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SPORTS:

Hounds' Steffensmeier faced No. 1 seed at J-Hawk Invitational Saturday.

See page 6

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FMCH starts hospice care service EMPT

Hospital foundation to lend financial support to program

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON - Fort Madison Community Hospital (FMCH) Home Health Care will begin offering Hospice Care in early spring 2018.

This enhanced service line will now be known as FMCH Home Health & Hospice.

FMCH Home Health & Hospice will continue to provide in-home health care services that include medical care, personal care and rehabilitation therapy while adding hospice care. The focus will remain on teaching clients to care for themselves, manage their health challenges and remain safely in the comfort of their own homes. By adding hospice care, these professionals will be joined by a chaplain and social worker to provide continuity of care for chronically ill, terminally ill or seriously ill patients. Working together as a care team, they will be able to develop a personalized plan of care to help these patients and their families through this difficult journey.

"We are really excited to offer hospice care to our clients. Many times we find ourselves caring for their physical needs up to the point where hospice care takes



over. We want to be able to continue the medical care while also providing the emotional and spiritual care so vital when our patients are facing a life-limiting illness or injury," said Deb Green, FMCH Home Health & Hospice Director. "We are very fortunate to have the support of our FMCH Foundation to help make this opportunity possible."

The addition of this service line will be financially supported by the FMCH Foundation.

"The FMCH Foundation's mission is to support the work of FMCH. The Foundation Board of Trustees believe strongly that by adding hospice care we will be able to more fully care for our patients through all of life's health care challenges, while allowing them to

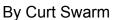
See FMCH page 3



Photo courtesy of Fort Madison Chamber of Commerce

The Fort Madison Chamber of Commerce's Ambassador Club paid a visit to Velocity Dance and Tumbling studio on Friday. The business is located at 822 Avenue G and offers a full range of tumbling and dance classes for all ages. More information can be found at www.velocitydanceandtumbling.com.

EMPTY NEST





There's just somethin' 'bout them farm boys

ur first spring at the Empty Nest Farm was a busy time for Ginnie and me. There was the garden to plow and plant, the barn to clean out from moving (everything we didn't know what to do with we jammed in the barn), and the mulch bed to build along the highway. Our "farm" is located along Highway 34, and I wanted to construct a six-foot wide mulch bed along the highway to display my metal sculptures. I laid down a strip of tar paper along the highway, secured it with stakes, then dumped mulch on top of the tar paper.

It was a lot of work, but a nice time for Ginnie and me to work together outdoors. We would go to town in the truck to Mt. Pleasant's waste-disposal yard, shovel mulch into the truck, then haul it out to the farm. I don't know how many loads we hauled, but it was a parcel. Every once in a while I would look up at the crystal-clear blue sky, breathe in the fresh air, and say, "Thank you, God, for this life You have given us."

Spreading the mulch on the tar paper was a lot of work, too. Once again, we shoveled the mulch out of the truck and then spread it by hand, a foot deep, all over the tar paper. Ginnie, being a city girl, wasn't used to work like this (wet mulch is about like shoveling manure). I told her that if she wanted to be a farm wife, she'd better get used to it. She emptied the mulch out of her cuffs and threw it at me.

We were busy spreading mulch when we heard a rumble and a roar. Looking up, there were two boys on four-wheelers, wearing spacemen helmets, looking at us. They took off their helmets and one of them said, "Whatcha do'n?"

I said, "We're spread'n mulch for a mulch bed so that I can display my metal sculptures to the people passing by on the highway."

They both said in unison, "Can we help?"

Ginnie looked at me. I looked at Ginnie. She shrugged her shoulders in a, "Sure, how-can-we-refuse?" manner.

Both boys jumped right in, got down on their hands and knees, and spread mulch with their bare hands like troopers.

This was our first encounter with our neighbor boys.

See SWARM, page 3

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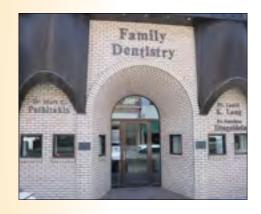
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Current-Lee/Lottery Numbers

CURRENT-LEE

BY PCC STAFF - Lee County Crime Stoppers will be holding a chili fundraiser at both the Fort Madison and Keokuk Hy-Vee locations on Jan. 18 from 5 to 7 p.m. Proceeds will be used for expenses and criminal payouts.

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.

Local boys step up to help out neighbors

SWARM - Continued from Page 1

After they left, Ginnie commented, "I've never seen kids that want to work like that."

I said, "Them's farm boys."

Their names are Brody and Boden. We call them, "Bro" and "Bo."

Since then, it's been a repeating scenario. I'll be doing something like unloading chicken feed from the truck, they roar up in whatever: dirt bikes, snowmobiles, four-wheelers, ask what I'm doing, and offer to help.

When Ginnie and I are gone overnight, we have Bro and Bo take care of Buddy and the chickens. Buddy loves Bro and Bo because they spoil him. The chickens love Bro and Bo also, and flock around them when Bro and Bo arrive looking for corn scratch. The boys gather eggs, bring in the newspapers and mail, and generally look after things.

I text them when we're gone. "How's things?"

"Great. UPS came, we put in garage."

I read it to Ginnie. She says, "We're so lucky. Them's farm boys."

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 106.3 FM in Farmington.

Hospice still has positions to fill

FMCH - Continued from Page 1

remain in their homes," said Carrie Green, Executive Director, FMCH Foundation. FMCH Home Health & Hospice is actively seeking a Social Worker and Chaplain to join their team of professionals. They are completing the credentialing process through CMS and The Joint Commission to ensure the highest quality care is provided.

"When you work in health care you are given the occasion to experience the full circle of life, from birth to death. At FMCH, we strive to provide the highest level of compassionate, quality health care to our patients at whatever point in life they need us. We feel the addition of hospice care, through our home health department, expands this opportunity even further," said Jeremy Alexander, Interim President/CEO at Fort Madison Community Hospital.



IOWA LOTTERY WINNING NUMBERS

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
Lotto America™	Wed & Sat	8:59 pm	10:00 pm
Pick 3 - Midday Pick 3 - Evening	Daily Daily	Noon 9:40 pm	12:20 pm 10:00 pm
Pick 4 - Midday Pick 4 - Evening	Daily Daily	Noon 9:40 pm	12:20 pm 10:00 pm



1/14 MID-DAY 7 0 6 1/14 EVENING 2 2 6



1/14 MID-DAY 9 6 5 7 **1/14 EVENING** 5 1 6 0 Pen City
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Things to remember in 2018 when recycling:

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Rinse & Clean all food jars and cans before placing in recycling bins.

Flatten boxes for better storage and volume reduction. *Empty all boxes before recycling.

Place all recyclable products loose in bins.

Do not recycle wrapping paper.

Properly dispose of all electronics and household hazardous waste. *Click Here* for more guidance!

For your convenience:

- Convenient Drop-Off Locations in 10 cities
- Curbside Recycling Bins are available at our Ft. Madison and Keokuk locations
- HHW Collection Available by appointment during regular business hours at our Ft. Madison and Keokuk locations



Ft. Madison Main Office: 2092 303rd Ave Fort Madison, IA 1-319-372-6140 Keokuk Transfer Station: 111 Carbide Lane Keokuk, IA 1-319-524-6175

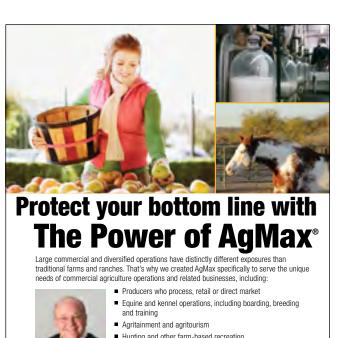


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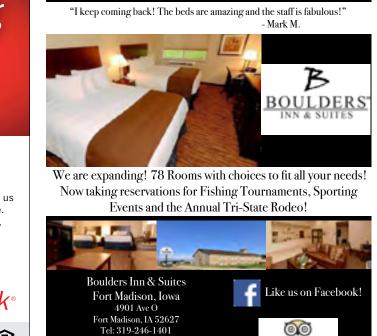




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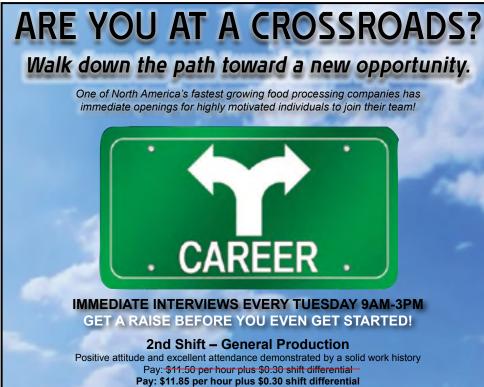
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Sports/Weather

Steffensmeier faces top-seed Lara at J-Hawk Invite

BY CHUCK **VANDENBERG** PCC EDITOR

CEDAR RAPIDS - Wrestling fans at the J-Hawk Invitational in Cedar Rapids Saturday caught a glimpse of a possible matchup at the state wrestling tournament in February when two of the top four wrestlers in the state at 152 lbs squared off for the Invitational title. Fort Madison's senior Harlan Steffensmeier worked his way through the 152 lbs bracket on a collision course with top-ranked Cayd Lara of Fort Dodge. Lara is the younger brother of Triston Lara, who bumped Steffensmeier to 3rd place at last year's state tournament wrestling at 138 lbs.

The J-Hawk invite attracts some of the best wrestlers in the state as evidenced by Steffensmeier not recording a pin in the tournament, but he did get a technical fall over Indianola's Nick Bonanno (15-0) and then a major decision over Mitchell Mangold of West Delaware 14-4 for a chance to take on Lara for first place at the meet.

"That was the No. 1 kid in the state, ranking wise," Fort Madison Head Coach Ryan Smith said. "(Harlan) was in the match. That could have gone the other way, definitely. They awarded (Lara) two points for a near fall and Harlan kind of went for a high-risk turn late in the match down by one and gave up the reversal. So those two points were critical, had he not given those up, he wouldn't have been forced to go for that."

Smith said taking the team to tournaments like this one in Cedar Rapids helps the team know where they are at stacked up against state quality wrestlers.

"It was a good match," Smith said. 'It's a good barometer and that's why we go to these types of events. Harlan's right there and just needs to clean a couple things up."

Junior Sam Hayes, who's currently ranked 7th in the state at 195 lbs, didn't wrestle at the meet due to an

It was a good match. It's a good barometer and that's why we go to these types of events. Harlan's right there and just needs to clean a few things up."

> -Ryan Smith, FMHS Wrestling coach

injury. Smith said Hayes will be kept out of competition as long as they need to make sure he's ready to go.

FMHS's Danen Settles took 3rd place at 220 lbs with an 8-2 decision over Owen Dunne of Dubuque Hemp-

"He was seeded first actually," Smith said of Settles. "He did a good job. He lost on a last second take down in the semifinals. He was up by one and gave up a take down at the end of the third period, but he bounced back well for third place."

The other top five FMHS finishes in the 14-team tourney included a fourth place finish for Ryan Steffensmeier at 126 lbs. and a 5th place finish for Dayne Cordray at 120 lbs.

Complete results for the Hounds are listed below. 106 lbs - Elton Kruse (8-14) placed 7th and scored 4.00 team points. Champ. Round 1 - Elton Kruse (Fort Madison) 8-14 received a bye () (Bye) Quarterfinal - Brennan Lechnir (Dubuque Hempstead) 20-4 won by fall over Elton Kruse (Fort Madison) 8-14 (Fall 0:57) Cons. Round 2 - Elton Kruse (Fort Madison) 8-14 received a bye () (Bye) Cons. Semi - Luke Farmer (West Delaware) 17-10 won by decision over Elton Kruse (Fort Madison) 8-14 (Dec 4-0) 7th Place Match - Elton Kruse (Fort Madison) 8-14 won by fall over Nathan Canfield (Davenport Central) 14-10 (Fall 3:10)

120 lbs - Dayne Cordray (19-10) placed 5th and scored 12.00 team points. Champ. Round 1 - Dayne Cordray (Fort Madison) 19-10 received a bye () (Bye)Quarterfinal - Chryshaun Taylor (Waterloo East) 14-6 won by decision over Dayne Cordray (Fort Madison) 19-10 (Dec 11-5)Cons. Round 2 - Dayne Cordray (Fort Madison) 19-10 received a bye () (Bye) Cons. Semi - Dayne

Cordray (Fort Madison) 19-10 won by fall over Tanner Samuels (Clinton) 8-19 (Fall 0:50)5th Place Match - Dayne Cordray (Fort Madison) 19-10 won by major decision over Reily Dolan (West Delaware) 7-14 (MD 12-2)

126 lbs - Ryan Steffensmeier (15-12) placed 4th and scored 13.00 team points. Champ. Round 1 - Ryan Steffensmeier (Fort Madison) 15-12 received a bye () (Bye)Quarterfinal - Ryan Steffensmeier (Fort Madison) 15-12 won by decision over Alex Maury (West Delaware) 18-9 (Dec 8-4)Semifinal - Brody Teske (Fort Dodge) 27-1 won by fall over Ryan Steffensmeier (Fort Madison) 15-12 (Fall 1:24)3rd Place Match - Joe Pins (Dubuque Hempstead) 26-2 won by fall over Ryan Steffensmeier (Fort Madison) 15-12 (Fall 1:41)

132 lbs -Nathan Steffensmeier (8-17) place is unknown and scored 0.00 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Nathan Steffensmeier (Fort Madison) 8-17 received a bye () (Bye)Quarterfinal - Logan James (Underwood) 30-3 won by tech fall over Nathan Steffensmeier (Fort Madison) 8-17 (TF-1.5 4:00 (22-7))Cons. Round 2 - Wyatt Oppedahl (Boone) 4-4 won by decision over Nathan Steffensmeier (Fort Madison) 8-17 (Dec 4-1)

145 lbs - Aaron Steffensmeier (25-7) placed 6th and scored 10.00 team points. Champ. Round 1 - Grant Ohlsen (Moline) 4-1 won by decision over Aaron Steffensmeier (Fort Madison) 25-7 (Dec 10-3)Cons. Round 1 - Aaron Steffensmeier (Fort Madison) 25-7 received a bye () (Bye)Cons. Round 2 - Aaron Steffensmeier (Fort Madison) 25-7 won by decision over Cael Meyer (West Delaware) 18-6 (Dec 2-1) Cons. Semi - Aaron Steffensmeier (Fort Madison) 25-7 won by fall over Jack Gehl (Dubuque Hempstead) 17-12 (Fall 3:52)5th Place Match - Grant Ohlsen (Moline) 4-1 won by decision over Aaron Steffensmeier (Fort Madison) 25-7 (Dec 6-2)

152 lbs - Harlan Steffensmeier (27-2) placed 2nd and scored 22.50 team points Champ. Round 1 - Harlan Steffensmeier (Fort Madison) 27-2 received a bye () (Bye)Quarterfinal - Harlan Steffensmeier (Fort Madison) 27-2 won by tech fall over Nick Bonanno (Indianola) 22-11 (TF-1.5 2:05 (15-0))Semifinal - Harlan Steffensmeier (Fort Madison) 27-2 won by major decision over Mitchel Mangold (West Delaware) 22-3 (MD 14-4)1st Place Match - Cayd Lara (Fort Dodge) 31-1 won by decision over Harlan Steffensmeier (Fort Madison) 27-2 (Dec 6-3)

195 lbs - Alex Lauber (1-2) place is unknown and scored 0.00 team points Champ. Round 1 - Dalton Sell (Muscatine) 17-9 won by fall over Alex Lauber (Fort Madison) 1-2 (Fall 0:57Cons. Round 1 - Alex Lauber (Fort Madison) 1-2 received a bye () (Bye)Cons. Round 2 - Taylor Viktora (Cedar Rapids Jefferson) 16-11 won by fall over Alex Lauber (Fort Madison) 1-2 (Fall 3:09)

220 lbs - Danen Settles (19-10) placed 3rd and scored 15.00 team points. Champ. Round 1 - Danen Settles (Fort Madison) 19-10 received a bye () (Bye) Quarterfinal - Danen Settles (Fort Madison) 19-10 won by decision over Dawson Troxel (Clinton) 15-15 (Dec 4-1)Semifinal - Dawson Sweet (Cedar Rapids Jefferson) 10-4 won by decision over Danen Settles (Fort Madison) 19-10 (Dec 4-3)3rd Place Match - Danen Settles (Fort Madison) 19-10 won by decision over Owen Dunne (Dubuque Hempstead) 19-9 (Dec 8-2)

285 - Dalton Mabeus (5-6) placed 7th and scored 11.00 team points. Champ. Round 1 - Dalton Mabeus (Fort Madison) 5-6 won by fall over Carson Petlon (West Delaware) 7-11 (Fall 1:02) Quarterfinal - Manny McGowan (Davenport Central) 23-2 won by fall over Dalton Mabeus (Fort Madison) 5-6 (Fall 0:56)Cons. Round 2 - Dalton Mabeus (Fort Madison) 5-6 won by fall over Elijah Robinson (Clinton) 2-10 (Fall 1:06) Cons. Semi - Jordan Angle (Boone) 21-5 won by fall over Dalton Mabeus (Fort Madison) 5-6 (Fall 1:31) 7th Place Match - Dalton Mabeus (Fort Madison) 5-6 won by fall over Logan Finowski (Fort Dodge) 15-12 (Fall 1:12)



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5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

MON 15 Jan

Light Snow High - 3.2° F | Low - 2.3° F

TUE 16 Jan

High- 16.7° F | Low - 4.8° F

WED 17 Jan

Clear Skies

High- 8.7° F | Low - (2.7)° F

THU 18 Jan

Clear Skies

High - 20.5° F | Low - 19.7 F

FRI 19 Jan



Light Snow High— 39.4° F | Low – 32.7° F

<u>OpenWeatherMap</u>

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