

PEN CITY CURRENT

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

Tuesday, December 7, 2021 | 7 pages | Volume 5 • Issue 220



www.pencitycurrent.com

Depot ribbon cutting Friday

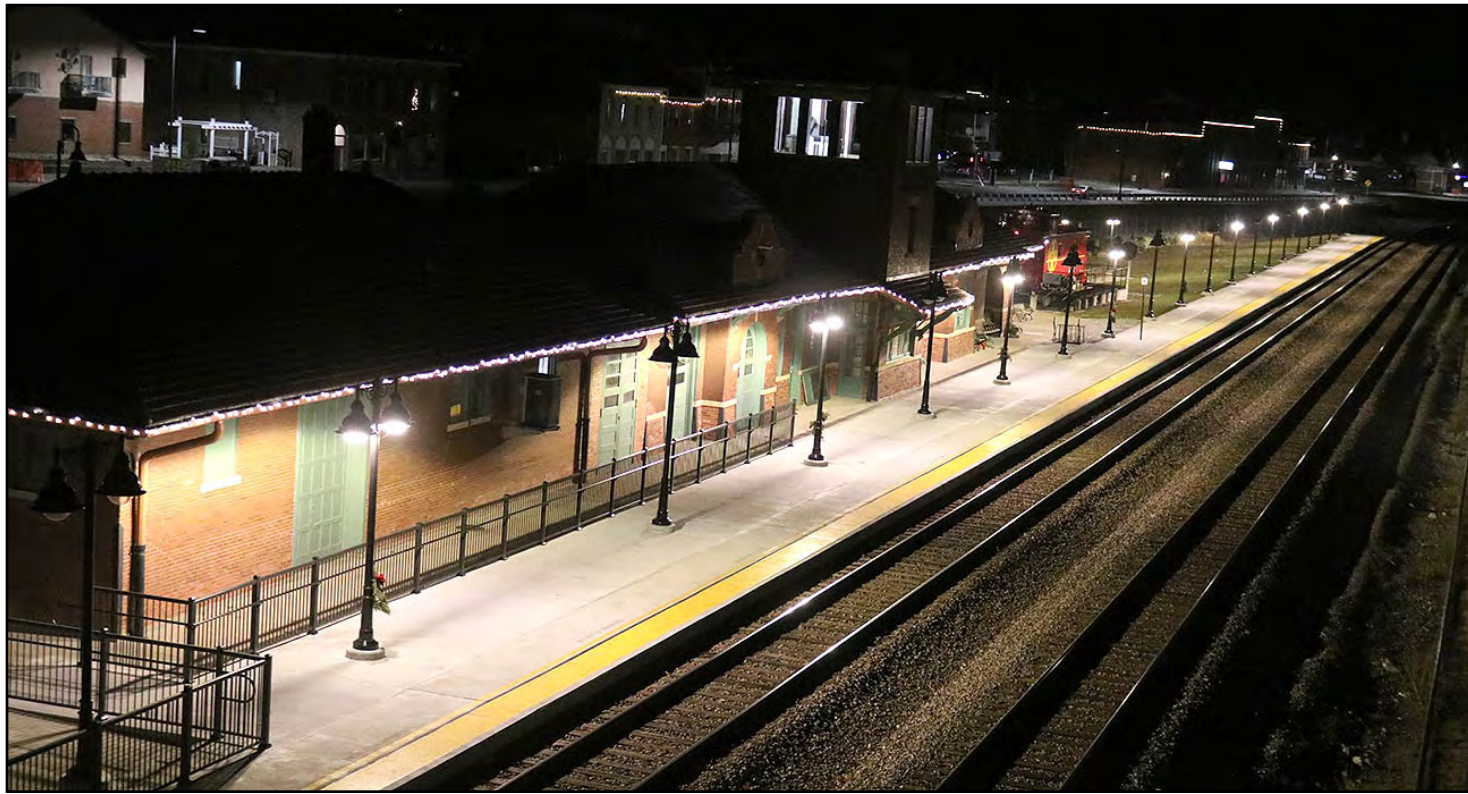


Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

All lit up

The new Amtrak Passenger Depot is aglow Monday night after dusk. City officials are holding a public ribbon cutting on Friday at 6 p.m. when Mayor Matt Mohrfeld and other dignitaries from the city and Amtrak step off the arriving passenger train. Several speakers including U.S. Rep. Marianne Miller-Meeks will be on hand for the revelry and refreshments. The entire community is invited.

SCHOOL BOARD

District OKs \$33M spend on upgrades

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – Fort Madison School Board President Dianne Hope choked back tears before the board voted on fully funding plans to expand two district buildings at a cost of just over \$33 million.

The board approved the spend and current design plans after hearing from district financial advisors and officials with Carl A. Nelson, the district's construction manager on the work.



HOPE

"It's been a long six years coming to this point. Like some of those that have talked, it's emotional. We've worked very hard," Hope said.

She said the district has been working against a lot of economic and pan-

See **BOARD**, page 7

POLLMILLER PARK: County conservation wants input on beach upgrades

BY PCC STAFF

MONTROSE – The Lee County Conservation (LCC) seeks public input about the Pollmiller Beach through an online survey. LCC is currently working with Shive-Hattery Architecture and Engineering to re-design the current beach area at Pollmiller Park, and they would like the public's input on the project. The project's initial goals include improving the beach, replacing the concession and shower house building, and expanding the parking lot.

LCC's online, anonymous survey is available at this link: <https://bit.ly/PollmillerBeach>. You can also find it on the Lee County Conservation's Facebook page and website. LCC will

consider all of the feedback from the survey as they finalize the plan for the beach area. This survey asks questions about the beach, trails, campground, and other recreational activities the 86 acre park offers. The organization hopes West Point residents, beachgoers, campers, and anyone who enjoys visiting the park will take the survey.

Pollmiller Park is LCC's most popular park. The beach alone attracted over 7,000 people this past summer. LCC has already invested heavily in the park over the past few years by funding campground improvements and installing a brand new playground this past year. They also plan to reconstruct the trail from Pollmiller Park to West Point's South Park soon.

ISP

ISP officer taken to hospital after assault

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON – A correctional officer was assaulted by an inmate at the Iowa State Penitentiary Sunday night, according to a release from the Iowa Department of Corrections.

According to the report, a response team was assisting with an inmate that was uncooperative and had attempted to assault another officer. The officer involved was assisting with the removal of the uncooperative inmate from a cell when assaulted with a sharp object.

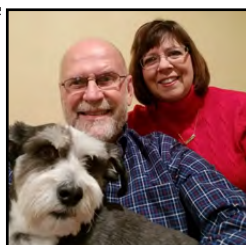
The officer involved was taken to the hospital by department vehicle for an injury to the arm. He has since been released and has returned to duty.

Barber and Pastor reunite after 50 years

I spent Thanksgiving with Ginnie's family in Jefferson City, Missouri. We all met and had our Thanksgiving the day after on Black Friday. Ginnie is the oldest of seven children, so you can imagine it was a large, joyous gathering at her brother,

EMPTY NEST

By Curt Swarm



John's house.

Her father, the Rev. Paul Harvey (yep), is a retired Baptist minister and is 94 years young, going strong, and headed, in all probability, for 100. He's a resident of an assisted living facility in Ozark, Missouri (where Lambert's Cafe is—although the Reverend doesn't go there because it's noisy and he has to wait too long.)

Anywho, when the Reverend Paul Harvey was starting out, he was the pastor of the Main Street Baptist

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WEATHER

TUE 07 Dec Light Snow, 32° F/ 18° F ❄️
WED 08 Dec Cool with Scattered Clouds, 42° F/ 24° F ☁️
THU 09 Dec Scattered Clouds, 57° F/ 33° F ☁️

OpenWeatherMap

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LUCKY FOR LIFE 12/05 714 18 19 41, Lucky Ball: 7
PICK 3 12/05 MIDDAY..... 194
PICK 3 12/05 EVENING..... 769
PICK 4 12/05 MIDDAY..... 1328
PICK 4 12/05 EVENING..... 0272

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Business News/From the Front

Barber still has the same chair

SWARM - Continued from Page 1

Church in California, Missouri, which is a small town (population 4,200, give or take) near Jefferson City. When he wanted his hair cut, he always went to Simpson's Barber Shop at 511 North High Street, on the square, in California. He liked to joke with the barber, Dean Simpson, that he went there to get high on High Street. Which is sort of the truth, because Dean Simpson never charged the Reverend Paul Harvey for his trimming. Dean, being a deacon at Main Street Baptist, was well aware of how much the pastor was paid.

Dean was married and had four children, two girls and two boys. At the time, they lived above the barber shop. Dean and Paul's kids played with each other and went to church together. They loved the apartment on High Street and had fun blowing bubbles on the people below.

Of course, the reverend moved on to other pastorships. Whenever he was in the area, he always stopped in for another haircut from Dean, and Dean continued to not charge Paul. Paul would always offer, and Dean would say, "Your money's no good, Reverend."

Well, at the family Thanksgiving on Black Friday, the Reverend Paul Harvey was brought to Jefferson City, and as a special surprise, was taken to California for a hair cut by his old buddy, Dean Simpson. Dean is 89 and still barbering. In fact, he has been at the same location for 70 years! No fooling. Paul tried to pay, and Dean said, "You know better than that, Reverend."

Then, Dean and his daughter Angie were invited to Thanksgiving dinner at the Harvey's in Jefferson City. Dean's wife, Donna, and Paul's wife, Ruth, were fast friends. Both

of their wives have passed away, leaving the two old pals to reminisce. Ruth was famous for her roast beef gravy. Paul's wife died a few years ago, but Dean's wife just recently passed away. Dean and Donna both had COVID 19, and Donna succumbed.

BTW, Dean still has the same barber chair as he did when he first opened shop. It's an old Koken porcelain chair and was a used chair when he moved in. It was made in the early 1900's. The arm broke once, and Dean had it welded. That was 40 years ago. He's reupholstered the chair three or four times.

And he has a barber pole, a couple of them actually. Dean explained what the red stripe represents. In the "old days," barbers also bled people. The bloody rag was hung outside the door so that people knew where to go for bleeding.

When he first opened, haircuts were \$1. He now charges \$10. On his first day in business, he did 20 haircuts and two shaves. He knew then he was in the right location. California's Downtown Revitalization Committee came by recently and wanted to give Dean an interest free loan to spruce up his storefront. Dean said, "Naw, I like it just the way it is."

Dean was on the committee years ago to build the new 24' x 40' parsonage for Paul and his family. Cost: \$4,000. Their new sanctuary: \$40,000.

Dean intends to continue barbering until the Good Lord says, "That's enough, Dean." Paul may get another haircut yet. "No charge, Reverend."

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

Fareway to partner with U.S. Marines in Toys for Tots

(Boone) – Fareway Stores, Inc. is partnering with the U.S. Marine Corps on their annual Toys for Tots campaign. The program aims to deliver hope to children in-need during the holiday season. All Fareway store locations are conducting a round-up campaign, where customers can round-up to the next whole dollar on their grocery purchase or make an additional contribution. Stores will also be collecting new, unwrapped toys now through Friday, December 24.

"The U.S. Marines Corps Toys for Tots campaign has become a beloved annual tradition during the holiday season," said Fareway CEO Reynolds W. Cramer. "We want to thank our customers and employees in advance for helping make the season bright for many area children and their families."

In 2020, the U.S. Marine Corps Toys for Tots campaign proceeds topped more than \$400,000 and garnered over 100 pallets of toys. Last year was a Toys for Tots record, making it one of the biggest campaigns in the country.

"Last year alone, we were able to bring Christmas joy to over 23,000 children across the region," said U.S. Marine Corps Sgt. Nathan Benton. "This would not be possible without the support of wonderful organizations, like Fareway, and the generosity of the community. Please consider donating to help our neighbors in-need this holiday season and bring a smile to a child's face on Christmas."

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Charles Vandenberg, Editor

(319).371.1670
charles.v@pencitycurrent.com

Lee K. Vandenberg, Sales Manager

(319).371.4125
lee.v@pencitycurrent.com

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PEN CITY CURRENT

It's Black & White and Read all over

Member LION Publishers

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Pen City Current and www.pencitycurrent.com are products of Market Street Publishing, LLC. Pen City Current is published Sunday through Friday mornings by 6AM.

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

Obituaries

OBITUARIES

GINGER E. BREITENSTEIN

Ginger E. Breitenstein, 78, of Farmington, Iowa, passed away at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, December 4, 2021, at Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center in Fort Madison.



BREITENSTEIN

Born on February 25, 1943, in Burlington, Iowa, the daughter of Wilford and Delores (Boyd) Gantz. On December 22, 1963, she married Larry Breitenstein at Union Presbyterian Church in Fort Madison.

Survivors include her husband: Larry; daughters: Shawn (Ken) Perkins of Bonaparte, Iowa, Rhonda (Bill) Jordan of Donnellson, Iowa; son: Darin (Casey) Breitenstein of Farmington, Iowa; grandchildren: Brittany McClure, Billy Perkins, Spencer Breitenstein, Richard Jordan, Kaitlin Jordan, Adrian Breitenstein, Sara Breitenstein; great-grandchildren: Landen Jones, Logan McClure, Cameron McClure, Weston McClure, Xander Breitenstein, Ryder Breitenstein, Lane Breitenstein, Sailor Breitenstein; two sisters: Valerie Schwartz and Terrie Hawke. Also surviving are several nieces and nephews.

She is preceded in death by her parents.

Ginger graduated in 1961 from Burlington High School. From 1963 to 2008 she worked for the Sheaffer Pen Company. She enjoyed doing puzzles, coloring, visiting her sisters, babysitting and being with family.

Friends may call after 12:00 noon Wednesday, December 8, 2021, at Schmitz Funeral Home Farmington, where the family will receive friends from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Funeral services will be held at 10:00 a.m. Thursday, December 9, 2021 at the Schmitz Funeral Home Farmington with Reverend Ellis Andrews officiating.

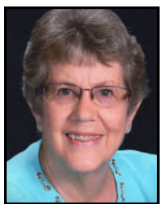
Burial will be at Acklam Cemetery near Primrose, Iowa.

A memorial has been established in her memory.

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

LINDA SALTZGAVER

Linda Saltzgaver, 83, of Keokuk, Iowa passed away December 1, 2021 at Montrose Healthcare Center in Montrose, Iowa.



SALTZGAVER

Linda was born November 24, 1938 in Keokuk, Iowa, daughter of Jack and Mary Saltzgaver.

Linda graduated from Keokuk Senior High school in 1957. She went on to attend Blessing Hospital School of Nursing, graduating in 1961. Linda also completed a post graduate course in the care of rural born premature infants, at Colorado Medical Center in Denver. She was employed at St. Joseph's Hospital, Visiting Nurse Association, and Keokuk Area Hospital Home Health Care. Linda was a very compassionate nurse that was loved and appreciated by many in the community.

On May, 22, 1965 Linda married Gary L. Patton at St. Mary's Catholic Church. The couple later divorced.

Linda loved her faith and church. She served on the Parish Council as a member and president. For many years she and her close friends Ann Curtis and Vickie Jeffers did the decorating and the care of the altar linens at the church. When her children were young, Linda taught religious education classes (CCD) and was also a girl scout leader and council member. She also taught community prenatal classes for several years.

Survivors include three children: two daughters, Julia A. Bates (Don) of Midlothian, Texas and Mary A. Lieving (Marty) of Argyle, Iowa; one son, Richard L. Patton (Dana) of Roanoke, Texas; one brother, John (Jack) W. Saltzgaver (Lale June) of Tampa, Florida; grandchildren: Jill Hagmeier, Curtis Bates, Connor Patton (Tiffani), Nathan Lieving (Randi); great-grandchildren: Taytem, Lorelei, and Callan Lieving; several cousins, nieces, and nephews and many friends.

Linda was preceded in death by her parents, maternal and paternal grandparents, aunts, uncles and many dear friends.

Funeral services will be held at 10:00 am on Saturday, December 11, 2021, at All Saints Catholic Church in Keokuk with Reverend David Brownfield, Ph.D. officiating. Burial will follow at Hickory Grove Cemetery in Keokuk. Visitation will be held at DeJong-Greaves-Printy Funeral Home in Keokuk on Friday, December 10, 2021, from 2:00 pm to 7:00 pm, with family meeting friends from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm. A Vigil Service will be held at the funeral home at 4:30 pm. According to her wishes, Linda was cremated.

Memorials may be made to the Keokuk Animal Shelter or All Saints Parish.

Tributes and condolences may be left at www.dejongsfuneralhome.com.

DeJong-Greaves-Printy Funeral Home of Keokuk is in charge of arrangements.

OBITUARIES

OLIVE M. MCCARL

Olive "Margie" M. McCarl, 90, of Ft. Madison passed away on Monday, December 06, 2021 at 9:25 AM at the Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center in Ft. Madison.



MCCARL

She was born on August 15, 1931 in Henrietta, MO to William and Nina Craig Tory. On August 20, 1949 she married Ray McCarl, Jr. in Ft. Madison and he passed away on August 3, 2020. She worked at Sheaffer Pen Co. and also was a seamstress and did upholstery work. Margie enjoyed doing ceramics, camping, fishing and wintering in Texas with Ray.

Survivors include one son, William McCarl of Ft. Madison; one granddaughter, Jeri McCarl of Highlands Ranch, CO; one great grandson, Cameron McCarl of Centennial, CO; one great great granddaughter, Nyla McCarl of Centennial, CO; one brother, Willie Tory of Ft. Madison and numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, one brother Tommy Tory and three sisters, Genevieve Forquer, Alma Dawson and Cynthia Greenwald.

The funeral service will be held at 12 PM on Thursday, December 9, 2021 at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory with Rev. Timothy Greenwald officiating. Burial will follow in Oakland Cemetery. The family will meet with friends from 11 AM until the time of the service at 12 PM.

A memorial has been established in her memory and online condolences may be left at www.kinglynk.com.

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Sports/For the Record

Ross scores 25 in second half as Lady Hounds down MP

BY PCC SPORTS

MT. PLEASANT – The Fort Madison Lady Hounds moved to 3-0 with a 55-44 win over Mt. Pleasant Friday night in Mt. Pleasant.

Senior Malarie Ross scored 12 of Fort Madison's 21 first half points as the Hounds trailed by two at the half 23-21.

But Ross exploded for 25 points, including four 3-pointers in the second half to finish with six on the night to get a game-high 37 points in the win. She also had five steals.

Camille Kruse had two 3-pointers for six first half points and then converted a couple free throws in the second half to finish with eight points on the night, but led the Lady Hounds with 10 rebounds and added five steals.

Fort Madison took the lead at 30-27 with three minutes remaining in the third quarter and never surrendered outscoring the Panthers 34-21 in the second half, while holding them scoreless for four minutes in latter part of the fourth quarter to seal the win.

The Hounds are now 3-0 on the year. Their Monday game with Danville was postponed until Dec. 20. They host Fairfield on Friday night at home.

Ross is 10th in the state in Class 3A scoring with 78 points on the year.

For the Record

Fort Madison Police report
 12/02/21 – 5:08 a.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 1500 block of Avenue H.
 12/02/21 – 8:33 a.m. – Fort Madison police cited Brandon Lee Hayes, 30, of Fort Madison, in the 2000 block of Avenue L, on a charge of driving while barred.
 12/02/21 – 11:19 a.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 1200 block of 23rd Street.
 12/02/21 – 11:54 a.m. – Fort Madison police arrested Justin Michael Barnes, 35, of Fort Madison, in the 3900 block of Bluff Road, on a charge of violation of a domestic no-contact order. He was taken to Lee County Jail.
 12/02/21 – 11:58 a.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 2000 block of Avenue B.
 12/02/21 – 3:45 p.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of a burglary in the 4600 block of Avenue J.
 12/02/21 – 5:22 p.m. – Fort Madison police cited Tracy Lynn Livengood, 50, of Fort Madison, in the 1500 block of Avenue F, on a charge of driving under suspension.
 12/02/21 – 6:05 p.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of a burglary in the 1300 block of 20th Street.
 12/02/21 – 9:49 p.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 5000 block of Avenue O.
 12/02/21 – 10:57 p.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 400 block of Avenue D.
 12/03/21 – 10:33 a.m. – Fort

Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 5100 block of Avenue O.
 12/03/21 – 4:10 p.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of a burglary in the 600 block of 5th Street.
 12/03/21 – 7:09 p.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 200 block of 1st Street.
 12/03/21 – 11:28 p.m. – Fort Madison police arrested Penny Flores, of Fort Madison, in the 2100 block of Avenue B, on charges of disorderly conduct and possession of drug paraphernalia. She was taken to Lee County Jail.
 12/04/21 – 4:18 a.m. – Fort Madison police cited Jeanetta Lynn Nobles-Harmon, of Fort Madison, at the intersection of 25th Street and Avenue L, on charges of driving while barred and speeding. She was cited and released.
 12/04/21 – 12:37 p.m. – Fort Madison police arrested Lawrence Horace Clark, II, of Flint, MI, in the 2200 block of Avenue L, on charges of disorderly conduct and 3rd degree harassment. He was taken to Lee County Jail.
 12/04/21 – 3:51 p.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 2500 block of Avenue I.
 12/05/21 – 2:32 a.m. – Fort Madison police arrested Wesley Aaron Willis, of Fort Madison, at the intersection of 20th Street and Avenue H, on a charge of public intoxication. He was taken to Lee County Jail.
 12/05/21 – 10:42 a.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 900 block of Avenue F.

12/05/21 – 2:06 p.m. – Fort Madison police arrested Charles Arthur Peterson, of Fort Madison, in the 1500 block of Avenue D, on a charge of simple assault. He was taken to Lee County Jail.
 12/05/21 – 5:23 p.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 100 block of Tammy Lane.
 12/05/21 – 9:03 p.m. – Fort Madison police arrested Jeremy Christopher Gillette, of Burlington, at the intersection of 23rd Street and Avenue G, on warrants for driving while barred and voluntary absence of custody. He was taken to Lee County Jail.
 12/05/21 – 10:40 p.m. – Fort Madison police arrested Thomas Jeremiah Raines, of Fort Madison, in the 2600 block of Avenue I, on a warrant for voluntary absence of custody. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

County sheriff deputies arrested Andres Lee Diaz, 40, of Fort Madison, at the North Lee County Courthouse on warrants for judgement hold and failure to appear/contempt of court. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

Hancock County Sheriff's report

12/02/21 – Andrea K Wear, age 46, of Bowen, IL was arrested and charged for Probation Violation on original charges of Drugs. Wear remains lodged in the Hancock County Jail in lieu of bail awaiting her next court appearance.
 12/02/21 – Nathaniel L Moulton, age 21, of Macomb, IL was arrested on a Hancock County Warrant charging him with Failure to Appear on original charges of Obstructing Identification. Moulton remains lodged in the Hancock County Jail in lieu of bail awaiting his next court appearance.
 12/04/21 – Clayton R Cooper, age 30, of Jefferson City, MO was given a Notice to Appear at a future court date for Scotts Law Violation.
 12/04/21 – Cung H Kio, age 36, of East Moline, IL was given a Notice to Appear at a future court date for Speeding.
 12/05/21 – Lance R Gittings, age 38, of LaHarpe, IL was arrested and charged with Driving Under the Influence. Gittings was released after posting the required bond and given a future court date. *Those listed above are arrested or cited on a suspicion of a crime and are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.*

Lee County Sheriff's report

12/02/21 – 8:59 p.m. – Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Michael Dean Bindel, 30, of Burlington, in the 100 block of 7th Street, on a warrant for failure to appear/contempt of court. He was taken to Lee County Jail.
 12/03/21 – 5:40 p.m. – Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Joshua Allen Soper, 34, of Keokuk, at the North Lee County Courthouse on warrants for pretrial release violation (2), eluding – speed over 25 over limit (2), and dark window or windshield. He was taken to Lee County Jail.
 12/05/21 – Lee County sheriff deputies reported 3 accidents involving deer. No injuries were reported.
 12/05/21 – 11:43 a.m. – Lee

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Sports

FM jayvee wrestlers bring six titles back from Wapello

Fullenkamp gets three wins by fall in less than one minute total

WAPELLO – Fort Madison's Chaz Fullenkamp scored three falls in the jayvee boys 16 category to lead Fort Madison underclassman at the Wapello Junior Varsity tourney this weekend.

Fullenkamp was one of six Hound wrestlers to take first place on Saturday. Others included Aaron Warner at boys junior varsity 23, who also had three pins; Marcus Guzman (JV-22), Nolan Riddle (JV-7), Landon Rudd (JV-27), and Triston Marshall (JV-18), also with three pins.

Eight additional hounds scored 2nd place finishes at the tournament.

Complete results are as follows:

V Girls 36: Ayshan Mammadova (Fort Madison) – 2nd Junior Varsity – Round 1 – Emmersen Thomas (West Branch) over Ayshan Mammadova (Fort Madison) (Fall 1:44)

Junior Varsity – Round 3 – Ayshan Mammadova (Fort Madison) over Chevy Fierce (North Scott) (SV-1 6-4) JV Girls 42: Eva Bohringer (Fort Madison) – 2nd Junior Varsity – Round 1 – Vivian Peterson (North Scott) over Eva Bohringer (Fort Madison) (MD 10-2) Junior Varsity – Round 2 – Eva Bohringer (Fort Madison) over Carmen Faidley (Pleasant Valley) (Dec 6-1) Junior Varsity – Round 3 – Eva Bohringer (Fort Madison) over Anna Hodge (North Scott) (Fall 0:36) JV Boys 14: Chandler Fullenkamp (Fort Madison) – 4th Junior Varsity – Round 1 – Pierce Latham (North Scott) over Chandler Fullenkamp (Fort Madison) (Fall 0:18) Junior Varsity – Round 2 – Ayden Havel (Highland, Riverside) over Chandler Fullenkamp (Fort Madison) (Fall 0:46) Junior Varsity – Round 3 – Micah Zaugg (Burlington) over Chandler Fullenkamp (Fort Madison) (Fall 1:16) JV Boys 21: Christian Vincent (Fort Madison) – 2nd Junior Varsity – Round 1 – Christian Vincent (Fort Madison) over Taylor Wehage (Burlington) (Fall 0:56) Junior Varsity – Round 2 – Jacob Hill (Highland, Riverside) over Christian Vincent (Fort Madison) (Fall 2:32) Junior Varsity – Round 3 – Christian Vincent (Fort Madison) over Konnor Gory (Fairfield) (Fall 1:17) JV Boys 23: Aaron Warner (Fort Madison) – 1st Junior Varsity – Round 1 – Aaron

Warner (Fort Madison) over Lucas Pagan (Burlington) (Fall 0:43) Junior Varsity – Round 2 – Aaron Warner (Fort Madison) over Landon Simo (Highland, Riverside) (Fall 0:35) Junior Varsity – Round 3 – Aaron Warner (Fort Madison) over Kye Smith (North Scott) (Fall 1:23) JV Boys 28: Chase Allen (Fort Madison) – 4th Junior Varsity – Round 1 – Carter Ball (Wapello) over Chase Allen (Fort Madison) (Fall 0:35) Junior Varsity – Round 2 – Markel Zapensz (Columbus/WMU/Lone Tree) over Chase Allen (Fort Madison) (Fall 0:21) Junior Varsity – Round 3 – Paul Jones (North Scott) over Chase Allen (Fort Madison) (Fall 2:00) V Boys 24: Erik Millard (Fort Madison) – 2nd Junior Varsity – Round 1 – Grant Nimke (North Scott) over Erik Millard (Fort Madison) (Dec 8-1) Junior Varsity – Round 2 – Erik Millard (Fort Madison) over Wyatt Hill (Davenport West) (Fall 1:10) Junior Varsity – Round 3 – Erik Millard (Fort Madison) over Seth Barajas (Louisa-Muscatine) (Dec 6-0) JV Boys 13: Gavin Callahan (Fort Madison) – 4th Junior Varsity – Round 1 – Gavin Mills (Louisa-Muscatine) over Gavin Callahan (Fort Madison) (Fall 2:33) Junior Varsity – Round 2 – Brody Lyons (Fairfield) over Gavin Callahan (Fort Madison) (Dec 4-3) Junior Varsity – Round 3 – Jackson


Hughes (Davenport West) over Gavin Callahan (Fort Madison) (Fall 0:45) JV Boys 26: Hayden Segoviano (Fort Madison) – 2nd Junior Varsity – Round 1 – Hunter Kaufman (North Scott) over Hayden Segoviano (Fort Madison) (Fall 3:39) Junior Varsity – Round 2 – Hayden Segoviano (Fort Madison) over Lucas Granados (Davenport West) (Fall 1:24) Junior Varsity – Round 3 – Hayden Segoviano (Fort Madison) over Hunter Abbott (Fairfield) (Fall 0:51) JV Boys 5: Ace Meierotto (Fort Madison) – 2nd Junior Varsity – Round 1 – Jaxson Stuecker (Mount Pleasant) over Ace Meierotto (Fort Madison) (Fall 3:50) Junior Varsity – Round 2 – Ace Meierotto (Fort Madison) over Malachi Wilkey (Davenport West) (Fall 0:21) Junior Varsity – Round 3 – Blaine Dohrmann (Wilton) over Ace Meierotto (Fort Madison) (MD 14-0) JV Boys 22: Marcus Guzman (Fort Madison) – 1st Junior Varsity – Round 1 – Marcus Guzman (Fort Madison) over Dominic Paquet (Davenport West) (Fall 0:11) Junior Varsity – Round 2 – Marcus Guzman (Fort Madison) over Jared Dorothy (Mount Pleasant) (Fall 1:07) Junior Varsity – Round 3 – Marcus Guzman (Fort Madison) over Nolan Engelbrecht (North Scott) (Dec 4-2) JV Boys 16: Chaz Fullenkamp (Fort Madison) – 1st Junior Varsity – Round 1 – Chaz Fullenkamp (Fort Madison) over

Landon Pilcher (Fairfield) (Fall 0:12) Junior Varsity – Round 2 – Chaz Fullenkamp (Fort Madison) over Carson Andreasen (Mount Pleasant) (Fall 0:26) Junior Varsity – Round 3 – Chaz Fullenkamp (Fort Madison) over Kyzer Copp (North Scott) (Fall 0:26) JV Boys 7: Nolan Riddle (Fort Madison) – 1st Junior Varsity – Round 1 – Nolan Riddle (Fort Madison) over Clay Ledger (Wilton) (Fall 0:47) Junior Varsity – Round 2 – Nolan Riddle (Fort Madison) over Oliver Olsen (North Scott) (TF 16-1 3:13) Junior Varsity – Round 3 – Nolan Riddle (Fort Madison) over Elijah Simons (Fairfield) (Fall 0:31) JV Boys 9: Calvin Johnson (Fort Madison) – 3rd Junior Varsity – Round 1 – Calvin Johnson (Fort Madison) over Riley Norwood (Louisa-Muscatine) (Fall 0:47) Junior Varsity – Round 2 – Richard Curtis (Fairfield) over Calvin Johnson (Fort Madison) (Dec 5-3) Junior Varsity – Round 3 – Elliot Schroeder (North Scott) over Calvin Johnson (Fort Madison) (Fall 0:56) JV Boys 27: Landon Rudd (Fort Madison) – 1st Junior Varsity – Round 1 – Landon Rudd (Fort Madison) over Anthony Brimmer (North Scott) (Fall 0:53) Junior Varsity – Round 2 – Landon Rudd (Fort Madison) over Luke Belken (North Scott) (Fall 1:16) Junior Varsity – Round 3 – Landon Rudd (Fort Madison) over Justin

Steiner (Mount Pleasant) (Fall 0:55) JV Boys 18: Triston Marshall (Fort Madison) – 1st Junior Varsity – Round 1 – Triston Marshall (Fort Madison) over Tyree Brower (North Scott) (Fall 1:40) Junior Varsity – Round 2 – Triston Marshall (Fort Madison) over Lee Pasvogel (Wilton) (Fall 1:09) Junior Varsity – Round 3 – Triston Marshall (Fort Madison) over Jahmal Dodson (Mount Pleasant) (Fall 3:47) JV Boys 20: Brandt Booten (Fort Madison) – 2nd Junior Varsity – Round 1 – Brandt Booten (Fort Madison) over Will Schneckloth (North Scott) (Fall 0:41) Junior Varsity – Round 2 – Brandt Booten (Fort Madison) over William Birdsell (Mount Pleasant) (Fall 1:11) Junior Varsity – Round 3 – Jay Lightle (North Scott) over Brandt Booten (Fort Madison) (SV-1 3-1) JV Boys 33: Christian Young (Fort Madison) – 2nd Junior Varsity – Round 1 – Ethan Graber (Mount Pleasant) over Christian Young (Fort Madison) (Fall 3:25) Junior Varsity – Round 2 – Christian Young (Fort Madison) over Jaden Wenig (Mediapolis) (Fall 4:00) Junior Varsity – Round 3 – Christian Young (Fort Madison) over Austin Meeker (Wapello) (Fall 0:55)

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From the Front

District authorizes \$10M bond sale with more coming

BOARD - Continued from Page 1

demographic forces as far as costs on the project, finding materials, and hoping for a labor force sufficient for the two-year project set to be bid next year.

"We're putting a stake in the ground as a board that we will spend up to \$33 million based on the options we're looking at," Hope said.

The board not only voted unanimously to approve spending the money, it also unanimously approved moving forward with current design plans and not pulling the project apart in lieu of cost savings.



SANTIAGO

New board members Mio Santiago and Paul Wilkerson were sworn in after the district approved the financial plan for the projects. Current member Brad Menke was also sworn in for another term.

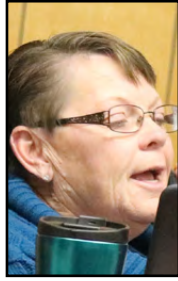
Then the new board voted, after about 35 minutes of discussion, to approve the building design plan.

Santiago said he was a bit nervous when the meeting got moved up, but said he was happy with the decision considering all the information at hand.

"I'm excited about it. It's been a long time coming. I was hesitant at first when they bumped this up and was a little nervous spending the public's money like that," Santiago said.

"But when I sat down with Sandy and looked at it, it was doable. And if we kick it down the road, it's going to get more and more expensive, and that's not any good."

Board member Lois DiPrima said it was time to "go big or go home."



DIPRIMA

"We need to do this now, based on my experience in the past, if we don't do it now. It won't get done."

The district is looking at moving all students into the Fort Madison Middle School and Fort Madison High School, with PreK-6 in the middle school and 7th-12th at the high school. The two elementary schools would be retired after the 2023 school year if all goes according to plans.

The middle school work carried an initial price tag last year of about \$14.7 million while Phase 1 of the high school renovations would provide the classroom space and new gymnasium at a cost of about \$10.2 million. That \$25 million price tag swelled to just over \$33 million with recent inflation under construction material and labor pressures.

The district also authorized the issuance of \$10 million in bonds at the meeting and those proceeds will be in the district's possession on Dec. 20. Slightly more than \$800,000 will be put in a reserve fund to protect potential bond payment revenue dips, while close to \$75,000 will be used to pay for bond costs.

The district will then bond for an additional \$10 million against SAVE funds in 2023 and then another smaller bond in 2024 to finish Phase 1 of the projects. The district will use cash on hand and some Physical Plant and Equipment (PPEL) levy funds to make up the rest of the costs.

Hope said it was critical to the board to not pull the project design apart, which was considered to get the budget down.

"It was very important to not pull that project apart. The ad hoc committee had come up with

that plan and the board sanctioned it and we were moving forward," she said.

"It's a disappointment to me that the economy, the pandemic impact, labor impact, all this stuff was impacting us. But at this point in time, with no additional property tax levies on the district property owners, I'm thrilled we can move forward for the students and for the staff."

Several teachers and parents spoke to the board in favor of moving forward with the projects intact.

"As a taxpayer, I do completely support (this). I voted in all those bond issues - that's my money. I want you to spend my money on my kids, because all these kids here are my kids," said district teacher Rachella Davis.

Teacher Dawn Johnson said anything other than the original plan is teachers continuing to "make do".

"I cannot collaborate now with my co-workers from kindergarten because they are across town," she said.

"If you go with the options that 6th grade would be here or there or wherever, we're still in that same position. It's not conducive to the learning we want to see take place."

In other action, Hope was elected by the board to continue serving as president. Josh Wykert also was nominated for the president's spot. Wykert was re-elected as Vice President of the Board.

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We hope you find peace during this season.

Sincerely - Brian Schmitz, Mitch Beals, Wendy Vonderhaar, Bill Young, Lainie Zachmeyer, Maggie Guzman, Dave Dingman

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