

PEN CITY CURRENT

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

Thursday, April 1, 2021 | 8 pages | Volume 5 • Issue 73



www.pencitycurrent.com

SCC starts 30 Ways in 30 Days campaign

PCC STAFF

WEST BURLINGTON – Southeastern Community College will spend the month of April celebrating students with 30 Ways in 30 Days, a campaign to showcase and support all things SCC.

Part of SCC's 100 year celebration, 30 Ways in 30 Days will feature students, alumni, and staff. The college encourages everyone to join in the fun through social media activities and charitable giving.

Monies raised will go toward SCC's new Century Club, a fund designed to help students stay in college and complete their educational goals.

"We award scholarships to hundreds of deserving students every year to get them started on their college journey," says SCC Executive Director of Advancement Val Giannettino. "But many struggle to stay in school because life gets in the way: work, health, bills. This campaign will fund initiatives to help them cross the finish line."

In addition to encouraging financial donations, the campaign will build awareness of the positive impact SCC has had on the region for the past 100 years.

Each day throughout the month of April, SCC will

See **SCC**, page 8

DON'T TEXT AND DRIVE



FMPD ramps up distracted driving efforts

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON – On April 8, 2021, in support of the annual U-Drive, U-Text, You Pay, the Fort Madison Police Department will launch its second Connect to Disconnect distracted driving initiative. This 4-hour, anti-distracted driving awareness kickoff event is aimed to focus on attention on visible texting and cell phone law enforcement.

Everyone know it is dangerous to text and drive, however we still see drivers on the phone every day. We would rather someone learn a lesson from a citation than from a crash.

According to the U.S. Dept. of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration between 2012 and 2019, 26,004 people died in crashes involving distracted drivers. In 2019, there were 3,142 people killed and an estimated 424,000 injured in motor vehicle crashes involving distracted drivers. There were also 566 pedestrians and bicyclists killed in crashes involving a distracted driver. Nine percent of fatal crashes, 15% of injury crashes, and 14% of all police-reported motor vehicle traffic crashes in 2019 were reported as crashes in which a driver was distracted at the time of the crash.

The goals of this enforcement are to demonstrate a nationwide commitment to enforcing cell phone and texting bans and to reduce traffic crashes caused by distracted drivers, ultimately preventing injuries and deaths associated with cell phone use and texting while driving.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg

Fort Madison's Jenny Holtkamp works on smoothing out a sign for Riverside Nutrition, another new business opening in downtown Fort Madison. Holtkamp and husband, Wes, purchased the building at the southwest corner of Avenue G and 9th Street and are leasing it to the new nutrition bar opening in May.

FMCH

Settles named top hospital employee for February

FORT MADISON – Fort Madison Community Hospital recognized Brandi Settles as their February Employee of the Month. Brandi is a nurse in the FMCH Clinics. She has been with FMCH for sixteen years. She was recognized with this nomination:

This employee has taken complete

ownership of the COVID vaccine clinic here at FMCH for our patients. She is extremely organized, making sure that the vaccine is laid out in a timely fashion so that the clinic starts on time. She ensures that supplies are adequate for the day, and does a wonderful job communicating with management when

she has questions or needs anything for the clinic. She has a good process that works for her and the patients. She does a great job making sure that all vaccines have an arm so there is no waste! I have spoken with several of the patients that

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WEATHER

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THU 01 Apr.....Clear and Cool, 43° F/ 28° F
 FRI 02 Apr.....Clear Skies, 56° F/ 30° F
 SAT 03 Apr.....Clear and Warm, 66° F/ 42° F

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MEGA MILLIONS 03/30.....11 37 47 53 56, Mega Ball: 15 Megaplier: 3
 PICK 3 03/30 MIDDAY.....414
 PICK 3 03/30 EVENING.....645
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 PICK 4 03/30 EVENING.....7046

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Local News/From the Front

Potowonok ladies donate

PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON – The Potowonok Circle of King’s Daughters donated \$1,000 through the FMCH Foundation to support a pediatric sensory room in the FMCH Outpatient Rehabilitation Services Center. The monetary donation was used to purchase a sensory swing and hardware; six clouded sky ceiling light panels; and a fourteen-foot bubble lamp.



“We are very grateful for this donation. The new sensory room at Fort Madison Community Hospital will allow physical, occupational and speech therapists to improve developmental skills, attention and behavior regulations in children with a wide variety of diagnosis such as Autism and Cerebral Palsy,” expressed Emma Kruse, FMCH Speech Therapist.

A pediatric sensory room helps children improve their visual, hearing, and sense of touch while also, developing their fine and gross motor skills. By providing a sense of calm and comfort, a sensory room can help children learn to self-regulate their behaviors and help them to focus.

FMCH Outpatient Rehabilitation Services Center provides therapy services for patients of all ages, including physical, occupational, speech and aquatic therapy.



Courtesy photo

Katie Booten, Clinic Nurse Supervisor; Katie Sciumbato, Clinic Nurse Supervisor; present Brandi Settles with the FMCH Employee of the Month plaque, along with Matt Mullins, Vice President of Physician Services.

Settles was part of hospital’s vaccination clinic program

FMCH - Continued from Page 1

have received the vaccine from this employee and ALL shared kind words about her. They discussed what a wonderful job she did in communicating with them about the vaccine and what was going to occur at the appointment. Many spoke highly about the shot she gave and how compassionate and caring she was.

When asked if there was anyone Brandi wanted to recognize for making a difference in her career at FMCH, she responded, “Patty Harvey has been a great mentor, she was my boss when I first started here and was a great role model on how to get things done, be efficient, hold people accountable and be a compassionate leader—she actually drove me to Richardson school one day during work to pick up my son who needed stitches, walked me to the nurses office to get him and drove us to the emergency room.” Brandi’s favorite part of working at FMCH is the family like atmosphere she shares with her co-workers.

When not at work, Brandi enjoys decorating and refinishing furniture and spending time with her two sons and boyfriend. The Employee of the Month is an initiative developed by the Reward & Recognition team. Each month a FMCH employee is honored for going above, and beyond for the good of the patient, their co-workers and the organization

easter AT HARMONY

Good Friday: 4.2.21
6 p.m.

Easter Sunday: 4.4.21
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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.

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For the Record/Local News

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report

03/29/21 – 6:28 a.m.
 – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1600 block of Avenue H.
 03/29/21 – 10:33 a.m.
 – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 1800 block of Avenue E.
 03/29/21 – 12:18 p.m.
 – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 1500 block of Avenue H.
 03/29/21 – 1:15 p.m. – Fort Madison Police cited Ty Edward Hancock, 44, of Fort Madison in the 1500 block of Avenue M, on a charge of driving under suspension.
 03/29/21 – 1:37 p.m.
 – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a stolen vehicle in the 1900 block of Avenue O.
 03/29/21 – 2:07 p.m. – Fort Madison Police cited Randall White Collier, 29, of Burlington, in the 900 block of Avenue G, on a charge of driving under suspension.
 03/29/21 – 3:34 p.m.

– Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a personal injury accident in the 600 block of 20th Street.
 03/30/21 – 10:22 a.m.
 – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a stolen vehicle in the 3300 block of Avenue G.
 03/30/21 – 1:47 p.m.
 – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 2000 block of Avenue B.
 03/30/21 – 3:52 p.m.
 – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the in the 1500 block of Avenue H.
 03/30/21 – 11:19 p.m.
 – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 4800 block of Avenue O.

Lee County Sheriff's Report

03/29/21 – 12:24 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Collin Elijah Segoviano, 23, of Fort Madison, in the 1500 block of Avenue M, on a warrant for possession of controlled substance. He was taken to Lee County Jail.
 03/30/21 – 11:38 a.m.

– Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested David Michael Stephen Bloomer, 32, of Hamilton, Ill., in Des Moines County, on warrants for 1st-degree burglary, violation of a no-contact order, stalking and tampering with a witness/juror. He was taken to the Lee County Jail.
 03/30/21 – 7:58 p.m.
 – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Michael Shane Gasaway, Jr., 35, of Fort Madison, in the 2700 block of Avenue M, on charges of public intoxication and interference with officials acts.
 03/30/21 – 8:13 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a one-person accident at the intersection of 145th Street and 160th Avenue. According to the report, a vehicle driven by Jose Jesus Gomez Perez, 19, of Mt. Pleasant lost control and entered the south ditch suffering damage. No injuries were reported. Perez was cited for no valid driver's license.
Those listed above are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Pictured are from left to right; Ft. Madison FFA Foundation Vice President Jeff Tungate, OCI Scholarship winner Chloe Hoenig, and FFA Advisor Bonnie Slee.

Hoening gets OCI FFA scholarship

FORT MADISON – The OCI Iowa Fertilizer Company donated \$1,000 to the Ft. Madison FFA Foundation to be given as a scholarship to a 2020 graduating senior that was involved in FFA.

Out of six applicants Chloe Hoenig was chosen by the Foundation to receive this scholarship. Hoenig has showed livestock for four years at local and state fairs. She was also an officer in FFA for three years and enjoyed being an active member of the club.



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Sports/Local News

Lady Hounds suffer shut out in opener

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON – The Fort Madison girls tennis team took the courts for the first time in almost two years and landed flat with a 0-9 loss to visiting Davis County on a breezy, cool Tuesday night.

In singles, No. 1 seed Molly Knipe took a game at 4-1 before falling 8-1 to the Mustang's Bella Tranquillino. The closest singles match of the day was at No. 5 singles where Camille Kruse lost a close match with Davis County's Jenna Marlow 8-6.

Malarie Ross was shut out at No. 2 singles 8-0 to Avery Thompson, while the Hounds No. 3 Rachel Hellman was also shut out at 8-0 by Morgan Klaus. At No. 4 Maddy Warning downed Kayla Kruse 8-2 and Jada Will knocked off Fort Madison's Elizabeth Stuekerjuergen 8-3 at No. 6 singles.

Fort Madison's Molly Knipe lets go with a serve in the No. 1 singles match Tuesday night at Fort Madison High School. The Hounds fell to Davis County 0-9 to open the year.

In doubles Tranquillino/Thompson shut out Knipe and Hellman 8-0. Ross and Kruse fell 2-8 to Klaus and Warning, while Kayla Kruse and Stuekerjuergen fell 2-8 to Marlow and Will.

"Tonight was a tough night for us. Davis County is a very well coached and experienced team," Swink said. "We currently do not have any returning varsity players in our lineup, which hurts us when we face a team like



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg

Above, junior Malarie Ross returns a shot at No. 2 singles action. At right, Molly Knipe lets go with a service at No. 1 singles against Davis County Tuesday. The Hounds fell 0-9.

Davis County, who returned most if not all their lineup from 2019.

"Our girls fought hard, and did not give up, which is definitely a positive we can take away from tonight. I am looking forward to the upcoming season and watching us grow and get better."

The girls take on Fairfield on Thursday with matches starting at 4:30 p.m. The boys open the year on the road at Fairfield.



FM man arrested for selling prescription pills

LEE COUNTY – The Lee County Narcotics Task Force reports the arrest of a Fort Madison man on misdemeanor drug charges.

Collin Segoviano, 23, of Fort Madison, Iowa was arrested on March 29th, 2021 in Fort Madison, Iowa. Segoviano was arrested on outstanding warrants for two counts of Delivery of a Controlled Substance- Prescription Pills each an Aggravated Misdemeanor.

The arrest of Segoviano stems from an investigation where Segoviano was selling prescription pills and other narcotics within the Fort Madison area.

The Mount Pleasant Police Department, Division of Narcotics Enforcement, and the Lee County Attorney's Office, assisted the Lee County Narcotics Task Force in this investigation. The defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.



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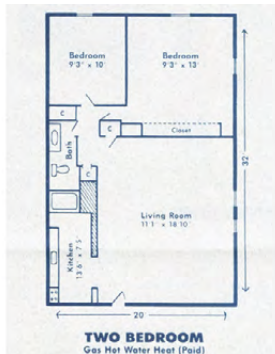
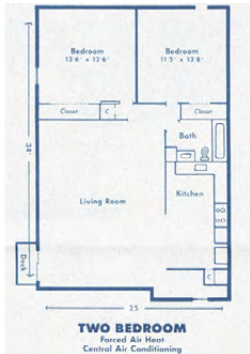
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PEN CITY CURRENT

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Iowa News/From the Front

AG Miller files brief on renewable rules

DES MOINES — Attorney General Tom Miller filed an amicus brief today in the U.S. Supreme Court supporting several renewable fuels and agricultural associations in their challenge to the EPA's award of small-refinery exemptions to the Renewable Fuel Standard.

Miller and Nebraska Attorney General Doug Peterson organized and led a bipartisan coalition of eight state attorneys general to join in the brief.

"The EPA's practice of freely granting exemptions to the oil industry has undermined the promise of renewable fuels and harmed Iowa's farmers and biofuels industries," Miller said. "I'm grateful that a bipartisan coalition of states has joined us in this effort."

Miller filed the brief in *HollyFrontier Cheyenne Refining, LLC v. Renewable Fuels Association*. The case asks the Supreme Court to decide the EPA's authority to grant small-refinery exemptions to the Renewable Fuel Standard, which requires increasing use of ethanol, biodiesel, and other renewable fuels.

The RFS exempted certain small refineries from complying with its requirements to blend renewable fuels into their gasoline or diesel fuel and gave EPA authority to extend the exemptions based on disproportionate economic hardship. Beginning in 2017, the EPA began granting a surge of small-refinery exemptions that devastated demand for renewable fuels, causing ethanol and biodiesel plants to slow, idle, or close.

A coalition of biofuels associations challenged the award of new exemptions to three small refineries that had not previously and continuously received the exemptions. In January 2020, the Tenth Circuit agreed, concluding that the EPA had authority only

to grant extensions to a refinery that continuously maintained the exemption.

In the brief, Miller argues that the Tenth Circuit got it right. The plain language of the statute limits EPA's authority to grant the exemption. And the more expansive interpretation pushed by the small refineries would gut the RFS, the brief says. He also explains how an ineffective RFS would cause substantial economic harm to the rural economies of Iowa and other states, hurt the environment, and hamper efforts to move toward energy independence.

The full brief is available on the U.S. Supreme Court's website.

In February 2021, the EPA and the Biden administration announced it supported the Tenth Circuit's decision, and the Justice Department submitted a brief in support.

As Miller's brief notes, Iowa is the No. 1 renewable-fuel-producing state in the nation. In 2020, the renewable fuel industry accounted for \$4 billion — about 2% — of the state's GDP, supported more than 37,000 jobs, and generated \$1.8 billion of household income.

Yet the small-refinery exemptions have reduced the RFS mandate by an average of 7% each year from 2017 through 2019 — causing more than \$2 billion in lost demand for renewable fuel nationally each year.

In addition to Iowa and Nebraska, Miller's brief was joined by Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, Oregon, South Dakota, and Virginia.

The case will be argued before the Supreme Court by telephone conference at 9 a.m. Central time on April 27. A decision is expected by the end of June.

SCC holding month-long event

SCC - Continued from Page 1

share fun stories and interesting facts online and by email. Additionally, folks will find highlights and challenges on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram and are encouraged to flood their newsfeeds with SCC photos, support clubs and organizations, and boost students up as they approach the end of the semester.

For extra fun, participants can win prizes by downloading a Champ bingo card, named for the school's mascot, and marking off tasks that they complete. Folks can win a prize package filled with SCC merchandise by submitting their Champ bingo card.

"Follow our daily social media posts to learn how to participate," Giannettino says. "Then share photos, tag alumni, give a former instructor a shout-out, or make a donation. We think people will have fun giving in ways that work best for them."

She adds that a gift to SCC is a gift to the region. "Our students and grads are everywhere," Giannettino continues. "You'd be hard-pressed to not bump into at least one Blackhawk on any given day."

Learn more about 30 Ways in 30 Days on the college's various social media with the handle "SCCIowa" or at scciova.edu.

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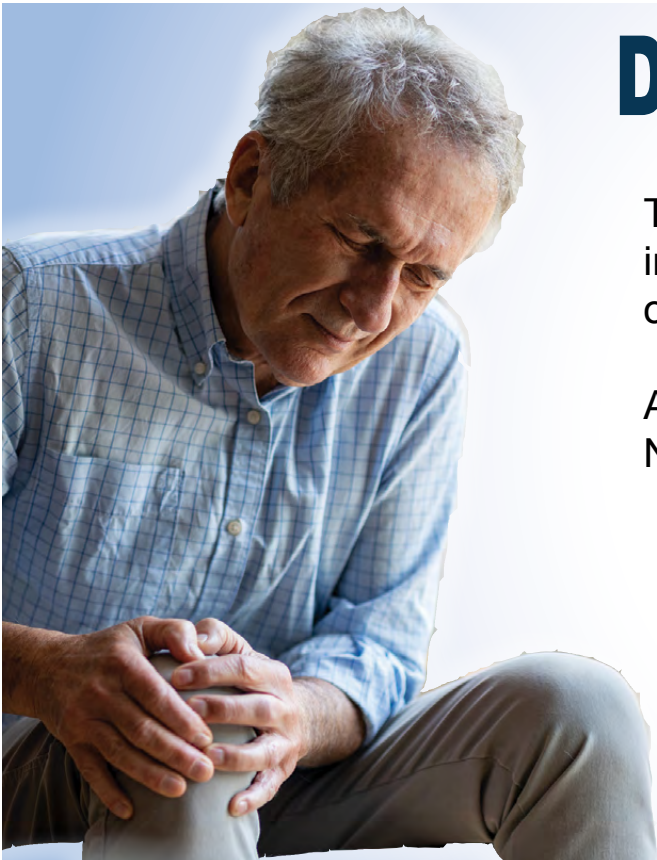
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