

PEN CITY CURRENT

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

Wednesday, January 13, 2020 | 8 pages | Volume 5 • Issue 17



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HTC HOMECOMING COURT



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg

Holy Trinity Catholic High School will begin its Homecoming 2021 festivities during the week of January 18th. The 2021 Homecoming court consists of: Queen Candidates from left to right: Claire Pothitakis, Katie Denning, Ali Robu, Maria Rauenbuehler, Emma Torgler, Bailey Hellweg. King candidates Chandler Rung, Colby Bredemeyer, Jason Thurman, Vasin Thurman, John Stinson, Danny Caruso. The coronation will be on Friday, January 22nd at 5:45 p.m., prior to the start of the girls' varsity basketball game.

VACCINES

IDPH head moves Capitol staff up vaccine priority list

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

LEE COUNTY – Iowa's Interim Director of the Iowa Department of Public Health Kelly Garcia, has moved government officials and respective staffs ahead of Iowa seniors on the priority list for COVID vaccines.

Garcia accepted a Monday recommendation from the Infectious Disease Advisory Council to focus on those 75 years of age or older, or populations with high risk to exposure or severity of illness with "significant health conditions".

Those populations include correctional facility staff and inmates at all state facilities' individuals with disabilities in home settings who are dependent on care; individuals living in congregate settings, excluding college dormitories; anywhere indicating clusters of disease in food, agriculture, distribution and manufacturing workers in congregate settings; PK-12 school staff; and first responders.

On Tuesday, Garcia added state-licensed inspectors, and government officials and their staff at the Iowa Capitol to the recommendations.

The Centers for Disease Control Tuesday morning recommended vaccines be given to all Americans 65 and older as health experts predict an uptick in available vaccine supplies.

But Iowa's officials are taking a wait-and-see approach.

"As of today we've learned from the federal government of significant increased availability of the vaccine based on each state's ability to distribute supply quickly and number of residents over age 65, or under age 65 with significant health conditions. Once we have reasonable confidence that supply meets the demands of this broader eligibility criteria, we will activate the broader distribution criteria. From the very beginning from this distribution effort,

See **COVID**, page 6

EDUCATION

Area schools see more stimulus funds

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

LEE COUNTY – A second round of federal funding has been earmarked for area schools, but one county school official is disappointed in the formula being used.

School districts are receiving supplemental aid from the spring CARES Act funding. This round of Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER II) funds are being distributed via a formula used for determining Title 1 assistance. ESSER II is part of the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act passed on Dec. 27, 2020.

The bill included close to \$82 billion



SLATER



CROZIER

in supplemental coronavirus relief, of which \$54 billion went into the ESSER II aid to the state's public school districts. Four billion was reserved for a Governor's Emergency Education Relief pool, and \$22.6 billion went to higher education relief.

The formula for the ESSER aid is based on certified students within the school district boundaries and the number of students eligible for free or reduced lunches.

Fort Madison Community School District is set to receive \$1.57 million

in aid. Central Lee will receive just over \$500,000. Keokuk will receive the largest amount in Lee County at \$1.95 million.

Burlington is set to receive \$4.73 million. Non-public schools are not included in the ESSER II relief funds, but can apply for other grants under the CRRSA.

Fort Madison Superintendent Dr. Erin Slater said the money will help the district to continue to offset increased costs associated with dealing with the pandemic in the district.

School districts didn't have to reapply for the funds, since they were supplemental to the a first ESSER release in

See **FUNDS**, page 6

INDEX

Business Directory.....P.7
CLASSIFIEDS.....Ps.6-7
EDUCATION NEWS.....P.6
 Edward Jones – Tony Fullenkamp.....P.4
 Farm Bureau Financial Services –
 Tammy Reynolds.....P.5
FOR THE RECORD.....P.3
FROM THE FRONT.....P.6
 Fullenkamp Insurance.....P.4
 Great River Regional Waste Authority.....P.5
 Griffin Muffler & Brake Center.....P.2

HEALTH NEWS.....P.6
IOWA NEWS.....P.6
 Lee County Health Department.....P.8
LEE COUNTY NEWS.....P.6
 Menke & Company.....P.4
OBITUARIES.....P.2
 • Ron Ballard, 78
 • Donald E. Benson, 87
 • Ruby J. Christensen, 77
 • Leland H. Floyd, 77
 Pen City Current.....Ps.2-3,6-7

Public Notices.....P.6
 Shug's Tiny Town.....P.2
 Sonny's Super Market.....P.3
SPORTS.....Ps.4-5
 Tony Wolfe Insurance Services.....P.2

WEATHER

WED 13 Jan.....Broken Clouds, 40° F/ 32° F
 THU 14 Jan.....Wintry Mix, 38° F/ 32° F
 FRI 15 Jan.....Light Snow, 32° F/ 27° F

IOWA LOTTERY

LUCKY FOR LIFE 01/11.....1 8 27 30 39, Lucky Ball: 8
 PICK 3 01/11 MIDDAY.....4 4 5
 PICK 3 01/11 EVENING.....8 8 0
 PICK 4 01/11 MIDDAY.....5 0 1 2
 PICK 4 01/11 EVENING.....3 4 0 4

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Obituaries

OBITUARIES

DONALD E. BENSON



BENSON



Donald E Benson, 87 years, of Fort Madison, Iowa died at 4:32 am Thursday, January 7, 2021 at the Fort Madison Community Hospital, Fort Madison. He was born October 7, 1933, a son of Donald I and Iva (Warden) Benson. On February 17, 1973 he married Verla Sedore. She survives.

Don was a veteran of the United States Army, and he served in Korea during the Korean War. He was a telegrapher for the railroad. He was a member of the First Baptist Church, Fort Madison.

He is survived by his wife, Verla Benson; three sons: Tony (Kathy), Barry, and Kurt (Mindy); one daughter, Valerie (Kelly) Kern; one brother, David (Sharon) Benson; one sister, Linda Booth; five grandchildren and four great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers, Jack and Michael, and one son, Brian.

No formal services are planned at this time. A memorial has been established for the First Baptist Church, contributions may be made directly to Barr Memorial Chapel, 1919 Ave F, Fort Madison, Iowa 52627. Barr Memorial Chapel is honored to serve the Benson family and an online guest book may be found at www.barrmemorialchapel.com.

RONALD W. BALLARD



BALLARD



Ronald Wayne Ballard, 78 years, of Fort Madison, Iowa passed away at 3:15 am on Wednesday, January 6, 2021 at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, Iowa City, Iowa. He was born October 23, 1942 in Ogden, Iowa to Floyd Wayne and Hazel Edna (Smith) Ballard. On February 10, 1968, he married F. Louise Strunk, in Fort Madison. She survives.

Ronald was a 1960 graduate of Fort Madison High School. He was a veteran of the United States Army, serving during Vietnam War. He worked 18 years as a machine operator at Anchor Metals, Fort Madison followed by 15 years at Gregory Manufacturing. He was of the Baptist faith. He enjoyed reading,

watching TV, and woodworking. He also enjoyed bowling and bowled in leagues from 1963 - 1997. He loved spending time with his family and his grandchildren meant the world to him.

He is survived by his wife, F. Louise Ballard of Fort Madison; one daughter, Nancy (Dave) Carey of Fort Madison; one son, Wayne (Clara) Ballard of Fort Madison; one brother, Larry (Jan) Ballard of Fort Madison; two grandsons, Darrell Ballard and Daniel Carey, one granddaughter, Katherine Carey, and numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers, James Ballard and David Ballard, and one sister, Karen Wilson.

Family will greet friends during visitation from 9:30 - 10:30 am Friday January 15, 2021 at the Barr Memorial Chapel. Funeral services will be follow and begin at 10:30 am Friday January 15, 2021 at the Barr Memorial Chapel, with Pastor Dean Graber officiating. Burial will be at Sacred Heart Cemetery, Fort Madison. A memorial has been established, contributions may be made at the Barr Memorial Chapel. Barr Memorial Chapel is honored to serve the Ballard Family, and online guest book may be found at, barrmemorialchapel@mchsi.com.

OBITUARIES

RUBY J. JEMMETT CHRISTENSEN



CHRISTENSEN

Ruby Josephine "Josie" Jemmett Christensen, 77, of Nauvoo, Illinois passed away early morning Tuesday, January 5, 2021 at her home, surrounded by family.

Josie was born on February 28, 1943 in Blackfoot, Idaho the daughter of Henry and Ruby Christopherson (Reeder) Jemmett. On February 28, 1964 she married Cal Christensen. He survives.

Josie attended school in Blackfoot, Idaho and graduated from Marsh Valley High School in Arimo, Idaho. In her early marriage, they owned a family farm in Idaho. Years later she worked as an office manager in the family business, but being a loving wife and an excellent mother was her favorite job.

Josie enjoyed cooking, quilting, oil painting and restoring furniture, especially old trunks. She began flying at 16 years old and received her pilots license at 18. She was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Nauvoo.

Survivors include her husband, Cal; four children, Cherie (Scott) McRae of Nauvoo, Ann (Troy) Cox of Nauvoo, Vaun (Becky) Christensen of Utah and Leah (Jano) Mattaao of Bakersfield, California; fifteen grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Also surviving are three brothers, Ed, Wanye and Steve Jemmett and four sisters, Rena Cook, Connie Johnson, Martha Tew and Vonda Wilson.

Josie was preceded in death by her parents; one son, Brad Christensen; two grandchildren, Ruby and Steven and one sister in infancy.

A private family service was held at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, January 9, 2021 at Schmitz-Banks and Beals Funeral Home in Nauvoo with Bishop Robert Barlow officiating. Burial will follow in the Nauvoo City Cemetery.

To leave a tribute for the family, please visit Josie's obituary at sbbfuneralhome.com.

LELAND H. FLOYD

Leland H. "Lanny" Floyd, 77, of Keokuk, IA, died Sunday, January 3, 2021 at the Memorial Hospital in Carthage, IL.



FLOYD

He was born on July 31, 1943 in Moline, IL, the son of Leland Leon and Zenta Henderson Floyd. He graduated from Donnellson High School with the Class of 1962. He attended Southeastern Community College in Keokuk and received his Associates of Art Degree.

On October 4, 1969, Lanny was united in marriage to Esther James Ekle in Donnellson, IA. She survives.

He is also survived by one daughter, Kathleen Michelle Bassett (Dr. Tim) of Fort Walton beach, FL, two sons, Marc Lee Floyd (Kayla Tonkin) of Keokuk and Joel James Floyd (Stephanie) of Birmingham, AL, six grandchildren, Adaira, Zane Lee, Alyssa, Blake, Bailey and Molly Bleu, and one brother, Dr. Gary Floyd (Myrna) of Columbus Ohio, two brothers-in-law, Russ James (Linda) and Robert James and two sisters-in-law, Janice Morrow and Paula Herman and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one sister, Hylma June Pearson.

Lanny was a veteran of the United States Air Force and proudly served his country for four years.

On September 25, 1979, Lanny purchased Keokuk Pest Control and was the owner/operator for forty-one years, retiring in 2013.

He was a faithful member of the Keokuk Church of the Nazarene and was very active in many facets of the church. He spent many Sundays driving the church bus and serving as an usher at church services. He also served on the Church Board for twenty-five years.

Lanny was an avid golfer and a member of the Deer Run Golf Club in Hamilton, IL. He enjoyed collecting baseball memorabilia. Lanny was a loving husband, father and grandfather and cherished the times he spent with his family.

Funeral services was held Thursday at the Keokuk Church of the Nazarene with Pastor Dana Jurgens officiating. Burial will be at a later date in the Keokuk National Cemetery.

Visitation will be held from 1 pm - 3 pm Thursday at the church with family meeting with friends at that time. Social distancing measures will be in effect and masks are required at both the visitation and the funeral.

In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to the Keokuk Baseball and Basketball Youth Leagues.

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

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

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For the Record

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report

01/08/21 - 2:37 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 1700 block of 41st Street.
 01/08/21 - 3:40 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 2000 block of Avenue B.
 01/08/21 - 7:03 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 1800 block of Avenue F.
 01/08/21 - 10:56 p.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Levi Swanson, 31, of Farmington, in the 1300 block of 14th Street on a charge of disorderly conduct. He was taken to Lee County Jail.
 01/09/21 - 3:38 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft on Sunnyside Drive.
 01/09/21 - 3:45 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft on Sunnyside Drive.
 01/09/21 - 5:18 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 300 block of Avenue H.
 01/09/21 - 7:47 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 2600 block of Avenue H.
 01/10/21 - 8:11 a.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Cody Sheridan Collins, 31, of Fort Madison, in the 1200 block of Avenue H, on a warrant for probation violation. He was taken to Lee County Jail.
 01/10/20 - 6:32 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a stolen vehicle in the 500 block of Avenue E.
 01/11/21 - 11:53 a.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested James Andrew Schuesler, 42, of Fort Madison in the 1200 block of Avenue F, on a charge of assault, 3rd-degree burglary and disorderly conduct. He was taken to Lee County Jail.
 01/11/21 - 1:23 p.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Todd Allen Oetken, 50, of Burlington, at the police station on a warrant for 2nd-degree harassment. He was taken to Lee County Jail.
 01/11/21 - 2:10 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a hit and run in the 5400 block of Avenue O.
 01/11/21 - 8:08 p.m. - Fort

Madison Police cited Nikki Necole Fowler, 29, of Fort Madison in the 1800 block of Avenue D, on a charge of driving under suspension.
 01/11/21 - 9:07 p.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Joshua James Hayes, 32, of Fort Madison, at the police station, on a warrant for failure to appear. He was released on a promise to appear.
 01/12/20 - 7:29 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 700 block of 20th Street.

Lee County Sheriff's Report

01/08/21 - 5:50 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a two vehicle accident at the intersection of Siemens Rd. and Hwy. 61. According to reports, a vehicle driven by Mark Anthony Shuman, 31, of Wayland was westbound and pulled in front of a northbound vehicle driven by Christopher James Barclift, 25 of Keokuk. Barclift refused medical treatment, but Shuman was transported by Lee County EMS to Fort Madison Community Hospital with injuries. Shuman was to be cited for failure to yield.
 01/08/21 - 8:33 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Ashley Jessica Ann McGowan, 28, of Fort Madison, at the sheriff's office on a warrant for a judgment hold. She was taken to Lee County Jail and released for time served.
 01/09/21 - 10:35 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a one-vehicle accident on Hwy. 218 southbound near mile marker 19. According to reports, a vehicle driven by Kathryn Lee Patton, 27, of Fenton, Mo., left the roadway striking an embankment after the driver allegedly fell asleep. Patton suffered moderate injuries. No citations were reported.
 01/09/21 - 12:32 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a one vehicle accident. According to the report, a vehicle owned by Beth Ann Coffin, 37, of New London, was left in a ditch due to lighting and road conditions and was later struck by an unknown vehicle causing damage. No citations or injuries were reported.
 01/09/21 - 6:10 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies

arrested Justice Cole Woods-mall, 24, of Fort Madison, at the sheriff's office on a judgment hold. He was taken to Lee County Jail.
 01/10/21 - 9:34 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Brandan Joseph Esparza, 27, of Anderson, Ind., at the sheriff's office on a charge of being a fugitive from justice. He was taken to Lee County Jail.
 01/10/21 - 3:41 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Jonathan Michael Jones, 45, of West Point, at the Denmark Jet Stop, on a charge of OWI-1st offense. He was taken to Lee County Jail.
 01/11/21 - 4:00 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Shawnett Celeste Ammons, 20, of Davenport, at the Scott County Jail, on a warrant for failure to appear. She was held in custody.
 01/11/21 - 7:13 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Seth Thomas Wright, 28, of Donnellson, in the 2000 block of 7th Street in Keokuk, on charges of eluding, possession of stolen property, interference with officials acts, possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of a controlled substance. He was taken to Lee County Jail. Thomas was being pursued by law enforcement and turned onto Carbide Lane where the vehicle struck a tool shed. He fled on

foot and was apprehended.

Hancock County Sheriff's Report

01/04/21 - Megan S Plowman, age 28, of Hamilton, IL was arrested on a Hancock County Warrant charging her with Failure to Appear I Failure to Pay on original charges of Unlawful Possession of Methamphetamine. Plowman was released after posting the required bond and given a future court date.
 01/05/21 - Cody J Johnson, age 24, of Cairo, GA was arrested on a Hancock County Warrant charging him with Two Counts of First-Degree Murder, Home Invasion, and Aggravated Discharge of a Firearm. Johnson was also arrested on a separate Hancock County Warrant charging him with Failure to Appear on original charges of Criminal Trespass and Three Counts of Theft. Johnson remains lodged in the Hancock County Jail awaiting his next court appearance.
 01/05/21 - Michael A Garcia, age 24, of Cairo, GA was arrested on a Hancock County Warrant charging him Two Counts of First-Degree Murder, Home Invasion, and Aggravated Discharge of a Firearm. Garcia remains lodged in the Hancock County Jail awaiting his next court appearance.
 01/07/21 - Travas L Ruddick, age 43, of Keokuk, IA was

arrested on a Hancock County Warrant charging him with Petition to Revoke or Modify Sentence on original charges of Unlawful Possession of Methamphetamine and Probation. Ruddick remains lodged in the Hancock County Jail awaiting his next court appearance.
 01/08/21 - Emma L Burkholder, age 18, of Keokuk, IA was arrested and charged with Forgery. Burkholder was also arrested on a Hancock County Warrant charging her with Petition to Revoke Probation on original charges of Unlawful Possession of Methamphetamine. Burkholder remains lodged in the Hancock County Jail in lieu of bail awaiting her next court appearance.
 01/08/21 - Jack E Sage Jr, age 41, of Dallas City, IL was arrested on a Hancock County Warrant charging him with Failure to Appear/ Failure to Pay on original charges of Driving Under of Influence and Driver Required to Wear Seatbelt. Sage was released after posting the required bond and given a future court date.
 01/08/21 - Chad E Marmion, age 45, of Hamilton, IL was arrested on a Hancock County Warrant charging him with Petition to Revoke or Modify Sentence on Probation Violation, Forgery, and Unlawful Possession of Methamphet-

amine. Marmion remains lodged in the Hancock County Jail in lieu of bail awaiting his next court appearance.
 01/09/21 - Michael D Shores, age 43, of Carthage, IL was arrested on a Hancock County Warrant charging him with Failure to Appear on original charges of Resisting or Obstructing a Peace Officer. Shores was released after posting the required bond and given a future court date.
 01/10/21 - Regan N Cheatham, age 26, of Carthage, IL was arrested on a Hancock County Warrant charging her with Domestic Battery. Cheatham was released after posting the required bond and given a future court date. Those listed above are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Fort Madison Fire & Rescue Report

01/09/21 - Fort Madison Firefighters responded to two medical calls
 01/10/21 - Fort Madison Firefighters responded to two medical calls, one carbon monoxide call, one burn permit, and one false alarm,
 01/10/21 - Fort Madison Firefighters responded to one medical call and one assist call. All persons in these listings are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

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PEN CITY CURRENT
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Founded in 2016
 P.O. Box 366 | Fort Madison, IA

Member LION Publishers

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Pen City Current and www.pencitycurrent.com are products of Market Street Publishing, LLC. Pen City Current is published Sunday through Friday mornings by 6AM.

Sports

Van Buren girls slip past Lady Hawks 55-54

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

she saw Ella Sanders in the lane and floated a pass in that was tipped away. Sanders recovered but the buzzer sounded before she could get a shot off.

“We were there, we did what we needed to do. Their girl grabs that rebound and then makes the two free throws – give her credit,” Central Lee Head Coach Jay Baldwin said.

He said the plan on the inbounds was to get it into Merschman’s hands and let her make a decision at the offensive side.

“Mya was going to bring it and take it as far as she could and either shoot it or pass it. Ella was open, we just didn’t quite get it to her.”

It looked early on like Van Buren might run away with the game jumping out to an 11-3 lead in the first quarter. But the Hawks came rushing back after going 1-9 from the field to start the game.

Out of a time out, sophomore Makayla Morrison scored back-to-back buckets, and then Maura Watkins buried a 3 with Van Buren’s defense smothering Merschman.

Manning would answer with a bucket at the other end, but Merschman would score five unanswered, including a bucket just before the buzzer culminating in a 11-2 run to give Central a 14-13 lead at the end of one.

Senior Ella Sanders, who finished with a season-high 18 points on the night, all 3-pointers, buried one from the right wing to start the second for a 17-13 lead.

Van Buren would close the gap to two twice in the 2nd period and would tie the game at 23 on a bucket by Boley. Merschman and Sanders would hit back to back from long range to push Central’s lead to 25-29 at the half.

Manning would go crazy for 13 points in the 3rd period to lead Van Buren on a 17-10 run through the third and a 43-39 lead going into the final period.

They pushed that lead to eight at 47-39, but Sanders again would hit long from the right baseline. Van Buren’s Zoe Best would convert two free throws for a 49-42 lead before Macy Watkins scored on a drive from the left baseline and Sanders buried another three to cut the lead to four 51-47.

With 3:41 left Sanders hit again to cut the lead to one at 53-52 and then Merschman would score inside to give Central Lee the lead back 54-53 with just :42 left in the game.

A controversial turnover in front of the Central Lee bench that bounced off an official gave Van Buren the ball back, and a flurry of time outs ensued setting up the final possessions.



Photos by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Central Lee senior Mya Merschman posts up inside looking for the ball in Tuesday’s loss. Merschman finished with 20 points on the night. Below, Maura Watkins drives the baseline from the left side.



Baldwin said Sanders played her best game of the year.

“By far the best she’s shot all year, and when she’s hitting it opens up a lot of other things for us,” Baldwin said.

Central Lee also got 10 points from Makayla Morrison. Merschman finished with 20 on the night.

Baldwin said the Lady Hawks have to continue to fight against being one-dimensional with Merschman carrying the bulk of the offense.

“That’s what we’ve been preaching to them. We

gotta have everybody. This can’t be a one-man show if you want to go anywhere,” he said.

Manning led Van Buren (8-3, 7-2) with 36 on the night.

Central falls to 6-6 on the year and 5-4 in the SEISC South and travel to Class 3A No. 7 West Burlington (12-0, 9-0) on Friday night.



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Sports

Central Lee boys handle VB; now turn eyes to WB

Stuecker and Betker combine for 35 as Hawks roll visiting Warriors 76-53

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

DONNELSON – Central Lee Head Coach Evan Swanson said the Hawks’ 76-53 win over Van Buren was a win the boys wanted – but they have their eyes on West Burlington Friday.

‘I won’t beat around the bush, our boys like beating Van Buren. There’s that little Central Lee/ Van Buren rivalry there – but their eyes are on West Burlington,’ Swanson said.

The Falcons host Central Lee on Friday. West Burlington beat the Hawks by 21 in Donnellson earlier this year.

Central Lee set the tone early on racing to a 25-5 lead with Jaxon Betker hitting four 3-pointers in a span of about three minutes for 12 of his 15 points on the night.

Dylan Stuecker led Central with 20 points.

The Hawks would keep Van Buren’s offense to just one shot most of the night, a goal Swanson said the team has had all year.

‘Our goal defensively all season is to allow one contested shot, and we did a great job of that tonight,’ he said. ‘I felt like we got back to rebounding the way we’re capable of.’

The Hawks (4-4, 4-7) have won four of their last five, and just missed knocking off county rival Fort Madison Saturday, when Kaleb Sanders’ floating 10-foot buzzer beater missed off the back of the rim.

Swanson said the Warriors have improved over



Photos by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

The Hawks’ Derick Denning goes up in front of Van Buren’s Owen Loeffler (43), in the second quarter of the Hawks’ 76-53 win over the Warriors Tuesday night.

the season and the rivalry is heating up with Van Buren.

Jackson Manning had a game-high 24 for Van Buren, but was the only player in double figures for the visitors.

Central Lee held the Warriors down by 18-20 points for most of the night.

Wyatt Mertens would convert a couple free throws late in the third to cut the lead to 16, but Central Lee would come out in the fourth and blow the game open highlighted by a slicing drive and layup from Stuecker to give Central a 26-point lead 68-42.

Swanson runs a rotation of eight seniors with only Alex Sandoval coming off the bench as an underclassman. Sophomore Corbin Pohren got some time in off the bench in the fourth, as well.

He said the seniors look forward to playing Van Buren and legendary Van Buren coach Fred Parsons.

‘We played well and they’ve definitely improved since the last time we met,’ Swanson said.

‘I know the boys are happy to have this win behind them so we can start focusing on (West Burlington).’

TAMMY REYNOLDS

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From the Front/Classifieds

Crozier says formula for funding is outdated

FUNDS - Continued from Page 1

the spring.

"We are appreciative of the additional relief dollars," Slater wrote to Pen City Current.

"Operating an entire school district in a COVID environment has created additional financial strains."

She said those include extensive cleaning supplies for buildings, classrooms, and buses, which are not one time purchases.

Funds will also go to additional technology for students and teachers for continued virtual learning and family connectivity support with hot spots.

Slater said that coupled with additional curriculum and supplies to keep student shared access to a minimum are just some of the examples of how prior stimulus dollars were used and will be continued to be used to support the students and families for teaching and learning in the district.

But Central Lee Superintendent Dr. Andy Crozier was disappointed in the apportionments.

"The title 1 formula is extremely outdated. The money doesn't follow the kids," he said. "We lose a big share of what our funding should be and now this CARES Act funding is following it."

Crozier said Central Lee services about 340 more students than the certified enrollment figure used by the state due to open enrollment into the district. He

said the district's share of revenue is shorted based on that data.

Our per pupil was considerably less than our neighbors not even half. We brought it up to the Department of Education but apparently it doesn't have much authority. COVID has created expenses for everyone regardless of what Title 1 shows," Crozier said.

"This should be per pupil funding. We added staff, added supplies, and worked hard on our Pod program to keep our kids in school. Des Moines public schools gets \$41 million and haven't been open one day."

He said Central Lee's certified enrollment is 771 but the district serves 1,135 students considering the 381 students that open enroll into Central Lee and the 17 that opt out.

Fort Madison has 2,079 certified enrollment but loses 309 to open enrollment each year, while taking in 19 for a total serviced enrollment of 1,789. Keokuk has 1,902 certified with 137 students opting out of the district and 16 coming in for a total of 1,781 students.

Central Lee has a free and reduced lunch eligibility for 40% of students, while Fort Madison's is 54% and Keokuk's is 63%.

Breaking down the aid per pupil, Central Lee will receive \$445 per pupil, while Fort Madison will get \$878 and Keokuk will receive \$1,097 per serviced student.

LCHD head disappointed state not expanding vaccinations

COVID - Continued from Page 1

it has been our goal to reach all Iowans," Garcia wrote in letter to Keith Sharp, chairman of the IDAC.

Lee County Health Department Administrator Michele Ross said she was disappointed that Iowans 65 and older weren't included in the recommendation.

"I was hoping our state would have also included those 65 years of age and those with high risk health conditions in phase 1B," Ross said.

"It was disappointing to see additional age groups and health risk categories were not included. We will continue to move forward with our local coordination of vaccine supply and will begin vaccinating those in the next phase when it is activated by the state."

Locally, Chris McKay, administrator at The Madison, in Fort Madison said that facility got Pfizer vaccinations Tuesday and is scheduled to get boosters on Feb. 2.

Leia Morrison, director at The Kensington said they are scheduled to get vaccines on Thursday of this week, and Mallory Hymes administrator at Montrose Health Center said they won't receive any vaccines until Jan. 25.

All Lee County long-term care facilities are getting vaccines through a nationwide partnership with Walgreens. The federal government set up a cooperative arrangement to have Walgreens, CVS and Managed Health Care Associates offer onsite COVID-19 vaccination services.

PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE OF PROPOSED VOLUNTARY ANNEXATION CITY OF FORT MADISON, IOWA

Pursuant to Iowa Code Chapter 368.7, the City of Fort Madison, Iowa is considering a voluntary annexation of territory within Lee County. The proposed annexation territory includes property owned by Matt Mohrfeld d/b/a Matt's Greenhouse. The annexation includes the establishment of zoning districts for the annexed property. The property to be considered for annexation can be generally described as follows: 2110 -303rd Avenue, Fort Madison, Iowa. A complete legal description of the property, including an aerial photo, can be viewed at Fort

Madison City Hall during normal business hours. Further information can be obtained by calling (319) 372-7700 ext. 212 or by E-mail at dkrogmeier@fortmadison-ia.com.

The public hearing will be held at 5:30 P.M. January 19, 2021 at Council Chambers, Fort Madison City Hall, 811 Avenue E, Fort Madison, IA 52627.

COVID-19 restrictions can limit the size of gatherings. Persons interested in participating may appear either in person, by using their phone and calling 312-626-6799 or through their computer: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85410726901>. The Meeting ID is 831 2754 9897 and will be required.

Written statements may be submitted to the Fort Madison City Clerk, P.O. Box 240, 811 Avenue E, Fort Madison, Iowa,

52627 or mblind@fortmadison-ia.com, no later than 4:30 PM on January 19, 2021 or delivered before the hearing is closed. Melinda L. Blind City Clerk

PUBLIC NOTICE MEETING NOTICE

**CITY OF FORT MADISON
Board of Adjustment
Organization
WILL MEET ON
Wednesday,
January 13, 2021
6:00 PM
AT THE
Council Chambers at
City Hall 811 Ave E.
TO DISCUSS THE
FOLLOWING:
AGENDA**

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of minutes 11/12/20 meeting
3. Non-Agenda Items (if any)
4. Case File #20-15: Variance to exceed lot coverage at 411 Ave G.
5. Adjournment

ELECTRONIC MEETING:

Due to COVID-19, all meetings are being held via the Zoom Cloud Meet-

ing Application. To participate in this meeting, use the phone number listed below. You will be prompted to enter the Meeting ID also listed below. Your microphone will start the meeting muted, to speak, follow prompts.

Topic: Fort Madison Board of Adjustment January 13, 2021

Time: January 13, 2021, 6:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

To join the zoom meeting via phone dial in, then enter meeting ID:

Meeting ID: 896 6499 2514

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HELP WANTED

CIVIL SERVICE HIRING NOTICE Police Officer

The City of Fort Madison is seeking applicants to fill Police Officer positions. Starting- \$41,662. After 1 year - \$45,697. After 2 years - \$54,600. Benefits include, longevity pay scale; shift differential, paid training; Uniform allowance; paid vacations, holidays, personal & sick time; Education incentives & reimbursement, health, life, and supplemental insurance.

LE certified applicants are eligible for lateral entry and hiring bonus. DAQ.

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

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

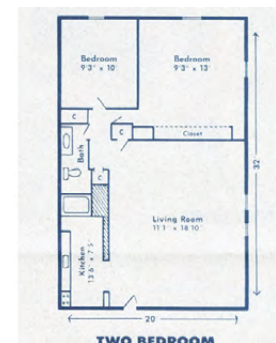
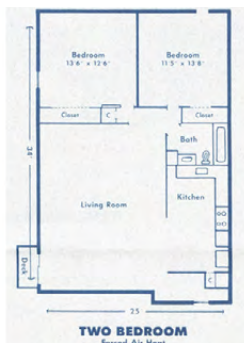


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