



Pen City Current

Monday, July 8, 2019 | 9 pages | Volume 3 • Issue 149

Hundreds join Rotary for dinner in Central Park



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Power Chords, a group of local youth musicians, performed for the community at the annual Fort Madison Rotary Picnic in the Park Sunday evening.

Event wraps up club's \$100K in 100 Days campaign

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – A group of youngsters sang beyond their age while the community enjoyed grilled food and sides, root beer floats and dance troops as part of the 2019 Picnic in the Park put on the Fort Madison Rotary Club Sunday night.

The picnic is held in Central Park every year in July with funds raised from the event going to help sponsor the City Band in the park as well as maintenance and upkeep of the park.

Power Chords, a group of local

youth belted out rock tunes dating back to the 80s as community residents looked on in with pride. The group eventually gave way to Top Hatters dance students who entertained the group until the picnic ended at 7 p.m.

This year's event leads into the Rotary Clubs 100 years of existence and triggered a \$100K in 100 days capital fundraiser to put money in to the park's maintenance fund.

Rotary officials said at last count they were at about \$70,000 but recent donations and the goodwill offerings hadn't been included. A grant from Rotary International has also been applied for with the hopes

that the club can get a little closer to the goal.

This year's fundraising was more important as city officials found termite damage to the band shell. Those repairs to the shell including repainting will cost close to \$20,000. The club would also like to put new lights in the park at a \$30,000 price tag as well as refurbish the Statue of Liberty replica at a projected cost of \$12,000. The rest of the money would be held for ongoing maintenance and repairs.

The event was originally scheduled for June 23rd but was cancelled due to inclement weather and was rescheduled for Sunday night.

School board to meet again on superintendent

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – A review of the Fort Madison Community School District superintendent's contract will continue Monday night in another closed session at the district's administrative offices.



SLATER

The school district's board of directors will meet again on Monday after a three-hour closed session review of Dr. Erin Slater's rolling contract was conducted June 19 with no action taken on the contract. Slater has requested the review be done in closed session, according to Iowa code Chapter 21.5(1)(i).

Board President Dr. Tim Wondra said the meeting Monday would also be a closed session meeting. The agenda for that meeting does not include any possible action out of the meeting, therefore the district will not be able to take action on the contract review at Monday's meeting.

See SLATER, page 8



Beside The Point

Chuck Vandenberg,
Pen City Current - Editor

Let's get some things straight, including Avenue L

There's a whole lot going on in this town right now- good and bad – and our main objective is to try to provide information that helps shape the debate.

Every now and then we just kick out an opinion we think adds to that debate, no different than any of the thousands of comments that have followed stories on our digital platforms. We think it adds to the debate because we, as a media outlet, are charged with keeping an eye on things in our community.

We miss some, and catch some, but in the whole sphere of the thing, people are watching us and wait-

See VANDENBERG, page 4

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Obituaries/For the Record

OBITUARIES

JOANN MARIE BLIND

JoAnn Marie Blind, 79, of Ft. Madison passed away on Friday, July 5, 2019 at 12:58 at her home.

She was born on January 4, 1940 in Ft. Madison, IA to Leo and Letha Wenke Weidmann. On June 11, 1960 she married Harold "Butch" Blind in West Point and they later divorced. JoAnn was a member of Ss. Mary & Joseph Church. In her early years JoAnn farmed and held several local jobs. Lastly, she operated an in home child care business. To many she was known as the "Cookie Monster". She enjoyed working in her yard and garden and taking care of numerous children throughout the years.

God gave JoAnn the cream of the crop with her six children, Doug (Melinda) Blind of Ft. Madison, Jay (Lisa) Blind of Shorewood, WI, Leslie (Jeff) Hawkins of Montrose, Kelly (Mike) Kruse of Bentonville, Ark., Kyle (Nicole) Blind of Ft. Madison and Kerry (Jeaninne) Blind of Johnston, IA; and; fourteen grandchildren, Ryan, Seth, Tyler, Lily, Trevor, Dylan, Samantha, Nicole, Brian, Chloe, Gracie, Cade, Claire and Emma; three great grandchildren, Mayli, Quentin and Keegan; one sister, Betty Watznauer of Ft. Madison; several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her long time companion Hank Lake and a sister, Mary Jo Boeding. Friends may call after 2 PM on Monday, July 8, 2019 at King-Lynk Funeral Home where the family will receive friends from 4:00-6:30 PM. A rosary will be recited at 3:30 PM and a Wake Service will be held at 6:30 PM. The funeral mass will be held on Tuesday, July 9, 2019 at 10:30 AM at Ss. Mary & Joseph Church with Rev. Tony Trosley officiating. Burial will follow in Gethsemane Cemetery.

A memorial has been established for the Alzheimer's Association and online condolences may be left at www.kinglynk.com.



BLIND

GARY A. REA

Gary A. Rea, 65, of Carthage, Illinois, formerly of Montrose, Iowa passed away at 9:50 A.M. Tuesday June 25, 2019 at the Madison in Fort Madison, Iowa.

Born April 28, 1954 in Fort Madison, Iowa the son of John W. and Martha R. (Lewis) Rea.

He married Janine Andrews they later divorced. He later married Carol "C.J" Kentch and they later divorced.

Survivors include his son Blake Rea of Dallas City, Illinois, granddaughter JayLyn Rea. Sister: Cindy (Duane) Tripp of Niota, Illinois.

Two brothers: Ronnie (Sue) Rea of Fort Madison, Iowa and Randy Rea of Carthage, Illinois. Sister-in-law: Gloria Rea of Nauvoo, Illinois. Also surviving are several nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents, sister Sandy and brother Mike.

Gary was a 1973 graduate of Nauvoo-Colusa High School. He was a retired Correctional Officer at the Iowa State Penitentiary. He was a member of the Carthage Eagles Club. Gary enjoyed hunting, playing cards and golfing.

The family will receive friends from 2:00 P.M. until 3:00 P.M. Friday July 12, 2019 at the Schmitz-Banks and Beals Funeral Home in Nauvoo.

A memorial service will be held at 3:00 P.M. Friday July 12, 2019 at the Schmitz - Banks and Beals Funeral Home in Nauvoo with Pastor Mark Anderson and Fr. Tony Trosley officiating.

Burial will be at a later date in the Appanoose Township Cemetery near Niota, Illinois. In lieu of flowers the family requests memorials be made in his memory.

Schmitz-Banks and Beals Funeral Home of Nauvoo is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences may be made to the family at www.sbbfuneralhome.com.



REA

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report

07/01/19 - 12:57 a.m.

- Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1900 block of Avenue I.

07/01/19 - 8:46 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 5400 block of Avenue O.

07/01/19 - 11:17 p.m.

- Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 1100 block of 13th Street.

07/01/19 - 11:42 p.m.

- Fort Madison Police responded to a report of stolen vehicle in the 1600 block of Avenue H.

07/02/19 - 1:05 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 2000 block of Avenue F.

07/02/19 - 8:28 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 3400 block of Avenue L.

07/02/19 - 12:43 p.m.

- Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 3400 block of Avenue L.

07/02/19 - 5:09 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 2500 block of Avenue J.

07/02/19 - 8:28 p.m.

- Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 2000 block of 330th Avenue.

07/02/19 - 9:43 p.m.

- Fort Madison Police arrested Michaela Marie Davolt, 55, of Fort Madison in the 2100 block of Avenue B on a charge of domestic abuse assault.

She was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.

07/03/19 - 2:45 a.m. - Fort

Madison Police arrested Joshua Charles Cochran, 37, of Fort Madison, in the 100 block of 2nd Street on a warrant for failure to appear/pay fines. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.

07/03/19 - 3:06 a.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Quinlan Travis Lozano, 220, of Fort Madison in the alley behind the 1900 block of Avenue L, on a charge of underage consumption and interference with official acts. He was taken to the Lee County Jail.

Lee County Sheriff's Report

07/02/19 - 9:10 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Kevin Lynn Tripp, Jr., 32, of Keokuk, at the sheriff's office on a warrant for 3rd-degree theft.

He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.

07/02/19 - 12:52 p.m.

- Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested David Eugene Benjamin, 45, of Donnellson, in the 100 block of Dewey Street in Donnellson on charges of violation of a no-contact order.

He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.

07/02/19 - 4:36 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Kristofer Charles Johnson, 20, of Cedar Rapids, at the Linn County Jail in Cedar Rapids on a charge of violation of probation.

07/02/19 - 6:15 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Justin Daniel Spurgeon, 30, of Carthage, Ill., at the intersection of Boulevard Road and Main Street in Keokuk on a warrant for violation of probation.

He was taken to the

Lee County Jail and held. 07/03/19 - 6:33 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Eli Daniel Darling, 19, of Donnellson, in the Donnellson area, on charges of eluding, interference with official acts, no insurance and speeding.

He was taken to the Lee County Jail and released on his recognizance.

07/04/19 - 6:41 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Justin Robert Bowden, 37, of Keokuk, in the 2900 block of Hwy. 218 in Montrose, on charges of contempt of court, sex-offender registration violation and interference with official acts.

He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.

07/04/19 - 10:48 p.m.

- Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Rowdy Jo Alton Mortimer, 22, of Keokuk, at the intersection of 330th Street and Hwy. 61 in Montrose, on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia.

He was taken to the Lee County Jail and released on a promise to appear.

07/04/19 - 11:05 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Jordann Ilene Jacobs, 25, of Fort Madison at the intersection of 300th Street and Hwy. 218 in Montrose on a warrant for failure to appear.

She was released on bond.

07/05/19 - 11:05 a.m.

- Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Miranda Elizabeth Meyers, 23, of Keokuk, at the 300th Street and Hwy. 218, on charge of driving while barred.

She was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.

Those listed above a presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Class Schedule

Monday 9-10:30am - Beginners

Wednesday 9-10:30am - Advanced Beginners

Wednesday 6-7:30pm - Intermediate

Thursday 5:30-6:30 - Restorative and Slow Stretching

Friday 9-10:30am - Beginners

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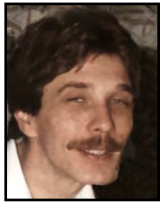
Obituaries/Lottery Numbers

OBITUARIES

JOE GRUBOR

Joe Grubor, 63, of Keokuk, IA died Tuesday, June 25, 2019 at his home. He was born April 18, 1956 in Chicago, IL the son of Petar and Marija Shedbija Grubor.

Joe graduated from Roosevelt High School in Chicago, IL.



GRUBOR

He was the owner and operator of numerous rental properties through the years.

Joe was a member of the Serbian Orthodox Church.

Joe was an avid coin and currency collector, He was a dedicated father and grandfather. Joe was always happy to speak with or lend an ear to family and friends and he will be missed very much by many.

He is survived by his son, Justin Wojslaw of Seattle, WA and his grandchildren.

A graveside service will be held at 12 noon, Wednesday at St. Sava Cemetery in Libertyville, IL with Father Petar Sailovic officiating.

There will be no visitation.

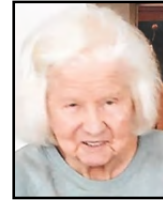
The Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk, IA is assisting the family with arrangements.

Online condolences may be left for the family at www.vigenmemorialhome.com.

OBITUARIES

BETTY J. BAKER

Betty J. Baker, 89, of Ft. Madison passed away peacefully on Friday, July 5, 2019 at 8:29 PM at her home surrounded by her family.



BAKER

She was born on March 18, 1930 in Ft. Madison to Stephen "Roy" and Dora Hall Clem. On October 23, 1948 she married Paul E. Baker, Sr. and he passed away on February 20, 2007. Betty was a homemaker. She enjoyed playing cards and was an avid Hawkeye and Cardinal fan. Her greatest love was her family and she cherished the time she spent with them.

Survivors include two sons; Thomas (Cheryl) Baker of Ft. Madison and John Baker of Ft. Madison; one daughter, Connie (Jerry) Levandoske of Burlington; thirteen grandchildren; seventeen great grandchildren and one great grandchild.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, two sons Robert and Paul, Jr., a daughter and son in law Pam and Danny Bogert; two grandchildren, Morgan Levandoske and Chad Baker and two sisters.

Per her wishes, cremation has been entrusted to King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory and a Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. Online condolences may be made at www.kinglynk.com.

Pen City Current obituary policy

The Current runs obituaries one time at no charge to funeral homes and they run the day they are submitted in most cases. They are also run as submitted by the funeral homes.



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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



6/6
20 22 43 47 52
Star Ball: 3
All Star Bonus: 2



6/6
4 8 23 46 65
Powerball: 1
Power Play: 2



6/6 MID-DAY
1 5 6
6/6 EVENING
1 6 6



6/6 MID-DAY
2 2 5 6
6/6 EVENING
7 2 5 6

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Opioid Addiction: Get the Facts

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Opinion/From the Front

A day in the garden ends with a call to 911

A man ran across Sharon Bortz's back yard. He had his shirt off and was wearing gray pants with a stripe down the side. The man had his shirt balled up in his fist as he ran.

Sharon said to her neighbor lady across the fence, "That's a prisoner!"

The neighbor lady said, "Oh, it can't be."

Sharon had been outside fussing with her iris plants. Mt. Pleasant is the Iris City, and she was proud of all the different colors of iris she had—pink, white, blue, and her favorite, purple. She was going to cut some fresh flowers and take them into her kitchen to brighten up her home and add spring fragrance. After the irises were done blooming, she would also dig some of them up to give to friends. Spread the beauty!

She lived only a couple of blocks from the minimum security prison in Mt. Pleasant. That man had to be an escaped prisoner! Why else would he be running with his shirt off?

"Well, I'm going to call the police," she told the neighbor lady. The neighbor lady just rolled her eyes, like Sharon was an idiot.

In the house, Sharon's hands were shaking so badly, she could hardly hold the phone, let alone dial 911. The

EMPTY NEST

By Curt Swarm



dispatcher came on and said, "State your name, address and emergency."

Sharon's voice was also shaking. She was barely able to give her name and address. "A man, with his shirt off, just ran across my backyard and through the creek," she told the dispatcher. "I've never called 911 before."

"You're doing fine, stay calm," the dispatcher told her. "What color were the pants?" Sharon told her, "Gray, with a stripe down the side."

"Did you happen to notice if the shirt said 'Inmate' on it?"

"I couldn't tell," Sharon said. "It was balled up in his fist. Is it alright for me to leave? I need to run errands." "You go right ahead," the dispatcher told her. "We'll take care of this."

Before Sharon could get backed out of her driveway, there were red lights everywhere, and police dogs.

The next day, there was a knock at Sharon's door. There was a lady in uniform with a card in her hand. She handed the card to Sharon and said, "I'm a captain with the prison, and I want to thank you for calling yesterday. When a call comes in to 911, it also comes to the prison. We knew exactly what was happening, and got the prisoners inside immediately and put the prison on lock down. The man you saw was an escaped prisoner. He was on work detail, doing yard work, when he decided to go for a little run. We found him hiding in a ditch a short ways away. When we asked him where he was going, he said he hadn't decided yet. He is now at the Ft. Madison facility with extra time added onto his sentence. You did exactly the right thing by calling 911."

This incident happened half-a-dozen years ago. Sharon's back yard now has, in addition to iris—roses, chrysanthemums, daffodils, peonies, hostas, and a few lilies to compete with the iris. The neighbors all know, do anything you want, but don't mess with Sharon's yard!

Have a good story? Call or text Curt Swarm in Mt. Pleasant at 319-217-0526, email him a curtswarm@ya-hoo.com or visit his website at www.empty-nest-words-photos-and-frames.com.

It's our right to question - it's our responsibility to stay informed

VANDENBERG - Continued from Page 1

ing for news to come to them. With that being said, we've been watching the responses lately to recent city decisions. And in full disclosure, Pen City Current has challenged city officials on decisions in the past so we're not carrying anyone's water here.

But a couple things need to be written in clear form so residents can have a good understanding of what's happening in the city, based on information we have access to.

First, let's look at straightening Avenue L. That stretch of road is planned to be redone as part of the Business 61 overhaul through Fort Madison that is scheduled to take place over the next five years. The work could start as early as this fall on the east side.

So that money was allocated for that work five years ago in plans, we might add, that were unveiled to the public at more than five public information sessions and several city council presentations in 2014. Information is there for those that want to be informed.

The city was handed ownership of the stretch of highway along with a fairly large check for its maintenance, when the state ended Hwy 2 at the city's west end and transferred jurisdiction of Business 61 to the city.

Because the state didn't own the BNSF railroad bridge (originally built for the Atcheson Topeka and Santa Fe rail lines) it could turn over the route without leaving an "orphan bridge" as the DOT's Trans-



portation Commission described it 2013.

An October 8, 2013 report from the commission showed a pavement rehab from Route 2 along U.S. 61 to the Mississippi River at \$13.8 million. Instead of contracting the work, the state transferred the roadway and the \$13.8 million over to the city, and the city began formalizing plans for its reconstruction.

Specific to the point, the money is earmarked for that construction project and is needed to show matching funds for other state and federal grants to help offset some of the increased costs. The money is already allocated to that project and can't be moved to sewer projects, or other street work, or a bowling alley.

City officials did consider momentarily an option to borrow from the funds for other projects in the city, specifically possibly funding Viking dock improvements, but it would have to be paid back with a market interest rate. That move didn't get much traction and other avenues are being pursued.

When the city realized it could use a refund of interest paid on the waste water treatment plant upgrades to help remediate storm water drainage in the city, they put together a plan for Avenue G curbing and sidewalks.

Engineering estimates were embarrassingly off on the project and it had to be scrapped, but the money can't go to streets necessarily unless the work deals with storm water runoff remediation. So now the city's looking at using the money in Riverview Park. But it just can't be absorbed into the general fund and used for other projects. It just doesn't work like that.

So, again, they are doing what they feel, as your elected representatives, is in the best interest of the city. And watch these meetings online. You can live stream them on the city's website and you'll see passionate people, making difficult decisions and giving full-throated opinions based on their constituents' input. Nothing is decided easily.

We recently saw City Manager David Varley give an emotional scolding to the council for not giving him what he needs to do his job, which in that situation was hiring the sheriff's department to oversee the police department until a new police chief is hired.

We're at just about every city council meeting and we're comfortable saying on average about 10 other people outside of the media do as well. No one's going to tell me these people are dumb or uncaring. They have opinions and those are based on feedback from an informed, or uninformed, citizenry. That's how it works.

But look around the city. Yeah, we're behind on street improvements and it's been neglected. But this

See BESIDE THE POINT, page 5

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Health News/Opinion

FMCH continues health series with opioid discussion

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON – Fort Madison Community Hospital (FMCH) will host the next session in their monthly community health education series on Tuesday, July 9, 2019.

This session entitled “Opioid Addiction: Get the Facts” will take place from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at FMCH in the Business Center Conference Rooms.

The FMCH team of Pharmacists, Joe Blunier, Audrey Housel and Sara Newton, will lead the discussion on opioids.

FMCH Pharmacists Sara Newton and Audrey Housel will be two of the presenters at the FMCH Health Series on Tuesday, July 9th. The topic of this months discussion is Opioids.

There has been a lot of attention placed on the misuse and possibility of addiction when prescribed opioids. This session will explore the full scope of opioid use starting with what an opioid is, why they are prescribed-including goals and side effects, identifying opioid addiction, alternatives to opioids when treating pain, and opioid crises statistics.

The Pharmacists at FMCH act as a resource for all medication management and education throughout the organization. They work with the health care providers at FMCH to ensure proper medication and education of prescribed medication is provided for the inpatient population, as well as, facilitating outpatient anticoagulation clinics.

This educational session is free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be served. For more information call, 319-376-2244.



Courtesy Photo

FMCH Pharmacists Sara Newton and Audrey Housel will be two of the presenters at the FMCH Health Series on Tuesday, July 9th. The topic of this month’s discussion is Opioids.

No one wins in the blame game

BESIDE THE POINT - Continued from Page 4

group of leaders, we believe, is doing everything their staff and coffers allow them to do. There is always a project underway somewhere to improve infrastructure: a section of street here or there, a bridge replacement, a federally mandated sewer separation that comes with zero federal dollars.

The blame game never has a winner. So as we bounce – yes, bounce – around this city, it’s frustrating for us, too, but we choose to see what’s being done in the name of progress. There is a large contingency of people in this town that rarely look forward, and when they do, they look forward to making their arguments while pointing behind them to the past.

Let’s point ahead with our both index fingers and walk in that direction with a preponderance of the majority. You maintain your history for sure, but you can’t alienate progress for the sake of it. There is a balance to be struck.

The city has an app that you can use confidentially to point out the nuisances in this town. Literally, you download the app, and point and click. It’s that simple. Yet only about 400 out of probably 7,500 that have cellphones have it on their phone and very few are using it. It would appear that nuisances are being handled much quicker through this app than phoning up city hall.

I’ve seen this post, “Why should we do their job”...because it’s our community, too, and we have expectations. We elected these officials, but our responsibilities as citizens of our communities don’t end there. We must stay involved.

Do you mow your lawn? Why? If you don’t the city will do it, but they’ll bill you \$40-\$50 an hour. Are you saving money or do you like to have your property well represented? It’s the same with your community.

As an aside, you’ll be seeing some big ships docking and dumping a couple hundred people regularly on the west side of Riverview Park in the very near future. Enterprising individuals should be giving that some thought, but that’s Beside the Point.

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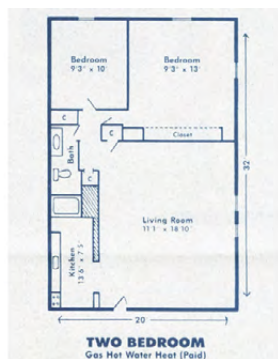
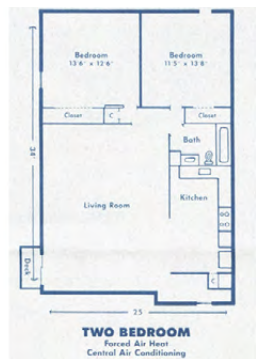
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Superintendent review will continue at July 15 meeting

SLATER - Continued from Page 1

Wondra said another closed session will be held July 15, as part of the district's regular monthly board meeting, to continue the review

It isn't clear whether the review was triggered as a regularly scheduled annual review, or as a special review in light of recent revelations from Head Varsity Basketball coach Ryan Wilson that Slater made demands on her son's playing time on the team's junior varsity squad.

Wilson came forward publicly with his concerns after an email was obtained by Pen City Current that Slater had sent to the Board of Directors outlining concerns over playing time given to Holy Trinity Catholic students in shared programs with Fort Madison.

Slater said the current shared baseball program had resulted in less playing time for Fort Madison students due to the "heavy presence" of Holy Trinity players and she advocates for the Fort Madison students and wanted to schedule a meeting to address the issue.

A meeting was scheduled but was canceled prior to taking place. In the email, Slater also said.. "Our students don't have the choice to attend a private school... a private school this district continues to programmatically support over and over without return. Our students entrust us to provide opportunities for them."

The controversy was ramped up when a video of Slater's husband Scott surfaced on social media channels confronting Wilson at a basketball camp in Quincy in June. Slater's husband was also suspended for one Fort Madison High School baseball game this year after violating team rules about parents approaching the dugout during games. He was also reprimanded by an Iowa High School Athletic Association official during a game at Holy Trinity Catholic for outbursts during the game.

The Slaters have open enrolled their son into the West Burlington School district for the 2019-20 school year citing "pervasive harassment", according to then interim-WBISD superintendent, and former Fort Madison superintendent, Dr. Ken Marang.

Pen City Current has requested from the West Burlington district all forms submitted as part of the open-enrollment request, but were denied access to part of the submitted forms. The 2017-18 Iowa Open Enrollment Handbook, the most recent available, classifies the documents as public records with redaction of personal student information allowable. However, language in the handbook does not allow for withholding the documents in their entirety. The Current has also reached out to the Iowa Department of Education for clarification on access to the documents.

Slater started with the district just prior to the start of the 2016-17 school year and will be entering the fourth year of two-year rolling contracts.

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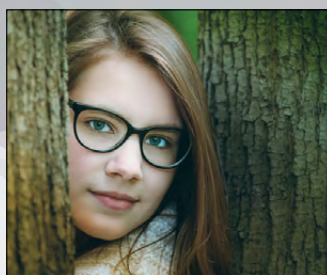


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Local News/Weather

YMCA taking registrations for fall soccer

Submitted article

FORT MADISON - Fall Youth Soccer League registration is now open at the Fort Madison Family YMCA. The Y's Soccer Program is broken into two leagues, Little Tykes and Lee County. Both leagues are designed to prepare and instruct players on the fundamentals of the sport while playing in game situations.

Little Tykes Fall Youth League - Available to girls and boys 3 to 6 years of age. This league emphasizes on fun, with players having the opportunity to learn the basic skills of youth soccer while preparing them for the next level through game situations. The importance of teamwork, fair play, sportsmanship and cooperation are also emphasized in this league. This league is divided into two divisions: 3/4 years old and 5/6 year olds.

Registration deadline is August 24th; with late registration August 24th through August 31st. A \$10 late fee will be applied to all late registrations.

Practices for Little Tykes Soccer League begin on Tuesday, September 10th with the season ending October 10th. Practices and games are held at the Baxter Sports Complex on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. 3 & 4 Year olds will be 5:30-6:00pm 5 & 6 Year olds will be 6:00-6:30pm.

Lee County Fall Youth League - Available to 1st - 6th grade boys and girls. This league focuses on the fundamentals of the game of soccer giving players the ability to expand on skills all while continuing to build positive sportsmanship to their foundation. Lee County Soccer League is divided into the following divisions: 1st/2nd grade, 3rd/4th grade, and 5th/6th grade.

Registration Deadline is August 17th with late registration August 17th through August 21st. A \$10 late fee will be applied to all late registrations. Practices for Lee County Soccer League begin the week of



August 24th. An end of the season tournament will be held for 3rd/4th Grade & 5th/6th Grade Divisions. Games are held at the Baxter Sports Complex on Saturday mornings.

Registration forms can be found online at www.fortmadison.org and at the Fort Madison YMCA at 220 26th St. Fort Madison, Iowa starting July 8th. Early registration is encouraged prior to initial deadlines to ensure a shirt for your player and to avoid the late registration fee of \$10.

In an effort to make the registration process easier for everyone the Fort Madison Family YMCA will introduce an online registration option with these two leagues in the coming weeks. Those wishing to register their player online should visit our website, www.fortmadison.org beginning July 15th for that option.

The Y is also seeking volunteers to coach teams in both leagues. For further information or to volunteer as a coach contact Program Director, Noah Dean at 319-372-2403 or email noah.dean@fortmadison.org.

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