

PEN CITY CURRENT

It's Black & White and Read all over

Sunday, March 8, 2020 | 5 pages | Volume 4 • Issue 49



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8th Street reopened



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg

Fort Madison Fire Chief Joey Herren wraps caution tape around barricades Friday afternoon as city officials opened up the half block area on 8th Street south of Avenue G for the first time since November.

BUILDING: Owner's engineer says building is safe enough to open street

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – City officials were on scene Friday afternoon reopening 8th Street from Avenue G to the alley south after engineers reported the Humphrey building was shored up enough to remove the barriers.

City Building Director Doug Krogmeier said Friday at the scene, engineers hired by building owner Bryan Humphrey have reported to the city that the building is safe to reopen the streets.

Particle board reinforcements are visible on the west side of the building from the street level to the third floor. Kro-

gmeier said he's going to keep the parking spots on the west side barricaded off.

He said neither he, nor Fort Madison Fire Chief Joey Herren, have been inside the building to look at the repairs, but wanted to go in with the engineer.

The barricades on the north side of the building were pulled down two weeks ago after city officials received an engineering report that the concern had been addressed.

"He's making progress to at least get the road open and hopefully that continues and he gets somebody signed up to make the proper repairs," Krogmeier said.

See HUMPHEY, page 5

CORONAVIRUS

Gov. Reynolds partially activates SEOC to prepare for virus

DES MOINES - Gov. Kim Reynolds has ordered a partial activation of the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) in Johnston to ensure State of Iowa agencies are prepared in the event COVID-19 is detected in the state.

"While no positive tests of

COVID-19 have been confirmed in Iowa at this time, we are proactively coordinating plans across state agencies to protect the health of Iowans and assess our operational needs so we are prepared as possible," said Gov. Reynolds. "We will continue to work with

President Trump and his Coronavirus Task Force to make sure Iowa has the resources, information, and expertise to keep our communities safe."

The partial activation began on

See REYNOLDS, page 5

TOP PRINCIPAL

Central Lee's Herdrich gets top honor

School Administrators of Iowa pick CLHS principal for 2020

BY PCC STAFF

DONNELSON – Nicole Herdrich, Central Lee High School principal, has been named the 2020 Iowa Secondary Principal of the Year by School Administrators of Iowa.

"As high school educators, we focus on academics, the content learning piece of instruction—the facts, figures, dates and formulas. A second piece we are also responsible for is filling the students' 'toolbox' with learning tools and strategies they can use in new and novel settings to learn outside of the classroom," summarizing the mission of the school she leads, Herdrich said.



HERDRICH

"The third focus of successful education is raising teens with sound character, well-developed soft skills, and leadership skills; in other words, educating the heart of the student. When we balance our instruction between these three vital areas—academics, learning tools and growing good people, we have a comprehensive framework for meeting the needs of today's high schoolers and tomorrow's workforce leaders."

"Congratulations to Nicole Herdrich on her award! Her passion for her staff and students resonated with the selection committee. Nicole is that special leader who models each day the importance and value of building strong relationships with others," SAI Executive Director Roark Horn expressed.

Herdrich has led the school since 2014 and was previously an elementary principal in the district. Her education career began as an elementary special education teacher in Fort Madison. She holds a

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WEATHER

SUN 08 Mar.....Light Rain, 59.1° F/ 53.2° F
MON 09 Mar.....Heavy Intensity Rain, 53.2° F/ 43.4° F
TUE 10 Mar.....Scattered Clouds, 48.9° F/ 45.8° F

OpenWeatherMap

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MEGA MILLIONS 03/06.....15 48 56 58 70, Mega Ball: 4 Megaplier: 4
PICK 3 03/06 MIDDAY.....472
PICK 3 03/06 EVENING.....610
PICK 4 03/06 MIDDAY.....9859
PICK 4 03/06 EVENING.....2710

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Obituaries/Education News



Courtesy Photo

Pictured from L-R row 1: Jayde Watznauer, Brianna Wright, Lucy Graham, Annabelle Scheetz, Laura Mehmert; row 2: Alexis Stalcup, Mary Hellige, Tina Huang, John Stinson, Danny Caruso, Ava Peitz, Jack Blint, Elizabeth Ebbing. (not in picture) Claire Graham.

HTC sends 13 to state speech contest

FORT MADISON – The Holy Trinity Speech Team competed at the IHSSA District Contest hosted by Wapello High School on February 29 and advanced thirteen student orators to the State Contest with four of the team members advancing in two areas. The State Contest will be hosted by Grinnell High School on March 14.

Those receiving a Division “I” rating and earning the right to compete at “State” are seniors – Claire Graham, Prose and Solo Musical Theater; Ryan Otte, Radio News and Prose; Jayde Watznauer, Poetry; juniors – Danny Caruso, Acting and Improv. Acting; Elizabeth Ebbing, Poetry and Prose; Ava Peitz, Literary Program; Annabelle Scheetz, Poetry; John Stinson, Literary

Program; and Exchange Student Yuhan (Tina) Huang, Original Oratory; Sophomores – Jack Blint, Acting; Lucy Graham, Public Address; freshmen – Laura Mehmert, Expository Address, Brianna Wright, Public Address;

Team participants who were double entered and received Division “II” ratings in their second events were Jack Blint, Improv. Acting; Tina Huang, Solo Musical Theater, John Stinson, Improv Acting, and Jayde Watznauer, Solo Musical Theater. Other participants receiving Division “II” ratings were sophomore Alexis Stalcup, Expository Address and freshman Mary Hellige, Acting. The HTC team is coached by Joseph P. Harmon.

OBITUARIES

WILLIAM J. BARTLETT

William J. Bartlett, 75, of rural Fort Madison, IA, passed away at 1:38 p.m. on Friday, March 6, 2020 at the University of Iowa Hospitals in Iowa City, IA. He was born on March 1, 1945 in Fort Madison, IA to Edward & Vina Hueser Bartlett.



BARTLETT

He married Kathy J. Ayers on September 14, 1968 in Wolcott, IA. She preceded him in death on December 5, 2016. He worked at Ken's Home Appliance for several years and then was the owner of K & B Appliance. He then worked at American Ordinance and lastly as a driver for Shottenkirk in Fort Madison. He served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War, stationed in South Korea. He was a member of Holy Family Parish and the Pen City Cruisers Car Club. He enjoyed car racing, the Chicago Cubs, Iowa Hawkeye Basketball & Football and working on his 1979 Trans Am.

Bill is survived by: 2-daughters: Angela (Dr. Bill) Helling of Keosauqua, IA & Gretchen (Harley) Helterhoff of St. Charles, MO; 1-son: Joe Bartlett of Davenport, IA; 6-grandchildren: Kati (Elliott), Vaughn, Connor, Aiden, Grant & Blake; 2-brothers: Dick (Judi) Bartlett of Lake Ozark, MO & John (Deb) Bartlett of Mesa, AZ; his special friend: Mary Hunter of Burlington, IA & several nieces, nephews & cousins. He was preceded in death by his parents and his wife.

Friends may call after 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 12, 2020 at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory with the family to receive friends from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. A wake service will be held at 6:30 p.m. immediately following the visitation. The funeral mass will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Friday, March 13, 2020 at Sacred Heart Church with Rev. Joseph Phung officiating. Burial will be held at Soldiers' Circle in Oakland Cemetery. A memorial has been established in Bill's memory. Online condolences and a video tribute of Bill's life may be viewed at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: www.kinglynk.com.



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For the Record

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report

02/28/20 – 11:01 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a hit and run in the 1700 block of 41st St.
 02/28/20 – 11:13 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 2700 block of Avenue J.
 02/28/20 – 4:15 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 2000 block of Avenue B.
 02/28/20 – 7:40 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft on Oak Drive.
 02/29/20 – 8:58 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 1700 block of 35th Street.
 03/01/20 – 12:00 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident at 10th Street and Avenue F.
 03/01/20 – 1:34 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary on Alta Drive.
 03/01/20 – 5:48 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 1300 block of Avenue J.
 03/01/20 – 7:38 p.m. – Fort Madison Police arrested Jeremy R. Scholz, 48, of Fort Madison, in the 2700 block of Avenue O, on a warrant for driving under suspension.
 03/01/20 – 9:26 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a hit and run in the 2300 block of Avenue E.
 03/01/20 – 9:29 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1100 block of Avenue G.
 03/02/20 – 12:26 a.m. – Fort Madison Police cited James R. P. Charron, 22 of Fort Madison, in the 2800 block of Avenue M, on a charge of driving under suspension.
 03/02/20 – 2:54 a.m. – Fort Madison Police cited Delbert J. Kellum, 44, of Keokuk, in the 2800 block of Avenue L. He was given a summons to appear.
 03/02/20 – 2:54 a.m. – Fort Madison Police arrested Chris Ann Turner, 36, of Fort Madison, in the 4700 block of Avenue L, on a charge of 4th degree criminal mischief. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
 03/02/20 – 8:09 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 2100 block of Avenue D.
 03/02/20 – 9:01 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 600 block of 11th Street.
 03/02/20 – 9:46 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a stolen vehicle in the 1500 block of Avenue M.
 03/02/20 – 9:52 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 800 block of Avenue H.
 03/02/20 – 11:25 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 900 block of Avenue G.
 03/02/20 – 3:00 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 1200 block of 36th Street.
 03/02/20 – 5:00 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 1100 block of Avenue H.
 03/03/20 – 2:21 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 1500 block of Avenue F.

Lee County Sheriff's Report

02/28/20 – 2:20 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Jaley Dakota Bush, 22, of Hamilton, Ill., on a warrant for 5th-degree

theft. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
 02/28/20 – 8:56 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Jason Ray Pope, 43, of Fort Madison at the sheriff's office on a judgment hold. He was taken to Lee County Jail and released on Feb. 29 for time served.
 02/28/20 – 9:55 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Robert Louis Dieterich, 29 of Morning Sun, at the sheriff's office on a warrant for OWI and providing false identification. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
 02/29/20 – 4:07 a.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Keaton Ray Sattler, 21, of Burlington, on the Hwy. 61 bypass on a charge of speeding. He was released on a promise to appear.
 03/01/20 – 6:00 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested William Joseph Forbes, 55, of Keokuk, at the sheriff's office on a judgment hold. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
 03/02/20 – 12:46 a.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Cody Sheridan Collins, 30, of Fort Madison, at the sheriff's office on a charge of assault. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
 03/02/20 – 8:07 a.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a two-vehicle accident on Hwy. 61

near 190th Street. According to the report a vehicle driven by Marilyn Kay Walker, 65, of Burlington was stopped and turning left onto Bus. 61/190th Street from a southbound exit ramp. A vehicle driven by Debra Mary Sylvester, 63, was behind Walker at the stop sign and rolled into the back end of Walker's car. No injuries or citations were listed on the report.
 03/02/20 – 9:38 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Daniel Wayne Summers, 54, of Keokuk, in the 600 block of S. 18th Street in Keokuk, on warrants for controlled substance violation, and violation of probation, and charges of possession of drug paraphernalia, controlled substance violation schedule four and five, drug trafficking. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
 03/03/20 – 3:52 a.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies cited Joshua Adam Bowen, 40, of Fort Madison, on Bus. 61 in Fort Madison, on a charge of driving while barred. He was released on a promise to appear.

Hancock County Sheriff's Report

02/24/20 – David A Laws, age 38, of Hamilton, IL was arrested on a Hancock County Warrant charging him with Failure to Appear on

original charges of Driving While License Suspended. Laws was released after posting the required bond and given a future court date.
 02/26/20 – Michael M Bryant, age 48, of Keokuk, IA was arrested on a Hancock County Warrant charging him with Petition to Revoke on Aggravated Domestic Battery and Failure to Appear/ Failure to Pay on original charges of Aggravated Domestic Battery. Bryant remains lodged in the Hancock County Jail in lieu of bail awaiting his next court appearance.
 02/26/20 – Keaten M Howell, age 18, of Hamilton, IL was arrested and charged with Domestic Battery, Resisting a Peace Officer, and Criminal Damage to Property. Howell was released on his own recognizance and given a future court date.
 02/26/20 – Sophia M Gregory, age 21, of Hamilton, IL was arrested and charged with Aggravated Battery of a Peace Officer and Obstructing Identification. Gregory was released after posting the required bond and given a future court date.
 02/26/20 – Randy G Price, age 60, of Elvaston, IL was arrested and charged with Driving While License Suspended and Unlawful Display of Registration. Price was released after

posting the required bond and given a future court date.
 02/26/20 – Shayne S Williamson, age 22, of Carthage, IL was arrested on a Hancock County Warrant charging him with Failure to Appear/ Failure to Pay on original charges of Operating an Uninsured Vehicle. Williamson was released after posting the required bond and given a future court date.
 02/28/20 – Shelli R East, age 48, of Augusta, IL was arrested on an Adams County Warrant charging her with Failure to Appear on original charges of Possession of Methamphetamine. East was released after posting the required bond and given a future court date.
 02/28/20 – Lacy D Hutton, age 27, of Hannibal, MO was arrested on a Hancock County Warrant charging her with Failure to Appear on original charges of Fishing without a License. Hutton was released after posting the required bond and given a future court date.
 02/28/20 – Nathan R Cadwell, age 25, of Elvaston, IL was arrested and charged with Driving While License Revoked and Operating Uninsured Vehicle. Cadwell was also arrested on a Hancock County Warrant charging him with Failure to Appear on original charges of Fishing without a

License. Cadwell was released after posting the required bond and given a future court date.
 03/01/20 – Cassie N Huey, age 35, of Keokuk, IA was arrested and charged with Driving Under the Influence. Huey was released after posting the required bond and given a future court date.
 03/01/20 – Jacqueline M Page, age 34, of Keokuk, IA was arrested and charged with Possession of Methamphetamine. Page remains lodged in the Hancock County Jail in lieu of bail awaiting her initial court appearance.
 03/01/20 – KyeishaA Tasco, age 28, of Warsaw, IL was arrested on a Hancock County Warrant charging her with Unlawful Possession of Methamphetamine. Tasco remains lodged in the Hancock County Jail in lieu of bail awaiting her initial court appearance.
 03/01/20 – Ronald D Mason, age 70, of Keokuk, IA was arrested on a Hancock County Warrant charging him with Failure to Appear/ Failure to Pay on original charges of Unlawful Manufacture of Cannabis and Cancelled Registration. Mason was released after posting the required bond and given a future court date.
Those listed above are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.



2020 To Do List

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Classifieds/From the Front

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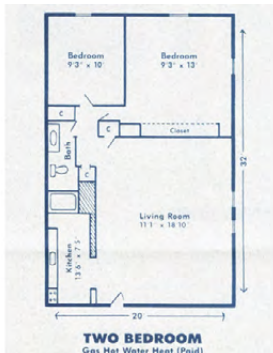
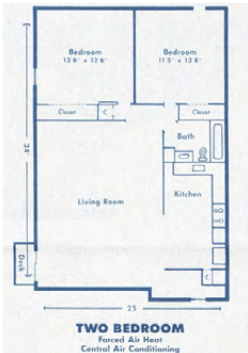
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The Fort Madison Family YMCA's Lifeguard Certification Course begins March 9th and ends April 4th. This course is designed to instruct participants on the skills and knowledge needed to become a certified lifeguard.

COURSE DATES & TIMES are as follows:

PRETEST: March 9, 4:00-5:00 OR March 10, 4:00-5:00 - If these times don't work, please contact Sara to perform the pre-test before March 13.

Online portion must be completed previous to the first class.

CLASSES: March 18 & 25
April 1 & 2, 5:00-9:00
TESTING DAY: April 4. 9:00-1:00

REQUIREMENTS: Must be 15 years old by April 3 and attend each class.

COURSE FEE: \$150

EQUIPMENT NEEDED: Swimsuit, Goggles, Towel
Instructor: Sara Mueller • smueller25@gmail.com

Contact the Fort Madison YMCA for further details and to register.

Court hearing to go on despite recent progress

HUMPHREY - Continued from Page 1

The city initiated court proceedings against Humphrey in January citing the building was a public nuisance and safety issue.

Krogmeier said a court date was set for March 30th and those court proceedings are still planned and would now entail further plans to secure and repair the building.

"We're still going to court on the 30th and now that will be just to talk about the plan going forward and fines. But until we get some major progress, we don't know what the fines will be," Krogmeier said.

The city barricaded the west side of the building in November blocking off the street after settling was observed in structural columns on that side. The city then put barricades on the north side in case settling would occur that could blow out windows and harm passersby.

State ramping up coordination for COVID-19 virus

REYNOLDS - Continued from Page 1

March 4th and was followed by a state agency conference call led by Gov. Reynolds on March 6th to discuss preparedness strategies. The SEOC provides a mechanism for face-to-face coordination and information sharing between State agencies and other partners. Beginning Monday, March 9th, twice-weekly agency coordination briefings will be held to provide the latest information on COVID-19 and to ensure necessary preparedness measures are in place. Should the situation change, the Iowa Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management is prepared to transition the State Emergency Operations Center to an increased level of activation.

President Trump recently signed a \$8.3 billion spending bill to combat the coronavirus through prevention, research, and other efforts. The governor's office continues to receive regular updates from Vice President Mike Pence and President Trump's Coronavirus Task Force.

Herdrich is first Central Lee principal to receive state honor

PRINCIPAL - Continued from Page 1

bachelor's degree in special education and an additional special education endorsement from Western Illinois University and her master's in educational leadership from Viterbo University.

"I could not be more proud of Mrs. Herdrich and she is well-deserving of this honor. Her leadership is invaluable to our district. Her passion for students and success-focused attitude helps drive the work being accomplished at Central Lee High School," said Central Lee Superintendent, Dr. Andy Crozier.

Herdrich is the first Central Lee administrator to be honored as the High School Principal of the Year. She is also a graduate of the Central Lee School District.

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Chris Holvoet Realtor



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