

# PEN CITY CURRENT

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

Tuesday, August 31, 2021 | 11 pages | Volume 5 • Issue 158



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

## Rashid sells pharmacy

**RETIRING:** Pharmacy will be out of Rashid family for first time in 58 years

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON – Rashid Pharmacy and Wellness owner Joe Rashid released the following statement today regarding an ownership change and retirement at the Fort Madison pharmacy.

“Dear Valued Customer,  
We, at Rashid Pharmacy, have some news to share. With over 30 years of service to the Pharmacy, Joe Rashid will be retiring. Tom Nelson, RPH, will assume ownership of the pharmacy, effective October 1, 2021. Tom has worked at Rashid Pharmacy for 20 years and has 27 years of pharmacy experience, including experience in Long



RASHID

Term Care, Hospital, and Retail pharmacy settings. With his experience and background in the industry, Tom will honor the pharmacy’s 60 years of successful history and continue its dedication to customer service.

The ownership change will not affect our day-to-day business. Our pharmacy’s staff, hours, current services, location, and delivery process will remain the same. We look forward to continuing our services with each and every one of you.

Thank you for being our valued customer.

Rashid Pharmacy”

### OPINION



## Beautification bug biting in Fort Madison

It seems as though everyone has the bug to work outside, despite the wicked heat of the past few weeks.

In moving about the community my eyes are drawn now to the work going on throughout Fort Madison. It’s made me even jump in the mix.

On Saturday, the Harmony Bible Church people were adding some white-wash paint to the six foot walls along the alleys from 6th to 10th Streets between Avenues G and F.

Not just that, but men, women, and children were pulling weeds and cleaning up debris in the five-block stretch. It’s God’s work, Dana Huppert said.

Well, maybe that and maybe it’s just a contagion that is taking hold.

The Fort Madison Beautification Committee is regularly, behind the energy of City Councilwoman Rebecca Bowker, making their way around the community picking up trash, not to mention the modernization of the pocket park in the 800 block of Avenue G.

But there are also private efforts underway to pretty up the city. A historic home on Avenue E on the north side of Central Park has been sitting half-sided, half not for half a decade, but now progress at a very high rate of speed is taking place. It’s almost worth a park-and-watch.

The apartment home at 6th and F is getting a full makeover and is starting to look like a productive part of the neighborhood. We’ve got streets being repaired, highways being replaced, parks being cleaned up, and a regular spigot of community resources being showered down on those doing the work.

Fort Madison Football, Inc. just finished up a rehab of the home side grand-

See **EFFORT**, page 8



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg

From left to right, Oakley, Oliver and Emmerson Wiese work on repainting a wall in an alley in downtown Fort Madison. The youth are part of the Harmony Bible Church and were volunteering with adults to clean up the alley.

## Church group tackles Fort Madison downtown alley clean-up

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – A group of volunteers from Harmony Bible Church spent a sweaty morning helping with Fort Madison beautification efforts.

The group darted around the alley from 6th to 10th streets between Ave-

nues F and G for about four hours on a very warm Saturday morning.

Kids and adult volunteers of all ages were pulling weeds, and repainting the 6-foot white walls that were once painted in the alley to help deter vandalism.

Removing overgrown brush and cleaning up litter and debris were also part of the day’s work.

Andrew Wiese, the Fort Madison Campus Pastor for Harmony Bible, led the group of about 20 volunteers and said it was part of church group’s outreach effort with Fort Madison.

“We were talking with (Fort Madison Partner’s Director) Tim Gobble and

See **ALLEY**, page 8

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### WEATHER

**TUE 31 Aug** .....Heavy Rain, 80° F/ 66° F  
**WED 01 Sep** .....Clear Skies, 80° F/ 52° F  
**THU 02 Sep** .....Broken Clouds, 77° F/ 57° F

### IOWA LOTTERY

**LUCKY FOR LIFE 08/29** ..... 4 19 30 42 48, Lucky Ball: 16  
**PICK 3 08/29 MIDDAY**.....411  
**PICK 3 08/29 EVENING**.....758  
**PICK 4 08/29 MIDDAY**.....0487  
**PICK 4 08/29 EVENING**.....3017

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# For the Record

## For the Record

### Fort Madison Police Report

08/27/21 – 11:05 a.m.  
 – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 2100 block of Avenue D.  
 08/27/21 – 11:45 a.m.  
 – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 5000 block of Avenue O.  
 08/27/21 – 6:04 p.m.  
 – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 500 block of Avenue F.  
 08/27/21 – 11:30 p.m.  
 – Fort Madison Police arrested Adam Ray Sutton, 43, of Fort Madison, in Keokuk, on a charge of 4th degree theft.  
 08/28/21 – 8:19 a.m.

– Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 700 block of Avenue H.  
 08/28/21 – 11:27 a.m.  
 – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 4800 block of Avenue O.  
 08/28/21 – 1:16 p.m.  
 – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 600 block of Avenue G.  
 08/28/21 – 11:02 p.m.  
 – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 5000 block of Avenue O.  
 08/29/21 – 4:13 a.m.  
 – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 1500 block of 18th Street.  
 08/29/21 – 12:46 p.m.

– Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 600 block of Avenue F.  
 08/29/21 – 3:08 p.m.  
 – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a stolen vehicle in the 2700 block of Avenue O.  
 08/29/21 – 3:09 p.m.  
 – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1100 block of 48th Street.  
 08/29/21 – 5:39 p.m.  
 – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 2100 block of Avenue D.  
 08/29/21 – 6:55 p.m.  
 – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 2300 block of Avenue H.  
 08/29/21 – 8:11 p.m.

– Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary on Alta Drive.  
 08/30/21 – 4:58 a.m.  
 – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 800 block of Avenue E.  
 08/30/21 – 8:06 a.m.  
 – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1700 block of Avenue B.

### Lee County Sheriff's Report

08/27/21 – 10:40 a.m.  
 – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Roger Wayne Wall, 49, of Wayland, Mo., on North 7th Street in Keokuk, on a violation of probation.  
 08/27/21 – 11:47 a.m.  
 – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Michael Larry Theulen, 61, of Keokuk at the sheriff's office on a charge of being a fugitive from justice. He was taken to Lee County Jail.  
 08/29/21 – 10:21 p.m.  
 – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Chelsea Nacole Smith, 22, of Burlington, in the 700 block of Avenue F, on a judgment entry and a warrant for voluntary absence from custody.

### Hancock County Sheriff's Report

08/23/21 – Blaine B Robinson, age 19, of Carthage, IL was arrested by Carthage Police Department for a Washington County, IA Warrant charging him with Violation of Probation. Robinson was extradited to Washington County, Iowa.  
 08/24/21 – Lillie A Williams, age 27, of Dallas City, IL was arrested by Dallas City Police Department for Driving While License Suspended and Operating Uninsured Vehicle. Williams was released after posting the required bond and given a future court date.  
 08/25/21 – Randy G Price, age 61, of Elvaston, IL was arrested by Hancock County Sheriff's Department for a Clark County, MO Warrant charging him with Violation of Probation. Price was extradited to Clark County, MO.  
 08/26/21 – Jennifer I Harl, age 55, of Dallas City, IL was arrested by Hancock County Sheriff's Department for Violation of Probation. Harl was released after posting the required bond and given a future court date.  
 08/27/21 – Placido Ek, age 48, of Carthage, IL was arrested by Hancock

County Sheriff's Department for Driving Under the Influence. Ek was released after posting the required bond and given a future court date.  
 08/27/21 – Arnulfo A Perrera, age 37, of Princeton, Mo was arrested by Carthage Police Department for Driving Under the Influence. Perrera was released after posting the required bond and given a future court date.  
 08/27/21 – Danielle R Clark, age 30, of Carthage, IL was arrested by Carthage Police Department for Battery. Clark was released after posting the required bond and given a future court date.  
 08/27/21 – Diamond J Bence, age 33, of Warsaw, IL was arrested by Hancock County Sheriff's Department for a Hancock County Warrant charging her with Failure to Appear on original charges of Driving While License Suspended. Bence was released after posting the required bond and given a future court date.  
*Those listed above are arrested on a suspicion of charges and are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.*

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# PEN CITY CURRENT

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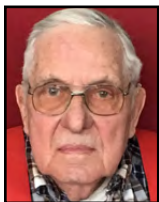
## Obituaries

### OBITUARIES

## LEO LAUNER

Leo Launer, 93, of Warsaw, Illinois, passed away on Tuesday, August 24, 2021, at Blessing Hospital in Keokuk, Iowa.

Leo was born on April 12, 1928, near Basco, Illinois, the son of Harry and Hattie Lucinda (Gavillet) Launer. On January 2, 1948, he was united in marriage to Norma Jean Hasten in Basco, Illinois. She preceded him in death on June 19, 2013.



LAUNER

Leo was a Union Carpenter (Local #410) and an accomplished millwright and welder. He worked on large projects throughout the area and beyond, and was employed at nuclear power plants as well. In his free time, Leo enjoyed woodworking and wood-burning, using his talents to create furniture, cabinets and more. He was a talented craftsman who used his skills to help his children and grandchildren. Leo was also an avid reader and farmed part-time. He did whatever it took to provide for his family.

Leo is survived by four children: Sharon Gonterman of Wever, Iowa, Cindy (Joe Wayne) Heathcott of Newbern, Tennessee, Russell (Hilda) Launer of Warsaw, Illinois, and Sheila Hauk of Warsaw, Illinois; eleven grandchildren: Angela (Kevin) McGuire, Audrey (Ricky) Gearin, Amber Jo (Andrew) McCutchen, Joseph (Ashley) Heathcott, Daniel (Billie) Launer, Roy (Faye) Launer, Shawn Hauk, Derek (Dana) Hauk, Danny Ray Launer, Dustin (Brooke) Launer and Leo Brandon (Cynthia) Launer; 34 great-grandchildren with one on the way; one great-great grandchild with one on the way; two sisters: Marilyn Cameron of Basco, Illinois, and Mardelle Reed of Carthage, Illinois; and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Leo is preceded in death by his parents, his wife Norma Jean and nine siblings: Wilma Shay, Leota Antoine, Mabel Heagy, Jean Berg, Rodney Launer, Wilbur Launer, Russell Launer, Homer Launer, Leo Andrew Launer, and Donnie Launer.

Leo's life will be celebrated with a visitation on Saturday, August 28, 2021, from 2 to 6 pm, with family meeting friends from 4 to 6 pm at Printy Funeral Home in Warsaw, Illinois. A private family burial will take place at a later date in Cook Cemetery in rural Hancock County.

Memorials may be directed to PAWS in Fort Madison or the Warsaw Fire Department.

Tributes and condolences may be left at [www.printyfuneralhome.com](http://www.printyfuneralhome.com).

Printy Funeral Home of Warsaw is in charge of arrangements.

### OBITUARIES

## JAMES L. PHILP

James L. "Jim" Philp, 65, of Keokuk, passed away at his home from ALS on Tuesday, August 24, 2021.

He was born on November 6, 1955 in Keokuk, IA, the son of Harold and Arlene Andrews Philp. Jim graduated from Keokuk Senior High School with the class of 1974.



PHILP

On March 3, 1978 Jim was united in marriage to Mary Joy Aitken in Keokuk. She survives.

He is also survived by his son and daughter-in-law, Curtis and Erin Philp and his granddaughter, Eliza Philp, of Alexandria, VA and his father, Harold Philp, of Keokuk.

He was preceded in death by his mother, Arlene Philp, and his mother- and father-in law, Richard and Marita Aitken.

He worked his entire life in Keokuk, first as a Teamster and helped build Climax and Griffin Wheel. He then worked as an Inspector at Griffin Wheel. Later, he owned his own golf cart repair business, The Cart Doctor, worked as a courier at First Community Bank, and then worked as a funeral assistant at Vigen Memorial Home.

Jim loved his family and was interested in everything his son was interested in. They enjoyed baseball, the St. Louis Cardinals, and in later years the Washington Nationals, and attended many games. Curtis taught his Dad how to golf and they enjoyed playing together for many years. Jim was an animal lover and had dogs and cats his entire life, most recently Daisy, his closest four-legged companion. Jim was thrilled to welcome Curtis' wife, Erin to the family as his daughter and was over-the-moon when his granddaughter, Eliza arrived. Jim had many friends in Keokuk and was always willing to help out with anything in order to make things better for the other person.

A graveside service will be held at 11 a.m., Monday at the Sandusky Cemetery with Pastor Dan Deatruck officiating.

Visitation will be held prior to the service on Monday from 10 a.m. - 11 a.m. at Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk with family meeting with friends at that time. Masks and social distancing are required for the visitation and the graveside service.

Memorials may be made to Lee County Hospice or Keokuk Animal Services.

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

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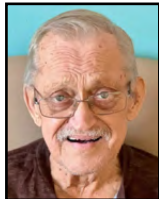


# Obituaries

## OBITUARIES

### MILAN MARSHALL

Milan Marshall, 80, of Montrose, IA passed away the morning of August 25, 2021 at Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center in Burlington, IA. His daughter, son, and son-in-law were with him when he passed.



MARSHALL

Milan was born on February 17, 1941 to Oscar and Mabel Marshall in Montrose. Both parents preceded Milan in death. Milan was joined in marriage with Patricia Corson on December 1, 1962.

Pat survives along with their two children, daughter Teri Hamm and son Tim who both reside in rural Argyle, IA. Pat and Milan gained a second son when Teri married Wade in 1983. Milan and Pat have two grandchildren, Lindsey Hamm of Montrose and Derek Hamm of Donnellson and four great-grandchildren Chase and Nolan Hamm and Sage and Riggan DeRoos.

Milan's sister, Marilyn Marshall of Montrose, also survives.

Milan's life was dedicated to his family. Although a man of few words, Milan was a shining role model for his kids, grandkids, and great-grandkids. He quietly taught them the honesty, dedication, commitment, and work ethic that provided for his family throughout his life.

Milan was an athlete in his younger years. He excelled in both baseball and basketball for the Montrose Mohawks. He remained an avid fan of both baseball and basketball for life and loved his St. Louis Cardinals and Iowa Hawkeyes. Milan's passion for sports transitioned into coaching in early adulthood. One of the joys of his life was coaching his children's youth baseball and basketball teams with his good friends Jerry Wells and Bill Azinger. As the years went by, he was present for all of his family's games and competitions, whether it was his grandkids baseball, football, or dance for Central Lee Schools, or youth soccer and baseball for his great-grandkids. Milan was also a fan of car racing and took pride and great pleasure from working with Wade and Derek as they raced local dirt tracks over many seasons.

Most of all, Milan was just a good and honest man that loved his family and his community. Montrose was his home and he often volunteered time to support different local organizations and causes. He appreciated the simpler things in life that come from small town living and raising a family with small town values and pride in their community.

A funeral service will be held at 10:00 a.m., Monday, August 30th at Vigen Memorial Home in Montrose, IA with Elaine Foley officiating. Burial will be in the Montrose Cemetery. A luncheon will follow at 12:00 noon at the Montrose Riverfront Landing.

Visitation for Milan will be held after 1 p.m., Sunday, August 29th at the Vigen Memorial Home in Montrose, IA with family meeting with friends from 4:00-6:00 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorials will be accepted for the Montrose Volunteer Fire Department, the Montrose Ball Association, and Montrose Riverfront Incorporated.

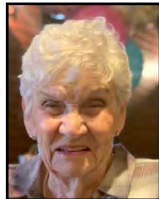
Online condolences may be sent to the family at [www.vigenmemorialhome.com](http://www.vigenmemorialhome.com).

## OBITUARIES

### PAULINE A. NICHOLS

Pauline A. Nichols, 95, of Ft. Madison, IA, passed away on Saturday, August 28, 2021 at 6:03 PM at the West Point Care Center.

She was born on October 7, 1925 in Franklin Township, IA to George A. and Freda K. Delabar Schneider. Pauline started her career at Northwestern Bell as a switchboard operator, and later retired as an office administrator after thirty eight years of service. She was a member of St. John's United Church of Christ. Pauline loved taking walks, going out dancing with her friends and doing the jitterbug as well as enjoying a cold Miller Lite. She enjoyed being outside and working in her yard and going on shopping trips with her girls. Her neighbors were very important to her and she considered them good friends. Pauline always looked her best and took pride in her appearance. She loved spending time with her family, especially her grandchildren and great grandchildren, WE LOVE YOU MORE!!!!!!!



NICHOLS

Survivors include one son, Bradley (Charlotte) Nichols of Eldridge, IA; one daughter, Karen (Randy) Walleit of Ft. Madison; four grandchildren, Joe (Sam) Nichols, Jay (Nichol) Nichols, Ashley (Seth) Jackson and Zach (Lynnae) Walleit; five great grandchildren, Anna Nichols, Jane Nichols, Maggie Nichols, Jack Nichols and Lucy Jackson, several nieces and nephews that meant so much to her and the ladies of team Pauline (you know who you all are). She was preceded in death by her parents; two brothers and two sisters.

The family will meet with friends from 10-11:30 AM on Wednesday, September 1, 2021 at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. The funeral service will be held at 11:30 AM at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory with Reverend Jon Heyland officiating. Burial will follow in Oakland Cemetery. The family requests those attending the visitation and funeral to please wear a mask.

A memorial has been established in her memory and online condolences may be left at [www.kinglynk.com](http://www.kinglynk.com).

#### 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

# Bohannon brings image, name, and likeness to Sheaffer's

Jordan Bohannon was one of the loudest voices among college athletes wanting the name-image-likeness rule to come to the NCAA.

The fact that he was standing before a large crowd at the Sheaffer Memorial Golf Course clubhouse on Friday night, getting paid for his appearance, was a sign that he and so many others had won their battle.

Bohannon, entering his sixth year as a guard on Iowa's men's basketball team, wouldn't have been able to make an appearance like that in the past. But now athletes can cash in with the NCAA's adoption of the NIL rule.

It's why Bohannon spoke up first when he, Geo Baker of Rutgers, and Isaiah Livers of Michigan held a Zoom conference call with NCAA president Mark Emmert last spring.

"We got on the call, and no one wanted to say anything at first," Bohannon said. "It was really quiet for about 30 seconds or so. We're all just staring at each other. Everybody was really nervous."

Bohannon has never been shy about speaking up, so he asked the first question.

"So why are you doing this to athletes right now?" Bohannon said, recounting the call.

Emmert's response, Bohannon said, was to laugh. "He started laughing at me, asking, 'What are you talking about?'" Bohannon said. "I was like, 'How can you prohibit us from doing something that isn't prohibited for any other person in today's society?'"

The U.S. Supreme Court ruled in June that some of the restrictions on the compensation of college athletes violated antitrust laws. Within days, the NCAA allowed athletes to begin cashing in on their name, image and likeness.

Bohannon's first paid appearance was signing autographs at a fireworks stand.

"What better way to kick off name-image-likeness than go to a fireworks stand on the Fourth of July," he quipped.

Bohannon has enjoyed his role as being one of the main voices in the NIL battle, but he said there were times when he stepped back and appreciated



what he was doing.

"I'm on these Zoom calls, and I'm wondering, 'What am I doing here? I'm talking to U.S. senators on Zoom calls. I'm a Division I basketball player at Iowa,'" he said.

Bohannon, who is Iowa's all-time leader in men's basketball in 3-pointers and assists, returned for an additional year granted to all athletes last season because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

He wasn't going to pass up the chance, if only to play a normal season after a year in which all of college basketball was played in front of few, if any, fans because of the pandemic.

Someone asked him what he was most looking forward to this season.

"Fans," Bohannon said. "A normal season. I was dying inside (last season)."

Bohannon has taken time to reflect on his college basketball journey.

"Non-stop, people said, 'You're not going to play college basketball,'" Bohannon said. "People came out and criticized me, and continue to criticize me to this day, and I use that as fuel."

Bohannon remembered when Iowa coach Fran McCaffery called to offer him a scholarship when he was in high school.

"The minute Coach McCaffery called to offer me (a scholarship), I accepted. I didn't even let him finish," Bohannon said. "I said 'Yes' right away."

Bohannon endured two hip surgeries that ended his 2019-20 season, the second one nearly causing him to give up on his career.

Bohannon can be an irritant to opposing fan bases — he left an autographed pair of shoes on the floor at Iowa State's Hilton Coliseum after what he thought would be his last game there, an Iowa win, in 2019.

Asked if he was planning on doing that again this season, Bohannon couldn't resist.

"I might be naked by the end of the game," he said.

John Bohnenkamp is a national award-winning sports writer and is a regular contributor to Pen City Current.

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# Classifieds/Public Notices

## PUBLIC NOTICES

**PUBLIC NOTICE  
MINUTES  
CITY COUNCIL  
MEETING  
August 5, 2021  
500 N. 20th Street  
6:30 P.M.**

The City Council of the City of Keokuk met in regular session on August 5, 2021 at 500 N. 20th Street. Mayor Thomas L. Richardson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. There were nine

council members present, none absent. Mike O'Connor, Linda Altheide, Roslyn Garcia, John Helenthal, Devon Dade, Steve Andrews, Linda Marsden, Roger Bryant, and Susan Dunek were present. Staff in attendance: City Administrator Cole O'Donnell, City Clerk Jean Ludwig, Public Works Director Robert Helenthal, Community Development Director Pam Broomhall, Sewer

Manager Michael Clark, Bridge, Park, Cemetery and Sanitation Manager Bob Weis, and Chief of Police Dave Hinton.  
MAYOR'S CORRESPONDENCE: The Keokuk Convention & Tourism Bureau has a camera live streaming barges going through Lock 19.  
CITIZEN'S REQUEST: Melissa Mayes of Lee County Best You Coalition presented information on

Partnership for Success Project. Dorothy Cackley gave objections to Fire Department Service Fee Ordinance and implementation of utility franchise fees. Mike Greenslaugh also gave objections on the same subjects.  
Motion made by Bryant, second by Dade to approve the following agenda as amended (Item #9 removed), including the consent agenda. (9) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion

carried.  
• Minutes of the Regular City Council meeting of July 15, 2021:  
• RESOLUTION NO. 289-21: Approving a Liquor License for Rollin on the River, Mississippi Drive, effective August 20-24, 2021 (5-Day Permit)  
Class C Liquor License with Outdoor Service;  
• RESOLUTION NO. 290-21: Approving a Liquor License for Lake

Cooper Foundation (Big Dam Street Festival), 8 North Water Street, effective August 25-29, 2021 (5-Day Permit) Class B Beer Permit;  
• Sidewalk Display Permit, Lou & Jo Clothing Co., 607 Main Street;  
• Motion to pay bills and transfers listed in Register No.'s 5221-5223; Motion made by Marsden, second by Helenthal to approve the second reading of an Ordinance

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## Classifieds/Public Notices

# PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

### PUBLIC NOTICES

amending Chapter 2.90-Fire Department.

ROLL CALL VOTE: (8) AYES – Altheide, Garcia, Dade, Helenthal, Andrews, Marsden, Bryant, and Dunek. (1) NAY – O'Connor. Motion carried.

Motion made by Dunek, second by Bryant to approve the initial reading of an Ordinance amending the dates on display of signage and notice required during firework sales.

ROLL CALL VOTE: (9) AYES – O'Connor Altheide, Garcia, Dade, Helenthal, Andrews, Marsden, Bryant, and Dunek. (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Helenthal, second by Bryant to waive the second/ third (final) reading of an Ordinance amending the dates on display of signage and notice required during firework sales.

ROLL CALL VOTE: (9) AYES – O'Connor Altheide, Garcia, Dade, Helenthal, Andrews,

Marsden, Bryant, and Dunek. (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by O'Connor, second by Dade to adopt and give final approval of ORDINANCE NO. 2014 Amending the dates on display of signage and notice required during firework sales. (9) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by O'Connor, second by Helenthal to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 291-21: "A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH PROVIDERS FOR THE CITY OF KEOKUK." (9) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Marsden, second by Dunek to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 292-21: "A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING AN APPLICATION FOR AN IOWA CAT GRANT BY THE KEOKUK LIBRARY FOUNDATION FOR LIBRARY PARK." (9) AYES,

(0) NAYS. Motion carried. (9) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by O'Connor, second by Dunek to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 293-21: "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION FOR THE IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES' RESOURCE ENHANCEMENT AND PROTECTION PROGRAM (REAP) FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A TRAIL ALONG THE RIVERFRONT CONNECTING VICTORY PARK TO HUBINGER LANDING." (9) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Garcia, second by Helenthal for permission to advertise for the hire of City Clerk. (9) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS: Second report of nomination of Dev Kiedaisch and Drake Custer to the Human Rights Commission,

terms to expire 9/19/24. Second report of nomination of Brenda Best, Brent Haage and Jay Kruse to the Keokuk Housing Authority, terms to expire 9/5/23. First report of nomination of Terry Twitchell to the Grand Theatre Commission, term to expire 11/05/23.

Motion to approve the resignation of Michael Albright from the Rand Park Pavilion Commission by Helenthal, second by Bryant. (9) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

STAFF REPORT: O'Donnell reported on the following: American Rescue Funds, Personnel Policy Manual, City Hall Project, CARES Act Technology Grant.

There being no further business, Mayor Richardson adjourned the meeting at 7:27 p.m.

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## From the Front

# Plenty of ways to help with beautification

**EFFORT** - Continued from Page 1

stands at Richmond Stadium. As part of that work, again many donations of time, money, and resources went into not just the grandstand, but also to landscaping, fencing, and the ticket booth.

The Rotary keeps close tabs on Central Park, the Old Settlers Association keeps their park in tip top shape and several groups including Fort Madison Kiwanis are starting to take a bite out of Ivanhoe Park where a lot of organizations utilize the P.O.R.T. trail connector to route 5K runs that make me feel like an old fat man.

With the Tri-State Rodeo week just seven days away, the city has set its focus on putting a little makeup on the city's face.

But the drive around town shows the progress. New, environmentally-friendlier parking lots are part of four different parking areas including City Hall. The Pen City Parking lot at 8th and Avenue H now has the city's first-ever charging stations for electric vehicles.

A new banner was hung up over Avenue G welcoming visitors to historic Fort Madison, and a family is very quietly rehabbing a former bank building in the Santa Fe district across from Hy-Vee.

This is a momentum we haven't seen before, but is much welcome.

At Ivanhoe last week, Kiwanis and Doherty Baseball Academy held a work morning and picked up branches, weeded and started edging the trail sidewalks. That work will eventually, when it cools off a bit, lead to painting and hopefully replacing the historic sign on the park's south side that has rotted through.

I actually took a manual edger to some of the sidewalks there last week. Lee County Auditor Denise Fraise brought those over on a request for "edgers". I was thinking more of the lines of the Tim "The Tool-

man" Taylor's high octane, motorized supercharged, you-can-ride-that-thing, edger. Mike Hellige showed up with that one.

If you haven't used a manual pole edger before, just give up your regular workout routine, put on some gloves and work that thing for an hour or so. It's a full-on core workout that leaves the arms, chest, and core burning and the heart pumping. I think the track can wait for a couple weeks while I work out with Fraise's edger.

The park district has come up with a five-year plan looking at long-term, intermediate, and short-term fixes and people are taking stock of those plans and jumping in to help. There's the ongoing debate on what to do with the poor fix on the Victory Park tennis courts. Some have said turn them into pickle ball courts, others want them repaired and playable. Some want the whole thing down. But the energy is in the conversation.

And energy is what we're seeing even in the midst of a heat snap. Things are supposed to cool off starting this weekend with some needed rain on Sunday.

But let's hope the momentum doesn't cool off. Good on you, Fort Madison.

By the way, Kiwanis has a workday typically the third Saturday of the month at Ivanhoe starting at 8 a.m. Feel free to come out and join us. You can check our Facebook page at Fort Madison Kiwanis for additional details. We try to keep it under 90 minutes - because we want you to come back, but that's Beside the Point.

*Chuck Vandenberg is co-owner and editor of Pen City Current and can be reached at [editor@pencitycurrent.com](mailto:editor@pencitycurrent.com).*

# Church working with City Hope group to help cities

**ALLEY** - Continued from Page 1

asking how we could serve the city and help, and he said this was a project on the beautification committee's list. He said we could tackle that for them," Wiese said.

"He came up with the idea of what to do and what to paint, and we said "We're the hands."

Church member Dana Huppert was working in the 600 block with her husband Billy and son Jace. The family was trimming weeds and raking along the alley

"I believe God has called us to serve, and serve our community. I think the church was reaching out to people around town to see what we could do for them."

Wiese said the church is also working in conjunction with City Hope Foundation, a Burlington organization with the mission of bringing religious and non-religious organizations together to focus on the needs of area cities.

"It's a new non profit that works with churches and other non-religious groups to focus on needs of area cities. There are some areas they are going to focus on as well," Wiese said.

"Matt Shinn is the director of that group. Our church is working in partnership with them tackling different projects in the areas that we have."

He said the two groups have coordinated projects in Burlington, Danville and Mt. Pleasant.

About 15 people worked started at 8 a.m. and worked until noon on the downtown alley way.

The Fort Madison Beautification Committee has been working on projects throughout town as well, including enhancing the pocket park in downtown Fort Madison. The new park has a new pergola, wifi access and new landscaping.

The group is also doing weekend litter cleanups in different areas of town. On Saturday they were working to clean up litter in several city parks.

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## Opinion

# Farmington senior shoots under age on the golf course

It happened on August 5th. 82-year old Dale Netherton, of rural Farmington, shot an 80 at Green Acres Country Club in Donnellson. Then again, the next day, he shot a 77. He was on a roll. Green Acres is nine holes, so he plays it twice. So excited was Dale about “shooting his age” that he rushed home and wrote a 20 page book about the feat. You can find it on Kindle under his name, Dale Netherton, and the title, “How I Shot 80 at Age 82.” \$4.99.

Golfers in their fifties are likely not going to shoot their age. In their sixties, it’s a great accomplishment. In their seventies they’re real happy. Dale has been playing golf for forty years, so to shoot his age in his eighties, well, let’s celebrate!

No, he has never shot a hole-in-one. He hit the stick once, on a long par 3, but it wasn’t a hole-in-one. He was with a friend once who did hit a hole-in-one. Strangely, the friend put down his clubs and never played again. Go figure.

Dale and his golfing buddies play golf everyday at Donnellson at 9:00 am, weather permitting. There have been some years when they’ve been able to play every month of the year, even through winter. For Dale, it’s a way of keeping fit

## EMPTY NEST

By Curt Swarm



and active. On the days he doesn’t play, he exercises at home with weights and cardio equipment. He is doing something all the time.

In high school, Dale went to the driving range with his friends and couldn’t even hit the ball. He was so embarrassed he stomped off, humiliated. But Dale Netherton is not a quitter. Over the years, he returned to golf again and again. One more thing about high school—Dale was “The class poet.” Keep reading.

He earned a degree in forestry from Iowa State University in 1963. Over the years he had various occupations and wound up in Cedar Rapids working for General Mills. He picked up his MBA and was introduced to a problem solving regimen called Kepner-Tregoe (KT) that uses logic and reason to solve problems, make decisions, appraise situations and analyze potential problems. Not only did Dale utilize KT at

General Mills to solve industrial problems (quite successfully), he applied KT to his golf game. Voila! I won’t tell you what secret he discovered, read his book. It’s only 20 pages.

In fact, Dale has written 12 books. He was also the “Outlook” Columnist for seven years for the Cedar Rapids Gazette. He’s a man of many talents. He and a buddy ran a lawnmower repair business in Norway, Iowa for several years. So, when the electric clutch on his zero-turn lawnmower went out, he replaced it himself—something most people, like me, wouldn’t even attempt. Dale doesn’t back down from challenges. If he can analyze it, he can fix it.

Dale lives at the end of pastoral Hawk Drive, on the banks of the Des Moines River. A sign as you’re pulling in reads “Hodge Podge Lodge.” When I arrived, wondering if I was lost, Dale was standing on the front porch. “You scared off the groundhog I’ve been trying to trap,” he informed me.

Dale’s wife, Donna, died a year ago, so Dale lives alone except for his cat. I wrote about his wife in 2016. She was a forensic genealogist and, like Dale, very interesting. On the wall of his living room is a drawing

he commissioned an artist to draw of Ayn Rand and Aristotle standing in front of a bridge. Dale likes Ayn Rand because she believed she was “a bridge of that time.” Dale may be a bridge of his time, also.

As another example of his past endeavors, his wife and he traveled around the country pulling a trailer and selling poetry. Yep, I’m not jiving you. They had a little business called Poetry for Photographers. They recorded poetry with music and artwork. Some of the poetry and artwork were composed by Dale. Here is just one of the poems recorded with his son playing soft classical guitar music against a hand drawn snowscape: “Winter” The sting of chill, the bite of wind, intensifying the ambition for comfort. Glistening at night, barren by day, time creeps as the stores deplete. Life by the grace of reprieve lingers and suffers. Only the whimsy of youth smiles at the transient snow.

Dale Netherton has miles to go before he sleeps.

*Have a good story? Call or text Curt Swarm in Mt. Pleasant at 319-217-0526, find him on Facebook, email him at [curtswarm@yahoo.com](mailto:curtswarm@yahoo.com), or visit his website at [www.empty-nest-words-photos-and-frames.com](http://www.empty-nest-words-photos-and-frames.com).*



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