

PEN CITY CURRENT

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

Wednesday, March 10, 2021 | 10 pages | Volume 5 • Issue 57



www.pencitycurrent.com

PAW raises \$38K in 4 hours



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg

Fort Madison PAW Animal Shelter Director Sandy Brown gets pied by Linda Smith Tuesday morning as part of the Jordan's Way Charity fundraiser. The 4-hour livestream raised \$38,000. Jordan's Way founder Kris Rotonda broadcasts the antics from the right.

JORDAN'S WAY: Event marks largest effort of the year for the charitable foundation

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – PAW Director Sandy Brown literally lost all her hair trying to raise money for the Fort Madison animal shelter Tuesday morning.

Just over a week ago, Brown didn't even know there was chance of pulling off the fundraiser with a charity called Jordan's Way.

The charity, founded by Kris Rotonda, is making a name for itself on social media by livestreaming four-hour hyped up fundraising efforts to help clear animal shelters around the country. Rotonda lost his dog "Jordan" recently and set about helping

raising funds for shelters.

Brown said someone from the charity reached out to her last Tuesday and said there was one spot left open for Iowa and asked if she wanted it.

Linda Smith pies Brown in the face after Smith donated \$5,000 to the Jordan's Way fundraiser. The charities founder, Kris Rotonda livestreams the action at right. The event raised "When we talked to the guy, we weren't even on the list. They had one spot open last Tuesday night and they called and asked if we would like to do it," Brown said.

See **SHELTER**, page 10

FAIRFIELD EXHIBIT

FMAAA reopens with exhibit after roof renovations

BY BRIAN RIGGS
Fort Madison Area Arts Association

Renovations with "ARTISTS OF FAIRFIELD & SE IOWA" as the feature March Exhibition. Reception for the show is March 12th from 5-7pm. Hy-Vee of Ft. Madison is

the sponsor for the exhibition. All the works are on 16"x16" canvas. FMAAA reopens with hours of operation Tues-Thur-Fri-Sat from 12-7 p.m. There are still some on-going renovations giving the gallery a new look but the feature gallery is back in business!

This traveling exhibit is presented by the Fairfield Art Association, an organization that was started in 1966 with the mission of fostering art in Fairfield and the surrounding area. To celebrate their 54th year, it

See **EXHIBIT**, page 5

WEST POINT

Library gets \$500K from Hoenig estate

Director says gift will stabilize library for many, many years

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

WEST POINT – The legacy of a couple of former West Point farmers will carry on at the West Point Public Library.

City officials at Monday night's West Point City Council meeting voted in favor of an investment plan the library has for a gift of more than a half a million dollars from the estate of Patricia Hoenig.

Dara Sanders, the director of the library, said the library board was made aware of the gift last year and received the funds in December.

"We were really very surprised and honored to be a beneficiary of Patricia's estate," Sanders said.

"I wish I would have been able to get to know them and had some way of thanking them for this gift."

Hoenig, and her husband Ralph, were farmers in West Point and members of St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church in West Point. The two had no children.

Patricia died in 2109 and Ralph passed away in 2005. The two were in an auto accident five days after they were married in 1954. Patricia lost a leg in the accident and Ralph was paralyzed from the waist down.

But the two continued in the farming industry up until Ralph's death.

Sanders said most of the money will be invested initially. The library is less than 20 years old and in good condition.

"Initially the board thought it best to invest the money and hopefully we can use just the interest off of that and not get into the principal," Sanders said.

Some technology upgrades will take place to replace the public computer and the genealogy computer, and about

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WEATHER

OpenWeatherMap
WED 10 Mar.....Overcast, 63° F/ 58° F
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Obituaries

OBITUARIES

ROSEMARY A. MENKE

Rosemary Ann Menke, 89, of Wever passed away on Monday, March 08, 2021 at 4:50 AM at the GRMC Klein Center.

She was born on October 15, 1931 in Hillsboro, IA to William and Ursula Pollmiller Helling. On September 7, 1959 she married Cletus Menke in Houghton and he passed away on July 21, 2011. In her early years she worked for Sheaffer Pen Co. and then helped her husband farm. She was a member of Ss. Mary & Joseph Church. Rosemary loved her flowers and gardening.



MENKE

Survivors include two sons, Dale (Karen) Menke of New London and Steven Menke of Wever; three grandsons; one granddaughter; four great grandchildren; one brother, Donald Helling of Mt. Hamill; one sister, Celeste Bultman of Madrid, IA; nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, two brothers, Roger and William Helling.

The funeral service will be held on Thursday, March 11, 2021 at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory with Rev. Joseph Phung officiating. There will be a rosary held at 9:45 AM at the funeral and then the family will receive friends from 10 AM until the time of service at 11 AM. A Private family burial will be in Gethsemane Cemetery.

A memorial has been established for Gethsemane Cemetery and online condolences may be left at www.kinglynk.com.

OBITUARIES

DUANE D. HOCK

Duane D. "Sarge" Hock, 90, of Keosauqua, Iowa, passed away at 10:05 a.m. Friday, March 5, 2021 at the Keosauqua Health Care Center.

He was born on May 13, 1930, at his parents home in rural Lisbon, North Dakota, the son of Herman J. and Lucille A. (Mills) Hock. He was born in the same bed his father was born in twenty-four years earlier.



HOCK

He was raised most of his life in Clear Lake, South Dakota by his mother and step-father, Henry Miller. He married his high school sweetheart, Esther Nicola, also from Clear Lake.

He chose a twenty-one year career in the United States Air Force that took them and their two children to many different states including: Texas, Florida and Alaska. He retired from the Air Force in 1971, while serving as an Air Force recruiter out of Fort Des Moines.

He fell in love with Southeast Iowa while recruiting in the area. He and his family moved to Fairfield where he bought and added on to Green Acres Mobile Home Park. He worked at American Chain and Cable for awhile, meeting many good friends there. He and Esther divorced in 1984. He later married Becky Phillips in Indianola, Iowa. They divorced in 1991 and he married Waneta Frazier from Creston, B.C. Canada. Duane and Waneta lived in Keosauqua, Iowa until their separation in 2012 and he has currently lived in the Keosauqua Health Care Center since July of 2019.



Duane enjoyed fishing and hunting. Fishing was his real passion and obsession. He loved catching big bass and caught more than his share of trophies. He was also an excellent pool player and helped many teams from different towns to league championships.

Duane was preceded in death by all three of his wives; his parents; sisters: Marilyn from Sioux Falls, South Dakota, Patty Carlen from North Dakota and special nephew: Kendall Anderson from Clear Lake, South Dakota.

He is survived by his daughter: Arla (Craig) Ford and their three children: Ryan, Darren and Ruthie; his son: Randy (Tracy) Hock and their four children: Cary, Lindy, Lee and Tina; brother: Donald (Marilyn) Hock of North Dakota; sisters: Judy (Tommy) Townsend of North Dakota and Deana (Art) Anderson of South Dakota; several grandchildren and great grandchildren that he loved dearly and proudly. He is also survived by a very special friend and neighbor: Doris Robbins who the family loves and respects.

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

In lieu of flowers, a memorial has been established in his memory and can be mailed to the family at: Randy Hock, 13751 Osage Avenue, Birmingham, Iowa 52535.

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

Pen City Current obituary policy

The 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.

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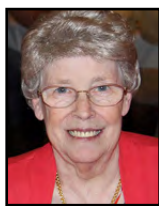
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Obituaries/Education News

OBITUARIES

SYLVIA L. MERSCHBROCK

Sylvia L. Merschbrock, 82, of Fort Madison, IA, passed away at 6:55 a.m. on Tuesday, March 9, 2021 at her home. She was born on March 30, 1938 in Quincy, IL to Sylvester & Martha Kellogg Durand. She married Maurice J. Merschbrock on July 2, 1957 in Fort Madison, IA. He preceded her in death on



January 22, 2017. She was a homemaker, member of Holy Family Parish in Fort Madison and the Altar & Rosary Society of the church. She enjoyed spending time with her family, playing cards, bingo, sewing, working puzzles and she volunteered serving chicken at the Knights of Columbus.

Sylvia is survived by: 1-son: Mark Merschbrock of Iowa City, IA; 4-daughters: Catherine (Jim Walter) Brown of Port Charlotte, FL, Lori (Bill) Hanes of Noel, MO, Terri (Paul) Costello of New Kent, VA & Carla (Steven) Kinchen of Covington, LA; 9-grandchildren: Mindy Herr, Shanna Brown, Samantha Gregory, Andrea Costello, Caitlyn Townsley, Justin Kinchen, Kasondra Tosino, Dexter Merschbrock and Craighton Merschbrock; 11-great grandchildren: Rylee Sparks, Jamesyn Herr, Mira Herr, Brooklyn Gregory, Parker Gregory, Merschbrock "Brock" Townsley, Kailysa Tosino, Gabriel Tosino, August Merschbrock, Samson Merschbrock & Maeve Petty Merschbrock; 2-brothers: Henry (Mary) Durand of Pea Ridge, AR & Francis "Frank" (Donna) Durand of Denmark, IA; 3-sisters: Virginia (Albert) Butler of Liberty, IL, Patricia (Clell) Hauser of West Point, IA, Charlotte Inman of West Point, IA and numerous nieces & nephews. She was preceded in death by: her parents, husband, 1-son: Randy, 1-brother: Rocky Conover & 1-sister: Mae Durand.

The family will receive friends from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 13, 2021 at Ss. Mary & Joseph Church. The funeral mass will immediately follow at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday with Rev. Joseph Phung officiating. Burial will be held at Sacred Heart Cemetery. A memorial has been established for Holy Family Parish or the Fort Madison Food Pantry. Online condolences to Sylvia's family may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: www.kinglynk.com. King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory is assisting the family.

OBITUARIES

BILLIE J. SNYDER

Billie Jean Snyder, 96, of Sarasota, FL, formerly of Keokuk, IA, passed away on Saturday, February 20, 2021 in Sarasota.

She was born on October 5, 1925 in Joplin, MO, the daughter of Neal and Anna Belle Craig. She moved to Keokuk as a child and graduated from Keokuk Senior High with



SNYDER

the Class of 1944. She raised her family while helping run Martin Electric Motor Corporation with her husband, Roger. And finally, after all their children graduated, they sold their business and retired.

She is survived by her oldest son, Victor MacDonald and his wife Shelly of Sarasota, FL, her middle son Michael Snyder and his wife Nancy of Luray, MO, her only daughter, Jeaneta MacDonald Catterson, many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Roger, her youngest son, Craig Snyder, and her younger sister Waneta Craig Drilling.

A graveside service will be held on April 24, 2021 at the Montrose Cemetery in Montrose, IA.

The Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk is assisting the family with arrangements.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.vigenmemorialhome.com.

A memorial has been established for Gethsemane Cemetery and online condolences may be left at www.kinglynk.com.

Weather spotting course offered in DM county

BURLINGTON - With spring storm season just around the corner, the Quad Cities office of the National Weather Service (NWS) will be offering virtual (on-line) Storm Spotter training this year according to Gina Hardin,

Coordinator, from the Des Moines County Emergency Management Agency (EMA).

Each spring EMA hosts training for those individual who are interested in learning more about

storm hazards, along with their structure, movement, and features. For questions on weather spotting or the local SKYWARN organization, contact Hardin at 319-753-8206, ext. 3 or harding@dmcunty.com.



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Business News/From the Front

Ambassador Calls



Photos by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

The Fort Madison Chamber of Commerce Ambassador Club made calls on several new businesses last week. Above ambassadors help cut the ribbon at Major Oak British Cafe and Restaurant at 707 9th Street. The cafe is open from 11 to 2 p.m. and has dinner appointments. They can be reached at 319-750-3797.

Below, Ambassadors cut the ribbon at Treasure Trove at 722 Avenue G, where crafters rent booth space to sell their unique craft items.



WP Library board invests donation

LIBRARY - Continued from Page 1

\$41,000 of the funds will go into the library checking account.

The rest, about \$510,000, is being invested in with local banks.

"Now we'll turn to future of library. We have some immediate tech needs we'll use a little of it for. But the board wants to be careful in what we spend it on in the future," Sanders said.

"We do have a 5-year strategic plan in 2019. But we just started to have that discussion about how we want to approach that now."

Sanders married into West Point and took over the library position in 2016 and didn't get to know Hoenig prior to her death.

"From what I've been told from townspeople, she was a library patron throughout her life," Sanders said.

"I had just come across a past news article that showed her and Ralph were respected and hardworking farmers that had overcome some personal hardships.

"It's an amazing gift and we feel very luck that they thought of us. This will help provide stability to the library for many, many years to come."

Sanders said the library plans to acknowledge the gift with some type of event in the future, but plans are still in the works.

Local SCC students shine at BPA conference

WEST BURLINGTON - Five students from Southeastern Community College's Computer Club and three from its Business Club earned top ranks at the Business Professionals of America (BPA) State Leadership Conference held virtually in February.

Participants compete in several categories, including Banking and Financing, Word Processing, Computer Network Technology, and Digital Marketing Concepts.

Each computer club member is in SCC's network administration and cyber security program.

Joseph Hummel, West Point, Joy Mack, Fort Madison, Jacob Pearson, Burlington, Charles Taylor, Fort Madison, and Blaze Vincent, Fort Madison, earned 28 honors combined at the state competition. Each student earned at least one first place award.

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Lee County News/From the Front

Dems to hold Caucus meeting

KEOKUK – The Lee County Democratic Party will hold its Odd-Year Caucus in conjunction with its March meeting on Thursday, March 11, at 7 p.m., at the Keokuk Labor Temple, 301 Blondeau Street, Keokuk.

The guest speaker will be Al Womble, the Chair of the Iowa Democratic Party Black Constituency Caucus and the State Director for New Frontier Action.

Womble has been an activist in Democratic politics for many years, as well as in worker and union rights, and social justice issues.



WOMBLE

The meeting and Caucus will be the preliminary step for the Lee County Democratic Party in a process to be continued at the organizational meeting on

March 27th at the Donnellson American Legion Hall.

People will be asked to sign in at the door so they can be included in future events. We encourage Democrats and Democratic leaning individuals from throughout the county to attend. Residents of Lee County may also register as Democrats at the caucus.

Masks are required. The space is large enough to allow social distancing. If you have any questions, please contact the chair, Mary Jo Riesberg, at 319-526-3160.

Lee County Democrats offer scholarships

LEE COUNTY – The Lee County Democratic Party will award three \$500 scholarships to graduating seniors who reside in Lee County and attend Central Lee High School, Fort Madison High School, Holy Trinity High School, or Keokuk High School.

The local Democrats want to encourage students to follow their dreams through

whichever educational path takes them there. The students must plan on attending an accredited university, college, community college, or business/technical/trade/career school.

Applicants must have a cumulative G.P.A. of at least 3.00 and show evidence of active involvement in school activities, community service, and/or leadership.

The application forms are available in the school guidance offices. The requested documentation and a 500 word essay on one of the questions asked on the application form must be returned to the schools' guidance office by the end of the school day on April 15th.

If you have any questions please contact Mary Jo Riesberg at 319 526 3160.

Traveling exhibit is a first for the Fairfield art group

EXHIBIT - Continued from Page 1

was decided to assemble a two-year traveling exhibit with art works selected from their annual membership show.

From this exhibit of 35 artists' original artworks, 24 pieces were selected by Judge John Bybee to travel the state of Iowa. The full show opened in January 2020 in the Main Gallery at the Fairfield Arts & Convention Center with a public vote for their favorite art work won by Hans Olson. Awards to four artists for their Outstanding Artworks selected by Bybee, went to John Preston, Wendy Stegall, Jessica Kirby and Hans Olson. Travel Exhibit participating artists include: Carlene Atwater, Deb Baughman, Care Connet, Debbie Finney, Annie Guldborg, Bonnie Hendricks, Brett Hendricks, Suzan Bates Kessel, Jessica Kirby, Pamela Lander, Hans Olson, John Preston, Trish Rocca, Wyndi Rutledge, John Schirmer, Annette Scieszinski, Mark Shafer, Wendy Stegall, Mia Story, Kathleen Tachet, Kella Tschopp, Ann Weigel, Laura Weinberg, Ron Weinberg.

"Artists from all around Southeast Iowa were challenged to use any permanent medium or mixed media on our 16"x16" canvas. Art submitted included works in oil, acrylic, collage, fabric quilting, photography, and mixed with a variety of subjects of landscape, still life, animals, people, religious and more in many styles from abstract to realism. There are no frames but side treatment by each artist individualizes their presentation. All works are for sale, but not immediately available if they are selected to travel the state" according to Suzan Kessel, Volunteer Director of the FAA.

"The Traveling Exhibit is a first for the FAA's 54th annual member exhibit" says Kessel. "Judge and artist, John Bybee from Burlington, was secured to juror the entire show after it was installed, and along with choosing the pieces for the traveling exhibit, selected four top entries for cash awards."

The Fairfield exhibit stops in Washington, Iowa at Art Domestique, then on to the Muscatine Art Center, followed by Albia Arts Council at Heritage Hall, Art Center of Burlington, Indian Hills Community College, Ft. Madison Area Arts Association, Waukee Public Library Gallery, Ingersol Gallery at Plymouth Congregational Church in Des Moines, and Urbandale Art Gallery. This exhibit is sponsored in part by a Fairfield Convention and Visitor's Bureau grant.

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Current-Lee/Sports

CURRENT-LEE

AmeriCorps Week

LEE COUNTY – AmeriCorps is one of the largest volunteer networks in the nation for people 55 and over. Lee County's AmeriCorps is sponsored by the United Way of the Great River Region. AmeriCorps Week runs from Sunday March 7 through Saturday, March 13. AmeriCorps want to thank all its volunteers and anyone wishing to join the volunteer group can contact Tammy Hudson at 319-372-8043 or at rsvp@unitedwaygr.org.

Basic Estate Planning

FORT MADISON – The Kensington will be holding a basic estate planning for seniors seminar on Tuesday March 9 via Zoom link. RSVP to Cindy Greer at 319-372-4233 or by email at cgreer@kensington-evergreen.com.

Read Across Iowa

WEST POINT – Preschool story time through the Iowa State University Extension is being held on Mondays in March beginning at 10 a.m. at the West Point Public Library. This year's theme is agriculture.

HTC Kindergarten Round-Up

WEST POINT – Kindergarten Round Up will be held Tuesday March 9th in West Point, where future kindergarten students will come in for their appointed times to meet our teachers and enjoy some guided kindergarten activities

Shugs Tiny Town Treasure Hunt

FORT MADISON – The Lucky ME! Treasure Hunt will be held March 13, 2021 from 10 a.m. to noon at 820 Avenue G in Fort Madison. Cost is \$25+tax per child. Book spot online at <http://shugstinytown.as.me>. For more information call Brenda Derr at 319-372-7484.

YMCA registering for programs

FORT MADISON – Little Tykes Soccer and Lee County Soccer registration is now open through the Fort Madison YMCA. Call 319-372-2403 to register and for more information. The YMCA is also scheduling private youth gymnastics lessons for boys and girls ages 10 and up.

Y Kids & Company preschool enrollment is now open for the 2021-22 schol year. Call the YMCA for additional information.

Blue and Silver Celebration

FORT MADISON – Holy Trinity Catholic will hold its annual Blue and Silver celebration, an annual tribute to teachers. This year's event will be Saturday, March 27, 2021 and limited to teachers and guests only. The HTC Teacher of the Year will be announced.

Locals get all-state hoops nods

BY PCC STAFF

LEE COUNTY – Four local basketball players have been named to All-State post-season basketball teams.

Central Lee senior Mya Merschman was named to the Class 3A 1st team by the Iowa Girls Coaches Association. Merschman led the Hawks to a 13-9 record and was second in the state in scoring with 607 points.

Merschman trailed Van Buren County's Isabel Manning who was named to the 1st team in Class 2A. She led the state with 665 points.

Fort Madison's Dayton Davis was named to the 1st team in Class 3A Substate 5. Davis led the Southeast in rebounds with 226 and was 4th in scoring with 326 points on the year and 16.3 points per game.

Holy Trinity Catholic senior Vasin Thurman was named to the 1st team of Substate 4 in Class 1A. Thurman was third in the Southeast Iowa Superconference in scoring with 396 points. Thurman was also tops in the conference in rebounding with 223 points.

Fort Madison's Mallory Ross was named 3rd team All State in Class 4A by the Iowa Print Sports Writers Association. Ross averaged just over 20 points per game for the 17-3 Bloodhounds who were upset in by Fairfield in the regional semifinals.

Merschman was also named to the 1st team by IPSWA.

Thurman, Stuecker picked All SEISC

FORT MADISON – Holy Trinity senior Vasin Thurman capped his final basketball season by being named to the first team Southeast Iowa Superconference basketball team in lists released Friday.

Thurman was third in the SEISC in scoring with 396 points behind SEISC South Player of the year Blaise Porter of New London and Porter's teammate Kade Benjamin,

both just sophomores.

The Crusader's 226 rebounds was tops in the loop and he had 25 blocks on the year.

Central Lee's Dylan Stuecker also was named to 1st team All conference.

Stuecker was second in the conference in 3-pointers with 59 behind teammate's Jaxon Betker's 66 and had a 54% conversion rate. He shot 48% from the field.

Senior Jason Thurman was the only local player named to the 2nd team.

Central Lee's Kade Myhre and Kaleb Sanders, and Holy Trinity's Kadin Medland and Chandler Rung both received Honorable Mention.

In the North Wapello's Maddox Griffin and Pekin senior Brady Millikin of Pekin were co-Players of the Year. Ken Spielbauer was coach of the year.



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Celebrations

Birth Announcements

WELSH

FORT MADISON – Renee Wolfe and David Welsh II, of Fort Madison, are proud to announce the birth of their son Sebastian Abel Welsh, on Feb. 13, 2021 at Fort Madison Community Hospital.

Sebastian is joined at home by Sunny Welsh (brother).

Grandparents are Dave and Lori Welsh of Fort Madison; Jason and Randi Shaffer of Burlington; and John and Julie Vice of Tiffin.

Great-grandparents are John and Janet Vice of Paris, Ill.; Carol Wolfe and Karen Meade of Cedar Rapids; Robert Wolfe of South English, Ia.; and Phil and Mary McKune of Cedar Rapids.

RIIS

FORT MADISON – Amanda Orton and Carl Riis, of Fort Madison, are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Addyson Michelle Riss, on Feb. 5, 2021 at Fort Madison Community Hospital.

Grandparents are David and Mary Beth Orton of Fort Madison; and John and Vickie Riis of Donnellson.

PARSONS

FORT MADISON – Chyna Humburd and Brandon Parsons, of Fort Madison, are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Adelynn Rose Parsons, on Feb. 12, 2021 at Fort Madison Community Hospital.

Grandparents are Sunny and Roger Eilderts of Sigourney; Daniel (Katie Anderson) Parsons of Fort Madison; and Janice Van Ginkel of Fort Madison.

Great-grandparents are Thomas and Gladys Humburd of Donnellson; and Dale and Charlotte Parsons (both deceased) of Donnellson.

SON

DONNELLSON – Alycia Hopp and David Son, of Donnellson, are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Aubree Ann Son, on Feb. 13, 2021 at Fort Madison Community Hospital.

Alycia is joined at home by Hunter Son, Fayelynn Son and John Marshall Son.

Grandparents are Mike and Debra Son of Carthage, Ill.; Jerry and Kelly Hackett of Donnellson; and the late John Hopp and Tammy Hopp of Donnellson.

BROWN

FORT MADISON – Ann Sutcliffe and Tyrone

Brown Jr., of Fort Madison, are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Braxten Elaura Kimera Brown, on Feb. 21, 2021 at Fort Madison Community Hospital.

Braxten joins brother Caspion Elijah Miles Brown at home.

Grandparents are Laura Archibald of Fort Madison, William and Mary Sutcliffe of Fort Madison, Kim Hampton of Bronx, NY; and Tyrone Brown, Sr., of Jersey City, NJ.

DEAN

DONNELLSON – Breeanna Whitten and Dustin Dean, of Donnellson, are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Elizabeth Jolene Dean on Feb. 11, 2021 at Fort Madison Community Hospital.

Elizabeth joins Lilly and Westin Dean at home.

Grandparents are Christina and Gary Whitten of Loves Park, Ill.; Sonja Dean of Kahoka; and Corey and Cheryl Dean of Kahoka.

Great-grandparents are Dan and Sherri Balderama of Machesney Park, Ill.; Dave Whitten of Nauvoo; Judy and Dick Peterman of Rushville, Ill.; and Mary Jo and CJ Dean of Kahoka.

LUCAS

FORT MADISON – Halee and Jeffan Lucas, of Fort Madison, are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Ellee Jo Lucas on Feb. 20, 2021 at Fort Madison Community Hospital.

Ellee joins Azalea at home.

Grandparents are Mike and Trish Hedges of Fort Madison, Dawn and Rodney Johnson of Middletown, and Jill and Jeff (deceased) Lucas of Fort Madison.

Great-grandparents are Donna and Lyle Gittings of Dallas City; Paulette Hedges of Pontoosuc and Mary Fedler of West Point.

ARNOLD

FORT MADISON – Kyra and Dakota Arnold, of Fort Madison, are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Freia Lenore Arnold, on Feb. 2, 2021 at Fort Madison Community Hospital.

Freia joins Ayden Evans, Presley Evans and Malcolm Evans at home.

Grandparents are Kevin and Jenny Murphy of Howarden, Ia.; Monica Allen of Fort Madison; and

James Arnold Jr., of Mission, Texas.

Great-grandparents are Patty Murphy of Las Vegas; James Arnold Sr., and Karen Arnold of Mission, Texas; and Francis Ator of Concord, Ill.

EVANS

KEOKUK – Galyn Stotlar and Riley Evans, of Keokuk, are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Gracie Jeanette Noel Evans, on Feb. 8, 2021 at Fort Madison Community Hospital.

Galyn is joined at home by Brynlee Stotlar.

Grandparents are Amanda Feikert of Keokuk; Jack Evans Jr., of Keokuk; Bill Stotlar of Fort Madison; and Gale and Ernest Sawyer of Fort Madison.

Great-grandparents are Cathy Searsen of Keokuk; Roger Dickens of Burlington; Karen and Ray Stotlar of Burlington; Angela Stotlar of Fort Madison; and Donna Warner of Fort Madison.

EVANS

Galyn Stotlar and Riley Evans, of Keokuk, are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Macie Angela Rose Evans, on Feb. 8, 2021 at Fort Madison Community Hospital.

Galyn is joined at home by Brynlee Stotlar.

Grandparents are Amanda Feikert of Keokuk; Jack Evans Jr., of Keokuk; Bill Stotlar of Fort Madison; and Gale and Ernest Sawyer of Fort Madison.

Great-grandparents are Cathy Searsen of Keokuk; Roger Dickens of Burlington; Karen and Ray Stotlar of Burlington; Angela Stotlar of Fort Madison; and Donna Warner of Fort Madison.

PROSS

FORT MADISON – Kelsey Pross and Roger Pross of Fort Madison are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Scarlett Grace Pross on Feb. 18, 2021 at Fort Madison Community Hospital.

Scarlett is joined at home by big brother Logan.

Grandparents are Mark and Debbie Culbertson of Fort Madison; and Tom and Nancy Pross of Mt. Pleasant.

Great-grandparents are Roger and Debbie Graber of Mt. Pleasant.

Pen City Current congratulates these families on this wonderful news.



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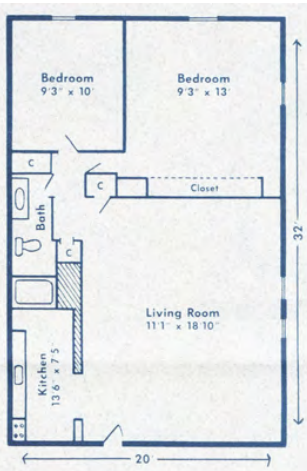
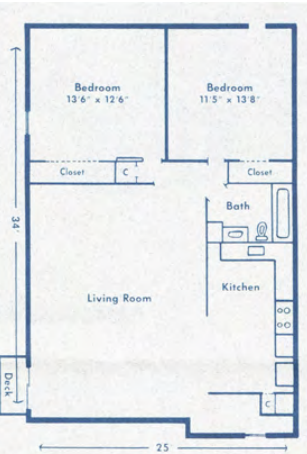
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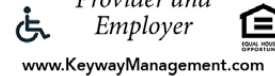
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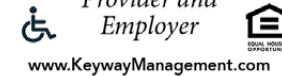
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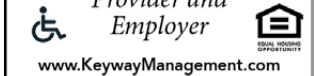
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For the Record/From the Front

Brown hopes event generates \$40,000

SHELTER - Continued from Page 1

“How bad could it be. We didn’t have a whole lot of time and honestly we spent most of the time before just cleaning up the shelter.”

Brown said most of Rotonda’s events raise between \$10,000 and \$15,000, but she set the bar at \$20,000 because she said Lee County has a history of stepping up.

“He said don’t go too high because the goal needs to be attainable. I told him we’d hit \$20,000 and if we got \$25,000 I’d shave my head during the event.”

The craziness started at 10 a.m. and ran until 2 p.m. Shortly after 12:30 p.m., Fort Madison City Councilwoman Donna Amandus buzzed Brown to the scalp as donations online and private donations made at the shelter surpassed \$25,000.

Then Brad Walker, president of the board for the animal shelter, offered to shave his 17-year-old beard if the donations went over \$30,000.

“I don’t think Brad thought he would have to shave it,” Brown said. “He’s home now regrowing it.”

The livestream will stay on the PAW Facebook site for 48 hours and the donation link stays live during that time. Brown said when all is said and done she hopes to raise \$40,000.

The \$38,000 four-hour mark is the most Rotonda has ever helped raise. The previous most was \$23,000 in Chicago where a professional baseball player came in and donated \$10,000.

Brown said she never imagined that a fundraiser she didn’t know she was having a week ago, would generate that kind of response.

“But I don’t know why I should be surprised. I should not limit God’s blessings here. When he blesses the shelter I should never be surprised,” she said. “I’m still getting calls from people wanting to know if they can donate.”

The largest donation of the day came in from Linda Smith, who tried to drop the check off and sneak away. Rotonda sniffed out who made the donation, caught her and brought her into the event, where she hit Brown in the face with a whip cream pie.

Brown said there were several large donations made and it will take some time to go through the feed to see where all the donations came from.

Rotonda told the group before he left they were the best sports he’s seen on any staff, and then said he wanted to come back next year to do it again.

“Today was just one more instance of proof that we live in a really great little community and great county. Everybody should be proud of Fort Madison and the surrounding communities that made this happen.”



Photo courtesy of Jordan’s Way

Fort Madison City Councilwoman Donna Amandus takes the shears to PAW Animal Shelter Director Sandy Brown after a Jordan’s Way fundraiser topped the \$25,000 mark about 2.5 hours into the event Tuesday afternoon.

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report

03/08/21 – 8:08 a.m.

– Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 3900 block of Bluff Road.

03/08/21 – 5:07 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 1500 block of Avenue H.

03/08/21 – 7:36 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the

1600 block of 27th Street.

03/09/21 – 1:55 a.m. – Fort Madison Police arrested Jarad Edward Jackson, of Fort Madison, at Ivanhoe Park on a warrant for failure to appear. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

03/09/21 – 7:10 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident at the interchange of Richards Drive and Sunset Lane.

03/08/21 – 1:30 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff’s deputies arrested Ricky Dean Glasgow, Jr., 38, of Hamilton, Ill., at the Hancock County Jail on warrants for possession of methamphetamine and failure to appear. *Those listed above are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.*

Fort Madison Fire & Rescue Report

03/08/21 – Fort Madison Firefighters responded to three medical calls.

Lee County Sheriff’s Report

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