

PEN CITY CURRENT

It's Black & White and Read all over

Thursday, January 14, 2020 | 10 pages | Volume 5 • Issue 18



www.pencitycurrent.com

HUMPHREY BUILDING: With Dec. 15 deadline in the mirror, judge to hear case

Contempt hearing Feb. 19

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – A court hearing has been set for Feb. 19 on a contempt charge against Bryan Humphrey for lack of action on his building in downtown Fort Madison.

According to Fort Madison Building Director Doug Krogmeier the hearing was set due to Humphrey's alleged failures to comply with a court order from September.

Krogmeier said Humphrey has failed to meet any deadlines or do any work ordered by District Judge Michael Schilling. The order had a deadline of Dec. 15, or Humphrey could be ordered to vacate the property.

Fort Madison Mayor Matt Mohrfeld said it's been a slow process and the holidays added some time, but the city has to move forward.

"The ultimate answer here is making that a safe viable building," Mohrfeld said Wednesday.

"From there, if that involves Bryan Humphrey – let's make it happen. If it doesn't, we want him to get the building to someone that can make that happen.

"It's naive to think it's that simple, but every time he misses things he gets further under water."

On Sept. 25, Schilling signed an order that listed out improvement Humphrey was to make on the building in coordination with city officials and the city's engineer.

See **HEARING**, page 6



PCC File photo

A court hearing to address the failure of Bryan Humphrey to address a court order demanding he perform city-mandated repairs or vacate the property, will be held next month.

POLLMILLER

Conservation board looks at trail options

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

WEST POINT – The Lee County Conservation Board is looking at options for repairing the trail around Pollmiller Park.

At Tuesday's regular board meeting, Lee County Conservation Director Nathan Unsworth said the current trail is more than 20 years old and is in need of repair or full replacement.

Stephen Pedrick, a project manager with the engineering firm French-Reneker, said the best option at this point would be to tear the trail out and reclaim the surface as a base and then add four inches of asphalt.

"We looked at different options for

See **TRAIL**, page 10

CURT SWARM

Fate lends a hand to bring stray cat in from the storm

Thursday, December 31, New Year's Eve Day: The Vintage Raven in Mt. Pleasant posted on its Facebook page a video of a three legged cat, Doodle Bug, that was up for adoption. Doodle Bug looked a lot like our long lost Barney: gray tiger with white chest and paws. I looked up a couple of pictures of Barney, and Doodle Bug was not Barney—close, but not Barney. Dang. Ginnie and I really missed Barney. He had unfairly disappeared after all that love (and money) we put into him.

Still, Doodle Bug needed a home, and we were catless. I text Ginnie at work with a picture of Doodle Bug. She said it was fine with her if we adopted him.

I called the Vintage Raven and had a little chat about Doodle Bug. Doodle Bug was a good cat, young, friendly, and in need of a home. He got along fine on three legs, which was a birth defect. It was New Year's Eve and the Vintage Raven would close at 2:00 pm.

EMPTY NEST

By Curt Swarm



What to do? I did what I always do when faced with a difficult decision: I flipped my sobriety coin. I'll be darned, the sobriety coin said no to Doodle Bug. What? God doesn't want us adopting a stray cat? Well, OK. I know better than to defy my sobriety coin. One time I did and there were drastic consequences.

The next day, New Year's, believing that what you do on New Year's Day predicts how the rest of your year will go, I busied myself doing honey do's: hang the winter bird feeder our kids gave us for Christmas, fix Ginnie's treadmill, install the new doorbell Ginnie gave me for Christmas. It was snowing like crazy—I knew I'd better get

the honey do's done before football bowl games started.

I pushed the front door open against the snow, trying to determine how I was going to mount this wi-fi doorbell. I heard a yowling. Over in the corner of the porch, almost buried in snow, was a little gray kitten. I hollered at Ginnie to come and look while I coaxed the stray toward me. It inched slowly forward. When it was near I grabbed it up and paid dearly with a sliced-and-diced hand. But I had it in the house. Ginnie scurried around getting a saucer of milk and dry blanket. The kitten was a little gaunt, and one of its eyes was matted shut. It didn't want anything to do with the milk but, when Ginnie put some tuna in front of its nose, it knew what to do with that. I inspected it and determined it was a boy. It spent the next few hours hiding inside a couch.

Short story even shorter: we now have

See **SWARM**, page 10

EDUCATION

SCC, IWU form higher education alliance

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

LEE COUNTY – A new alliance that has been in the creation for the past two years is setting a new bar for public/private partnerships in education.

On Tuesday, officials from Southeastern Community College and Iowa Wesleyan University unveiled the Southeast Iowa Higher Education Alliance.

According to SCC President Michael Ash, the Alliance will initially be made up of six board members; both school presidents, one board member from each institution and one nominated board member that could be from

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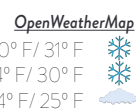
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WEATHER

THU 14 JanSnow, 40° F/ 31° F
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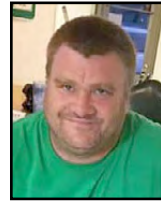
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Obituaries

JOSEPH R. LAMPE

Joseph Robert "Joey" Lampe, 47, of Augusta, Iowa, passed away at 9:43 p.m., Monday, January 4, 2021, in the Emergency Room at Great River Medical Center in West Burlington, Iowa.



LAMPE

He was born on December 12, 1973, in Fort Madison, Iowa, the son of Gerald and Lucia (Maurer) Lampe. On March 2, 2007, he married Nicole Hayes-Underwood in Keokuk, Iowa.

Survivors include his wife: Nicole of Augusta; one daughter: Martha (Brendon) Bell of Fort Madison; one son: Garry Lampe of Keokuk; three grandchildren: Greyson Bell, Brantley Bell and Kaidan Lampe; father:

Gerald Lampe of Augusta; three sisters: Kim (Tracy) Douglas of Willard, Missouri, Janel (Duane) Souder of Donnellson and Linda O'Donnell of Burlington; two brothers: Chris (Heather) Lampe of Fort Madison and Kenny Lampe of Ohio. Also surviving are his dear friends: Matt and Kim Bell and Shawn and Ashlee Fuller.

He was preceded in death by his daughter: Haley Lampe; mother: Lucia Lampe; father-in-law: Garry Underwood and grandmother: Janet Yossett.

Joey worked as a mechanic and was a jack of all trades. He enjoyed participating in the Special Olympics, four wheeling, "Fortnite", going to karaoke, pool nights and most of all, spending time with his grandchildren.

His body has been entrusted to Schmitz Funeral Home for cremation.

A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

A memorial has been established in his memory and can be sent to the family at: Schmitz Funeral Home, P.O. Box 22, West Point, Iowa 52656.

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

JEANETTE S. WILLIAMSON

Accompanied by music and with family at her side, Jeanette Smith Williamson, 90, formerly of Keokuk, IA, died peacefully Monday, January 4, 2021 in Omaha, NE.

The youngest of four children, Jeanette was born March 22, 1930 in Hillsboro, OH to the late William Albert "Bert" and Doris Barrett Smith. She was preceded in death by her husband, the late Dr. Billy James Williamson; brother, Ralph "Pat" Smith; sister Beverly Smith Fenner; and survived by sister Aileen Smith Githens.



WILLIAMSON

Her legacy includes five children: identical twin sons S. Brandt (Beth) Williamson of Des Moines; J. Brian (Jenal) Williamson of Mason, OH; three daughters: Jamey (Mark) Phillips of Springboro, OH; Jana (Mike) Helmuth of Seattle; Jewel (Rick) Schieuer of Omaha; eleven grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

Jeanette graduated Valedictorian of Marshall High School with the Class of 1948. She earned a B.S. Education degree at Wilmington College in 1952.

She taught one year in Belfast, OH before marrying her childhood sweetheart on September 21, 1952 at Marshall Methodist Church. Their first home was in Chicago while Billy completed his studies at Northwestern Medical School.

They settled in Keokuk in 1957 where Jeanette managed Billy's private family medical practice and raised their family.

She was an active and dedicated member of United Presbyterian Church of Keokuk, serving as elder and clerk of session and shared her talents through worship and music.

Her volunteer service was welcomed throughout the community, including the boards for Keokuk Area Hospital, Keokuk Home Health Care, and the YMCA.

Her interests and activities included golf, bridge club, PEO, Keokuk Amateur Radio Club, Mother's Study Club, Keokuk HS Band Boosters, travelling, gardening, and sewing.

She was a naturally gifted musician, performing regularly at churches and local venues with her family and various groups, including McNamara's Band.

After a lifetime of putting others before herself, she is best remembered by all for her sweet smile. We were blessed to have her in our lives.

Visitation was held at the Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk on Friday, Jan 8. A graveside service was held Friday at the Keokuk National Cemetery. Social distancing measures will be in effect and masks are required at both the visitation and graveside.

For her detailed life story and online condolences visit www.vigenmemorialhome.com.

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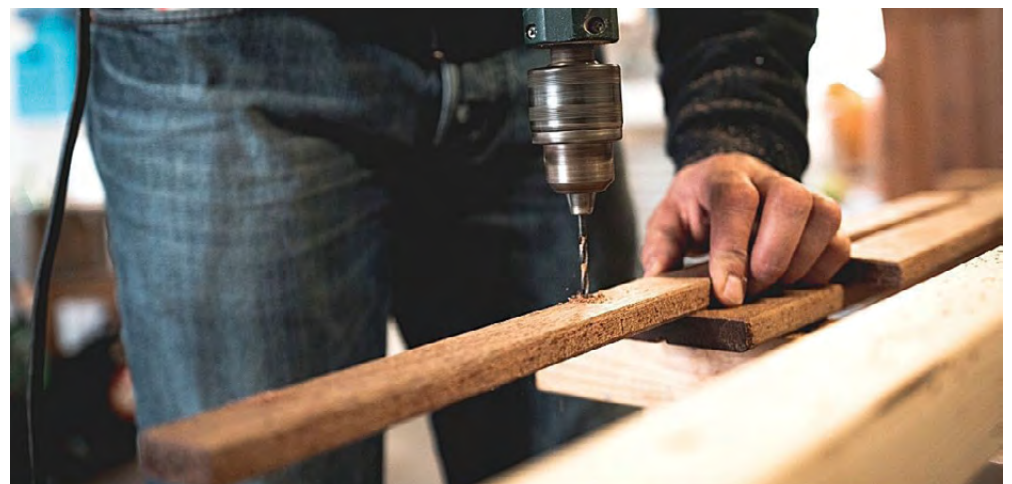
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Obituaries

DANIEL P. RECTOR

Daniel "Dan" Patrick Rector, 71, of Nauvoo, Illinois, formerly of Keokuk, Iowa, passed away on Wednesday, January 6, 2021, at Fort Madison Community Hospital in Fort Madison, Iowa.



RECTOR

Dan was born on February 20, 1949, in Keokuk, Iowa, the son of Ed and Jean (Hayes) Rector. In 1971, he was united in marriage to Laurie Steffey in Keokuk, Iowa. They were later divorced. Dan graduated from Cardinal Stritch High School in 1967 and received a Bachelors in English from Northeast Missouri State University in 1973.

Dan spent his working career as a painter and was a master in historic restoration. He was a talented carver and woodworking artist and was especially gifted at carving ducks. He enjoyed spending his free time gardening, listening to music and reading. He was also a devoted grandfather to his grandchildren, always writing cards and carving wooden creations for them.

Dan is survived by his daughter Katie (Chris) Gilbert of Louisville, Kentucky; two grandchildren: Henry and Sylvie Gilbert of Louisville; five siblings: John (Jackie) Rector of Florida, David (Carolyn) Rector of Keokuk, Julie Rector Hodies of California, Pat (Lorrie) Rector of Keokuk and Mark (Julie) Rector of Keokuk; his sister-in-law Mary Ann Rector of Des Moines, Iowa; and numerous nieces and nephews. He is also survived by his former spouse Sherry Mills and her family.

Dan is preceded in death by his parents and his brother Tim. Due to Covid-19, a celebration of Dan's life will be held at a later date. Memorials may be directed to the American Heart Association or the Keokuk Public Library.

Tributes and condolences may be left at www.dejongsfuneralhome.com. DeJong-Greaves-Printy Funeral Home of Keokuk is in charge of arrangements.

ZARALYNN ROSE SNIDER-HUSTON

Our little angel, Zaralynn, was called home to the Lord on December 29, 2020.



SNIDER-HUSTON

Zaralynn Rose Snider-Huston was born on December 29, 2020, at the Ft. Madison Community Hospital in Ft. Madison, IA. The daughter of Larry Snider and Lamona Huston.

Those left to cherish Zaralynn's memory include her mother and father, brother, Justin Hotto-Huston, grandfather, Michael Huston and grandmother, Wendy Lamma, along with several aunts and uncles.

She was preceded in death by grandparents, Larry James Snider and Robin Decker and 2 great grandparents, Roseann Gibson and Lamona Warner.

Funeral Services will be held at 3 pm Friday, January 15, 2021 at Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk.

Online condolences may be entered at www.vigenmemorialhome.com.

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JOANNE BRISBY

Joanne Brisby, 81, of Keokuk, Iowa died at 1:30 am, January 7, 2021 at home surrounded by family. She was born July 8, 1939 in Newark, New Jersey to Lawrence



BRISBY

and Emma (Temps), Anderson, Newman. She married Robert (Bud) Brisby on April 21, 1957. He preceded her in death March 28, 1999. She is survived by two daughters Gina Brisby of Ames, Iowa; and Marcey Wrieden and her husband Jamie of Crystal Beach, Texas.

Four grandchildren, Trenton Brisby and wife Renee of Ames, Iowa; Morgan Whatley and husband Aaron of Bonne Terre, Missouri; Paige Stamper and Kelsey Stamper of Keokuk, Iowa. Great grandchildren Harrison and William Brisby; and Zaria Whatley. Sister Leota Stables of Birmingham, Alabama; brother James Anderson of Jacksonville, Florida; half-brother Jim

Kirkhart of Atlanta, Georgia; sister-in-law Neva Deiling of Keokuk, Iowa; brother-in-law John Walker of Mount Pleasant, Iowa; and several nieces and nephews.

She was also preceded in death by her parents, two sisters, one brother, and one half-brother in infancy.

She lived in Keokuk most of her life. She was owner and stylist of His n' Her Hair Salon which she opened in 1982.

Joanne enjoyed watching western and crime shows, loved dancing with her husband, playing cards with friends and family, time on the river, camping, and solving crosswords and Sudoku. She would light up when spending time with all of her grandchildren and great grandchildren.

DeJong-Greaves-Printy funeral home is in charge of arrangements. A memorial service will take place at a later date.

RITA HAGMEIER

Rita Hagmeier, 84, of Keokuk, passed away on Saturday, January 9, 2021, at Unity Point Health in Keokuk.

Rita was born on May 30, 1936, in Keokuk, Iowa, the daughter of John "Jack" and Margaret (Fisher) Boyle. On November 10, 1952, she was united in marriage to David Hagmeier in Bowling Green, Missouri. He preceded her in death on February 27, 2011.



HAGMEIER

Rita was of the Catholic Faith and a loyal St. Louis Cardinals fan. Throughout the years she was employed as a bookkeeper for various Keokuk businesses. She enjoyed studying her family genealogy, reading, solving puzzles and watching game shows. She loved her family more than anything, especially her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and enjoyed hosting holiday dinners.

Rita is survived by four children: Connie Parmeter of Keokuk; Cindy (Denny) Merritt of Robins, Iowa; Dale (Patricia) Hagmeier of Keokuk; and Debbie Padilla of Cedar Rapids, Iowa; her sister Diane (John) Powell of Davenport, Iowa; her brother John (Janet) Boyle of Keokuk; seven grandchildren; ten great-grandchildren; her sister-in-law Susan Hiatt of Quincy, Illinois; and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Rita is preceded in death by one son, three grandchildren, two brothers and five sisters.

Rita's life will be celebrated with a private graveside service at Keokuk National Cemetery.

Memorials may be directed to All Saints Catholic Church, PAWS, or the Donor's Choice. Tributes and condolences may be left at www.dejongsfuneralhome.com.

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

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Holy Trinity Catholic Sports

HTC boys break out for 77 in Tuesday win over Warriors

BY JOHN BOHNENKAMP
PCC SPORTS



FORT MADISON – John Hellige had a message to his Holy Trinity boys basketball team before Tuesday’s home game with WACO.

Hellige told the Crusaders he was confident that they could show the type of offense that they have been showing in practice.

“I see it every day,” Hellige said.

The Crusaders delivered with a 77-40 victory.

It was the highest point total of the season for Holy Trinity (7-5 overall, 5-4 SEI Superconference South Division), which had been averaging 44.4 points over the last five games.

“I told them we needed to play with poise and confidence,” Hellige said. “And I thought we did that. We emphasized getting a good shot, and I thought we did that tonight.”

It started with Jason Thurman’s 3-pointer on the Crusaders’ first possession of the game, and it just kept going. Holy Trinity led 25-9 at the end of the first quarter and 43-17 at halftime.

The Crusaders added 21 more points in the third quarter, pushing the lead to as much as 37 points, leading to a running clock for the rest of the game.

Hellige was able to go deep into his bench.

“We have a lot of respect for WACO and (WACO coach) Paul Kissell is a good friend,” Hellige said. “We didn’t want to run up the score. It gave us a chance to play a lot of different guys.”

Jason Thurman and Vasin Thurman each had 19 points. Connor Gehling added 10. Mikey DiPrima had seven points, Kadin Medland had six, and Chandler Rung had five. Mitchell Pothitakis and Nick Fullenkamp each had three points.

“We have a lot of weapons,” Hellige said. “It was just a matter of getting them going.”

Simeon Reichenbach led WACO (1-9, 0-7) with 11 points.

The Crusaders play at Cardinal on Friday before playing host to Fort Madison on Saturday.

“I think we can be a dangerous team,” Hellige said. “Tonight, that’s the team I’ve been looking for.”

4th quarter rally falls short as Lady Crusaders fall to WACO

BY JOHN BOHNENKAMP
PCC SPORTS

FORT MADISON – It’s a search for an identity, and sometimes it can lead to growing pains.

Holy Trinity coach Tony Johnson tried a young lineup in Tuesday’s game with WACO.

But missed layups and free throws, a constant struggle for the Crusaders, hurt again in a 29-27 home loss.

Johnson, who was missing junior Kassi Randolph (sprained ankle), went with a lineup of freshmen Natalie Randolph and Mary Kate Bendlage, sophomores Kayla Box and Brooke Mueller, and senior Maria Rauenbuehler.

There were flashes of what is coming in the future for this team, but there were still mistakes that proved costly.

“We’re still looking for ‘it,’ but what ‘it’ is, I don’t know,” Johnson said. “We’re still trying to discover who we are.”

Still, the Crusaders had their chances in the final minute. Down 28-27 in the closing seconds, Bendlage and Raquel Schneider each missed shots inside. WACO’s Grace Coble made the second of two free throws after being fouled with 3.4 seconds left, then Holy Trinity turned the ball over on an inbound play.

All WACO (4-6 overall, 3-2 SEI Superconference South Division) had to do was get the ball inbounds, but Bailey Hellweg came up with the steal and headed toward the Holy Trinity basket, but she couldn’t get a shot off in time.

Holy Trinity (4-10, 3-7) scored just two second-quarter points, but trailed just 12-9. The Crusaders were down 23-16 heading into the fourth quarter before finally getting some shots to fall.

Still, the missed layups proved costly.

“We just can’t finish at the rim,” Johnson said. “We just can’t score, just can’t finish. Darnedest thing I’ve ever seen.”

The Crusaders were just 1-of-5 from the free-throw line in the second half.

“It’s all correctable stuff,” Johnson said. “We just have to figure out how to make the easy shots.”

Johnson said the Crusaders missed the consistency of Kassi Randolph.

“I know what she’s going to give me every night,” he said. “She’s going to give me eight or so points, six or so rebounds. We could have used her inside.”

Natalie Randolph finished with seven points, all in the second half. Bendlage had six. Rauenbuehler had five.

Rauenbuehler and Randolph had the only 3-pointers for the Crusaders.

“If we can hit the outside shots, we can loosen things up inside,” Johnson said.

Ellah Kissell led WACO with 16 points.

The Crusaders dropped a 53-35 loss to Mt. Pleasant on Monday night. Bendlage led HTC with 12 points.

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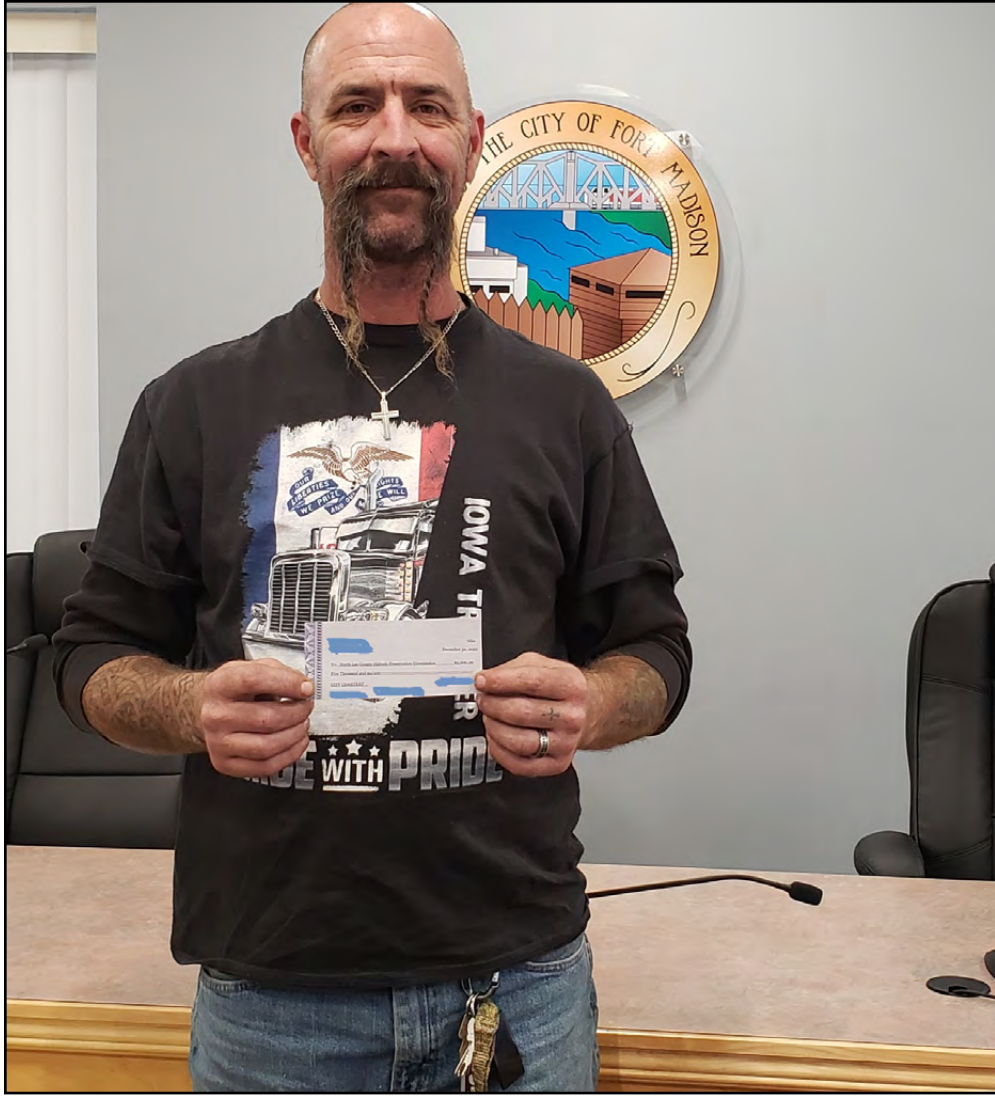
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From the Front/Lee County News



Fort Madison Historic Preservation Commission President Chris Sorrentino stands with a \$5,000 check from an anonymous donor, who provided a match for City Cemetery improvements. The match program generated more than \$11,000 for the cemetery.

Humphrey still ignoring court order

HEARING - Continued from Page 1

Mohrfeld said to his knowledge none of the things laid out in the order have been done, including any communication with the city from Humphrey.

Schilling's order also set a deadline of Dec. 15 if Humphrey had either obtain proper permitting to demolish the building or make all necessary repairs outline by the city's engineer, he was required to vacate the premises no later than Dec. 15.

Mohrfeld said he has no information that Humphrey has left the premises and is frustrated with the situation.

According to Lee County records, in 2020 the building at 732 Avenue G was valued at \$149,000 and taxes haven't been paid since March of 2019 totaling \$8,800 in back taxes owed.

"His actions are telegraphing he isn't doing anything. He's not current on property taxes. My desire would be to set down with him and come to some practical resolve. Ultimately with the court order, since nothing's been done. It can be marked as a dangerous structure and at that point the city can go in and mitigate it."

Humphrey also currently

owes the city \$150,000 in fines ordered by Schilling.

City Councilman Tom Schulz, who used to own property on that block said he supports the city's strong posture

"The city has struck a strong posture on taking care of a significant public health threat and a public eyesore," he said.

"We have to follow this through to the best conclusion possible for the tax payer. Otherwise anything other we try to accomplish in the future with regard to the derelict properties will be a toothless and worthless maneuver."

Mohrfeld said the city will continue to push the issue through the city's attorney.

"We're gonna keep jumping through the hoops."

State offers grants for two Future Ready Programs

DES MOINES - Today, Governor Reynolds announced two Future Ready Iowa grant opportunities for totaling \$1.2 million. The Future Ready Iowa Employer Innovation Fund is designed to expand opportunities for Iowans to earn post-secondary credentials leading to high-demand jobs and encourage Iowa employers, community leaders and others to collaborate to support regional workforce talent development.

The Child Care Challenge Fund is designed to encourage regional and community projects that will create increased child care slots in local communities by supporting the development, renovation or rehabilitation of child care facilities. The availability of quality, affordable child care for working Iowans has been a longstanding workforce challenge that has been exacerbated by the pandemic. Applications for the funding opportunities must be submitted on IowaGrants.gov by Feb. 12, 2021.

"When Iowans have access to quality child care, they can pursue training and employment opportunities in high-demand jobs in the state," said Gov. Reynolds. "Let's remove the obstacles to high-quality affordable child-care so Iowa families can nurture their kids

while parents maintain the maximum freedom to enter and remain in the workforce. Tackling the child care crisis in Iowa not only expands opportunities for Iowa families but provides our employers with a steady and stable workforce."

"Gov. Reynolds and the Iowa legislature have made a significant investment in Future Ready Iowa and these two grant opportunities will help communities around the state address local issues," said Director Beth Townsend, Iowa Workforce Development. "I know from the previous grant programs we have seen, that Iowans will create innovative projects that support their communities and will accelerate the rate of our economic recovery from the pandemic."

Employer Innovation Fund:

Employers, employer consortiums, nonprofits, and educational institutions can apply.

Applicants can request funding up to \$50,000.

The Employer Innovation Fund can match private dollars.

The funds can be used to support credit and non-credit programs, along with wrap-around support programs such as childcare, transportation, books, equipment, internet access, and other

innovative ways to help Iowans complete job training and education.

More information about the Employer Innovation Fund can be found at: www.futurereadyiowa.gov/innovation

Child Care Challenge Fund:

Employers, nonprofits and employer consortiums can apply.

Applicants can request funding up to \$100,000.

The Child Care Challenge Fund can match private dollars and in-kind donations of labor and materials.

The funds can be used for new construction of a childcare facility, rehabilitation of an existing structure as a child care facility or retrofitting and repurposing of an existing structure for use as a child care facility.

More Information about the Child Care Challenge Fund can be found at: www.future-readyiowa.gov/childcare-challenge

These funding opportunities support Future Ready Iowa's goal of having 70 percent of Iowans in the workforce with education and training beyond high school by 2025. Approximately 60 percent of Iowa's current workforce meets this education and training criteria. Visit www.FutureReadyIowa.gov for more information.

Lee County Conservationist hosts separate county outdoor events

Steele to host Eagle watch at Chatfield, Pollmiller stroll

LEE COUNTY - On Sat., Jan. 16 at 2 p.m. join Lee Co. Conservation naturalist Clay Steele for

a hike through Chatfield Park just outside of Keokuk. This mature oak-hickory forest is loaded with songbirds and raptors and we'll have binoculars available to check them out up close. Chatfield Park is undergoing many improvements to the campground and other areas and this is a great opportunity to take a new look at this hidden gem.

No pre-registration necessary. Meet at the campground, located at

3592 Iowa Rd, Keokuk, IA 52632. Contact Lee County Conservation with any questions at (319) 463-7673 or csteele@leecounty.org.

On Sat., Jan. 30 at 6:30 p.m. join Steele for a nocturnal stroll in Pollmiller Park in search of Iowa's owls. Dress for the weather.

Meet at the first shelter parking lot. No pre-registration necessary. Pollmiller Park is located at 2454 County Rd 103, West Point, IA 52656. Contact Lee County Conservation with any questions at (319) 463-7673 or csteele@leecounty.org.

Do you have time - to help stop crime?

Visit any of these Facebook pages to learn more about what the Neighborhood Watch Program is & how to start your own group or join an existing group!

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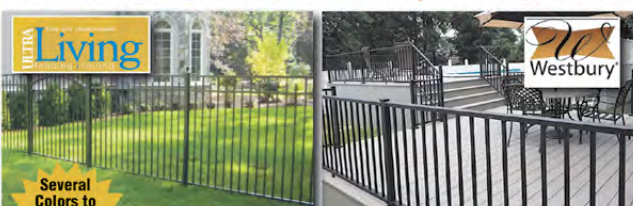
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Classifieds/Public Notices

PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICES

**PUBLIC NOTICE
FORT MADISON
COMMUNITY SCHOOL
DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR MEETING
January 18, 2021
6:00 P.M.**

Note: To view this meeting please see the link on the FMCS D Website Calendar or click on the link below <https://zoom.us/j/93081189108?pwd=TnY5c0gzaUtiN-2V5eUpybmJ0bGtxZz09>

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: Hope/Wondra

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 - Ivy Arnold and Kiley Bohnenkamp
 - B. Curriculum Corner - Standards Based Learning update
 - C. "Did You Know?"
 - D. Superintendent Goal Report
 - E. District Presentations
 - Instructional Tour: Richardson Elementary School
 - V. Approve the agenda
 - VI. Consent Agenda
 - A. Minutes
 - 1. December 21, 2020 Regular Meeting
 - B. Financial reports
 - 1. December Balance Sheet
 - 2. Revenue Summary Report
 - 3. Expenditure Report
 - 4. Student Activity Report
 - C. Accounts payable
 - 1. December General Account Board Bills for Approval AMEX
 - 2. January General Account Board Bills for Approval
 - 3. Student Activity Account Board Bills for Approval AMEX
 - 4. Nutrition Account Board Bills for Approval
 - D. Consider personnel resignations
 - 1. Ryan Wilson, assistant baseball

- 2. Debra Moeller, reading interventionist
 - E. Consider employment of personnel
 - 1. F. Consider contract modifications
 - 1. 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
 - 1. Set hearing date for student instructional hours vs. days for 2021-2022
 - B. Superintendent - Erin Slater
 - 1. Consider approval of the request for travel from Chris Bolander to travel to Nevada, MO for welding competition January 28 & 29, 2021
 - 2. 401.15 - Employee Use of Cell Phones **delete**
 - 401.15-R-1 - Employee Use of Cell Phones Regulation **delete**
 - 401.16 - Staff Protection **delete**
 - 402.2-R-1 - Child Abuse Reporting Regulation **delete**
 - 402.2-R-2 - Suspected Child Abuse **delete**
 - 402.2b-R - Child Abuse Reporting Flowchart **delete**
 - 402.3-E - Complaint of Injury to or Abuse of a Student by a School Employee **delete**
 - 402.3-E-2 - Abuse of Students by School District Employees **delete**
 - 402.4 - Gifts to Employees **minor changes**
 - 402.5 - Public Complaints About Employees **delete**
 - C. Board Secretary/ Business Manager - Sandy Elmore
 - 1. V. Discussion Items
 - A. Director of Curriculum and Student Services - Kim Harmon
 - 1. B. Superintendent - Erin Slater
 - 1. Consider Policy Changes
 - 403.2 Employee Injury on the Job - minor changes: **recommend to move to IASB model**
 - 403.3 Communicable

- Diseases - Employees - minor changes: **recommend to move to IASB model**
 - 403.3-R-1 Universal Precautions - minor changes: **recommend to move to IASB model**
 - 403.3-E-1 Hepatitis B Vaccine Information and Record - **same as IASB**
 - 403.4 Hazardous Chemical Disclosure - minor changes: **recommend to move to IASB model**
 - 403.5 Substance-Free Workplace - **minor changes: recommend to move to IASB model**
 - 403.5-R-1 Substance-Free Workplace Regulation - **minor changes: recommend to move to IASB model**
 - 403.6 Drug and Alcohol Testing Program - **changes: recommend to move to IASB model**
 - 403.6-E-1 Drug and Alcohol Testing Program Notice to Employees - **changes: recommend move to IASB model**
 - 403.6-E-2 Drug and Alcohol Program and Pre-Employment Testing Acknowledgement form - **minor changes: recommend to move to IASB model**
 - 403.6-E-3 Consent for Request of Information - **recommend to move to IASB model**
 - 403.6-R-1 Drug and Alcohol Testing Program Regulation - **ours only: recommend to delete**
 - 403.6-R-2 Drug and Alcohol Testing Program Definitions - **ours only: recommend to delete**
 - 403.6-E-2 Drug and Alcohol Reasonable Suspicion Observation - **ours only: recommend to delete**
 - 403.6-E-10 Post-Accident Drug and Alcohol Testing Instructions to Drivers; **ours only; recommend to delete**
 - 1. Building Instructional Tour for February: Lincoln-virtual
 - 2. AD HOC reporting process and future dates
 - 3. Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) leave update
 - 4. Superintendent Evaluation Process
 - 3. Certified Staff Attendance
 - 4. Board Member Attendance
 - C. Board Secretary/ Business Manager - Sandy Elmore
 - 1. Board meeting dates 2021
 - VI. Comments from the audience
 - VII. Legislative update

- VIII. Announcements
 - January 18, 2021 No School - Martin Luther King holiday
 - February 1, 2021 Board of Directors Work Session 6:00 PM at Central Office
 - February 1, 2021 No School - Teacher Professional Development Day
 - February 15, 2021 No School - President's Day holiday
 - February 16, 2021 Board of Directors Regular Meeting 6:00 PM at Central Office
 - IX. Adjourn

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Candidates must minimally be 20 years of age and have a high school diploma. Must also have an acceptable background history and valid driver's license. Will be required to successfully complete a POST exam and physical agility test in Fort Madison to enter the process. Testing standards can be found on the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy website. Non-certified applicants must attend the four-month academy paid for by the department.

TO APPLY: Contact jgray@fortmadisonpd.com or pick up an application packet at our lobby M-F 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM. Application deadline is February 5th, 2021 at 4:30 PM.



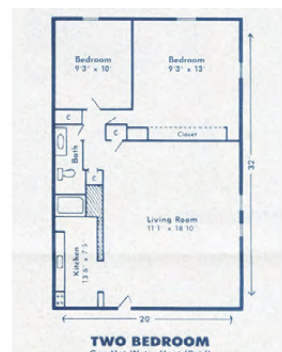
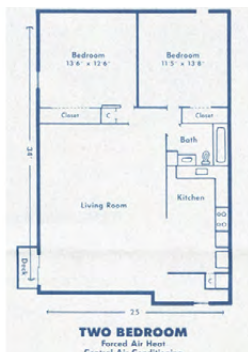
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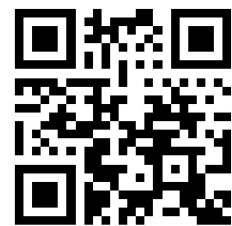


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From the Front/Iowa News

New alliance aimed at regional enrollment growth

ALLIANCE - Continued from Page 1



within the institution, or the community.

Ash has been appointed Chancellor of the alliance.

Iowa Wesleyan President Chris Plunkett said she envisions the alliance will ultimately grow to include associate business and industry representatives and even possible representation from area school districts.

"IWC has been working on a project to find a partnership for a couple years and for the last year we have been heavily engaged in conversations with SCC. It has turned into something so much more than our two institutions," she said.

"It's not only an opportunity to stabilize small institutions and strengthen them, but also to provide expanded opportunities for students and work with local workforce and business to expand opportunities for career growth."

Ash said there will be a joint marketing effort to layout to students and parents as to what will be available through the alliance.

"It's something we'll begin, now that we have

board approval from both boards, to establish that marketing plan," he said.

Plunkett said the alliance will allow the individual institutions to function as a single campus. She said pricing will be very appealing for students to complete a four-year degree at a rate that is comparable to other public and private institutions.

She said the financial model has been in the process for many months. She Revenue sharing will be similar to sharing that is in place for smaller institutions doing recruiting.

"The transfer of revenue will depend on what revenues for each institution are. Southeastern is generously putting forward scholarship funds to students who make that transfer."

She said IWU is putting funds toward the administrative budget for the non-profit alliance.

"The biggest piece for both institutions is the revenue we expect to see coming in through enrollment growth," Plunkett said.

She said the landscape for higher education is changing rapidly, including an enrollment cliff

that's coming that projects declines in high school graduation numbers.

But adding in the recent economic trends especially following COVID, that landscape has changed permanently.

"For Iowa Wesleyan this is no longer about rescuing an institution that's looking for strengthening enrollment, but starting that economic outlook," Plunkett said.

She added that these types of collaborations are rare in the country, and consultants are using this model as an example across the country.

"Instead of losing your health center, or losing your university, you're gaining stronger institutions that serve a broader region.

Ash said the alliance hasn't gotten to the point of adding a bunch of new programs aimed at industry or business, but is focusing on creating opportunities for students to have additional choices.

"We haven't got to the state where we say here are plethora of new programs, but our initial goal is to provide additional opportunities for students and be able to draw them in from our high school and our region."

He said data shows there is a good percentage of students who graduate high school but then don't pursue anything post-secondary.

"We're missing some good folks, some good students, good employees as they choose not to go on to college."

CAA reups state jobless aid

DES MOINES - On Dec. 27, 2020, President Trump signed into law the Consolidated Appropriations Act (CAA) of 2021, reauthorizing and extending the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) program, the Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) program, and the Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC) program. Under the CAA:

PUA: Now available through March 13, 2021, or for up to 50 total weeks of eligibility, whichever comes first. The additional 11 weeks can only be paid as of Dec. 27, 2020, with the first eligible payments set for the week ending Jan. 2, 2021.

PEUC: Now available through March 13, 2021, or for up to 24 total weeks of eligibility, whichever comes first. The additional 11 weeks can only be paid as of Dec. 27, 2020, with the first eligible payments set for the week ending Jan. 2, 2021.

FPUC: Now provides \$300 per week to supplement benefits for weeks of unemployment beginning after Dec. 26, 2020, through March 13, 2021. To receive FPUC benefits, you must be receiving UI, PEUC, EB, Trade Readjustment Allowance (TRA), Voluntary Shared Work (VSW), Disaster Unemployment (DUA), or PUA. FPUC benefits will not be paid from July 27 to Dec. 26, 2020, per federal guidelines.

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From the Front/Iowa News

LCCD, West Point could join efforts on trail

TRAIL - Continued from Page 1

rehabbing the trail and the first thing we looked at, which is generally the most cost effective, is a mill and overlay," Pedrick said.

But he said when he got out to walk the trail he could see it wasn't in very good shape to be able to mill it. That would require patching and then an overlay, but it would turn into a project full of patches.

"That led us to look at a different option of a full depth reclamation where we would mill the entire depth of asphalt surface and then lay that back down on the base and then add four inches of new asphalt on top."

He said that is now the most cost-effective option, but would carry a price tag of close to \$230,000. Pedrick said a full concrete trail would be substantially more expensive.

The trail is currently eight feet across and Pedrick said to apply for any Iowa Department of Transportation money would likely come with a requirement to make the trail 10 feet across.

"Considering the size of this project, I would lean toward staying away from the DOT money if you have a way of raising enough money otherwise.

Several grants were mentioned including a Well-mark trail grant, but the conservation district has

received that recently on another project.

Lee County Conservation Director Nathan Unsworth said West Point City officials have expressed interest in helping with obtaining financing to rehab the current trail.

He said the trail has a very high usage.

"We have a lot of people walking in and out of Pollmiller all the time on that trail. We also have West Point interest from community in helping us figure out how to finance this going forward," Unsworth said.

"We need to have a conversation with them, too."

According to West Point City Administrator Dennis McGregor, conversations are ongoing about grant funding for the Walk-Bike path around South Park and possibly connecting that path to the Walk-Bike Path to Pollmiller.

McGregor said in a report to the West Point City Council Monday that there could be options to incorporate city grant funding with county grant funding on the combined projects.

Unsworth said the West Point officials haven't seen the new information on the Pollmiller trail, but suggested representatives from the conservation board address the issue with the West Point City Council.

In other action, the board approved appointing Liza Alton as the new president of the board and Christopher Hayes as the new vice president.



Courtesy photo

Montrose resident Jeff Reichman (R-Montrose) was sworn in Monday as a freshman State Senator at the Iowa Capitol Building. Reichman defeated incumbent Rich Taylor (D-Mt. Union) in the November general election.

State Treasurer sets higher deduction for 529s

DES MOINES - State Treasurer Michael Fitzgerald announces the College Savings Iowa 529 Plan state tax deduction has increased for 2021. "Iowa taxpayers who are College Savings Iowa account owners can now deduct the first \$3,474 they contribute per beneficiary account from their state taxable income in 2021," Fitzgerald said. "This could mean a deduction of up to \$13,896 for a family of four when both parents have accounts for each of their children! It's

an ideal scenario for those who want to keep more money in their pocket while saving for future education."*

Since its creation over 20 years ago, College Savings Iowa has grown to over \$5.7 billion in assets under Treasurer Fitzgerald's administration. "I am extremely pleased to have been a part of the substantial growth of this program and the impact College Savings Iowa has had on families around the state," Fitzgerald stated. "Saving for education

and preparing our future generations for the adventures in front of them is one of the most rewarding things we can do. College Savings Iowa helps families achieve their goals with great investment and tax benefits, and more than \$3.2 billion has already been used to help students achieve their education dreams." Open an account for a loved one in less than 10 minutes at CollegeSavingsIowa.com.

College Savings Iowa is a 529 program that lets parents, grandparents, friends and relatives invest for education expenses on behalf of a future scholar. With funds and earnings from a College Savings Iowa account, families can pay

for qualified expenses like tuition, room, board, books, supplies and more at any accredited program around the country.** The education institution does not have to be in Iowa and includes colleges, universities, community colleges, trade schools, apprenticeship programs and more. College Savings Iowa holds over \$5.7 billion in assets with more than 255,000 active accounts and an average account size of \$21,333.

For more information about College Savings Iowa, call (888) 672-9116 or visit CollegeSavingsIowa.com. Connect with the plan on Facebook and Twitter to stay up to date on current events and plan updates.

Sobriety coin lucky for "Stormy" the cat

SWARM - Continued from Page 1

"Stormy," and he has adapted quite well. Within a short time of being in the warm house his matted eye opened up. We washed it out with a mild solution of warm salt water. Buddy our dog is a little up tight about the new member of the household, but is adapting also. There was a major confrontation at Buddy's food dish, but that's getting worked out also.

Ginnie and I marveled over the "coincidences" of finding Stormy. Just the day before my sobriety coin had directed me to stay away from Doodle Bug. We can see why, now. If I hadn't been installing that doorbell, I would never have seen Stormy, because we hardly ever use the front porch door. How did this little kitten find its way to our house in the snow?

Fortunately, Stormy started using a litter box almost immediately. Whew. He has all the makings of a great house cat: instant purrs and kneading, quite affectionate, and full of mischief. We've scheduled him at the vet for shots and neutering.

Outside of politics and the pandemic, 2021 is starting off well for us. If only we could train ourselves to call our new kitten Stormy, rather than Barney.

Have a good story? Call or text Curt Swarm in Mt. Pleasant at 319-217-0526, email him at curtswarm@yahoo.com or visit his website at www.empty-nest-words-photos-and-frames.com.



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