

PEN CITY CURRENT

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

Monday, June 14, 2021 | 9 pages | Volume 5 • Issue 118



www.pencitycurrent.com

Sugars takes over VA post

VETERANS: Deputy Auditor steps down to help bring light to county VA services

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

LEE COUNTY – An unlikely candidate, but a passionate ally, will be taking over as director of the Lee County Veteran's Affairs Commission.

Current Director Paul Carroll is set to retire at the end of the year, and current Deputy Lee County Auditor Nikki Sugars will be taking over the job.

Sugars isn't a veteran herself, which she said has surprised some people already. But she said she has a passion for helping people and Lee County's veterans are at the top of her list.

"I've watched my family and the commitment and sacrifices they've



SUGARS

made for our country," Sugars said.

"And the veterans of this county have put such an effort forth and have sacrificed for us. I'm excited to do something to help these people. I've kind of been hovering above the ground since I was hired."

Sugars will take over the post on July 1 and work with Carroll until the end of the year.

Sara Helenthal, a current administrative assistant with the Lee County Auditor's office has been hired to replace Sugars as deputy auditor.

Sugars' father George, her brothers Geoff and Todd, her sister-in-

See **VETERANS**, page 8



Black coffee, a good read, and a fishing rod

It's been two years since I've thought about a vacation.

It's been longer since my family has gotten together and spent time nestled in the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains.

The first time I ever left the ground for transportation was in the Smoky Mountains. My youngest brother Mike talked me into getting into a helicopter. It was one of the bubble choppers and when the pilot banked to come in for a landing I noticed he had no door on his side. I was looking out from about 700 feet in the air. Blaaaaagh!!!

That led to me getting on to my first airplane. Since that time, I've taken off and landed about 14 times hitting both the east and west coast.

I don't like flying. it's just too damned high. You're in a metal tube and it's clanky when there's turbulence. My last flight was to South Carolina via North Carolina from Peoria, for my nephew Branden's wedding. I had met his wife Brandy a couple times before the wedding. She fits right in with my class clown personage. And doesn't take a lot from 'the boys'. I like that.

But the flight from Peoria had me holding on to the seat back in front of me. I had taken the Xanax and a motion sickness pill, which is usually just enough to take the edge off so I don't freak out. I don't drink when I fly. Dr. Roy Tinguely told me before my first flight, that probably wouldn't be a good idea. Ginger Ale please.

But I'll fly to be with family. It's worth it. I don't mind a road trip. I really don't. Especially if you don't have to spend 12 hours in a car two days straight. Four hours, stop for a bite, four hours, stop for the night.

That's what we'll probably do headed to the cabin this summer. We got a large one

See **VACATION**, page 8

EMPTY NEST

By Curt Swarm



Henry County woman turns 100 years old in June

She doesn't look a day over 80, but Betty Kilbourn, a resident of the Van Vorhies Haus, a retirement home in Mt. Pleasant, will be 100 years young on Wednesday, June 16th. The residents and staff of the Van Vorhies Haus call her "Beppy" because there was another Betty in the home when she moved in two-and-a-half years ago. But don't call her Beppy if you don't live or work there. She will correct you.

She's outlived two husbands, is a fourth cousin to Abraham Lincoln, and has played a lot of Duplicate Bridge to keep her mind alert. She learned to play bridge from her first husband. He was from a bridge playing family. He loved the game so much, she saw him come home from a funeral once and set up the card table.

Longevity runs in her family. Her mother lived to be 104 and a Great Grandfather 96. So it's in the genes, according to Beppy, I mean Betty, and

See **SWARM**, page 6



Courtesy Photo

Ag work

Alan Bollin of the Central Lee Ag-Ed and FFA program works for a local landscape business for his Supervised Agricultural Experience program. While enrolled in agriculture coursework, students learn valuable knowledge in all aspects of agriculture and implement that knowledge in "hands on" learning and "real world" experiences.

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WEATHER

MON 14 Jun.....Overcast, 80° F/ 65° F
 TUE 15 Jun.....Warm and Sunny, 82° F/ 62° F
 WED 16 Jun.....Clear Skies, 78° F/ 60° F

IOWA LOTTERY

LOTTO AMERICA 06/12.....810 23 49 50, Star Ball: 6, All Star Bonus: 3
 LUCKY FOR LIFE 06/10.....6 8 10 24 43, Lucky Ball: 15
 MEGA MILLIONS 06/11.....4 43 56 63 68, Mega Ball: 13 Megaplier: 4
 PICK 3 06/10, 06/11, 06/12 MIDDAY.....2 21, 312, 4 21
 PICK 3 06/10, 06/11, 06/12 EVENING.....8 52, 577, 3 21
 PICK 4 06/10, 06/11, 06/12 MIDDAY.....6 415, 3 444, 9 0 4 8
 PICK 4 06/10, 06/11, 06/12 EVENING.....7 6 0 9, 8 6 5 0, 8 7 3 0
 POWERBALL 06/12.....8 25 34 38 41, Powerball: 10, Power Play: 3

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Obituaries

OBITUARIES

JOSEPH E. GANLEY

Joseph Edward Ganley, 76, of North Port, Florida, formerly of Keokuk, Iowa, passed away on Wednesday, May 26, 2021, in Sebring, Florida.



GANLEY

Joseph was born on February 24, 1945, in Fort Madison, Iowa, the son of Thomas J. and Ruth E. (Dietz) Ganley. He graduated from Cardinal Stritch High School in 1963, attended Keokuk Junior College, and earned his bachelor's degree at Northeast Missouri State University. On September 26, 1992, he was united in marriage to Linda K. Caldwell-Ransford in Keokuk. She survives.

Joseph was employed at Sheller-Globe and Lear as a Quality Assurance Engineer, retiring after thirty years. He enjoyed following the Iowa City Hawkeyes, golfing, and traveling to historic places. Joseph also enjoyed cruising and spending time with his family and friends. He was a member of Awaken Church in North Port, Florida, and a former member of the Eagles and Elks in Keokuk. Joseph was involved in his community and volunteered at the VA Hospital in Iowa City and at his church. Joseph proudly served his country in the United States Navy, earning the National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal with two Bronze Stars, and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.



Joseph is survived by his wife Linda Ganley of North Port, Florida; his step-daughter Stephanie Anderson of North Liberty, Iowa; his step-son Michael Ransford of Hamilton, Illinois; his grandson Dylan Anderson of Davenport, Iowa; and two granddaughters: Isabella Paterno of North Liberty, Iowa and MiKyla Ransford of Warsaw, Illinois.

Joseph's life will be celebrated with a memorial service at 1 pm on Monday, June 21, 2021, with a visitation from 11 am to 1 pm directly before the service. Burial with military honors will follow at Keokuk National Cemetery. Military honors will be rendered by American Legion Post #41 and the United States Navy.

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

OBITUARIES

RONALD L. HOEWING

Ronald Leroy "Ron" Hoewing, 65 of Carthage, IL formerly of Keokuk, IA died Thursday, June 10, 2021 at Blessing Hospital in Quincy, IL.



HOEWING

Ron was born July 12, 1955 in Keokuk, IA the son of Curtis Leroy and Helen Louise Crowell Hoewing. Ron graduated from Keokuk Senior High with the class of 1973. He furthered his education at Western Illinois University in Macomb, IL where he received his Bachelor's degree in history.

Ron was a veteran of the United States Army and proudly served his country from 1973-1976.

On March 18, 1983 he was united in marriage to Dona Sheppard. She survives.

Other survivors include two daughters, Julie Hall (John) of Wichita, KS and Kelly Kensett (Mike Shearer) of Warsaw, IL, one son, Frank Hoewing of Keokuk, six grandchildren, Morgan Burns, Kayla Kensett, James Kensett, John D. Hall (Hailey), Dylon Hoewing and Hallee Hoewing, five great-grandchildren, one brother, Richard L. Hoewing (Bonnie) of Chandler, AZ and several nieces and nephews.



He was preceded in death by his parents.

Ron had been employed by Keokuk Community School District from 1986 until his retirement in 2009. Ron was a well loved and respected history teacher at the Keokuk Senior High. He also coached high school tennis and baseball and middle school basketball and football through the years.

Ron was a member of New Testament Christian Church and the American Legion Post #41.

Ron was an avid tennis and racquetball player and was also a talented runner. He loved the New York Yankees and the Dallas Cowboys. Ron had a quick wit and great sense of humor. He was jokester who was constantly teasing his kids. Ron had a generous spirit and a kind heart who brightened many lives with his smile.

A Gathering of Remembrance will be held from 6-8 p.m., Tuesday, at the Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk, IA with the family meeting with friends at that time.

Memorials may be made to Blessing Hospice.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.vigenmemorial-home.com.

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Lee County Health Department Community Pop-up Clinic Schedule

These clinics are designed to reach those who might not have had the opportunity to receive their COVID vaccine yet. The schedule will be updated as more clinics are added.

- June 15, 2021 - First Christian Church, Keokuk, Drive-thru 4:00pm-7:00pm J&J only
- June 17, 2021 - Mississippi Terrace Keokuk, 11:00am-Noon J&J only
- June 17, 2021 - Hawkeye Village & Park Apartments, Keokuk 1:00pm-3:00pm, J&J only
- June 17, 2021 - Ivanhoe Apartments & Hillview Village Fort Madison 1:00pm-3:00pm, J&J only
- June 19, 2021 - Juneteenth, Rand Park Keokuk, 1:00pm-3:00pm J&J only

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PEN CITY CURRENT

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Obituaries

OBITUARIES

DEBORAH M. KENEL

Deborah "Debbie" Maie Kenel, 71 of West Point, went to meet Jesus on Thursday, June 10, 2021 at her home surrounded by her loving family.

She was born on August 1, 1949 in Keokuk to Glen C. and ElsieLee Helmick VanPelt. Debbie was a 1967 graduate of Central Lee High School. On November 30, 1968 she married Daniel Joseph Kenel in Fort Madison. They began their married life in California as Danny served in the Marines. She was very proud of him and loved being a Marine wife. Debbie worked as a waitress for local establishments and retired in 2007 from the Fort Colony Restaurant. Debbie was an Iowa Hawkeye and St. Louis Cardinal fan. Throughout her years of work she developed many longtime friendships. She loved Christmas time, going to Estes Park and ice cream. Debbie adored her family, especially her grandchildren; she never missed an activity they were involved in. She was the most loving Wife, Mom, Nana and Great Nana.

Survivors include her husband Danny Kenel of West Point, one daughter, Dawn (Bernie) Holtkamp of West Point; one son, Daniel "DJ" (Tori) Kenel of New London; four grandchildren, Cameron (Andrea) Rudd, Kendra Terry, Morgan and Emma Kenel; two great grandchildren, Aubrey and Lincoln Rudd; one brother, Glenn VanPelt of Montrose; one sister, Sandy Gathers of Ft. Madison; nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents and a brother, Ricky in infancy.

The funeral service will be held on Sunday, June 13, 2021 at 1:30 PM at King-Lynk Funeral Home with Reverend Dean Graber officiating. The family will meet with friends from noon until the time of the service. Per her wishes, her body will be cremated following the service and burial will be in Montrose Cemetery at a later date.

A memorial has been established for St. Jude Children's Hospital and online condolences may be left at www.kinglynk.com.



KENEL

JERRY T. SEVIER

Jerry Taylor Sevier, 81, of Donnellson, Iowa, passed away at 5:34 p.m. Thursday, June 10, 2021, at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics in Iowa City, Iowa.

He was born on August 29, 1939 in Bucklin, Missouri, the son of Russell and Dorothy (Burriss) Sevier. On February 18, 1966, he married Marianne Heaton in Brookfield, Missouri.

He is survived by his wife of fifty-five years: Marianne; daughter: Jodie Sevier of Des Moines, Iowa; grandchildren: Samuel Yon and Ella Yon of Des Moines; two sisters: Joanne Sevier Teeter of Olathe, Kansas and Judy (Joe) Sevier Trueblood of Kansas City, Missouri; one brother: John "Robin" (Connie) Sevier of Brookfield, Missouri and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents and two infant children.

Jerry served in the United States Army from 1963 to 1965 being stationed in Germany for thirty-one months. He worked for the Santa Fe/Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad for forty years. Jerry was a member of Green Acres Golf Club. He enjoyed golfing, gardening and baseball. Jerry was an avid New York Yankee, Kansas City Royals and Kansas City Chiefs fan.



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

Friends may call after 12:00 noon Tuesday, June 15, 2021, at Schmitz Funeral Home in Donnellson, where the family will receive friends from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. that evening.

Burial will be held at a later date.

A memorial has been established in his memory for the Central Lee Foundation.

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



SEVIER

MYRNA JANIC

Myrna Janic, 75, of Ft. Madison passed away at 8:00 PM on Friday, June 11, 2021 at her home.

She was born on November 12, 1945 in Putnam Co. West Virginia to Carl and Nora Winans King. On March 26, 1962 she married Stephen M. Janic, Jr. in Latrobe, PA and he passed away on November 23, 2015. Myrna work for TG & Y for several years and also Wolf Packaging. She enjoyed sewing, playing games on her computer and loved her dogs.

Survivors include one daughter, Terry Ladd of Ft. Madison; two sons, Stephen Janic III of Ft. Madison, Jeffrey Janic of Des Moines; a daughter in law, Gladys Janic of Jacksonville, IL; sixteen grandchildren and eighteen great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents; a son, Joseph; a grandson J.J.; four brothers and two sisters.

A graveside service will be held on Wednesday, June 16, 2021 at 10 AM at Fairview Cemetery with Pastor Chad Savage officiating. Friends may call after 2 PM on Tuesday, June 15, 2021 at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory where the family will meet friends from 4-6 PM.

A memorial has been established for PAW Animal Shelter and online condolences may be left at www.kinglynk.com.



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Sports

Hounds move to 9-2 with sweep of Fairfield on road

FM enters heavy part of Southeast Conference action this week starting with MP

BY PCC SPORTS

FAIRFIELD – Fort Madison continues to play hot baseball as the Hounds swept Fairfield 2-1 and 13-3 in Southeast Conference doubleheader Thursday night on the road.

Kane Williams and Jason Thurman combined to hold the Trojans to just one run in the opener. Williams went five innings surrendering just four hits and one earned run while striking out one and walking two.

Thurman came on in relief at the top of the sixth and gave up just one hit while striking out three to preserve the win for Williams.

Vasin Thurman, Garrett Hannum and Tanner Settles had the three hits for the Bloodhounds who move to 9-2 on the year and 5-1 in Southeast Conference play one game behind the Burlington Grayhounds who sit at 6-0.

Fort Madison would get on the board in the bottom of the first when Jason Thurman scored when a pick off throw got away at first allowing the senior to come all the way around.

The only other run of the game came in the top of the third. Matt Hopper wore a pitch and Settles laid down a nice bunt to reach and move Hopper to second.

Playing a little small ball, Landes Williams would lay down another bunt to move the runners up. He was thrown out at first.

Jason Thurman then got an RBI ground out to second scoring Hopper for the game-winner.



Fairfield had two on in the bottom of the fifth, and would get the Trojans only run on a balk call on Williams scoring Tallon Bates.

Vasin Thurman opened the top of the sixth with a double to right and Reiburn Turnbull got plunked to put men at 1st and 2nd with no outs. Tate Johnson would go down swinging. Hannum would draw a walk to load the bases, but a strikeout and ground out to the pitcher ended the threat.

Kane Williams gave up a single to start the bottom of the sixth, but Thurman came in and retired the side. He would give up a one-out single but get the next two out to earn the save.

In the nightcap, the Hounds bats arrived as Fort Madison put up 13 runs in the first four innings highlighted by a five-run fourth.

Fort Madison pitchers gave up just two hits over five innings led by Turnbull who went three innings giving up one hit and fanning five to get the win. Aiden Pennock went 1 1/3 allowing three runs, just one earned while striking out four and walking three.

Vasin Thurman came in a cleaned things up in getting the final two outs unscathed.

Jason Thurman went 3-for-4 with four runs scored and RBI. Vasin Thurman was just as productive going 2-for-3 at the plate with 4 RBI and

three runs scored. Hannum also had 4 RBI in the second game on two hits. Landes Williams and Hannum had multiple hit games.

Landes Williams opened the game with a single and then both Thurmans doubled scoring Williams. Turnbull and Tate Johnson would draw walks and then a throwing error on a squibbler from Hannum scored Vasin Thurman and left the bases loaded.

Hopper would ground to third and the Trojans would force Turnbull at home, leaving the bases loaded. Pennock tried the squeeze with speedy Johnson at third, but the Hound was called out at home, before a grounder ended things with a 3-0 Hound lead.

Fort Madison would get four in the second inning with Williams and the Thurmans all getting on with no outs again. Hopper had a rare 2 RBI fielder's choice with the runners going to highlight the inning.

Another run would be added in the top of the third for the Hounds and then five more in the fourth, where Fairfield pitchers walked three and hit another. Hannum would get a 2 RBI single with two outs bringing in the runs that would set the 10-rule rule.

Fairfield would come up one short of enough to extend the game after scoring three in the bottom half of the fifth. A walk, an error and a single force Pennock in lieu of Vasin Thurman who enticed a line out to short and fly ball to Colton Engeman in right to end the game.

Fort Madison hosts Mt. Pleasant in a doubleheader at home Monday night and then hosts Davenport North on Wednesday, which will set up a clash with current Southeast Conference front-runner Burlington at home in a double header Thursday night.



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Sports

Late rally falls short as Lady Hounds lose 2 in Fairfield

BY PCC STAFF

FAIRFIELD – A four-run top of the sixth wasn't enough to trigger a split of a double-header with Fairfield for the Lady Hounds Thursday night on the road.

Fairfield won the opener with a 9-0 shut out and the Trojans had Fort Madison shut out through five innings in the night cap before the Hounds rallied for four runs to take a 4-1 lead into the bottom half of the sixth before falling 5-4.

Fort Madison's Lexi Whaley singled to lead off the sixth. Lauryn Helmick would fly out to left before Erika Kruse would double to center moving Whaley to third. Logan Johnson would draw a walk to load the bases with one out.

Emily Steffensmeier then grounded into a fielder's choice at short. The throw came late to home allowing Whaley to score. The throw then went back to try and double off a runner on the base paths, but an error on the throw allowed Kruse to come around to score and left Johnson at 3rd and Steffensmeier at 2nd.

Taylor Johnson then grounded into a fielder's choice at 3rd. Logan Johnson was thrown out at home and Steffensmeier moved to third. Kylee Roen then singled to right scoring Steffensmeier and Taylor Johnson landed at 3rd for a 3-1 lead.

Kylee Cashman then ripped a single to left scoring Johnson before Neeley Rehm grounded out to end the inning with Fort Madison up 4-1.

Fairfield would then get three runs in the bottom half to tie things up. Danielle Breen would home on the first pitch she saw out to left. A single, a pop out and another single would put runners at the corners. A ground out to short scored a run and moved Coty Engle to second. Hannah Simpson singled to right scoring Engle, to tie things up.

Fort Madison went 1-2-3 in the top of the seventh.

Fairfield started the bottom with three singles to load the bases. After an infield fly out, Bailey Hird grounded hard to short allowing Peyton McCabe to come in with game-winner.

Kruse was 3-of-4 at the plate with a run scored. Kylee Cashman went 2 of 3 with an RBI. Whaley and Roen had the other hits for Fort Madison. Helmick went the distance for the Hounds giving up 13 hits and allowed five runs, four earned, while walking out two.

In the opener, Fairfield rolled the Hounds with three runs each in the second and fourth innings. They plated two insurance runs in the fifth to put things away.

Logan Johnson had two hits for Fort Madison. Cashman, Rehm, Whaley and Steffensmeier all had hits. Rehm went three innings giving up six hits and six runs all earned while walking five and fanning two. Kruse threw three innings and gave up six hits and three runs, one earned while fanning three.

The Hounds fall to 3-8 overall and 0-4 in Southeast play. They resume play Monday with a double header at home against Mt. Pleasant (0-13). Burlington (5-5) comes into town on Thursday for a doubleheader.

Hawks make it four in a row with win over Highland

BY PCC STAFF

DONNELSON – Highland made a hefty rally to almost erase a five-run lead in the seventh inning but came up short as the Central Lee boys held on for 9-8 win Thursday night.

The Hawks seem to be coming into form at the right time with four wins in a row after starting the season 1-4.

With Kade Myhre pitching in the seventh, the Huskies loaded the bases with one out. Kaige Vonnahme and Logan Bonebrake got on before a ground out moved the runners up. Brenton Bonebrake then drew a walk at the bottom of the lineup to put runners on all three bases.

Bryce Thompson would work a walk to force in Vonnahme. Luke Miller would ground out on a fielder's choice at first scoring Logan Bonebrake to make it 9-6 Central Lee. The Huskies' Trevor McFarland then drove a double to deep center scoring Brenton Bone-

brake and Thompson to close the game to within one run at 9-8.

But Myhre would get Chase Schultz looking at the eighth pitch in a full count to end the game preserving the win.

Central Lee (5-4. 3-4 in Southeast Iowa Superconference play), got two runs in the first and four in the second to give starter Tanner DeMoss some breathing room.

Four consecutive singles with two outs in the bottom of the first plated both runs with DeMoss and Derrick Denning getting the RBIs. In the second inning the Hawks got four singles in the first six batters with Dylan Stuecker and Sandoval combining for 3 RBI in the frame.

Highland would put on three in the top of the fourth. Brenton Bonebrake's one-out double plated two and he would come around to score on McFarland's single down to the left field line.

The Hawks would put up two more for an 8-3 lead in the bottom half of the fourth. Jonny

Snider would single and Stuecker would reach on a walk. Sandoval would get plunked to load the bases with one out. DeMoss would then single deep to left scoring Snider and Stuecker before a flyout and grounder to short ended the inning.

Highland would add one in the fifth and Central would score a run in the bottom of the sixth to set up the seventh inning.

Stuecker was 3 for 3 on the day with 2 RBI. Sandoval and DeMoss each had two hits, while Myhre, Snider, Denning and Cory Jones all had hits for the Hawks. Hunger Gregory scored four runs courtesy running and Snider scored twice.

DeMoss went four innings giving up four hits and 3 runs none earned on seven strikeout and three walks. Myhre pitched the final three giving up five runs on three hits, while fanning four and walking three.

The Hawks travel to Pekin (5-4) Friday night for jv/varsity double header.

Four-run sixth puts Lady Hawks in hole in loss to Highland

BY PCC SPORTS

DONNELSON – The Central Lee girls gave up a six-run fourth inning that proved to be too much to overcome as they fell 7-2 to Highland in SEISC softball action Thursday night.

With one out Highland's Katelyn Waters and Sarah Burton singled to left. A throwing error on a grounder to short allowed Waters and Burton to both come around to score. After a fly out to center, Grace Batcheller then singled to left moving Brun over to second.

A two-out single by MacKinzie Hora loaded the bases and then Jenna Sands laced a single to right field scoring Brun and a courtesy runner, while Hora landed

at third driving Meghan Hopp from the circle for Sophie Turner. Another single would bring Hora and Sands, who stole second, in to score for a 7-1 Highland lead before Turner coaxed a ground out to end the inning.

Highland scored two to open the game in the first. Central Lee appeared to have scored two in the bottom half to answer, but a ruling on an offensive interference call nullified one of the runs.

Makayla Morrison was called out between 2nd and 3rd due to interfering with the play, a run crossed the plate during the play, but the run was eventually waived off as matter of rule.

Central Lee would only get one more run in the bot-

tom of the fifth when Halo Arrowood sacrificed Bailey Schwartz from third on a bunt down the first base line.

Meghan Hopp was 2-of-3 at the plate with an RBI. Hopp also went 3 2/3 giving up seven runs, just two earned on nine hits. while striking out two. Turner went the final 3 1/3 allowing five hits and no runs striking out two.

The Lady Hawks fall to 6-4 on the year and 2-2 in the SEISC South standings. They return to action at Central Lee on Monday in a matchup with Danville starting at 7 p.m. Then Holy Trinity Catholic comes in on Tuesday as part of six-game, four-night home stand next week with games each night. The Hawks wrap up the week with a game at Hillcrest Academy Friday night.

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From the Front/Classifieds

Cards can be sent for Kilbourn's 100th birthday party

SWARM - Continued from Page 1

hard work. She worked for the High Hat Cafe on the South Side of the square in Mt. Pleasant, Dyall Photography Studio on Main Street and Heatilator over the years. "What goes around comes around" is her motto. Treat people fairly, She was always active in her youth, playing golf, swimming, riding bikes and roller skating. She skated on the sidewalks, and every summer, a portable skating rink was set up under a tent where the Dairy Queen in Mt. Pleasant is now. Her mother skated there, too.

She started to school at the Greenwood Country School south of Mt. Pleasant. In the Depression years of the 1930's, her grandfather would tell her that doing her studies while listening to the radio would ruin her. She wonders what he would think of kids and smart phones today. When she was in high school in Mt. Pleasant, she won the award for having the best posture. Her grandmother would give her two milk bottles to sell for a dime. She could go to the movies at the Temple Theater on Main Street in Mt. Pleasant for a dime.

Her connection to Abraham Lincoln is through her grandmother's maiden name, which was Hanks. Abraham Lincoln's mother was Nancy Hanks.

Betty married at the age of 20 to Warren Howe. The marriage lasted 26 years and they had one son, Jerry, who became a career FBI agent after he graduated from college. Jerry and his wife live on Lake Rathbun and visit Betty once a week. Her second marriage ("after 12 years of freedom") was to the red-headed, fun loving, Terry Kilbourn, who was ten years younger than Betty. Betty likes to say she "raised him up." He died two-and-a-half years ago. They were living in New London and for awhile, Betty tried to stay in her own home. But one morning, when it took her over an hour to make her toast and coffee, she knew she needed care. Her friend of over 55 years, Lea Bradley, helped her get situated at the Van Vorhies Haus where she has her own apartment. Betty has gained 20 pounds since being in the Van Vorhies Haus, and she's not happy about it! (She is still nice and trim.)

She loves to reminisce. One time the undertaker was taking what he thought was a deceased baby to the funeral home in the back of his hearse. When he crossed the rough railroad tracks in Mt. Pleasant, the baby came alive. You better believe he made a quick u-turn.

Betty knew she needed glasses when she saw someone waving at her from an automobile. It was a dog

wagging its tail. Turns out that she has macular degeneration and will eventually lose her eye sight, which is her greatest fear—she won't be able to stay at the Van Vorhies Haus. She can no longer see well enough to play Duplicate Bridge. She has a plaque stating, "Betty J. Howe Kilbourn is Recognized as a Golden Age Master of the American Contract Bridge League (ACBL), Awarded 2014." She has 1,546.75 points, accumulated half-a-point or point per game.

She also has a book reading machine to help her read, but feels it's more trouble than it's worth. What she really likes is listening to audio books.

Her 100th birthday is June 16th. She is wondering if there will be 100 candles on a birthday cake and if the fire department will have to be called. However, her bridge friends can't all get together to help her celebrate her 100th birthday until sometime in July. Cards can be sent to Van Vorhies Haus, 601 W. Monroe St., Mt. Pleasant, IA 52641. With her failing eyesight, someone will read the birthday cards to her, you can count on that.

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, or visit his website at www.empty-nest-words-photos-and-frames.com.

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Classifieds/Public Notices

PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

HELP WANTED

LEE COUNTY SECONDARY ROADS HELP WANTED DESIGN ASSISTANT TO ENGINEER

Lee County is taking applications for a Design Assistant to Engineer to work out of our Fort Madison, Iowa office. Duties will include development of projects, preparing engineering plans and specifications for road-related construction or maintenance projects and serving as project lead inspector on construction projects, including directing and supervising contractors and County employees. Wage based on experience and qualifications.

Lee County provides equal opportunity in employment to all persons regardless of age, race, creed, color, sex, national origin, religion or disability.

To apply, download an application from our county website, www.leecounty.org or request one from the Engineer office, and return your completed application, along with a resume to: Lee County Engineer, P.O. Box 158, Fort Madison, IA 52627, or email it to engineer@leecounty.org. Applications will be accepted until position is filled.

If you have any questions please contact Lee County Engineer, Ben Hull, at (319) 372-2541 or email him at engineer@leecounty.org.



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PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE
Lee County, Iowa
Board of Supervisors
Agenda
DATE: Monday,
June 14, 2021
MEETING
CONVENING TIME:
9:00 A.M. - 10:00 A.M.
(CDT)
LOCATION:
933 Avenue H
Fort Madison, IA

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

HELP WANTED

LEE COUNTY SECONDARY ROADS ROAD MAINTENANCE WORKER I (SIGN SPECIALIST)

Lee County is taking applications for a Class I Road Maintenance Worker (SIGN SPECIALIST) to work out of the Sign Maintenance Shop near Donnellson. Duties include ordering, maintaining, installing, mounting and inventorying signs throughout the County. Must have three to five years of experience in the operation of equipment and trucks, heavy and light, to haul materials and will occasionally plow snow and the performance of manual labor as required. Requires a high school graduate or G.E.D. equivalent and must possess a valid Class A commercial driver's license with air brake and tanker endorsements or be able to obtain and maintain one within sixty (60) days of date of hire.

Lee County provides equal opportunity in employment to all persons regardless of age, race, creed, color, sex, national origin, religion or disability.

For a job description and to apply, download an application from our county website, www.leecounty.org, or pick them up at the Engineer's office and return your completed application along with a resume to Lee County Engineer, P.O. Box 158, Fort Madison, Iowa 52627, or email it to bhull@leecounty.org and copy it to shartson@leecounty.org. Applications will be accepted until Monday, June 21, 2021 at 3:30 p.m.

If you have any questions please contact Lee County Engineer, Ben Hull at (319) 372-2541 or email him at bhull@leecounty.org.



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Pledge of Allegiance
Approve Agenda
9:01 a.m. Public Hearing for Sale of 1216 Fulton Street

Consider Approval of Resolution Approving Sale of 1216 Fulton Street Public Input

Consider Approval of Statement of Work and Support Agreement with Solutions Inc.

Approval of Resolution Amending Contract with Lee County EMS for County to Take Over June 30, 2021 at 8:00 a.m.

Consider Approval of Monday, June 7, 2021 Board Minutes

Consider Approval of Claims

Personnel Actions:

- A. Step Increases-Attorney's Office (4)
- B. Step Increase-Health Department
- C. Promotion-Maintenance Department
- D. Transfer-Veteran Affairs
- E. Promotion-Auditor's Office
- F. Class Change-Auditor's Office (2)
- Commission or Committee Reports
- Adjourn

Workshop to Follow

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HELP WANTED

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
PART-TIME

The City of Fort Madison is taking applications for a Part-Time Administrative Assistant for the Planning, Zoning, Building and Fire Departments. Duties include answering the telephone, billing for the fire department and housing and nuisance abatement programs. The position will also respond to routine questions and requests regarding the rental housing inspection program, nuisance abatement, permits and zoning regulations as well as coordinate the rental program and assist with nuisance abatement paperwork. A complete job description is available at www.fortmadison-ia.com.

The City of Fort Madison provides equal opportunity in employment to all persons regardless of age, race, creed, color, sex, national origin, religion or disability.

Persons interested in the position must apply no later than 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, July 6, 2021, at Iowa Works at www.iowaworks.org.



MANAGERS/STAFF WANTED

Ready to get back to work?! Brad's Pad in West Point is looking for management and wait staff.

Positions include day and evening managers. Varied work days.

Day shift manager is from 9 a.m.- 2 p.m. and 4-5 p.m. Starting at \$15/hour.

Evening manager positions are from 5-9 p.m. Sun.-Thu. and 5-10 p.m. Fri.-Sat. Starting at \$12/hour.

Waitstaff needed from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. weekdays and 11 a.m.- 5 p.m. on weekends. Evening shifts are from 5-9 p.m. Sun.-Thu, and 5-10 p.m.. Fri.-Sat.

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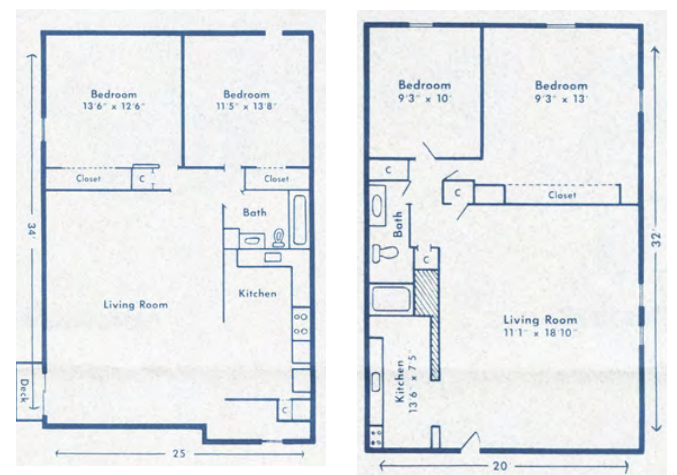
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From the Front

Find your away place this summer

VACATION - Continued from Page 1

that sleeps about 15 on a lake with a dock and another smaller cabin by the fishing deck. I think either a Lee Child -Jack Reacher series yarn and a fishing pole sounds like a pretty good way to spend the morning for four or five days.

Kelsey and I used to like to go to used book sales. I would never let her get anything but hardbacks. She could get whatever books she wanted, but they had to be hardback. I wanted her to be able to enjoy the feel of the bindings on the seams, and how good the fabric felt on her fingertips as she cracked it open.

We have so many of those books on our downstairs book shelf that I will never get to them all. I have classics and hard back versions of Robert Parker's Spenser novels. There's autobiographies on Rick Springfield, Monica Seles, and I have Warren Buffet's "Snowball". I also have Dostoyevsky's "Crime and Punishment"

All the Harry Potter books are there in hardback. Those are Taylor's and she will never accept that they are anyone else's, or that anyone else can use them without her permission.

A cool, summer morning with a regular cup of decaf, not that \$9 a cup dessert coffee, just black and in a cup with a finger handle. There's something campy about holding your coffee in a real mug.

At the foothills there is usually a little elevation - some vistas off the cabin porch that you don't see in Iowa. So that is usually accompanied with some alone time, heavy cleansing breaths, closed eyes, and this time a fishing pole. I really don't care if I get a bite or not. It would be more fun, but it really doesn't matter.

My nieces and nephews, and maybe even my oldest daughter if I'm lucky, will drop a line in as well. I'd have more fun watching them. Just sitting there watching them and then helping when a snag tries to ruin the moment.

I'll bait the hook if that's what's required, but would rather fish with lures if applicable. I have no clue what

kind of fish are in this lake, but...what does that matter.

I think there'll be some golf in the mix somewhere, but the rest of of the time is spent talking, laughing, bonding, cooking, and reconnecting with people, some we haven't seen in years. The conversations are a myriad of memories and usually circle back to something stupid I did. That's not an exaggeration. I know my role and I play it well.

I'm taking our MacBook. You never know when news is going to break. The great thing about this gig is that I'm never really not connected to the people that are part of my job.

And I don't mind working vacations. I think my family finds what I do very interesting. They all have interesting lives as well and it makes for a full week of conversation and sometimes unsolicited advice. But that always comes with a smile and "I'll give that some thought".

But the point here is not shrouded. Never has the value of family been more defined than in the past 18 months.

We all need a little cabin time and we shouldn't let something like a metal tube and jet engines that propel us at a speed just fast enough to keep us from plummeting to earth, away from our loved ones. I won't be flying, but driving, and I hope to take a couple short drives over a couple days and feel that "I don't think I've ever been this relaxed" mood. Something dark hangs in the background, but I'm still looking forward to it.

And I have to say this at the end of this week. We come across people in our lives who just hit us as purely enjoyable people who genuinely want the best for everyone they come across in their lives. I chased one of those people around the golf course at the Chamber outing on Friday.

Sorry if this costs you a buck at Rotary Dianne Hope. You can bill me, but that's Beside the Point.

Chuck Vandenberg is the editor and co-owner of the Pen City Current and can be reached at editor@pencity-current.com.

New director has rich family military history

VETERANS - Continued from Page 1

law Lisa and three nephews all have military service backgrounds. Their combined service has given Sugars a unique perspective on how military service impacts families as well as individuals.

She said this will give her an opportunity to be a voice for those people. She's already been taking minutes for the five-member Lee County Veteran's Affairs Commission so she's versed in how the group operates. She's also volunteered with many groups in her own time.

"I'm starting to realize that a lot what I do outside of my job involves helping others in some way or another," Sugars said. "I believe this will be a really good and rewarding fit for me."

One of the first things she wants to do in the post is create more awareness of what the commission does and get people comfortable coming and asking for assistance.

"When I interviewed for the job, I told them that Veterans Affairs was the best kept secret in Lee County," she said.

"We need to be more out there and project who we are and what we can do for people," she said.

Sugars worked her way up through different positions with the county and she said that experience, along with her current role as deputy auditor have given her a special skill set that can be beneficial in the new role.

"I have administration skills. I did benefits for a while with county employees and I see this as kind of benefit assistance for veterans and I want to do what I can to help these people," she said.

One of the most telling signs of her commitment is that she's leaving a job that pays close to \$59,000 a year, for a job that pays \$14/hour at the outset. That rate will increase as her training progresses and then when she takes over the post herself at the beginning of the new year.

But also said she realizes there will be a learning curve.

"I don't know all the paperwork Paul does and I have to be certified before he retires, but I don't anticipate any problems," Sugars said.

"Of course there's a learning curve, but as that's going on I still want to go out and connect with people and let them know we are there for them if they need help."

She said America's veterans are proud people and sometimes it's difficult to get them to ask for help. But Sugars said that outreach is what is vitally important

"That's what I'm hearing from the public. I've already received calls from veterans and what they're telling me is that they need someone out there saying, "we're here," Sugars said.

"It's tough for veteran people to ask for help. They are very proud people."

Sugars said the Veterans Affairs office is open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at the North Lee County Courthouse, and from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday at Keokuk's American Legion Hall at 727 Main Street.

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6:00 p.m. Awards

6:30 p.m. Golf Ball Drop

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