



Pen City Current

Sunday, Dec. 10, 2017 | 10 pages | Volume 1 • Issue 284

Councilman Seidel arrested on felony drug charge

Council action may wait for case to run its course

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - A sitting Fort Madison city councilman has been charged with a class C felony drug charge and was taken into custody today.

Travis Seidel, who represents Fort Madison's 3rd ward, was arrested by the Lee County Narcotics Task



SEIDEL

Force Friday and charged with two counts of distributing hydromorphone, also known as Dilaudid, Hydrostat, Palladone, Dillies, hospital heroin, within 1000 feet of a school.

The charge is a Class C felony with an enhancement. If convicted Seidel could face up to 15 years in a state correctional

facility.

According to a release from the task force, the arrest stems from an investigation by the task force into allegations that he was involved in the distribution of



RANDOLPH

controlled substances in the Lee County area.

Mayor Brad Randolph said he was as disappointed as he was shocked.

"I just found out about an hour ago and my initial reaction is that I'm equally disappointed and shocked. It's unfortunate, and he's innocent until proven

guilty, but I need to get all the relevant information and have a sit down with city staff and the council, and

See **ARREST**, page 6



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Volunteer Shirley Hoenig, at left, helps residents get their Holiday baskets put together Saturday afternoon at the Riverview Park Pavilion. The North Lee County Food Pantry puts together food baskets for families going into the holiday season.

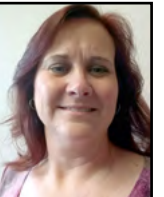
This named new UWGRR director

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

KEOKUK - A non-profit specialist and community advocate has been hired as the new Executive Director of the United Way of the Great River Region.

Karen Thie, who has worked previously with Big Brothers, Big Sisters, YMCAs in Muscatine and Burlington, and the Muscatine Parks and Recreation Department, began duties with the UWGRR on Thursday.

Thie said she is familiar with the functions of the United Way in her dealings with the YMCA as a recipient of United Way funding for many years.



THIE

"I worked with United Way before as an organization that received funding, so I'm familiar with the group and I think the group is wonderful," she said. "The board of directors has been great to get to know and they are ready to move forward."

In 2016 the United Ways in Lee, Hancock and Clark counties joined forces to help share resources and bring about a more cohesive effort in raising and disseminating funds.

Thie said the new concept just puts the United Way on a bit of a different scale than the organizations she's worked with in the past.

Out of the gate, Thie said she's looking forward to meeting with groups and individuals in the communities that UWGRR represents.

"We're wrapping up our annual campaign. We've still got quite a few things out and we'll have some numbers soon. I'm just getting out and seeing the faces and businesses in the service area and soon we'll be moving

See **DIRECTOR**, page 6

Boddicker gets 8th district judge seat

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

KEOKUK - Clinton Boddicker, Lee County District Attorney, has been selected to fill the 8th District Court Judgeship being vacated by Judge Gary Noneman's retirement.

Boddicker was one of three candidates selected from a pool of seven to interview for the seat. The other two attorneys were Jonathan Stensvaag, a public defender out of Burlington, and Steven Westercamp, a private practice attorney from Farmington.

Boddicker said Friday evening, "I am very honored to have been chosen and look forward to beginning an



BODDICKER

exciting new chapter in my professional career."

Lee County Assistant District Attorney Ross Braden, a member of the nominating committee, said "I'm very happy for Clinton. He deserves it. He was the best choice for the position."

The District 8B judge handles cases primarily in south Lee County. The other judges in the district, which covers Des Moines, Henry, Lee, and Louisa counties, are John Wright, Mary Ann Brown, Michael Schilling, Mark Kruse, and John Linn.

More details on the transition will be available on Monday.

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Obituaries/Local News

OBITUARIES

EDWIN JOSEPH "E.J." SPARENBERG

WEST POINT - Edwin Joseph "E.J." Sparenberg, 71, of rural West Point, IA, passed away at 9:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 7, 2017 at his home. He was born on November 30, 1946 in Harvey, IL to Edwin R. & Ailene M. Koesema Sparenberg. He married Nina Mae Victoria Johansen on February 14, 1984 in Cleveland, TN. He worked for the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad for over 30 years and served in the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam War.



SPARENBERG



E.J. is survived by: his wife: Nina Sparenberg of rural West Point, IA; 1-son: Joey (Brenda) Sparenberg of rural Chicago, IL; 1-daughter: Michelle Sparenberg of rural Chicago, IL; 5-grandchildren; 3-great grandchildren & 3-brothers: Terrance (Mary) Sparenberg of Crete, IL, John (Pat) Kovach & Keith (Kathy) Kovach both of rural Chicago, IL. He was preceded in death by: his parents, 1-granddaughter, 1-sister & 1-brother.

Cremation has been entrusted to the care of King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. A graveside service will be held at a later date in Denmark Cemetery. Online condolences to the Sparenberg family may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: www.kinglynk.com.

Pinnacle makes United Way contribution



Pictured above are members of the Pinnacle United Way Team and United Way Board/Coordinators (left to right) Melissa Privia, Jason Dixon (United Way Board Vice-President) Dennis Tippey, Elsa Peitscher (AmeriCorps VIS-TA Literacy Project Coordinator), Becky Rung, Joni Rothlauf, Karen Peters, Deb Hammer, Shirley Gabel (55+ Initiative/RSVP Coordinator), Sue Prochazka (Volunteer Coordinator) and Greg Hogan. Not present for the picture was Rodney Franklin.

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HTC Sports

Fehseke pours in 23 as HTC rolls Comets

Crusaders senior Thornton suffers broken arm at WB; out a minimum 4 weeks

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - Sophomore Reed Fehseke wears the same jersey as 2016 senior standout Cory Hopper and he's starting to shoot like the former Southeast Iowa Superconference co-mvp.

Fehseke poured in 23, including 18 in the first half and the first 10 points of the game as the Crusaders blasted Cardinal of Eldon 56-35 in SEISC boys action Friday night.

"Cory likes to give me a lot of crap about not being able to score like he did. I think I'll go and tweet him about tonight," Fehseke said.

Fehseke started converting his first bucket of the game and then scored about ;30 seconds later in transition and then fired in back-to-back 3-pointers and the crowd started to murmur just a bit. Cardinal's Grant Clark put



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Blake Crabtree gets Cardinal's Ben Clark (12) up in the air on a drive in the first half Friday night

“Any time you lose your sole senior it's tough, but it's a good time to get everyone to step up.”

-John Hellige, HTC head coach

in a bucket with about four minutes left in the first quarter for the Comets first score with HTC leading 10-2.

Blake Crabtree hit a bucket and then converted the front end of a one-and-one for three straight to give Holy Trinity a 14-6 lead.

Fehseke started the second quarter with another bucket to push the lead to a 20-13 advantage. HTC's Jake Eaves got into the scoring in the second quarter. The 6'4" freshman likes to step out beyond the arc and hit pull up jumpers. His first doubled up the Comets 30-15 and then Fehseke scored six straight, Cardinal's Wyatt Gatton hit a free throw and then Eaves fired in another three pointer as Holy Trinity ripped off a 14-2 run to end the half.

Fehseke hit another three pointer to open the scoring for HTC and Quentin Schneider converted an inside basket before Cardinal could put up a basket in the second half. Cardinal's Dawson Hamm, who led Cardinal with 18 points, heated up and scored five straight sandwiched between a couple Matt Hellige free throws.

Head Coach John Hellige said Fehseke's game was one of the best he'd seen.

"I told him in the lockerroom he had one of the best games I'd seen here. He really knows angles and how to play the game from an overall court awareness and that opens up opportunities for the other guys," he said.

Gatton hit another bucket with about six minutes in the game to get the lead under 20, but Cardinal wasn't prepared to cut in any further playing with only seven players on the bench. Eaves rained down another three to put the Crusaders up by 20 at 54-34.

Hellige and Eaves both scored a dozen behind Fehseke. Schneider finished with four points, Crabtree finished with three points, and Brant Holtkamp scored two points to round out the scoring for the Crusaders.

Holy Trinity was playing without Collin Thornton who broke his arm in a fall at West Burlington earlier this week. Hellige said he's hoping to get Thornton back in four weeks.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Sophomore Reed Fehseke goes up for a couple of his 23 points on the night in the Crusaders' win Friday night.

"Anytime you lose your sole senior it's tough, but it's a good time to get everyone to step up. I told them we didn't have a big inside presence, but if everyone got five defensive rebounds we'd be ok," Hellige said. "Overall it's the maturity of this team. We're heading in the right direction. We didn't take Cardinal lightly, they're rebounding in their program and we're young so we don't take anything for granted."

Hellige said he was impressed with Eaves' play on the perimeter and said he's a sparkling shooter.

"Jake's a shooter. If you come to our practices and watch, he's absolutely money. We'd like to get some weight on him and do some kind of inside/out game with him but for right now that's where he's comfortable so that's where we're going to leave him."

The Crusaders take their 2-3 record on the road Tuesday to Central Lee in a junior varsity/varsity boys and girls stint starting at 4:30 p.m.

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HTC Sports

Lady Crusaders start home season with win

HTC wins despite flu bug hampering practices

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - The Holy Trinity girls rolled to an easy win over Cardinal of Eldon 62-20 Friday night in their first home game of the season.

Senior Brett Schneider poured in 16 points to lead HTC, who never trailed in the game and raced to a 19-3 first quarter lead capitalizing on 12 Comet turnovers in the period.

Senior Madison Mohfeld got the party started with the first four points for an HTC squad that has been hampered by a flu bug that's running rampant among the girls. Senior Mya Lawlor had to sit out the game and head coach Tony Johnson said he practiced with four varsity girls and a junior varsity girl on Thursday night.

"It hit us pretty bad this week. I don't think anyone's really feeling the best," Johnson said.

Schneider put in six

of her points in the first period including converting a bucket and a foul shot with 1:35 left in the quarter. Sophomore Avery Hopper added a bucket in the next transition to end the period. A 3-pointer by the Comets' Maddie Cloke was the only score the Cardinals had in the quarter.

The game got slightly more balanced in the second quarter but not before Schneider hit back-to-back 3 pointers at the 6:33 mark to put HTC ahead 25-3 on the way to a 33-12 lead.

Johnson had Cardinal caught in a rare three-quarter zone press for the entire first half forcing the Comets into 21 turnovers and trapped the visitors out of their regular half-court game resulting in an occasional bucket when they did get through the press.

"It was just one of the adjustments we were able to make. We had been committing a lot of fouls and the girls weren't feeling well so I thought the zone press would reduce the pace of the game and be easier on the girls and it worked out ok," Johnson said.

HTC had pushed the lead to 52-17 at the end of the third highlighted by five points each from Taylor Boeding and Samantha Hoenig. Hoenig and Ashlynn Haas both



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Freshman Maria Rauenbuehler brings the ball up in the fourth quarter of the HTC Crusaders' 62-20 win over Cardinal of Eldon Friday night at the Shottenkirk Gymnasium.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Junior Emily Box garners a lot of attention as she goes up for a bucket Friday night against Cardinal of Eldon.

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From the Front/Weather

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SUN 10 Dec



Clear Skies

High – 35.0° F | Low – 18.4° F

MON 11 Dec



Scattered Clouds

High– 40.7° F | Low – 21.5° F

TUE 12 Dec



Light Snow

High– 33.5° F | Low – 12.6° F

WED 13 Dec



Clear Skies

High – 35.2° F | Low – 29.1° F

THU 14 Dec



Light Snow

High– 37.0° F | Low – 24.1° F

[OpenWeatherMap](#)

Removal from council not automatic in city code

ARREST - Continued from Page 1

reach out to Travis and see what his thoughts are and after that go down a path that is best for the city,” Randolph said Friday afternoon.

“It’s not reflective of what we want from a city council member. We’re held to a higher standard. I find it unfortunate. If what they say happened, happened it’s unfortunate.”



VARLEY

City Manager David Varley said a city code doesn’t make the arrest an automatic removal.

“Obviously I haven’t talked with him. Any action would have to come after a fair hearing where he would be able to make his case and bring in witnesses if

he wanted and things like that, but if he were convicted, upon conviction I think it takes a 2/3 vote of the full council to remove him, if that’s the action the council would want to take,” Varley said. “It’s a due process thing.”

According to the Lee County Sheriff’s office Seidel was arrested by law enforcement Friday morning at his home and was taken to the Lee County Jail, where he was given a pre-trial release.

The Lee County Attorney’s Office, Iowa Division of Narcotics Enforcement, and the Lee County Sheriff’s Office assisted the Lee County Narcotics Task Force in the investigation.

New director has extensive non-profit record

DIRECTOR- Continued from Page 1

forward to our special events,” Thie said.

“I have a long background working with non profits. I was with YMCAs for 23 years or so, I really enjoy serving people and trying to make their lives better. But I absolutely think this will be a little bigger work load. It will involve being more in the public and getting to know people and putting the mission of the United Way out there so they can learn about us and how and

why to participate, donating and all that good stuff.”

United Way of the Great River Region serves the entire tri-county area that includes Lee County, Iowa; Hancock County, Illinois; and Clark County, Missouri. The United Way works to affect change and improve lives in the areas of education, health, and financial stability.

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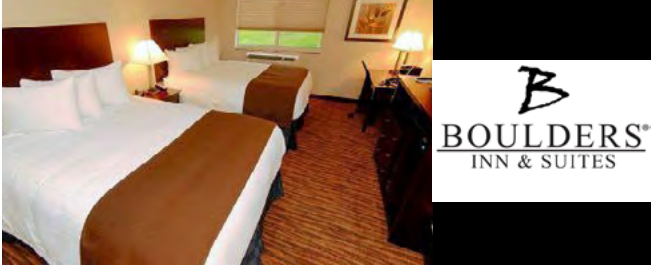
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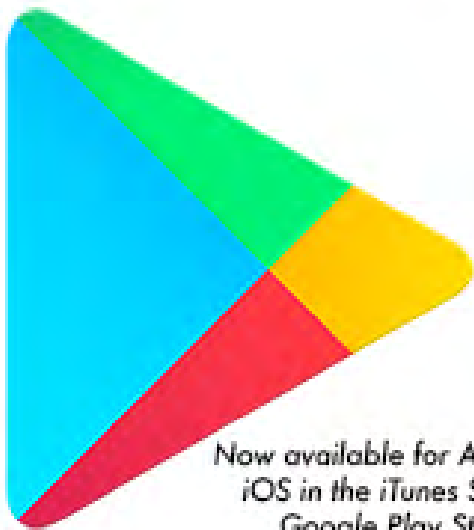
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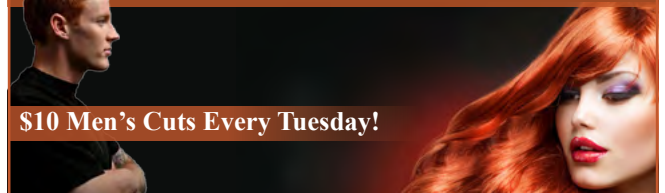
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Current-Lee/Lottery Numbers

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IOWA LOTTERY WINNING NUMBERS

Lotto Drawings

Game	Draw Days	Sales Cutoff Time	Approx. Drawing Time
Lucky for Life®	Mon & Thu	8:30 pm	9:38 pm
Mega Millions®	Tues & Fri	8:59 pm	10:00 pm
Powerball®	Wed & Sat	8:59 pm	9:59 pm
Lotto America SM	Wed & Sat	8:59 pm	10:00 pm
Pick 3 - Midday	Daily	Noon	12:20 pm
Pick 3 - Evening	Daily	9:40 pm	10:00 pm
Pick 4 - Midday	Daily	Noon	12:20 pm
Pick 4 - Evening	Daily	9:40 pm	10:00 pm



11/18
4 25 26 41 47
Star Ball: 6
All Star Bonus: 2



12/8
6 37 46 60 70
Mega Ball: 24
Megaplier: 2



12/9
25 36 37 55 60
Powerball: 6
Power Play: 5



12/8 MID-DAY
1 3 9
12/8 EVENING
4 3 2

12/9 MID-DAY
0 2 3
12/9 EVENING
3 8 3



12/8 MID-DAY
0 6 9 6
12/8 EVENING
1 6 2 9

12/9 MID-DAY
6 9 7 8
12/9 EVENING
9 9 6 4

Pen City Current encourages you to play responsibly.

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Great River Regional Waste Authority would like to remind you **not to** recycle Christmas Wrapping Paper as some of the materials used in the making of it are not recyclable. Please dispose of any wrapping materials in your regular trash cans. Any curbside bins containing these materials can potentially compromise an entire load.

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GRRWA will be closed Christmas Day & New Years Day

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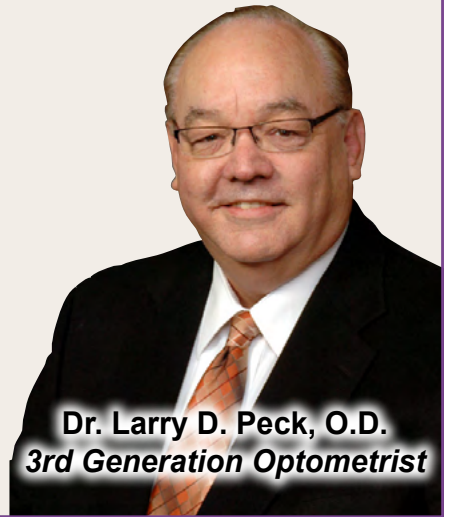
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