



Pen City Current

Friday, April 13, 2018 | 7 pages | Volume 2 • Issue 101

FM library celebrates 10 years at new location

Community room and E-magazines are some of library's best features

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - Yep, it's been that long. The Fort Madison Library celebrated its 10th anniversary on Thursday with an open house and a reflection of how things used to be, and how they got to where they are.

The library opened in April 2008 under the direction of current director Sarah Clendineng and after serving 11 years at the helm she said things have certainly gone through transitions.

But the biggest transition and the story that brings the biggest smile to her face has nothing to do with technology or services or programming.

"My favorite story is Cattermole had a flight



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Fort Madison library director Sarah Clendineng looks over the older card cataloging system that was used in the former city libraries. The new library at 1920 Avenue G, celebrated its 10th anniversary on Thursday afternoon.

of steps to just get in the front door and then the kids had to go up another flight of stairs to the kids collection. After about two years I was here and someone actually came in in a wheelchair and went through the doors and helped themselves to whatever they needed," Clendineng said. "That just made my day. We were kind of able to serve them before and the Rashid library was handicap accessible. But for someone to come in on their own and access the books and other things, that was just why we did this."

The \$3 million building was built where the former Valley Medical Clinic was located. Clendineng was hired about a month

See **LIBRARY**, page 2

Area high schoolers win FMAAA exhibition awards

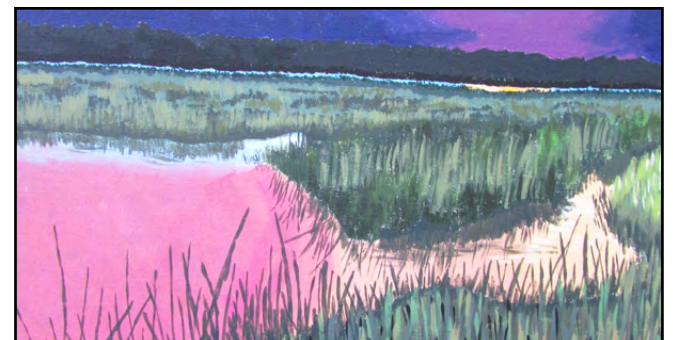
BY BRIAN RIGGS
Fort Madison Area Artists Association

FMAAA gallery at 825 Avenue G unveils the curtain on one of the favorite area exhibitions, whereby six area high schools compete for ribbon awards per division. A reception for the show occurs April 14th from 2:00-4:00pm with refreshments provided. Pilot Grove Savings Bank is the sponsor for the exhibition. The competition features works that are self-juried by the schools up to 25 limit to include Hamilton, IL; Keokuk, Central Lee, Eldon, Holy Trinity Catholic, and Ft. Madison.

Categories of divisions are black and white drawing, color drawing, painting, mixed media, three-dimensional, and photography. Ceramics was a new division inducted a few years back along with photography, but due to limited number of pieces, was folded into three-dimensional division this year. Jason Rausch, a long-term FMAAA member, has always had a penchant for this

annual. Although he touts the Budding Artist Show as his FMAAA favorite, the high school competition has long sparked his interest as well. Jason surmised, there was some technically advanced black&white renderings that missed ribbons due to not attempting to work the background. "I went through this same progression, my college art professor taught me that background development was as necessary as the main subject matter. I eventually came around to his point."

"Best of Show" was awarded to Deanna Warner of FMHS with her painting entitled "Sparks". She will win the \$45 monetary stipend that has long been sponsored by art educator Jim Knapp. Another FMAAA member just coming off his impressive March feature, artist Jerry Granaman established a \$25 award for first place in photography under his parents names of Ernie and Peggy Dobbs. Justin Walte, 12th grade at Keokuk High School took first with "Bella". 2nd place went to Nyssa



FMHS' Deanna Warner's "Sparks" won best of show honors at the FMAAA's high school exhibition contest. A reception is being held on Saturday from 2 to 4 p.m.

See **EXHIBIT**, page 6

Advertiser Index

Classifieds	Ps.4-5
Dave's Old Fashion Meats	P.2
Fort Madison Community Hospital	P.4
Great River Regional Waste Authority	P.6
Professional Services	P.5
Silgan Containers	P.4
Trailways Travel.....	P.3

News Index

Birth Announcements . P.3
-Sophia Marie Lemek
Business News..... P.3
Current-Lee..... P.3
From the front.....Ps.2,6
Lottery Numbers..... P.3
Obituaries..... P.3
-Michael Stayline
Sports..... P.6
Weather..... P.2

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From the Front/Weather

Next 10 years to focus on technology, schools

LIBRARY - Continued from Page 1

before the groundbreaking.

“The process of this building started about five years before I came here,” she said. “That was with the board at that time, and they were very active in fundraising, getting the plans, and getting the community support. Specifically Elaine Gray and Barb Pickard were really active in the fundraising. You look at the donor plates and we have 500 donations under \$100. We couldn’t have built this without them. So that was really exciting.”

“I was here about a month after they broke ground on the building and was here working with the board throughout that construction process, dealing with any issues and change orders. The other thing we did at the same time was move to an automated catalog. Which, if I had to do over again, I don’t think I would have, because of so much going on at the same time. But the staff

did a great job.”

The library currently has a staff of six, four of whom are part-time, two full-time and a page, who’s about 1/4 time. The full-time staff includes Chris Cowles and Deb Albee.

Clendineng said the community room probably is one of the most often used spaces at the library with residents using it for everything from meetings and demonstrations, to one family even using it for their Thanksgiving dinner.

“The biggest asset we added was this community room and the study rooms,” she said. “We did a space study and looked at how we could move some things around. We had people saying they wanted space to work together and we didn’t have it. So we added that and also looked at adding the study rooms that we have now.”

She said the biggest changes over the past 10 years have been technolo-

“*When we were building this, everyone we talked to lived within a block... Not really sure how that worked out geographically.*”

-Sarah Clendineng
FMHS Library Director

gy and looking at programming that fits that technological progress, but also doesn’t leave out those who still like the older systems and ways of doing things.

She said the board was able to save on part of the cost of the building because the former clinic’s foundation was able to be used instead of starting from scratch, but the library does have two small basements for storage. Clendineng said the staff

has to be careful of how many books they store over the basement areas because of the weight of the books.

The new location has helped the library provide better programming including the very popular programs like Crafternoons, on early out days and the summer reading program.

“Our summer reading program has blossomed in this location because of the parking. We’re within walking distance of so many people who can now just walk over. When we were building this, everyone we talked to lived within a block,” Clendineng said with a laugh. “Not really sure how that worked out geographically.”

She said the next 10 years is rooted in the technology and services that can be integrated with area schools.

“It’s looking more toward technology and how we can work with the school system. That’s

what’s in our 3-to-5-year plan,” she said. “We want to look to help people in this world of new technology, while at the same time not leaving behind the people who aren’t engaged in all that.”

She said she is always looking out for programs of high interest and relevance to the community.

“We need to help people embrace the world’s technology while staying relevant to the needs of the communities. Finding programs that have high interest in the community where people would come out and see it,” she said.

The Community room is being used very frequently, especially on the weekends. She said the room is booked almost three months in advance.

Half of the construction funds were raised through donations and a Community Action and Tourism

Grant, and the other was about a \$1.5 million referendum approved by city voters.

Clendineng said the cooperation between other libraries in the county is good.

“It’s kind of like our own little support group,” she said., “We meet regularly and talk about issues and we present a united front when it comes to requesting funds from the county.”

She said the biggest new program is the E-magazines.

“E-magazines are our best kept secret. People don’t realize there is no waiting list. It’s yours as long as you want it, you don’t have to read it and get it back in two weeks. You can go at your pace.

For more information on the library and its products and services, those interested can call 319-372-5721.

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SUN 15 Apr Light Snow
High- 43.3° F | Low - 33.1° F

MON 16 Apr Light Snow
High- 38.5° F | Low - 32.7° F

TUE 17 Apr Clear Skies
High- 51.8° F | Low - 51.2° F

[OpenWeatherMap](#)

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Founded in 2016

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Pen City Current and www.pencitycurrent.com are products of Market Street Publishing, LLC. Pen City Current is published Sunday through Friday mornings.

Obituaries/Business News

OBITUARIES

MICHAEL STAYLINE

The graveside service for Michael Stayline will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, May 7, 2018 at Sacred Heart Cemetery with Rev. Roger D. Welty officiating. King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory is assisting the family with the arrangements.

Cambre House to hold Memorial Day craft show

Submitted article

NAUVOO - Cambre House and Farm will hold their second annual craft show and open house on Monday May 28th, Memorial Day, from ten to four. Located between Nauvoo and Niota on the bluff, the Cambre House is a beautiful historic house. The house was the first privately owned home in Hancock County on the National Register of Historic places.

Built in 1867 by French Icarian Adolphe Cambre, the house has never been extensively remodeled and is like a step back in time. Sisters, Amy and Rebecca own the home and hold events through the summer to help share the house with the public. Painting parties, midsummer movie night, and ghost tours are available from June through October.

The property is also available for weddings, reunions, showers and other events. The beautiful outdoor location will have many craft and vendor booths and food for sale on Memorial Day. Free tours of the house will be available all day long. Make plans to spend a relaxing day visiting Cambre House and Farm. Booths are still available for crafters and vendors. Outside spots are \$10 with vendor providing their own table and tent. Spaces inside a larger tent with table provided are \$50. E-mail amy.provine@gmail.com for more information. More information is also available on the Cambre House and Farm Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/events/887439698082402/>.

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CURRENT-LEE

Lee County Bridges group to hold Keokuk community-wide meeting April 16

The steering committee is hosting the next community-wide Bridges out of Poverty training in Keokuk on April 16th from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the First Lutheran Church located at 1101 Blondeau Street. The Public is invited to attend

2nd annual FMHS spring craft/vendor show happening this Saturday

The Fort Madison High School 2nd Annual Spring Craft/Vendor Show will take place on Saturday, April 14th at the high school from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

More than 70 vendors will be on hand with items such as woodcrafts, toys, soaps, candles, home storage, purses, leather crafts, hair and makeup products, clothing, home decor, personal nutrition and more.

Lunch options will be available at the concession stand, and door prizes will be awarded from each vendor. Proceeds will benefit the FMHS Music Dept.

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.

Celebrations

SOPHIA MARIE LEMEK

FORT MADISON - Madalyn and Christopher Lemek announce the birth of their daughter, Sophia Marie Lemek on April 9, 2017 at the Fort Madison Community Hospital.

Sophia is greeted at home by her sister Audrey.

Grandparents of Sophia are Jill and Harley Reynolds of Muscatine, and Jim and Lynn Lemek of Fort Madison.

Great-grandparent of Sophia is Sandra Townsley of Letts.

Pen City Current congratulates the family on this wonderful news.



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Volunteer Services Program Director

United Way of the Great River Region which serves Lee, Hancock, and Clark counties is seeking a full-time Volunteer Services Program Director to manage all aspects of a newly formed Volunteer Services Program. Director will oversee a long-standing Retired Senior Volunteer Program. Ideal candidate will have excellent leadership and interpersonal relationship skills; grant management and writing skills; fundraising experience; strong office, computer, and bookkeeping skills; and ability to work with and manage volunteers and the organizations and businesses who utilize volunteers. The ability to multi-task is a must. Some travel required. To be considered, please send cover letter and resume with three references to: director@unitedwaygrr.org or mail to: United Way of the Great River Region, P.O. Box 251, Keokuk, IA 52632 on or before April 23, 2018.



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Sports/From the front

FMHS boys down BHS

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - Fort Madison got in their first home meet of the year Thursday night and came away with an 8-1 win over Burlington.

The Bloodhounds' only loss came at No 2 singles when Austin Krueger lost in a close 10-7 tiebreaker after shutting out the Grayhounds' John Jarvis 6-0 in the second set. Jarvis took the first set 6-2.

From there on out it was all crimson and black, starting with Sam Avery at No. 1 singles taking an easy 6-2, 6-0 win over Guy Thompson. Freshman Jason Thurman also had an easy run with a 6-1, 6-4 win over Burlington's Drake Parks. Blake Feuerhammer got his first win of the season in singles competition in a tight-fought contest with Brett Levins. Feuerhammer had to win a 7-5 tiebreak to take the first set 7-6 and then won easily in the 2nd set 6-2.

Vasin Thurman won at No. 5 singles with a 6-0, 3-6 (10-2) win over Blake Roberts and Gage Hind won by forfeit at the No. 6 singles.

Avery and Krueger took the No. 1 doubles match 6-3, 6-0 over Jarvis and Parks, while the Thurman brothers rolled to an easy 6-0, 6-2 win over Thompson and Levins to wrap up the contest. Feuerhammer and Hind won by forfeit at No. 3 singles.

"The boys did a good job of using their groundstrokes and service games to night," Hogan said. "We also saw improvement with our volleys in doubles play and stayed very offensive minded."

The Hounds are scheduled to play in the Muscatine Invite on Saturday and then are back at home Monday in a makeup meet with Mt. Pleasant.

HTC golfers fall to NL again

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON - HTC senior Collin Thornton paced the Crusaders with a 44 at a par-36 nine-hole match against New London Thursday night, but the Crusaders fell 169-194 for the second straight loss to the Tigers.

Clayton Phillips was the medalist of the match with a one-under 35 for New London. Cole Thornton shot a 48 and Kyle Bredemeyer fired a 49. Ali Robu shot a 49 for the HTC girls and Josh Barr carded a 53 to round out the scoring for HTC.

Gavin Prottzman shot a 42 for New London for the runner-up medalist. Justin Carter and Alex Dentlinger each shot a 46 for the Tigers.

HTC travels to Notre Dame on Monday for a girls/boys doubleheader.

Graham takes first in black & white with charcoal sketch

EXHIBIT - Continued from Page 1

Harris of FMHS with "Eyes". Deanna Warner takes her second ribbon with 3rd place in division for "Flour". Gage Hind of FMHS took an honorable mention ribbon with "Fire". The Painting Division was much larger this year. First place was awarded to Sebastian Christy of Eldon with "Hummingbird". Second place goes to Jossie Riesbers of Central Lee for "Succulent". Alonna Wilmont of FMHS wins third place with "Jin". And Jil Brevich of Hamilton takes an honorable mention with "Colorful Character".

Black and White drawing division is always a formidable division. Last year's Best of Show winner Claire Graham, 10th grade at HTC takes 1st place with charcoal of "Infatuation". 2nd place goes to Alyssa Fincher of FMHS with cool scratchboard entitled "I Love NYC". 3rd place was awarded to Cassandra Sparkman of Eldon for "Looking". Honorable mention ribbons went to Tayden Seay of KHS for portrait of Nicki Minaj and Claire Graham of HTC for "Beautiful". Mixed media division includes works done in stained glass, computer graphics, printmaking, and of course anything incorporating multiple mediums. Emily Fuller of Central Lee took 1st with "Two of a Kind". Abigail Rodriguez of KHS scored 2nd place with "Exo". Luke Simmons of Central Lee rounds third with "Moonlit Night" And Abigail Rodriguez of KHS earns an honorable mention award in this division as well for "Demure". Color Drawing division first place went to Vanessa Worrell of Central Lee for "Fall Migration". Lily Scott of FMHS took 2nd place for "The Mountain". Sebastian Christy of Eldon won third place for "Little Brown Church". Jordan Nagel of Central Lee garnered an honorable mention for "Solitude".

Three-dimensional division was won by Zannah Olsen 11th grade at KHS for "Under the Bridge". Hunter Starnes from KHS wins 2nd place for "Eclipse Armor". This piece has a unique assortment of raw materials that make up its overall countenance. Amanda-Marie Jones of FMHS takes 3rd with "Abandoned Dr. Suess House." Taylor Barnes of FMHS takes an honorable mention award with "Mossy Oak". Thanks to all of the art educators for their efforts: Jamie Jones of Central Lee, Martha Neff of KHS, Linda Hardy of Hamilton, Steve Rung at HTC, Dana Smith at FMHS, and Tina Denly of Eldon. FMAAA Early Out returns this month on April 25th from 2:30-4:30 showcasing the new fad of bubble ceramics where students use their lungs to manipulate the glazes; followed by wooden animal collages that will mod your podge. Great enrichment for ages 6-14 plus the Annual Regional High School competition as a bonus! See you on Avenue G.

Spring Cleaning

Keep it green!

This year, do your part to keep our environment clean, too! Here are just a few of the ways you can help:

- Properly dispose of your household hazardous waste materials, construction debris, & electronic waste
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