



Pen City Current

Thursday, Sept. 28, 2017 | 8 pages | Volume 1 • Issue 232

Girlfriend, agents testify in first day of Lilly trial

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - A case against a Fort Madison man accused of aiding and abetting Lafayette Anthony "Tony" Evans who was shot and killed in June 2016 after robbing a bank on the city's west end, started in full Wednesday.

Kenneth Lilly, 53, of Fort Madison, is charged with aiding and abetting the June 29, 2016 morning armed robbery at Fort Madison Bank and Trust's west branch. Investigators have charged Lilly with being the driver of the vehicle that dropped Evans off at the bank knowing that Evans was going to rob the bank.

Testimony on Wednesday focused on evidence gathering from Department of Criminal Investigations' special agents Ryan Herman and Joe Lestina. Lilly's girlfriend Amber Sawyer also testified as to Lilly's whereabouts and any vehicles that Lilly and Evans would have had access to on the days leading up the burglary.

Lilly is currently free on bond and is being represented by Assistant Public Defender Jonathan Stensvaag of Burlington.

Andy Prosser, an Iowa Assistant Attorney General, is prosecuting the case for the state. Prosser put Herman and Lestina on the stand to testify about contradictions in Lilly's statements during interviews as well as nu-

merous text exchanges with numbers in California and Alabama from a phone that was used by either Lilly or Evans, a fact that wasn't cleared up with the testimony.

Lestina said during interrogations, Lilly had given different times that he had left his girlfriend's home the morning of the robbery. Lestina testified that Lilly had said during an initial interrogation Evans had left the home around noon for Rockford where he worked on vehicles for extra cash. Lilly has been in a relationship with 28-year old Amber Sawyer. Sawyer said during her testimony in the afternoon that Lilly split time living between her place and in Rockford prior to the rob-

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Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Taking shape

Construction crews blow off the surface of the new right-hand turning lane that was installed as part of the new intersection being built at the intersection of 27th Street and Avenue L on Tuesday morning.

United Way sets \$250,000 local campaign goal

BY PCC STAFF

KEOKUK - During the week of September 18, 2017, the United Way of the Great River Region will kick off the Fall 2017 campaign with a goal of raising \$250,000 to fund needs in the tri-state area.

This year's theme, "Make a Difference Right Where You Live", will support efforts in Clark, Hancock, and Lee counties to address three priorities:

Education: helping children and youth achieve their potential through education

Health: improving people's health and access to services

Income: helping families become financially stable and independent

A video is available to learn more about the group's mission and partnering agencies at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Mb4Q9qQd-Q&feature=youtu.be>

"Together we can do more than any one of us alone", says Board Chair Pam Bierwirth. "United Way collaborates with lo-

See UWGRR, page 3

FMHS v. Solon - Preview

Hounds face top-ranked Solon Friday

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - Fort Madison's head football coach Tony Shiffman has one directive for his players when they travel to visit No. 1 Solon on Friday night - have some fun.

If you throw out records, schedules and history, Friday's matchup is actually quite even on paper. Solon's sophomore quarterback Cam Miller has completed 50 of 83 passes for 800 yards, 11 TDs, and one pick. The Hounds' Lenon Barker is 53-107, 839 yards, 9 TDs, and three interceptions.

Fort Madison's Alex Gully has 108 carries for 713 yards and 10 touchdowns and the Spartans' top two running backs, Hunter Kula and Kendrick Harris, have 123 carries for 668 yards and eight touchdowns. Solon's top two receivers have a combined 23 receptions for 410 yards and five touchdowns. Fort Madison's top receiver Shance Redd-Donald has 27 receptions 470 yards and seven touchdowns.

But the Spartans are 5-0, ranked atop Class 3A, average 39 points a game, and have outscored their opponents this year 182 to 14.



SHIFFMAN

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Obituaries/Lottery Numbers

OBITUARIES

JOSEPH WILLIAM STEFLIK

Joseph "Joe" William Steflik, age 42, passed away suddenly on Tuesday, September 19, 2017 at St. Bernard's Hospital in Jonesboro, AR. He was born February 20, 1975, in Columbia, MO to Gary and Cynthia Foreman Steflik. He was a 1993 graduate of Fort Madison High School. He married Marka Earline Hughes on December 12, 2005, in Jonesboro, AR. He worked as a fast food manager and also as an over the



STEFNIK

road truck driver. He enjoyed spending time with friends and family, and especially enjoyed playing with their four dogs, Maggie, Piper, Mortimer and Jodi. Joe enjoyed playing fantasy football and playing Destiny with his high school buddies. He was a prolific reader, music lover, and an avid Chicago Bears fan.

He is survived by: the love of his life-his wife, Marka Steflik of Jonesboro, AR; his parents: Gary and Cynthia Steflik of Fort Madison, IA; 1-sister: Elizabeth "Libby" (Mike) Burdette of Fort Madison, IA and several aunts, uncles and cousins. He was preceded in death by: his grandparents, Jack and Leona (Saben) Foreman and Frank and Beth (Frery) Steflik.

The family will receive friends from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 14, 2017 at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory in Fort Madison, IA. A celebration of Joe's life gathering will follow from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. at the Fort Madison Eagles Club, 4821 Avenue O, Fort Madison, IA. Burial will be held in Oakland Cemetery at a later date. In lieu of flowers, a memorial has been established for the Fort Madison Bloodhound Booster Club. Online condolences to Joe's family may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: www.kinglynk.com.

KATHY JOANNE NELSON

Kathy JoAnne Nelson, 59 years, of Fort Madison, Iowa died at 6:26 pm Tuesday, September 26, 2017 at her home after a long battle with kidney disease. She was born June 24, 1958 at Burlington, Iowa, a daughter of Wayne E. and Martha Louise (Rice) Davis. On August 29, 1998, she married Richard L. Nelson Jr. at Fort Madison, Iowa.



NELSON

Kathy was a 1976 graduate of Fort Madison High School. She attended Southeastern Community College. She was a homemaker, who also worked as a security guard at Roquette for 8 1/2 years. She enjoyed crafts, sewing, knitting, crocheting, going to garage sales, stain glass, and loved her pets.

She is survived by her husband Richard L. Nelson Jr., of Fort Madison, Iowa; her mother, Martha Davis, of West Point, Iowa; three sons: Richard Davis, of Keokuk, Iowa, Michael (Stephanie) Nelson, of Fort Madison, Iowa, DeWayne Davis, of Donnellson, Iowa; three daughters: Marie J. Nelson, of St. Paul, Iowa, Rebecca (Kurt) Meyers, of Fort Madison, Iowa, Sarah (Michael) Davison, of Fort Madison, Iowa; one brother, Douglas (Tracey) Davis, of Denmark, Iowa; two sisters: Cheryl Huffman, of Cape Girardeau, Missouri; Karen Wixom, of Burlington, Iowa; one sister-in-law, Susan Davis, of Denmark, Iowa; seven grandchildren, two great grandchildren and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her father, one brother, Michael Davis and one granddaughter.

Visitation will be from 6:00 - 7:00 pm Friday, September 29, 2017 at the Barr Memorial Chapel, Fort Madison. Following the visitation her body will be cremated. Private burial will be at a later date.

A memorial has been established, contributions may be made at the Barr Memorial Chapel, Fort Madison. Online condolences to the Nelson Family may be made from the Barr Memorial Chapel, www.barrmemorialchapel.com.




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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

IOWA



9/27

8 10 21 23 25

Powerball: 22

Power Play: 3

Iowa's



9/27

10 14 20 31 36

Hot Ball: 14

Sizzler: 3



9/27 MID-DAY
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9/27 EVENING
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9/27 MID-DAY
3 7 4 2

9/27 EVENING
3 1 5 2

Pen City Current encourages you to play responsibly.

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For the Record/Local News

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report

09/26/17 - 10:53 a.m.
- Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a stolen vehicle in the 2100 block of Avenue G.
09/26/17 - 11:42 a.m.
- Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 3100 block of Main Street
09/26/17 - 1:21 p.m.
- Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a hit and run in the 1000 block of Avenue E.
09/26/17 - 1:32 p.m.
- Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 1200 block of 35th Street.
09/26/17 - 4:56 p.m.
- Fort Madison Police responded to a report

of a larceny/theft in the 800 block of Avenue E.
09/26/17 - 6:30 p.m.
- Fort Madison Police cited and released Danae Lee Larpenter, 29 of Fort Madison in the 1000 block of Avenue E, on charges of no insurance and no valid driver's license.
09/26/17 - 6:05 p.m.
- Fort Madison Police arrested Michael Dale Geisinger, 35, of Fort Madison, in the 300 block of 12th Street, on charges of possession of a controlled substance. He was taken to Lee County Jail and held.
09/26/17 - 9:07 p.m. - Fort Madison Police cited and released Christopher Patrick Burnett,

44 of Fort Madison, in the 1200 block of 30th Street on a charge of driving while barred.
09/26/17 - 10:56 p.m.
- Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 2000 block of Hwy 2.

Lee County Sheriff's Report

09/26/17 - 11:06 a.m.
- Lee County Sheriff's Deputies arrested Mary Katherine Hayes, 37, of Hamilton, Ill., at the Lee County Correctional Center on a judgement entry. She was taken to Lee County Jail and held. Those listed above are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.



Photo courtesy of Iowa State Penitentiary

CERT officers Brendon Freeman, Aaron Landers, and Shane Jobe represented the Iowa State Penitentiary in a statewide CERT Challenge in Fort Dodge recently.

ISP takes 3rd at state challenge

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON - Iowa State Penitentiary's Correctional Emergency Response Team (CERT) took home third place recently at the CERT Challenge held in Fort Dodge.

CERT officers Brendon Freeman, Aaron Landers and Shane Jobe represented the prison at the challenge. Twelve teams, including two from the Iowa State Patrol, competed in multiple skill areas to take home top honors. Each team of three had to complete in ten different challenges or stations, which were timed. The stations consisted of using weapons such as the handgun, rifle and shotgun, as well as physical activities such as breaching doors and carrying weighted dummies. In addition, the teams had to don gas masks to locate and rescue a dummy in a smoke filled trailer.

The CERT Team from Fort Dodge took first place, followed by Anamosa, Fort Madison, Iowa State Patrol and IMCC took 5th place.

Local United Way serves three counties

UWGRR - Continued from Page 1

cal stakeholders to address specific community needs and we appreciate the community support during this past year."

Some of the highlights this year include:

- Grant funding to 27 funded partnering agencies in the tri-county area
- Literacy projects in three elementary schools use volunteers to help students reading below grade level
- Volunteers enrolled in the 55+ Initiative/Retired Senior Volunteer Program provided services to 16 community organizations
- Volunteer Tax Assistance Program in partnership with the IRS helped 192 taxpayers
- Back-to-School Festival with Trinity United Methodist Church distributed 800 backpacks filled with school supplies

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Sports

Steffensmeier 2nd at Washington Invitational

BY PCC STAFF

WASHINGTON - Fort Madison's Aaron Steffensmeier had the lowest time and highest finish for Fort Madison at Tuesday's Washington Invitational cross country meet.

Steffensmeier finished at 18:03.82, a half a minute behind Mt. Pleasant's Cody Mertens who won the meet. Dayne Cordray took 4th place at the meet with a time of 18:24.05 behind Mt. Pleasant's Kyle Vanderham who took 3rd.

Rounding out the scoring for the Hound boys squad were Nathan Steffensmeier in 15th at 18:31.53, Miguel Trejo in 20th place overall at 19:45.71, and Elton Kruse in 22nd place with 19:53.71. The Hounds finished with 63 points overall good enough for 3rd behind Mt. Pleasant and Fairfield.

Noah Sissel finished in 23rd place for the Hounds, while Shakir McClellan and Owen Kruse finished in 25th and 26th place overall. Matt Meierotto took 32nd place and Anthony Barnes crossed the finish line in 36th place.

Alex Steffensmeier took 43rd place and Seth Mendez took 64th place overall.

In the girls' varsity run, Sierra Howardson and Brett Schneider finished 3rd and 4th in the girls 5k run at 20:40.89 and 21:24.47. Fairfield's Ashley Bloomquist took the title at 20:25.25.

Claire Mendez finished third for the Lady Hounds with an 11th place finish at 23:31.97. The other two FMHS runners scoring for FMHS were Elizabeth Miller at 13th place with a time of 23:48.66 and Ashlyn Haas at 21st with a time of 24:56:05.

The Hounds took 2nd place with 52 points to Mt. Pleasant's 37. Other top finishers for the girls were Anna Kester - 21st, Miho Shirai - 27th, Maddy McVey - 32nd, Lauren King - 35th, Claire Hellman, 37th, Lexi Miller-41st, Brittney Sanford - 42nd, Paige Munson - 44th, and Rachel Hellman -57th.

Katelyn Dennis won the middle school's 2-mile run event with a time of 13:21.08.

Emily Steffensmeier took 10th place overall for the

girls at 14:46.98. Tauren Settles was right behind in 12th place at 14:52.88. Mylah Blanchard, Lauren Otte, McKenna Cashman, and Ellie Schulte all finished in a group at 17th, 18th, 20th, and 21st. Jordyn Snyder finished 26th.

The Fort Madison girls finished in 2nd place with 58 totals points behind Washington's 34.

Hayden Wolfe had the top score for Fort Madison in the boys' 2-mile run at 12:18. 23 good enough for fourth place overall. Austin Miller was right behind in 6th place at 12:23.72 and Miles Dear and Will Gager finished 8th and 9th overall at 12:38.97 and 12:41.68. Dayton Davis rounded out the scoring runners for FMMS at 12:47.86.

The boys finished with 39 points just one point away from Burlington who won the meet with 38 points.

Other top finishes for the Fort Madison boys included Emmitt Kruse - 14th, Ben Thele - 21st, Reiburn Turnbull - 31st, Matt Steffensmeier - 45th, Tate Settles - 46th, Colin Greenwald - 54th, Cameron Shutwell - 60th, and Shawn Peters - 68th.

Hounds will face stiff Spartan defense on Friday

PREVIEW - Continued from Page 1

"Well, if we come out of there with a win, we'll shock everyone. If we go out, play our butts off, and lose 28-14, look what we just did with the best team in Class 3A. So I'm trying to get across to the kids this week to just go out and have some fun. They're gonna get first downs, they're gonna complete passes and make plays, but like I've been saying all year, bounce back from it and make the next play."

Shiffman will be the first to tell you over and over again that his offense has yet to reach its potential and there are other very good athletes that just haven't seen their potential

yet. But with the numbers similar on paper, you have to ask why Solon is having so much success.

"That's a state-caliber defense," Shiffman said. "That's not taking away anything from their offense because that's pretty good too, but it's their defense that really sets them apart. They've had years and years of success and we're just learning how good we can be. It's their mindset and mentality of - 'we're a top team, we're gonna act like a top team, and we're gonna play like a top team.'"

Redd-Donald leads Class 3A-District 5 in receptions, yards, and touchdowns, but the

Spartans have three in the top 15. Gully leads the district in carries, yards, and touchdowns, but the Spartans have two in the top 10. Having so many offensive weapons makes isolating threats more difficult.

Shiffman said the Spartans won't be as spread as the Hounds witnessed last week in Mt. Pleasant or against Oskaloosa, but Solon will put in a fullback on certain sets and they have good weapons.

"On paper it's a great matchup. We're in year one of building a program. They're used to this and we're not. We've been trying to preach to the kids go out, have fun, and



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

FMHS senior Shance Redd-Donald returns a kick last week as his brother Sheymouhr Redd-Donald leads the way. The Hound face No. 1 Solon on Friday on the road.

build on positives."

Shiffman said at the beginning of the season he said the team could win

six games. At 3-2 with Solon looming, the Hounds will have to keep improving to get that goal. But the first-year coach said the team is still on pace to meet their goals for the season.

"At the beginning of the season I opened my big mouth and said we could win six games and we can still win six games. Last week was just a bad week. Mt. Pleasant took advantage of our mistakes," Shiffman said. "But then I think - last year we were 0-5. We're building, and hopefully will have a good season and then we'll start working the hallways and getting some of the kids that should be playing and want to be playing, but just started thinking about

it too late."

He said he doesn't even want to start thinking about next year with four games still to play and Solon is still very clearly in Shiffman's sites.

"I've been in games like this before. I go back to Springville High School in 2010 and we were a good team and we went up against a good Rochester team who won state, but in the second half we did some good things offensively and that catapulted us into the 2nd half of the season and we made it to the quarterfinals."

Friday's game is located at 600 Fifth Street in Solon about 10 minutes north-east of Iowa City north on Hwy 1 and starts at 7:30 p.m.

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Executive Director



United Way of the Great River Region which serves Lee County in Iowa, Hancock County in Illinois and Clark County in Missouri is seeking an Executive Director to manage all aspects of a non-profit organization dedicated to improving lives in the area of health, education and financial stability.

Under the direction of the Board of Directors, the Executive Director is responsible for all administrative, fund-raising, fund distribution, operations, donor and community relations of the organization. The Executive Director is also responsible for developing key external and internal collaborations, partnerships, relationships and grant writing which include the Board of Directors, community partners, leaders and staff. The Executive Director will manage full-time and part-time staff as well as multiple volunteers with various responsibilities as aligned with the UWGRR strategic plan. College degree with major in business, management or marketing is encouraged. Non-profit experience, particularly with United Way a plus.

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From the Front/Weather

5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

THU 28 Sep



Clear Skies
High- 71.2° F | Low - 53.4° F

FRI 29 Sep



Clear Skies
High- 72.7° F | Low - 48.2° F

SAT 30 Sep



Clear Skies
High- 68.9° F | Low - 50.4° F

SUN 01 Oct



Clear Skies
High - 70.9° F | Low - 56.0° F

MON 02 Oct



Clear Skies
High- 72.5° F | Low - 61.4° F

[OpenWeatherMap](#)

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Defense to cross on video evidence at trial Thursday

TRIAL - Continued from Page 1

bery.

At a subsequent interview Lestina said Lilly told investigators he got the couple's children up at around 10:30 to 11 before leaving for Rockford.

Prosser then introduced video footage of what appeared to be Lilly at Casey's making a purchase the morning of the robbery with a passenger in the maroon Suburban that is believed to have been the vehicle Evans got out of when he entered the bank for the robbery. Footage was also shown of Lilly at Kempker's True Value and at McDonald's all between the hours of 8:40 a.m and 10:46 a.m.

Stensvaag didn't have the opportunity to cross examine Lestina on the video footage, as Judge Mary Ann Brown halted testimony after Prosser had introduced all the video evidence. Stensvaag will begin cross examination on the evidence in the morning.

Some of the most interesting testimony of the day came from Sawyer, who had trouble recalling a lot of the facts from the day of the robbery and the days leading up to the crime, including questions surrounding the use of CB radios in Lilly's cars. Sawyer said she didn't remember whether or not her gray Chevy S10 pickup had a CB radio in it, until Stensvaag showed her her previous answers in a deposition.

Stensvaag seemed to be creating foundation that Lilly, Sawyer and others routinely used CBs as a form of communication while in the vehicles. Prosser led questioning with Lestina that the CBs could have been used to avoid a digital footprint common to cellphone usage.

Evans was shot dead after running from the bank with several bags of cash and taking shots at a Lee County deputy before being shot in the chest by Fort Madison Police officers. He was pronounced dead at the scene. Lilly was arrested in October after being charged with aiding and abetting first-degree robbery, which is a Class B felony punishable by up to 25 years in prison.

The officers were cleared by the Iowa Attorney General's office of any wrongdoing in the shooting. The case picks up tomorrow at 9 a.m.

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Lee County Health Department - 2017 FLU CLINIC SCHEDULE

10/2 Newberry Center
Ft. Madison
8:30am-Noon

10/10 West Point Public Library
1:00pm-3:00pm

10/16 Montrose Public Library
8:00am-11:00am

10/24 Parkview Apts.
West Point
10:00am-Noon

10/3 Twin Oaks Apts.
Denmark
8:30am-10:00am

10/12 Mississippi Terrace
Keokuk
8:30am-10:00am

10/18 Donnellson Public Library
11:30am-1:30pm

10/26 LCHD
(#3 John Bennett Drive)
Ft. Madison
Noon-5:30pm

10/5 Deer Meadow
Keokuk
8:30am-9:30am

10/12 River Terrace
Keokuk
8:30am-10:00am

10/19 Eagle Bluff Apts.
Ft. Madison
9:00am-10:00am

10/10 Hotel Iowa
Keokuk
8:00am-9:00am

10/12 United Methodist Church
Donnellson
10:30am-11:30am

10/19 Heritage Center
Keokuk
10:00am-Noon

10/10 Hillview Village
Ft. Madison
10:30am-12:30pm

10/12 Trinity United Methodist
Keokuk
Noon-4:30pm

10/19 Rose Michael Gardens
Ft. Madison
1:00pm-2:30pm

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