

PEN CITY CURRENT

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

Tuesday, February 1, 2022 | 8 pages | Volume 6 • Issue 30



www.pencitycurrent.com

Sipping Society opens Friday



Image courtesy of Old Fort Players

Happy Hour

From left to right: Karen Schumaker, Richard Abel, Cheryl Hardin (standing), and Suzanne Overberg run lines on stage in preparation for Old Fort Players' production of Savannah Sipping Society. The show opens Friday at 7:30 p.m. and runs Feb. 4-6 and 11-13. Saturday shows are at 7:30 and Sunday shows start at 2 p.m.

SUPERVISORS

Debate ends with 10% bump for county staff

LCSD administration to get a 45% pay bump

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

LEE COUNTY – A spirited debate over whether to fully fund the Lee County Compensation Board's recommended pay increases for county elected officials has paved the way for a 10% across the board pay hike for all county employees.

The Lee County Board of Supervisors met Monday in a special fifth meeting of the month to discuss pay increases included in the proposed budgets of department heads and County Budget Director Cindy Renstrom.

Right out of the gate, Supervisor Ron Fedler made a motion to cut a recommendation from the Comp board to a 22.5% increase for Lee County Sheriff Stacy Weber and a 5% across the board increase for all other elected officials.

"I think that's being pretty fair. I know some places have done more, but I know others are doing less," Fedler said.

Supervisor Garry Seyb asked if he could make a simultaneous motion, but Lee County Auditor Denise Fraise said the motion required a second and action before another motion could be allowed.

The motion was ultimately seconded by Matt Pflug but failed 2-3 with Pflug and Fedler voting in favor of the motion and Seyb, Rick Larkin, and Rich Harlow voting against it.

A discrepancy in the motion was pointed out when Fedler said his motion was for elected officials only, but the posted agenda for the meeting indicated discussion and possible action on employee wages.

See BOARD, page 8

FMAAA

Guzman takes February exhibit at FM art center

BY LORI ILLNER GREENE
FMAAA Director

FORT MADISON - "Journey to the HeART" by Fort Madison native Tracee Guzman opens Friday, February 4th with a Reception from 5pm to 7pm at the FMAAA Art Center located at 825 Ave G in Fort Madison. The exhibit runs through February 26th, 2022 tracing Guzman's artistic journey from abstract and mixed media artist, to Art Instructor at Burlington's Notre Dame and now coming back to her alma mater, Holy Trinity. Her most recent expedition has cast her into the world of illustration as a children's book illustrator.

Guzman says that she began her art career at age 3 when she won her first coloring contest. Sticking to her artistic roots and intending to remain connected to art as part of her

life's work, she graduated from Iowa Wesleyan University with a degree in Art Education. As a child, she had spent quite a bit of time drawing, and creating what has become the title character in her latest book, "Chester, the ^almost Pirate". It is gratifying to her to bring Chester to life after so many years, and share him with others, especially young people.

Guzman released her first book, "The Witches Ball", last year in 2021. "Chester, the ^almost Pirate" is set to be released later this year, in July of 2022.

This month's exhibit, generously sponsored by Pen City Current, will feature an advance peek at some of the artist's original art that appear as illustrations in this book. The FMAAA Art Center is open from 10am-5pm Tuesday through Saturday.



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WEATHER

TUE 01 Feb.....Rain and Snow, 41° F/23° F
WED 02 Feb.....Snow, 22° F/15° F
THU 03 Feb.....Cold and Snowy, 16° F/9° F

OpenWeatherMap



IOWA LOTTERY

LUCKY FOR LIFE 01/30.....4 11 23 24 31, Lucky Ball: 11
PICK 3 01/30 MIDDAY.....0 3 6
PICK 3 01/30 EVENING.....0 0 4
PICK 4 01/30 MIDDAY.....6 0 2 9
PICK 4 01/30 EVENING.....0 5 2 0

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Obituaries

OBITUARIES

STEVE F. GRISWOLD

Steve Fred Griswold, 67, of Keokuk, IA passed away Thursday, January 27, 2022 at his home.

He was born January 26, 1955 in Ft. Madison, IA the son of Howard F. and Ruth O. Suter Griswold. Steve lost both of his parents a young age and went to live with Ernie and Pat Suter and their three children, Stacey, Perry and Eric. The family moved to Hamilton, IL in 1963.



GRISWOLD

Steve graduated from Hamilton High School. During his school years, he played baseball, basketball and football. The football team was called F-Troop.

He had been employed by the local railroad, Keokuk Ferro-Sil, Hoppe Construction and the Keokuk Water Department.

Steve enjoyed all of his summers at the family cabin at Fortunes Quarry. He was an avid fisherman who was always had a tale to tell and entertain his friends. He loved cabin living, swimming and music, especially Willie Nelson.

He is survived by two sisters, Judy Ann Griswold (Vigil) of San Diego, CA and Stacey R. Suter (Giampolo) of Hamilton, IA, two brothers, Perry W. Suter of Hamilton, IL and Eric E. Suter of Hamilton, IL and his companion of twenty years, Bonnie Andrews.

He was preceded in death by both sets of parents.

A Celebration of life will be held at a later date.

Memorials may be made to the Keokuk Humane Society.

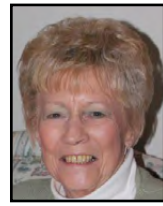
The Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk, IA is assisting the family with arrangements.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.vigenmemorialhome.com.

OBITUARIES

MAXINE L. STOTTS

Maxine Loretta Stotts, 87, of Denmark, Iowa died Thursday, January 27, 2022 at the River Hills Village, Keokuk, Iowa. She was born July 21, 1934, a daughter of Clarence and Catherine (Diton) Gingrich. On July 11, 1954 she married Richard Jack Stotts.



STOTTS

Maxine was a homemaker. She was a member of the Denmark Congregation United Church of Christ.

She bowled from 1958 to 2020, and she enjoyed watching sports on TV, especially the Chicago Cubs and the Iowa Hawkeyes. She loved spending time with her family and was the most amazing hostess.

She is survived by her husband of 67 years, Richard Jack Stotts, two children: Sherry Stotts of Fort Madison, Iowa and Brad Stotts (Pam Sciumbato) of Denmark; three granddaughters: Lisa Engeman, Kennedy Stotts (Nathan Parker), and Shelby Stotts; 6 great grandchildren: Jaydiane, Colton (Rikki King) and Peighton Engeman, Blayire Thomas, Braelynn Harkney, and Brookelynn Parker, and 2 great great grandchildren, Greyson and Jensyn McCarty. She was preceded in death by her parents, one brother Glen Gingrich at birth, and one sister Marie Wolfskill.

Her family will greet friends from 1:00 to 3:00 pm Saturday, January 29, 2022 at the Barr Memorial Chapel, Fort Madison. Burial will be at a later date. A memorial has been established, contributions may be left at Barr Memorial Chapel, 1919 Ave F, Fort Madison, Iowa 52627. Barr Memorial Chapel is honored to serve the Stotts family and an online guest book may be found at www.barrmemorialchapel.com.



Lunch Specials
Jan 31 - Feb 4
11am - 1pm

Monday, January 31
Beef Stroganoff, Green Beans

Tuesday, February 1
Tenderloin, French Fries

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2
TATER TOT CASSEROLE

Thursday, February 3
Fried Chicken Dinners

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4
FISH & SHRIMP DINNERS



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

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For the Record

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report

01/25/22 – 3:05 p.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 100 block of 26th Street.
 01/25/22 – 5:26 p.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 2000 block of Avenue L.
 01/25/22 – 8:09 p.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1600 block of Avenue H.
 01/25/22 – 9:41 p.m. – Fort Madison police arrested Alan Lee Vincent, 42, of Fort Madison, at the intersection of 27th Street and Avenue I, on a warrant for voluntary absence from custody. He was taken to Lee County Jail.
 01/26/22 – 8:21 a.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of a property damage accident at the intersection of 28th Street and Avenue K.
 01/26/22 – 8:53 a.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 2400 block of Avenue L.
 01/26/22 – 11:57 a.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 4800 block of Avenue O.
 01/26/22 – 1:06 p.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 700 block of 14th Street.
 01/26/22 – 3:24 p.m. – Fort Madison police cited Jason Duane Hart, 42, of Fort Madison, in the 1500 block of Avenue H, on a charge of driving under suspension.
 01/26/22 – 5:45 p.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 1500 block of Avenue H.
 01/26/22 – 6:28 p.m. – Fort Madison police arrested Brandon Ray Raszler, 30, of Fort Madison, in the 1500 block of 18th Street, on a warrant for failure to appear.
 01/26/22 – 10:29 p.m. – Fort Madison police cited Justin Russell Raszler, 34, of Fort Madison, in the 200 block of Avenue G, on a

charge of driving while barred.
 01/27/22 – 12:11 p.m. – Fort Madison police cited Renee Alice Kimbrough, 54, of Fort Madison, at the intersection of 15th Street and Avenue E, on a charge of driving while barred.
 01/27/22 – 12:37 p.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 300 block of 9th Street.
 01/27/22 – 2:55 p.m. – Fort Madison police cited Garry Franklin Farmer, 49, of Fort Madison, at the intersection of 18th Street and Avenue H, on a charge of driving while barred.
 01/27/22 – 10:40 p.m. – Fort Madison police arrested Jason David Nicholson, 42, of Fort Madison, no location reported, on a charge of public intoxication. He was taken to Lee County Jail.
 01/28/22 – 1:40 a.m. – Fort Madison police arrested Joshua James Hayes, 33, of Fort Madison, in the 2400 block of Avenue G, on a charge of driving while barred and a warrant for failure to appear.
 01/28/22 – 4:47 p.m. – Fort Madison police arrested Melissa Dawn Davis, 39, of Fort Madison, in the 4400 block of Avenue L, on a charge of 2nd offense domestic abuse. She was taken to Lee County Jail.
 01/28/22 – 5:27 p.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 1500 block of Avenue H.
 01/28/22 – 8:51 p.m. – Fort Madison police cited Ty Edward Hancock II, 45, of Fort Madison, in the 2700 block of Avenue L, on a charge of driving while barred.
 01/29/2022 – 4:16 a.m. – Fort Madison police arrested William Lee Murphy, 45, of Fort Madison, in the 1900 block of Avenue G, on a charge of 1st offense domestic assault with bodily injury. He was taken to Lee County Jail.
 01/29/22 – 4:29 a.m. – Fort Madison police arrested Kara Sue Nelson, 26, of Fort Madison, no location given, on a charge of 1st offense OWI. She was

taken to Lee County Jail.
 01/29/22 – 2:46 p.m. – Fort Madison police arrested Kelly Renee Bowen, 38, of Fort Madison, in the 900 block of Old Denmark Hill, on a warrant for voluntary absence from custody. She was taken to Lee County Jail.
 01/29/22 – 8:05 p.m. – Fort Madison police cited Zachariah Justice Raines, 20, of Fort Madison, in the 2000 block of Avenue L, on a charge of driving under suspension.
 01/29/22 – 8:37 p.m. – Fort Madison police cited Tieshia Renee Ann Marshall, 21, of Fort Madison, in the 1400 block of 38th Street, on a charge of driving under suspension.
 01/30/22 – 11:05 a.m. – Fort Madison police arrested Justin Robert Bowden, 40, of Fort Madison, in the 1700 block of 35th Street, on a warrant for sex offender verification violation. He was taken to Lee County Jail.
 01/30/22 – 12:42 p.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of a burglary in the 2100 block of Avenue G.
 01/30/22 – 5:49 p.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of a burglary in the 1100 block of Avenue E.
 01/30/22 – 5:50 p.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 1100 block of Avenue E.

Lee County Sheriff's Report

01/25/22 – 9:52 a.m. – Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Jalen Keith Kutcher, 21, of Fort Madison, at the North Lee County Courthouse, on a charge of 1st degree harassment. He was taken to Lee County Jail and later released on his own recognizance.
 01/26/22 – 12:00 a.m. – Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Amanda Lee Minuete, 32, of Burlington, at the North Lee County Courthouse, on a warrant for failure to appear. She was taken to Lee County Jail.
 01/27/22 – 7:38 p.m. – Lee Coun-

ty sheriff deputies responded to a two-vehicle accident in the 1700 block of Hwy. 61. According to the report, a vehicle driven by Sidney Nicole Boyer, 24, of Wever, was traveling southbound on Hwy. 61 when she began to slow down to turn into her driveway when a vehicle driven by Leslie Ann Stotts, 54, of Fort Madison, ran into her rear bumper. Boyer lost control of her vehicle after impact and the vehicle rolled onto its top and landed in the driveway. Stotts lost control of her vehicle after impact and struck a tree in the yard. Both parties declined medical attention. Both vehicles sustained approximately \$1500 in damage and had to be towed from the scene. No injuries were reported at the scene and Stotts was cited for driving while suspended.
 01/28/22 – 11:07 a.m. – Lee County sheriff deputies arrested John Dale Wyatt, Sr., 48, of Keokuk, at the South Lee County Courthouse, on warrants for 3rd degree harassment, violation of a domestic no-contact order, stalking – protective order violence, and stalking – unauthorized use of GPS. He was taken to Lee County Jail.
 01/28/22 – 12:15 p.m. – Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Donald Ray Bauswell, Jr., 39, of Keokuk, at the sheriff's office, on a judgment hold. He was taken to Lee County Jail and later released as weekend serve.
 01/28/22 – 4:46 p.m. – Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Braedon Colby Tinder, 22, of Keokuk, at the South Lee County Courthouse, on 3 warrants for failure to appear. He was taken to Lee County Jail.
 01/28/22 – 10:57 p.m. – Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Cody Lee Jurgens, 28, of Fort Madison, in the 2000 block of 303rd Avenue, on a charge of willful injury – bodily injury. He was taken to Lee County Jail.
 01/29/22 – 5:36 a.m. – Lee County sheriff deputies responded to a one-vehicle accident in the

2800 block of Hwy. 27. According to the report, a vehicle driven by Tishma Lynn Heredia, 37, of St. Louis, was traveling northbound on Hwy. 27 when she fell asleep, the car drifted onto the shoulder and she lost control of the vehicle which then entered the east ditch and came to rest on its left side. Heredia was transported to Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center by ambulance for minor injuries. The vehicle sustained approximately \$1500 in damage and had to be towed from the scene. Heredia was cited for failure to maintain control.
 01/29/22 – 7:26 a.m. – Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Raymond Joseph Tallman, 49, of Keokuk, at the sheriff's office, on a judgment hold. He was taken to Lee County Jail and later released on time served.
 01/29/22 – 7:55 p.m. – Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Brandon Lee Queen, 36, of Keokuk, in the 3100 block of Main Street, on a warrant for 5th degree theft less than \$300. He was taken to Lee County Jail and later released on bond.
 01/31/22 – 4:09 a.m. – Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Lauren Elaine Beach, 29, of Burlington, at the sheriff's office, on a warrant for voluntary absence from custody and a charge of violation of probation. She was taken to Lee County Jail.
 01/31/22 – 7:54 a.m. – Lee County sheriff deputies responded to a two-vehicle accident at Exit 18 on Hwy. 27. According to the report, a vehicle driven by Matthew Allen Jones, 41, of Albia, was stopped at the stop sign at the bottom of the ramp, left the stop sign, and crossed Hwy. 2, but did not see the vehicle driven by Daniel Albert Kruse, 15, of West Point, that was traveling west and turning left onto the Hwy. 27 on-ramp. Jones' vehicle struck Kruse's vehicle causing minor damage to both vehicles. No injuries were reported and Jones was cited for failure to yield.

01/31/22 – 8:45 a.m. – Lee County sheriff deputies arrested John Dale Wyatt, Sr., 48, of Keokuk, at the South Lee County Courthouse, on warrants for stalking – protective order violation and violation of a domestic no-contact order. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

Hancock County Sheriff's Report

01/29/22 – Steven J Finton, age 39, of Warsaw, IL was given a Notice to Appear at a future court date for No Valid Driver's License, Driving While Suspended and No Valid Insurance.
 01/30/22 – Rebecca P Osbon, age 34, of Hamilton, IL was arrested on a Hancock County Warrant charging her with Failure to Appear on original charges of Driving Under the Influence, Driving While License Revoked, and Illegal Transportation of Cannabis. Osbon 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.

Fort Madison Fire & Rescue Report

01/28/22 – Fort Madison firefighters responded to two medical calls and one refrigerator smoking.
 01/29/22 – Fort Madison firefighters responded to three medical calls and one false alarm.
 01/30/22 – Fort Madison firefighters responded to three medical calls, one false alarm, and one stove sparking.

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Sports

Bloodhounds win four titles at Southern Iowa Classic

BY PCC SPORTS

FAIRFIELD – The Fort Madison Bloodhounds are working toward a solid finish to the regular season as four Hound wrestlers came away with titles Saturday at Southern Iowa Classic.

Fort Madison won the tournament with 288 points a full 50 points ahead of second-place Albia.

Seniors Gavin Wiseman wrestling at 152 and Jakob McGowan at 182 both brought home titles as did sophomores Teague Smith and Ike Thacher at 160 and 195.

Wiseman rolled through his bracket with three pins getting a pin at 3:23 over Eli Zaroni of Albia in the championship match. Both of Wiseman's other matches were by fall in less than a minute. Wiseman stands at 33-9 on the year after his four wins Saturday He is currently ranked 9th in the state in Class 3A at 152.

McGowan scored a pin over Albia's Devin Kimball in exactly one minute before recording a 9-1 major decision over Burlington's Caleb Zaugg. In the title match, McGowan recorded a pin with 20 seconds left in the match over Washington's Logan Frazer. The Hound trailed in the match 4-3 going into the second period, but racked up four points midway through the second on a take down and near fall to take a 7-5 lead into the final two minutes.

With McGowan starting on the bottom in the third,



he scored an immediate escape and then a take down before being awarded a stalling point and then securing the pin for the title.

Ike Thacher scored a quick pin in his first match at 195 and then received a forfeit when Burlington's Nolan Simpson couldn't go. The sophomore then found himself against Fairfield's Theodore Metcalf and almost got the pin in the first period getting a take down and near

fall to go up 4-0.

Metcalf would get an escape half way through the period and neither wrestler would score again until Thacher got out of a hold after starting down in the 3rd period for an escape and the 5-1 final score.

Wrestling at 160, Smith scored falls in both his first two matches at 16 seconds and 31 seconds, but had to go the distance against Washington's Chase Greiner for the title.

Smith scored two take downs in each of the first two periods, but Greiner was able to wiggle free of three of them. In the third period, Smith scored three take downs two of which Greiner got 1-point escapes, but Smith never let Greiner get any momentum in the final period preserving the win.

Daniel Sokolik was runner up at 220 lbs after falling to Colley Billingsly of Washington in 56 seconds. The junior got on the board first with a take down, but Billingsly was able to work a 2-point reversal and secure the pin on the move for the win.

Logan Pennock also made a run for the title going 4 for 5 in a pool bracket at 120 pounds. Pennock recorded four wins in his first four matches including pins over Burlington and PCM Monroe. He got technical falls over Mt. Pleasant and Knoxville before falling 5-2 to Brodie Connor (35-3) of Albia.

Connor scored a take down early in the match and was able to push it to a 3-point nearfall before time ran out. Pennock would get a take down in the 2nd period, but was unable to capitalize as neither wrestler would score again in the match leaving Pennock with second place at 120 lbs.

Jordan Hartman and Nolan Riddle each brought home 3rd place finishes, Hartman at 170 lbs and Riddle at 132 lbs. Henry Wiseman took 5th place at 138.

The Hounds travel to Burlington Thursday for a Southeast Conference matchup and then are off until District action at Iowa City High on Feb. 12 beginning at 11 a.m. Fort Madison will compete against Bettendorf, Burlington, Iowa City High, Iowa City Liberty, Newton, Ottumwa, and Pleasant Valley.

Bettendorf is the 4th rated Class 3A team in the state with six wrestlers ranked in the top 12 at each weight class.

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2022 Lee County Republican Precinct Caucus
February 7, 2022 7:00 p.m.
Registration starts at 6:00 p.m.

Precinct	Caucus Location
CHARLESTON, VAN BUREN, DES MOINES	PILOT GROVE COMMUNITY ROOM 506 NORTH MAIN STREET DONNELSON, IA 52625
FRANKLIN, CEDAR, MARION, HARRISON	PILOT GROVE COMMUNITY ROOM 506 NORTH MAIN STREET DONNELSON, IA 52625
WEST POINT	PILOT GROVE COMMUNITY ROOM 506 NORTH MAIN STREET DONNELSON, IA 52625
JACKSON	KEOKUK HIGH SCHOOL 2285 MIDDLE ROAD KEOKUK, IA 52632
ALL KEOKUK PRECINCTS	KEOKUK HIGH SCHOOL 2285 MIDDLE ROAD KEOKUK, IA 52632
MONTROSE	KEOKUK HIGH SCHOOL 2285 MIDDLE ROAD KEOKUK, IA 52632
DENMARK, PLEASANT RIDGE, GREEN BAY	FORT MADISON HIGH SCHOOL 2001 AVENUE B FORT MADISON, IA 52627
ALL FORT MADISON PRECINCTS	FORT MADISON HIGH SCHOOL 2001 AVENUE B FORT MADISON, IA 52627
JEFFERSON	FORT MADISON HIGH SCHOOL 2001 AVENUE B FORT MADISON, IA 52627
WASHINGTON	FORT MADISON HIGH SCHOOL 2001 AVENUE B FORT MADISON, IA 52627

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CAUTION

POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS

The Precinct caucuses will perform the following functions:
A. Elect 2 persons, Republican residents of the precinct to serve on the County Central Committee.
B. Elect delegates and alternate delegates to the Lee County Republican Convention to be held on Saturday March 12, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.
C. Propose and vote on platform planks to be sent to the Lee County Republican Convention.

*Voter Registration Forms will be available to register or update your information.

The 2022 Republican Precinct Caucus is a great way for Conservatives to provide support in fighting the Progressive Agenda and "Keep Lee County Red"

PAID FOR BY THE LEE COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY OF IOWA P.O. BOX 281 FORT MADISON, IA 52627 TEL: 319-526-1110

Sports

BHS knocks Bloodhounds from the unbeaten

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

BURLINGTON – There’s not really such a thing as a good loss, but if there was one, Fort Madison’s 59-46 loss to Burlington on the road Monday night fits the bill.

The Bloodhounds surrendered their unblemished 15-0 record on the year to an athletic Grayhounds squad bent on an upset in a fast-paced affair with both teams pressing, and trying to score in transition.

It was the Grayhounds’ full court pressure in the fourth quarter that proved to be Fort Madison’s undoing.

Senior Matt Hopper hit a buzzer beater from the left baseline to end the 3rd quarter with one of the Bloodhounds’ best half-court trips of the night. The 3-pointer gave Fort Madison a 37-35 lead heading into the fourth.

But Burlington regrouped and Fort Madison couldn’t seem to figure out the pressure. The Grayhounds went on a 24-9 run through the fourth quarter capitalizing on turnovers and missed baskets to put the game away.

“100% we’ll learn from this. We’ll be better because of it,” Fort Madison Head Coach Ryan Wilson said. “We see them again in 11 or 12 days. Let’s hope we can play better and make better decisions.”

The Hounds will need the learning experience going forward as they play at No. 4 Washington on Friday, travel to Quincy on Saturday, and then play at current Class 3A No. 2 Decorah on Feb. 8.

Monday’s loss to Burlington puts the Hounds in a tie with Washington atop the Southeast Conference at 7-1 each. Fort Madison already owns a win over the Demons at Fort Madison earlier. Washington has two wins over Burlington this year leaving the Grayhounds at 6-2 in the conference, just one game back.

“They’re very athletic, they got some long reach, but we had things in place to beat that 1-2-2 press,” Wilson said of the Grayhounds. “We saw it against Fairfield and we knew it was coming. We saw it against Notre Dame. We just have to make better decisions.”

He said it wasn’t necessarily the frantic pace of the game, but the Hounds’ decision making that got them in trouble.

“It wasn’t the pace so much. We just didn’t run our stuff,” Wilson said. “When we have guys that don’t want



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

The Bloodhounds’ Reiburn Turnbull (3) drives the lane against BHS’ Jackson Carlson (4) and Amarion Davis (2) during Monday’s loss.

to get where they need to be and run the plays that are drawn up, we’re gonna struggle. How many times did we go one-on-two, one-on three in the press. You don’t break that press with a dribble.”

Burlington tied the game early in the fourth after a Landes Williams’ miss. They took the lead on Merquiche Lewis Jr.’s bucket in transition. Dayton Davis would tie things up with a bucket inside of a nice inlet pass from Reiburn Turnbull.

Burlington would answer on Amarion Davis’ bucket inside on the Grayhounds’ next possession, again

in transition after slipping through the Fort Madison press.

Davis would then get to the freethrow line on a foul driving the lane to bring the game within one again at 41-40. Davis would miss the back end of the freebies and Burlington would mishandle the rebound. Miles Dear slipped around the baseline for the rebound, but his putback was partially blocked, and Davis was whistled for a foul working in the paint. Things got out of hand from there.

On Burlington’s next possession, Lewis, Jr., got past the Fort Madison press and was fouled by Tate Johnson at the other end. He converted the bucket and made the freethrow to extend Burlington’s lead to four. The Grayhounds shot a stellar 9 of 12 from the field in the final period.

Davis would miss at Fort Madison’s end and Tyce Bertlshofer would take a half-court pass and score over the top of the Hounds’ defense.

Dear would hit from the top right side of the 3-point arc for Fort Madison in the next possession, prompting a quick time out from Wilson with the Hounds trailing 46-43.

Fort Madison would miss their next three shots while Burlington went on a 9-0 run to put the game away.

Wilson said Fort Madison got in too much of a hurry down the stretch. He didn’t call a timeout to slow things down because the Bloodhounds knew what to do, they just didn’t execute it.

“It was just a matter of slow down and run your stuff. Why do we have to go 100 mph all the time,” Wilson said. “I’ve told them at some time it’s gonna catch up to us, and it sure did tonight.”

Davis led Fort Madison with 13 points. Dear had nine in the loss, while Tate Johnson chipped in with eight and Landes Williams added six.

Fort Madison is off until Friday when they travel to Washington in another key Southeast Conference matchup.



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PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE

Iowa Democratic Party Caucus

The Lee County Democratic Party will hold precinct caucuses on Monday, February 7th at 7:00 pm. Doors at all locations will be open by 6:30 pm. You must be in line or signed in by 7:00 pm to participate. The Lee County Democrats will meet in three locations based on precinct. The locations are as follows:

All Keokuk Precincts and Jackson Township will caucus in the cafeteria at the Keokuk Middle School, 2002 Orleans Avenue, Keokuk IA.

All Fort Madison Precincts and Washington, Green Bay, Denmark, and Pleasant Ridge Townships will caucus in the cafeteria at Richardson Elementary School, 3301 Avenue L, Fort Madison IA

Cedar, Charleston, Des Moines, Franklin, Harrison, Jefferson, Marion, Montrose, Van Buren, and West Point Townships will caucus at the Old Central Lee Gymnasium at the Central Lee Campus, 2642 Highway 218, Donnellson IA

If you are uncertain of your precinct, you may contact the Lee County Auditor's office or Mary Jo Riesberg, chair of the Lee County Democratic Party at 319-526-3160.

The purpose of this year's caucus is to:

1. Discuss and adopt proposed resolutions to be added to the county platform.

2. Elect Delegates and Alternates to the County Convention

3. Elect Precinct Committee Persons to the County Central Committee

The precinct caucus is a great way to get involved in grassroots activities with the Lee County Democratic Party.

All Lee County Democrats are encouraged to attend. Masks will be required.

Please call Mary Jo Riesberg at 319-526-3160 if you have any questions.

PUBLIC NOTICE IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

New Construction Announcements

Notice to Bidders
Iowa Department
of Natural Resources

Sealed bids will be received by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Engineering Bureau, at the Wallace State Office Building, 502 East 9th Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0034 until 11:00 A.M., February 17, 2022 for the public improvement projects listed below, at which time they will be opened publicly. In addition to attending the bid opening in person, interested parties may also call in to the following number to listen to the bid opening:

Conference call number: +1 (484) 416-2391
PIN: 133 543 968#

In order to improve sound quality, please mute your phone by pressing *6. If you have questions, you can unmute your phone by pressing *6.

Please Note: emailed bids will no longer be accepted; all bids must be submitted via hard copy originals

If you intend to hand-deliver your sealed Bid Proposal and Proposal Guarantee Bond, you will need to enter the Wallace Building through the main entrance/front doors. This is the only entrance open to the public. Upon arrival, please use the phone by the sliding glass doors that lead to the front elevators, to call the front desk and a DNR Receptionist will come down to obtain the sealed bid documents and to date and time stamp them. On the bid opening day, a DNR Receptionist will be available in the lobby to receive sealed bid documents and to date and time stamp them upon arrival. No bids shall be accepted by FAX OR EMAIL. After the bid opening, information concerning bid results may be obtained by visiting the Department's website at www.iowadnr.gov.

Note: The United States Postal Service (USPS) does not deliver mail or packages directly to the address provided above

but rather to the Capitol Complex Mail Room. Extra time should be allotted for proposals sent by the USPS. The Iowa Department of Natural Resources shall not consider bids if they are not received by the Department of Natural Resources, either at its mail room or at its Fourth Floor Reception Desk, by the time and date described in this Notice to Bidders, regardless of whether the bid was mailed prior to that time and date or whether the bid was received at the Capitol Complex Mail Room or other state government location prior to that time and date.

Project documents, including drawings, specifications, proposal forms and addenda items for the project are available at Beeline and Blue, at 2507 Ingersoll Ave., Des Moines, Iowa 50312. Please visit www.beelineandblue.com or contact (515) 244-1611 for more information. Alternatively, Bid Documents can be viewed or printed online at <https://programs.iowadnr.gov/engreal/projectlist.asp>

The Department shall comply with all public improvement procurement laws, as outlined in the plans and specifications and including but not limited to: Iowa Code chapter 26 related to public construction bidding; Iowa Code chapter 73 related to preferences; Iowa Code chapter 573 related to labor and materials on public improvements; rules promulgated by the Department of Administrative Services – General Services Enterprise as they may apply; rules promulgated by the Department of Natural Resources and the Natural Resources Commission, as they may apply; and any federal statutes, rules and/or executive orders that may be associated depending on funding sources. Bidders shall comply with these laws to be considered and are encouraged to be familiar with public improvement procurement requirements and the bidding documents before submitting a bid.

Each bidder shall accompany the bid with a bid security as defined in Iowa code section 26.8. The bid security must be in an amount set forth in the bidding documents and made payable to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. Failure to execute a contract for the proposed work and file an acceptable Performance Bond in an amount equal

to 100% of the contract price and a certificate of liability insurance within thirty (30) days of the date of the award of the contract will be just and sufficient cause for the rescinding of the award and the forfeiture of the bid security.

WINNESHIEK COUNTY PROJECT

NO. 19-03-96-04

Coon Creek WMA
Streambank Stabilization

Proposal Guarantee:
\$6,250.00

Completion Date:
07/30/2022

Project Description:
This project consists of placing streambank erosion protection.

POLK COUNTY PROJECT

NO. 21-02-77-10

Big Creek State Park
Derecho Repairs

Proposal Guarantee:
\$6,250.00

Completion Date:
08/31/2022

Project Description:
The Derecho of 2020 damaged the office building roof and many shelters and restrooms throughout Big Creek State Park. This project will be to demolish the Model Airplane and Firefly Restrooms, repair the roofs at Cadet Restroom and Shelter, Jolly Boat Shelter, and the office at Big Creek SP. The office will also receive new gutters and downspouts.

UNION COUNTY PROJECT

NO. 21-04-88-02

Green Valley State Park
Campground Pavement Maintenance

Proposal Guarantee:
\$12,500.00

Completion Date:
08/31/2022

Project Description:
This project consists of pavement preservation; crack cleaning and filling, patching, fog sealing, double chip sealing, placement of shoulder rock, grading for drainage, installation of a roadway culvert and seeding, fertilizing and mulching.

CLAYTON COUNTY PROJECT

NO. 21-03-22-01

Pikes Peak
Campground Upgrade Project

Proposal Guarantee:
\$125,000.00

Completion Date:
05/01/2023

Project Description:
This project consists of removal of the existing asphalt roads, campground camp pads, electric service lines, disposal station and any remaining

trees and vegetation within the work zone and installing a new Portland Cement Concrete roadway, new gravel camp pads, electric services, sanitary sewer services, installing 2 new disposal stations and seeding and mulching all disturbed areas located at Pikes Peak State Park in Clayton County, Iowa.

LOUISA COUNTY PROJECT

NO. 21-06-58-04

Odessa Wildlife Unit
Flood Damage Repairs

Rebid
Proposal Guarantee:
\$12,500.00

Completion Date:
09/30/2022

Project Description:
This project involves clearing and grubbing, grading, placing fill, placing erosion mat, seeding and fertilizing FEMA repair areas in Louisa County in the Odessa Wildlife Unit.

WARREN COUNTY PROJECT

NO. 22-05-91-08

Lake Ahquabi
Fishing Pier Renovations

Rebid
Proposal Guarantee:
\$12,500.00

Completion Date:
08/31/2022

Project Description:
The existing fishing pier at Lake Ahquabi was built in the early 1990s. The pier needs a renovation as the decking boards, shelter, and handrails are in poor condition and need to be replaced. This project will remove the enclosed shelter, add structural steel to the superstructure and a new, open air, steel shelter will be installed. New treated wood floor joists, composite decking, treated wood handrails, fish cleaning stations, and electrical will be installed. The adjacent boardwalk, concrete building slab, and asphalt trail will be removed and replaced with a new accessible seawall sidewalk to the pier.

LUCAS COUNTY PROJECT

NO. 22-05-59-01

Red Haw State Park
Shoreline Stabilization & Water Control Structure Replacement

Proposal Guarantee:
\$25,000.00

Completion Date:
02/15/2023

Project Description:
This project involves 3,670 linear feet of shoreline stabilization by placing class 'E' revetment on 2:1 slope; replacing water control structure, seeding mulching and fertilizing all disturbed areas.

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From the Front

Supervisors to hold public hearing on 2022-23 budget Monday

BOARD - Continued from Page 1

Lee County Attorney Ross Braden clarified that elected officials are employees and the agenda item for action was for action on all employee wages. He also clarified that the mandate to increase the wages was placed on the county's compensation board, and not on the board of supervisors.

The board can reduce the recommendation, but they have to reduce it by the same factor across all elected officials.

About 10 people spoke in support of the proposed increases that the Comp. Board recommended. However, the Comp. Board can only recommend increases for the county's elected officials. With the agenda item listed as it was, the only action that could be taken was for all county employees.

Janet Hissem of Montrose, a member of the Comp. Board said she was disappointed with the board because her first interaction as a member this year met with friction from the board.

"Before we even had a chance to discuss our agenda, it was explained to us that you probably weren't going to listen and you probably were not going to do what we recommended," Hissem said.

"I felt that that was pretty much a slap in the face to our intelligence."

Hissem said it is unprecedented for Gov. Reynolds to sign a law that raises the pay of the sheriff, but said it makes Lee County equal with the rest of the state.

"It gets us caught up to a place we should have been all along," she said. "This is unprecedented for a 45% increase in wages, but it wouldn't be 45% if he was already equal in the state of Iowa to the other populations to us."

Pflug said there was no way he would support a \$45,000 raise for any one person in the county.

"I've talked in my district to more than 60 people and have had two people in favor of it. First of all,

no way anybody deserves a \$45,000 raise. I'm sorry, I will not vote for that, I don't care who it is," Pflug said.

Pflug said he has always supported the sheriff's department, but cannot support that kind of increase.

"The people that I talk to, and it's not just Democrats, this is Republicans, this is independents, they are not in favor it and I serve the 5th district as well as Lee County - they are not in favor of it."

Pete Settles, a county employee, said he is worried about his taxes going up, but everything is going up. Settles is a member of the negotiation committee and said all they are asking for as employees is to be on the same page as other people in the state as far as wages.

Mary Jo Reisberg of Keokuk read a prepared statement saying that the situation was handed to the county by the legislature.

"I don't know if our state senator or state representative discussed the effect of this bill with the board in advance of their yes vote," she said.

"I don't know if they asked about the impacts on the county budget or how the county would pay for the increase."

Reisberg said she fully supported the sheriff's department.

"The board has been handed an almost-impossible decision... I don't envy you in this position."

Supervisor Garry Seyb said the law, as written, will impact the budget next year as well, and if the county doesn't get in line with the pay increases intended under the state's Back the Blue law in the coming budget year, they'll have to deal with it the following year if changes are implemented at the state level.

Seyb said the levy for the last four years has averaged 10.43 and the levy being proposed is \$10.37.

Pflug said a recalculation of the budget number

this year shows that it didn't go down as Seyb had eluded. Renstrom said a correction from the state on the current year's budget changed the current levy, so there is no reduction proposed.

Renstrom clarified that the wages are not the reason for why the levy will stay close to the current year level. She said adding the ambulance service is what is driving the tax levy.

"It's not moving because of the raises we're looking to give. The current year budget we added the ambulance service on," Renstrom said. "We had revenue for general basic, but we had no revenue to cover general supplemental which the benefits come out of. We should have raised the levy in the current year to cover the \$725,000 that we increased the supplemental for adding the ambulance."

Hannah Baker, a correctional officer at the Lee County Jail, said in her five years with the department, they have had to replace more than 20 employees because of wages.

After about 90 minutes of discussion, Fedler called for the vote, which failed 2-3. Garry Seyb then motioned to accept and publish Renstrom's proposal that includes a 45% increase for the Sheriff, and 10% across-the-board raises for all employees.

That motion passed 3-2 along the same lines.

The vote now puts Renstrom's budget proposal up for a public hearing next week including the wage increases. The budget will include a rate of growth over the state allowable 2%. When the vote on the budget comes up for approval, the board will have to vote to approve it with a supermajority of four supervisors.

State code requires a supermajority to supercede the allowable growth figure.

Renstrom said the addition to the supplemental budget will total just over \$1 million and, without approving the supplemental increase, which was calculated to about 11%, the county will be facing the \$725,000 shortfall in the budget.



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