

PEN CITY CURRENT

It's Black & White and Read all over

Monday, October 11, 2021 | 10 pages | Volume 5 • Issue 185



www.pencitycurrent.com

Randolphs carving HTC legacy



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg

Ali Randolph, middle, blazed a path for her younger sisters, Natalie, left, and Kassi, right, that includes a Holy Trinity Catholic volleyball state title in 2014. Natalie and Kassi are trying to repeat that in 2021.

ALI, KASSI, NATALIE: Younger sisters trying to duplicate Ali's 2014 state title

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – Don't let the smiles fool ya, these three can be just a little fiery – and competitive.

For more than a decade, the three daughters of Jan and Brad Randolph of Fort Madison have been patrolling the Crusaders' side of the volleyball court at Holy Trinity Catholic High School in Fort Madison. And after all is said and done, Head Coach Melissa Freesmeier will get a full 12 years,

and at least one state championship, out of the trio.

Ali Randolph, the oldest of Ali, Kassi, and Natalie, stepped onto the stage in the latter part of her freshman year. Freesmeier said she remembers that day clearly.

"I was about to put Ali into a game in Urbandale as a freshman. My setter was diabetic and her numbers were a bit high, and I said, 'Ali, ready to go?,' Freesmeier said.

"And Ali turned to me and said, 'Oh yeah, my mom and

See SISTERS, page 8

EMPTY NEST

Art Center coming to Mt. Pleasant Main Street district

When most other people are whining and crying about the pandemic, economy and lack of help and goods, Lorri Lee Miller is taking a bold step and opening a new business in Mt. Pleasant—Main Street Art Center. An artist herself, she wondered why Mt. Pleasant didn't have an art center like all the other surrounding communities—Burlington, Ft. Madison, Fairfield and Washington. Aware of the substantial artist community within Mt. Pleasant, and wanting a place to display her own art without having to travel to another town, she looked for an available space. Voila, 106 South Main Street, beside Brown's Shoe Fit was available. A 2000 square foot building with a window on Main, it is ideal for what she wants to establish: a non-profit art center that will feature an art store, gallery, classroom and studio for artists

EMPTY NEST

By Curt Swarm



who need a place to work. The Main Street Art Center will be for fine art only, no crafts.

A board of directors is being formed and all art

in the art center will be juried by the board. Artist memberships will be sold and a small commission charged for art sales.

Formerly a clothing store and church, a nice feature that Lorri Lee

See SWARM, page 9



A 41-minute 5K to clear the head

Harvest time allergies racked me for the past three weeks, but Saturday I got up and said I'm getting to the track today.

I put on a shirt with no sleeves, a ball cap and some shorts, and linked my ear buds to my phone for some music to run to. You know most songs you can set a pace to and then adjust to the beat of the next tune. Mine is usually 80s hairband stuff.

I hit the track and had to stretch. I wasn't setting out to break any land speed records, I just wanted to set a benchmark for a 5K by a 53-year-old.

Starting with a regular walk, I worked my way up to a 4.3 mile pace before I hit the back side of the track at Fort Madison High School where I run the 100 meter lines and then walk again at a quick pace.

Now I know you probably don't give two shakes to read about a run I took Saturday morning, but there was something special about it.

First, I was able to get in the full 5K. Now, that right there is special. I felt like I was dragging a WM Johnson semi around the track. My legs felt heavy the whole way and it seemed like my feet were three feet long, slapping the track as I ran... or walked.

But something else caught my attention in circling Jim Youel Field. I saw a couple youngsters, who were either underclassmen at FMHS or FMMS, working out.

One of the boys sat at the Bark and Bite by himself at about 8 a.m. I thought about asking if he was okay, but on the next lap three others joined in and they did some pre-workout stretching. That woulda been stranger danger anyway.

There was no adult there. These were kids on a not-so-cool Saturday morning getting ready for a run. I passed them

See RUN, page 9

INDEX

AG NEWS.....P.2
Business Directory.....P.7
CLASSIFIEDS.....Ps.5-7
Complete Rental.....P.4
ConAgra Brands.....P.5
Connection Bank.....P.8
Edward Jones - Tony Fullenkamp.....P.9
Fort Madison Family YMCA.....P.2
FROM THE FRONT.....Ps.8-9
Fullenkamp Insurance.....P.2

Lee County Health Department.....P.4
LOCAL NEWS.....P.8
OBITUARIES.....Ps.2-3
• Sue G. Denning, 88
• Christine A. Boyles, 60
• Kevin W. Martin, 63
• Theresa M. Schlue, 55
Old Fort Players.....P.8
OPINION.....P.9
Pen City Current.....Ps.2,6-7

Pilot Grove Savings Bank.....P.9
Pothitakis Dentistry.....P.2
Pothitakis Law Firm, P.C.....P.10
Public Notices.....Ps.5-6
RonDavoo.....P.3
Scotts Miracle-Gro Company.....P.5
Sonny's Super Market.....P.6
SPORTS.....Ps.4,10

WEATHER

MON 11 Oct.....Rainy and Cool, 73° F/ 56° F
TUE 12 Oct.....Scattered Clouds, 75° F/ 53° F
WED 13 Oct.....Rainy and Cool, 71° F/ 59° F

IOWA LOTTERY

LOTTO AMERICA 10/09.....6 22 45 48 51, Star Ball: 4, All Star Bonus: 2
LUCKY FOR LIFE 10/09.....12 27 28 30 33, Lucky Ball: 9
MEGA MILLIONS 10/08.....21 24 36 40 70, Mega Ball: 22 Megaplier: 5
PICK 3 10/07, 10/08, 10/09 MIDDAY.....9 72, 9 48, 5 0 8
PICK 3 10/07, 10/08, 10/09 EVENING.....6 8 6, 5 4 4, 3 4 1
PICK 4 10/07, 10/08, 10/09 MIDDAY.....2 7 2 4, 8 6 3 5, 7 5 7 5
PICK 4 10/07, 10/08, 10/09 EVENING.....2 9 2 4, 4 2 5 8, 9 7 7 5
POWERBALL 10/09.....12 17 30 45 62, Powerball: 5, Power Play: 2

OpenWeatherMap

SUBSCRIBE

Scan the code to subscribe today
Paid & Free Options Available!



Obituaries/Ag News

OBITUARIES

KEVIN W. MARTIN

Kevin Wayne Martin, 63 of Montrose, IA died Wednesday, October 6, 2021 at his home.

He was born August 19, 1958 in Keokuk, IA the son of Raymond Sr. and Arvilla Collins Martin. Kevin graduated from Keokuk High School with the class of 1976. He was also a graduate of Tri State Tech School in Eldon, MO with a degree in Boat Maintenance.



MARTIN

On June 10, 1995 Kevin was united in marriage to Cindy Lynn Myers at First Christian Church in Keokuk. She survives.

Other survivors include one son, Trenton Lambert (Jami) of Lake Station, IN, one daughter, Kellie Stack (Ed) of Keokuk, six grandchildren, Nathaniel Lambert, Alexis Lambert, Trenton Lambert, Jr., Ruger Grell, Arvilla Stack and Tyler Coffey. He is also survived by one sister, Rhonda Acton of Wever, IA, one brother, Raymond Martin of Keokuk, several nieces and nephews and many friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents and grandparents.

Kevin was currently employed by Boddeker Boats in Montrose, IA. Kevin had several other jobs throughout his life including Affordable Pattern in Keokuk and Fruehauf in Ft. Madison, IA and marinas in the Lake of the Ozarks.

Kevin had an adventurous, fun loving spirit. He loved sports, and was a Green Bay Packer football fan, Chicago Cubs fan and NASCAR fan. He enjoyed stock car dirt track racing and loved going to the Lee County Speedway. Kevin also enjoyed boating, fishing and bowling. Kevin was always willing to lend a helping hand to anyone. He touched the lives of many with his kindness and his sense of humor. He was known to many of his friends as "Kevinrude" aka "Porkchop". Most of all, he loved spending time with his family, his dog Sheela, who was his faithful companion and hanging out with his friends.

A memorial service will be held at 1:30 p.m., Tuesday, at the Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk, IA with Pastor Bill Mitchell officiating.

Visitation will be held prior to the service, Tuesday, from 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m., at the funeral home with family meeting with friends at that time.

Memorials may be made to the family.

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

Higher loan limits approved for state's ag producers

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is announcing a higher loan limit will be available for borrowers seeking a guaranteed farm loan starting Oct. 1, 2021, from \$1.776 million to \$1.825 million.

"Farm loans are critical for our customers' annual operating and family living expenses, emergency needs, and cash flow," FSA Administrator Zach Ducheneaux said. "Raising the guaranteed loan limit will allow FSA to better meet the financial needs of producers as natural disasters and the pandemic continue to impact their operations."

FSA farm loans offer access to funding for a wide range of producer needs, from securing land to financing the purchase of equipment. Guaranteed loans are financed

and serviced by commercial lenders. FSA provides up to a 95% guarantee against possible financial loss of principal and interest. Guaranteed loans can be used for both farm ownership and operating purposes.

In fiscal year 2021, FSA saw continued strong demand for guaranteed loans. FSA obligated more than \$3.4 billion in guaranteed farm ownership and operating loans. This includes nearly \$1.2 billion for beginning farmers. The number of guaranteed borrowers has grown by 10% to more than 38,750 farmers and ranchers over the last decade. FSA expects the increasing demand for farm loans to continue into fiscal year 2022.

USDA has additional support available to producers given the recent outbreaks of the COVID-19 Delta variant and has extended the availability of COVID-19 Disaster Set-Aside (DSA) for installments due through Jan. 31, 2022. In addition, FSA will permit a second DSA for COVID-19 and a second DSA for natural disasters for those who had an initial COVID-19 DSA. Requests for a COVID-19 DSA or a second DSA must be received no later

than May 1, 2022. Last year, FSA broadened the use of the DSA. Normally used in the wake of natural disasters, the DSA can now allow farmers with USDA farm loans who are affected by COVID-19 and determined to be eligible, to have their next payment set aside. The set-aside payment's due date is moved to the final maturity date of the loan or extended up to twelve months in the case of an annual operating loan. Any principal set-aside will continue to accrue interest until it is repaid. This will improve the borrower's cashflow in the current production cycle.

Producers can explore available options on all FSA loan options at fsa.usda.gov or by contacting their local USDA Service Center. Service Center staff continue to work with agricultural producers via phone, email and other digital tools. Because of the pandemic, some USDA Service Centers are open to limited visitors. Contact your Service Center to set up an in-person or phone appointment. Additionally, more information related to USDA's response and relief for producers can be found at farmers.gov/coronavirus.

Pothitakis Dentistry

proudly welcomes

Dr. Ali Bassler

Dr. Bassler will be accepting patients beginning October 18

Fort Madison Family Dentistry West

319-372-4882

Tuesdays & Thursdays
8:30am-4:30pm

Burlington Dental Associates

319-753-2515

Mondays & Wednesdays
8:30am-4:30pm



www.DrMarkDDS.com



Looking for Stability?

We have a long track record with the companies we represent, including:

- Nationwide – 58 years • IMT Insurance – 47 years
- Progressive – 37 years • United Fire Group – 37 years
- Continental Western Group – 27 years
- Auto Owners Insurance – 16 years

Auto • Home • Health • Business • Life • Farm • Crop

Serving Southeast Iowa, Northeast Missouri, & West-Central Illinois for 58 years

Got a news tip?
Call Chuck (319)371.1670



Swimming is a **PASSION**
Winning is a **TRADITION**

New Swimmers/Parent Meeting Times:
October 14th & 15th from 5:00pm to 6:00pm
at the Fort Madison Family YMCA

Optional Practice Period: October 18th - 29th
Swimmer Conditioning: Begins November 1st

2021-2022 SEASON: November - March
SEASON PRACTICES: Monday - Thursday 5:00pm - 6:00pm

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: October 29th
REGISTRATION FEE: \$75

FORT MADISON FAMILY YMCA
220 26th St. • fortmadison.org • 319-372-2403



307 5th Street West Point | 319-837-6178
or 800-292-2208 | www.fullenkampins.com
Open Monday through Friday 7:30 - 5:00
& Saturday 8:30 - 11 or by appointment

Obituaries

OBITUARIES

CHRISTINE A. BOYLES

Christine Ann (Shaver) Boyles, 60, of West Point, Iowa passed away at 6:41 a.m. Friday, October 8, 2021 at Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center, in Fort Madison, Iowa.



BOYLES

Born on November 23, 1960 in Independence, Iowa, the daughter of Paul J. and Betty Jane (Dibble) Shaver. On November 20, 1982, she married Marvin Boyles in Urbana, Iowa.

Survivors include her husband: Marvin; two daughters: Andrea Lynn (Mark A Steffen II) Steffen of Fort Madison, Barbara Jane Boyles of Fort Madison; six grandchildren: Jordan, Matthew, Eryn, Riley, Jason, Sydney; father: Paul Shaver of Cedar Rapids; siblings: Pam (Marty) Hepker of Marion, Iowa, Tim Shaver of Garrison, Iowa, Ted (Shelly) Shaver of Center Point, Iowa, Cathy Schoeberl of Center Point, Iowa, Toby (Sherry) Shaver of Center Point, Iowa; brother in law: Dave Felker of Destin, Florida; sister in law: Lori Lang of Monticello, Iowa, Mary (Chris) Kirk Garrison, Iowa; mother in law: Barb (Ernie) Riggie of Vinton, Iowa and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents John and Marie Dibble, Roland and Thelma Shaver, mother Betty Jane Shaver, sister Paula Felker, father in law Earl Boyles; sister in law Debbie Mather.

Christine retired from Fort Madison Community School District as an associate working with special needs children. She enjoyed crafting, working with children, especially enjoyed her grandchildren.

Her body has been entrusted to the crematory of Schmitz Funeral Home for cremation.

Friends may call after 12:00 noon Thursday, October 14, 2021 at Schmitz Funeral Home in West Point, Iowa, where the family will receive friends from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

A memorial has been established in her memory for the Fort Madison Community School District- Special Needs Department.

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

OBITUARIES

SUE G. DENNING

Sue Geneva Denning, 88, of Wapello, IA, passed away suddenly on Thursday, October 7, 2021 at the University of Iowa Hospitals in Iowa City. She was born on October 6, 1933 in Fort Madison, IA to Carl & Dorothy Degen Hotop. She married William Clair Denning on June 12, 1955 in Fort Madison, IA. She was a teacher who retired after a long tenure at Wapello Elementary School. She was an avid reader and enjoyed traveling, boating, playing video poker and spending time with her family at her cabin on the lake.

Sue is survived by: her husband, Bill Denning of Wapello, IA and 3-daughters, Kelly, Kris & Kim. She was preceded in death by her parents, 1-sister, Betty Phillips & 1-brother, Carl Hotop, Jr.

A private family graveside service will be held at Fairview Cemetery in rural Fort Madison, IA. Online condolences & signatures to Sue's family may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: www.kinglynk.com. King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory in Fort Madison is assisting the family.

VOTED #1
CHICKEN & BUFFET
IN SOUTHEAST IOWA
 Click this ad to order online
Ron Davoo
 always fresh, always friendly
 fried chicken & pizza pies
 BEST OF S.E. IOWA 2018
 Open Monday-Saturday 11 AM - 8:30 PM | Closed Sunday
 605 South 10th St. Burlington, Iowa 52601
 Ron Litchfield - Owner/ Pizzapreneur
 Phone (319) 752-5767 / Cell (319) 572-2495 | Email: Ron.Litch4176@msn.com | <https://www.facebook.com/RonDavooPizza/>

OBITUARIES

THERESA M. SCHLUE

Theresa May Schlue, 55, of Davenport IA, passed away on Monday, October 4, 2021 at 8:40 PM at The Madison Nursing Home in Fort Madison, Iowa. Born on



SCHLUE

May 19, 1966 in Davenport, IA, she was the only child of Roland and Julia Reddick Breitbach. Theresa worked in the business administration field and was a graduate of Scott Community College. She loved ice skating and previously played the flute as a member of the Bettendorf Park Band.

Survivors include her lifelong love and father of her sons, Merle Deitz of Davenport; sons, Kelly Breitbach and Charles Schlue of Davenport; daughter Sarah Schlue; granddaughter Oakley Hunter-Schlue and her mother, Julia Flynn of Davenport. She was preceded in death by her father.

Per her wishes, cremation has been entrusted to King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory and online condolences may be left at www.kinglynk.com.

Pen City Current obituary policy

Pen City Current runs obituaries one time at no charge to funeral homes and they run the day they are submitted in most cases. They are also run as submitted by the funeral homes. Reposting of obituaries due to changes can only be requested by the submitting funeral home and will be assessed a \$15 reposting fee.

Do You Need Help Keeping Your Medicines Organized?



get **onePAC**

your medication made easy



free delivery or mailing



RASHID
 PHARMACY & WELLNESS

2404 Avenue L, Ft. Madison, IA 52627
(319) 372-2300 | 1-800-794-2330
 Weekdays - 8:00am to 8:00pm | Saturdays - 8:30am to 6:00pm | Sundays - 10:00am to 2:00pm
www.RashidDrug.com

Charles Vandenberg, Editor

(319).371.1670
 editor@pencitycurrent.com

Lee K. Vandenberg, Sales Manager

(319).371.4125
 sales@pencitycurrent.com

Copyright © 2016 by Pen City Current

All published materials are property of Pen City Current and cannot be used without express written permission.

PEN CITY CURRENT
 It's Black & White and Read all over

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

Member LION Publishers

www.lionpublishers.com



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

Bloodhounds miss opportunities to stay undefeated

Uncharacteristic drops, execution issues leave Fort Madison with first loss of season

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – There’s still meat on the bone.

That’s what Fort Madison Head Coach Derek Doherty told the Bloodhounds after Friday’s heartbreaking 24-16 loss to Iowa City Liberty at Richmond Stadium, the Hounds’ first loss of the year.

Ranked 6th in the state in Class 4A, Fort Madison came into the contest looking to extend their season unbeaten streak against an underrated Iowa City Liberty squad.

But Doherty said there wasn’t a lack of opportunities to win the game, and there wasn’t a lack of effort from Hounds.

“We knew it was going to be tough. No excuses, (Liberty) did a great job of executing and they are a solid team. Lots of dudes on the sidelines and they are big,” Doherty said.

“But we had opportunities. We dropped three balls in the endzone and had a pick in our endzone,” Doherty said. “We gave our defense a really bad start at the beginning of the game – but that’s the game of football.”

Fort Madison shut down Liberty out of the gate on a 4 and out and took over at their own 26. On the first play from scrimmage, Landes Williams hit Kane Williams on a screen. Williams fumbled the ball but recovered for a one-yard loss. Two plays later, Landes Williams was picked off by Christian Barney who brought the ball back to the Fort Madison 15.

Two plays after that, Darius Willis-Newell went in from seven yards out for the game’s first score and a 7-0 lead.

Fort Madison would answer after bringing the kick back to the 30. Williams would over-throw Tate Johnson on a seam route in the middle to open the drive. After a 4-yard run on 2nd and 10, Williams, scrambling to his left, found Kane Williams for a 25-yard completion down the Hounds’ sideline for a 1st and 10 at the Lightning 25.

Williams would carry the next three for 17 yards and a 2nd and 4 at the 7 where Jakob McGowan hurdled a downed lineman off tackle and broke another tackle for the touchdown. The point after snap got away and Fort Madison couldn’t convert the fire play.

Liberty would take the kick on a touchback at the twenty. On the second play from scrimmage, Liberty quarterback Tye Hughes’ pitch would bounce off Willis-Newell and Fort Madison would recover at their own 33.

Williams would take the next snap and find Johnson in the back of the endzone over the shoulder to give Fort Madison a 13-7 lead.

Xander Wellman would again pin the Lightning deep on a touchback, the Liberty would put together its longest drive of the game going 80 yards on 11 plays capped by a Willis-Newell sweep into the endzone from a yard out. The PAT was good and Liberty retook the lead 14-13 with :07 left in the first period.

Fort Madison would then start at their own 20 and the Hounds would rack up a couple of first downs, one courtesy of a 15-yard pass interference call. But the drive would stall at the Hounds’ 46, forcing a punt.

Liberty took over at their 25 and went 75 yards on five plays capped by a half-back pass on a reverse from James McKinney from 30 yards out to give Liberty a 21-13 lead with 6:26 left



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Fort Madison quarterback Landes Williams fights off a tackle in the second quarter on one of his 21 carries on the night.

in the half.

Fort Madison would then start at their own 26, pick up two first downs on three plays, with McGowan going for 14 on the first play and then Williams keeping the ball for nine and seven-yard carries.

On 3rd and 3 at Liberty’s 36, Williams would get free on a 20-yard run off tackle to the 16. After McGowan would pick up a hard yard, Williams was looking for Wiseman streaking across the endzone just across the goal line. But Liberty’s Wyatt Williams had other ideas and cut in front of Wiseman and picked off the pass for a touchback with 2:39 left in the half.

Fort Madison would call a timeout to regroup. Out of the break, Liberty went seven plays to their own 37 where the drive stalled at 4th and 6. A Hound offsides call on a tricky formation shift by the Lightning made it 4th and 1. Liberty went for it, but Teague Smith crunched Willis-Newell in the backfield causing the ball to squirt out where the Hounds would recover at their own 39.

The Bloodhounds would go back to work and move the ball to the 6, courtesy of a pass interference call trying to get the ball to Johnson on the left side. A bad snap resulted in a

See **HOUNDS**, page 10



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Fort Madison’s Tanner Settles (55) chases down Iowa City Liberty quarterback Tye Hughes in the first period. The Bloodhounds suffered their first loss of the year 24-16 to move to 6-1.

Lee County Health Department Flu Shot Clinics

These clinics are open to the public
Masks are required at ALL clinics

Tuesday, October 5
Hotel Iowa
8:30am-10:00am

Tuesday, October 12
Montrose Public Library
8:30am-10:00am

Thursday, October 7
Newberry Center
10:30am-Noon

Thursday, October 14
Heritage Center
10:30am-Noon

Tuesday, October 19
West Point Public Library
1:00pm-2:00pm

**We will accept
(please bring your insurance card):
Medicare
Wellmark
or Private Pay of \$25**



Children (17 years or younger) flu shots will not be available. To get a flu shot for your child please call (319)376-4767.

(319)372-5225 ~ (800)458-6672
www.leecountyhd.org

Complete Rental Price Beat Guarantee

Show us an advertised price or quote
We'll beat it by

15%

*Not valid with any other discounts

5636 Avenue O, Fort Madison, IA

319-372-8105

Located right across the road from Jim Baier in Fort Madison

Classifieds/Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICES

**PUBLIC NOTICE
CENTRAL LEE
COMMUNITY SCHOOL
DISTRICT
DONNELLSON, IOWA
52625
TENTATIVE AGENDA
OCTOBER 11, 2021
WORK SESSION
6:00 P.M.**

1. Call to Order
2. Workshop - Elementary
3. Adjourn

**REGULAR MEETING
7:00 P.M.**

1. Roll Call
2. Approve agenda
3. Receive Visitors:
 - a) Visitors to speak about items not on the agenda
 - b) Language Arts Presentation
4. Superintendent's Report:
 - a) Enrollment Update - 10/15/2021
 - b) IASB Board Convention - 11/17/2021 & 11/18/2021
 - c) Construction Update
 - d) COVID-19 Update
 - e) District Goals Update
 - f) November Board Meeting - 11/15/2021 @ 6 p.m.
 - g) Lee County Career Center Discussions

- h) Vacancies
5. Consent Agenda (Motion) (Exhibit I)
 - a) Approve minutes
 - b) Financial Reports: General and Schoolhouse Funds, Clearing Account, Hot Lunch Account
 - c) Approve prepaid bills
 - d) Approve monthly bills
- BOARD AGENDA - OCTOBER 11, 2021
PAGE TWO
- e) Overnight Trips:
 1. National FFA Convention, Indianapolis, Indiana - 10/26/2021 to 10/29/2021
 1. Varsity Girls'/Boys' Cross Country to Ft. Dodge, Iowa - 10/30/2021
 2. High School Girls' Volleyball Team to Cedar Rapids, Iowa - 11/1/2021 to 11/4/2021
 3. Iowa State Dance/Drill Team Competition - 11/30/2021 to 12/3/2021

NEW BUSINESS

1. Approval of Modification of High School Handbook (Motion) (Exhibit II)
2. 2021-2022 SBRC Allowable Growth - At Risk (Motion)
3. Second Reading of Board Policies: (Motion) (Exhibit III)
 - a) 200.3 - Responsi-

- bilities of the Board of Directors
 - b) 206.1 - President
 - c) 206.2 - Vice President
 - d) 213 - Public Participation in Board Meetings
 - e) 213.1 - Public Complaints
 - f) 302.5 - Superintendent Evaluations
 - g) 303.6 - Administrator Evaluation
 - h) 401.14 - Employee Expression (New)
 - i) 501.14 - Open Enrollment Transfers - Procedures as a Sending District
 - j) 501.15 - Open Enrollment Transfers - Procedures as a Receiving District
 - k) 502.3 - Student Expression and Student Publications
 - l) 502.3R1 - Student Expression and Student Publications Code (New)
 - m) 504.3 - Student Publications (Rescinded)
 - n) 504.3R1 - Student Publications Code (Rescinded)
 - o) 505.5 - Graduation Requirements
 - p) 603.6 - Physical Education
 - q) 604.1 - Private Instruction
 - r) 606.2 - School Ceremonies and Observances

- s) 701.2 - Transfer of Funds
- t) 711.2 - Student Conduct on School Transportation
- u) 711.2R2 - Recording Devices on Student Transportation (Rescinded)
- v) 803.1 - Disposition of Obsolete Equipment
- w) 804.6 - Use of Recording Devices on School Property (New)
- x) 804.6R1 - Use of District Owned Recording Devices on School Property (New)
- y) 905.3 - Weapons in the School District
4. Second Reading of Board Policies: (Motion) (Exhibit IV)
 - a) 407.3 - Licensed Employee Retirement
 - b) 413.2 - Classified Employee Retirement
5. Introduction of Board

- Policies - 500 Series (Motion)
6. Title 1 Application Submitted
7. Approval of School Improvement Advisory Council (SIAC) - Organizational Structure (Motion)
8. Approval of UMB Bank Bond Schedule Direct Payment/Direct Deposit via ACH (Motion)
9. Resolution to Consider Continued Participation in the Instructional Support Program and to Schedule a Public Hearing (Motion) (Exhibit V) (Roll Call Vote)
10. Approval of 28E Shared Agreements: (Motion) (Exhibit VI)
 - a) Keokuk Community School District - Boys' & Girls' Bowling
 - b) Ft. Madison Community School District -

- Wrestling
 11. Resignations: (Motion)
 - a) Christina Carroll - PIC High School Kitchen (Effective 9/27/2021)
 - b) Chris (Rob) Conlee - Assistant Baseball Coach
 12. Approve Early Retirement and Unused Accumulated Sick Leave Payout Request for
 - a) Miriam Freesmeier (Motion)
 13. Contract Approvals: (Motion)
 - a) Cheryl Fraise - Substitute Bus Driver
 - b) (Blank) - High School Kitchen (Effective (Blank), 2021)
 - c) Emma Ackerson - Hawk's Place After School Program Associate
 - d) Claire Smith - Hawk's Place After School Program Associate

We Are HIRING
Production Technicians

NOW WITH EVEN GREATER PAY & BENEFITS!

- Starting pay \$19.32/hr
- Advance to \$21.01/hr within 12 months
- Advance to \$23.28/hr within 30 months
- Potential to earn \$25.71/hr and more with advancement
- 3% annual pay increases
- \$.45 2nd shift pay differential and \$.65 3rd shift pay differential
- \$175 Company Contribution to pension from date of hire
- 3% Company Match to 401(k); 100% immediately vested
- Blue Cross Blue Shield PPO starting at \$25.83 per weekly payroll deduction
- Plus Dental, Vision, Life, STD and more!



conagrabrands.com/careers

The GRASS is a LITTLE GREENER at
THE Scotts Miracle-Gro COMPANY

**Full-time Job Opportunities
for Machine Operators**

New Wages!

- \$19 per hour
- Step program with wage increases beginning at 6 months.

Shifts Available:

- 3rd Shift - 10pm - 6:30am
- Rotating Shift - Rotates every two weeks between 1st shift (6:00am-2:30pm) and 2nd shift (2:00pm-10:30pm)

Benefits package that includes:

- 13 Company Paid Holidays annually (Including 2 paid days off for Independence Day, 2 paid days off for Thanksgiving and 3 paid days off for Christmas!)
- 12 Vacation Days annually
- 401k match above associate contribution
- Medical/Dental/Vision
- And more!

We're really proud of our Total Health Programs that offer Wellness Incentives that can reduce your monthly insurance premiums by up to \$110 each for yourself and your covered Spouse/Domestic Partner, enhanced Sick Time Benefits, expanded Parental Leave and so much more.

Want to speak with a Scotts representative and see if we're a great fit for you and your family?

**Come see us for Open Interviews
Tuesday, October 12 from 9am-2pm
at 1910 48th Street in Fort Madison**

*Not available for Open Interviews?
Call or Text Donna at 319-371-8461 for details.*

**To learn more about these opportunities visit us at
<https://scottsmiraclegro.com/careers>**

Classifieds/Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICES

e) Tara Sides - Hawk's Place After School Program Associate

f) Tessa Stidham - Hawk's Place After School Program Associate

g) Ashley Welch - Hawk's Place After School Program Associate

h) Danielle McGraw - Hawk's Place After School Program Associate

i) Abby Sugars - Hawk's Place After School Program Associate

j) Janie Shipman

- Hawk's Place After School Program Substitute Associate

k) Delilah Fowler - Student Kitchen Helper
14. Board Reports
15. Adjourn (Motion)

PUBLIC NOTICE
Lee County, Iowa
Board of Supervisors
Agenda
DATE: Monday,
October 11, 2021
MEETING
CONVENING TIME:
9:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.
(CDT)
LOCATION:
933 Avenue H
Fort Madison, IA

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet

or smartphone.

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/577131309>

You can also dial in using your phone.
United States: +1 (872) 240-3311

Access Code: 577-131-309

If you would like to pose a question to the Board, please use the Chat feature and wait for the Chairman to address you. If you are participating by phone, please wait until everyone is done speaking before addressing the Board. Please keep your microphone muted to cut down on background noise. If you are participating by phone, press #6, this will mute your

phone.

Pledge of Allegiance
Approve Agenda
Public Input
Consider Approval of Notice to Bidders for Countywide Pavement Marking and Set Letting Date

Consider Approval to Replace Administrative Assistant in Sheriff's Office

Consider Approval to Appoint Donna Amandus to County Redistricting Commission

Consider Approval of Resolution Setting Public Hearing to Vacate Alleys and Streets In Vincennes

Consider Approval of Policy for Disclosure of Security Related Informa-

tion

Consider Approval of EMS Handbook
Consider Approval of Class C Liquor License for East-West Hideout in Argyle

Consider Approval of Monday, October 4, 2021 Board Minutes

Consider Approval of Claims Personnel

A. Step Increase- Conservation

B. New Hire-EMS

C. Step Increases (5)- Health Department

Reports:

A. Auditor's Report of Fees Collected

B. Manure Management Annual Update for

Knee Deep Solutions in

Cedar Township

C. Sheriffs Monthly Report

D. Treasurer's Report of Fees Collected

Commission or Committee Reports

Adjourn

Workshop to Follow

PUBLIC MEETING
CITIZENS WELCOME

Vision and hearing assistance available upon request

Contact Title VI Administrator
319-372-3705

County Website:
www.leecounty.org

HELP WANTED



2136 Green Bay Rd
Wever, IA 52658
319-372-7852

Now Hiring!

Marine Facility Operations & Maintenance

Benefits Included
Full & Part Time
Positions Available

Heartland Co-op is an Equal Opportunity Employer (EOE-AA) committed to advancing diversity in the workplace. Post offer ... pre-employment drug screen, job physical, & physical capacity profile required.

FOR JOB INFO & TO APPLY VISIT:
heartlandcoop.com
Career Opportunities,
Wever

Church Choir Accompanist Wanted

This person will accompany the choir for the 9:00am traditional worship service. A strong candidate will have experience in accompanying and have knowledge of a wide variety of musical styles. Piano/keyboard proficiency required. Candidate must have good organizational skills and have music prepared for practice held each Wednesday evening (September-May). Candidate will collaborate with both the Choir director and support First Christian Church's music ministry.

Please send cover letter and resume to
First Christian Church
Attn: Personnel Committee
3476 Main Street
Keokuk, IA 52632

We're Not Southeast Iowa's Favorite Dental Office Without Our Great Team

APPLY TODAY TO JOIN US!

Pothitakis Dentistry currently needs a Full-Time Hygienist.

Complete an application at or mail your resume to
1223 S. Gear Avenue,
Eastman Plaza, Suite 302
West Burlington, IA 52655
or email burldental@gmail.com
EOE



POTHITAKIS DENTISTRY

Burlington • West Burlington • Ft. Madison West • Ft. Madison East • New London • Mt. Pleasant

HELP WANTED

NOTICE OF JOB OPENING

Office Manager

Lee County Attorney's Office
Keokuk, Iowa

Lee County Attorney's Office has an immediate opening for the Office Manager position (full-time, salary based).

The position's successful applicant is preferred (but not required) to have the following:

1. Experience involving business management; human resources and personnel management; legal secretarial or stenographic work; completion of some college level office professional courses; or any equivalent combination of training and experience that provides the knowledge, skills, and abilities outlined herein.
2. Knowledge of legal terminology, legal format, and legal forms.
3. Knowledge of modern office practices, procedures, and equipment.
4. Knowledge of computer software and navigation of governmental websites.
5. Knowledge how to obtain public information.
6. Knowledge of how to efficiently manage a modern office, including use of technology and equipment.
7. Ability to prepare accurate and timely documents, correspondence, and reports.
8. Ability to utilize independent judgment and discretion in office management and administration of collections program.
9. Ability to communicate with others using tact and diplomacy and to deescalate disputes with dissatisfied attorneys, law enforcement, co-workers and members of the public.
10. Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with attorneys, law enforcement personnel, other governmental agencies, co-workers and members of the public.
11. Ability to organize, prepare, and maintain a large filing system of current and closed files.
12. Ability to utilize good judgment in personnel issues.
13. Ability to maintain accurate and thorough records.
14. Ability to recognize and implement cost effective measures for running an office.
15. Ability to think strategically about future vision and strategy for the office budget and programs.
16. Utilize Microsoft Office and Microsoft Excel.

See Lee County website for job description. www.leecounty.org.

The starting salary is \$44,000.00 to \$48,000.00 commensurate with experience. The County offers an excellent benefits package.

The deadline for submitting a resume is Friday, October 15, 2021, at 4:30 p.m.

Please send resume to
Ross Braden
710 Avenue F, Fort Madison, IA 52627
or e-mail rbraden@leecounty.org



CIVIL SERVICE HIRING NOTICE Police Officer

The City of Fort Madison is seeking applicants to fill Police Officer positions. Starting- \$42,700. After 1 year - \$46,840. After 2 years - \$55,965. 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 at leatraining.org. Noncertified 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 October 22, 2021 at 4:30 PM.



Meat Counter Position Available Part-Time



Sonny's Super Market is looking for someone with an open personality that enjoys learning. Do you like to make others smile? Do you know someone who does? Have you always wanted to try something new, but didn't want to jump off a cliff?

Sonny's has a Part-Time Opening in our Meat Department. Maybe you, or someone you know, would enjoy working less than 20 hours a week. No need for knowledge of primal cuts of meat necessary; but the love of customer satisfaction is definitely required! Whether cutting bologna or weighing bacon; it's the customers' smile that makes this job worthwhile. Learning cuts of meat and how to trim fat comes naturally when you are enjoying the people you work with.

Apply in person at



327 5th Street, West Point, IA



Got a news tip?
Call Chuck
(319)371.1670

Classifieds

SHOP Classifieds

PLACE YOUR AD ONLINE AT WWW.PENCITYCURRENT.COM OR CALL (319)371.4125

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

KEMPKER'S
True Value  **RENTAL**
 Treating our customers like family since 1970
 Fort Madison • Burlington • Mount Pleasant
www.kempkerstruevalue.com

General Insects
Termites

Cullen
PEST CONTROL

Mice
Bed Bugs

(319) 372-1060

Toll Free 1-888-818-7378
 Email: cullenpest@hotmail.com
www.cullenpest.com

Residential
Commercial

"Cause who needs bugs?"

Dirty Dog Detailing & Boarding

Grooming by appointment
 Monday, Wednesday, Friday & Saturday
319-371-9044

Over 51 Years
 Combined Professional
 Animal Experience

2090 250th St
 Donnellson, IA 52625

Owners Barb Ball & Natalie Dauma
 Family owned & operated

 **Don't Let Your Business Slip Away**

If someone is hurt on your property, is your business protected?

Umbrella coverage can help reduce the risk of paying claim costs beyond where your business insurance liability limits stop. Schedule a SuperCheck® today because when your world is protected - it's business as usual.

 **Larry Holtkamp**
 1301 37th St
 Fort Madison
 (319) 372-9145
 (319) 470-1927 Cell
LARRYHOLTkamp.COM

 **FARM BUREAU FINANCIAL SERVICES**

Auto | Home | Life | Annuities | Business | Farm & Ranch

Farm Bureau Property & Casualty Insurance Company,* Western Agricultural Insurance Company,* Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company*/West Des Moines, IA. *Company providers of Farm Bureau Financial Services FC109 (4-17)

Short-Term Rehabilitation
 Long-Term Care
 Memory Care
 Ventilator Care

 **The Madison**
 senior living
kind • compassionate • care

NOW HIRING RN, LPN, & CNA POSITIONS

**Buying or Selling?
 Call Karen first!**

• Real Knowledge
 • Real Experience
 • Real Dedication

 **HOPE ASSOCIATES REAL ESTATE**

Real Results!

Karen Hope
(319) 372-4040

Generations of Great Service

- 24 Hour Service
- Never An Overtime Charge
- FREE Estimates
- Servicing All Makes

 **YOUR Heat & Air Guy**

Full Service HVAC Company
 Serving Fort Madison, Burlington, and surrounding areas with over 30 Years Experience!

Ft. Madison: 319-372-4328
Burlington: 319-752-4328
All Areas: 877-380-4328

www.YourHeatAndAirGuy.com

Subscribe to #PCC today

Free and Paid Options Available.



PEN CITY CURRENT
 It's Black & White and Red all over

How can chiropractic therapy help you?

BENEFITS OF CHIROPRACTIC

- Improved joint mobility, function, and health
- Decreased degeneration of joints and connective tissues
- Improved circulation
- Increased energy, vitality, and improved sleep
- and many, many more

DR. ROBERT BROCKMAN
 Brockman Chiropractic

2311 Avenue L, Suite 3, Fort Madison • 319-372-3800
<http://brockmanchiropracticdrbob.com/>

Extremity Adjustment Cranial Adjustment
 Myofascial Relaxation Muscle Facilitation

 Patrick Profeta
 General Manager

Keokuk Auto Credit
 We Tote the Note

No Credit Check Low Weekly Payments

www.keokukautocredit.com

1728 Main Office: 319-524-2334
 Keokuk, IA 52632 Fax: 319-524-2373

WEDDING & EVENT CENTER

Small GRAND Things
 Grand Things Happen Here

Danielle Neaves & Ann Newton Neaves

319.837.8132

1903 West Point Rd West Point, IA 52656
 Facebook/Instagram/Pinterest smallgrandthings.com

Nursing
 Rehabilitation
 Long-Term Care

 **Montrose HEALTH CENTER**

319-463-5438

WHERE COMPASSION & QUALITY COME FIRST

 **DODD PRINTING & STATIONERY**
 Est. 1877

Photo Correction
 Flyers
 Office Supplies
 Vinyl Banners
 T-Shirt Printing

Coffee Mugs
 Posters Art Supplies
Printing
 Office Furniture
 Trifold Brochures

Business Cards
 Business Forms

621 Avenue G
 Fort Madison, IA

319.372.2721
doddprinting.com

ENJOY FREE DELIVERY TO FORT MADISON, KEOKUK, BURLINGTON & THE SURROUNDING AREAS!

From the Front

Younger Randolphs chasing sister's volleyball title

SISTERS - Continued from Page 1

dad are coming with the camper and they'll have lunch for us. I said, I'm not talking about lunch - I'm talking about you being ready to go in. And she said 'Oh.' As a freshman she was like, I'm just here for the ride, but that changed real quick."

Ali, who now works in real estate in the Des Moines market, was a Crusader mainstay from that point on. She played varsity from her sophomore year on, and was part of the 2014 Class 1A Championship team that included future All-American Mikaela Foecke. It was the first state title in HTC's history.

HTC went 48-4 that year and finished with a 3-0 sweep of Central Lyon in the Class 1A state title match. Randolph led the squad in assists that year with 651. During her career, she compiled 1,500 assists, 718 digs, and 257 kills. The Crusaders made it to the state tournament in Cedar Rapids all four years of Ali's time at HTC.

Kassi is a senior this year and made it to the state tournament her first two years. Last year, the Crusaders lost a heartbreaker 5-set match to eventual state champion Burlington Notre Dame, at HTC's Shottenkirk Gym in the Region 8 semis, a match many consider the real state title match in 2020.

To date, Kassi has amassed an eerily similar 1,545 assists. She also has 840 digs and 660 kills in 136 matches in her four years.

Natalie is a sophomore this year and has totaled 256 assists, 185 kills, and 197 digs in 55 total matches in her two years with the program

The stats aren't left on the table, however, as the competition also heads home to the dinner table.

Kassi and Natalie both started varsity as freshmen, an accolade they bring up 'occasionally' with their older sister.

"Yeah, we do actually," Kassi said with a laugh. "And we compare stats - a lot."

But Ali counters with she blazed the path for her sisters. "Trust me. We pull out stats for all the years and do the averages. It's very competitive."

But, at the end of the day, that sisterly bond transcends volleyball assist stats and who has more kills and moves quickly to support and encouragement on and off the court.

Ali said she makes it a point to be back for the bigger matches and is never away for more than two weeks.

"If I can't get to the game, I zoom it on my phone. Mom and Dad have that set up. I never miss a match," she said.

Natalie and Kassi are on the court together and that has special meaning to them this year.

"We have a special connection because we're always talking out there and we're each other's setters. We always know where we're at on the court," Kassi said. "We're able to talk about the good and the bad and we can be extra 'opinionated' with each other. I think that helps."

Freesmeier sees similarities - and differences - in all three girls.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

The Randolphs, from left to right, Natalie, Ali, and Kassi will be part of 12 years of Crusader volleyball when Natalie graduates in 2024. Ali graduated in 2017 and Kassi is a senior this year.

"All three are coachable. All three do what you ask. And those are the similarities. Oh, and all three of them absolutely hate to lose," Freesmeier said.

"But I think Natalie is the fire. Kassi is the quiet killer, and Ali's a little bit of both. She started the Randolph tradition and it's continued. When you have little sisters, it seems as if they just follow in your footsteps and it's been great seeing them grow up. They've all three been awesome to coach."

Assistant Coach Tom Gendron, who's been with Freesmeier for more than 15 years and has been part of the process with all the girls, said Natalie is a unique creation that's born out of the skill sets of the other two.

"When you look at Natalie, you see the byproduct. Ali had a huge arm swing that Natalie has. And Ali had a good touch and was a really good setter, but she didn't have the touch that Kassi has. And then Natalie comes in with that touch of Kassi. If you take Kassi and Ali and combine them and then turn them left-handed - you have Natalie," he said.

With Ali starting the Randolph Crusader legacy eight years ago, Kassi and Natalie had the advantage of watching their sister be successful, up to and including, the state title. Natalie said she was following all that from a much younger age than her sisters.

"I started really young. I grew up with volleyball in my family watching Ali and then Kassi. So I was always at a volleyball game and I helped play on some of their teams when they were older, too."

Kassi said they really started playing when they were in

second or third grade because Ali was already involved, so they would practice as a family at home.

That bond has been beneficial on the court for the Crusaders.

"I always have the support from my sisters. It's nice to watch them grow up and then I get to follow in their footsteps," Natalie said. They help me after games and call me. Ali is there to watch and she'll call me and tell me what I need to work on, and Kassi is right there to help me on the floor."

But Ali said she thinks Natalie has had the tougher road.

"I would say it's tougher on her. She gets a lot of what I would call 'positive criticism,'" Ali said. "I just got it from my parents, and these two chimed in once in a while. But having two older sisters that are a little more experienced - she definitely hears a lot."

Kassi benefits from both Ali's experience and Natalie's efficiency on the floor.

"Obviously, I get a lot of feedback because Ali was there, and then I pass that on to Natalie. Then I can use that to get two different perspectives. I use that as an advantage and it's a big part of my game," Kassi said.

Brad and Jan were both athletes in high school. Jan played tennis and was a cheerleader, while Brad played collegiate soccer at Illinois Wesleyan. Ali said sports has always been a priority in their family with all three girls playing soccer, basketball, and volleyball - most of the time with their parents serving as coach in some capacity.

"My parents put all three of us in volleyball and one of the two were usually our coach," Ali said. "Sports was a really big thing in our family. They pushed us. Mom and Dad are just extremely competitive and that rubbed off on us and made us really want to do well."

The Class 1A No. 5 Crusaders start their quest to get back to the state tournament on Oct. 19 in Region 7 play. This year, Burlington Notre Dame drew a different regional and, if and when, the two meet again, it will be in Cedar Rapids at the state tournament.

Natalie said winning is important to her individually, but also in the sphere of the Randolph family, because she wants to help Kassi get a state title before she graduates.

"It's both," Natalie said. "We saw Ali win a championship so I made that my goal to do that. Now we want it really bad, especially missing it last year. So we come in and focus each day on those goals. We want to get it done."

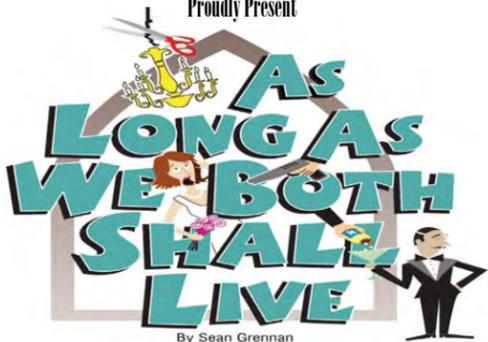
Ali said she tries not to push too hard for her sisters to win the championship.

"I don't want to put too much pressure on them. But it was my favorite experience of, maybe my life, but high school for sure. It was such a fun time and I want that for them. Natalie didn't get to state her freshman year so I really want her to experience that," Ali said.

"I just think they know what they are capable of as a team and they're having fun doing it. You can tell if the energy is high, they play so much better. So I tell them both, just remember what you're capable of doing and keep your goals high."



Proudly Present



OCT. 8-10 & 15-17, 2021

Produced by Special Arrangement with Playscripts (www.playscripts.com)

<p>Old Fort Players 725 Avenue G Fort Madison, IA</p>	<p>Fri & Sat 7:30pm Sun 2:00pm</p> <p>Adult Tickets \$15 Senior & Military \$12 Students \$10</p> <p>Tickets available online. Check website for details.</p> <p>You may call or send a Facebook message to reserve tickets to be purchased at the door with cash or credit card.</p>	<p>319-372-9559 oldfortplayers.com</p>
---	--	--



CONNECTION
BANK

We've got this.

www.myconnectionbank.com

Burlington • Fort Madison • Montrose • Keokuk

Member FDIC

From the Front

Bragging on the kids, not so much my 5K time

RUN - Continued from Page 1

a couple times as they stretched just off the west endzone. The girl had her hair in a ponytail. There's something markedly determined about girls with their hair in a pony tail getting ready to work out.

It takes me back to the movie *What Girls Want* with Mel Gibson. They come up with a fictitious Nike tagline. "No Games, Just Sports".

Here I was at my age, not even close to having the stamina of a Matt Mohrfeld or Matt Hellige or Keokuk's Mark Smidt, nor does my first name start with an "M". But Wes Holtkamp can run forever and his name doesn't start with "M", so that can't be it.

But out there trudging around the three-year old track, I'm just trying to set a benchmark for future runs/walks.

As I make turn four on my fifth or sixth lap, I see these kids take off down the steps into the southeast parking lot and then out onto the recently completed P.O.R.T trail. They head north on 18th Street with the girl's pony tail whipping as she established her gait – about four steps ahead of the boys. I smiled.

As I walked into turn 2 and the back stretch where I run 100 to 150 yards, depending on how much I hate my legs and feet. "Ugghhh....again?" Having not been out there for close to a month...

you can really feel it. I was extremely heavy running and hated it.

I made another lap and came back to the east endzone and someone else was coming west on Avenue B, pony tail whipping in time with her stride.

I think it was FMHS cross country stalwart Paetyn Weigand. I smiled again. Cross country running is something else. These kids out here on their own, getting in the work – putting in the time.

As Fort Madison Head Football Coach Derek Doherty likes to say, they're out their building in the dark – even though it's not dark. Well not for them, but running for me seems dark. I just can't shake the icky feeling that comes with not being able to breathe through the run.

Those that run say it happens, you just have to get through to that point. I think I'll stick with 5Ks and chipping away at the time.

But seeing these kids out here taking full advantage of the new trail that's being completed gives me hope. We hear so much about how kids are not out any more and they just spend time on their phones.

These kids were getting it done. The boy didn't even have a phone while he waited for his running group.

Another thing made me smile Saturday and

it wasn't the Hawks win. That wasn't a pretty 3 vs. 4 national matchup, but what was great was there was a black woman on the umpiring crew. I don't get a lot of time to watch college football, and maybe it's just an 'Ah-Ha' moment for me and not everyone else, but what a great step for all of us.

And then the 1st quarter wave to those kids in the hospital. It took me back to when Kelsey was there and I wept just a little. No one saw, I was seated on the floor against the window with my plate of Cuban sliders, Hawaiian BBQ sliders, potato salad, and chicken lip dip my brother and niece had made.

There was some happy birthday cake and vanilla softserve to follow it up. There's goes the calories I just burned off, but, HEY, maybe at least I broke even.

I'll keep running and walking because the doc says it's good for me and it helps me sort out random thoughts that blow through my mind. I file them away and sometimes I can't find that file later, but sometimes my recall button works.

One of those random thoughts was of the parents at Friday's Senior Night football game. I've been at several senior nights this fall with volleyball and football, and I've seen many sad faces.

I sent a note to one couple Saturday morning who just seemed to have something in their eyes Friday after the Bloodhounds' loss to Iowa City Liberty.

I wrote that I have a unique clarity on watching our children reach the end of high school. My only counsel is that it's not about sadness, although we are inevitably sad. And it's extremely against the grain, but it's a time to celebrate what you've done as parents.

You did that! Sadness is a valuable emotion. Life is tough as hell and when you are faced with the encounter of your child finishing high school and all that comes with it, celebrate that. You've done something almost miraculous in getting them to that point. Smile and take a breath. In the grand scheme of things it's the end of nothing, but the beginning of everything.

Bank the sadness and hope you never need it, but if and when you do, it's an emotion with value and it has meaning. Use it wisely and conservatively, in the meantime – you could smile a bit in anticipation of the next great moment – but that's Beside the Point.

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

Morris opening center

SWARM - Continued from Page 1

is hanging onto is a large mirror on the wall. She's going to put a sign above the mirror that says, "Portrait of an Artist." She wants artists to see themselves in the mirror and recognize who they are—artists.

Lorri Lee is the designer and brains behind the art center. Her husband, Tim, is the handyman. A former carpenter, he is quite adept at constructing walls, shelves and partitions. She tells him what she wants and he figures out how to do it. Together they make a team. They are looking at November 1st as the official opening date of Mt. Pleasant's first art center.

Having moved to Mt. Pleasant in the early 90's, Lorri Lee is quite familiar with what Mt. Pleasant has to offer. Her mother, Gail West, was the Director of Career Development and Learning at Iowa Wesleyan College and good friends with Ann Klingensmith, the Art Director. Klingensmith is excited about the opening of an art center in Mt. Pleasant and will be on the Board of Directors as the Assistant Director. Lorri Lee is the Director, and Dawn Wiley the Secretary. Other Board members are Don Jones and Sue Morrison.

In the future, Lorri Lee wants to have a potter's wheel and kiln in the art center. But first, she needs to get local artists involved, the art center opened up, and a gallery provided for artists to display their art. She plans to have receptions for various artists in the coming months.

This is the American Dream! With hard work, dedication and creativity, good things happen. She is passionate about her goal and feels the art center will be a success. There may be some grants available for women entrepreneurs and other avenues of financial support.

At first her husband, Tim, was the naysayer about Lorri Lee's idea for an art center. He viewed Mt. Pleasant as an agricultural community with Old Threshers and Iowa Wesleyan the main draw. But once he talked to some of the local artists, he found out how many there were, and that they had to travel to other towns to display their art. He could see there was a market for art in Mt. Pleasant. Nothing ventured, nothing gained.

In the meantime, Lorri Lee is meeting with lawyers and CPAs about getting the 501(3)c, non-profit entity set up, articles of incorporation written, and the word out to artists. All kinds of fine art will be considered, from paintings, to sculptures, drawings, glass, jewelry, and photography. Mt. Pleasant will have an art center and artists a place to network with other artists and display their work.

An art center is coming to Mt. Pleasant!

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.



Leaving Your Employer? Understand Your 401(k) Options.

At Edward Jones, we can explain options for your 401(k), including leaving the money in your former employer's plan, moving it to your new employer's plan, rolling it over to an Individual Retirement Account (IRA) or cashing out the account subject to tax consequences.

To learn more, call today.

Tony Fullenkamp
Financial Advisor
1233 Ave H
Ft Madison, IA 52627
319-372-8001

edwardjones.com
Member SIPC

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Past. Present. Future.



Pilot Grove Savings Bank was established on May 12, 1911 when 23 investors pooled \$10,000 to meet the banking needs of the local community. Since that day, the Bank has continued to grow and prosper, serving customers in Southeast Iowa and the tri-state area as well as many other locations across the country. With customer loyalty on its side, Pilot Grove Savings Bank has prospered throughout the years. Now, with 14 offices, more than 100 employees, over \$760 million in assets and some of the most technologically advanced banking systems available, Pilot Grove Savings Bank's main goal remains as it was in 1911 – to serve the customer well.

Donnellson Fairfield Fort Madison
Houghton Keokuk Mt. Pleasant
Packwood Pilot Grove West Burlington
West Point Winfield



319-469-3951

www.PilotGroveSavingsBank.com Member FDIC

Sports

FM can't capitalize on late DiPrima pick

HOUNDS - Continued from Page 4

6-yard loss and then Johnson couldn't haul in a pass over a Liberty defender in the endzone and Fort Madison settled for 26-yard field goal from Wellman to make it 21-16 at the half.

The only points in the second half would come on a 24-yard field goal by the Lightning after Fort Madison fumbled at their own 20 in the third period.

Fort Madison looked to have taken the lead back on the next possession. A good kick return by Johnson got 15 yards added on a personal foul on Liberty giving Fort Madison the ball at the Iowa City 47. McGowan and Williams picked up 10 yards and a first down on three carries, and then Williams went to the air. On back-to-back plays he found Johnson again behind Liberty defenders, but the ball bounced out on both occasions and Fort Madison turned it over on downs at the Iowa City 31.

Neither team could get anything going down the stretch with Fort Madison forcing a couple punts and Iowa City putting up two fourth down stands to force the ball over on downs.

As Liberty was trying to run out the clock, they found themselves at 3rd and 16. Hughes rolled slightly to his left and threw to the sideline, by Mikey DiPrima jumped in front of the offering and raced 20 yards the other way to give Fort



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg

Fort Madison's Jakob McGowan pushes away a would-be tackler in the second quarter Friday night. McGowan finished with 40 yards rushing and a touchdown in the Hounds' 24-16 loss.

Madison the ball at Iowa City's 46 with 2:07 left in the game.

Williams dropped back on four consecutive plays and each time was forced out of the pocket causing him to miss on all four tries, and the Lightning went into the victory formation to get the win.

Doherty said the Hounds played a bit out of their style and it ended up hurting them at points in the game. But he said there's still plenty to play for and the Bloodhounds need to think that way.

"We bit on some things and that's uncharacteristic of

us, but there's still opportunity out there," he said. "We'll go back and watch film and once we show the guys - I mean, they know, but we had several opportunities to win this game and we didn't capitalize. When you do that against a good team, it's gonna come down to a few plays.

"But we've got a lot to play for still. We're proud of our guys and this definitely wasn't a lack of effort."

Fort Madison was led by Williams on the ground with 86 yards on 21 carries. He also was 11 of 25 through the air for 108 yards and a touchdown. Johnson had

four catches for 40 yards and the score. Kane Williams had three catches for 51 yards. Wiseman and McGowan each had two grabs.

Smith led the Hounds' defense with eight tackles, six solo and one sack, and a forced fumble. Wiseman had six tackles and Austin Ensminger had 5.5. Ike Thacher had 3.5 tackles, but two were for losses with one sack.

Fort Madison travels to Class 4A No. 1 North Scott on Friday and then wraps up the regular season with a critical game at Bracewell against the Grayhounds in two weeks.

Crusaders go 3-2 at Pella Invitational

Crusaders knock off 4A ranked Bondurant-Farrar, split w/ Pella

BY PCC SPORTS

PELLA - A three-set win over Class 4A No. 8 Bondurant-Farrar in the third match of the day highlighted a five-match day at the Pella Invitational Saturday for the Holy Trinity Catholic girls.

The Class 1A No. 5 Crusaders split the first two sets with the Blue Jays taking the first set 21-16, but getting put on their heels 12-21 in the second set. HTC regrouped in the first-to-15 tiebreaker with a 15-12 win to take the match.

The Crusaders won two more matches on the day with a three-set win over 4A's Knoxville 21-18, 11-21, 15-9, and then rolled Mediapolis 21-12, 21-15.

HTC gave host Class 4A No. 10 Pella all they wanted in another three-set tiebreaker with the Lady Dutch. Pella rolled to a 21-13 first set win, but the Crusaders came back with a 21-17 second set win to force the tiebreaker, which Pella would win 15-11.

The other loss came to Class 5A's top-seeded Iowa City Liberty, arguably the best volleyball team in the state, who took HTC down 21-13, 21-13.

Sophomore Natalie Randolph racked up 39 kills on the day going 81-97 attacking. She also had 30 assists and was 26-27 serving with three aces. Senior Kassi Randolph had 23 kills and led the Crusaders with 45 assists. She was 32 of 33 serving with an ace.

Anna Sobczak had 44 digs from her libero spot. Mary Kate Bendlage had 19 kills on 56-68 attacking and Brooke Mueller was 53 of 59 hitting with 17 kills. She also had five aces on the day.

Kayla Box led HTC defensively at the net with six blocks.

HTC (23-9) travels to Central Lee (14-9) on Tuesday night for the Lady Hawks senior night before the four-team Mediapolis Tournament on Thursday night.

Special teams play dooms Hawks in loss

BY PCC SPORTS

EDDYVILLE - The Central Lee Hawks fell to 0-7 on the year with a 48-7 loss to Eddyville-Blakesburg-Fremont Friday night.

The Hawks trailed by just a couple scores in the first quarter after surrendering two touchdown runs. With a PAT miss, the Hawks were down just 13-0 after the first quarter.

But the Rockets' (2-5) special teams showed up in the second period putting up two touchdowns, including a kick-off return for a score and punt return for a score in the quarter.

Central Lee got on the board in the second period with a 52-yard touchdown strike from Bryce Finney to Maddox Doty. Dante Merschman added the point-after to make it 20-7 with 4:48 left in the half. However, the two special teams plays came after the Hawks score and EBF also scored on a touchdown run with 7:37 to go in the quarter to take a 33-7 halftime lead.

They would add another rushing touchdown and an interception return for a touchdown in the third period to set the final score at 48-7. Neither team would score in the fourth period with the continuous clock running.

Finney was 10-27 for 109 yards with a TD and pick on the night. Finney also had 32 yards on five carries. Doty had 59 yards on two catches and Tanner DeMoss had 19 yards on a couple catches for the Hawks.

Brody Fuller had 6.5 tackles to lead the Hawks on defense. Corbin Pohren had five tackles on the night for Central Lee.

The Hawks host 3-4 Centerville on Friday in Donnellson.



*Fighting to get you
the compensation
you deserve.*

P
POTHITAKIS
LAW FIRM P.C.

ACCIDENT & INJURY LAW

320 North 3rd Street, Suite 100, Burlington, Iowa 52601-0337
1603 Main Street, Keokuk, IA 52632

www.PothitakisLaw.com