

# PEN CITY CURRENT

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

Friday, October 9, 2020 | 12 pages | Volume 4 • Issue 186



[www.pencitycurrent.com](http://www.pencitycurrent.com)

## Amandus to run for 3rd Ward

**VACANCIES:** Third person announces intentions to file for council vacancies

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – A familiar name to Fort Madison has emerged as a candidate for the 3rd Ward vacancy in Fort Madison's City Council.

Donna Amandus, a former candidate for Iowa State Senate and Fort Madison Mayor has informed city officials she has an interest in the seat, but hasn't yet filed a letter of intent.

The seat was vacated by Tyler Miller on Tuesday when he resigned to move and join the military.

The Fort Madison City Council is accepting those letters of



AMANDUS

intent until Nov. 10, and intends to fill the vacancies by appointment. However if a successful petition for a special election is turned into the city clerk's office within 14 days of the city publishing it's intent to appoint, a special election will be called. That special election would trigger an election for both vacancies, according to Lee County Auditor Denise Fraise.

Amandus said she is against the City Council appointing someone to fill the vacancies.

See **COUNCIL**, page 9



## Internal football clocks are all out of whack in Iowa City

IOWA CITY — Kirk Ferentz stood at the podium, an empty Kinnick Stadium behind him.

Get used to it.

When Ferentz and the Iowa football team have their home opener on Oct. 31 against Northwestern, fans — other than the families of the players — won't be allowed into the stadium.

Such is life during the COVID-19 pandemic, such is life during a Big Ten season that was, then wasn't, then is going to be played in the fall.

Nine games in October, November and December look like a decent compromise to whatever the conference was planning after postponing its fall season back in August.

And, don't get Ferentz wrong — he's glad that the Hawkeyes and the rest of the conference will be playing.

But the internal football clock inside the coach is all fouled up these days.

The Hawkeyes are currently in training camp to get ready for the Oct. 24 season opener at Purdue. But training camps are supposed to be held in steamy August, not comfortable October.

"The psychology of it is very strange," Ferentz said during Thursday's press conference to wrap up a week of media availability. "To be out there and really not face any heat challenges, it's a little bit weird to see the leaves changing colors and wearing sweatshirts and long pants at times, that's been a little different."

It was back on August 11 when the Big Ten, full of medical concerns about the COVID-19 virus, decided to shut down the fall season and hope things would be better when the calendar flipped from this nightmare of 2020 to the who-knows-what of 2021.

The PAC-12 and assorted other smaller conferences followed the Big Ten's lead,

See **HAWKEYES**, page 4

## Crimestoppers move Halloween event to county fairgrounds

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – It's wildly popular and has outgrown its home, so the annual Lee County CrimeStoppers and Lee County Sheriff's annual No Tricks Just Treats event is moving.

Tammy LeMaster, with Lee County CrimeStoppers said despite the limitations of 2020 amidst COVID-19 restrictions, the event was so popular last year, that she and Lee County Sheriff Stacy Weber decided holding it at the sheriff's

See **TRICK OR TREAT**, page 9



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg

Your Heat and Air Guy' owner Tom Schulz was part of the 2019 No Tricks Just Treats event at the sheriff's office. This year's event is slated to be bigger than ever and has been moved to the Lee County Fairgrounds as a drive thru Trick or Treat.

## FMHS

## Fort Madison trades team wins competition again

BURLINGTON, Iowa — In recognition of Construction Week 2020, Carl A. Nelson & Company conducted its fourth annual High School Skills Challenge on Oct. 8 to give local high school construction trades students an opportunity to bring classroom lessons into real-world practice.

Participating were Burlington High School, Mediapolis High School and

See **BUILDERS**, page 10



The winners of Carl A. Nelson & Company's 4th annual High School Skills Challenge, from left with their teacher, Clint Kobelt, were Fort Madison High School's Owen Kruse, Kane Williams, and Trey Edwards.

## INDEX

BeyondIDo.org.....P.6  
Business Directory.....P.7  
**CLASSIFIEDS.....Ps.6-7**  
Complete Rental.....P.4  
**CURRENT-LEE.....P.8**  
**EDUCATION NEWS.....P.10**  
Fort Madison Community Hospital.....P.9  
Fort Madison Family YMCA.....P.9  
**FROM THE FRONT.....Ps.4,9-10**

Fullenkamp Insurance.....P.2  
Great River Regional Waste Authority.....P.5  
**IOWA NEWS.....P.8**  
Business Directory.....Ps.3-4,6  
**LEE COUNTY NEWS.....Ps.2,9**  
**LOCAL NEWS.....Ps.9-10**  
**OBITUARIES.....P.2**  
• Thomas R. Helling, 68  
Pen City Current.....Ps.2,6-7,10

Pilot Grove Savings Bank.....P.8  
Pothisakos Dentistry.....P.4  
Public Notices.....P.6  
Rashid Pharmacy & Wellness.....P.2  
Rich Taylor for Iowa Senate.....P.10  
**SPORTS.....Ps.4-5,10**  
Test Kitchen Education Foundation.....P.9

## WEATHER

**FRI 09 Oct.....** Sunny and Warm, 81° F/ 60° F  
**SAT 10 Oct.....** Scattered Clouds, 80° F/ 63° F  
**SUN 11 Oct.....** Clear Skies, 79° F/ 63° F

OpenWeatherMap

## IOWA LOTTERY

**LOTTO AMERICA 10/07.....** 17 19 24 34 51, Star Ball: 10, All Star Bonus: 2  
**PICK 3 10/07 MIDDAY.....** 6 6 1  
**PICK 3 10/07 EVENING.....** 11 4  
**PICK 4 10/07 MIDDAY.....** 6 8 0 0  
**PICK 4 10/07 EVENING.....** 9 6 4 2  
**POWERBALL 10/07.....** 6 24 30 53 56, Powerball: 19, Power Play: 2

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# Obituaries/Lee County News

## OBITUARIES

### THOMAS R. HELLING

Thomas R. Helling, 68, of Fort Madison, IA, passed away on Wednesday, October 7, 2020 at 11:52 PM at his home.



HELLING

He was born on October 19, 1951 in Ft. Madison to Richard and Jean Hoenig Helling. On April 16, 1971 he married Deborah Danley in Fort Madison. Tom was a self-employed carpenter. He was a member of Holy Family Parish and served in the US Army Reserves. Tom enjoyed being outdoors, fishing, boating, spending time at his cabin and especially working on his acreage. Tom was an avid Iowa Hawkeye fan. He and Debbie enjoyed wintering in Gulf Shores, AL. He was always the first one to help anyone. His family was most important to him, his grandchildren and great grandchildren were his pride and joy.

Survivors include his wife, Debbie Helling of Ft. Madison; one daughter, Tonya (Alex) Schnedler of Ft. Madison; one son, Larry (Dawn) Helling of Ft. Madison; three grandchildren, Eric Mueller, Derrik Helling and Macy Helling; three great grandchildren, Jaivonei, Airali and Parker; his mother, Jean Helling of Ft. Madison; three brothers, Gary (Ruth Ann) Helling of Springfield, IL, Roger (Carol) Helling of Farmington and Jeff (Lori) Helling of Montrose. He was preceded in death by his father and grandparents.



Per his wishes, cremation has been entrusted to the care of King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. A funeral mass will be held at 11 AM on Tuesday, October 13, 2020 at Ss. Mary & Joseph Church with Reverend Joseph Phung officiating. The family will meet with friends from 10-11 AM just prior to the service at the church. The church requires all attending to wear masks. Burial will be at a later date in Gethsemane Cemetery. Friends and family are invited to Tom and Debbie's home following the mass for a time of food and fellowship.

In lieu of flowers a memorial has been established for St. Jude's hospital and online condolences can be left at [www.kinglynk.com](http://www.kinglynk.com).

## One injured in Thursday morning accident on 330th Avenue

BY PCC STAFF

LEE COUNTY – A Wever man was injured this morning as a result of a head-on collision on 330th Avenue.

Michael Joseph Koch, 39, was airlifted after being trapped in his overturned vehicle in the 1600 block of 330th Avenue in northern Lee County.

Koch was taken by medical helicopter to Iowa City with injuries.

His Toyota Yaris was struck on the front drivers side by a Chevrolet Cobalt driven by Michael Edward DiPrima, 16, also of Wever.

Both men were wearing seatbelts. DiPrima was cited for failure to maintain his lane.

According to the sheriff's report, DiPrima said he closed his eyes and when he opened them he was in the northbound lane and struck Koch's vehicle front driver's side to front driver's side.

The impact spun DiPrima's vehicle back into the southbound lane. Koch's vehicle left the roadway, entered the east ditch and overturned trapping him in the vehicle.

Wever Fire & Rescue, Lee County Sheriff's Office and Lee County EMS and AirEvac responded to the accident.

## Keokuk man charged with sex crimes

PCC STAFF

LEE COUNTY – The Lee County Sheriff's Department is reporting the arrest of Andres Benjamin Duran, age 37, of Keokuk.

Duran was arrested by Lee County Sheriff's Department Detectives on 10/07/2020 at his Keokuk residence on five counts of Sexual Exploitation of a Minor, Aggravated Misdemeanor, for possessing visual depictions of a minor engaging in a prohibited sexual act.

Andres Duran's arrest stems from a CyberTip provided by the Internet

Crimes Against Children, ICAC, organization. Lee County detectives

were assisted by Keokuk Police Department detectives.

The defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty in a court of law.



DURAN



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## Sports

## FMHS VOLLEYBALL

# Lady Hounds take two of three at conference tourney

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

FAIRFIELD – The Fort Madison Bloodhounds won two of their first three matches in tie breakers but couldn't hold on against Fairfield in the first match at the Southeast Conference tournament.

The Lady Hounds took all three of the Tuesday matches to a tie breaker defeating Mt. Pleasant 25-27, 25-22, 17-5 and Washington 19-25, 27-25, 15-8. But Fairfield overcame a 10-25 loss to the Hounds to open play and came back for a 25-18, 15-13 win.

"We had a tough night of volleyball. Every match was a struggle after we got off to good start in game 1 versus Fairfield," said Head Coach Kent Bailey.

"We came out flat in game 2 and stayed that way the rest of the night. Game 3 we had a chance to win and missed two serves."

In the match, Reyna Lampe and Logan Johnson led Fort Madison at the net with 15 combined kills. Lauren Bailey was 21-22 serving with five aces, 21 assists and had 15 digs, all match-highs for Fort Madison.

In the second and third matches Fort Madison again went into a tiebreaker to get the wins. Kailyn Guzman had seven kills and a block and Nadia Boeding had 29 digs and two aces in the win over Washington. Madison Pirri was 7 of 7 serving with eight digs.

Against Mt. Pleasant, Johnson had a high for the night with 12 kills, a block and nine digs. Bailey was 9-of-9 serving with two aces and 24 assists. She had 71 assists combined on the evening.

"We overcame match points against both Washington and Mount Pleasant to get wins. It was a tough and late night for the players."

The Hounds fall to 7-13 on the year and travel to the Durant tournament on Saturday.

## Ferentz: "Hard to quantify where we're at"

**HAWKEYES** - Continued from Page 1

but the SEC, Big 12, and ACC pressed on. By the time September arrived, there was football and everyone in the Big Ten was wondering why their stadiums were empty and their fields were quiet.

"There's a lot of things that make you really appreciate being able to do what you love doing. And this has been maybe as big of an illustration," Ferentz said. "And quite frankly, whenever it was, August 11th, it didn't look like we were going to have an opportunity to play this fall. Then you put your sights on what's the next best alternative. And at that point it looked like January. Late December or January. So you reset your sights on that a little bit, but this was welcome news certainly and it's just good to be back kind of in a flow, even though it's a different flow. But we're back with our players, that's the most important thing, we're back working together and that's what we all love doing."

The decision to play later in the fall was made because of more reliable testing for the virus and better protocols. Ferentz's clock was off, but so were the clocks of his players, who let down their guard thinking there would be no football for a while.

"When the season got pushed or punted, that clearly affected our football team," Ferentz said. "It was reflected in COVID numbers everywhere in our state, particularly two counties, with kids coming to campus, but I think our guys, their attitude changed. There was really nothing to focus on.

"So to that point you have guys coming out of quarantine all those kind of things and really hard to quantify where we were at. So we really went slow at the start. We really tried to be as cautious as we possibly could, as smart as we possibly could, trying to avoid any injuries that would be avoidable in a normal season. But I do feel like we're starting to catch up right now, I think our work capacity is a little closer to what you would hope for a college football team. And I think our guys' attitudes have been good all the way through it."

It's not going to be an easy season. It has to be a deep roster, because anyone could catch the virus. Whole position groups could be in quarantine if players aren't careful.

The players undergo daily testing — linebacker Nick Niemann called the tests "brain ticklers" — and have to go through the daily protocols to get into Iowa's football building. Their classes are mostly done remotely, which bring different challenges.

But there's a season to be played, even if the stadiums are going to be empty.

"We've got to do that work, I don't know that we're going to get enough before we start playing," Ferentz said. "But that's the way it is, that's the cards that got dealt to us and we'll just try to do our best to get ready."

*John Bohnenkamp is an award winning sports writer and a guest contributor to the Pen City Current*

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## Sports

# Hounds wrap up “crazy” regular season Friday

**BY CHUCK VANDENBERG**  
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – Fort Madison Head Coach Derek Doherty said his second year has been “crazy.”

A regular season that the 2nd-year coach would probably have never imagined when he was picked to lead the Hounds beginning in 2019, wraps up with chance to go 6-1 in a COVID-shortened season.

The Hounds take on Fairfield (1-5) at Richmond Stadium Friday night at 7 p.m. for the final regular season game.

Playoff pairings for the first and second round “pods” will be released at noon Saturday. All teams are eligible for the post season this year, but no delays will be granted for COVID-related health issues at a school.

According to IHSAA guidelines, any team forced to suspend activities will have to file a no contest and if a team wins and then is forced to suspend, it's next round opponent will advance and the team that was defeated remains eliminated.

And even with all those changes due to coronavirus concerns, Doherty has no thought on the subject.

“To be totally transparent – haven't thought about it. I have a fantastic boss in Jeremy Swink and he'll take care of all that stuff. I can't be a hypocrite with the kids and say we were focused on going 1-0 this week, while I'm looking somewhere else.”

Indeed. Doherty also isn't phased by some statewide recognition where the AP has the Bloodhounds listed at No. 11 in Class 3A, and the Des Moines Register has them at No. 10.

He said honest conversations with the Hounds helps keep those lofty nods at bay.

“It's nice. But somebody who doesn't know who we are and isn't at our practices – their opinion truly doesn't matter,” he said.

“And that's not meant to be negative at all, they just aren't in our program. The recognition is

nice, but we've been on the other side of it and we've gone in to play ranked teams, and we tell the kids that team still has to play us.

“No one's putting Fort Madison on a pedestal and we've been pounding that into our kids' heads that we have to show up with our A game every single week.”

That A game will get a full test this week with a young Trojans team coming into town with one of the district's top quarterbacks in Isaac Harris.

Just a sophomore, Harris has managed to account for 12 overall touchdowns, 11 through the air. Six of those have gone to another sophomore in wideout Max Wheaton. But senior Brody Angstead may be

the more explosive option averaging 35 yards per catch with two TDs.

Doherty said he doesn't expect a 1-5 Trojan team on Friday, but a team that has improved every week and has a history of success in southeast Iowa.

“Fairfield is tradition rich and they have athletes. They are getting better week by week and they'll be a tough test for us,” Doherty said.

“They have nothing to lose and we've been in that position. Everybody is 0-0 this week.”

Harris has completed just under 36% of his passes for 736 yards and has been picked off eight times.

An jumpy Hounds secondary will be looking to jump those routes, but Doherty said after last



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Calem Maclearn (24) waits on a screen pass from Bloodhound quarterback Landes Williams (4) in Friday's 44-7 win over Mt. Pleasant. The Hounds take on Fairfield at 7 p.m. on Jim Youel Field in the final regular game of the season.

Friday's 44-7 win over Mt. Pleasant. Fort Madison has some tightening up to do.

“We got caught last week quite a few times.

Mt. Pleasant threw on us for way more yards than we were happy about,” he said.

“We need to tighten things up in the sec-

ondary and get back to hunting things down, but I think these guys are ready for that challenge.”

Most of the Trojans See **HOUNDS**, page 10

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**PUBLIC NOTICES**

**PUBLIC NOTICE  
FORT MADISON  
COMMUNITY SCHOOL  
DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
SPECIAL MEETING  
October 12, 2020  
6:00 P.M.**

**AGENDA**

- Call meeting to order and determination of a quorum
- Approve the agenda
- Consider approval of revised school calendar for 2020-2021
- VI. Announcements  
October 19, 2020 6:00 PM, Regular Meeting, Board Room, Central Office
- November 2, 2020 6:00 PM, Work Session, Board Room, Central Office
- November 16, 2020 6:00 PM, Regular Meeting, Board Room, Central Office
- VII. Adjourn

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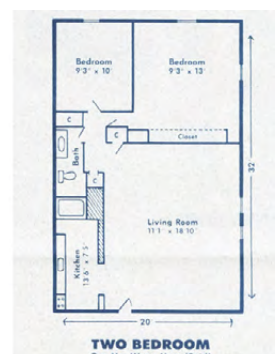
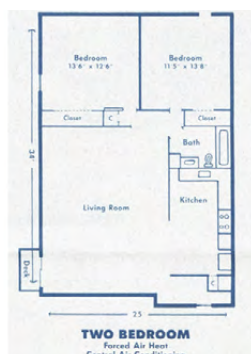
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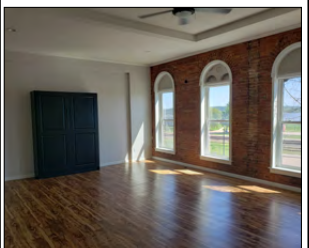
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## Current-Lee/Iowa News

### CURRENT-LEE

The following is a list of upcoming events and gatherings in North Lee County.

#### 2020 YMCA Trunk or Treat

The Fort Madison YMCA's annual Trunk or Treat will be held on Oct. 23 at Baxter Sports Complex. This year's event will be a drive through event to allow for social distancing. Business will have cars in the parking lot to hand out goodies to goblins from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Set up is from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. Spots can be reserved by calling the Y at 319-372-2403 ext 1 or by email at [ryan.wilson@fortmadison.org](mailto:ryan.wilson@fortmadison.org)

#### CrimeStoppers No Tricks Just Treats

The Burlington Theater will be showcasing a series of online skits beginning on Sept. 24, with Mother Goose Interrupted: This Little Piggy. Future presentations will include a musical cabaret, a reader's theater, throwback tributes and a Christmas Show. For more information log onto the Facebook page or the PWT website at [www.playersworkshoptheater.com](http://www.playersworkshoptheater.com).

#### Montrose Cemetery Cleanup

All plastic flowers that are in the ground must be picked up by Nov. 1. After that date they will be discarded. In addition Memorial Day flowers will now have to be picked up no later than two weeks after the holiday.

#### Halloween Dinner and Comedy

The Kingsley Inn will be featuring a Halloween Dinner and Comedy on Oct. 31 beginning at with a social hour at 5 p.m., dinner at 6 p.m, with the show starting at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$20 per person and can be booked in advance by texting 309-221-9803

#### Hitchcock in Old Settler's Park

The Old Fort Players will be presenting three Hitchcock shorts plays in Old Settler's Park on Sunday, Oct. 11 (Rain date Oct. 18). Concessions will be available for sale. No tickets will be sold, but a free will offering will be collected. We ask that you generously support Old Fort Players as they work hard to keep paying the bills.

#### FM Beggar's Night

The traditional Beggar's Night will be held on Oct. 31 from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. in Old Settler's Park and the citywide beggar's night will follow from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Vendors will be handing our candy with food and drink specials at the safe event.

#### Montrose Trick or Treat

The Montrose City Treak or Treat will be held on Saturday, Oct. 31 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Halloween guidance from the Iowa Department of Public Health can be found at <https://idph.iowa.gov/Emerging-Health-Issues/Novel-Coronavirus/Public>.

#### Lighted Parade Work Nights

Work nights for the Fort Madison Lighted Parade are on Monday nights beginning at 5:30 p.m. at the Warehouse at 12th Street and Avenue I.

#### Drive Thru Job Fair

On Wednesday, Oct. 21st from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. the Baxter Sports Complex Parking Lot at 909 48th Street will be the site of a unique drive thru job fair experience where job seekers will be able to pick up packets of information about jobs hiring now and local resources in our communities. Register by contacting Dana at [dmillard@leecountyedg.com](mailto:dmillard@leecountyedg.com) or Deb at [debra.fox@iwd.iowa.gov](mailto:debra.fox@iwd.iowa.gov).

## State weekly jobless claims continue to fall

DES MOINES - The number of initial claims in Iowa, filed between Sunday, Sept. 27, and Saturday, Oct. 3, was 4,730. There were 4,139 initial claims by individuals who work and live in Iowa, and 591 claims by individuals who work in Iowa and live in another state. The number of continuing weekly unemployment claims for Sept. 27 - Oct. 3 was 51,666, a decrease of 6,753 from the previous week.

Unemployment insurance benefit payments totaled \$14,767,817.35 for the week of Sept. 27 - Oct. 3. The following industries had the most claims:

- Manufacturing (959)
- Industry Not Available - Self-employed, Independent Contractors, etc (926)
- Health Care & Social Assistance (374)
- Construction (344)
- Retail Trade (294)

A total of \$3,511,200.00 in Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC) benefits was paid during the week of Sept. 27 - Oct. 3, 2020 which were retroactive payments as the program ended July 25, 2020. Since April 4, 2020, a total of \$1,611,479,743.00 in FPUC benefits has been paid.

A total of \$4,264,291.55 was paid in Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) benefits during the week of Sept. 27 - Oct. 3, 2020. Since April 13, 2020, a total of \$124,687,223.89 in PUA benefits has been paid.

A total of \$6,856,590.42 in benefits has been paid in Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) benefits for the week of Sept. 27 - Oct. 3, 2020. Since May 27, 2020, a total of \$85,511,060.46 in PEUC benefits have been paid.

A total of \$1,208,553.49 in benefits has been paid in State Extended Benefits for the week of Sept. 27 - Oct. 3, 2020. Since July 21, 2020, a total of \$9,901,244.26 in Extended Benefits have been paid.



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as they make their minds up to be.”**

— Abraham Lincoln

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## From the Front

# Candidate says vacancies should be filled by election

**COUNCIL** - Continued from Page 1

“One thousand percent. This should go in front of the voters,” she said in a call to the Pen City Current Thursday.

The Illinois native grew up in Illinois and moved to Fort Madison 15 years ago and now owns and operates the Yuppy Puppy Pet Parlor in Fort Madison.

Amandus has served on the city’s Board of Adjustments and most recently helped spearhead the creation of the Canine Corral dog park by Rodeo Park.

“I had thought about running before, but I had a couple businesses and I have a teenager, but I made the decision just yesterday and I’ve already had some really good feedback,” she said.

She said she hasn’t heard of anyone else in the ward interested in the position, but said now that she’s out there, others will probably follow.

Amandus said her time on the Board of Adjustments taught her a lot about the city and its residents, and she’s worried about some issues facing the city.

“We need to bring businesses here to help us grow and I’ve been worried about the city budget

from the moment we got that highway,” she said

“We got that money and my first thought was, ‘Well, that sounds like a lot, but when you think about how much money it takes to maintain even a small stretch of highway, I was worried we weren’t going to have enough or we would move it to the general fund, and that seems to be the path we’re on.”

She also said she’s not sold on the franchise tax yet, but would like to get in and get some more details.

“If we have to we have to, but we can’t keep doing this,” she said. “We’ve got to stop the bleeding and figure out how to turn things around. We have to work together, pool resources and see what we can do.”

Bringing Fort Madison back to the vibrant town it once was and charging up tourism for the area, are top priorities she said.

“We have a beautiful river town that we could get so much tourism coming to. We’re not putting the money into it. We have to work hard to go after funding to promote our town,” she said.

She was happy to hear

that Mayor Matt Mohrfeld is asking for comprehensive plans from departments and boards and said that is the right step to turning things around.

“I love the fact that Mohrfeld asked for a 5-year plan from the park board. They are volunteers that have given countless hours trying to make our city better and our parks a place where people even want to come from other towns.”

Amandus likes the current make up of the council and thinks she could be another new fresh set of eyes.

“I’m thrilled that were getting the Rebeccas (Bowker) of the world to come on, and Mark Lair has always been a guy that I can talk to,” she said.

“That’s the kind of council person I want to be. I will be accessible and I won’t miss a meeting. If I say I’m going to do something, I’m going to do it.”

The city currently plans to make the appointments at the Nov. 17, meeting. City Clerk Melinda Blind said the city plans on publishing its intent at the end of October.

# More than 30 businesses involved in Sheriff’s Safe Trick or Treat

**TRICK OR TREAT** - Continued from Page 1

department was out of the question,

“At first Stacy and I had talked and we realized we had outgrown the sheriff’s office. We had talked about a new venue, and with COVID-19 restrictions we thought the Fairgrounds would be a middle ground in the county.”

The event is now set to take place as a drive-thru trick or treat at the Lee County Fairgrounds on Sunday, Oct. 25 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

LeMaster said kids will have to stay in their cars, but there will be plenty to keep them entertained. And the whole event has the seal of approval from the Lee County Health Department.

“They came out with Stacy this week and looked over what we are planning to do and they were very impressed with the program. They are even coming out to be a part of it,” she said.

Businesses have come out to support the event more than ever, LeMaster said. There has been such an overwhelming response that businesses are being asked out on Monday, Oct. 12 to pick

out a spot along the route.

“But we have room for more. We will always make room for more people to come and be a part of this event.”

She said children and adults alike need some sense of normalcy and this is the closest they can get this year to a normal event.

“2020 has been such a crappy and awful year. These kids, and let’s be honest, as adults, we need something happy and kind of normal. Even though this isn’t traditional, it’s as traditional as we can make it.”

Weber said the event couldn’t go on without the support of so many.

“The Lee County Sheriff’s Office is looking forward to a safe and enjoyable Halloween event for the county’s children,” he said.

“We appreciate the assistance from our county Health Department and the private businesses and citizens who generously donated to assure this event is one for the memory books.”

LeMaster said there will be a movie playing as the families drive in and then there will be some skits, all the candy being

handed out in full personal protective equipment, popcorn, hot dogs, and a bottle of water at the end.

“I’m so excited about getting to do it this year. I look forward to it every year, but being able to put it on again this year is really special.”

Anyone interested in being a part of the event can call the sheriff’s office at 319-372-1152.

The following businesses are already participating in the free event: AC Contracting, Axalta, BTR, Casey’s Fort Madison (East), Conn Communications, Connection Bank, Dollar General (Donnellson), Farm Bureau Keokuk, Iowa Fertilizer Co., Fox Theater, Heaton Excavation, Hy-Vee Fort Madison and Keokuk, Kempker True Value Rental, Keokuk Contractors, KHQA, Krebill Seed, Larry and Connie Kelch, Laura Wills, Lee County Bank, Lee County Fair Board, Lee County Speedway, Midwest Honda, Optimae, Rairden’s, Shearers, Sonny’s Supermarket, Southern Iowa Recycle, SubArena, Two Rivers Grain Inspection, Pilot Grove Savings Bank, You’re Heat and Air Guy.

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# Prevention 101

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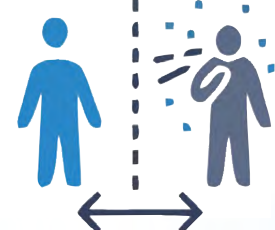
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## WASH UP



Wash your hands like your life depended on it! Wash frequently touched surfaces often.

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Being in close contact (less than 6') with others whether inside or outside more easily spreads the virus. Avoid large gatherings or crowded places.

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## Sports/From the Front

## Playoff pairings will be released on Saturday at noon

**HOUNDS** - Continued from Page 5

yards on the ground have come from Payton Cline, who has 229 yards on 91 carries. Fairfield has just two rushing scores, one from Harris and the other from senior Landen Schafer.

Sophomore Aiden Lyons anchors the defense patrolling in the secondary with 33 total tackles, 28 of those are solo. Lyons will blitz off the corners occasionally and has four tackles for loss. But the Trojans have just one sack on the year.

The Hounds are coming off one of their most complete wins of the year. Senior Calem Maclearn ran for 158 yards last week with a 13-plus yard per carry average.

"The way he runs is a lot of fun to watch," Doherty said.

"Sometimes he looks out of control but that kid is so athletic. He changes direction well and is hard to get a hold of. You're not going to get him with an arm tackle."

Maclearn and quarterback Landes Williams lead the Hound rushing attack each with about 270 yards on the year. Williams has seven touchdown throws in just three starts with just one interception and has

seven rushing scores.

Doherty said the offense is where he had hoped it would be earlier in the season.

"For two or three weeks in a row our offense was just missing. We knew we were close and we were waiting for execution. Now that they have it, it's fun, but you have to continuously do that in all three phases of football."

Senior Brock Califf and junior Tate Johnson both are closing on 200 yards receiving on the year. Califf had a TD reception last week his first, but Johnson has five scores on the year. Slot receiver Will Larson is also becoming a favorite target of Williams with touchdown grabs in both of the last two games.

Keaton Poe, Levy Lowney and Tanner Settles continue to provide key stops on defense. Poe is tops in the district with four sacks and second in tackles with 39.5. Lowney and Settles are each averaging more than five tackles per outing.

"We get to the football and we talk as many hats to the ball as possible. We have guys that live that," Doherty said.

"Drill carryover is a phenomenal thing for a

coach. These guys have a thirst on either side of the ball, but on the defensive side, they're a different breed."

The Hounds have been solid on special teams all year with two special teams scores, and four blocked kicks. Sophomore Xander Wellman has been consistent with his leg and has hit 21 of 23 PATS and 4 of 7 field goals including three last week.

"We have pretty good chance at points when he goes in. He takes his job seriously and it doesn't matter how far out we are - if we ask, he wants it," Doherty said.

Doherty said with the regular season wrapping up Friday, he never thought the state would allow all the games this year.

"Now that were into the season and the state made some changes and said we'd play a seven-game season, I remember thinking 'we're not going to get a single game in' and here we are," he said.

"It's just crazy, we just told the guys the other night, we're super happy with them and so proud of them for being proactive and not being reactive. These guys have had curve balls thrown at them week after week, and day after day."

## FMHS building team takes Carl A. Nelson challenge

**BUILDERS** - Continued from Page 1

two teams from Fort Madison High School. The event typically includes five schools with teams rotating through a series of skill stations, but was scaled back in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The first-place team from Fort Madison High School, led by instructor Clint Kobelt, included Owen Kruse, Kane Williams and Trey Edwards. It was the third win in four years, and the second in a row, by an FMHS team.

Students spread out on the Carl A. Nelson & Company grounds to construct steel angle platforms with wood stairs. Skills being demonstrated included welding, carpentry, figuring stairs and cutting stringers.

The annual program also brought high school students into direct contact with local professionals in the construction industry to learn about career opportunities in fields such as the construction trades.

The prize for first-place was a \$400 Lowe's gift card to support the school's construction trades program, while each team member received a new 35-foot tape measure. All participants received a Carl A. Nelson & Company 2020 Skills Challenge hooded sweatshirt. Students and teachers also were treated to lunch.

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Construction Week 2020, which is held annually during the first full week of October, is sponsored by Master Builders of Iowa. To learn more, visit [mbi.build](http://mbi.build).

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