

PEN CITY CURRENT

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

Thursday, July 16, 2020 | 8 pages | Volume 4 • Issue 141



www.pencitycurrent.com

Crozier gets contract renewal

CENTRAL LEE: Superintendent gets 2.6% bump after board evaluation Monday

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

DONNELLSON – After ushering in a successful bond referendum that has work started on a \$13 million upgrade, and navigating the coronavirus shutdowns, Central Lee Superintendent Dr. Andy Crozier was awarded a new contract Monday night.

The new contract is retroactive to July 1, and will pay Crozier \$152,346 annually. That represents a 2.6% bump from his previous agreement. That contract wasn't set to expire until June 30, 2022.

Crozier said he wasn't surprised by the extension.

"We normally extend it each year, so I guess it's kind of like a rolling contract and unless the board has some issues, that usually happens," Crozier said.

In addition to eight paid holidays each year, Crozier also gets 20 days of non-accumulating vacation, 15 sick days with can accumulate to 135 days and three non-accumulating personal days.

Crozier gets a \$1,622.53 retirement contribution from the district to a 403b plan in lieu of a health insurance benefit, which amounts to an additional \$19,470 annually for a total package of \$171,816.

The pay bump represents the same increase giving to other Central Lee staff.

"I got the same increase as everybody else and I didn't want anything more than other employees got."

The increase was approved by the Central Lee School Board following a closed session evaluation at Monday's regular board meeting.

OLD FORT PLAYERS

OFF to put on Carol

Burnett skits

BY KATIE SCOVILLE
PEN CITY CURRENT

FORT MADISON – Lights! Camera! Closing? Because of COVID-19, the theatre world has taken a hit all across the country, and with the need for social distancing, smaller theatres with limited seating options have been unable to operate.

Fort Madison's own community theatre has felt such effects. Having to canceling their spring show, Old Fort Players of Fort Madison has been dormant since the beginning of the outbreak until now.

A spark of hope has ignited through the members of Old Fort Players. The idea to perform short skits and stream them live came from

See OFF, page 8

FMAAA

Reception for Recycle Exhibit at FMAAA

BY BRIAN RIGGS
Fort Madison Area Arts Association

FORT MADISON – Ft. Madison Area Arts Association burst back into cultural flower with an awesome Garden Tour in late June, followed by another edition of a July theme shows. "Recycled We Can" features repurposed art in any medium.

The public is encouraged to bring a canned good for a Food Pantry Drive when seeing the show, in a fun way to further incorporate the can theme.

A reception occurs July 17th from 5-7pm. Sunnybrook of Ft. Madison is the sponsor for the show.

Repurposed art has been gaining popularity for some time and there are some stunning works on display from Teresa Dearing, Linda Ross, Curt Swarm, Sam Creagen, Tim Laffey, Mary Scott, Karen Ihrig Gilbert, and Jessica Kirby.

Follow the yellow brick road to 825 Avenue G for nostalgic tin-can men



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg

A FMAAA reception is set for Friday from 5 to 7 p.m. for this month's exhibit Recycle We Can.

made by Carol Fedler. Be sure to take a fairy can garden home by Kaity Price. All sorts of funky fun with a new themed exhibition. Past examples of the FMAAA themed features have been "It's a Bug's Life", the "Red, White, and Blue Show", and "We Wear Hats".

Thanks to all the creativity our artists are sharing with the public and remember to bring a canned good in support of a key non-profit in this day and time we live in. Viewing available all month Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday from 12-7pm. We think we can, we think we can, we think we can.



HANCOCK COUNTY

Quincy man found dead in fiery crash

CARTHAGE – On Friday, July 10th, 2020 at approximately 11:42pm Hancock Sheriff's Deputies responded to a vehicle on fire at the intersection of County Road 850 North and County Road 1800 East.

Preliminary investigation shows the vehicle, a 2016 Kia utility, was traveling westbound on County Road 850 North and failed to stop at the stop sign at the "T" intersection. The vehicle proceeded through the intersection, entered the ditch and struck a fence post, catching fire. Carthage Fire Department extinguished the flames and located the driver still inside the vehicle.

Coroner Kendall Beals conducted an autopsy on Sunday, July 12th and identified the driver of the vehicle through dental records as Thomas Ernst, 63, of Quincy, Illinois.

The Hancock County Sheriff's Office was assisted by the Carthage Fire Department, Hancock County EMS, and Hancock County Coroner Kendall Beals.

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WEATHER

THU 16 Jul.....Broken Clouds, 78.7° F / 67.9° F
FRI 17 Jul.....Mostly Sunny, 82.2° F / 76.3° F
SAT 18 Jul.....Light Rain, 83.6° F / 79.9° F

OpenWeatherMap

IOWA LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS 07/14.....6 26 55 56 64, Mega Ball: 22 Megaplier: 4
PICK 3 07/14 MIDDAY.....434
PICK 3 07/14 EVENING.....591
PICK 4 07/14 MIDDAY.....2431
PICK 4 07/14 EVENING.....6954

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For the Record

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report
 07/13/20 – 3:39 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 200 block of 15th Street.
 07/13/20 – 5:47 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a vandalism in the 1900 block of 48th Street.
 07/14/20 – 2:53 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 300 block of 12th Street.
 07/14/20 – 10 a.m. – Fort Madison Police arrested Taylor Young, 25, of Fort Madison in the 800 block of Avenue G, on a warrant for probation violation and assault. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
 07/14/20 – 10:35 a.m. – Fort

Madison Police responded to a report of a hit and run in the 2200 block of Avenue M.
 07/14/20 – 4:46 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 2800 block of Avenue N.
 07/14/20 – 5:19 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft on Iris Lane.
 07/14/20 – 6:48 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a hit and run in the 2000 block of Avenue L.
 07/14/20 – 8:19 p.m. – Fort Madison police arrested Michael Anthony Weldon, 30, of Fort Madison, in the 2300 block of Avenue L, on a charge of driving while barred. He was re-

leased on a promise to appear.
 07/15/20 – 2:24 a.m. – Fort Madison Police cited Bradley Glenn Traman, 33, of Fort Madison at the intersection of 26th Street and Melody Terrace on a charge of driving under suspension.
 07/15/20 – 3:49 a.m. – 07/14/20 – 10 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 1300 block of Avenue C.
 07/15/20 – 9:47 p.m. – Fort Madison Police cited Bradley Glenn Traman, 33, of Fort Madison at the intersection of 31st Street and Avenue O on a charge of driving under suspension.
Lee County Sheriff's Report

07/13/20 – 10:26 a.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Monte Del Horner, 52, of Keokuk, at the South Lee County Courthouse, on a court-ordered hold. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
 07/14/20 – 11:34 a.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a two-vehicle accident in the 1600 block of Hwy. 61. According to the report, a vehicle driven by Laton Joshua Denning, 16, of Fort Madison was headed northbound on 61. A vehicle driven by Timothy Albert Klesner, 47, of Fort Madison was preparing to turn on 165th Street and Green Bay Road. Denning

rear-ended Klesner's vehicle and then veered into the inside land and off the road. Both vehicles were towed from the scene. No injuries or citations were listed on the report.
 07/14/20 – 11:37 a.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Devin Wade Schofield, 26, of Carthage, Ill., at the Hancock/Lee county line in Keokuk on a warrant for probation violation. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
 07/14/20 – 1:45 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a two-vehicle accident in the 3000 block of 270th Avenue. According to the report a vehicle driven by Cody Scott Glasgow, 28, of Montrose

struck a mower causing minor damage to both vehicles and no injuries. Glasgow was cited for no valid driver's license.
 07/14/20 – 6:48 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies cited Cody Scott Glasgow, 28, of Montrose, in the 100 block of Pine Street in Montrose, on a charge of driving while barred.
Fort Madison Fire & Rescue Report
 07/13/20 – Fort Madison firefighters responded to three medical calls, one burn complaint, one false alarm, and one car fire investigation.
 07/13/20 – Fort Madison firefighters responded to four medical calls.

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Obituaries

OBITUARIES

ELMER J. BOEGNER

Elmer John Boegner, 82, of Houston, TX and formerly of Fort Madison, IA, passed away



BOEGNER

on Friday, July 3, 2020 at 12:05 a.m. at Memorial Hermann Hospital in Pearland, TX.

E. J., as he was affectionately known to most, was born May 3, 1938 in Ft. Madison to Elmer Louis and Louise Einspanjer Boegner. He attended grade school at St. Joseph's and was in the first graduating class of Aquinas High School in 1956. He enlisted in the Marine Corps, roughed it through basic training at Camp Pendleton in southern California, before being assigned administrative and ceremonial duties in Washington DC. He left the military, enrolled at the University of Iowa, but was persuaded by his father to work at the family-owned grain elevator in Niota, IL.

In 1959, E.J. met Fort Madison resident Kay Earlene Francis and married her a year later. They started a family with son, Gregory Scott, born in 1961, and Brenda Nicolle, born in 1964. Eager for a career in commodity trading, E.J. moved his family to Dallas in 1969, and began work-

ing at E. F Hutton. He and Kay divorced in 1970.

E.J.'s work trajectory saw him taking jobs in Oklahoma City, Fort Wayne, IN, and finally Houston, where his children were now residing. In Houston, he held positions at top brokerage and financial management firms, first with Dean Whitter and ultimately Morgan Stanley, where he was a registered financial advisor until his retirement in 2009. While in Houston, he met Virginia-native Bettie Gayle Hopkins. They married in 1991. Together, they were active in several social and charitable organizations; namely, the Knights of Regina krewe of the Galveston Mardi Gras, of which EJ was named Royal Duke, leading the parade in the annual celebration in 1993.

E.J. will always be remembered by those who know him as a nice guy, a fine father, grandfather and great grandfather, devoted husband, respected colleague and good neighbor.

E.J. is survived by his son, Greg, now living in Vilamoura, Portugal; daughter, Brenda (Louis) Parker of Lake Jackson, TX; three grandchildren, Briana Farris, Ashlyn Parker, and Pierce Parker; and three great grandchil-

dren. He was preceded in death by his parents and his wife Gayle.

Visitation with the family in attendance will be held on Wednesday, July 22, 2020, from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. at St. Mary and Joseph Catholic Church in Fort Madison. A funeral mass will follow at 11:00 a.m. with Rev. Joseph Phung officiating. Social distancing rules will apply and masks are encouraged. Burial will be held in Gethsemane Cemetery. King-Lynk Funeral Home is in charge of the services.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests making donations to E.J.'s favorite charity, St. Joseph's Indian School, 1301 North Main Street, Chamberlain, SD 57325. Online condolences may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: www.king-lynk.com.

OBITUARIES

RICHARD STEFFEN

Richard "Rick" Steffen, 76, of Fort Madison, IA, passed away on Tuesday, July 14, 2020 at 6:10 AM at his home.

He was born on October 10, 1943 in Ft. Madison to Elmo "Curly" and Lois Barnes Steffen. On May 31, 1980 he married Sandra Phillips Cecil in Galesburg, IL. Rick worked as a supervisor at IAAP and also worked at Sheller Globe, MetroMail, Shottenkirks, Anderson Distributorship and owned Tom's Distributorship in Sioux City. He was a realtor and an appraiser in Ft. Madison. Rick was a member of the Eagles Club and Ft. Madison Chamber of Commerce Ambassador Club. He loved cars and was a drag racer, he enjoyed racing of any kind and if it had a motor and preferably four wheels, he would race it. He enjoyed playing bridge and also restored tractors and automobiles.

Survivors include his wife, Sandy Steffen of Ft. Madison; a son, Philip (Lu-Anne) Cecil of Knoxville, IL; a daughter, Susan Cecil Kottenstette of Ft. Madison; nine grandchildren, Amber and Kara Cecil of Galesburg, IL, Randy (Jessica Owens) Butler of Burlington, Ryan (Susan) Butler of Quincy, IL, Jacob and Kevin Kottenstette of Ft. Madison and Kristin Cecil of Casper, WY; nine great grandchildren, Liam and Kayleigh Cecil of Galesburg, IL, Anna Owens Butler of Burlington, IA, Aiden, Brennan, Makayla and Alyssa Butler of Quincy, IL and Zinnia Cecil of Casper, WY; two sisters, Nora (Steven) Hill of Danville, IA and Melissa (Scott) Hobbs of Montrose; nieces and nephews and his beloved pets, Matilda and Cali. He was preceded in death by his parents, one son, Richard Cecil; two brothers, Bernie and John Steffen and one sister, Nancy Osborn.

Friends may come to the Ft. Madison Eagle's Club at 10:30 AM on Saturday, July 25, 2020 where a Celebration of Life will be held at 11 AM with Tom Schultz officiating. A luncheon will follow the service. Per his wishes, cremation has been entrusted to King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory.

A memorial has been established for PAW Animal Shelter or FMCH Home Health Care and Hospice.

Pen City Current obituary policy

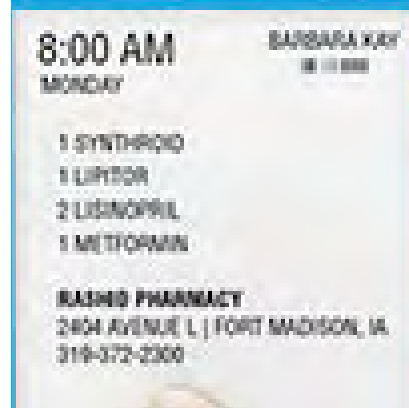
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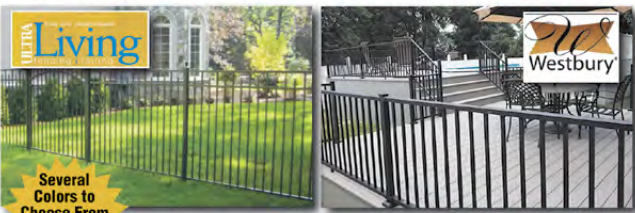


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IHSAA's Keating says summer baseball is Iowa

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

DONNELSON – Iowa was the only state in the country to open up high school sports this summer and the head of the Iowa High School Athletic Association said it's been a summer to remember.

Tom Keating, Executive Director of the IHSAA, was in town for the Central Lee-Van Buren Class 2A District 10 semifinal game Tuesday night in Donnellson and said, looking around the crowd of people gathered for the event... "This is Iowa."

With very few people wearing masks, bleachers full yet slightly spaced, and lawn chairs spread around the baseball field, Keating said Iowans needed to get out.

"The first thing I see is kids connected back to something they love as well as connected back to their schools," Keating said.

"They've been away from that community since April and to get reconnected and be back in touch with teammates and classmates – I think is a great thing.

"The other thing I see is – this is Iowa, right? It's summer. There's baseball, people in camping chairs and just out for a great night. And you know, I think people are being responsible. I don't think anyone is really out of line here. It's a nice crowd and they are doing their best to stay apart."

Keating spent the day Tuesday looking at district facilities with Central Lee Superintendent Dr. Andy Crozier. Crozier serves on the IHSAA Board of Control. Keating says he likes to get around to see the board member's school districts.

"I spent the day with him and learned a lot of about this district. We saw the construction project here, and I think that really shows what this community thinks about its kids," Keating said.

With Iowa taking the much-debated position of opening summer sports under some recommendations from the IHSAA in conjunction with the Iowa Department of Public Health, Keating said he's been pleased with the vigilance of the high school programs.

He said he's seeing and hearing that coaches, administrators and players are embracing guidelines and doing what it takes to keep the players safe. The programs that did suffer disruptions of the season due to the coronavirus, encountered the virus from outside the programs.

"About 5% of the programs experienced some loss of the season and that's not terrible. There were 15 baseball teams and 15 softball teams so that's 30 teams out of 600 programs – that's a pretty good number," Keating said.

"And what we've noticed is that the programs that have had to shut down for a while because of positive cases – those all came from outside the program. So the things that were put in place, and the things these guys are making happen, are working."

Going forward, Keating said the association is taking notes on the season and looking at what can be integrated with policies and guidelines that will help the state to navigate prep sports in the future.

He said common sense changes like regular cleaning of equipment, keeping sanitizer close, and encouraging athletes to wash hands more frequently is something



“

The other thing I see is - this is Iowa, right? It's summer. There's baseball, people in camping chairs, and just out for a great night. And you know, I think people are being responsible.

-Tom Keating,
IHSAA Executive Director

that may become part of regular guidelines.

One lesson he said the association is learning from the summer is the importance of discipline and diligence in their messaging.

"The second thing we learned," he said a bit tongue-in-cheek, "was maybe we should have told everybody to quarantine the kids except when they come to the ballpark. Because if they're getting it, it's from somewhere else."

With football practices gearing up around the state, and number of tests and positive results climbing in the state, Keating said there's been discussion around the country of flipping football and track seasons this school year. But he said the directors across the country, with the exception of New Mexico, aren't flipping that switch unless they're told there's no other choice.

On July 9, New Mexico's Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham ordered the state's fall contact sport season, including football and soccer, canceled. The New Mexico Activities Association, which governs high school sports, announced shortly after that those sports would be played in the spring, a move much more suited for the southwest, than the Midwest.

"What I would tell you is that we've looked hard at many scenarios for the fall and until we have no options for fall sports to be in the fall, we won't look that way," Keating said.

"I was on a call today with executive directors from around the country, and with the exception of New Mexico, no one is considering flipping seasons."

Keating said the move is more complex than people realize and would place heavy burdens on already-taxed activities directors around the state to create schedules.

"That's a piece of it. But the other piece is let's suppose we flip football and track. The message we're sending is that we care more about the safety of football than track. And, if we do that and for some reason things have to shut down again, then track loses to seasons in a row.

"No one of those things is a reason to say, 'Let's not do it,' but you put them all together and boy, that's a tough move. That's why most executive directors are feeling like – unless we're told we can't do our fall sports in the fall, we're going to do everything we can to try and make that happen."

Keating is a native of Philadelphia and has been a teacher coach, and administrator in Iowa for more than 40 years. He was named Executive Director of the IHSAA in 2019.

Keokuk, FM groups get rural empowerment grants

FM Beautification group gets money for free downtown WiFi service

DES MOINES – Today, the Iowa Economic Development Authority announced \$400,000 in Rural Innovation grants and Rural Housing Assessment grants that have been awarded to 21 communities across the state. This is the inaugural round for the Rural Innovation and Rural Housing Assessment programs, which were developed in 2019 by the Governor's Empower Rural Iowa Initiative.

The Rural Innovation Grant Program supports creative, non-traditional ideas that focus on current issues and challenges faced by rural communities associated with the themes of community invest-

ment, growth and connection. The Rural Housing Assessment Grant Program supports the use of publicly available online information through the "Profile of Iowa" tool and rural community efforts to interpret the hard data; it also helps implement changes to development codes, local ordinances, and housing incentives specific to a community's needs in partnership with Iowa State University Extension and Outreach.

"We do big things in rural Iowa, and public private partnerships continue to open new doors to the creative thinking and entrepreneurial spirit that exists in all corners of the state," said Gov. Reynolds.

"The investments announced today support everyday Iowans who are thinking outside the box to address the challenges that exist in their communities. I believe these unique projects will serve as a growth model for even greater prosperity in our small towns and rural communities."

"When developers see just how great the housing needs are from these assessments, they get the confidence they need to invest in rural Iowa," said Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg, co-chair of the Governor's Empower Rural Iowa Initiative. "The rural innovation and housing needs studies are just one of the many concrete ideas the Empower Rural Iowa task forces have come forward with to grow the rural parts of our state."

For example, Bellevue Community School District plans to use its Rural

Innovation funding to develop the "Innovating Bellevue" program, which will connect local entrepreneurs and business owners with Bellevue youth within a new Innovation Lab designed to foster creativity and collaboration. Located in a renovated historic building on the banks of the Mississippi River, the lab will become an incubator for new, locally owned businesses. There will also be opportunities for local business owners to create succession plans that involve youth becoming apprentices and taking over a business, especially for skilled trades like plumbers and electricians that are essential for small towns to thrive.

A full list of the 2020 Rural Innovation and Rural Housing Assessment Grant recipients (applicant, population, project type, description, amount, total project cost) is available online.



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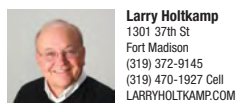
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Classifieds/Public Notices

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PUBLIC NOTICES

**PUBLIC NOTICE
PROCEEDINGS
FORT MADISON
CITY COUNCIL
7/9/2020**

The Fort Madison City Council met in a special meeting at 5:30 P.M. on Thursday, July 9, 2020, at City Hall, 811 Avenue E. Mayor Mohrfeld presided with Council Members Bowker, Morawitz, Andrews, Miller, Lair, Rink and Cangas present. This meeting was held electronically (pursuant to Iowa Code Section 21.8) because a meeting in

person was impossible or impractical for the health and safety of City Council, staff and the public presented by COVID-19.

On motion, Council approved the agenda. On motion, Council approved a Six-Month Liquor License for River Rocks LLC for Rock's Dock, effective 7/10/2020.

At 5:33 P.M., the meeting adjourned until July 21, 2020, at 5:30 P.M.

/s/ Matt J. Mohrfeld, Mayor

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

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EOE

HELP WANTED

REGISTERED DENTAL ASSISTANT

Mark C. Pothitakis Family Dentistry currently has a position available for a Full-Time Registered Dental Assistant in their Fort Madison and Burlington locations. Complete an application or mail your resume to 1223 S. Gear Avenue, Eastman Plaza, Suite 302, West Burlington, IA 52655 or email burldental@gmail.com. EOE.



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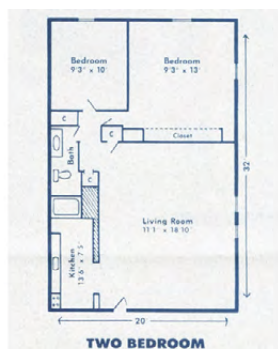
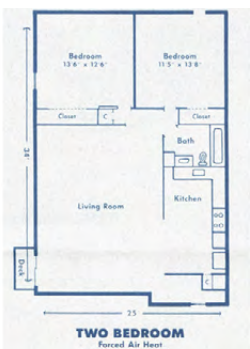
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Local News/Iowa news

SCC looking for alumni nominations

WEST BURLINGTON – Southeastern Community College (SCC) is accepting nominations for the 2021 Distinguished Alumni Award. Nominations are due online by 4:30 p.m. Thursday, August 1.

“I look forward to reading nominations about the journeys our alumni have taken since graduating,” Val Giannettino, Executive Director of Institutional Advancement, says. “Past Distinguished Alumni have been absolutely remarkable people who motivate both our students and our community.”

Two Distinguished Alumni have been selected each year since 1997; one represents each campus. Past recipients include Dr. Edward Stone, Randy Winegard, Dick Wagner, Bill Madlock, Dr. Paula Willoughby DeJesus, and Martha

Wolf.

To be eligible for nomination, the nominee must have been considered a full-time student for a total of two semesters at SCC or its predecessor colleges. These include Burlington Junior College, Burlington Community College, and Keokuk Community College.

Nominations should address at least one of the following: how the nominee has earned the respect and trust of their colleagues; how they’ve made substantial, positive contributions in their community; why the nominee is an outstanding practitioner of their profession; or how the nominee has served as a positive, motivational force for others.

At least one additional recommendation letter should accompany the nomination.

The SCC Alumni Association Board will review the nominations at their October meeting. Recommendations are then taken to the SCC Board of Trustees’ November meeting for confirmation.

Receptions are held to honor the Distinguished Alumni before the awardee gives a keynote address at their respective campus commencements. They will receive an award and a plaque recognizing their accomplishments will be hung amongst other Distinguished Alumni plaques at the SCC campuses.

Follow this link to make a nomination: www.scciowa.edu/alumni/distinguished/nominate.aspx

For more news or to learn about Southeastern Community College, visit: https://www.scciowa.edu/aboutscc/office_mktg_comm/news/

Auditions set for Old Fort Players’ summer skit run

OFF - Continued from Page 1

brainstorming on online Zoom meetings.

Dorothy Schulte, a member of OFF, said, “We’ve been trying to think of a way to remind people that there’s still a theatre in town.”

OFF wanted to formulate an idea that abided by COVID-19 guidelines and made social distance rehearsing possible. Thus, performing skits with live streaming was introduced.

OFF plans to recreate skits from The Carol Burnett Show after buying rights from Pioneer Drama. The public will be able to stream skits live through Facebook Live. Although they will be free, there will be a donation button accompanying the video.

For the live shows, live acting and pre-recorded segments will be combined to allow for set and costume changes. OFF hopes to even incorporate a small audience-for natural reactions and laughs- of about 20, chosen by first come first serve ticket sales. The audience will be assigned seats that are at least 6 ft. apart to ensure social distancing. Eventually, OFF hopes to release pre-recorded skits that people can purchase access to on Zoom.

Another matter of concern is the audition process itself.

“Everyone involved in the audition process will be required to wear a mask except the person on stage,” Schulte said.

There will be a limit to how many people can be in the theatre during the process.

“What’s great about these auditions is no matter if you’re a beginner in the theatre world or if you haven’t been active in ages you can still audition. Since the skits are short, there’s not a lot of lines to memorize,” Schulte said.

OFF plans to hold auditions for the upcoming skits on July 19th and 20th at 6 p.m. Call backs will be held on July 23rd. Directors are looking for a adult actors of various ages, both male and female.

Currently, OFF is just trying to remain positive and work with the current situation.

“We’re trying to keep our spirits up. Business has been tough because of the current climate. We’re trying to get back to where we were while considering the constraints of the virus,” Schulte said.

FMCH welcomes another new pediatrician

FORT MADISON - Fort Madison Community Hospital is pleased to welcome Dr. Bryan Blacker. Dr. Blacker is a Board eligible Pediatrician and will join the FMCH Pediatric Clinic on Monday, August 3, 2020.

Dr. Blacker is coming to FMCH after completing his Pediatric Residency at the University of South Dakota. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in Nutritional Sciences from Brigham Young University and his Doctor of Medicine degree from the University Of New Mexico School Of Medicine.

“I enjoy all aspects of general pediatric healthcare. I love to watch my patients grow, learn and change



BLACKER

from year to year,” commented Dr. Blacker. “The most rewarding part of my day is empowering and educating parents. Most parents work hard to be the best they can and do the right thing for their children. My job is to help give them the tools and knowledge to keep their kids healthy.”

Dr. Blacker will see patients from newborn through the teenage years in the clinic along with Dr. Kolleen Burnett, Dr. Libby Balbort, Dr. Greg Gorski and Pediatric Nurse Practitioner, Susan Holtkamp.

Pediatricians specialize in the health care of children from preventive to diagnosis and treatment of acute and chronic diseases. They collaborate with the child’s parent or guardian to deal with the physical, emotional and social development of their children.

“Mom and Dad gut is a real thing! I try to be a partner in your child’s health care, incorporating your concerns and desires into each decision we make. Each family is unique and solutions that may work for one may need to be different for another,” expressed Dr. Blacker.

Dr. Blacker and his family are excited to become part of the community. “We just had our second child in March, a little boy! My 3-year-old daughter and I bond over long walks centered on picking dandelions, and eating licorice when mom is not looking.”

Dr. Blacker is fluent in Spanish. He is accepting new patients. Appointments can be made by calling the FMCH Pediatric Clinic, 319-372-KIDS (5437).

NOW OPEN DAILY



Open Swim:
1pm-5pm (DAILY)
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Lap Swim:
Noon-1pm & 5pm-6pm

Daily Rate: \$3.00
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SEASON PASSES ARE NOT AVAILABLE FOR THE 2020 SEASON

Fort Madison Public Pool

A division of the Fort Madison Family YMCA

ADULT LAP SWIM • OPEN SWIM (All Ages) • POOL PARTIES

Welcome (back)



We are honored to be joined by Dr. Courtney on June 1, after more than three decades of private practice.

Dr. Courtney will be seeing patients at our Fort Madison Family Dentistry West office.

Call 319-372-4882 for your appointment.



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