



Pen City Current

Friday, July 6, 2018 | 10 pages | Volume 2 • Issue 158

4th of July on Main Street



Photos by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Cub and Boy scouts from the Pack and Troop 7 of Fort Madison tend to the "Old Fort" on Wednesday morning as part of the annual 4th of July Charlie Korschgen Kiddie Parade in downtown Fort Madison. The parade kicked off at 18th Street and Avenue G and proceeded east to 6th Street.



At left, Lee County Attorney Ross Braden walks beside daughter Mylin at the start of the parade Saturday, while Gannon Huston shows off his decorates 4-wheeler.

Airport board gives nod to landfill deal

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - The Fort Madison Airport Commission has accepted a tentative offer from the Great River Regional Waste Authority that will put \$175,000 towards projects and grants for the Fort Madison Municipal Airport.

At a Monday meeting of the commission, members voted 4-0 to accept a one-time payment agreement from the landfill in exchange for not developing or using an east-west runway on the airport property. With the agreement in place, the landfill can do some expansion to the north and still have the required buffer zone from airport territory. Landfills attract birds and the Federal Aviation Administration requires a 5,000 foot buffer to keep excess birds from the takeoff and landing zones at the airport.

Negotiations began in 2017 and an initial offering of \$70,000 to \$80,000 was offered by GRRWA board chairman Brad Randolph in January. Randolph, also the mayor of Fort Madison, has stepped back from the process because of the potential conflict, but negotiations continued the first six months of 2018.

No one from GRRWA was present at the meeting, but commission member Bob Chestnut motioned to approve the latest agreement with the contingency

See DEAL, page 6

Expansion of "Move Over" law now in effect

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

LEE COUNTY - A new state law that went into effect on Sunday, now makes it a moving violation if motorists don't move over for any vehicle on the side of the road with flashing lights.

Iowa put a Move Over law on the books in 2002 requiring motorists to move over for any emergency vehicle on the roadway. The new law expands that requirement to all stationary vehicles with flashing lights, including construction workers and disabled motorists.

See FINE, page 9

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Obituaries/Weather

OBITUARIES

BEVERLY ANN HOFMANN

Beverly Ann Hofmann, 87 years, of Montrose, Iowa died at 6:20 p.m. Wednesday, July 4, 2018 at the Montrose Health Center, Montrose. She was born June 17, 1931 in Millersburg, Illinois, a daughter of Clifford Conrad and Sadie Francis (Gardner) Wakeland. On August 3, 1952, she married John F. Hofmann Jr. He preceded her in death.



She liked talking about the days working as a switchboard operator and in the drug store making malts. She enjoyed reading, collecting ceramic frogs, and traveling with her husband, John. She loved to go to Chicago CUBS ball games on the bus. She was a member of the Community of Christ Church, Fort Madison, Iowa, and was a woman of faith. She liked to be involved in her church, teaching pre-baptismal class, organizing pot-lucks, and church bazaars. Beverly shared her faith with her neighbors. She loved spending time with her family.

HOFMANN

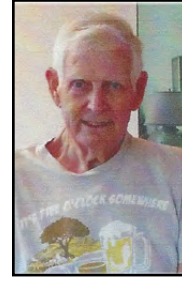
Beverly is survived by two daughters, Carolyn (Joseph) Baker, of Montrose and Phyllis (Steve) Evans, of Moline, Illinois; one sister, Barbara (John) Gillaspie, of Davenport, Iowa; four grandchildren: Aaron (Rhonda) Baker, Jo Lyn (Brent) Shipman, David (Traci) Baker, and Tracey Evans (Eric Flynn); seven great grandchildren: Braden, Brandon, Sydney, Gracie, Abbie, Joseph and William. She was preceded in death by her parents and husband.

Visitation will be held from 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. Monday, July 9, 2018 at the Barr Memorial Chapel, Fort Madison. Funeral services will be held at 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, July 10, 2018 at the Barr Memorial Chapel. Kent Pedersen and Dave Drummond will officiate. Burial will be at 2:30 p.m. Tuesday at the Rock Island National Cemetery, Rock Island, Illinois. A memorial has been established, contributions may be made at the Barr Memorial Chapel, Fort Madison. Online condolences to the Hofmann Family may be made from the Barr Memorial Chapel, www.barrmemorialchapel.com.

OBITUARIES

GARY S. LOWENBERG

Gary S. Lowenberg, 83 of Donnellson, IA died Monday, July 2, 2018 at his home. He was born November 26, 1934 in Keokuk, IA the son of Carmi and Kathryn Tweedy Lowenberg. On January 8, 1966 he was united in marriage to Helen Weirather in Keokuk. She survives.



LOWENBERG

Other survivors include one son, Jeffrey Lowenberg of Ft. Madison, IA, one sister-in-law, MaryAnn Weirather of Keokuk, two sisters, Carmen Brown and husband Don of Colorado, Virginia Naifeh of Arizona, one brother-in-law, Bob Craig of Missouri and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, one sister, Iris Craig, one brother, Fred Lowenberg and three brothers-in-law, Harry and Bill Weirather and Dr. George Naifeh.

Gary graduated from Donnellson High School with the Class of 1957.

He had been employed at Sheaffer Pen Company in Ft. Madison, IA for forty-five years, until his retirement.

Gary was a member of St. Boniface Catholic Church in Farmington, IA.

He enjoyed spending time outdoors in his flower and vegetable gardens.

Graveside services will be held at 10 a.m., Thursday at the new Catholic Section, of the Oakland Cemetery Keokuk, IA with Trevor Pullinger officiating. The procession line will form at the Vigen Memorial Home and leave for the cemetery at 9:45 a.m., Thursday.

There will be no visitation.

Memorials may be made to the St. Boniface Catholic Church in Farmington, IA or the Donnellson Fire Department, Donnellson, IA.

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

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5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST


| | |
|------------|---|
| FRI 06 Jul |  Clear Skies High- 80.2° F Low - 65.5° F |
| SAT 07 Jul |  Clear Skies High- 77.7° F Low - 65.1° F |
| SUN 08 Jul |  Clear Skies High- 77.9° F Low - 63.3° F |
| MON 09 Jul |  Clear Skies High - 82.9° F Low - 70.0° F |
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Celebrations/Lottery Numbers

Celebrations

DEWITT - ABOLT

FORT MADISON - Travis Abolt and Madison DeWitt are pleased to announce their engagement.

Travis is the son of Craig and Maggie Abolt of Fort Madison. He graduated from Holy Trinity High School, attended the University of Iowa, and received a BS from Southern Illinois University - Edwardsville. He is a Global Procurement Manager at Anheuser Busch-InBev in New York, New York.

Madison is the daughter of David and Eva DeWitt of Elgin, Illinois. She graduated from Larkin High School and received a BA from the University of Iowa. She is a Project Manager for an advertising agency in New York, New York.

The couple met during their sophomore year at the University of Iowa.



Madison DeWitt, Travis Abolt

A September wedding is planned at the groom's parents' home. The couple

lives in Manhattan with their Goldendoodle, Elaine.



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| 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 |



7/4
4 7 15 41 44
Powerball: 10
Power Play: 2



7/4
4 12 16 22 44
Star Ball: 3
All Star Bonus: 4



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0 5 3
7/4 EVENING
6 9 9



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7 3 9 2
7/4 EVENING
9 7 7 2

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Hounds girls bow out with home loss

Two Hound errors prop up six-run first inning as FMHS ends season with 14-2 loss.

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - A six-run first inning proved to be too much Thursday night as Fort Madison's Lady Bloodhounds bowed out of Class 4A regional softball action with a 14-2 loss to Keokuk.

In what was the third time the two teams had played each other this week, and the fifth time this season, the Chiefs were to get on Hounds started Cassie Powers early.

Powers got lead-off hitter Jaelyn Wood to pop out to Kamryn Bailey in left field and then the wheels fell off as the Chiefs hit through the lineup plus one.

Senior Michaela Davis popped out to short in the next at bat, but jogging back into short left to make the play, Allyson Helmick had the ball bounce off her glove. The speedy Davis quickly

swiped second and scored when Jakala Hall stroked a single to center.

Aryn Kindig then hit an infield single that Helmick back handed but didn't have time for a play. Abby Arrowood then parked a 2-1 pitch over Bailey's head in left for a three-run home run giving the Chiefs a 4-0 lead with just one down in the game.

Keleigh Hall then singled to left, followed by Halo Arrowood's pop to left where Bailey, battling the sun, had the ball skip off her glove advancing the runners. Gracie Koerber singled to center to score Hall and Arrowood. Powers retired the next two Chiefs to end the inning.

Head Coach Jared Rehm said the first inning was evidence of the two teams just playing each other Monday.

"I think they had a real good look at our pitchers on Monday," Rehm said. "Keokuk did a nice job of putting the ball in play.

The Hounds looked to make a game of it in the bottom half when Olivia Williams doubled to lead off the game off Jakala Hall, and Sadie Smithburg singled moving Williams to third. Smithburg swiped second and then Bailey reached on a fielding error which allowed Williams to score with no outs. Powers took a pitch off the leg to load the bases, but Maycee Feath-



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

FMHS junior Olivia Williams will get called out at second on a bang-bang play in the third inning trying to steal second. The Hounds wrapped up their season with a 14-2 loss to Keokuk in regional softball action at home Thursday.

eringgill, Dalyn Wondra and Helmick had consecutive strikeouts to end the threat.

Fort Madison would only pick up one more run in the bottom of third when Featheringill drove in Smithburg with a two-out RBI single. The Hounds wouldn't score again and only Katie Dennis, on in relief of Powers in the fourth, would get another hit for Fort Madison.

Williams and Smithburg both went 2-for-3 in the game at the top of the Hounds hitting order. Featheringill and Dennis had the only other hits for Fort Madison.

The Chiefs would put up two more runs in the second on a two-out RBI single by Halo Arrowood. Freshman Abby Thompson hit a deep homer to left center to highlight a

two-run third. Thompson would plate two more in a three-run fourth when her single drove in Keleigh Hall and Halo Arrowood.

Keleigh Hall would drive in the final run in the top of the fifth with a single to left-center plating Abby Arrowood.

Rehm said the Hounds defense played pretty well despite the two initial miscues, the but the hitting was too inconsistent.

"We need to grow where we have a lineup that can put some things together one after another. This getting one person on in one inning and then doing a little in the next and not being able to capitalize with the bases loaded, just hurts."

The Hounds dropped their final six games of the year, right after winning five of six between June 25 and June 30 to finish the season 11-24.

With the first season under his belt, Rehm said he gave himself an average rating, but said the program is strong at the younger ages and he looks for a bright future.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Hound's centerfield Vanessa Golowach tracks down a fly ball in the top of the second inning of Thursday night's loss to Keokuk.

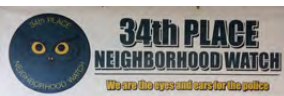
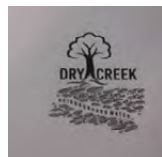
"I coach the 12U team, too. So we've got some kids that can play," he said.

He loses Bailey, Smithburg and Teryn Parson as seniors.

"Kamryn did what I thought she would do, Sadie had a great career here and Teryn served us well as a key role player," Rehm said.

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Scene Around Town/From the Front



Uncle Andy?

Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Loren "Andy" Andrews takes a ride with Kirk Sherwood to the front of the parade route as Andrews had just finished lining up participants at the annual Charlie Korschgen parade.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

The 2018 Charlie Korschgen Parade's Grand Marshal John Luna rides up front as hundreds of area kids, teens, and even some adults, dressed up in traditional red, white, blue as part of the annual kiddie parade Saturday down Avenue G..

FAA backs landfill, airport agreement

DEAL - Continued from Page 1

that the agreement be voided if the landfill ever ceases to operate.

"I think the amount probably exceeds what we were hoping for," said Chestnut. "As long as there is other wording in it, I think in regards to when the landfill closes that were not obligated under this agreement. Maybe we'd want to open it back up after they move someday, or the next generation may want to."

Commission Chairman John Dearing said FAA officials in Kansas city told him the landfill should never have been built where it was because it violated the airport's airspace, but the FAA has given its blessing to shuttering the runway during the term of the agreement.

"I'm assuming the FAA's position on where we stand with that has something to do with (the landfill) coming back with a better offer," Chestnut said.

The commission also said they would have to earmark those funds for needed projects and possible grants for additional funds so the city sees that it's not being used for regular budgeted items.

"If we've got some potential projects that are directly related to this settlement, I would move that we accept this settlement," Chestnut said.

Zach Pieper seconded the motion adding that the language needs to be in the agreement freeing the airport to reopen the runway if the landfill ever closed.

"The problem with this new income is that the city will find a way to cut our budget if we find new income," Chestnut said. "If we get this funding, we've got to designate it and have the understanding with the city that it will not be used to replace budgeted items. Because there's no reason we should have to live off this settlement instead of our budget and I can see that happening. Maybe not all of it, but little by little."

Commission chairman John Dearing also suggested the agreement be looked at by City Attorney Robert Johnson before both sides agree with it. Dearing also suggested approaching the city for an advance on the money prior to the settlement, to begin some of the projects.

The commission agreed to hold a special meeting to approve the final language of the agreement once it has been received and reviewed by Johnson. At that meeting, Chestnut said the commission should also decide what part of the money is to go to airport projects such as four new hangar doors and new drainage tile on airport grounds, and what part of the money can be used for grant money to help with future projects.

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Opinion/From the Front

Letter to the Editor

Reader trying to help West Point family with medical bills

Dear Editor;

Tom Kruse is the son of Dan Kruse and Shelly Kruse, grandson of Ceil Kruse and Letta Grosekemper. Tom was born with three major heart issues that required surgery and long recoveries at the ages of two and six. He has done quite well for 30 plus years, but recently because of his unstable heart, Tom made four emergency visits to Ft. Madison Community Hospital within 4 months that resulted in medical flights and admissions to Mayo Medical Center each time. His last stay at Mayo began on June 2nd and he underwent a 10-hour open-heart surgery on June 11th and discharge on June 21, 2018. At the request of his physician, Tom had visits to Mayo with a hotel stay on June 20 and 21, 2018. There are ongoing concerns about kidney function related to the long surgery that will require ongoing follow-up. Tom has frequent lab tests and will soon begin the required cardiac rehab with therapists in Burlington.

Tom's wife, Sarah, gave up her in-

home childcare business to care for Tom and their three children (ages 5, 8, and 11). Tom is on medical leave from his job at Sinclair Tractor in Houghton. Neither Tom nor Sarah will be working for several months, maybe longer. Medical bills are growing astronomically; just one of Tom's shorter hospital stays cost nearly \$30,000.

How can you help? Any donation would be wonderful and can be made in the following ways:

A deposit to the Tom Kruse Heart Fund account at Pilot Grove Savings Bank;

An electronic donation to the Tom Kruse Heart Fund via gofundme.com/tomkruseheartfund; or

A personal check mailed to Tom Kruse at: 1755 128th Street, West Point, IA 52656

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Jeanne Foecke

New law says motorists must give room to any vehicle with flashing lights

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Drivers should move over if it's safe or should reduce their speed under the speed limit and be prepared to stop.

The new regulations would require motorists to react to disabled private vehicles with flashers on, as well as utility and maintenance vehicles including tow trucks.

Lee County Sheriff Stacy Weber said the deputies have already been warning motorists that the new expanded law was coming and now motorists could be facing a \$195 fine including court costs and fees if cited for not giving space to any vehicle on the side of the road.

"This is just back to being courteous. In fact, I've heard some retired folks that taught driver's ed. They used to teach this years ago just as common etiquette and they just stopped doing it."

"It's just really a matter of safety, courtesy, and common sense," Weber said. "We'd hope that if you can't stop and help that maybe you'd stay behind a ways with your flashers on until law enforcement can get there with arrow sticks or to help change a tire or whatever."

Weber said the biggest benefit will come to tow truck drivers.

"Sometimes those folks are laying on the ground under cars hooking up chains. With all the distracted driving that's going on out there, they're putting their lives on the line."

He said motorists should always be focused on driving safely and when an emergency situation or disabled vehicle is observed, motorists should signal their intent to move over and, when safe, move over to give room. If a move can't be made to allow room, motorists should slow down and be prepared to stop if necessary.

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