



# Pen City Current

Sunday, May 6, 2019 | 8 pages | Volume 3 • Issue 125

## Viking dock could carry \$1.2M pricetag

*City could be saddled with \$1.2M of \$1.7M total cost*

**BY CHUCK VANDENBERG**  
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – A preliminary report from a city official indicates a dock for a domestic Viking Cruise line stop in Fort Madison could cost the city \$1.2 million.

The report is on the agenda for discussion at Tuesday's regular City Council meeting at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall.

According to a report to the Fort Madison City

Council prepared by City Manager David Varley, a study done by a Madison engineering company indicated the cost of the dock would be \$1.7 million including bonding, engineering, design, and construction.

Varley indicated in the memo that Viking Cruise Lines have initially agreed to pay \$500,000 of the project, leaving the rest of the cost of the city.

Varley wrote the estimated cost of construction from SmithGroup was close to \$1.21 million, but the \$1.7 million "includes 6% for design and engineering and 1% for bonding costs".

With the 7% added to the \$1.21 million construction



VARLEY

costs, the total cost would be \$1.29 million. Varley didn't include in the memo where the other \$400,000 would be spent.

The city is currently working on an "Agreement to Lease" with Viking, but Varley indicated there are a few issues that need to be sorted out.

"We are still working on the Agreement to Lease with Viking because there are a few things we need to get clarified and some items we may want to change," Varley wrote to the council.

"As a reminder, this first "Agreement to Lease" is a document stating the intentions of both parties and will be followed later by the actual Dock Lease."

See **VIKING**, page 7



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

A couple of kayakers check on a stranded motorist Sunday morning at the intersection of 20th Street and Avenue O. Police responded to the motorist who went around barricades and got stuck. No injuries were reported and the vehicle was easily towed by BJ's Performance.

## EMPTY NEST

By Curt Swarm



### Cellphone almost ruins a good Sunday

It was a Sunday morning and I was using my laptop computer and Android smartphone. All of a sudden the smartphone locked up and wouldn't do a thing, like a cold mackerel. Hmmm.

I tried to take the battery out of the phone. That's what I used to do in the old days when the phone went haywire—take the battery out and put it back in. To my dismay, I discovered that there was no way to take the phone apart. My chest began to tighten. How was I going to check Facebook posts, Tweets, or read my e-book? I was expecting some phone calls and texts. How were they going to get through?

I had Ginnie call my smartphone from her smartphone. We both have the same model. Maybe, being pals, they could help each other out. (Anthropomorphism?) She told me her call went directly into my voicemail. Dang.

I was panicking. I hate to admit it, but my whole life is tied up in this stupid phone—all my contact numbers, my calendar, my social life. I do have a little-used landline, mainly for faxes and business. A lot of good

See **SWARM**, page 2

## Quilts on display in May at FMAAA

**BY BRIAN RIGGS**

FORT MADISON AREA ARTS ASSOCIATION

FORT MADISON – Ft. Madison Area Arts Association has been reserving the May feature for textiles for the last few years. In fact in May 2020 a weaver looms in the distance.

For 2019 the Tri-State Quilt

Guild has filled the feature space with examples of modern and traditional quilt making. A reception for the Guild will occur May 10th from 5:00-7:00pm. Mobile Nursing Services is the sponsor for the exhibition.

Tri-State Quilt Guild has been in existence for 30 years and has 22 members. Membership require-

ments are to live in Iowa, Missouri, or Illinois and to merely have an interest in machine or hand quilting. From there you just show up with meeting occurring monthly on the third Thursday at 6:30pm at Keokuk Art Center.

The Guild displays all skill levels and everyone is welcome whether

See **QUILTS**, page 8

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# Gadget failure gives pause to life's priorities

**SWARM** - Continued from Page 1

that was going to do me. How was I going to make and take phone calls from the car, how would I check radar, what was I going to use for an emergency flashlight? This was Sunday, the cell phone store was closed. Would they be of any help anyway? There was a crack in the glass of my phone. I surmised that the crack had finally done its dirty deed and shut the phone down. The phone would have to be sent in, and that would take, what, a week? How was I going to survive?

With trepidation I went to church with the smartphone in my hip pocket. I missed the silent buzzing and hip tingling it gives me when messages come through. I could hardly pay attention to the sermon as my mind was on that stupid phone.

It was during silent meditation that I felt

a phantom buzz and a thought came to me. It seemed like I vaguely remembered my cell phone store had started Sunday hours (for dummkopfs like me). Would it be possible that they would be open and, what's more important, could they fix the problem?

With bated breath, I drove by the cellphone store after church. They were open! I crawled in on my hands and knees.

"What's the matter?" the woman behind the counter asked. "Your smartphone lock up?"

"How did you know?" I asked.

"You're the third person today. You all have that same crazed look, like your life is on the line."

She took the phone, squeezed it, and it came back to life.

"How did you do that?" I asked.

"It's called a hard reset. The new smartphones don't have a battery that you can take out. So the company designed a hard reset."

"Show me how to do that," I pleaded.

"Oh, no. We're not allowed to show the customer how to do a hard reset. If you don't do it exactly right," and she emphasized the word 'exactly,' "you can wipe out all your data."

I kissed her feet and walked out. My life was back.

A week later, the phone locked up again. I didn't panic and returned to the cellphone store. There was a man behind the counter this time. He showed me how to do the hard reset.

"Just don't choose the 'factory reset' option," he advised.

A couple days later, the phone locked up again. This time, I was able to perform my own hard reset, being careful to avoid the "factory reset."

I'm still vexed about my whole life being tied up in a stupid phone and my world falling apart when it doesn't work. Am I worshipping a false idol? Has my phone become God?

Have a good story? Call or text Curt Swarm in Mt. Pleasant at 319-217-0526, email him at [curtswarm@yahoo.com](mailto:curtswarm@yahoo.com) or visit his website at [www.empty-nest-words-photos-and-frames.com](http://www.empty-nest-words-photos-and-frames.com).



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## OBITUARIES

### MARILYN F. DODD

Mrs. Marilyn F. Dodd, 91, of Dallas City, IL died Thursday, May 2, 2019 at the Oak Lane Nursing and Rehab in Stronghurst, IL. She was born July 17, 1927 in Colusa, IL, the daughter of Lloyd and Feola Kress Foresman.



DODD

On October 23, 1949, she married Robert J. Dodd in Dallas City. Marilyn worked at the Bank of Dallas City for 6 years before beginning her career as secretary at the Dallas City High School. She retired from there after 17 years. She was a member of the Dallas City First Christian Church where she had taught Sunday School. She was also a member of the C.W. F. at her church. Marilyn and her husband were often seen walking and riding their bikes around Dallas City. She enjoyed working in her flower beds and babysitting her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Survivors include her husband, one son, Bryan (Patti) Dodd of O'Fallon, IL, one daughter, Susan (Dale) DeSotel of Niota, IL, five grandchildren, Ben (Sara) Dodd, Adam Dodd, Josh (Kendra) DeSotel, Jason (Libby) DeSotel and Justin (Rachel) DeSotel, twelve great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by one son, R. Bruce Dodd, two sisters, Harriett Swisher and Phyllis Martin and her parents. Services will be held at 11:00am Tuesday, May 7, 2019 at Banks & Beals Funeral Home in Dallas City. Burial will be in Harris Cemetery near Dallas City. The family will meet with friends at the funeral home on Monday from 5:00 until 7:00pm and also one hour prior to services on Tuesday. Memorial contributions may be made to the First Christian Church. To leave a condolence, please visit her obituary at [banksandbeals.com](http://banksandbeals.com).

### LAURETTA ROYAL "RET" LAY

Lauretta Royal "Ret" Lay, 58 years, of Fort Madison, Iowa died unexpectedly Saturday, May 4, 2019 at her home. She was born February 18, 1961 in Fort Madison, a daughter of Clifford Carl Sr and Genevieve Marie (Vantiger) Lay.

Ret was a 1979 graduate of Fort Madison High School. She worked at Kempkers for 11 years. She loved Elvis and her flowers. She enjoyed watching the wildlife in her backyard, horse racing, and the Match Game TV show from the 70's.



LAY

She is survived by her life partner of 34 years, Don "Pete" Peterson, two sisters, Cozette Washburn and Cindy (Kenny) Culler, both of Fort Madison; nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, two brothers, William "Bill" Lay and Clifford "Tiny" Lay Jr, and one half brother Gary Louck.

Graveside service and burial will be held at 11:00 am Wednesday, May 8, 2019 at Oakland Cemetery, Fort Madison with Dan Buck officiating. A memorial has been established for the St. Jude's Children's Hospital, contributions may be left at the Barr Memorial Chapel. Online condolences to the Lay Family may be made at [www.barrmemorialchapel.com](http://www.barrmemorialchapel.com).

## FMCH continues health series

FORT MADISON – Fort Madison Community Hospital (FMCH) will host the next session in their monthly community health education series on Tuesday, May 14, 2019. This session entitled

"Get the Facts on Shoulder Pain" will take place from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at FMCH in the Business Center Conference Rooms.

Dr. Brent Woodbury, Orthopedic Surgeon will lead the discussion on the joints that make up the shoulder, what causes shoulder pain and treatment options.

The joints and tendons that make up your shoulder allow you to do many things, scratch your back, reach for something on a high shelf, or turn a steering wheel. The wear and tear that occurs from doing these and so many other tasks of daily living coupled with all of our extra-curricular activities, such as golf, tennis, or baseball, and your shoulders may

start to cause you problems. In addition, some people are prone to shoulder injuries. Come find out more about how to keep your shoulders healthy and working properly.

Dr. Woodbury is a Board Certified Orthopedic Surgeon. Dr. Woodbury has been a part of the Fort Madison Community Hospital team of health care professionals since 2011. Dr. Woodbury completed medical school and residency at the University Of Kansas School Of Medicine.

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

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## Pen City Current

Founded in 2016



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## Sports

# Central Lee takes 2nd at Hawk golf invitational

## Bloodhounds 3rd, Crusaders take 4th at six-team event

PCC STAFF

DONNELLSON – Jadon Hawk shot a 14-over 86 at Saturday's Central Lee Invitational at Green Acres Golf Club in Donnellson to lead area golfers as the Hawks took 2nd place hosting.

The Hawks KJ Skow shot an 88, including a birdie on the the par 3 140 yard 11th hole for seventh overall at the invite. Hawk finished fifth overall.

Fort Madison's Tyler Wade shot even 45s going in an out for a 90 good enough for 10th place overall. The Bloodhounds finished in third overall with 374 points. Blake Algrim shot a 91 and Tommy Wade carded a 93 to help pace Fort Madison.

Holy Trinity Catholic took 4th place with a team score of 375 just one shot behind the Bloodhounds.

Senior Kyle Bredemeyer led the Crusaders tying for 12th place overall with a 91. Josh Barr should a 92 and Mason Holvoet carded a 94 for the Crusaders.

Other top finishers for the Hawks included Dalton Durand with a 90 and Blaine Watkins with a 92. Durand scored the only birdie of the day on the 390 yard 9th hole, on the second tour of the 18-hole tourney.

Keokuk finished fifth in the six-team field with a 378 team score. Luke Davis shot an 86 for fifth place and Alex Wolter scored an 88 for seventh.

## FMMS kickers split week's soccer games

PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON – The Fort Madison Middle School soccer teams split two matches the past week with the Red team winning both games and the Black team losing both games.

The Fort Madison Red team won 6-0 Friday with Xander Wellman recording a hat trick, Leif Boeding scored two goals and Nathen Bowen scored the other goal. Bowen, Wellman, and Boeding each had an assist.

Tate Settles had two saves and Hayden Segoviano had one save to preserve the shut out. Raymond

Sutton, Camille Kruse and Teague Smith played well on defense. Nathaniel Swigart, Carson Rashid, and Jamarkus Kline played well at midfield.

The Fort Madison Black team lost 1-0. Trevor Luke recorded three saves at keeper. Bryon Crutchfield, Conner Gelsthorpe and Collin Campbell played well at defense. Paetyn Wiegand, Isaac Mason and Elanore Wright played well at midfield.

On Monday, the Red team won 7-0 with Boeding recording and hat trick, Bowen scored two goals and Wellman and Jamarkus Kline scoring one goal apiece. Wellman

had two assists with Henry Morris recording one. Settles and Segoviano preserved the shut out. Ben Thele, Kruse and Smith played well at defense. Nathaniel Swigart, Carson Rashid, and Xander Lumsden played well at midfield.

The Black team lost 3-2 with Cameron Shuttwell and Gracie Blind scoring one goal apiece.

Luke recorded seven saves at keeper. Crutchfield, Gelsthorpe and Campbell played well at defense. Wiegand, Mason and Elizabeth Inghram played well at midfield.

Next game is Friday 5/6 at home against Edward Stone

## HTC spikers set Pajama Run for June 8

PCC STAFF

WEST POINT – The 2nd annual HTC Pajama Run 5K Fun Run/Walk is set for June 8 in West Point.

Funds raised from the event will go to the Holy Trinity Catholic volleyball team that finished the 2018 season as Class 1A State champion runner-up.

Pre-registration is \$25 and includes a t-shirt and donuts and ends May 15. Registrations can be sent to Michele Dyer, 1293 240th Avenue, West Point, Iowa 52656 with checks payable to Holy Trinity Catholic Volleyball.

Race day registration is still \$25 but t-shirts and donuts are not guaranteed. Prized will be awarded.

For additional information contact Melissa Freesmeier at 319-470-2796 or by email at [mhs\\_vb\\_1@hotmail.com](mailto:mhs_vb_1@hotmail.com). Registration forms are available on the Holy Trinity website at [www.holytrinityschools.org](http://www.holytrinityschools.org) or at the school.

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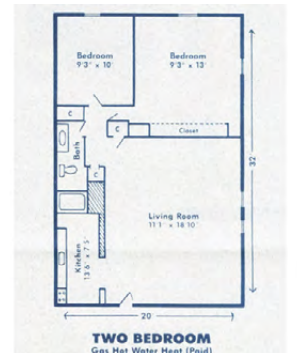
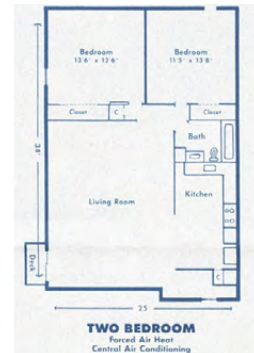
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## For the Record/Classifieds

### For the Record

#### Fort Madison Police Report

05/01/19 – 10:42 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a personal injury accident in the 3400 block of Avenue L. 05/01/19 – 5:33 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a robbery in the area of Oak and Richards drives. 05/01/19 – 5:38 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a hit and run in the 2700 block of Avenue K. 05/01/19 – 5:45 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in progress in the 2600 block of Avenue G. 05/02/19 – 3:23 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a hit and run in the 200 block of Avenue E. 05/02/19 – 5:33 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 1200 block of Avenue C. 05/02/19 – 7:51 p.m. – Fort

Madison Police arrested Harley Taylor Pennamom, 18, of Fort Madison, in the 1600 block of Avenue M, on a charge of serious assault. He was released on his own recognizance.

#### Lee County Sheriff's Report

05/02/19 – 3:17 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a two-vehicle accident on a southwest offramp to Hwy. 61. A vehicle driven by Karen Louise Woodley, 60, of Fort Madison was rear-ended by a vehicle driven by Scott Alan Robbins, 46, of Montrose. Robbins was cited for following too closely and no injuries were reported. 05/01/19 – 5:05 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Taylor Carroll Dickens, 32, of Keokuk, at the Des Moines County Jail on a warrant for failure to appear. He was held in custody.

### LCHD holds Keokuk children's immunization clinic

KEOKUK - Lee County Health Department will be holding a Children's Immunization Clinic Thursday, May 9, 2019 at Trinity United Methodist Church, 2330 Plank Road in Keokuk from 12 noon until 4:30pm.

The clinic is open to children who have no insurance, are insured by Iowa Medicaid or those who have private health insurance that does not cover the cost of vaccines. No appointment is necessary. Written parental consent is required for minors to receive vaccinations when in the care of another adult.

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**From the Front/Lottery Numbers**

# City can't deed Rashid building to food pantry

**VIKING** - Continued from Page 1

He wrote city staff is looking at options for the city's share of the improvements. The option in the conceptual plan from SmithGroup that is most favorable to city staff, would be to extend the current dock on the west side of Riverview Park farther into the river so the depth would be workable for the Viking Cruise ships. The domestic cruises came back on the city's radar in October, when Viking found a domestic builder, which was required under the Jones Act, which mandates the ships on U.S. waterways be built in the United States. Previous plans for U.S. cruises on the Mississippi were scrapped until the company found a builder in Louisiana. Viking officials calculate that more than 160,000 people will cruise the Mississippi by the year 2027. Preliminary discussions have the city being compensated \$1 in rent for each passenger that docks in Fort Madison. Also on the agenda for Tuesday's meeting, the council will discuss the fate of the Rashid Memorial Building on the city's west side, that currently houses the Fort Madison Food Pantry and an office for the United Way of the Great River Valley. Councilman Matt Mohrfeld has recommended the city deed the building to the food pantry, but Varley wrote in a separate report to the council that Iowa law doesn't allow the building to be donated unless it's to another governmental agency, and any sale of the building has to be for fair market value. Also on the agenda for Tuesday's meeting, the council is scheduled to:

- issue a response to Todd Oetken who asked the council to fire several police officers. Oetken alleged at the last council meeting, FMPD officers forced him from property at the Iowa State Penitentiary. Oetken claimed he was on public property and was harassed by officers.
- consider a request for retirement from Fort Madison Police Chief Tim Sittig effective July 1. Sittig has asked for his last day to be May 31.
- consider a sewer rate increase effective July 1, which could bump average customers rates by \$6.07 per month. The proposal also includes a 2% annual increase starting July 2020.
- consider a request from Mary Hitchcock and William Sutcliffe to sever property at 2208 48th Street from the city.



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| Lotto America™   | 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             |

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**5/4**  
5 6 17 19 48  
Star Ball: 10  
All Star Bonus: 2

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**5/4**  
6 16 23 30 61  
Powerball: 2  
Power Play: 2



**5/4 MID-DAY**  
4 8 5  
**5/4 EVENING**  
7 0 9



**5/4 MID-DAY**  
9 8 8 5  
**5/4 EVENING**  
7 6 3 2

**Pen City Current encourages you to play responsibly.**

**From the Front/Weather**

# Reception for Tri-State Quilters set for Friday

**QUILTS** - Continued from Page 1

your interest be contemporary or traditional. A Baker's Dozen of the Guild membership is displayed in this show with all work being completed in the last 2 years or less.

Illinois artists include Linda Apple and Joyce Taylor from Warsaw. Barbara Clark hails from Kahoka, Missouri. Iowa is home to Rita Hickey and Linda Waldren of Montrose, Sue Dowell and Marilyn Holmes of Ft. Madison, and Sandy Seabold, Janet Hausch, Tessa Johnson, Louise Orozco, Kathy Routh, and Sharon Pillard of Keokuk. Kathy Routh and Sue Dowell will present at the Lunch-ala-Art program on May 31st at noon at the gallery to wrap the show (sampler quilt door prize alert!).

There are 3 examples of President Quilts. A president serves for 2 years for the organization. Upon retiring the needle, each member creates a quilt block. The outgoing President must seam it together and gets to keep the quilt. Quite an appropriate rite of passage for leadership transfer.

There is also an example of a Challenge Quilt called "African Tribal" by Kathy Routh. The challenge is a throwing down of the quilt gauntlet per se with the latest one at a meeting being the Cantril Challenge. Dutchman's Store was giving away folders of fabric.

The challenge was to go to Cantril to gather said folders with 50% of the piece coming from that fabric to create a 400 square inch piece overall. There is a date set for completion and the artist creates entire piece themselves.

There are more coming from the Cantril Challenge as Kathy Guess, Linda Apple, and Sandy Seybold have all picked up that particular quilt gauntlet. See all the wonderful quilts open for viewing at 825 Avenue G Tuesday-Saturday from 10am-5pm. Open later til 7pm on Guitar Tuesdays with Musicians Pro-Shop.



This is just one of the quilts that will be on display at the FMAAA during May's quilt exhibit. A reception is set for Friday from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at art center on Avenue G in Fort Madison.

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## 5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| <b>MON 05 May</b> | Light Rain<br>High- 70.1° F   Low - 57.1° F           |
| <b>TUE 06 May</b> | Light Rain<br>High- 61.9° F   Low - 52.1° F           |
| <b>WED 07 May</b> | Heavy Intensity Rain<br>High- 61.6° F   Low - 47.2° F |
| <b>THU 08 May</b> | Light Rain<br>High- 48.7° F   Low - 42.7° F           |
| <b>FRI 09 May</b> | Clear<br>High- 60.2° F   Low - 50.1° F                |

[OpenWeatherMap](#)



# Annual Golf Outing

**Friday, May 10 • Sheaffer Memorial Golf Course**

**Click here for your registration form**