



# Pen City Current

Sunday, July 21, 2019 | 8 pages | Volume 3 • Issue 159

## Bridges prepping for 1st "Getting Ahead" class

*New facilitator looking for volunteers, investigators for first class of Lee County effort*

**BY CHUCK VANDENBERG**  
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – After close to two years of planning and fundraising, the Lee County Bridges Out of Poverty Initiative is close to holding its first class.

August 12 is set to be the first class of the "Getting



BLACKBURN

Ahead" program for the Lee County effort. Des Moines County has a program up and running and the efforts spilled over into Lee County two years ago when the Lee County Economic Development Group ushered the program in.

Shayla Blackburn, who originally was a volunteer as a Care Connections Coordinator for Young House Services out of Burlington was hired to be the facilitator and coordinator in May for the Lee County Program.

Blackburn has been in the nursing field since 1989 and said she decided she wanted to do something different, and signed up as a volunteer with the

Bridges program.

"Two years ago they had an ad in the newspaper for a community training session and I attended that and was on the email list. In March, Dennis Fraise, (LCEDG's COO) sent out an email they were looking for a coordinator and here I am," she said

"I can't say enough about how much we need to help the community to better itself. It's a full community effort. It's not just geared at one level of the community – it's geared for the whole community enrichment."

In two years with the program, Blackburn said she's seen how the Des Moines County Bridges ini-

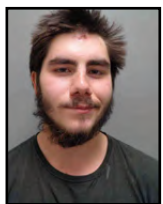
See **BLACKBURN**, page 8

## Area man at-large after traffic mishap

*Friday snarl sends police looking for FM man*

**BY CHUCK VANDENBERG**  
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – Area law enforcement are searching for a suspect involved in a multi-car collision in the 3500 block of Avenue L Friday afternoon.



WELLS

The suspect has been identified as Matthew J. Wells.

The collision occurred at about 3:15 p.m. at the DuPont outlet on Avenue L and involved two vehicles at the scene and a third vehicle as a suspect in a silver Pontiac left the scene striking that



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Area law enforcement officials monitor a home in the 3300 block of Avenue G on Friday afternoon. A motorist who struck several vehicles in the 3500 block of Avenue L left the scene and abandoned his vehicle between the home and a garage.

vehicle.

A motorist followed the vehicle around the vicinity of the accident and eventually lost track of the car, but the vehicle was discovered parked facing east between a home in the 3300 block of Avenue G.

The Pontiac had Kansas license plates, but the driver had abandoned the vehicle and police are still looking for the suspect. Officers with the Fort Madison Police Department, Lee County Sheriff's Department and the Iowa

State Patrol remained at the scene of the home on Avenue G while other officers tended to the accident on Avenue L.

No emergency responders were needed at the accident scene as no injuries were reported.

## RiverFest 2019 just a dozen days from river front



BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON – With one of the largest music festivals in the Midwest just 12 days from kick off, there is still plenty of time to get tickets, sign up for games, events and activities and make plans to be on the Fort Madison riverfront Aug. 1-4th.

Founder Charles Craft will throw the power switch on RiverFest 2019 presented by Frank Millard Co. Inc. in just 12 days with national rock music headlining the Mohrfeld Electric Main Stage for four full evenings of some of the nation's most recognizable rock bands spanning the decades.

A full schedule of events is listed below, but national recording artists Puddle of Mudd highlight the first night's musical lineup. Battle of the Bands winner Living Lucid will open the night's rock offering followed by Burden of the Sky, and after Puddle of Mudd, Ghost of Judas will fire up on in the Budweiser South

See **BANDS**, page 8

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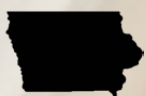
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# For the Record/Lottery Numbers

## For the Record

### Fort Madison Police Report

7/16/19 – 8:48 a.m – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a stolen vehicle in the 2900 block of Ave. I.  
 7/16/19 – 9:55 a.m – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident at the intersection of 27th St. and Ave. L.  
 7/16/19 – 10:00 a.m – Fort Madison Police cited George Robert Genck, 70, of Fort Madison on charges of no insurance and failure to obey traffic control device at the intersection of 27th and Ave. L. He was released upon citation.  
 7/16/19 – 10:26 a.m – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a stolen bicycle in the 2000 block of Ave. E.  
 7/16/19 – 5:25 p.m – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of larceny/ theft in the 1400 block of Ave. G.  
 7/16/19 – 8:27 p.m – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a stolen bicycle in the 2500 block of Ave. H.  
 7/17/19 – 4:59 a.m – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a hit and run in the 2400 block of Ave. J.  
 7/17/19 – 6:21 a.m – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1800 block of Ave. F.

7/17/19 – 7:35 a.m – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 2500 block of Ave. A.  
 7/17/19 – 8:07 a.m – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of larceny/ theft in the 1400 block of Ave. G.  
 7/17/19 – 1:25 p.m – Fort Madison Police arrested Ryan Wade Siegrist, 40, of Fort Madison, on a warrant service for driving while barred and operation without registration at the FMPD. He was taken to jail and held.  
 7/17/19 – 1:49 p.m – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident at the intersection of 27th St. and Ave. L.  
 7/17/19 – 6:14 p.m – Fort Madison Police arrested Stephanie Lynn Leis, 51, of Fort Madison, on a charge of OWI first, at the intersection of 34th and Ave. L. She was taken to jail and held.  
 7/18/19 – 2:16 a.m – Fort Madison Police arrested Eddie Dwayne Hollis Jr., 24, of Niota, Ill., on charges for OWI first, No D.I., and possession of drug paraphernalia at the intersection of 19th and Ave. E. He was taken to jail.  
 7/18/19 – 5:09 a.m – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property

damage accident in the 800 block of 35th St.  
 7/18/19 – 4:07 p.m – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in progress at the intersection of 19th St. and Ave. O.  
 7/18/19 – 8:29 p.m – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in progress in the 1400 block of Ave. I.  
 7/19/19 – 3:11 a.m – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 500 block of 19th St.

### Lee County Sheriff's Report

7/16/19 – 9:11 a.m – The Lee County Sheriff's Department arrested Kari Ann Bank, 30, of Keokuk on a charge for judgment entry/ mittimus at the Sheriff's office. She was held in jail.  
 7/16/19 – 12:15 p.m – Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a two-vehicle accident. The driver of vehicle 1, Davin Jay Brecount, 15, of Argyle was traveling West on 194th Ave. when it took a left turn and crossed the center of the road. At the same time, the driver of vehicle 2, Grace Tyler Kirkpatrick, 20, of Farmington, was taking a right turn on the same road. Kirkpatrick

did not have enough roadway and struck Deryk in the drivers side with the drivers front corner of Kirkpatrick's vehicle. This caused disabling damage to Kirkpatrick's vehicle. No injuries were reported at the scene. Deryk was cited for failure to yield half the roadway, and Kirkpatrick was cited for failure to have financial liability coverage.  
 7/16/19 – 2:25 p.m – The Lee County Sheriff's Department arrested Sean Douglas Vantiger, 28, of Mount Pleasant, on warrants for trespassing and theft in the fifth degree at the Sheriff's office. He was held in jail.  
 7/17/19 – 9:28 a.m – The Lee County Sheriff's Department arrested Joshua Tyler Wilson, 33, for being a fugitive from justice. He was held in jail.  
 7/17/19 – 12:52 p.m – The Lee County Sheriff's Department arrested Marcus Dean Banes, 26, of Keokuk, on a warrant for willful injury – bodily injury at the Sheriff's office. He was released on bond the same day.  
 7/18/19 – 9:32 a.m – The

Lee County Sheriff's Department arrested Erica Renee Woodbury, 27, of Keokuk on a warrant for violation of probation at the Fort Madison Court House. She was placed on bond.  
 7/18/19 – 1:40 p.m – The Lee County Sheriff's Department arrested Erica Renee Woodbury, 27, of Keokuk, on a charge of assault – simple at the Sheriff's office. She was taken to jail and held.  
 7/18/19 – 3:00 p.m – The Lee County Sheriff's Department arrested Kristine Nicole Forsythe, 33, of Donnellson on a warrant for violation of parole in front of Jim Baier Ford in Fort Madison. She was placed on bond.  
 7/18/19 – 4:28 p.m – Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a two-vehicle accident near the intersection of Argyle Rd. and US 218. A vehicle driven by Alison Lynn Wilfawn, 53, of Albia was attempting to cross from Argyle Rd. to US 218 and was being used as a pilot vehicle for a construction zone. Wilfawn could not see vehicle two,

driven by Jeremiah Elijah Martin, 34, of Keokuk, approaching from the North. According to reports Wilfawn pulled out in front of Martin, due to being unable to see him approaching from the North, causing a minor collision between the two. Both vehicles suffered minor damage.  
 7/18/19 – 7:45 p.m – The Lee County Sheriff's Department arrested Elijah Joseph Burris, 25, of Keokuk on a charge of disorderly conduct at the Sheriff's office. He was held in jail.  
 7/18/19 – 7:45 p.m – The Lee County Sheriff's Department arrested Kristofer Charles Johnson, 20, of Cedar Rapids on a charge of disorderly conduct at the Sheriff's office. He was held in jail.  
 7/18/19 – 9:52 p.m – The Lee County Sheriff's Department arrested Kody Michael Saar, 25, of Keokuk on a charge of possession of controlled substance in the 1600 block of Bank St. in Keokuk. He was taken to jail and held.  
*Those listed above are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law*



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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



**7/19**  
16 18 28 33 67  
Mega Ball: 14  
Megaplier: 3



**7/19 MID-DAY**  
4 7 3  
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## Pen City Current

Founded in 2016



P.O. Box 366 | Fort Madison, IA

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# Hounds can't hold off No. 6 Trojans

*Big 4-run fourth ends Bloodhounds' season with first winning campaign in 15 years*

BY ETHAN LILLARD  
PCC SPORTS

FAIRFIELD- Never underestimate your opponent, a saying that has been engraved in the minds of any person who has every competed in athletics.

For a Fairfield squad that wrapped up the regular season ranked inside the top ten in Class 3A, it was easy to have a big head. Also boosting the Trojans' egos was the first-round matchup of the Class 3A Substate 5 District 10 bracket against a Fort Madison squad they had defeated four out of four times during regular season.

Despite coming in as a heavy underdog Friday night, Fort Madison put Fairfield against the ropes early on. The Trojans didn't roll out with their ace, figuring they could handle the Hounds with ease.

That was a mistake.

Starting pitcher Jackson Weaton was pulled after just one inning, thanks to the Bloodhounds getting the bases loaded with no outs in the top of the second.

The situation forced the hand of Fairfield's head coach to put Kosta Papazogolou, the team's ace, on the mound to keep the Trojans' postseason hopes alive. The game continued to be a back-and-forth affair, but errors ended up plaguing the Hounds hopes of the upset, as Fairfield went on to win by the final of 7-4.

"These kids are amazing," Fort Madison Head Coach Ron Walker said of his team. "We come out and have 15 losses on the year, five of those losses are to the No. 6 ranked team in the state (in Fairfield), that's 33 percent of our losses. We just kept getting tougher and tougher on them every time we met them out there.

"Their coach said, 'You've got a great group of kids there and they play the game the right way.' I couldn't be prouder of them."

Weaton drew the start and it appeared as if the Trojans made the correct move in saving Papazogolou's arm. After back-to-back outs to start the top of the first inning, Jordryn Gerdes was hit by a pitch to put the first runner of the game on the base paths.

Brandon Beichelt followed with a walk in the cleanup spot, before a double from Vasin Thurman brought in Gerdes to give Fort Madison the 1-0 lead.

Fairfield responded in the home-half of the inning, getting its first runner on with an Austin Simpson walk. Cole Engle then reached base safely on an error, before another error on a throw down to third trying to catch Simpson on a steal resulted in the ball getting to the outfield and scoring Simpson to tie the game at 1-1.

"That's growing pains of a young team," Walker said of the errors. "That's just something for us to remember, you can't give the good teams extra outs and expect to win."

Two straight walks from Landes and Kane Williams to start the second inning led to Reed Fehseke getting hit by a pitch back at the top of the lineup to load the bases for the Hounds with no outs. That's when Fairfield decided to make the pitching change to their ace in Papazogolou.

Despite the change on the mound, Fort Madison plated two more runs thanks to a Gerdes sacrifice fly and Kane Williams scoring on a wild pitch to give the Bloodhounds a 3-1 advantage.

Back-to-back singles with one out in the bottom of the second helped the Trojans to plate a run and cut the lead to 3-2.

Fort Madison continued its one pitch at a time approach at the plate, starting the third inning with a walk from Vasin Thurman, before Dayne Cordray singled to put runners on the corners with no outs. Tate Johnson came up with a sacrifice pop out the next at bat, giving the Bloodhounds a 4-2 lead in the top of the third inning.

"We were finding fly balls for sacrifice flies, we were competing with two strikes in the box and really did a great job," Walker said.

It took Fairfield until the bottom of the fourth inning before they were able to grab their first lead of the game.

Three singles, two doubles and a sacrifice pop fly were instrumental in helping Fairfield come up with a four-run fourth inning, allowing the Trojans to grab the 6-4 lead.

Fort Madison intentionally walked Simpson in the bottom of the sixth inning with two outs, before a Engle double brought in Simpson for the final security run, putting Fairfield's lead at 7-4.

Papazogolou wasted no time putting the game away in the top of the seventh, retiring three straight batters on strikeouts for the 7-4 win.

"The team did excellent," Walker said. "Great group of kids. We talked about the season overall. There was a lot of turbulence throughout the season with several different issues. Not only things that were out of our control, but I had some personal things. The kids stuck together and trusted in what we did and beared with me and kept believing. They did a great job. Take your hat off to the kids, I'm very proud to have been able to coach them."

Fort Madison wraps up its 2019 season with an overall record of 16-15, the first time the Bloodhounds have finished over .500 in more than 15 years.

Johnson, Vasin Thurman and Gerdes each had an RBI for the Hounds. Cordray was hit with the loss, throwing 97 pitches over his five innings of work. Cordray gave up 10 hits and five earned runs while striking out three. Gerdes came on in relief and threw just 15 pitches over his one inning, giving up one hit and one earned run.



**Classifieds/Public Notices**

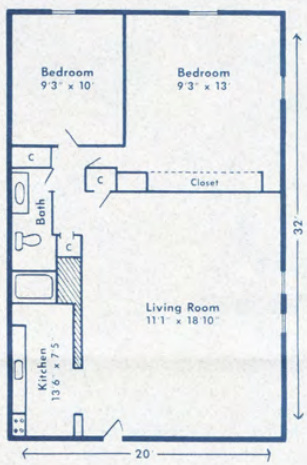
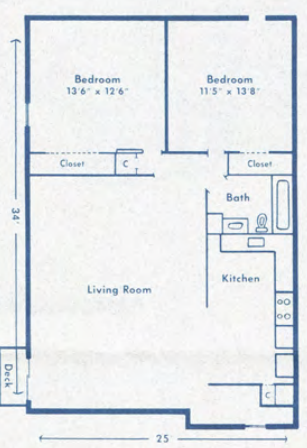
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**PUBLIC NOTICES**

**PUBLIC NOTICE Lee County, Iowa Board of Supervisors Agenda**

**DATE: TUESDAY, July 23, 2019 MEETING CONVENING TIME: 9:00 A.M. LOCATION: Correctional Center 2530 255th Street, Montrose, IA**

**AGENDA**

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Approve Agenda
- Approve Tuesday, July 16, 2019 Board Minutes Consider Approval of Claims
- Public Input
- Personnel Action:
  - A. Step Increase-Sheriffs Office
  - B. Step Increase-Recorder's Office Reports:
    - A. Sheriffs Monthly Report of Fees Collected
    - Commission or Committee Reports
- Adjourn

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## From the Front/Weather

# Bridges program ready to 'get ahead'

**BLACKBURN** - Continued from Page 1

tiative has impacted the lives of those involved with the program, both investigators and volunteers.

People who participate in the programs "Getting Ahead" and "Staying Ahead" program are called investigators, because she said they are the ones investigating the hurdles to the generational poverty that could be keeping them from productive lives.

"We call our participants investigators because it's set up to investigate how they get from point A to point B. They're a small group and help each other and I will be helping them and we work together to get to point B," she said. "I facilitate, I don't teach."

The upcoming classes are being held at the Fort Madison and Keokuk Salvation Army locations. In Fort Madison, that facility is the Diamond Center at 1415 Avenue M. Blackburn said Capt. Linda Faye-Jones has been a great partner in getting the program up and running.

Faye-Jones is also a certified Bridges trainer and has agreed to be Blackburn's co-facilitator.

But Blackburn said there are still lots of places where people can help make the first classes successful. She said the group is still looking for a van for transportation and has been reaching out to area churches for possibly a vehicle and a couple drivers to help get people to the classes.

Child care and dinner will also be provided at each one of the "Getting Ahead" classes. The Salvation Army is donating the food and cooks, but volunteers are still needed to help with the serving, setting up, and cleaning up.

She is also still accepting applications for people to attend the classes. Anyone interested in participating in the "Getting Ahead" classes can do so by reaching out to Blackburn via Facebook at [www.facebook.com/leecountybuildingbridges/](http://www.facebook.com/leecountybuildingbridges/) or by calling or texting her at 319-371-7465. Class size is limited so she encouraged those interested to reach out to her

right away. You can also email her at [sblackburn@younghouse.org](mailto:sblackburn@younghouse.org).

"We want people to succeed at this so if they have issues that we need to address prior to starting a class we need to refer them to the proper agency to get that issue taking care of before starting so they need to get with us sooner than later," she said.

Blackburn said the program brings a wide array of value to the community's they serve. In addition to the program participants, the community pulls together in a cohesive effort to strengthen the bonds within it's people.

"There's a wide range of values to this program. When were able to bring the community together to help people uplift themselves and create bridges between levels of society, we help each other and that's good for the community," she said.

Bridging the gap that occurs between the socio-economic stratification of communities, Blackburn said, helps cultivate resources and relationships that are key to successful integration of those suffering from generational poverty.

"People that have a tough time tend to be ill more often and drain resources and if we can build bridges to gain access to better resources, gain access to education, and help them to get there they become a helpful, self-sustaining part of society. Everybody gets more on the same level and that's what were aiming for - to help everybody understand each other."

The Lee County Initiative had it's first training session scheduled for last week, but a last-minute postponement was needed due to speaker Vern Reed, having to leave town.

Reed has been instrumental in facilitating the process with Lee County Economic Development Group in getting the program off the ground. Blackburn said the session will be rescheduled at a later date.

# Music, alligators, food, games, and carnival moving in 12 days

**BANDS** - Continued from Page 1

Stage.

80s rockers Warrant, of Cherry Pie fame, and Bullet Boys will handle the crowd Friday night after Stars in Toledo open the music. Decade of Decadence will handle the late night south stage entertainment.

On Saturday, The 9th Planet Out, Shaman's Harvest, and Sevendust blow up the Mohrfeld Electric Stage. X-Crush will keep things moving until 2 a.m. on the Budweiser Stage.

The music wraps up Sunday with local favorites Chaz & the Channel Catz on the south stage for a 4:30 show, followed by Caught in the Crypt, Trapt, and Saliva finishing the weekend on the Morhfeld Electric Main Stage. New Trick puts the lid on things on the Budweiser South Stage.

Fans can also slap on the feedbag and hit the American Legion Post #82 Breakfast from 8 a.m. to noon in the Buffalo61 Entertainment Tent. 100% of the proceeds from the breakfast go to the Honor Flight program. Last year that event sent 10 veterans on the trip to Washington D.C. So get there...do that.

But it's not just axes and thrashing all weekend. Craft and the RiverFest 2019 committee has a whole lineup of family-oriented games, activities and programs scheduled providing something for everyone... everyday.

Dragonboats are back for the second time in two years and should provide for exciting Saturday boats drumming and humming down the Mississippi River. There's a big-purse Cornhole tournament, a 5K Run/Walk early Saturday morning, sand volleyball. Oh yeah...and this guy named Kachunga's bringing an alligator to the show this year for a free family event, that's sure to be an eye-opening first-ever experience.

Craft and commercial vendors will dot Riverview Park and the inviting, intriguing food vendor smells that waft through park and creep into the downtown area are enough to bring a curious nose and palate to the show.

Registrations for all the events and ticket sales are all available online at [www.riverfestfm.com](http://www.riverfestfm.com). A full list of events, schedules, sponsors and information can also be found there.

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**MON 22 Jul**  
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High - 77.3° F | Low - 61.6° F

**TUE 23 Jul**  
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High - 77.3° F | Low - 63.0° F

**WED 24 Jul**  
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**THU 25 Jul**  
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[OpenWeatherMap](http://OpenWeatherMap)