



Pen City Current

Tuesday, October 17, 2017 | 8 pages | Volume 1 • Issue 241

Students get techish at Test Kitchen

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - About 12 Fort Madison middle school students partnered with students from the high school to work up some robotic technology and programming...and then had some Cuban sandwiches.

The robotics session was part of a 10-week program being held at the Elliott Test Kitchen where students learn about the construction and programming associated with robot technology.

Two Fort Madison Community School District instructors, Michelle Bentler and Roxanne Puga, oversee the class but it's the high school students, such as Chris Brown and Jace Fedler, who are helping



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Eighth grader Jackson Guzman reaches for a part as Zoey Fink and Kayreena Sterling, both 4th graders at FMMS, look on. The group was working on a robot model as part of a 10-week session on STEM research as part of a grant program at Elliott Test Kitchen Monday.

the students work up the projects.

Kumar Wickramasingha hosted the 10-week event and then had students from other

programs come in and cook for the students. He held an open house prior to the school year where students could sign up for the program.

One of the students, Jackson Guzman, said he enjoyed the class and liked working with the robots.

"I get to build and

imagine," Guzman said. "I got one for my birthday. It's not as complicated as this one, but it's still a lot of fun to work with.

Guzman said the programming takes place on a computer, tablet or phone.

The students were putting plastic parts including wheels, lifters and baskets in control boards with ports for each part and then used programming on their phones to get the moving vehicle to complete tasks such as picking up plastic balls.

"Almost any job in the future you're going to have to have these skills, Puga said. "Everything will have a component of science, technology, engineering or math.

Even with English, what we're seeing is kids film-

See **ROBOTICS**, page 4

Sports Complex names manager

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - The Baxter Sports Complex has a new front man.

Wes Holtkamp, who has managed the facility for the past two and half years, has stepped aside to pursue an independent business, opening the door for Jeff Woodside, a 33-year-old Burlington native.

Woodside took over the reins Monday morning and said he's looking forward to working with the community and sports complex



WOODSIDE

board to continue the good work that's been done since the park opened.

"This is still very new and that's what was appealing to me," Woodside said Monday. "There's a chance here to bring some new things and some additional tournaments to the complex."

Woodside has a strong background in coaching and athletics and has a degree in business administration which made him an attractive candidate, according to Marty Dean, See **WOODSIDE**, page 4

School seeing meal count inequity correction

New program has cut loss to \$6K

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR



YOUNG

Director Tiffany Fullhart made a presentation to the board and

showed good progress at reducing the negative account balances still plaguing the district's budget.

The plan substitutes a cheese sandwich in place of the entree and that is the only substitution made in the alternative policy. Students still get

their choice of fruit and vegetable and get a carton of milk. The district had written off as much as \$60,000 in a year in unpaid lunch balances and the board asked Slatner earlier in the year to formulate a plan to deal with the shortages.

Fullhart took over the director's position prior to the start of the school year and went to work on reducing the deficit.

Fullhart told the board that the deficit has been cut in half since the program was implemented. On Aug. 30 the balance

"I just want to thank the families and parents of the district who have stepped up. I really appreciate the parents calling in and getting this taken care of."

-Dianne Hope
Board Member

was \$13,000 and on Sept. 20 it had been reduced to approximately \$9,000. A review of the budget on Monday showed a negative balance of \$6,000.

Board member Gayla Young told Fullhart that she was happy with the results of the new program.

"We're doing this an

See **MEETINGS**, page 5

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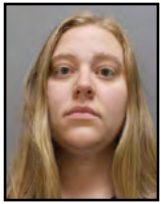


Obituaries/County News

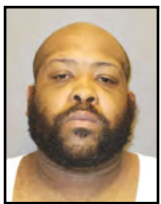
Task force arrests two on felony, misdemeanor drug charges

BY PCC STAFF

KEOKUK – The Lee County Narcotics Task Force reports the arrest of a Keokuk, Iowa man and woman on felony and misdemeanor drug charges.



BEAGLES



ROBINSON

Beth Lucene Beagles, 32, and Shawn Matthew Robinson, 36, both of 929 Leighton Street, Keokuk, Iowa were arrested on October 13th, 2017 at their residence on felony and misdemeanor drug charges. Robinson is charged with possession with intent to deliver crack cocaine 2nd or subsequent offense, a class C felony, possession of marijuana 3rd offense, an aggravated misdemeanor, maintaining a drug house, an aggravated misdemeanor, and possession of drug paraphernalia, a simple misdemeanor. If convicted, Robinson faces up to 34 years and 30 days in a state correctional facility.

Beagles is charged with possession of marijuana, a serious misdemeanor, maintaining a drug house, an aggravated misdemeanor, and possession of drug paraphernalia, a simple misdemeanor. If convicted, Beagles faces up to 3 years and 30 days in a state correctional facility.

The arrests of Beagles and Robinson stem from an investigation by the Lee County Narcotics Task Force into allegations that they were involved in the use and distribution of illegal drugs in the Keokuk area.

The Lee County Attorney's Office, Keokuk Police Department, Lee County Sheriff's Office, and the Tactical Response Unit comprised of Keokuk and Ft. Madison Police Officer's assisted the Lee County Narcotics Task Force in this investigation.

The defendants are presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

The Lee County Narcotics Task Force is funded in part by the U.S. Department of Justice and the funds administered by the Iowa Governor's Office of Drug Control Policy.

OBITUARIES

MARY E. COOPER

Mary E. Cooper, 89, of Knoxville, TN and formerly of Ft. Madison passed away on September 22, 2017 into the arms of the Lord, surrounded by her loving family and the Angels who watched over her.



COOPER

She was born on October 20, 1927 in Ft. Madison to Fredrick and Elizabeth Foehring. On May 17, 1947 she married Robert R. Cooper in Ft. Madison and he passed away on September 16, 1978. Mary was a loving Mother, Wife and Daughter who enjoyed her family. She enjoyed camping, traveling, reading, crafting, dancing, nature and life to its fullest. She will be deeply missed by all who

loved her.

Survivors include five children, Michael (Berna) Cooper of Maple Falls, WA, Barbara (Jim) Hehmeyer Justus of Ft. Myers, FL, Andrew (Susie) Cooper of Oxford, IA, Rebecca Cooper of Knoxville, TN and Veronica (Jim) Baxter George of Knoxville, TN; eight grandchildren and twelve great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband; a brother Frances Foehring and her loving friend and partner, Eugene Clark.

A graveside service will be held at Sacred Heart Cemetery on Friday, October 20, 2017 at 1:30 PM with Rev. Lanette Van officiating. King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory is in charge of the arrangements and online condolences may be left at www.kinglynk.com.

ROBERT J. WALKER

Robert J. Walker, 36, of Dyersville, Iowa formerly of West Point, passed away at 11:40 P.M. Saturday October 14, 2017 at his home. Funeral services are pending at the Schmitz Funeral Home in West Point.

Pen City Current will list your event in this highly visible CURRENT-LEE section in increments of 25 words for \$15. Add a photo for \$5. Non-profit organizations are eligible for the reduced rate of \$10 per 25 words and \$3 per photo. To place your listing, click here or call Lee at (319)371.4125.

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5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

TUE 17 Oct Clear Skies
 High- 63.1° F | Low - 51.5° F

WED 18 Oct Clear Skies
 High- 64.4° F | Low - 54.0° F

THUR 19 Oct Clear Skies
 High- 64.8° F | Low - 44.8° F

FRI 20 Oct Clear Skies
 High- 67.3° F | Low - 63.9° F

SAT 21 Oct Clear Skies
 High- 74.6° F | Low - 70.8° F

[OpenWeatherMap](#)

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Obituaries/Lottery Numbers

OBITUARIES

BARBARA ANN NEUWEG

Barbara Ann Neuweg, 76, of West Point, Iowa passed away at 1:45 p.m. Sunday, October 15, 2017 at the Kensington in Fort Madison, Iowa.



NEUWEG

Born August 23, 1941 in Chicago, Illinois the daughter of Richard and Marietta (Bentler) Benjamin. On October 6, 1962 she married Harold G. Neuweg at St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church in West Point, Iowa. He preceded her in death on January 2, 2014.

Survivors include her three sons: Scott (Teresa) Neuweg of Fort Madison, Iowa, Craig (Sharon) Neuweg of Dallas City, Illinois and Brad (Heidi) Neuweg of Pleasant Hill, Iowa; one daughter: Sue

(Chad) Ferguson of Niota, Illinois; ten grandchildren; nine great grandchildren; five brothers: Richard (Janice) Benjamin of Omak, Washington, Donald Benjamin of Sevierville, Tennessee, Vern (Lorrie) Benjamin of Donnellson, Iowa, Doyle (Lavone) Benjamin of Columbia, South Carolina and Raymond (Mina) Benjamin of Yellville, Arkansas; three sisters: Jan (Bob) Tetmeyer of Houston, Texas, Maureen (Darrel) Duhachek of Highland, Illinois and Juanita (Art) Kruse of Houghton, Iowa and several aunts and uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents and husband Harold.

Barbara received her nursing diploma from Mercy Hospital in Burlington. She worked as a nurse for forty one years at Sacred Heart Hospital and Fort Madison Community Hospital. She was a member of St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church in West Point, the Altar and Rosary Society and church choir. She also was a member of the former St. Ann's Circle Daughters of Isabella and the American Legion Auxiliary. Barbara enjoyed camping, flowers, gardening, cooking, singing and meeting her friends and classmates for lunch. She especially loved spending time with her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren as family was very important to her.

Friends may call after 2:00 p.m. Wednesday, October 18, 2017 at Schmitz Funeral Home in West Point where the family will receive friends from 3:00 to 6:30 p.m. A parish rosary will be recited at 3:30 p.m. and a Christian Wake Service will be held at 6:30 p.m. that evening at the funeral home.

The Mass of Christian Burial will be at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, October 19, 2017 at St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church in West Point with Father Dennis Hoffman officiating.

Burial will be at Calvary Cemetery in West Point.

Memorials have been established in her memory for St. Mary's Catholic Church and Great River Hospice.

The Schmitz Funeral Homes in West Point are assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences may be made to the family at www.schmitzfuneral-homes.com.



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
Hot Lotto®	Wed & Sat	8:18 pm	9:40 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



10/16
1 2 12 17 27
Lucky Ball: 7



10/16 MID-DAY
8 6 0
10/16 EVENING
8 1 9



10/16 MID-DAY
4 2 7 0
10/16 EVENING
8 5 0 0

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From the Front

Woodside's skills set him apart from candidate pool

Holtkamp grateful for community support during his tenure; says Woodside a good fit

WOODSIDE - Continued from Page 1

chairman of the sports complex board of directors.

Dean said the board got more than 20 applications for the position and Woodside's skill set was what set him apart.

"He has experience in sports, he has good organizational skills, and is a task master," Dean said. "He's somebody that will be able to jump into the role and help us achieve the results we're looking for in filling up the schedule with activities for adults and kids alike. He has really good experience working with the youth and that's a good talent we need."

Woodside was born and raised in Burlington and played varsity basketball for Mark Bigler and the Grayhounds before attending Southeastern Community College and Western Illinois University graduating with a degree in Business Management. He also played basketball for the Leathernecks.

He's currently the head coach for the Grayhound sophomore basketball team and an assistant coach on the varsity squad, a position he will keep while managing the sports complex. Woodside said the schedule would not be prohibitive to the demands of the complex during the winter evening hours.

Health Systems, but has wanted to get back into the sports industry.

"I've got a background in sports and all along that's been something I wanted to do and get back into athletics in some way, shape or form. I'm hoping to go back and get a masters in athletic administration and this job would fit in along those lines.

He said he hopes to be able to increase programming at the complex and that would include trying to develop a relationship with the Burlington Rec-Plex for larger tournaments. He said he's known Burlington Rec-Plex manager Kirk Danforth for some time and would welcome a relationship with him.

"That would be awesome. Definitely something I would like to do," Woodside said. "I've known Kirk for a long time and would love that partnership. I mean we're 20 minutes apart. Look at Cedar Rapids, for example, you're a half an hour to get to Marion from the other part of the city. This is my first day, so I don't know what it may look like, but regional tournaments where you could utilize both complexes would be something I'd be very interested in."

Holtkamp said he had a chance to meet with Woodside Monday.

"We had a nice conversation and I think he's going to do a great job," Holtkamp said. "I wish him all the best and I really appreciate all the support I received from the community while I was there."

Program also teaches soft skills

ROBOTICS - Continued from Page 1

ing book trailers and things like that. Accessing things online for research."

Bentler said the program also teaches soft skills the students will take with them to future schooling and careers.

"In my mind, it takes real world problems and the students have to find a way to solve them using leadership and communication," she said. "My daughter just graduated from the University of Iowa in business and nothing she did was individual. Everything was team-based and she found that extremely difficult to do because she was used to working by herself and she had to learn those skills."

Puga said the teamwork is an important concept that is a byproduct of the sessions.

"If you look at a Japanese classroom, it's completely different than ours because we tend to prize individualism over teamwork and that has to change, too," Puga said. "This includes perseverance and things like that. They need to learn that they don't quit when they fail."

Bentler agreed, saying as parents and teachers we don't permit our students to fail and we should do that more often.

"Let them make the mistakes, that's a big part of this," Bentler said. "Let them fail, because in real life that's how it's going to be. As teachers and parents we don't let our kids fail enough. That's a big part of STEM."

Fourth grader Chloe Crank was also part of a second group working on the projects. She said she, too, had worked on robot projects in the past with Cubelets.

"I get to make robots and make them move. We do the programming on our tablets and iPhones," Crank said.

The class was using Lego Robotics on Monday. Bentler said the program was supported by a STEM grant that she wrote that resulted in about \$5,000 in electrical supplies."

"That grant provided all the equipment, wiring, and parts the students are working with. There wasn't any cash involved in the grant," she said.

Meanwhile...back in the kitchen. Allison Lamb and Zephan Abel were working with Wickramasingha on Cuban sandwiches with rubbed pork slices, pickles, barbecue sauce, and caramelized onions served on artisan rolls, and cake for dessert.

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10/18 Donnellson Public Library
11:30am-1:30pm

10/19 Eagle Bluff Apts. Ft. Madison
9:00am-10:00am

10/19 Heritage Center Keokuk
10:00am-Noon

10/19 Rose Michael Gardens Ft. Madison
1:00pm-2:30pm

10/24 Parkview Apts. West Point
10:00am-Noon

10/26 LCHD (#3 John Bennett Drive) Ft. Madison
Noon-5:30pm

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From the Front

District to share P3 Campus app details with staff, parents

MEETINGS - Continued from Page 1

painlessly as we can, and you're continuing to show results and we couldn't be happier with what you're doing," Young said.

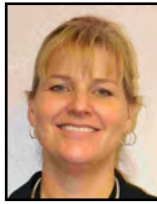
Board member Dianne Hope said the parents in the district have reacted to the program and they need to be thanked as well.

"I just want to thank the families and parents of the district who have stepped up. I really appreciate the parents calling in and getting this taken care of," she said.

Fullhart said discussion has been brought up again about the Community Eligibility Premium, which is a program the state offers to districts that grant the whole district reduced meals. Fullhart said there are hurdles that she didn't think the district could clear, including a 40% direct certified student population. Those are students that fit into categories that would normally be approved for the reduced or free meal program.

"Considering the file I have, I don't think we could get to the 40% threshold," Fullhart said. "We can't apply until April so that would give us some time to take a closer look."

In an unrelated issue, Superintendent



SLATER

Erin Slater said meetings are being scheduled to update district teachers and parents on the district's new P3 Campus reporting app, that allows students to anonymously report issues going on in the Fort Madison Middle School and High School.

Slater said she and Assistant FMHS Principal Patrick Lamb went through the program Friday to set a rollout plan for the program, which includes a brief presentation to teachers at the Oct. 18 early out.

Slater said she's also planning on having two parent meetings that would be open to all parents in the district to let them know the specifics of the app and also to help with definitions associated with the app.

Slater said using the proper definitions for bullying and harassment are a big part of helping school officials deal with the issue reported on the app. The meetings are tentatively set for Nov. 7th at the Fort Madison Middle School and Nov. 8th and the Fort Madison High School.

"This will help us know how to react to the situations," Slater said.

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PUBLIC NOTICE
Lee County, Iowa
Board of Supervisors
Regular Meeting
Agenda

DATE: TUESDAY,
October 17, 2017

MEETING
CONVENING TIME:
9:00 A.M.

LOCATION:
Correctional Center,
2530 250th Street,
Montrose, IA 52639
AGENDA

Pledge of Allegiance
Approve Agenda
Consider Approval of
Tuesday, October 10, 2017
Board Minutes
Consider Approval of
Claims
Public Input
Consider Approval of
Proposal for Geotechnical
Investigation for Bridge
Replacement on Abel Road
Review Bids and Consider
Awarding Bid for Motor
Grader

Review Bids and Consider
Awarding Bid for Wheel
Loader

Review Bids and Consider
Awarding Bid for Two
Pickups

Consider Approval of
Maintenance Agreement for
Copier in Engineer's Office

Review Quotation and
Contract for Stockpile Rock
at Beach Quarry near St
Paul

Presentation of Conserva-
tion Annual Report

Consider Approval of
Change in Personnel Policy
Regarding Wording of Tran-
sitional Work Pursuant to
Iowa Code 85.33 (3) (b)

Consider Approval of
Appointment of Shanna
Krogmeier as Medical
Investigator Consider
Approval of Tax Abatement
Resolutions (4)

Personnel Actions:

A. Step Increase-Health

Department
B. Step Increase-Sher-
iff's Office (2)
Reports:
A. Recorder's Report of
Fees Collected
Commission or Commit-
tee Reports
Adjourn
Notice: Board of Super-
visors will be attending the
Health Department Open
House on October 19th from
3 :30 - 6:30 pm

PUBLIC MEETING -
CITIZENS WELCOME

Workshop to follow

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Executive Director



United Way of the Great River Region which serves Lee
County in Iowa, Hancock County in Illinois and Clark Coun-
ty in Missouri is seeking an Executive Director to manage all
aspects of a non-profit organization dedicated to improving
lives in the area of health, education and financial stability.

Under the direction of the Board of Directors, the Exec-
utive Director is responsible for all administrative, fund-
raising, fund distribution, operations, donor and commu-
nity relations of the organization. The Executive Director
is also responsible for developing key external and inter-
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writing which include the Board of Directors, community
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the UWGRR strategic plan. College degree with major
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Non-profit experience, particularly with United Way a plus.

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Send letters of application and resumes to:
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pam-bierwirth@hotmail.com
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