



This Monday's E-edition will feature a 16-page Special Section on the Tri-State Rodeo. Don't Miss It!

**INSIDE:**  
Fort Madison Community Hospital completes new courtyard

See page 2

# Pen City Current

Sunday, August 20, 2017 | 6 pages | Volume 1 • Issue 200

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## FMFD officials still investigating Friday fire

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - Firefighters were called to the scene of a house fire just after 9 p.m. Friday night in the 1900 block of Avenue F.

According to witnesses at the scene, flames were jumping from the northeast corner of the structure at around 9 p.m. at a home at 1905 Avenue F. Fort Madison police and a Lee County Sheriff's deputy were already on the scene. Fort Madison firefighters were on the scene "just a few minutes" after the witnesses saw the flames and had the fire quickly under control.

Law enforcement said the building was occupied at the time but everyone escaped unharmed and one person was treated for minor smoke inhalation by Lee County EMS personnel.

The northeast corner of the building sustained heavy fire damage and the southwest side of a one-



Photos by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC



Above, Fort Madison firefighters pull back melted siding from a home that caught fire at about 9 p.m. Friday night at 1905 Avenue F. At left, a team cuts a hole in the roof of the residence.

car garage on the property also had heat damage.

No other information was immediately available. Lee County EMS,

Fort Madison Police, Lee County Sheriff's Department and Alliant Energy were at the scene.

Fort Madison fire

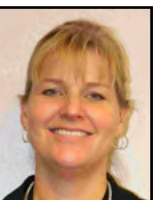
officials said Saturday the fire is still under investigation and the a cause is undetermined at this time.

## District focuses on collaboration, creativity as new year approaches

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - As the target for what determines a successful graduate keeps changing, Fort Madison school officials continue to look at the district's role in preparing those students for life after high school.

Fort Madison Community School District Superintendent Erin Slater addressed the district staff Friday morning as part of the 2017-18 school year kick off. The school year officially starts on Thursday, but freshmen report on Wednesday morning for a half day before a 6 p.m. orientation the same day, according to the district's website.



SLATER

Slater challenged the staff to make sure they're focused on goals of the district to prepare each student from the district's first encounter to graduation, to instill life and learning skills to be able to compete in a global economy.

She said a survey of the top 300 employers in the country pointed to complex problem solving skills as the number one key employment trait those employers were looking for.

"Higher order thinking skills are what we need to be working on for our kids," Slater said. "That higher level thinking is what they need to be able to have on their way out. Thinking collaboratively and creatively.

"Our kids need content knowledge - that is a non-negotiable," Slater said. "But they need more than that and we need to make it relevant for them so they can do these things that companies are asking of them. This is the high stakes arena we're sending our kids into."

*"That higher level thinking is what they need to be able to have on their way out."*

-Erin Slater  
FMHS Superintendent

See DISTRICT, page 2

## Big Buckle Bash invades downtown Saturday

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON - Bring your friends and family to downtown Fort Madison for the Big Buckle Bash Saturday August 26th from 4:00 p.m. until 12:00

a.m. Fun for all ages, the Bash brings together classic cars, the Voice of Big Buckle Bash competition, great food, cold brews, and live music from country musician, Jake Dodds!

Some of the best vocalists in the area will compete against one another for fantastic prize packages and the opportunity to be "The Voice of Big Buckle Bash"! This year, winners

will have the opportunity to also win recording sessions from Mateo Martinez Music, live performances, rodeo tickets and cash

See BASH, page 2

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## From the Front/Local News

# Riverview Games kick off Big day in Fort Madison

**BASH** - Continued from Page 1

The contest will run using The Voice format, contestants will perform on stage hoping for a judge to spin their chair. Team Blake, Team Christina, Team Pharrell, and Team Adam, each represented by a local resident with a vocal background, will each choose two for their team. The eight finalists will perform a second time with the final three winning great prizes.

The Voice of Big Buckle Bash will not be the only entertainment at the street party in downtown Fort Madison. Local dance studios, Top Hatters and DRIVE dance studio will perform throughout the night. Bring the kids out to meet reigning Miss Junior Rodeo Iowa Kami Eaves-Fedler who will be available for autographs! She will be located outside of Old Fort Players. County musician Jake Dodds will light up the stage until 12:00 a.m.

Up and coming artist Jake Dodds has toured all over the United States opening for popular country stars such as Tyler Farr, Dustin Lynch, Love & Theft, Jerrod Niemann, and many more! Admission to the Big Buckle Bash is only \$5 for adults, \$2 for children! Cruise in car drivers and one passenger receive free admission to the event. If you are interested in participating in the classic car cruise, volunteering or would like more details, contact Fort Madison Main Street at 319-372-5471.

If you think you have what it takes to be the "Voice of Big Buckle Bash" you can sign up by calling the Fort Madison Partners Offices at 319-372-5471 or registering in person at our office located at 614 9th Street in Fort Madison. Applicants must be 18 years of age and be prepared to perform two songs in under three minutes. This is not karaoke, applicants will need to provide their background music.

Thank you to our Premier Sponsor Country Financial - Matt Lafrenz, our Beverage Sponsor Ameriprise Financial: Josh Denning & Associates as well as our other sponsors Boulders Inn & Suites, HyVee, J & S Electronics, Connection Bank, Mohrfeld Electric, WM Johnson Trucking, Mateo Martinez Music, and Meller Excavating.

The Fort Madison Chamber of Commerce's annual Riverview Games will kick off the day's events running from 10 a.m. to noon at Riverview Park. Free lunch and a cotton candy will be provided for all children participating in the games, which include an obstacle course, football toss and more.



courtesy photo

Up-and-coming country artist Jake Dodds will be the headline entertainer for this year at the annual Big Buckle Bash Saturday, Aug. 26 in downtown Fort Madison

## FMCH dedicates new courtyard

FORT MADISON - The Fort Madison Community Hospital Foundation held a dedication celebration for the newly renovated courtyard at Fort Madison Community Hospital (FMCH). The courtyard renovation was funded by the generous donations of the Dick Canella Family memorial and the FMCH Employee Campaign held in May of 2017.

This beautifully renovated space uses a pergola with outdoor table and chairs, a water feature, blooming plants and lawn swings to invite patients, families and employees to take reprieve there. The courtyard is conveniently located by the Main Lobby and the inpatient units. The courtyard project was completed by 'We Call It Landscaping' owned by Greg Stueker.

The dedication celebration was attended by Cathy (Canella) and Brent Packard; the FMCH Board of Directors; the FMCH Foundation Board of Directors; FMCH employees and Greg Stueker. Jeremy

Alexander, Vic-President of Finance and acting CEO opened the celebration with a reminder that it is the tomorrow's we focus on in our everyday work at FMCH and the courtyard offers us a space to reflect upon our tomorrows. Pastor Cheryl Simpson followed with an invocation. JoAnn Lampe, President of the FMCH Foundation Board of Directors reminded the attendees of all the great things Dick Canella did, not only for Fort Madison Community Hospital, but the community as a whole and how grateful we are for the legacy he left including the beautiful courtyard. Chuck Osmanski, President Elect of the FMCH Foundation rounded out the celebration with closing remarks.

The FMCH Foundation is focused on its mission to support the work of Fort Madison Community Hospital and to ensure the continuation of quality health care in our community. For more information, contact Carrie Green, Executive Director at cgreen@fmchosp.com.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Members of the Fort Madison Community Hospital staff, the FMCH Foundation, and donors and volunteers shown here, helped create the hospital's new courtyard. The funds were donated by the Dick Canella Family memorial and the FMCH Employee Campaign held in May.

### TRI-STATE RODEO Parade

2103 303RD AVENUE P.O. BOX 80  
FORT MADISON, IA 52627  
319-372-2550  
tristaterodeo.org



September 9, 2017 at 9:30 AM

Theme: "Kids, Clowns, and Cowboys"

Registration required! Entry Forms due by Saturday, August 26, 2017

Category Desired (circle one below)	Classification (circle one below)
Theme Float (\$100, \$75, \$50 prizes)	Competitive (\$20 fee make checks payable to the Tri-State Rodeo)
Non Theme Float (\$90, \$60, \$40 prizes)	Non Competitive
Decorated Car/Truck (\$80, \$50, \$30 prizes)	
Antique Car/Truck (\$75, \$50 prizes)	
Miscellaneous (\$40 prize)	

Name of Entry \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Note special conditions (extra-long, extra-high, will have music)

**ALL ENTRIES ARE TO BE DECORATED TO BE CROWD PLEASING EXCEPT ANTIQUES AND MILITARY VEHICLES. FOR SAFETY REASONS, CANDY AND FAVORS ARE NOT TO BE THROWN FROM THE ENTRIES, BUT CAN BE PASSED OUT BY THOSE WALKING WITH THE ENTRIES**

Note: Lineup information will be sent out 10 days prior to the parade. All entries are to be in place by 8:30 AM parade day. Competitive entries to be in place by 8:00AM.

Special Note: The Tri-State Rodeo is a private organization and reserves the right to refuse any entry on the day of the parade if the entries' message is not consistent with the express content of the organization. If you have any question about the entries' message quality please contact Kirk Sherwood BEFORE the day of the parade.

Please return the entry form to the address below:

Kirk Sherwood  
31 Storms Court  
Fort Madison, Iowa 52627  
319.470.3584

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# Lottery Numbers



## 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
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



**8/18**  
1 31 34 40 75  
Mega Ball: 6  
Megaplier: 3



**8/19**  
17 19 39 43 68  
Powerball: 13  
Power Play: 4



**8/19**  
10 11 12 16 42  
Hot Ball: 9  
Sizzler: 3



**8/18 MID-DAY**  
9 5 9  
**8/18 EVENING**  
0 0 9  
  
**8/19 MID-DAY**  
2 4 7  
**8/19 EVENING**  
3 8 2



**8/19 MID-DAY**  
4 4 6 3  
**8/19 EVENING**  
7 8 4 5  
  
**8/19 MID-DAY**  
6 4 4 0  
**8/19 EVENING**  
0 5 4 9

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## From the Front/Weather

# New faces bring diversity to district

**DISTRICT** - Continued from Page 1

She challenged the district staff to look at the school from the perspective of a child in their life. She had staff write down one sentence on a card summarizing what they wanted the district to provide for that child, and then share that sentence with a staffer near them.

She then challenged them to keep that card with them at all times and think about what that statement means to them.

"We're very excited for the school year," Slater said after the meeting. Teachers have been working hard all summer talking about standards and how to engage students."

More than 25 new faces are part of the district in either full or part-time status. Slater said that may be a few more than years past, but Teacher Leadership and Compensation program grants have created a few more openings.

"We have some instructional coaches that were grant-funded and that has opened up a few more teaching slots as we have moved a few teachers into the instructional coaches positions.

Slater met with new staff in the district on Thursday and was impressed with who the

district has brought into the process.

"They are thrilled to be here and I was surprised at the diversity. Some are brand new and some are second career," she said. "They bring a lot of work experience and that's a nice addition to our district."

Mary Hellige, head of the Fort Madison Education Association, told staff that the district is unique and staff should take pride and responsibility in the work being done.

"Our district isn't the only one making a difference in our students lives," Hellige said. "Our communities do as well. We are the community that has a test kitchen to help our students test scores. We are a community that had 1517 votes for a new elementary building and are continuing to fight for what's best for our students," Hellige said.

Middle School Principal Todd Dirth said he's excited about the new school year, specifically a new P.A.C.K. program that focuses on life skills of the 4th through 8th grade students. The program includes digital citizenship, SET classes and other modules.

He said the program was created with input



Photos by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Fort Madison High School Principal Greg Smith works the crowd of district staff Friday morning and hands out a few pens for an exercise that was part of FMCS Superintendent Erin Slater's presentation. School officially is back in session Thursday with incoming freshmen reporting Wednesday morning.



from the students and will be part of the daily schedule of the students. "This is the first year of the program and we had a group of students help us put this together with input from the staff," Dirth

said after the meeting. "It's been in the works for two years and it stands for Pride, Acknowledgement, Courage and Kindness and it focuses on the other side of student development...away from the

curriculum." Tracy King, the principal at Lincoln Elementary said she's looking forward to the new year and more collaboration that's being scheduled. "We're going to be

collaborating more and continuing the work we started last year as far as completing an entire data cycle in our PDs and Lincoln and Richardson will have PDs together on early outs."

## 5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

SUN 20 Aug



Overcast  
High - 83.9° F | Low - 76.2° F

MON 21 Aug



Light rain  
High - 73.2° F | Low - 69.9° F

TUE 22 Aug



Partly Sunny  
High - 77.9° F | Low - 61.4° F

WED 23 Aug



Partly Sunny  
High - 74.5° F | Low - 55.5° F

THU 24 Aug



Partly Sunny  
High - 73.5° F | Low - 59.0° F

[OpenWeatherMap](#)

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