

PEN CITY CURRENT

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

Monday, January 25, 2021 | 9 pages | Volume 5 • Issue 25



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LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Elected officials talk EMS services, education, vaccines

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – Education, COVID vaccines, and ambulance services topped discussions at the first legislative forum in Lee County for 2021.

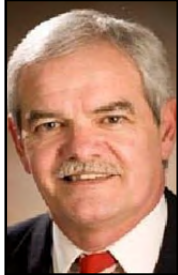
State Reps. Joe Mitchell (District 84, R-Wayland), Martin Graber (Dist 83, R-Fort Madison) and State Sen. Jeff Reichman (Dist. 42, R-Montrose) met with about 25 people during a virtual legislative update Friday sponsored by the Fort Madison and Keokuk Area Chambers of Commerce.



MITCHELL

Graber and Reichman are both freshman to the state legislature after being elected in the November general election. Mitchell is beginning his second term.

Mitchell said the first week is mostly ceremonial, but said the state is starting the session on solid financial footing due to state's leadership and budgeting practices.



GRABER

"I don't think we're going to have to make any cuts anywhere. I'm very optimistic about the session," Mitchell said.

Reichman and Martin both said the first eight days in session have been around training and getting to know the caucus and pressing issues in front of the state.



REICHMAN

One of the discussion items Friday focused on additional state support for ambulance services making them essential services. As Lee County moves toward a July 1 takeover of the county's ambulance service, creating a supplemental funding stream from the state could enhance the county's services, while reducing the taxpayer burden locally.

Mitchell said he was upset when the bill was pulled from the floor last summer. State Senator Jake Chapman, the newly elected President of the Senate and part of the leadership team last session, is an EMT and is currently the Chief Operating Officer of his family's private ambulance service in Des Moines.

Mitchell, and former State Sen. Rich Taylor and former State Rep. Jeff Kurtz, said they were all surprised by the Republican leadership's pulling of the bill at the last minute last summer.

"We left in June and I started getting calls from hos-

See **UPDATE**, page 9



Courtesy Photo

Royalty

Holy Trinity Catholic elected seniors Chandler Rung and Bailey Hellweg as Homecoming King and Queen Saturday night.



Popcorn has deep value in COVID world

I miss going to the movies.

I wanna see the epic-reboot Top Gun: Maverick. I had something else ready for this week's column but my daughter and I got in a short dispute over the value of popcorn and it got me thinking buckets of tender buttered popcorn, and the inevitable flossing that follows.

Yeah, the value of popcorn.

Sometimes I think I'd pay the \$15 to get in to a theater just for the chance to pay more for the popcorn. Even when you're not hungry... you know – dinner and a movie? But you walk in the doors and it hits you right in the back of the sinuses. Buttered hot popcorn.

I know the theaters are back open, but

See **MOVIES**, page 3

EMPTY NEST

No harm, no foul becomes just a little foul

I used to go on long runs on Sunday mornings. This was when we lived in Windsor, Colorado. I'd start off from our front porch and run east and north on the highways to Severance, population 325 and home of Bruce's Bar (another story), then back west and south for home, jiggity jog. It was the old Windsor Half Marathon course (13.1 miles) and was a good combination of gently rolling hills and fast flats. The Windsor Half Marathon was the first race I ever ran, so it was a friendly reminder of where my running started. During that race I passed up our family doctor and thought, "Humph, beat my doc."

Early morning long runs can be rewarding and full of surprises. Anywho, the way back into town was a

EMPTY NEST

By Curt Swarm



nice downhill, and if the wind was at my back, I'd pop out the imaginary sail and glide into town. I was on the Windsor Volunteer Fire Department, and I would often see one of my fire department buddies on the highway. I could tell his

blue Dodge Ram pick-up truck a mile away. If he was coming toward me, I would pretend I was jumping out in front of him and he would swerve like he was going to hit me. It was just a friendly, "howdy," no harm no foul.

I was seeing a chiropractor then and he cured me of life-long migraine headaches. It was like a miracle. No, it was a miracle. I'd been to every medical doctor and specialist and taken every test in the book and

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WEATHER

MON 25 Jan.....Snow, 32° F/ 28° F
 TUE 26 Jan.....Snow, 31° F/ 20° F
 WED 27 Jan.....Light Snow, 28° F/ 17° F

IOWA LOTTERY

LOTTO AMERICA 01/23.....10 15 20 34 42, Star Ball: 6, All Star Bonus: 3
 LUCKY FOR LIFE 01/21.....11 15 26 34 47, Lucky Ball: 15
 MEGA MILLIONS 01/22.....4 26 42 50 60, Mega Ball: 24 Megaplier: 2
 PICK 3 01/21, 01/22, 01/23 MIDDAY.....6 0 7, 3 8 6, 2 1 7
 PICK 3 01/21, 01/22, 01/23 EVENING.....6 5 6, 9 2 1, 5 2 2
 PICK 4 01/21, 01/22, 01/23 MIDDAY.....3 8 3 7, 8 5 8 7, 5 0 1 8
 PICK 4 01/21, 01/22, 01/23 EVENING.....8 3 1 1, 0 6 1 0, 4 2 4 5
 POWERBALL 01/23.....5 8 1 7 2 7 2 8, Powerball: 14, Power Play: 3

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Obituaries

MICHAEL J. JACOBSMEIER

Michael J. Jacobsmeier, 70, of Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, passed away at 5:41 p.m. Thursday, January 21, 2021 at Mercy Hospital in Iowa City.

He was born on October 12, 1950 in Fort Madison, Iowa, the son of Joseph and Irene (Joachim) Jacobsmeier. On October 25, 1992 he married Linda Lamborn. She preceded him in death on July 30, 2011.

Survivors include one son: Zachary (Allison) Jacobsmeier of Shorewood, Wisconsin; mother, Irene Jacobsmeier of Salem, Iowa; one daughter: Kayla (Clint) Scott of Waukee, Iowa; five grandchildren: Nolan Andersen, Elijah Jacobsmeier, Emmitt Jacobsmeier, Payton Shinofield and Avery Scott; three sisters: Pat (Richard) Hatfield of Houghton, Iowa, Jane (Randy) Morrow of Mt. Pleasant, Iowa and Angie Kruse of Burlington, Iowa. Also surviving are nieces and nephews: Chris Hatfield, Ryan Hatfield, Ashley Kruse, Jacob Morrow and Jesse Morrow, Max Jacobsmeier.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents; father: Joseph; wife: Linda; son: Isaac; brother: Tony and brother-in-

law: Don Kruse.

Mike was a United States Army Vietnam Veteran. He worked for the Lee County Secondary Roads for over thirty years until his retirement. He was a member of the Farmington American Legion. He was an avid Iowa Hawkeyes and St. Louis Cardinals fan and enjoyed gardening, hunting, fishing, being outdoors and visiting with others.

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

A Graveside Memorial Service will be held Friday, January 29, 2021 at Keokuk National Cemetery in Keokuk with full military rites presented by the Farmington American Legion Richardson - Anthony Post #231.

A memorial has been established in his memory and can be mailed to the family at: Schmitz Funeral Home, P.O. Box 22, West Point, Iowa 52656.

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



JACOBSMEIER

GREGORY V. ZUMDOME

Gregory V. Zumdome, 63, of Ft. Madison passed away on Saturday, January 23, 2021 at 12:38 PM at the Montrose Health Center.

He was born on April 24, 1957 in Ft. Madison to Vincent and Jeneale McIntosh Zumdome. Greg was a member of Sacred Heart Church and the Izaak Walton League. He enjoyed picking up nickel cans. Greg and his Mom enjoyed traveling and he especially like going on rides in the fall and looking at the leaves.

Survivors include six brothers, Jody (Darla) Zum-

dome of Montrose, Mark (Carol) Zumdome of Nauvoo, Tim (Patty) Zumdome of Ft. Madison, Walt (Geraldine) Zumdome of Ft. Madison, John (Dianne) Zumdome of Ft. Madison and Robert Zumdome of Estes Park, CO; numerous nieces, nephews, great nieces and great nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents and grandparents.

A graveside service will be held on Tuesday, January 26, 2021 at 10 AM at Sacred Heart Cemetery. He will be buried next to his parents. King-Lynk Funeral Home is assisting the family. A memorial has been established for PAW Animal Shelter and online condolences may be left at www.kinglynk.com.



ZUMDOME

OBITUARIES

JOSHUA R. ANDERSON

Joshua Ryan Anderson, 41 years, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa and formerly of Denmark, Iowa died unexpectedly January 20, 2021 at his home in Cedar Rapids. He was born November 25, 1979, the son of Gerald J. and



ANDERSON

Nancy (Grossman) Anderson.

Josh was a 1998 graduate of Fort Madison High School. He attended the University of Arizona and later the University of Iowa, where he studied music performance. He worked for US Cellular for several years. Josh had a lifelong love of music, linguistics, and history.

He is survived by two sisters, Tami (Aaron) Schumann of Mt. Pleasant, Iowa and Tennelle Anderson (David Kuhn) of Woodbury, Minnesota; and nieces, nephews, uncles, and cousins. He was preceded in death by his parents, grandparents, and one cousin.

Private burial will be at Denmark Cemetery, Denmark. A memorial has been established, contributions may be made directly to Barr Memorial Chapel, 1919 Ave F, Fort Madison, Iowa 52627. Barr Memorial Chapel is honored to serve the Anderson family and an online guest book may be found at www.barrmemorial-chapel.com.

Pen City Current obituary policy

The 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.

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Lee County News/From the Front

Movies, backyard dinners are what we are missing the most

MOVIES - Continued from Page 1

only my wife has received what the social media universe is now calling the "Fauci Ouchie".

She's only had it a couple days, and my daughter and I still choose to stay close to home until things are a bit safer. I don't think we'll fit any tier until this summer so it's masks and social distancing for us until that time.

But the big screen is the only place I want to watch Top Gun: Maverick. I'll take the leather chairs that warm your butt, and the Dolby sound. To be honest, I like to go about 20 minutes early, get a center seat, and shut my eyes.

I'm sure it's relatively safe if you're seated with immediate family, wearing a mask, and sitting at least six feet away from anyone else. I think they're required to space everyone out. Honestly, I wish they'd do that anyway.

It may be time to start safely doing some of those things we've been missing. We were talking just today that we haven't gone out to eat in more than six months. Sure we've done the drive thru and deliveries, but sitting down for dinner, having an Old Fashioned for dessert, while picking at your wife's blonde brownie, and the conversations that bring laughter are all

part of families' mental scrapbooks.

All these things are coming back sooner than later, even though now it's much later than any of us wanted. But remember to cherish those times when they do finally arrive. Don't push it though. Be safe and follow health guidelines.

I follow friends on Facebook who are getting out and enjoying life as much as possible. I'm a little jealous of that, even though there is nothing stopping me except my own limitations. My sense of right and wrong just tell me that it isn't right yet.

But summer baseball will be back at Community Field and I rather enjoy the sound of wooden bats and decently priced beer. I hope to check that out this year as well.

I need to get back to dinners on mom's back porch with "all the boys", bowls of strawberries, cottage cheese, Sterzings and french onion dip, and whatever one of us pulls off the grill. The stories are as treasured as the memories they make.

My mom is 72 years old, and for those of you who read regularly, I was a little miffed that all our state legislators were offered vaccines before she was, (even before the state very quietly tried to slip government officials and staff doing business at the Iowa Capitol ahead of Iowa seniors between the ages of 65-74).

What a load.

The state made the right move in putting those seniors back in front of the rest of the staff at the Capitol. Be clear, however, legislators have already been offered that vaccine, including the three local legislators Joe Mitchell, Jeff Reichman, and Martin Graber. All three said on Friday they deferred getting the vaccination until Iowa's seniors had been taken care of.

Well done, guys.

But mom's days with her boys and their families on the back porch are what brings smiles to her face. It makes the loneliness that has become a hallmark of matriarchs in our family tree bearable.

My intention is to keep everyone as safe as possible until we can get together without worrying about her getting this virus and not being able to fight it off, although she raised four boys, and beat cancer.

She's tougher than most. She's tougher than me.

So hang in there, folks. Memories are returning, Maverick's coming (that really should've been the Iceman cometh).

And don't forget the red vines. But that's Beside the Point.

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

LCHD issues vaccine appointment reminder

LEE COUNTY - LCHD would like to remind everyone that we are only taking contact information for future appointment scheduling for those 65 years of age and older during our agency business hours from 8 am to 4:30 pm Monday-Friday only.

Our after hour on-call phone service is for emergency use for our Home Health and Hospice clients and 24/7 emergency public health reporting requirements. The nurse on-call for these programs will not take information related to vaccine scheduling or future appointments.

Please only call our COVID 19 established phone line at 319-376-1077 during our business hours M-F only.

West Point woman wins 100K in Iowa scratch game

CLIVE, Iowa — A southeast Iowa woman has won a \$100,000 lottery prize.

Valencia Kassmeyer of West Point won the first top prize in the Iowa Lottery's new "25X" scratch game. She bought her winning ticket at MOD Convenience Store, 1531 Ave. H in Fort Madison, and claimed her prize Thursday at lottery headquarters in Clive.

Ribbing on run turns ugly for chiropractor

SWARM - Continued from Page 1

they hadn't even diagnosed the headaches as "migraine." In fact, they had told me the problem was, "In my head." Ha ha, get it? The chiro wouldn't accept this and kept working and working, even using acupuncture, until the migraines just disappeared. After this, I stopped calling him a "chiroquacker" and we became fast friends.

I was in his office one afternoon and he was white as a sheet. I asked him what was the matter, and he said someone had just tried to kill him. He was a jogger also, and liked to run during his lunch break. He had been running along, he said, and some maniac in a blue pick-up truck tried to run him over. He had to dive into the ditch. He said the look on the driver's face was the look of murder. He could see the gleam in his eye. He reported the incident to the sheriff, but there was nothing that could be done without a license number.

The story had a certain ring to it, but I didn't make the connection. That night, however, at the fire department meeting, my fire department buddy said he had something to tell me. He had been driving along and he saw someone who he thought was me running toward him. He swerved at the jogger, and the jogger dived into the ditch. His wife was with him and she hollered, "That's not Curt!" Uh, oh. He drove off feeling silly.

I told him that was my chiropractor and I had just been in to see him that afternoon, and he told me someone had tried to kill him. My fire department buddy and I realized we'd better stop playing our little game. I told him I would explain it to the chiropractor and my buddy asked me to apologize for him.

I went to the chiropractor and told him the story, about how my buddy and I liked to play chicken when I was out jogging, and that he had swerved at someone he thought was me, and the person dived into the ditch.

The chiro didn't believe me and said, "No, the look on this guy's face was a look I will never forget. It was the look of murder and he was, without a doubt, trying to get me."

I never did convince the chiro otherwise. However, I stopped jumping out in front of vehicles, and my fire department buddy stopped swerving at joggers. The chiropractor had cured me of migraine headaches, and I cured him of jogging at noon. He put white sunblock on his nose anyway, and it made him look stupid.

Have a good story? Call or text Curt Swarm in Mt. Pleasant at 319-217-0526, email him at curtswarm@yahoo.com or visit his website at www.empty-nest-words-photos-and-frames.com.

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Sports

Win over Keokuk gives Lady Hounds 12 in a row

BY JOHN BOHNENKAMP
PCC SPORTS

FORT MADISON – Fort Madison High School's girls basketball team has learned how to win close games.

The Bloodhounds' head coach would rather the games wouldn't be as tight as they've been.

"They're making them too dang close for me," Sargent joked after Friday's 40-36 home win over Keokuk. "I told them in the locker room, I'm 66, I can't take much more of this."

He'll take them, though, if it means the Bloodhounds can win a Southeast Conference title.

Fort Madison (13-1 overall, 6-1 conference) swept the season series against Keokuk (5-6, 3-2). The Bloodhounds face Fairfield at home next Friday — the Trojans are the only other one-loss team in conference play, and that defeat came to Fort Madison on Monday.

"It was a great win for us," Sargent said of Friday's victory. "Now we need to get Fairfield, and then keep getting conference wins. That was our first goal this year — win the conference."

Fort Madison held Keokuk scoreless in the second quarter, and led 35-25 at the end of three quarters. But the Bloodhounds only scored five fourth-quarter points, but the key points came in the final 1:30.

Camille Kruse's layup gave Fort Madison a 38-36 lead. Keokuk had two possessions in which it could have tied or taken the lead, but missed shots both time, the second miss a Kayde Martin 3-point attempt from the corner with nine seconds left.

Malarie Ross hit two free throws with four seconds to play for the final margin.

"It was getting a little bit too close for me," Sargent said. "We struggle really bad when we get up by 10 and then let it go."

Fort Madison trailed 14-11 after the first quarter, but then the Bloodhounds blanked the Chiefs for a 19-14 halftime edge.

"I think we were getting back better," Sargent said. "Early on, they were pushing the ball hard. We weren't getting back as good as we should have in the first



Keith Gillett/PCC Sports

The Hounds' Molly Knipe (11) goes up for a bucket inside as Keokuk's Kayde Martin defends from behind and Nadia Boeding (2) looks on.

quarter." Kruse led Fort Madison with 11 points. Ross and Brandy Walker each had nine points. Irelynd Sargent had eight points, seven in the second half.

Abby Wolter led Keokuk with 14 points.

Sargent may not like the closeness of the victories, but he'll take it.

"I think it shows how fast this program has moved forward," he said. "The girls believe in themselves."

Wisemans medal at Winger Classic

Gavin Wiseman 7th at 138 lbs, Henry Wiseman 7th at 106, and Owen Kruse takes 8th at 126.

PCC SPORTS

URBANDALE – Gavin and Henry Wiseman captured 7th place at the Ed Winger Classic in Urbandale Saturday afternoon, as Fort Madison sent a small contingent to face some of the toughest wrestlers in the state.

Gavin Wiseman, rated 10th in the state in Class 3A at 138 lbs earned seventh place with a win over Lewis Central's Brian Paul by fall 15 seconds into the third period.

The win wiped out a 6-4 decision by Paul in the first round that sent Wiseman into the consolation bracket. In that match Wiseman suffered a take-down 30 seconds into the third period, and scored a reversal out of the move, but couldn't rack any additional points. Paul escaped with 17 seconds left in the match to set the 6-4 decision.

Wiseman went 4-1 on the day with three pins.

Younger brother Henry Wiseman also took 7th place with tight 2-0 decision over Payton Bright of Ankeny Centennial. Wiseman almost got the fall with 30 seconds left in the second period, but Bright was able to maneuver out of the hold.

The nearfall was all Wiseman would need to get the medal. Wiseman advanced in the first round with a bye and the suffered a major decision to Drew Metcalf of North Scott 12-2.

In his first consolation match Wiseman scored a reversal with 1:04 left in the third period to tie his match with Remington Fry of PCM Monroe, but Fry would get the freshman to the mat with 0:48 in the first overtime period for the sudden victory 8-6 win.

Wiseman would get another bye in the next consolation and then take down Bright.

Owen Kruse, took 8th place at 126 lbs. The senior slid into the quarterfinals with a quick pin over Landon McManus of Ames in the first period. That landed Kruse up against the No. 2 126 lb wrestler in the state in Bettendorf's Dustin Bohren. The junior got Kruse to the mat at the 1 minute mark and then worked the pin 33 seconds later.

Kruse dropped his first consolation match to 132 lb. No 7 Connor Kelly of Waukee wrestling down a class at the Invite. Kruse scored two escapes in the first two periods, but trailed 7-2 to start the 3rd. Kruse got a takedown with :23 left in the match, but Kelley would escape for the 8-4 win.

Kruse would score a pin in his next consolation match and then fall to Jack Lewis of Southeast Polk 16-10 in the match for 7th place. Kruse trailed 9-6 going into the final period, but Lewis racked up five in the early going of the 3rd to put a stamp on the win.

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Sports

HTC boys just miss upset over WB on Homecoming

**BY CHUCK
ANDENBERG**
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – The HTC boys locker room was upbeat after a 56-52 overtime loss to West Burlington Friday night at Shottenkirk Gymnasium.

Head Coach John Hellige said he couldn't be more proud of the way his team has been playing, but wins in recent close games have been elusive.

The Crusaders (6-6 SEISC, and 8-8 overall) have lost their last three games by a total of 14 points, including a two-point loss to crosstown Fort Madison last Saturday.

Hellige said the morale of the team is still strong.

"I think it's good. We weren't down in the locker room at all. When you think about West Burlington – super tough 2A team just two losses on the year and we went up there in early December and they absolutely annihilated us," Hellige said. "We weren't even in the gym with those guys six weeks ago."

The Crusaders lost 74-43 to the Falcons back on Dec. 11 in West Burlington.

"You saw tonight just how far this team has come. There's no such thing as a moral victory, but what we take from this is we played 36 minutes of tough, hard-nosed gritty basketball, and stood toe-to-toe with one of the best teams, if not the best team in the conference," he said.

Hellige has been talking about the team's toughness in a school without its own football program. But the Crusaders came out physical and quick and

put the Falcons on their heels early.

Senior Chandler Rung set the tone that the game wouldn't be just about HTC leading scorer Vasin Thurman working against West Burlington's 6-5 post Marvion Jackson.

Rung scored twice penetrating from the left side and Kaden Medland added a 3-ball in the early going to get HTC out in front 7-2.

The Falcons struggled finding the rim in the first converting just 2 of 9 from the field and trailed 7-12 at the end of one.

West Burlington would cut the lead to one at 12-11 when Kaysean Rice scored on a floater. The Falcons would miss the next nine attempts from the floor as HTC opened up a 24-14 lead.

Thurman would score three times moving around Jackson and Ethan Eilers in the paint, and Jason Thurman would add a couple free throws before the break.

Senior Darian Johnson, who finished with 15 points, 11 in the fourth quarter, would get a bucket to cut the lead to eight at 24-16 early in the third. Then the Crusaders would hit a cold spell.

HTC would miss six of their next seven as the Falcon's chopped away at the lead including a 7-0 run to get within three at 24-21.

Brady Martin would bury a 3-ball from the right baseline with 1:52 left in the third to get the game within a possession at 28-26 HTC. Rung would score again sliding in the left side on a floater from about three feet, and Hellige would call a time out up by four.

HTC would get another stop and Rung would again convert on a short jumper from the right side, but Jackson would answer scoring on spin in the lane falling down. After a WB stop, Colton Sherwood would lace a 3-pointer in front of the HTC fans to make it a one-point game 32-31 at the end of the three.

The fourth would be a seesaw battle with six ties or lead changes and Rung scoring 10 of the Crusaders 15 including two free throws with 1:02 left in regulation to give Holy Trinity a 47-44 led.

But Sherwood got some space six seconds later for a 3-pointer to knot things up a 47-47. Vasin Thurman, who finished as the top scorer on the night with 21, drove the lane in heavy traffic with about 12 seconds on the clock and had the ball roll off the back of the rim.

West Burlington pulled down the board and moved up the floor quickly. HTC knocked the ball away with three seconds left, and then stole the inbounds pass, but a 3/4 court shot from Medland fell short, forcing OT.

West Burlington jumped out to a quick six point 53-47 lead on four straight from the free throw line. Vasin Thurman would get another bucket inside as the Falcon were guarding the perimeter, to make it a four-point game, but Sherwood would hit a couple free throws as HTC went into foul-a-Falcon mode to get possessions.

Down 55-49 with :26 on the clock, Jasin Thurman stepped back from the



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

West Burlington's Colton Sherwood swipes the ball away from Vasin Thurman in the fourth quarter of HTC's 56-52 overtime loss to West Burlington on Friday night.

perimeter prevent defense and buried a 22-footer from the left wing to get the HTC fans to their feet and cut the lead to just three.

Heavy HTC pressure on the inbounds resulted in a diving melee at the WB end that sent Johnson tumbling to the floor in a pile of Crusaders resulting in a whistle. Johnson, who had hit eight straight

from the line, rimmed his first freebie, but buried the second making it a two-possession game 56-52 and the Crusaders wouldn't score again.

"We're building for districts and I think we're hitting our rhythm at the right time," Hellige said. "We missed a few bunnies down at the end and things could have gone either way."

Rung finished the night with 18 points, while Jason Thurman had nine. Medland had three and Connor Gehling had a point. West Burlington had four in double figures led by Sherwood's 18. Jackson had 10 for the Falcons.

The Crusaders host Danville Monday night and then take on Central Lee on Friday on the road.



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PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE PROCEEDINGS FORT MADISON CITY COUNCIL 1/19/2021

The Fort Madison City Council met in adjourned session at 5:30 P.M. on Tuesday, 1/19/2021, at City Hall, 811 Avenue E. Mayor Pro Tem Andrews presided with Council Members Bowker, Lair, Amandus, Schulz, Cangas and Rink. Mayor Mohrfeld was absent.

This meeting was held with Council and staff present but was also available electronically (pursuant to Iowa Code Section 21.8) due to social distancing issues because of COVID-19.

On motion, Council approved the agenda. On motion, Council approved the Consent Agenda: Min-

utes of 1/5/2021; Claims dated 1/14/2021; December Financial Report; and Liquor License Renewals: Pen City Aerie, effective 1/31/2021, Hy-Vee Foods, effective 3/19/2021 and Under the Sun, effective 3/1/2021.

Andrews opened the public hearing Concerning the Voluntary Annexation of Property at 2110 – 303rd Avenue. With no written or verbal comments, at 5:47 P.M., Andrews closed the public hearing. On motion, Council adopted Resolution No. 2021-05, approving the voluntary annexation of property at 2110 – 303rd Avenue.

Andrews opened the public hearing Concerning the Sale of a Portion of City Right-of-way located between 2601 Avenue L and Dry Creek to Chris-

topher and Tara Vincent. With no written or verbal comments, at 5:49 P.M., Andrews closed the public hearing. On motion, Council adopted Resolution No. 2021-06, approving the sale of a portion of City Right-of-Way located between 2601 Avenue L and Dry Creek to Christopher and Tara Vincent.

On motion, Council approved Ordinance No. D-072, vacating a portion of City right-of-way located between 2601 Avenue L and Dry Creek. On motion, Council approved the second reading of an ordinance rezoning property at 2110 – 303rd Avenue from R-1, One Family Residential, to I-2, General Industrial. On motion, Council approved Resolution No. 2021-07, appointing David Varley to serve on the Southeast Iowa Regional Planning Commission Board of Directors, term expiring 1/1/2022.

On motion, Council approved the Mayor's appointments of Dianna

Holmes to the Historic Preservation Commission, term expiring 12/31/2021, serving an unexpired term; and Jason Lynk, to the Fort Madison SIRRC Commission, term expiring 12/31/2023. On motion, Council approved the Mayor's reappointment of Andy Andrews and Dan Reppert to the Historic Preservation Commission, terms expiring 12/31/2023; and Stephanie Knoch to the Civil Service Commission, term expiring 3/31/2025. On motion, Council approved the Mayor's signature on Supplemental Agreement No. 1 with HR Green for additional services for PIP 2020-03, GRHS-FMCH Community Foundation – Fort Madison High School to Rodeo Park Trail.

At 6:05 P.M., the meeting adjourned until February 2, 2021, at 5:30 P.M.

/s/ Rusty Andrews,
Mayor Pro Tem

ATTEST: /s/ Melinda L. Blind, City Clerk

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ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING, REPAIR
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FORT MADISON COMM. HOSPITAL, PRE EMPLOYMENT PHYSICAL
.....516.00
GALL'S, AN ARAMARK COMPANY, BELT
.....571.83
GEM ELECTRONICS, REPLACE ASSEMBLY CASE.....149.75
GREAT RIVER REGIONAL WASTE, GARBAGE DISPOSAL.....13,343.71
HOLT SUPPLY COMPANY, ACTUATORS
.....1,189.56
HUFFMAN WELDING & MACHINE, REPAIR BRACKET.....1,122.99
HY-VEE ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE, JANITORIAL SUPPLIES.....64.06
HY-VEE FOOD STORE, WATER PAYMENT COLLECTOR.....37.10
HYDROFIT, FIT TEST
.....400.00
IA ASSN. PROF. FIRE CHIEF, MEMBERSHIP
.....100.00
IDEAL READY MIX COMPANY, CONCRETE - 15TH AVE L.....203.00
IOWA ASSOC OF MUN. UTILITIES, MEMBERSHIP6,499.22
IOWA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC, TERMINAL CHARGE300.00
JL TIME & ATTENDANCE COMPANY, MONTHLY SUBSCRIPTION...144.90
JONES CONTRACTING CORP, PAY EST #11 - AVE H 2-6TH
.....158,662.49
LEE COUNTY ENGINEER, ORTHO ROAD REPAIRS11,595.87
LISCO, PHONE/INTERNET2,057.28
MACQUEEN EQUIPMENT, INC, WIRELESS HEADSET SYSTEM
.....2,989.60
MADISON TURF & TIMBER, V-BELT32.56
MASTERCARD, TRAINING2,608.88
MCFARLAND, GLOVES/LINERS/TOILET PAPER
.....167.45
MCMASTER CARR SUPPLY CO, PRESSURE GAUGE/RING.....66.59
MCNAY TRUCK LINE, HAULING FREIGHT
.....1,104.48
MENARD - WEST BURLINGTON, CEMENT SUPPLIES255.06
MENKE PROFESSIONAL AUTO PART, ADDITIVE
.....339.52
MES-MUNICIPAL EMERGENCY SERVICE, HAZMAT FLOW TEST-

ING409.52
MEYERS DRIVEWAY & SEPTIC, PAY ESTIMATE #3.....16,021.31
MIDLAND SCIENTIFIC INC., BUFFER PILLOWS
.....59.52
MUNICIPAL SUPPLY COMPANY, RING/PLUG
.....3,525.00
O'REILLY AUTO PARTS, PARTS.....625.49
OMNI SITE, ANNUAL MONITOR.....144.00
POEPPING STONE & BACH, PROF FEE - PORT PHASE III
.....1,605.00
QUILL CORPORATION, BINDER/COVER/ENVELOPES.....47.17
RAINBO OIL COMPANY, LUBE1,353.84
S.H. ENTERPRISES LTD., HAULING SLUDGE
.....10,578.00
SE IA REGIONAL PLANNING CONN, SEIBUS OCT-DEC 2020
.....2,125.00
SERVICE MASTER, JANITORIAL SERVICE
.....1,311.50
SHOTTENKIRK SUPERSTORE, ROUTINE MAINTENANCE ...735.71
TAPCO, SPINNING WIND.....220.00
TESTAMERICA INC., WEEKLY TEST.....409.50
TRUCK REPAIR INC., SUPER GLUE764.16
UNITY POINT CLINIC, - OCCUP PRE-EMPLOYMENT DRUG TEST
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UPS, SHIPPING13.99
USA BLUE BOOK, TESTING SUPPLIES.....335.79
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WELLMARK BC/BS, HEALTH PREMIUMS
.....91,823.95
WEST CENTRAL FS, INC, PLANE FUEL
.....234.60
WINDSTREAM, PHONE/INTERNET.....252.99
YOUNGGREN SHOES, SAFETY BOOTS..225.23
TOTAL581,301.60
GENERAL15,322.96
SPECIAL REVENUES
.....435,188.13
ROAD USE.....20,768.04
CAPITAL PROJECTS
.....29,135.38
WATER.....17,846.47
WASTEWATER
.....35,578.28
SOLID WASTE
.....14,541.48
AIRPORT.....762.05
STORM WATER
.....12,158.81
TOTAL581,301.60

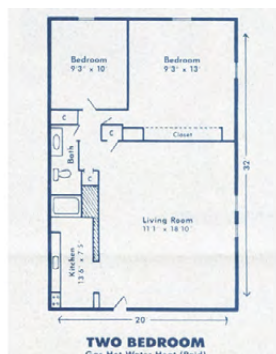
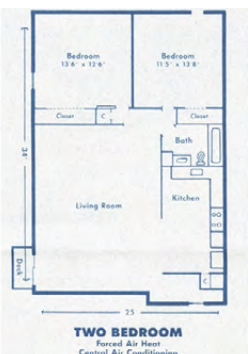
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General	\$15,322.96	General	\$29,057.01
Special Revenue	435,950.18	Special Rev.	749,583.97
Road Use	20,768.04	Debt	5,324.66
Capital	29,135.38	Capital	4,717.50
Water	17,846.47	Water	1,241.21
Sewer	35,578.28	Sewer	2,287.69
Solid Waste/IWC	14,541.48	Solid Waste/IWC	107.65
Storm Water Util.	12,158.81	SW Utility	89.56
	\$581,301.60		\$792,409.25

CLAIMS - 1/19/2021

3E ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING, LED HIBAY371.82
ALLIANT ENERGY, ELECTRIC.....2,096.21
ALTORFER INC., SKID LOADER REPAIR
.....616.63
ARAMARK UNIFORM SERVICES, UNIFORM
.....718.20
BELSON OUTDOORS, BENCH SIGNS.....124.35
BROWN SUPPLY CO. INC., GASKET/ELBOWS/ADAPTORS.....13,603.00
BROZENES HYDRAULIC EQUIPMENT, PARTS
.....655.12
CAROL MINER AWARDS CEREMONY, SUPPLIES
.....70.90
CENTRE STATE INTL TRUCKS, THERMOSTAT
.....74.80

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, MEMBERSHIP175.00
CITY OF FORT MADISON, LEACHATE DISCHARGE1,500.42
CONAGRA, TARGETED JOBS210,788.00
CULLEN CONSTR. & EXCAVATING, HAULING SNOW900.00
CULLEN PEST CONTROL, MONTHLY SERVICE189.00
CURE BUSINESS SOLUTIONS, AGREEMENT/LAPTOP3,990.25
DAILY DEMOCRAT, JOB ADVERTISING ..1,760.71
DAVIS RADIOLOGY PC, MEDICAL.....3.90
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Lee County Board of Supervisors Meeting
Tue, Jan 25, 2021
9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Classifieds/Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICES

(CST) AGENDA

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Pledge of Allegiance
Approve Agenda
9:01 a.m. Public Hearing for Proposed Lease

Purchase Agreement for Ambulance Fleet
Consider Approval of Resolution Approving Lease Purchase Agreement for Ambulance Fleet
Consider Approval of Credit Application with Gall's Uniform for Ambulance Employee Uniforms
Consider Approval of Quote and Contract with Karl Emergency Vehicle for Command Car For Ambulance Service
Consider Approval of Purchase Agreement with

Stryker Cots for 6 Stryker Power Pro 6506 Ambulance Cots
Consider Approval of January 18, 2021 Board Minutes
Consider Approval of Claims
Public Input
Consider Approval of Memorandum of Understanding With the Office of the Chief Information Officer of the State of Iowa for Enhanced Security Services
Consider Approval to

Renew Contract with Stellar Services for Jail Commissary
Consider Approval of OSHA Log for 2020
Discuss and Consider Approval of Transition of Lincoln Ridge Insurance Coverage from Great River Progressive Housing To Lee County Policy
Consider Approval of Tax Abatement Resolutions (3)
Commission or Committee Reports

Adjourn
Workshop to Follow
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Sports

Keokuk hands FM tough conference loss at home

BY JOHN BOHNENKAMP
PCC SPORTS

FORT MADISON – Fort Madison High School's boys basketball team was short-handed for Friday's home game against Keokuk, a challenge that coach Ryan Wilson pointed out to his team this week in practice.

The Bloodhounds survived for three quarters. The fourth quarter was the one that hurt.

Fort Madison was held to four points in the final quarter, and the Chiefs pulled away for a 45-34 win.

The Bloodhounds (7-6 overall, 3-4 Southeast Conference) led 30-29 heading into the fourth quarter. But they would only get a field goal each from Dayton Davis and Matt Hopper.

"We had five turnovers and gave them five offensive rebounds," Wilson said. "That's the ballgame, right there. That's your fourth quarter, that's your ballgame."

The Bloodhounds had just eight players available because of COVID-19 protocols.

"We knew it was going to be different," Wilson said. "We had eight guys available, six of them have played varsity all year. It was a completely different atmosphere tonight. But that's the COVID season, that's part of it. And we know that."

That left Fort Madison with not a lot of options to face the Chiefs, and the Bloodhounds eventually wore down.

"Keokuk's a physical program," Wilson said. "That's who they are, that's their nature. And we weren't ready for that tonight. There were a lot of different times where we would get in the lane, get bumped, and we weren't strong enough to handle that."

Fort Madison had just four 3-pointers for the game, which allowed the Chiefs to continue to clog the inside.

"They're going to take away the lane," Wilson said. "It's going to be tough for us to get to the basket. It forces us to hit from the outside. They're going to pack it in, and make you beat them outside."

The Chiefs (7-5, 2-3) kept Fort Madison's top scorers, Davis and Miles Dear, in check. Davis had nine points, but seven came in the second half. Dear had five points, all in the first half.

Reiburn Turnbull led Fort Madison with 12 points.

Anthony Potratz led Keokuk with 15 points.

The Bloodhounds were scheduled to play Hillcrest Academy on Saturday, but that game was cancelled. They'll play Tuesday against Clark County.

"We'll get a couple of guys back on Monday, so we'll have some more players available for that game," Wilson said.



Photo by Keith Gillett/PCC

Miles Dear gets banged around inside the lane Friday as the Hounds dropped a big Southeast Conference boys game 45-34.

HTC girls struggle in loss to WB

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – The Lady Crusaders just can't seem to get things in sync.

A first half filled with close to 25 turnovers and steals put Holy Trinity Catholic in a hole they couldn't climb out of as Class 3A's No. 8 West Burlington won 64-31 in Southeast Iowa Superconference basketball.

The Class 1A HTC girls opened the game with a Brooke Mueller bucket inside, but that's the last time they would hang around with the Falcons.

Senior Sydney Marlow opened with a couple free throws and then the green went on a 10-0 run capped by a bucket inside by Leah Collier on third put-back attempt in the lane.

The inability of HTC (3-10 SEISC, 4-14) to grab rebounds inside wasn't lost on Head Coach Tony Johnson.

"Lack of – besides Kayla Box. Can't win if you can't getting any rebounds," he said.

The Crusaders have lost six in a row dating back to Jan. 8, when they beat New London.

Johnson said going forward the season's about getting the seniors as many minutes as he can, while trying to get as much as he can from the younger girls.

Despite a limited return of junior Kassi Randolph from an ankle injury, the Crusaders still couldn't gel.

"We're gonna keep playing hard – get maximum effort. It's all we can do. Try to get better," he said. "Get seniors as many minutes as we can. We appreciate their efforts, but we want to get the younger players as much time as we can for next year."

A 1-3-1 press employed early on resulted in turnovers that the Falcons were able to take advantage of.

Holy Trinity was victimized by eight turnovers and steals created by the trapping press in the first quarter alone leading to eight points in transition.

The Falcons would rush out to a 20-11 first quarter lead and went into halftime

up 33-18.

Holy Trinity cleaned up play in the third period as far as controlling the ball with only three turnovers, but West Burlington's Logan Kelley scored three straight layups in the final minute of the third period, all off steals close to half court.

The Crusaders would outscore the Falcons 11-10 in the final eight minutes, but the 32-point deficit was too much to overcome.

The Falcons (14-1, 11-1) 75-53 suffered their first defeat on Tuesday to Class 1A No. 11 Burlington Notre Dame. The girls were without Annaka Harris on Friday and played the entire game in facemasks trying to keep any COVID from spreading through the team.

Falcons Head Coach John Vandenberg said the game was just a sloppy.

"We're just not playing very well right now. Annaka can handle the ball better, we just have to control a bit stronger. We make little mistakes that we can't keep making," he said.

Vandenberg substituted frequently in the first half due to the pace, but also, he said because of the mistakes he was seeing on the floor.

"I think we substituted 15 times in the first half, if not the first quarter. That's part of why it looked a little sloppy because we rotated so much."

Again, Holy Trinity didn't have a single player in double figures. Raquel Schneider had nine and freshman Mary Kate Bendlage scored eight to lead the HTC.

Kassi and Natalie Randolph, and Brooke Mueller each had four points. Maria Rauenbuehler had two, while Kayla Box and Bailey Hellweg each added one on the night for HTC.

Kelley, just a freshman, led West Burlington with 17 points, mostly in transition, with 12 in the second half. Sophomore McKenna Marlow had 12 points and Sydney Marlow had 10.

HTC hosts Danville Tuesday night and then the girls travel to Central Lee on Friday night.



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From the Front

Mitchell calls political football “absolutely disgusting”

UPDATE - Continued from Page 1

pital boards about this bill. I was confused and I was fairly upset about that,” Mitchell said.

“But this year, I think we’ll have something substantive and get our rural ambulance services up and running. I’m confident we’ll be passing that bill and have it on the governor’s desk.”

Graber said he is also hearing discussion about making ambulance services essential by Iowa Code, like fire services.

“As far as making it an essential service there is a discussion going on, but there hasn’t been a lot of action this week. Yes, that is something that is being considered,” Graber said.

“In the Des Moines area, you don’t have a problem because someone’s going to run a service up there.”

Graber has been assigned to the House Veterans’ Affairs Committee as Co-chair. He’s also on the commerce, ways and means, and education appropriations committees.

Reichman is Co-chair of the Veterans’ committee in the Senate. He’s also assigned to the Judiciary, Education subcommittee, and state government committee.

Mitchell is on the House Ways and Means, commerce, state government, judiciary, and budget committees.

The three also spoke to the current status of COVID vaccines in the state and all three hadn’t heard that the state moved to a 65 and over Phase on Thursday.

“I had not heard they changed that. I was offered the vaccine, but at just 23, I chose to not take it at this time,” Mitchell said.

“It’s important that the public knows their elected officials trust the vaccines. The Governor and senator’s have taken the vaccine, but I wanted to make sure more vulnerable Iowans have the first chance of getting it.”

Reichman said he was glad to hear the state moved the age limit down and had received a few emails about

the Capitol being vaccinated before Iowa seniors.

“It was offered via email and extended to us. I’m not aware of a single senator on our side who took advantage of that. We need to lead from the front,” he said.

“I couldn’t speak to the staff numbers and to how many have taken advantage of that offer.”

Reichman said Lee County Supervisor Garry Seyb Jr., told him staff at correctional facilities had been offered the vaccine, but inmates were not included in the current rollout.

However, the latest Iowa Department of Public Health literature shows that state correctional staff and incarcerated individuals are included in the Phase 1b rollout starting Feb. 1.

With no mandate in place for wearing masks at the Capitol, Governor Kim Reynolds was pressed on the issue at her Thursday presser in Des Moines. Reynolds said the move was to ensure continuity of government.

Graber said he’s not aware of any legislators taking the vaccine and said wearing a mask is a liberty issue.

“We value our liberties and all that, and there is no mandate for masks at the Capitol, but on the House side of it you would see everyone wearing a mask,” Graber said.

“People are doing the right thing right now.”

The issue of educational savings accounts was also brought up by Gov. Kim Reynolds at her Condition of the State address last week.

Reynolds said “we should create education savings accounts for students who are trapped in a failing school; let’s give them another choice by making sure money isn’t their barrier.”

Reichman said the focus is on the 15% of schools, typically in the metro areas, that aren’t meeting their obligations to educate Iowa’s students.

“One of the things we say in leadership or management positions is that 10% of the people take up 90% of your time,” Reichman said.

“This is about 15% of the school systems that haven’t

been providing the amount of instruction mandated by Iowa law. Even with the hybrid system those hours are not being put in.”

Mitchell said school districts in southeast Iowa are not part of the problem, and have done extremely well in the face of the pandemic.

He said he doesn’t favor moving funds allocated for public systems into a private account.

“I haven’t seen the exact proposal, but I see moving millions to educational savings accounts as equating to vouchers,” he said.

“In general, I’m not necessarily in favor of the voucher idea. You can argue whether the money is coming directly or indirectly from public schools, but at the end of the day we only have so much money and I’d rather that money be spent on K-12 public schools.”

Graber said he still has a learning curve when it comes to the state’s education system.

“I’m not on the education committee nor do I know a lot about the education system in Iowa,” he said. “It’s a long learning curve that I need to shorten up quickly.”

But Graber said children should absolutely be back in school at this point.

“My grandkids were excited when they heard they could go back to school. It was a great day for them. Obviously, if you exceed the (positivity) rate you can’t be there. The Des Moines area just said we’re not going back to school...we’ll you can’t do that,” Graber said.

Mitchell said he wouldn’t apologize for calling out the Des Moines districts.

“What we’ve done to these children for the past year by not sending them to school is going to mess them up for life,” Mitchell said. “Some districts know what they are doing, but playing political football with the governor is absolutely disgusting.”

Mitchell also said it’s critical that the state tackle child care issues with tax credits and grant opportunities to allow existing infrastructure to be utilized for starting up child care facilities.

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