



Pen City Current

Monday, July 3, 2017 | 6 pages | Volume 1 • Issue 161

Yard incident prompts ISP lock down

Only minor injuries reported

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON – According to statement released on Saturday, the

Iowa State Penitentiary was placed on restricted movement Saturday, July 1st 2017 after an incident involving multiple offenders on the yard. Staff responded swiftly and gained immediate control of the situation. While responding to the incident there were no

noted injuries to staff. Only minor injuries to offenders were reported, and no weapons were known to be involved. The visiting room will be closed until further notice. This incident remains under investigation and no further information is available at this time.



State needs to review super majority rule

Of course it's sour grapes. Of course it is. I'm deeply concerned that we didn't pass the referendum for a new preK-3rd grade elementary school last week. The Keep Improving District Schools (KIDS) Committee did an unbelievable job at getting voters to the polls for the second attempt at a \$27 million facility including two high school ball fields.



VANDBERG

There are a lot of educators out there that are taking the high road and looking to the next school year with plans for teaching in dilapidated, inferior schools. And they will do just that. But I'm still irked. Again a campaign, not just of misinformation, but from my perspective, irrelevant information, was waged against the children in our neighborhoods.

Here's one thing you didn't see. No one, in all their complaining through social media threads and in area newspapers, cited as their reason for voting against the referendum this - the students don't need a new school.

I read a TON of comments on our social media threads as to why people were against the issue. Most were based

See RULES, page 2

Donnellson sets July 4th parade schedule

BY PCC STAFF

DONNELLSON - Plans have come together for the annual 4th of July parade in Donnellson on Tuesday, July 4th beginning at 6 p.m. This year's theme is "Soar like an Eagle".

There will be nine categories including Religious, Patriotic, Children through 7 years, Children Years, Family Unit, Organization, Commercial Advertising, Miscellaneous/Political, and Horses.

A first, second, and third place prize will be given in each category; \$20, \$15 and \$10, respectively. Entries will be judged on creativity, depicting the theme, neatness, and general appearance.

Registration will take place the day of the parade from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. at the corner of Maple and Oak streets in Donnellson. All entries must be registered by 5:30 p.m. to be eligible for parade competitions.

The parade will commence north on Hwy 218

See PARADE, page 3



Be safe this holiday

Boaters trailer their boat at the dock ramps in Fort Madison after a warm, enjoyable day on the Mississippi River. The Iowa DNR reminds everyone to practice boater safety through the holiday.

Photos by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Canaan produce show family's ambition

In the Bible, Canaan is the land of milk and honey. Canaan Township, which includes Mt. Union, used to be Mississippi River swamp ground. In the early 19th Century, the swamp was drained, exposing some of the most fertile, flat, black soil in Iowa. You can see for miles in any direction. Corn, soybeans and farmsteads now make up the landscape. And vegetables.

Grace Bennett, age 23, and her father and relatives took a month of Saturdays last fall to build a high-tun-



SWARM

nel for Grace. Then a big wind came along this spring and blew a chunk of the high-tunnel down, proving that Nature is still boss. With time running short, Grace and her dad hired an Amish crew to come in and repair the high-tunnel. They did it in one day.

A high-tunnel is like a greenhouse, except produce in a high-tunnel grows in the earth instead of up on slats. A greenhouse is heated, whereas the temperature in a high-tunnel is whatever it is outside and inside in the insulated enclosure. The roof and upper portions of the walls of the high-tunnel are made of a double layer of plastic with air blowing between the layers for insula-

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From the Front/Opinion

Company put daughter, father on same path

SWARM - Continued from Page 1

tion. The lower portion of the walls are a single layer of plastic that can be rolled up and down for ventilation and protection.

Grace's father, Brian Lane, owns a plumbing business. However, he has always been interested in hobby gardening and horticulture. When daughter Grace expressed an interest in starting a business that would supply produce to farmers markets and local restaurants, the two went into business and built the high-tunnel. Canaan Produce was born.

Between the high-tunnel and two outside garden plots that are laid out like a Grant Wood painting, Grace now raises most everything from sweetcorn, tomatoes, peppers, onions, carrots, green beans, lettuce, spinach, cucumbers, zucchini, and cauliflower to strawberries and herbs. Grace's two little girls, Emma and Quinn help with their little buckets and shovels as Grace weeds and tends



Courtesy photo

Grace Lane shows off the better boy tomatoes she's growing in the high-tunnels that are part of Canaan Produce, a Henry County company providing fresh produce to farmer's markets.

to her Garden of Eden.

"It's nice this time of year," Grace says with her eyes reflecting the earth's bounty, "because all of your work is showing it's not for nothing."

It got too hot early this year for the lettuce. It turned bitter and Grace said, "Nope, I'm not selling that to my customers." It was an all-star gourmet mix with five different

lettuces—red and green Romaine, red and green oak leaf, and lolita rosa. It was really good until it turned hot. Grace replanted but the soil was too warm. Seed won't germinate if the soil gets above 75 degrees.

"If you like snacking on cherry tomatoes," Grace smiles and shows off her organic sun-sugar cherry tomatoes. "You can pop'm in your mouth like candy." The yellow pear tomatoes are just starting to turn color. There are black krim tomatoes and jet star. The better boy are ideal high-tunnel tomatoes.

Canaan Produce isn't organic per se. However, Grace and her father practice an organic procedure. They use organic seed, don't spray chemicals and try to be as gentle with the plants as possible.

In their "wash-and-pack" building is an old honey extractor machine that was used to separate honey from the comb (land of milk and hon-

ey). They now use it to spin dry lettuce after it is double washed. Very ingenious.

They can be found on Facebook under Canaan Produce. Their email address is canaanfarm-produce@gmail.com.

Wednesday afternoons and Saturday mornings will find Grace at Mt. Pleasant's Farmers Market, Tuesday evenings at the Mt. Pleasant Square and some Saturday mornings in the New London Park. Father Brian often helps out, proud as a farmer at harvest.

I don't ever want to hear again that young people today lack ambition, and that America is no longer the land of opportunity. Grace Bennett and Canaan Township beg to differ.

Have a good story? Call or text Curt Swarm in Mt. Pleasant at 319-217-0526, email him at curtswarm@yahoo.com or find him on Facebook. Curt's stories are also read at 107.3 FM in Farmington.

"Nos leveraged our kids against gripes of the past"

RULES - Continued from Page 1

on inadequate information. Some, even more frustrating, fixated on the past. Those were wasted votes.

You cannot be serious voting against the children of this district because you're irked at construction issues, or you heard this or heard that, when we had many, many public meetings to inform people. Nothing in the past has anything to do with these kids. We had one person who kept saying we were fake news. I chuckle at

the comments as we thought of blocking him, but I refused to do so. It's an opinion and free speech.

They said

we weren't writing the full story. Our full story was that the youngest students in this district needed a new school. Whether there was a construction flaw in the current building doesn't matter to me. Show me a building of that scope that didn't have a construction flaw. If that's the case, has it been corrected? Then, whatever the reason, I do not care. If there was an issue, it was between the contractor and the district, it's been, or is being, taken care of, that's all I care about. It has nothing to do with the needs of our youngest students.

If Superintendent Erin Slater said there were issues with the middle school construction and moving of students. I do not care. It's been resolved.

If it was an issue of traffic at the new building. I do not care. It's been resolved. Transportation...playgrounds..all resolved. It's what school districts do. They are charged with solving problems.

There were not four attempts to pass this legislation, it was the second time. There was an attempt years back to pass a referendum to build the middle school that failed, so the state provided an option to use sales tax for that type of construction. Cool.

But now the state needs to provide another change. The time for the super majority is over. This is a different economy and the minority is blocking progress. It's tough enough to get a majority vote. Look at the last few elections. The combined courthouse vote only got 31% approval. The recent vote for a new health department got 45% approval.

It's tough enough. And enough's enough. Those defeats were sound, but this recent election was a majority - 55%. The state's finances are not such that extra money is going to come to the local governments. Our revenues are based on sales tax and property tax. Lots of TIF districts exist that are keeping millions off the tax rolls that weren't so prevalent in the days where super majority hurdles were more easily cleared.

I'm confident that people a heck of a lot smarter than me are going to get this referendum passed - because our children need it. But I think a serious look needs to be taken at current economic and local level governmental agencies financial constraints. The pressures of property taxes on people are causing them to think it's ok to just leave everyone in the 1970s, 60s and, geesh, even 40s. We cannot continue to live there.

State Senator Rich Taylor and State Reps. Jerry Kearns and Dave Heaton, I would encourage you to look at an amendment or introduce a bill to remove the super majority law and allow taxing districts a better shot, at a minimum, of progress..

But that's Beside the Point.



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Starting at 4pm

The Voice
Singing Competition

Starting at 5pm

Country Musician

JAKE DOODS

Starting at 8pm

Obituaries/Area News

OBITUARIES

Perry T. Schneider

Perry T. Schneider, 92, of Ft. Madison, passed away on Saturday, July 1, 2017 at 5:40 AM at The Madison.

He was born on December 12, 1924 in Ft. Madison to George and Josephine Volkert Schneider. On



SCHNEIDER

October 24, 1959 he married Carol Sporkman in Ft. Madison. He was a lifelong farmer. Perry was a member of Sacred Heart Church. He loved going coon hunting and telling a good joke. He and Carol also enjoyed eating at the Cottage Café, Fort Colony and the Parthenon and spending time with their family.

Survivors include his wife, Carol Schneider of Ft. Madison; two sons, Bernie (Heidi) Schneider of Ft. Madison and Greg (Tammy) Schneider of Lorton, VA; five daughters, Maxine (Silas) Geerdes of West Point, Sherry (Jay) Blanchard of Wever, Debbie (Tim) Miller of Montrose, Kim (Tim) Reinhardt of Nauvoo, IL and Lisa (John Kieffer) Schneider of Waukesha, WI; fourteen grandchildren; ten great grandchildren and one sister, Henrietta Blaise of Chicago. He was preceded in death by his parents and ten brothers and sisters.

The funeral service will be held on Wednesday, July 5, 2017 at 12:00 PM at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. Rev. Mark P. Spring will officiate. The family will meet with friends from 10 AM until the time of the service at noon. Burial will follow in Sacred Heart Cemetery. Per his wishes, cremation has been entrusted to King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory.

A memorial has been established in his memory and online condolences may be left at www.kinglynk.com.

Entrants still accepted for parade

PARADE - Continued from Page 1

from one block north of Hwy 2. It will run west on Fruit Street past Fairview Housing, then north past the Donnellson Health Center, and travel east to the end of the parade on State Street at the Dept. of Transportation's state maintenance shed/headquarters.

The throwing of candy is not prohibited, but from past experience it has been overly abundant. Entrants wishing to delight parade watchers might consider another type of treat such as a small American flag, helium-filled balloons, patriotic streamers, whistles or pencils, etc. This is an opportune time for organizations or individuals to hand out flyers for their own publicity.

Anyone interested in publicizing their organization or business with a float or decorated pick-up, car, tractor, antique vehicle or just for the fun of being in a parade, are all welcome to take part. All entries should be decorated in some manner. Also, any musical

groups or small bands are encouraged to participate.

The Donnellson Lions and TTT Chapter OK will again be sponsoring an ice cream social following the parade at the Pilot Grove

Savings Bank Community Room. Sandwiches, homemade pie, ice cream, and drinks will be available.

Boy Scout Troop #433 and Pack #33 are sponsoring the parade this year.

For further information, contact one of the following: Barb Moeller, 319-835-3311, Tom Kruse at 319-371-6748 or Chris Kearns 319-470-5429.

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current



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7/1

2 3 4 10 33
Hot Ball: 12
Sizzler: 3



7/1

19 42 45 48 53
Powerball: 16
Power Play: 3



7/1 MID-DAY

2 5 4

7/1 EVENING

5 2 8

7/2 MID-DAY

6 9 5

7/2 EVENING

0 5 4



7/1 MID-DAY

2 2 5 3

7/1 EVENING

2 3 1 8

7/2 MID-DAY

9 6 5 3

7/2 EVENING

6 7 7 0

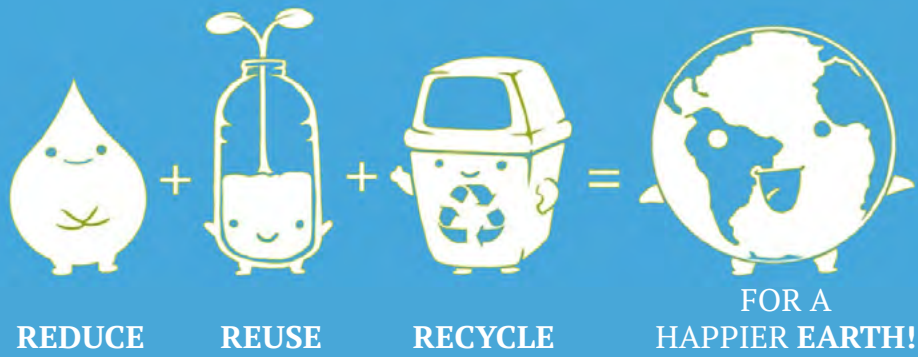
Lotto Drawings

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

The Pen City Current encourages you to play responsibly.

Business News

Great River Regional Waste Authority reminds you to use the 3 R's!



Here are some helpful tips:

REDUCE

*Reduce the amount of waste produced in society

The best way to manage waste is to not produce it. This can be done by shopping carefully and being aware of a few guidelines.

- Buy durable goods & products in bulk
- Avoid over-packaged & disposable goods
- Use cloth napkins/towels instead of paper napkins/towels
- Make 2-sided copies whenever possible
- Maintain central files for multiple individuals
- Use electronic mail/communications or a central bulletin board

REUSE

* Reuse products for the same purpose or for a different purpose

It makes economic & environmental sense to reuse products. Sometimes it takes a creative mind to do so.

- Sell or Donate old clothes, appliances, toys & furniture
- Use resealable containers rather than plastic wrap
- Reuse grocery bags or bring your own cloth bags to the store

RECYCLE

* Recycle/convert common waste into reusable material

Recycling is a series of steps that takes a used material and processes, re-manufactures and sells it as a new product. Begin recycling at home and work.

- Recycle all acceptable products at our recycling bins, stations & trailers
(see www.grrwa.com for a complete list of locations)
- Check for curbside recycling acceptable items & schedules on your local city websites
- Purchase and use recycled materials for the home & office
- Implement a composting process for your lawn & garden

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We accept household hazardous waste and electronic waste at the Fort Madison location. Appointments are encouraged to ensure a proper procedure are in place for disposal. Please call 319-372-6140 to schedule your appointment. For a full list of acceptable items please call or visit us online.

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Public Notices/Classifieds

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE
Lee County, Iowa
Board of Supervisors
Regular Meeting
Agenda
DATE: WEDNESDAY,
July 5, 2017
MEETING
CONVENING TIME:
9:00 A.M.
LOCATION:
Correctional Center, 2530
255th St.,
Montrose, IA 52639

AGENDA
 Pledge of Allegiance
 Approve Agenda
 Consider Approval of
 Tuesday, June 27, 2017
 Board Minutes
 Consider Approval of
 Claims
 Public Input
 Consider Approval to
 Replace Receptionist and
 Accounting Tech II in Com-
 munity Services Canvass
 of June 27 Fort Madison
 School Bond Election
 Consider Approval of
 Second Reading of Public
 Nuisance Tax Sale Ordinance

Consider Approval to
 Re-Appoint George Morgan
 and Patricia Fraise to Veter-
 an Affairs Commission
 Consider Approval of
 Amended Memorandum
 of Understanding between
 Des Moines County, Hemy
 County, Lee County and
 Great River Health Systems

for Medical Examiner
 Personnel Actions:
 A. New Hire-Sheriffs
 Office
 B. Additional Sti-
 pend-Sheriffs Office (2)
 C. New Hire-Russ
 Reports:
 A. Auditor's Report of
 Fees Collected
 Commission or Commit-
 tee Reports
 Adjourn

PUBLIC MEETING -
CITIZENS WELCOME
 Workshop to follow
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www.leecounty.org

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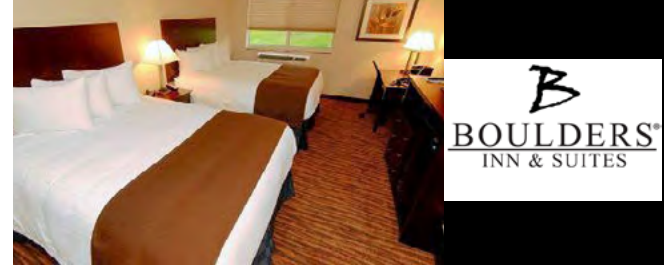


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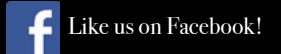
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Sports

Lady Hounds take title at Goose Lake

PCC STAFF

GOOSELAKE - The FMHS Lady Hounds took first-place at Saturday's tournament at Northeast High School in Goose Lake.

Lexi Schmidt came off a 10-0 loss to Ottumwa on Thursday to knock off Bellevue 10-2 in the first game of the day Saturday. Schmidt gave up just two runs, one earned, and struck out nine batters, and allowed five hits. She was also 2-of-4 from the plate with two doubles and a run scored.

Chayse Lowney went 2-of-5 with two doubles, an rbi, and run scored. Kylee Cashman also had two hits. Kamryn Bailey had a double for the Hounds, while Sadie Smithburg, Shyla Farmer, Olivia Williams, and Emily Mitchell all had singles for the FM team. FMHS jumped out to a three-run 2nd inning and added another in the third and one in the fifth before breaking out for a four-run sixth inning to take a 9-2 lead over Bellevue.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

FMHS Head girls softball coach Stan Schmidt gives some instruction to Dalyn Wondra (25) and Teryn Parsons (20) between games Thursday. Vanessa Golowach (5) is at left. The Hounds won three games on Saturday to take the title at Northeast High School.

Advancing to the championship bracket, the Hounds faced host Northeast in their second game. The Lady Hounds again jumped out to some early scoring putting up two runs in the second and three in the third and that's all they would need as Lowney allowed only

one run earned on eight hits and struck out three.

Smithburg went 2-of-3 with an RBI to lead FMHS at the plate. Bailey went 1-of-3 with another double and an RBI and a run scored. Lowney, Schmidt, Farmer, and Jada Lamm also had hits for Fort Madison. Lamm

scored twice, and Schmidt and Lowney each tallied a run in the win that sent FMHS into the championship game against Maquoketa.

Maquoketa came back with a run in the bottom of the sixth to tie the score at 3. Neither FM nor Maquoketa could muster

heroics in the seventh inning but Fort Madison came up with two runs in the top of the eighth where Schmidt gave up one run in the bottom half before the Hounds slammed the door.

Bailey went 3-of-4 at the plate with two runs scored and a couple of stolen bases to lead the Hounds. Lowney was 2-of-4 with a double, an RBI, a stolen base, and a

run scored.

Vanessa Golowach went 2-of-3 with a run scored. Schmidt, Smithburg, Cashman, and Williams all had singles for FMHS. Schmidt and Smithburg also scored runs.

The Hounds (10-24) host Keokuk in the regular season finale on Monday at home, before post season play begins Thursday against Keokuk on the road.

Bloodhounds drop two to Centerville

BY PCC STAFF

CENTERVILLE - Sophomore Jordyn Gerdes hit a two-run double in a three-run fifth inning to cap off the scoring for FMHS in a 11-3 loss to Centerville on the road in high school baseball action.

Ryan Steffensmeier took the loss for the Hounds. Brandon Richelt came in in relief. The Hounds spotted Centerville eight runs in the first four innings before getting on the board in the fifth.

Gerdes led the Hounds at the plate going 2-of-4 with a double, two RBIs, and a run scored. Logan Allen also went 2-of-4 with an RBI. Steffensmeier and Aaron Steffensmeier, along with Tyler O'Tool and Carlos Gonzalez, all had singles for the Hounds. Both Steffensmeiers scored a run in the game.

The Hounds are 1-27 on the season and host Keokuk in a doubleheader Monday night.

5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

MON 03 Jul



Moderate Rain
Low - 70.0° F | High - 86.1° F

TUE 04 Jul



Moderate Rain
Low - 73.4° F | High - 86.1° F

WED 05 Jul



Light Rain
Low - 71.3° F | High - 84.8° F

THU 06 Jul



Light Rain
Low - 73.0° F | High - 87.0° F

FRI 07 Jul



Clear Skies
Low - 75.2° F | High - 91.2° F

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HAPPY 4TH OF JULY

Pen City Current will publish a digital e-Edition on Tuesday, July 4th, but will not publish on Wednesday, July 5th in observance of the Independence Day holiday. Breaking news will be published to the website as it happens and our digital e-Edition will return on Thursday, July 6th.

Please Celebrate Safely!

Pen City current

HAPPY 4TH OF JULY INDEPENDENCE DAY

**Charlie Korschgen
4th of July Kiddie Parade**

Please join us Tuesday, July 4th at 10 am to celebrate our nation's Independence Day. All children can participate free of charge. Registration begins at 8:30am 1800 block of Avenue G.

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

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Pen City Current
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