

PEN CITY CURRENT

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Wednesday, October 20, 2021 | 8 pages | Volume 5 • Issue 189



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Fatal stabbing in FM

SUSPECT SOUGHT: FM Police looking for suspect connection with murder

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – Fort Madison police are searching for a man in his mid-20s in connection with a stabbing that took place Tuesday afternoon at an apartment complex near downtown Fort Madison resulting in the death of male in his mid-20s.

The man was stabbed in the abdomen in an upper hallway of an apartment complex at 610 8th Street, and was originally taken to the Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center in Fort Madison in grave condition.

Fort Madison Police Chief Mark Rohloff said the Iowa Department of Criminal Investigation has been called in to help assist with the investigation. DCI was on their way from Des Moines after being contacted for assistance and would be on

the scene most of of the night.

Rohloff said he doesn't believe there is any threat to the general public.

"We believe these two people were associated. We don't believe the general public is threatened by the individual. (The assault) was directed toward the specific individual, so it's not like there's someone running loose with a knife," he said.

Rohloff is classifying the assault as an intentional homicide.

"We have been canvassing the area and we'll be seeking video from cameras in the downtown area to make some sort of determinations."

Police were called to the area at about 4:40 p.m. for a report of the stabbing. Fort Madison Fire Chief Joey Herren and Rohloff were both at City Hall at the time and responded on

See **MURDER**, page 2



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg

Emergency crews descended on an apartment building on the east side of the 600 block of 8th Street Tuesday at about 4:45 p.m. following a stabbing in an upper hallway. A man in his mid-20s was killed in the assault. Officials say there is evidence the two men knew each other and the general public isn't at risk.

FMHS HALL OF HONOR

FMHS looking for Hall of Honor nominees

SUBMITTED ARTICLE

FORT MADISON - Fort Madison High School Alumni Hall of Honor was established to recognize alumni who have distinguished themselves based upon elements of academic excellence and

achievement, career accomplishments, community service, personal excellence and dedication to lifelong learning. If you know of someone who fits the criteria for the Hall of Honor please

send your nomination forms to the High School by December 31, 2021. You may get a form from our website www.fmcsd.org, or send an email to HallofHonor@fmcsd.org and one will be sent to you.

See **CANDIDATES**, page 4

SCHOOL ELECTION

Contrasts in candidates for FM board

Editor's Note: This is the second of three candidate previews for the Fort Madison Community School Board election on Nov. 2. A third will focus on the two incumbents Brian Steffensmeier and Brad Menke.

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – With the in-person early voting now underway in Lee County for the general Iowa city/school election on Nov. 2, the race for three hotly contested seats on the Fort Madison School Board is in full swing.

The race between incumbents Brian Steffensmeier and Brad Menke, and new comers Jadi Zioui, Paul Wilkerson, Mio Santiago, David Allen, and Alleena Garr is one of the very few races in North Lee County with an abundance of candidates.

Allen and Garr were featured in an earlier preview, while Zioui, Wilkerson, and Santiago will be the focus of this preview. Menke and Steffensmeier will be a separate article.

Jadi Zioui has a lengthy background in Fort Madison and has raised children here. She has been involved in local events including organizing a Haunted Old Fort and has been in several Old Fort Players productions. She was also part owner of several businesses downtown including the Parthenon before it was sold and closed down.

She said she's had an interest in politics since she covered the Iowa caucuses for Google.

"I had the pleasure at that time of interviewing former State Sen. Gene Fraise and his advice to me was get on a board," Zioui said. "This has really been random, but Erin sent out an email to parents saying



SANTIAGO



WILKERSON



ZIOUI

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WEATHER

WED 20 Oct.....Light Rain, 76° F/ 54° F
THU 21 Oct.....Overcast and Chilly, 57° F/ 49° F
FRI 22 Oct.....Cool with Scattered Clouds, 65° F/ 52° F

IOWA LOTTERY

LUCKY FOR LIFE 10/18.....9 17 18 25 47, Lucky Ball: 16
PICK 3 10/18 MIDDAY.....147
PICK 3 10/18 EVENING.....6 0 5
PICK 4 10/18 MIDDAY.....0 3 8 9
PICK 4 10/18 EVENING.....6 5 4 2
POWERBALL 10/18.....30 32 48 53 63, Powerball: 12, Power Play: 2

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Obituaries/From the Front

OBITUARIES

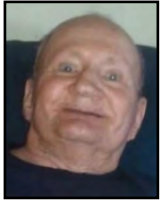
FRANK H. WETTELAND

Frank Henry Wetteland, 77, of Fort Madison passed away at 2:10 PM on Saturday, October 16, 2021 at the Southeast Iowa Regional Hospice House in West Burlington.

He was born on July 23, 1944 in Ft. Madison to Clem and Ima Huss Nolte. Frank married Loretta Lake on July 24, 1963 in Niota, IL and they later divorced. He worked production at Midwest Packaging and later Burrows. After retirement he worked for FMCSD as a bus attendant assisting handicapped students. Frank was affiliated with the Moose and the Eagle's Club. He enjoyed driving his Camaro in downtown Ft. Madison and blasting Patsy Cline's "I Fall to Pieces" Frank was an avid fan of Elvis and his entire basement was filled and decorated with Elvis memorabilia. He even had and wore his own Elvis suits. He was an animal lover, especially his dog, ELY (Elvis loves you). Frank was known for his delicious tacos; everyone loved them, they were even his granddaughter's request for her wedding reception. After Frank went to the nursing home, he was still known as the class clown, just as he was in his younger days. Those blue eyes lit up when visitors brought him chocolate chip cookies, dark milky ways, peanut butter oatmeal cream pies and specifically cherry pie. Frank enjoyed his 40's in a brown paper bag; being down at the river, boat time and fishing. He was a very well loved man by many!

Survivors include two sons, John (Tami) Wetteland of Ft. Madison and Brian (Lisa) Wetteland of Batesville, AR; one daughter, Lisa (GJ) Lozano of Ft. Madison; six grandchildren, Stephanie (Chad) Yaunk of Galveston, TX, Mallory Reves, Matthew (Lacy) Reves & Andrew Wetteland all of Batesville, AR, Diego & Mateo Lozano of Ft. Madison; three sisters, Patricia Carter, Deidre Edwards & Hilda Sisk; several nieces & nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents; sisters, Bette Knapp & Cleme Sly; brothers, k Morton & Palmer Wetteland and his beloved beagle, ELY.

Per his wishes, cremation has been entrusted to King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory and there will be no formal services held at this time. Online condolences may be left at www.kinglynk.com.



WETTELAND

OBITUARIES

CYRIL J. MEIEROTTO

Cyril J. Meierotto, 94, of Fort Madison, passed away at 11:40 PM on Monday, October 18, 2021 at the West Point Care Center.

He was born on May 16, 1927 in Mt. Hamill, IA to Frank and Clara Holt-kamp Meierotto. On February 19, 1955 he married Mary "Lois" Coster in Ft. Madison and she passed away on June 13, 2009. Cyril worked at Midwest Wax Paper for twenty years and then retired as a welder from JI Case Company with eighteen years of service. He was a member of Ss. Mary & Joseph Church and served in the US Army during the Korean Conflict. Cyril enjoyed playing the harmonica and euchre, cracking walnuts and watching Westerns.

Survivors include three sons, David (Brenda) Meierotto of West Point, Larry Meierotto of Fort Madison and Mark (Lori) Meierotto of West Point; one daughter, Judy (Ron) Cullen of West Point; ten grandchildren; fourteen great grandchildren and one on the way; one brother, Frank Meierotto of Colorado and one sister, Darlene Denz of Burlington; several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, wife, four brothers and two sisters.

The funeral mass will be held on Friday, October 22, 2021 at Ss. Mary & Joseph Church at 11 AM with Rev. Joseph Phung officiating. The family will meet with friends from 10 AM until the time of the service at the church. Burial will follow in Soldiers' Circle, Oakland Cemetery with military rites performed by the Ft. Madison Veterans Honor Guard. King-Lynk Funeral Home is assisting Cyril's family with arrangements.

A memorial has been established for Ss. Mary & Joseph Church and online condolences may be left at www.kinglynk.com.



MEIEROTTO

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.

DCI in to help with Tuesday afternoon stabbing

MURDER - Continued from Page 1

foot to the scene where Fort Madison Fire & Rescue and Fort Madison Police were already on the scene.

Lee County EMS Director Dennis Cosby also responded and began administering aid until Lee County EMS Ambulance arrived to transport the man to the hospital.

Rohloff said a witness in the area was able to provide some information on the suspect, but he is asking anyone with video or information about the incident, or who was in the area at the time of the incident, which was about 4:40 p.m., to contact police at 372-2525.

No weapon was found at the scene. Rohloff said there was other evidence collected at the scene, but didn't release any additional information.

The victim's name was not released pending notification of family.

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Charles Vandenberg, Editor
(319).371.1670
editor@pencitycurrent.com

Lee K. Vandenberg, Sales Manager
(319).371.4125
sales@pencitycurrent.com

PEN CITY CURRENT

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For the Record

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report

10/15/21 – 12:01 a.m. – Fort Madison Police cited Brenda Sue Corral, 68, of Fort Madison, in the 2900 block of Avenue H, on a charge of a dog running at large.
 10/15/21 – 2:10 p.m. – Fort Madison Police arrested Nelson Walter Cassimore, 46, of Fort Madison, in the 1100 block of 16th Street, on a charge of eluding – speed 25 over limit. He was taken to Lee County Jail.
 10/15/21 – 5:24 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 5800 block of Avenue O.
 10/15/21 – 8:18 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 4800 block of Avenue O.
 10/15/21 – 11:21 p.m. – Fort Madison Police cited Ian Michael Brasfield, 38, of Fort Madison, in the 5000 block of Avenue O, on a charge of Driver's License Denied/Revoked – OWI.
 10/16/21 – 11:07 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 3200 block of Avenue L.
 10/16/21 – 11:15 a.m. – Fort Madison Police arrested Joshua Isaac Daniels, 37, of Fort Madison, at the intersection 10th Street and Avenue F, on a warrant service for assault. He was taken to Lee County Jail.
 10/16/21 – 4:22 p.m. – Fort Madison Police arrested Taj Michael Kite, 32, of Fort Madison, at the intersection of 28th Street and Avenue L, on charge of driving while barred. He was taken to Lee County Jail.
 10/16/21 – 6:48 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 1300 block of Avenue H.
 10/16/21 – 8:08 p.m. – Fort Madison Police cited Isiah James Rutter, 33, of Fort

Madison, in the 1200 block of 37th Street, on a charge of driving under suspension.
 10/17/21 – 5:00 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of burglary in the 1100 block of Avenue F.
 10/17/21 – 10:00 a.m. – Fort Madison Police cited Kimberly Jo Huss, 45, of Fort Madison, at the intersection of 165th Street and 303rd Avenue, on a charge of driving while barred.

10/17/21 – 11:39 a.m. – Fort Madison Police cited Alex Martin Balzer, 26, of Fort Madison, in the 1700 block of Avenue H, on a charge of driving under suspension.
 10/17/21 – 2:55 p.m. – Fort Madison Police arrested Serena Dawn Schnider, 43, of Fort Madison, in the 1800 block of Avenue H, on a charge of driving while barred and warrant services for possession of a controlled substance– 1, 2, 3rd and possession of drug paraphernalia.
 10/17/21 – 4:22 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of property damage accident in the 2700 block of Avenue J.
 10/18/21 – 7:12 a.m. – Fort Madison Police arrested Benjamin Isaiah Mitchell, 37, of Fort Madison, in the 1000 block of Avenue F on a charge of driving under suspension. He was taken to Lee County Jail.
 10/18/21 – 10:50 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a stolen vehicle in the 300 block of 15th Street.
 10/18/21 – 2:56 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 1500 block of Avenue H.
 10/18/21 – 3:17 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 700 block of Avenue G.

10/18/21 – 10:17 p.m. – Fort Madison Police cited David Allen Rutledge, 53, of Fort Madison, at the intersection of 34th Street and Avenue L, on a charge of driving under suspension.
 10/19/21 – 5:35 a.m. – Fort Madison Police cited Ty Edward Hancock II, 44, of Fort Madison, in the 1500 block of Avenue M, on a charge of driving while barred.

Lee County Sheriff's Report


10/15/21 – 3:36 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Katherine Marie Dillon, 42, of Keokuk, at the sheriff's office, on a warrant for judgment hold. She was taken to Lee County Jail.
 10/15/21 – 4:20 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Robert Roy Rainville, 25, of Fairfield, at the sheriff's office, on a warrant for sex abuse 3rd offense. He was taken to Lee County Jail.
 10/16/21 – 4:49 a.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Coleton Quaid Woodley, 28, of Montrose, at the intersection of 300th Street and Hwy 61, on a charge of OWI– 1st offense. He was taken to Lee County Jail.
 10/16/21 – 6:53 a.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Kyle Max Ray, 33, of Fort Madison, at the sheriff's office, on a warrant for judgment hold. He was taken to Lee County Jail and released on his recognizance.
 10/16/21 – 4:22 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Taj Michael Kite,

32, of Montrose, at the intersection of 28th Street and Avenue L, on a warrant for driving while barred. He was taken to Lee County Jail.
 10/16/21 – 9:38 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Kenneth Lavern Soper, Jr., 42, of Keokuk, in the 1500 block of Hilton Road, on charges of being a fugitive from justice and driving while barred. He was taken to Lee County Jail and released on his recognizance.
 10/16/21 – 10:47 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested David Scott Bolin, 42, of Nauvoo, at the sheriff's office, on a warrant for possession of a controlled substance– marijuana 1st. He was cited and released.
 10/17/21 – 10:25 a.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Josie Linn Douthart Poe, 28, of Bonaparte, at the sheriff's office, on a warrant for judgment hold. She was taken to Lee County Jail.
 10/18/21 – Lee County sheriff's deputies reported 6 deer accidents with no injuries.
 10/19/21 – 6:40 a.m. – Lee County sheriff's deputies responded to a one-vehicle accident near mile marker 24 on Hwy. 61. According to the report, a vehicle driven by Brandon C. Olson, 19, of Oquawka, was headed southbound and struck a deer. Olson complained of a minor injury, but declined medical care. No citations or other injuries were reported.

Hancock County Sheriff's Report

10/11/21 – April L Hess, age 27, of Quincy, IL was arrested on an Adams County Warrant charging her with Failure to Appear on original charges of Seat Belt Violation. Hess was released on a Notice to Appear at a future court date.
 10/11/21 – Robert W Hess, age 46, of Quincy, IL was arrested on an Adams County Warrant charging him with Failure to Appear on original charges of Driving While License Suspended. Hess was released on a Notice to Appear at a future court date.
 10/12/21 – Tehya R Smith, age 20, of Keokuk, IA was arrested on an Adams County Warrant charging her with Failure to Appear on original charges of Operating Uninsured Motor Vehicle. Smith was released after posting the required bond and given a future court date.
 10/13/21 – Michael C Theulen, age 61, of Keokuk, IA was arrested on a Hancock County Warrant charging him with Failure to Appear on original charges of Driving While License Revoked and Operating Uninsured Vehicle. Theulen was also arrested on a Clark County, MO warrant charging him with Possession of a Controlled Substance, Unlawful Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, and Driving Without a Valid License. Theulen was released after posting the required bond and given a future court date.
 10/14/21 – Jason M


Thurman, age 41, of Warsaw, IL was arrested and charged with Possession of Methamphetamine. Thurman remains lodged in the Hancock County Jail in lieu of bail awaiting his next court appearance.
 10/15/21 – Brenden A Seifried, age 27, of Niota, IL, was given a Notice to Appear for a Future court date on charges of Speeding.
 10/16/21 – Jesse J Bryant, age 17, Quincy, IL, was given a Notice to Appear for a Future court date on charges of Speeding.
 10/17/21 – Robert E Brown, age 68, of Independence, MO was arrested and charged with Driving While License Revoked. Brown was released after posting the required bond and given a future court date.
 10/17/21 – Justin R Sutterfield, age 24, of Kahoka, MO was arrested on a Hancock County Warrant charging him with Failure to Appear/ Pay on original charges of Driving While License Suspended and Operating an Uninsured Vehicle. Sutterfield was also arrested on an Adams County Warrant charging him with Failure to Appear on original charges of Driving Under the Influence. Sutterfield remains lodged in the Hancock County Jail in lieu of bail awaiting his next court appearance.
Those listed above are arrested or cited on a suspicion of a crime and are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

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From the Front

Wilkerson, Santiago, Zioui in race for board seat

CANDIDATES - Continued from Page 1

there was openings on the board.

With her diverse backgrounds Zioui said she feels serving on the board is something she could do. Her children Juniper, Rosie, and Wesley, are either going through, or have gone through, the Fort Madison School system and that's opened her eyes to operations and the education process.

"When I told my friends I was running they were excited because they know I will ask questions. That's what I do. I play devil's advocate and ask questions that might hurt, but will help eventually by poking holes in things," she said.

"I'm not looking to revamp the system, but I do want to ask the questions."

She said one of the things she wants to help find a resolution to is the traffic flow at the junior high and high school with plans in place to move all the district kids to those campuses.

"That pick-up drop off at the middle school is absolutely insane. I've got one in high school and none of my kids drive until they're 18. You can call me a psychopath but it's worked out for me so far. It's like McDonald's, or Burger King, or the post offices, they are the same wherever you go - pretty much the same circle drives and that makes sense, but it doesn't make sense here," Zioui said.

Zioui said other than that she's been impressed with the district and it's one of the reasons she didn't move away.

"I would love being a part of that, making sure that it continues to do well. Certain things need to be tweaked. And I think what would help the district would be if they could be more transparent," she said.

She pointed to the confusion people have with different funding sources in the school district budget and how certain things garner attention while others seem to not get any attention.

"The best thing we can do as parents is be involved and join some of the booster clubs to help. If more things were explained better maybe more people would do that," she said.

The school district has an enhanced website with daily updates on what's going on in the schools, but Zioui said

not everyone has the equipment, time, or patience to go through the website. Another issue she said she hears complaints about is Wednesday scheduling.

"Wednesday are making people crazy. It used to be just an early out, but this we don't even know what's going on. I would love to help by making suggestions with communication."

PAUL WILKERSON

Fort Madison resident Paul Wilkerson has spent all but about seven years of his life in the education system. From the time he entered kindergarten, Wilkerson has been inside school district walls. He did a two-year stint in the sales industry before realizing his real passion was in education.

Wilkerson is a career educator and administrator with time in the Winfield-Mt. Union education system, and has also served as a teacher at Holy Trinity Catholic and on the HTC board of directors.

He was the athletic director during a heavy time of shared programming between Winfield-Mt. Union and Morning Sun.

"I'm a Fort Madison boy, went here from K-12th grade, graduated in 1967. Then went to Iowa Wesleyan College and started teaching in 1972 in Alburnette near Cedar Rapids," Wilkerson said. "I've been a teacher, a coach, an administrator, a counselor, and I've worked with curriculum and sat on the school board of HTC," he said.

"I've dedicated 65 years of my life to education."

He said more than six decades inside the halls of Iowa schools has not dimmed his fire for education.

"You think you're tired of it until you get out of it and then you miss all that interaction and challenges. I've retired 3 times," he chuckled.

Wilkerson was Activities Director at Winfield-Mt. Union during the Wolves' heyday when the school district was part of four state titles - two in girls basketball; one, and a runner-up, in boys basketball, and a 1993 state championship in wrestling with Wapello.

He said as a coach and administrator in that district he got a close look at internal budgets and state budgets. He was also on the budget committee at Holy Trinity Catholic.

"Even though it's not a state budget there were some similarities at HTC," he said. "We had to work a lot

on the budget to keep tuition down. In state budgets, students are weighted depending on the services the district needs to provide. Open enrollment is a boon in some areas and has left some high and dry. Look at the exodus at Burlington, it's been devastating. But for Danville, West Burlington, and Central Lee it's had the opposite effect."

Wilkerson said he's also been involved in two campaigns to build new schools. One was a private effort at HTC and another was a public effort. He said those two campaigns contrasted in the processes, but the goals were the same.

"In a small town, and I don't consider Fort Madison a small town, people are more goal-oriented toward the school district. Some of your more rural ag communities point to new schools and say, 'We did that.' But here you have a transient population and you may not have that same sense of pride," Wilkerson said.

"As a board member, you have to put your ego and opinions aside and listen to staff and administration, but also to students and non-certified staff.

"Even the students, you have to listen to them. They have to occupy these buildings and use the technology there. My job would be to serve as a bridge between everybody in the district and those who sit at the table," Wilkerson said.

He said that includes custodians, food service, bus drivers, and other non-certified staff.

"Those are the people I've always gravitated to. I want to represent those people, too, and bring their voices forward," he said.

"Think about it, the first person a lot of our kids see in the morning is the bus driver, and how that interaction goes sets the stage for that kid's day."

But he said the current board has done a great job considering all the pressures that have come to bear on them in the past two years.

"There's a lot going on behind the scenes and knowing what I know, I think they are doing a good job," he said.

Wilkerson said he sat with Slater and two other candidates at Hy-Vee in an orientation of sorts after they took out papers to run for office. He said Slater did a good job explaining the roles of the board, but he said if elected he would probably take in a lot for the first two meetings to get a feel for the board of directors.

Wilkerson also said he favored transparency where it's effective.

See RACE, page 5

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Santiago another local product in race

RACE - Continued from Page 4

"You can put out anything you want, but if people don't understand the form it's in, you're not really being transparent. You need to do it on a regular basis and in a form that people can understand. I think that's the right way to go," Wilkerson said.

MIO STANTIAGO

Mio Santiago grew up in Fort Madison and graduated from Fort Madison High School. He left in 1991 after graduation and did undergrad work at Marquette. Then he worked in Chicago for six years before going to law school in San Diego.

His plans after high school were to find the world and not return, but when it came time to start a family, Fort Madison is where he wanted to be, which was a surprise even to him.

"In 1991 I ran out of this town like my hair was on fire and was never coming back. But when my wife and I decided to get married, we were talking about where we were going to live and out of the blue came, "Well, what about Fort Madison" and I had to turn around and see who said it. Apparently it was me," Santiago said.

The couple is raising three children and Santiago's wife is a teacher in the middle school building.

"It's been good being back, easy, and relatively safe."

Santiago said the district was long overdue for the facility improvements scheduled to begin next year and for the elementary schools to be retired.

"My goodness those schools have been around forever. I support those changes and expansions and I'm excited to learn more about what's going on if elected. And make sure the district's vision and plan are being followed."

Santiago is in private practice in Fort Madison and served a stint as an assistant Lee County Attorney for several years.

He said that career choice makes him uniquely qualified to ask specific questions and get to the root of issues that he's unfamiliar with.

One of those needling questions is why Fort Madison suffers from open enrollment losses.

"I want to find out why. In a community of our size, the rumors and perceptions rule whether or not they are backed by fact. People say this school or that has a great academic reputation and I want to find out what's making them think that. What makes them think that one school is better academically than Fort Madison. Let's cut through to what the facts are," he said.

Santiago said transparency is also a critical issue facing the district. He said most people don't want to see "how the sausage is made", but they can rely on their elected board to do that for them.

"One of the things I'm pushing for is to get there and ask tough questions. If it's not as simple as 1 plus 1 equals 2, then they're going to have to explain it to me. Education is not my expertise, so I want to come in asking tough questions and being transparent with the constituents of this community," he said.

With the pressures facing the school district over the past two years, Santiago said he thinks the district has done a good job with some hard decisions.

"There are some decisions they've made that I haven't agreed with. And there are some that I commend them for making. Those were hard decisions because they had to be done."

But he said he wants to make sure that the teachers and students are being heard during and after the pandemic recedes.

"A lot is being put on everyone to help make up for these stressful, and hopefully once-in-a-lifetime, experiences. I want to make sure the board is checking and taking the temperature of students. Maybe that's a bad analogy right now, but for our educators and administrators - how are you coping and what can we do better," Santiago said.

He said he'd also like to see a more robust partnership with parents in school district to help them be more involved. His time prosecuting and defending clients gives him a unique skill set in that arena.

"I think I'm pretty good at understanding and taking complex situations and breaking them down into understandable points. And if they're not understandable, to keep asking questions that make them understandable. Those questions aren't always going to be easy. But we need to ask tough questions to make good decisions," he said.

"My ability to communicate is fairly good and I can articulate my thoughts to bring about common ideas. I work well in consensus building if I'm needed. But I think one of my biggest strengths is a passion to be transparent and solicit input from the community. The last thing I want is to be a board member who makes decisions and then be damned if you disagree."

HALLOWEEN

The following is a list of upcoming Halloween events submitted to Pen City Current.

October 17-31 - Scarecrow Stroll - A community-wide scarecrow display contest. Open to all residents and businesses in Keokuk. First, second, and third place prizes will be awarded in four categories: single family home, neighborhood (2+ homes), small business, and franchise business. Details can be found on Main Street Keokuk's Facebook page here. Register your display here <https://forms.gle/bnZbw1aX3iSDBU467>.

Thursday, October 28 - 4pm-5:30pm. Halloween Parade at The Kensington parking lot. Enter through 2210 Avenue H side, grab a treat bag as you exit on 22nd street.

Thursday, October 28 - 5pm-6:30pm - Fort Madison Family YMCA 5th Annual Trunk or Treat at Baxter Sports Complex

Thursday, October 28 - 5pm-7pm - Downtown Fort Madison Trick or Treat.

Thursday, October 28 - 5pm-7pm - Fun City Halloween Candy Crawl. Trek through the complex for oodles of candy during this fun, family-friendly night! Visit Candy Alley to receive a Candy Map. Finish the trek at the Convention & Event Center to enter the Costume Contest! Top 3 winners in each age group will win \$25-\$75 in Gamebucks.

Thursday, October 28 - 5pm-8pm - Fort Madison Chamber Witch's Walk, Downtown Fort Madison. Wear your costume & come downtown for Trick or Treating, Pumpkin Carving Contests, & more! Watch their Facebook page here for more details.

Thursday, Oct. 29, 6-9 p.m. - Lee County CrimeStoppers' No Tricks - All Treats event at the Lee County Fairgrounds. This year Wal-Mart Keokuk is jumping in for this huge event.

Friday, October 29 - 3:30pm-5pm - Keokuk Downtown Trick or Treat. Participating businesses will be identified with an event window decal and included on a list of Downtown Trick or Treat destinations. More details can be found on Main Street Keokuk's Facebook page here.

Saturday, October 30 - 10am-noon - Shug's Tiny Town Spooktacular Saturday. Pumpkin decorating, costume contest and trick or treat in the play center. Space is limited-registration is required. Only \$15/child-must be paid at the time of registration. Cost includes admission to the play center for the day. Buy your ticket online at <https://tinyurl.com/crkjkev4> or call the store at 319-372-SHUG (7484).

Saturday, October 30 - 3pm-5pm - Old Settlers Park Trick or Treat.

Saturday, October 30 - 5pm-7pm - City of Donnellson Trick or Treat.

Saturday, October 30 - 5pm-7pm - City of Fort Madison Trick or Treat.

Saturday, October 30 - 5pm-7pm - City of West Point Trick or Treat.

Sunday, October 31 - 10am-1pm - FallFest at Victory Faith Church.

This free family event includes breakfast for kids at 10:00am, lunch for everyone, carnival games, live music, prizes, and inflatables. 2359 53rd Street, Fort Madison. Google Map here for directions.

Sunday, October 31 - 5pm-7pm - City of Keokuk Trick or Treat.

Sunday, October 31 - 5pm-7pm - Keokuk Police Department Halloween 1st Stop. Visit their Facebook page here for more information.

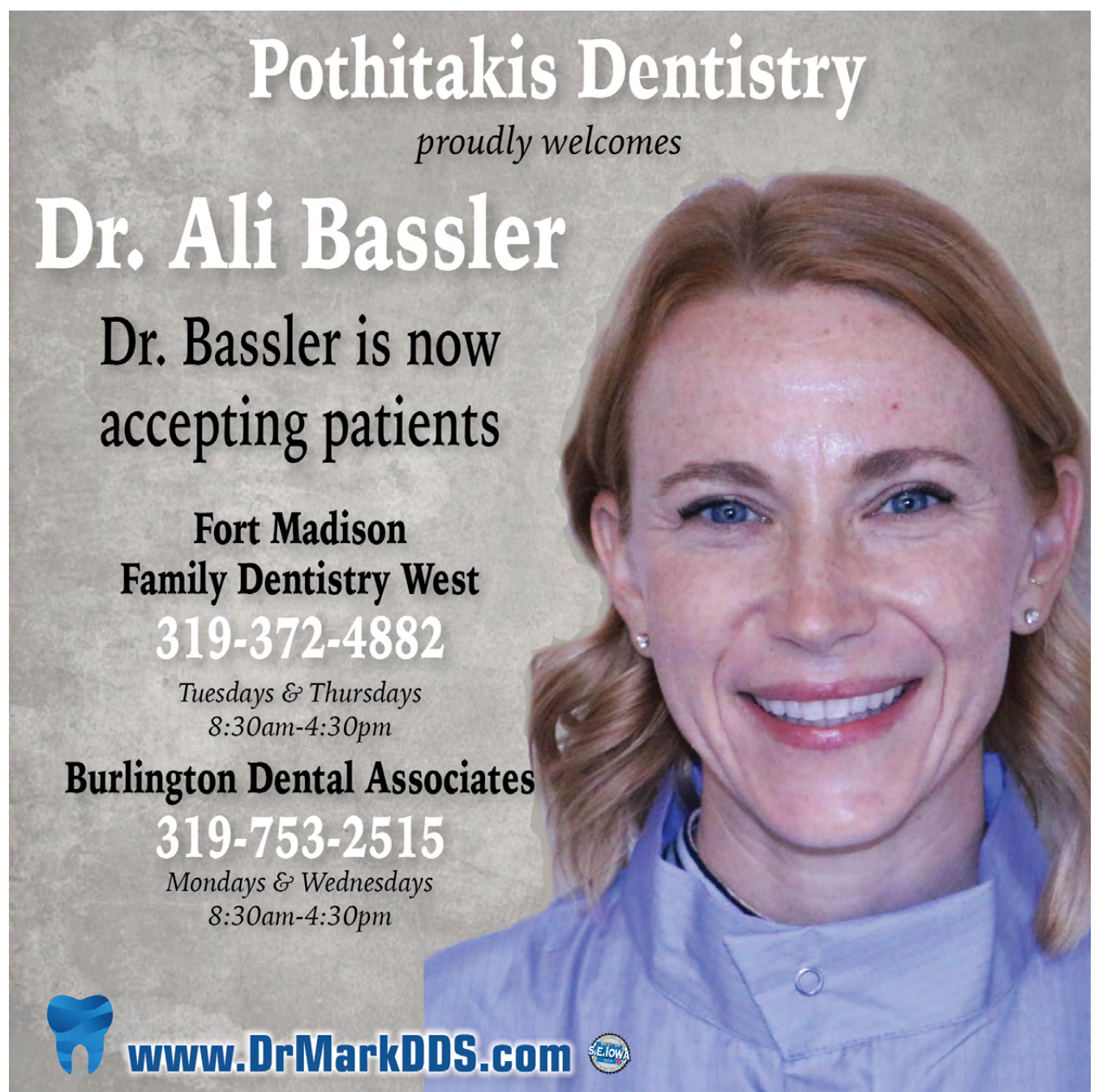
Sunday, October 31 - 5pm-7pm - City of Montrose Trick or Treat.

If your organization or business is hosting a family-friendly Halloween event, email Lee K. Vandenberg at lee.v@pencitycurrent.com to include your event here.



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Classes begin Sunday, October 31 at 6 pm
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 ACT Prep Support App Provided
 Dinner Served
 Elliott Test Kitchen
 Test Kitchen STEM Lounge
 Test Kitchen Education Foundation
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PUBLIC NOTICES

**PUBLIC NOTICE
MEETING NOTICE
FORT MADISON
PUBLIC LIBRARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**
Date: Thursday,
October 21, 2021
Time: 5:30 P.M.
Place: Sheaffer Meeting
Room and Online
AGENDA

Electronic Meeting
(Pursuant to Iowa Code
Section 21.8)

An electronic meeting
is being held because

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a meeting in person is
impossible or impractical
for the health and safety
of Library Board mem-
bers, library employees
and the public presented
by COVID-19. You can
participate in the meeting
via telephone and can
comment on an agenda
item by joining the Zoom
meeting. Using your
telephone, dial (312) 626
6799 and enter the meet-
ing ID (899 2351 1276)
when prompted. If you
have trouble connecting
to the meeting, please
call (319) 372-5721.

- I. Excused absences
- II. Approval of Agenda
- III. Public Comments
- IV. Approval of minutes
- a. Regular Meeting Sep-
tember 16
- V. Approval of
the Bills
- a. Approval of
October 2021 Bills
- VI. Correspondence
- VII. Director's Report
- a. Financial
- b. Personnel
- c. Programming
- d. Collection Develop-
ment
- e. Operations
- f. Facilities Professional
- g. Reports to City
Council
- h. Aarin Guzman Up-
date
- VIII. Unfinished Busi-
ness
- IX. New Business
- a. Set date for December/

January Strategic Plan-
ning Meeting

b. Oper-
ations Policy including
discussion of removing
library fines

c. Review
Meeting Room Policy and
use on Sundays during
the winter months

d. Freegal Renewal
Motion to go into
closed Session Iowa
Code Chapter 21.5(i) "To
evaluate the professional
competency of an individ-
ual whose appointment,
hiring, performance, or
discharge is being consid-
ered when necessary
to prevent needless and
irreparable injury to that
individual's reputation and
that individual requests a
closed session."

e. Library Director Eval-
uation
Motion to come out of
closed session

X. Trustee Education

a. Trustee Handbook Chap-
ter 8 "Evaluating Service
and Advocating for Ad-
vancement"

XI. Upcoming
Events and Information

a. Budget request dis-
cussion at the November
board meeting, what
do we need to consider
budgeting in the next
fiscal year?

b. December
volunteer reception
Next Meeting November 18,
2021

**PUBLIC NOTICE
IOWA DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES**

NEW CONSTRUCTION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Notice to Bidders
Iowa Department
of Natural Resources

Sealed bids will be
received by the Iowa
Department of Natural
Resources, Engineering
Bureau, at the Wallace
State Office Building,
502 East 9th Street, Des
Moines, Iowa 50319-0034
until 11:00 A.M., Novem-
ber 4, 2021 for the public
improvement projects
listed below, at which
time they will be opened
publicly. In addition to
attending the bid opening
in person, interested par-
ties may also call in to the
following number to listen
to the bid opening:

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

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

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

If you intend to
hand-deliver your sealed
Bid Proposal and Pro-
posal Guarantee Bond,
you will need to enter the
Wallace Building through
the main entrance/front

doors. This is the only en-
trance open to the public.
Upon arrival, please use
the phone by the sliding
glass doors that lead to
the front elevators, to call
the front desk and a DNR
Receptionist will come
down to obtain the sealed
bid documents and to
date and time stamp
them. On the bid opening
day, a DNR Receptionist
will be available in the
lobby to receive sealed
bid documents and to
date and time stamp them
upon arrival. No bids
shall be accepted by FAX
OR EMAIL. After the bid
opening, information con-
cerning bid results may
be obtained by visiting the
Department's website at
www.iowadnr.gov.

Note: The United States
Postal Service (USPS)
does not deliver mail or
packages directly to the
address provided above
but rather to the Capitol
Complex Mail Room. Ex-
tra time should be allotted
for proposals sent by the
USPS. The Iowa Depart-
ment of Natural Resourc-
es shall not consider bids
if they are not received by
the Department of Natural
Resources, either at its
mail room or at its Fourth
Floor Reception Desk,
by the time and date
described in this Notice
to Bidders, regardless
of whether the bid was
mailed prior to that time
and date or whether the
bid was received at the
Capitol Complex Mail
Room or other state gov-
ernment location prior to
that time and date.

Project documents,
including drawings, spec-
ifications, proposal forms
and addenda items for
the project are available
at Beeline and Blue, at
2507 Ingersoll Ave., Des
Moines, Iowa 50312.
Please visit [www.beelin-
eandblue.com](http://www.beelin-
eandblue.com) or contact
(515) 244-1611 for more
information. Alternatively,
Bid Documents can be
viewed or printed online
at [https://programs.iowad-
nr.gov/engreal/projectlist.
asp](https://programs.iowad-
nr.gov/engreal/projectlist.
asp).

The Department shall
comply with all public im-
provement procurement
laws, as outlined in the
plans and specifications
and including but not limit-
ed to: Iowa Code chap-
ter 26 related to public
construction bidding; Iowa
Code chapter 73 relat-
ed to preferences; Iowa
Code chapter 573 related
to labor and materials
on public improvements;
rules promulgated by the
Department of Adminis-
trative Services – General
Services Enterprise as
they may apply; rules
promulgated by the De-
partment of Natural Re-
sources and the Natural
Resources Commission,
as they may apply; and
any federal statutes, rules
and/or executive orders
that may be associated
depending on funding
sources. Bidders shall
comply with these laws
to be considered and are
encouraged to be familiar
with public improvement
procurement require-
ments and the bidding
documents before submit-

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proposed work and file an acceptable Performance Bond in an amount equal to 100% of the contract price and a certificate of liability insurance within thirty (30) days of the date of the award of the contract will be just and sufficient cause for the rescinding of the award and the forfeiture of the

bid security.

POTTAWATTAMIE COUNTY PROJECT NO. 17-04-78-08

Wilson Island SRA Pavement Repair - Rebid
Proposal Guarantee: \$25,000.00
Completion Date:

8/31/2022

Project Description: This project consists of a bituminous fog seal, patching, painted symbols, longitudinal and transverse joint repair and crack and joint cleaning and filling (pavement maintenance).

DICKINSON COUNTY

PROJECT NO. 22-01-30-03

Templar Park – HWY 9 Access – Hinshaw Bridge Access
Courtesy Docks
Proposal Guarantee: \$12,500.00
Completion Date: 5/6/2022
Project Description:

This project consists of furnishing and installing commercial grade floating courtesy docks with ADA compliant gangways and incidental site work at Templar Park, Hwy 9 Access, and Hinshaw Bridge Access, all in Dickinson County, Iowa.

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