

PEN CITY CURRENT

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

Thursday, June 16, 2022 | 10 pages | Volume 6 • Issue 109



www.pencitycurrent.com

FM Food Pantry sees uptick

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: The numbers of clients has almost doubled since January

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – A perfect storm of sorts has the Fort Madison Food Pantry busier than they've been in a long time.

According to board member Lyn Cramer, the food pantry customer flow is up close to 100% since the beginning of the year.

"In January, the numbers we were seeing on average was about 20 clients per day. This month so far we have seen an average of 37, so we've almost doubled. As the month goes on, I believe we'll see that grown even greater," Cramer said.

In May she said the pantry was seeing about 31 a day.

Cramer, the former director of the pantry, said the community has been very generous with donations and funding, but she said the greatest need right now is numbers.

"The community has been so good with funding and donations, we're pretty good on that, but we sure could



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Jay Baldwin, center, and members of the band Noisy Neighbors make a \$500 donation to the Fort Madison Food Pantry Wednesday night. The group played for Holy Family Parish and donated the proceeds to help stock the shelves at the pantry.

use some volunteers."

She said shifts are usually two to three hours at the pantry, or even spending an hour or so a week to help pick up food to deliver to the pantry. Also help is needed unloading trucks because of the increased demand.

"We could use a little muscle," she said.

Cramer said those interested could

call out to the pantry and they can coordinate volunteer hours from there. The number is 319-372-8071.

She said Iowa Food Bank has been very helpful as numbers climb, but certain things like venison are becoming more and more difficult to get because even the Food Bank is having trouble.

See **FOOD**, page 9

COUNTY NEWS

ARPA group recommends county give \$275K to IT

County hoping for deed to Meller property to move forward with LCHD project

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – The panel convened to allocate funds from the county's more than \$6.5 million in federal America Rescue Plan Act funding is recommending the county spend \$275,000 on county Information Technology upgrades.

The panel, which to date has authorized just over 30% of the county's allocation to a broadband expansion project in the county, made the recommendation after hearing from a county IT tech team that the county is operating with outdated tech.



SEYB

"To me, this is a high priority," said panel chairman Garry Seyb, Jr. "We're operating with some computers that are more than 20 years old. We've had three IT directors in the past three or four years and we're seriously outdated."

Budget Director Cindy Renstrom said there was some money in the IT department budget, but some of that is being used for salaries for the two full-time and one part-time staff. County IT director Kevin Harter said the department needed about \$275,000 to bring the department closer to contemporary status.

The panel had been holding on to the remaining funding, about \$4.3 million, as Lee County Grant Writer Chuck Vandenberg and county officials look for funding

See **FUNDS**, page 9

WEST BURLINGTON: Victim airlifted to UIHC with wound to the face

Police searching for suspect in Tuesday shooting

WEST BURLINGTON – On June 14, 2022, at approximately 4:44 p.m., the West Burlington Police Department received reports of shots being fired at the West Burlington Municipal Pool, located at 602 West Burlington Avenue. Upon arrival, law officers found Devontae Richardson, 28, bleeding from a single gunshot wound to the face. Richardson was transported to the Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center. Eventually, Richardson was airlifted to the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics where he currently remains in stable condition. No other injuries

were reported related to the shooting.

Witnesses observed a vehicle flee the scene, which has been located by law enforcement and subsequently seized. Interviews continue to be conducted by the West Burlington Police Department, Des Moines County Sheriff's Office and agents from the Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation.

Law enforcement believes this is an isolated incident and that there is no threat to the general public.

West Burlington city officials released a statement on the incident

Wednesday evening.

"The West Burlington swimming pool staff acted quickly and were able to direct all guests inside the facility to safety. No injuries were reported from guests inside the pool or from our staff," the release indicated.

City officials said the pool will reopen on Friday, June 17 at 11:30 with increased police patrol around the pool area. The city also provided contact information for counselors to help with any young individuals who may have witnessed the event

See **POOL**, page 3

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WEATHER

OpenWeatherMap
THU 16 Jun Light Rain, 90° F/ 69° F ☁️
FRI 17 Jun Sunny & Warm, 82° F/ 65° F ☀️
SAT 18 Jun Sunny & Warm, 77° F/ 50° F ☀️

IOWA LOTTERY

LUCKY FOR LIFE 06/14 18 24 25 29 37, Lucky Ball: 9
MEGA MILLIONS 06/14 30 37 38 42 58, Mega Ball: 22 Megaplier: 2
PICK 3 06/14 MIDDAY 2 2 5
PICK 3 06/14 EVENING 7 4 2
PICK 4 06/14 MIDDAY 8 4 4 5
PICK 4 06/14 EVENING 4 6 2 7

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Local News/From the Front

WB to reopen pool following Tuesday shooting incident

POOL - Continued from Page 1

and are may be having issues.

“We recognize that there were young people present that may have witnessed this incident. We encourage you to talk to your children and seek support as we navigate this situation. We have coordinated the following counseling resources for your use.

- West Burlington School District – Phone: 319-752-8747 (Select Option #2)
- Burlington School District – Phone: 319-753-6791
- Great River AEA 16 – Phone: 319-753-6561

“We are confident that through working together, we will continue to keep the West Burlington Swimming pool safe for our children.”

The city is also asking for help with any information that can help investigators. Anyone with information is encouraged to contact the West Burlington Police Department at 319-754-8555.

If you have questions about the accident, or have information that can help investigators, please call West Burlington Police Department at 319-754-8555.

The Police Department will issue a formal press release as more information becomes available.

Assisting with the investigation is the West Burlington Police Department, Burlington Police Department, Des Moines County Sheriff’s Office, Des Moines County Attorney’s Office, Burlington Fire Department, West Burlington Fire Department and the Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation.

Former A.G. Whitaker to speak at Lee County GOP dinner

FORT MADISON – Join the Lee County Republicans, Matt Whitaker and many other dignitaries and candidates on July 16, 2022, at the Quality Inn in Fort Madison, for their annual Banquet/Auction. Tickets are \$40. Doors open at 4:30pm. Call Dorothy at 319-313-9040, Sandy at 319-524-7770, or Terry at 319-372-4344 for ticket information.



WHITAKER

Matthew G. Whitaker served as Acting Attorney General from November 2018 to February 2019.

Prior to becoming Acting Attorney General, Mr. Whitaker served as Chief of Staff to Attorney General Jeff Sessions. He was appointed as the U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Iowa on June

15, 2004 by President George W. Bush. While U.S. Attorney, he served on the Controlled Substances and Asset Forfeiture Subcommittee of the Attorney General’s Advisory Committee and was a member of both the White Collar Crime Subcommittee and the Violent and Organized Crime Subcommittee. Previously, Whitaker was a managing partner of Des Moines based law firm, Whitaker Hagenow & Gustoff LLP. He was also the Executive Director for FACT, The Foundation for Accountability & Civic Trust, between 2014 and 2017.

Mr. Whitaker graduated with a Master of Business Administration, Juris Doctor, and Bachelor of Arts from the University of Iowa.

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

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

Sports

Lady Hawks win fourth straight in big fashion

SOFTBALL: Central Lee girls have outscored last four teams 48-3

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

DONNELSON – The Central Lee girls’ softball team is showing a little muscle of late.

The Lady Hawks took out Holy Trinity Catholic 13-1 in four innings Tuesday night in Donnellson to move to 11-4 on the year and 6-1 in the SEI Super-conference South just a half game behind West Burlington, currently ranked No. 4 in Class 3A.

But the Hawks have been flexing some offense and solid defense in the past four games.

Central Lee has outscored their opponents 48-3 over the past four games and, in that time span, have seen Kenna Sandoval, fresh out of eighth grade, hit .615 with seven RBIs.

Sandoval is playing 1st base for the first time this year and Head Coach Tiffany Woodruff said Sandoval is filling her role on the team.

“She has a great role. She’s always played third base through travel ball and I just liked her at first base because she has the build for it,” Woodruff said. “This is her first year there and she’s comfortable and the kids are confident in her scoops and all that.”

Senior Meghan Hopp has also been on fire, hitting .500 with four RBIs. Hopp got the win Tuesday night going four innings and holding the Crusaders to six hits and one earned run while fanning three and walking one.

Mary Hellige suffered the loss for Holy Trinity.

HTC coach Loren Menke said the Crusaders have to play better defense against teams that put the ball in play. The Crusaders only had one error, but several hard-hit balls got past defenders in the infield and the outfield.

“Central Lee has a heck of a hitting team. But if



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Central Lee’s Jayln Hawk (9) gets ready to get dirty at third as HTC’s Kayla Box (5) awaits a throw. Hawk would be safe on the play as Central Lee rolled to a 13-1 win Tuesday in Donnellson.

they hit at us, we gotta make the plays and we haven’t been making the plays very well. Last night we didn’t make plays very well, either,” Menke said.

The Crusaders lost a rare doubleheader to Cardinal Monday night, 11-1 and 16-0.

The Hawks opened the scoring early with four runs each in the bottom of the first and second innings.

Alix Congdon led off with a triple right field past Kylie Fortune and was driven in by Hopp’s ground out to short. Sandoval then singled and was brought in when Shanna Buford laced one about 250 feet

onto the gravel driveway behind the fence in left center for a 3-0 lead.

Marie Young singled in the next at bat and came around to score on Bella Steffensmeier’s double to left. The Crusaders would get the next two hitters to retire the side.

Kayla Box would single for HTC with one out but would get stranded at 2nd after a ground out and a strikeout. Congdon and Hopp would get things

See **GIRLS**, page 8

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Classifieds/Public Notices

PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICES

**PUBLIC NOTICE
FORT MADISON
COMMUNITY SCHOOL
DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR MEETING
June 20, 2022
6:00 P.M.**

Note: To view this meeting please see the link on the FMCS D Website Calendar or click on the link below

<https://zoom.us/j/92915008536?pwd=bTk3SmxOb-VBrZlU4MS9wdEd5aG-5ZQT09>

Public Comments are welcome. They are limited to 3 minutes. Any member of the public who wishes to participate in public comments must be physically present at the meeting and follow the appropriate sign in procedures.

Finance: Hope/Santiago

AGENDA

- I. Call meeting to order and determination of a quorum
- II. Recognition of guests
- III. Reading of Foundation documents
- IV. Monthly communications
 - A.. "Did You Know?:"
 - B. Superintendent Goal Report: Attendance and Annual Truancy Report
 - C. District Presentations:
 - Data Presentation
 - Food Service Report
 - V. Approve the agenda
 - VI. Consent Agenda
 - A. Minutes
 1. May 16, 2022, Public Hearing (1)
 2. May 16, 2022, Public Hearing (2)
 3. May 16, 2022, Regular Meeting
 4. May 31, 2022, Public Hearing
 5. May 31, 2022, Special Meeting
 6. June 6, 2022, Special Meeting - Closed Session
 - B. Financial reports

1. May Balance Sheet
2. Revenue Summary Report
3. Expenditure Report
4. Student Activity Report
 - C. Accounts payable
 1. May General Account Board Bills for Approval
 2. June General Account Board Bills for Approval
 3. Student Activity Account Board Bills for Approval
 4. Nutrition Fund Board Bills for Approval
 5. American Express Board Bills for Approval
 - D. Consider personnel resignations
 1. Stephanie (Howard) Olson, Cheerleading Coach
 2. Rhonda Jordan, Associate, MS
 3. Kim May, Teacher, MS
 4. Ashley Nicol, Associate, RE
 5. John Wibbell, Mechanic
 - E. Consider employment of personnel
 1. Katelyn Bowen, 4th Grade Teacher
 2. Ashley Love Edler, Librarian
 3. Michelle McKeown, Food Service Driver
 4. Angela Mueller, Secretary to Dir. of Curr., Student Serv. & Special Ed.
 5. Hannah Hoenig, Marketing Specialist
 6. Zach Russell, HS Student Gov't Sponsor
 7. Zach Russell, Freshman Class Sponsor
 8. Vasin Thurman, Asst. Baseball Coach
 - F. Consider contract modifications
 - G. Consider leave of absence
 - H. Consider open enrollment requests
 - I. Other reports
 1. Donations
 2. High School and Middle School Renovations and Additions Project Summary

- seconded the documents submitted in the consent section of the agenda be approved and/or filed as submitted.
- VII. Action Items
 - A. Director of Curriculum and Student Services – Kim Harmon
 - B. Superintendent – Erin Slater
 1. Consider approval of the FMEA 22-23 Employee Handbook
 2. Consider approval of the AFSCME 22-23 Employee Handbook
 3. Consider approval of the Teamsters Unit #1 22-23 Employee Handbook
 4. Consider approval of the Teamsters Unit #2 22-23 Employee Handbook
 5. Consider approval of the Administrator 22-23 Handbook
 6. Consider approval of the Support Staff 22-23 Handbook
 7. Consider approval of the Substitute Teacher 22-23 Handbook
 8. Consider approval of 2021-2022 graduates
 9. Consider approval of Special Ed stipend
 10. Consider approval of Kindergarten stipend
 11. Consider approval of Shared Librarian Contract and Amendment for FY2022-2023
 12. POLICIES
 - a. 605.6 OLD - Acceptable Use/Internet Safety Policy for Technology - **DELETE**
 - b. 605.6 NEW - Internet - Appropriate Use - **ADOPT**
 - c. 605.6-E-1 OLD - Internet Access Consent Form - **DELETE**
 - d. 605.6-E-1 NEW - Internet Access Permission Letter to Parents - **ADOPT**
 - e. 605.6-E-2 NEW - Internet Appropriate Use Violation Notice - **ADOPT**
 - f. 605.6-R-1 NEW - Internet - Appropriate Use Regulation - **ADOPT**
 - C. Board Secretary/ Business Manager – Sandy Elmore

1. Consider approval of Audit Services proposal from Nolte, Cornman and Johnson
2. Consider approval of 22-23 Bread and Dairy bids
3. Consider approval of 22-23 School Meal Rates
4. Consider approval of textbook/other fees for the 2022-2023
5. Consider approval of superintendent contract
- VIII. Discussion Items

- A. Director of Curriculum and Student Services – Kim Harmon
- B. Superintendent – Erin Slater
 1. Chronological Policies for Review:
 - a. 606.1 Class Grouping
 - b. 606.4 Student Production of Materials and Services
 - c. 606.6 Insufficient Classroom Space
 - d. 607.1 Student Guid-

- ance and Counseling Program
2. Chronological Policies for Discussion:
 - a. 606.1-R-1 Class Size - **delete**
 - b. 606.2 School Ceremonies and Observances - **adopt**
 - c. 606.5 OLD Student Educational Trips - **delete**
 - d. 606.5 NEW Student Field Trips and Excursions - **adopt**
 - e. 607.3 Student Athlet-

HELP WANTED

**YOUTH DIRECTOR
Part-time**

Union Presbyterian Church in Fort Madison is seeking a Youth Director. This position would be for 10-12 hours a week, starting immediately. If interested, please contact us. 319-372-1424 or unionchurchfm@gmail.com.

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He is honored to have worked for Iowans. He has made a difference in the lives of Iowans. As state treasurer, he's returned over \$249 million through the Great Iowa Treasure Hunt, helped over 200,000 families save \$6 billion in College Savings Iowa, and introduced the IABLE savings plan for persons with disabilities.

Paid for by the Lee County Democratic Party

Rob Sand promised to wake up the watchdog. When Sand and the State Auditor's office come on behalf of taxpayers with questions about how the public's business is being conducted, they will not walk away.

**Re-elect
Rob Sand as
State Auditor**

Paid for by the Lee County Democratic Party

**JOHN NORWOOD
for Secretary
of Agriculture**

Eighty million people live within a day's drive of Iowa and 3.2 million live in our state. John believes through diversification and creativity we can tap into these markets.

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EOE

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**Lee County
ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
GROUP**

Classifieds/Public Notices

PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICES

ic Examinations - delete
f. 607.4 English as a
Second Language - **de-
lete**

3. Quarterly Policies for
Discussion:

a. 200.3 Responsi-
bilities of the Board of
Directors - **changes**

b. 710.1-E-1 School
Nutrition Program Notices
of Non-Discrimination -
adopt

c. 710.1-E-2 Child Nutri-
tion Programs Civil Rights
Complaint Form - **adopt**

d. 710.1-R-1 School
Nutrition Program Civil
Rights Complaint Proce-
dure - **adopt**

e. 802.4 Capital Assets
- change

C. Board Secretary/
Business Manager – San-
dy Elmore

D. Board Member At-
tendance

E. Staff Attendance

IX. Comments from the
audience

X. Legislative update

XI. Announcements

A. July 18, 2022, 6:00
PM Regular Board Meet-
ing Boardroom, Central
Office

B. August 15, 2022,
6:00 PM Regular Board
Meeting Boardroom, Cen-
tral Office

XII. Adjourn

**PUBLIC NOTICE
MOUNT PLEASANT
CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
PROCEEDINGS
MAY 25, 2022**

The Mount Pleasant
City Council met in regu-
lar session on Wednes-
day, May 25, 2022, at
5:30 p.m. at City Hall, 307
East Monroe Street, sec-

ond-floor meeting room.

The meeting was called
to order by the Mayor and
the roll being called there
were present Steven

K. Brimhall in the Chair
and the following named
Councilmembers-

Present: Engberg, Crull,
McWilliams, White, Grif-
fith, Batty

Absent: None

It was moved by
Councilmember Griffith

and seconded by Coun-
cilmember Batty that the
Council approves the

following consent agenda
items with one roll call
motion vote:

the minutes of the May
11, 2022, City Council
meeting;

the payment of bills
totaling \$371,312.18;

the renewal of a Class
E Liquor, Class C Beer,
Class B Wine, and Sun-

day Sales for Casey's
Marketing Company,
Casey's General Store
#1612 at 400 W Washin-
ton Street.

Roll call vote 6-0. Mo-
tion carried.

Councilmember White
moved and Councilmem-
ber Griffith seconded that
the Council approves the
agenda as printed.

Roll call vote 6-0. Mo-
tion carried.

5:31 p.m. Public Hear-
ing on FYE22 Budget
Amendment. 5:32 Coun-
cilmember Crull motioned,
and Councilmember

McWilliams seconded
that the Council closes
the Public Hearing. No
oral or written arguments
were presented. Motion
carried, 6-0.

It was moved by
Councilmember Griffith
and seconded by Coun-

cilmember Batty that the
Council adopts the fol-
lowing entitled Resolution
No. 2022-39:

RESOLUTION AMEND-
ING THE CURRENT
BUDGET FOR THE
FISCAL YEAR ENDING
JUNE 30, 2022

Roll call vote 6-0. Res-
olution adopted, signed
by the Mayor, and hereby
made a portion of these
minutes.

Councilmember McWil-
liams moved and Coun-
cilmember Crull seconded
that the Council autho-
rizes the Mayor to sign
the Conflict Waiver with

Ahlers Law Firm. Both the
City and Mount Pleasant
Community School use
Ahlers Law Firm and are
working together on a
parking lot improvement
project. Motion approved,
6-0.

It was moved by Coun-
cilmember Crull and sec-
onded by Councilmember
Batty that the Council
authorizes the Mayor to
sign the renewal contract
with Johnson Controls for
a one-year service con-
tract for the Library/Civic
Center Building HVAC
system. Motion approved,
6-0.

It was moved by Coun-
cilmember McWilliams
and seconded by Coun-
cilmember Engberg that
the Council adopts the
following entitled Resolu-
tion No. 2022-40:

A RESOLUTION BY
THE CITY COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF MOUNT
PLEASANT, IOWA
AUTHORIZING EXECU-
TION OF DOCUMENTS
AND SUBMISSION OF
IDOT GRANT APPLICA-
TION FOR THE CON-

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AND SUBMISSION OF
IDOT GRANT APPLICA-
TION FOR THE CON-

BUSINESS DIRECTORY



Patrick Profeta
General Manager

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Classifieds/Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICES

STRUCTION OF MOUNT PLEASANT MUNICIPAL AIRPORT HANGAR ROOF REPLACEMENT PROJECT.

Roll call vote 6-0. Resolution adopted, signed by the Mayor, and hereby made a portion of these minutes.

It was moved by Councilmember Batty and seconded by Councilmember White that the Council adopts the following entitled Resolution No. 2022-41:

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR A MULTIPLE FAMILY HOUSING DEVELOPMENT FOR THE OR-

CHARD APARTMENTS, LLC, IN MOUNT PLEASANT, IOWA

Roll call vote 6-0. Resolution adopted, signed by the Mayor, and hereby made a portion of these minutes.

Councilmember Engberg moved and Councilmember Crull seconded that the Council authorizes the Mayor to sign the addendum to the grant from the Iowa Department of Transportation agreement for a modification in the scope of the Transload Building Project. The original scope was a 6,000 square foot building and now that scope has

been changed to a 3,700 square foot building due to rising costs and Build America requirements. Motion carried, 6-0.

It was moved by Councilmember Griffith and seconded by Councilmember

McWilliams that the Council approve the purchase of new flooring for the Fire Station office and training rooms. The purchase is for \$32,947.85 from Your Dream Home Furniture and Floors. ARP (American Rescue Plan) funds will be used for this purchase. Motion approved, 6-0.

It was moved by Coun-

cilmember McWilliams and seconded by Councilmember

Griffith that the Council approve the purchase of a fire suppression system for the Fire Department. The purchase is for \$25,985.00 from Reliant Fire Apparatus, Inc. Funds will come from the City's ARP (American Rescue Plan).

Councilmember Engberg moved and Councilmember McWilliams seconded that the Council adopts the following entitled Resolution No. 2022-42:

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE AC-

CEPTANCE OF A PROPOSAL TO PURCHASE \$2,000,000 (DOLLAR AMOUNT SUBJECT TO CHANGE) GENERAL OBLIGATION CAPITAL LOAN NOTES, SERIES 2022

Roll call vote 6-0. Resolution adopted, signed by the Mayor, and hereby made a portion of these minutes.

Public Forum: Maria Mellado addressed the Council with questions concerning the nuisance procedure. Police Chief Lyle Murray explained the City's nuisance procedure and that the proper procedure was followed

in regard to her nuisance case. Chief Murray told her if she has further questions to call the Police Department.

It was moved by Councilmember Crull and seconded by Councilmember Batty that the Council adjourn. Motion carried. Adjourned at 5:59 p.m. to meet in regular session, Wednesday, June 8, 2022.

Steven K. Brimhall, Mayor
ATTEST: Lori Davis, City Clerk

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Sports

Lady Hawks down HTC 13-1 in four

GIRLS - Continued from Page 4

going with one out in the bottom half with back-to-back singles. Sandoval would double right down over the third base bag into left scoring two, and then Buford would bring her around with an RBI single. After a pop out, Steffensmeier would score Buford with another double down the line in left for an 8-0 lead.

Kelli Meierotto and Rachel Menke would each single to start the top of the third. But Meierotto would get caught at second on a quick throw in from Abby Simmons in left off Menke's single. Kylie Fortune would then double to center on a ball that hit the top of the fence but stayed in play. A snap throw from Bailey Schwartz in center got Menke trying to get to third for the third out.

Central would add a run in the bottom of the third when Jaci Hawk, who led off the inning with a triple, came in to score on Congdon's ground out to second for a 9-1 lead.

HTC would get on the board in the top of the 4th, when Jenna DiPrima doubled with two outs to deep center scoring Brooke Mueller. Laura Mehmert would single to put runners at first and third, but a ground out ended the threat.

Central Lee posted four more runs in the bottom of the 4th to invoke the 12-run rule



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Central Lee's Meghan Hopp gets ready to deliver a pitch in the top of the fourth inning against Holy Trinity Catholic Tuesday. Hopp would get the win 13-1 over the Crusaders.

after four innings and end the game.

Woodruff said the extra offense has been good for the Lady Hawks and they'll need to sustain it if they are going to get past West Burlington at the top of the conference and in district action.

"Honestly, if we can get our confidence back up, the kids are going to hit. It's going to keep helping them as we move toward West Burlington. If we can get them more at bats, more confidence, and more comfortable

at the plate, it's going to be a heck of a ballgame," Woodruff said.

Menke said the goal for the Crusaders is to be better than last year when they went 6-16. This year, HTC stands at 5-7 overall and 3-4 in the SEI Superconference south.

For Central Lee, Steffensmeier was 3-for-3 on the night with 3 RBIs. Congdon, Hopp, Sandoval, Buford, and Jayln Hawk all had two-hit nights.

Box, DiPrima, Mueller,

Fortune, Mehmert, and Meierotto all had hits for Holy Trinity.

Central Lee's game Wednesday with Columbus has been cancelled and they will take on New London (0-13) and Hillcrest Academy (2-7) on Thursday and Friday at home. They host West Burlington at home on Thursday, June 23.

Holy Trinity will take on Danville Thursday in South Park and will wrap up the week with a doubleheader vs. Mt. Pleasant, also at South Park.

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Dr. De La Rosa is fluent in Spanish. She enjoys trying new foods, reading mysteries and watching movies.



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Hawks' Turner hurls 26 pitches in perfect game Monday

BY PCC SPORTS

DANVILLE – Central Lee's Sophie Turner faced the minimum nine Danville hitters Monday night as the Central Lee Hawks took a 17-0 win over Danville in SEI Superconference softball action.

The senior hurler threw just 26 pitches, with 22 being strikes, without allowing a walk or base hit in recording the shutout. She struck out five of the nine Danville girls.

The Hawks put up 11 runs in the first inning, highlighted by an RBI double from senior Meghan Hopp, and a two-run double from Shanna Buford. Central Lee would bat around in the inning bringing Hopp back to the plate for another RBI single.

Kenna Sandoval would then drive in Hopp with a homer on a line drive to left and Buford would step up in her second appearance of the inning and blast a solo shot to left to put the Hawks up 11-0.

Turner would retire the bottom of the first in just seven pitches. She went 3-1 to Danville's Kylie Palmer but coaxed a ground out on the next pitch and then got Makenzie Morris to ground out on one pitch to end the inning.

The Hawks would put up six more in the top of the second inning. Jayln Hawk had an RBI double scoring Hopp. The rest of the runs came in unearned on fielding errors by the Bears.

Turner again needed just seven pitches to retire the side in the bottom of the second. Danville's Hayden Mutchler grounded out on the first pitch and then Turner struck out the next two on six straight pitches.

Danville got a clean top of the third, but Turner ended the game striking out the side to earn the win.

Hopp went 2 for 3 with 5 RBIs and three runs scored to lead the Hawks at the plate. Buford had two hits and 3 RBIs and Sandoval was 2-for-3 with 2 RBIs and two runs scored. Alix Congdon, Marie Young, Hawk, Bella Steffensmeier, Bailey Schwartz, and Sophie Turner all had hits for the Hawks.

The Hawks downed New London on Saturday 11-1 in five innings at New London. Sandoval was 3-of-4 with two runs scored to lead the Hawks at the plate. Congdon, Buford, and Young all had two hits.

Hopp got the win going all five innings, giving up three hits and one run earned. She fanned four in the win.

Central Lee moves to 10-4 on the year and 6-1 in conference play. They take on Holy Trinity at home Tuesday night in another conference battle. The Hawks own a 9-2 win over the Crusaders earlier in the season. Danville falls to 0-6 in conference play and 0-8 overall.

The Hawks have four games at home in a row with games Tuesday through Friday with HTC, Columbus, New London, and Hillcrest Academy.

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From the Front

County receives second \$3.25 million tranche of ARPA funding

FUNDS - Continued from Page 1

to build a new county health building and EMS Ambulance bay.

Seyb, along with State Sen. Jeff Reichman, Lee County Economic Development Director Dennis Fraise, and Vandenberg went to Des Moines to talk to Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds' staff about possible funding streams to get the health department built.

Vandenberg said finding grants for building construction has proved difficult with little state ARPA funds being allocated for vertical infrastructure.

The Governor did just release a non-profit Innovation Fund that has \$20 million allocated to state non-profit groups for construction. The application process for that fund begins June 27, but governments aren't allowed to apply for funding assistance.

The Lee County Health Department has a non-profit arm called Friends of Lee County Health Department, but Vandenberg said he's looking into the possibility of that funding stream, but awards from that fund will be very competitive.

"They're offering grants of up to \$3 million. Not all of them will be that much, but it will be very competitive."

The county is waiting on a deed for property being donated from the Glen Meller family where the Iowan Motel used to sit. Meller has already demolished the structure and is waiting for a party interested in the iron from the building to haul it away. There's also some foundation rock on the property that is yet to be removed.

Vandenberg said the deed is being reviewed by Meller's attorney to prepare it for transfer to the county. He said he hopes the county has the deed before the end of the month.

Vandenberg also said he has received requests for payments on county grant awards for KPLAY in Keokuk and SIREPA for the broadband project. KPLAY has already been awarded \$15,000 and SIREPA is looking for a first payment on that project of \$704,000.

Pantry adds Wednesday hours to help food insecure

FOOD - Continued from Page 1

"That's kind of unusual because we used to get a lot of that from the food bank and we don't have that anymore. But that should change as the season progresses."

Fruit and produce usually come from local grocery stores, but that isn't as plentiful as it has been because the groceries are having trouble, she said. But everyone is helping where they can.

She said inventories on site are still fairly strong, so anyone needing help with food insecurity should come out to the pantry at 3421 Avenue L.

As inflation continues to rise forcing prices up, Cramer said she thinks clients using the pantry will continue to increase and now it's becoming an issue of needing people to help with the increased demand.

At the beginning of June, the Food Pantry added some hours and is now staying open until 5 p.m. on Wednesdays.

"The maiden adventure of our extended hours happened last week and was met with great enthusiasm," she said.

"Each client walking through the Pantry's doors related how happy they were with the new hours and how, without that extension, they would not have been able to be there. They greatly needed help and now the Pantry was there for them."

The Pantry board had been wanting to extend hours, but the pandemic hit, putting any expansion of hours on hold.

The Pantry's new hours are Mondays and Fridays, 9 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.; Wednesdays, 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 5 p.m. As before, the only thing clients need to bring is a photo ID and proof of address.

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