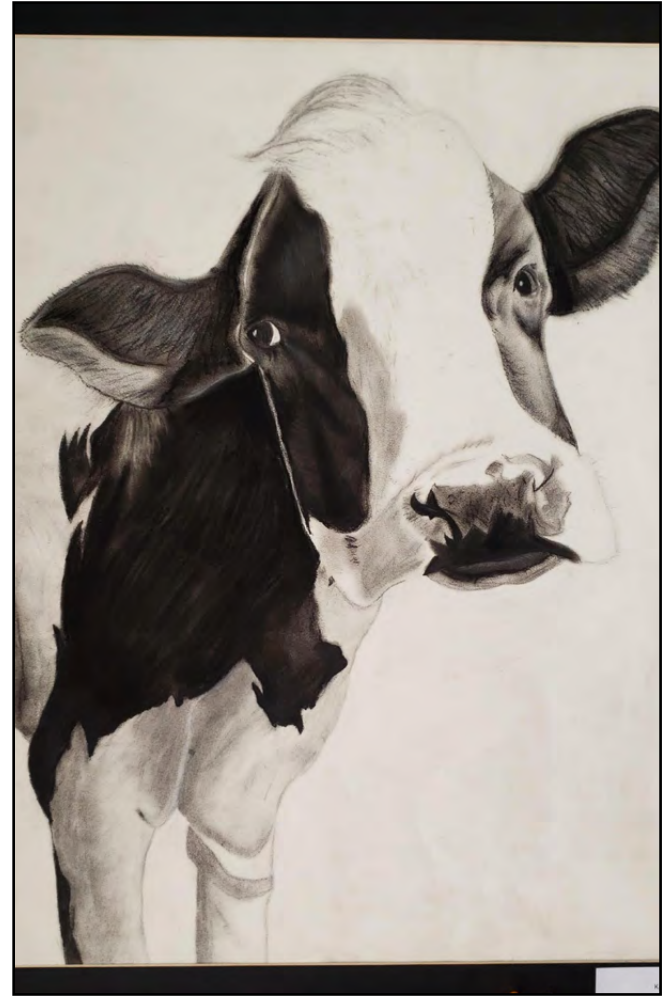
With the new roof renovation FMAAA is continuing it's out-with-the-old...in-with-the-new theme by offering art and yard sale items. We continue the theme with the Director position as well, as this will be the last feature exhibition for this writer's tenure.

I am not a Covid-19 loss, although FMAAA was knocked to the mat early on that end. FMAAA fought Covid with aid from PPP and Emergency Grants from IA Arts Council. My loss stems from the loss of Hotel/Motel tax appropriations to FMAAA passed by City Council in 2019 in order to finish the depot project.

After that decision I worked with FMAAA Board by reducing acquired benefits and monthly hours to continue aboard for up to a two- year timeline. That time has come and it is a consolation for me to see the building of the Amtrak platform along Ft. Madison's mighty riverfront.

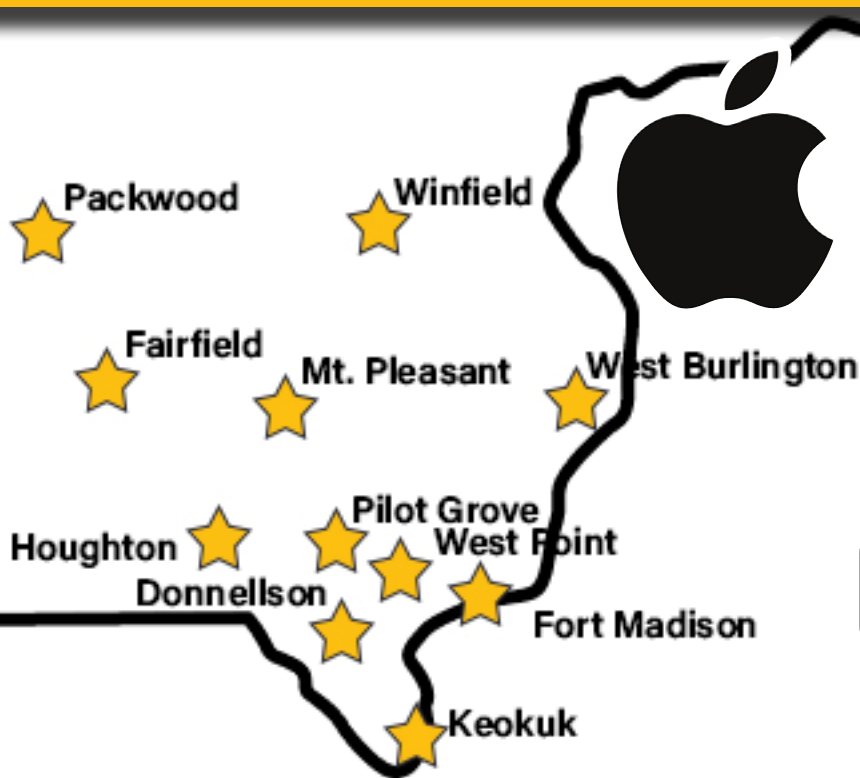
I heartily thank all the folks and businesses that I have had the opportunity to work with over the years. I have made many friends that will last for my lifetime.

Farewell.



FMHS' Kylie Hernandez captured 1st place in the Black and White division at the FMAAA's Regional High School Art Competition with her "Field Grazer" work. Image courtesy of FMAAA

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## City clean up set for April 24

FORT MADISON – The Fort Madison Area Chamber of Commerce is coordinating a volunteer community effort designed to remove litter and debris from parks, recreational areas, shorelines and waterways, while inspiring generations of environmental stewards. In past years, Community Clean Up volunteers bagged litter, swept sidewalks, and cleared weeds in an effort to make Fort Madison more presentable to visitors and the general population.

The 2021 clean up date is scheduled for Saturday, April 24, rain or shine, with registration in Central Park starting at 10:00am. Gloves, trash bags, and maps highlighted with targeted clean up areas will be distributed to participants.

"Whether you have 30 minutes or 2 hours available to help, I encourage you to join in this city-wide effort. Come alone or get your friends and family together and meet us in Central Park on April 24th. If you're unable to join us, try and clean up the area around your home or work. Every effort helps" says Savanna Collier, Fort Madison Area Chamber of Commerce.

This event is made possible with the support of many generous sponsors and participating organizations: Climax Molybdenum, McDonald's and MidAmerican Energy.