



Pen City Current

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IFC helps FM robotics team

WEVER – Iowa Fertilizer Company recently donated \$2,500 to support the Fort Madison High School “Cyberhounds” robotics team. The donation will help the team travel to area competition events and with additional improvements of the robot the team has been developing.

“Iowa Fertilizer Company is committed to supporting organizations across southeast Iowa, particularly those that help spur innovation and imagination among our young people,” said Darrell Allman, Iowa Fertilizer Company’s Managing Director. “We are incredibly pleased to make this donation to the Fort Madison High School “Cyberhounds” robotics team as they continue to design, build and test their latest project. We look forward to continue investing in education, technology and science programs across the region.”

The “Cyberhounds” student team plans to participate in the Central Missouri Regional competition in Sedalia, Missouri in early April. This past weekend, they staffed a booth at the Southeast Iowa STEM Festival where they showcased their work.

Fans get a Long talk on fitness, Hawkeye football



At left, Iowa Sports Foundation CEO and former NFL quarterback Chuck Long speaks with Teague Smith, right, and Ryan Smith, center, as he signs a book Thursday night at Sheaffer Memorial Golf Course. Long was in town touting his biography “Destined for Greatness” which hit shelves two years ago. Below Long talks with guests after dinner.

Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Former Iowa All-American runs the Iowa Sports Foundation touting fitness and healthy living

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – He threw about five passes a game in high school and somehow found himself runner-up in college football’s Heisman Award and headed to the NFL.

University of Iowa All-American Quarterback Chuck Long spoke to more than a hundred people Thursday night at Sheaffer Memorial Golf Course north of Fort Madison as part of a two-year book tour for his biography “Destined for Greatness”.

The biography penned by Iowa’s own Austin Putze hit the shelves two years ago and tells the story of how a high school quarterback in a run-heavy offense parlayed some natural athleticism and good luck into one of the most storied careers at the University

of Iowa.

Long joked, but believes he’s set a record – not for wins at the University, but as a junior in high school when his Wheaton North Falcons downed LaSalle-Peru 14-6 for the state 4A title. Long completed 1-4 passes for -3 yards in the win.

“We had a run heavy offense,” he deadpanned to laughs from the Fort Madison Hawkeye fans, who were treated to about an hour of conversation and questions with Long, who is now CEO and Executive Director of Iowa Sports Foundation.

The Foundation encompasses the Iowa Games, Live Healthy Iowa, Iowa Senior Games, and Adaptive Sports Iowa. Long said one of his favorite things to do is to get

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From the Front/Lottery Numbers

Long tells youth to have fun

LONG - Continued from Page 1

around Iowa and speak with people and talk about healthy living and fitness.

Long, who played professionally for eight years for the Detroit Lions and the Los Angeles Rams, also had coaching stints at Iowa, Oklahoma, San Diego State, and Kansas. He said coaching was a physical and mental challenge.

“Those are long days coaching and it was physically and mentally demanding and took a lot of time away from my family. I just love what I do now. I enjoy talking with people

about fitness and health and I love talking with Iowans,” he said.

He said he fears what football will look like in 10 years. Long said numbers are dwindling for many reasons, but what people talk about most is concussions.

“The concussion thing is out there, but it’s out there for all sports, including soccer, which is worse. Parents need to look at that but not be alarmed about it,” he said.

“I think you can get away with not playing football until high school.

I think it’s the one sport you can do that, but kids want to play when they’re young. It’s becoming a safer environment and if kids want to play earlier, they should be able to. It’s a lot better than when I played and I seem to be talking to you okay.”

Long, in response to a question, said kids who want to play sports now should just play for the day and not be focused on tomorrow or the next day.

“I’m tired of these kids that want to be in the NFL when they’re 10 years old,” he said. “I would tell



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Former NFL and Iowa quarterback Chuck Long reminisces with fans Thursday night at a dinner at Sheaffer Memorial Golf Course.

youngsters in this room – play to have fun every single day and don’t worry about the next day. Stay away from video games. Video games are the enemy. We played all day, I didn’t think I was going to college to play football. In high school it was over and then it was on to basketball. Work hard and have fun that day and every other day will take care of itself.”

After finishing his senior year at Wheaton,

Long got a call from Iowa assistant coach Bill Schneider, who would later go onto fame turning around the Kansas State program.

Schneider invited Long to Iowa City for a campus visit and, after a weekend on campus, Head Coach Hayden Fry offered Long a scholarship.

“I went home and told my dad they wanted to offer me a full ride, and my dad said, ‘But son...have they seen you play?’ Dad

had to call up Coach Fry to confirm it,” Long said.

He hadn’t received any other scholarship offers, but after Iowa made the offer, Long said he got offers from Northern Illinois and Northwestern.

“I wouldn’t have gotten those offers had Iowa not made me an offer, but I knew I was going to be a Hawkeye,” he said. “They took me to the Iowa River Power restaurant when I

See IOWA, page 3



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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	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



2/27
21 31 42 49 59
Powerball: 23
Power Play: 5



2/27
27 33 35 43 52
Star Ball: 1
All Star Bonus: 3



2/27 MID-DAY
1 7 5
2/27 EVENING
9 9 4



2/27 MID-DAY
2 9 3 3
2/27 EVENING
7 2 5 5

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Pen City Current

Founded in 2016



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Local News/Current-Lee

CURRENT-LEE

FORT MADISON – The following is a list of events and happenings going on in Fort Madison as submitted to the Pen City Current.

RiverFest Line-Up Reveal Party

The 2019 RiverFest Line-Up Reveal party will be held on March 2 beginning at 8 p.m. RiverFest's 2019 entertainment lineup will be revealed and Ghost of Judas will be playing. Raffles, Ticket sales and giveaways are planned for the event.

United Way Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser

The United Way of the Great River Region is hosting it's 9th annual Spaghetti Dinner at the Hawkeye Restaurant on March 11. Carry out or dine-in options available. Serving times are from 5 p.m. to 6:30, and 6:30 to 8 p.m. For more information contact Director Karen Thie at 319-524-4504.

St. Patrick's Day celebration

The Fort Madison Chamber of Commerce will be holding a St. Patrick's Day celebration on March 16 including a parade, games, music and fun. Parade entry forms are available by contact the Chamber at 319-372-5471.

Fort Madison YMCA's Shamrocked 2019

The 2nd annual Shamrocked will be held on March 16 starting at 8 a.m. with a free-will donation pancake breakfast, followed by a Bike & Brew after the St. Patrick's Holiday Parade. For more information, contact the YMCA at 372-2403.

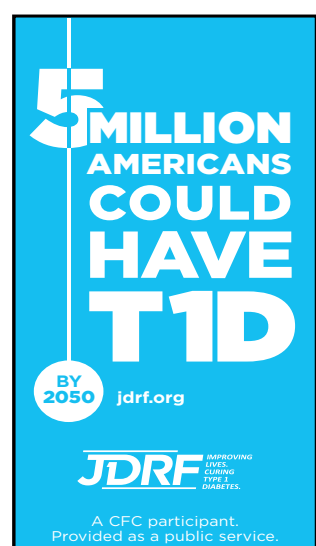
Murder Mystery Dinner Theater

The Fort Madison High School Music Department will be presenting it's annual Dinner Theater on March 22-23. Doors open at 6 p.m with the show beginning at 7 p.m. Tickets available at Dana Bushong's at 805 Avenue G.

Senior Community BINGO at The Kensington

Each month on the second Wednesday of the month, The Kensington hosts Senior Community BINGO at 2 p.m. in their dining room at 2210 Avenue H in Fort Madison. All seniors are welcome and cash prizes are awarded.

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.



He knew he was a Hawkeye

IOWA - Continued from Page 2

got off the plane. When I saw that prime rib, I knew I was going to Iowa.”

Long played for the Hawkeyes from 1981-1985 and is the only college player to have played in five bowl games. He took two snaps as a freshman in a lopsided Rose Bowl loss in 1981 and then led the Hawkeyes to the Peach Bowl as a sophomore and the Gator Bowl in 1993. In 1994, the Hayden Fry-coached Hawkeyes defeated Texas in the Freedom Bowl in what was Long's senior year.

However NCAA officials reviewed Long's playing time as a freshman and granted him one more senior year due to the few snaps he took in his first year.

“This record's going to be broken now with the

new red-shirt rules that allow kids to still redshirt even with four games as a freshman, but right now, I'm the only college player to play in five bowl games,” Long said.

He reminisced fondly of the days with Fry and how the Hall of Fame coach would insist on discipline, but made sure the mood was light and the players had fun.

He talked about the game in Iowa City when Iowa was ranked No. 1 in the nation and Michigan was ranked No. 2 and how Fry cooked up some fun before the game with then-Wolverine Head Coach Bo Schembechler.

“Coach Fry was trying to find a way to relieve the tension of the players before the game. Bo Schembechler was

on the other side taking everything in in his shades and chewing gum. Coach Fry sent over a fake punt snapper and punter and this snapper was snapping it all over the place,” Long said.

“Bo called Hayden over and said, ‘You can't play these guys, this is awful’ and Coach Fry looked at him and said, ‘We don't plan on punting tonight, Coach’ and walked away. Rumor has it that Bo found everything in their lockerroom that wasn't attached and threw it against the wall he was so mad. That was Bo Schembechler.”

In addition to his position with the foundation, Long is also a studio guest and commentator for the Big Ten Network during the football season.



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15. Ability to maintain a large filing system of current and closed files.
16. Must be able to travel to North Lee County Office and/or courthouse on occasion.

RSVP/United Way of the Great River Region is seeking a Community Garden Coordinator

Do you like to garden and work outdoors?
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We are seeking an individual this Spring who will plan, plant, cultivate, harvest and lead other volunteers in our Community Garden (garden is located at 2606 Avenue L, Fort Madison, Iowa behind Hy-Vee).

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- » Ability to prioritize, multi-task, and maintain flexibility in a fast-paced, service oriented, environment.
- » Work scheduled hours based on personnel and Community needs; may be required to work weekends.
- » Maintain constructive relationships with co-workers, residents and families.
- » Maintain confidentiality of information pertaining to residents, Community operations and personnel.
- » Promote residence and the Company in a positive way.
- » Participate in staff, resident, family or marketing activities and events as directed.
- » Compliance with State and Federal food handling and safety regulations.
- » Excellent verbal/written communication and problem solving skills.
- » At least 1 year of prior food preparation and service experience preferred.
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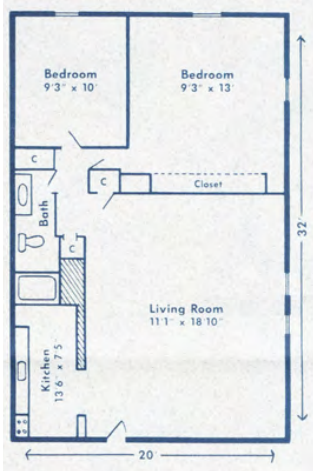
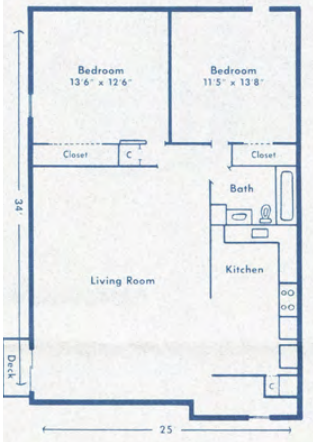
If interested and for more information, please call – Tammy at 319-372-8043.

United Way of the Great River Region supports non-profit organizations and agencies that provide programs addressing needs in health, education and financial stability to residents in Clark, Hancock, and Lee Counties.

United Way of the Great River Region serves all of Lee, Hancock, and Clark Counties. All donations are tax-deductible.



United Way of the Great River Region



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Pen City current

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The deadline for submitting a resume is March 11, 2019

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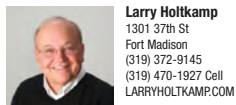
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Obituaries/Weather

OBITUARIES

GREGORY LAWRENCE MEIEROTTO

Gregory Lawrence Meierotto, 63, of West Point, Iowa, passed away at 1:20 a.m. Tuesday, February 26, 2019, in the Emergency Room at Fort Madison Community Hospital in Fort Madison, Iowa.



MEIEROTTO

Born on October 29, 1955, the son of Lawrence Otto and Pauline Elenore (Schinstock) Meierotto. On September 22, 1979 he married Linda Steffensmeier. Later, on April 6, 1991 he married Patti Johnson.

Survivors include his wife: Patti of West Point; three daughters: Alyce (Kevin) Boylen of Hartford, Wisconsin, Caroline (Frank) Cleveland of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Angie (Jason) Sanders of Warrensburg, Missouri; seven grandchildren: Jordan, Layne and Tatum Boylen, Cora and Memphis Cleveland, Reece and Emilia Sanders; mother-in-law: Doris Johnson; seven brothers: Mark (Regina) Meierotto of West Point, Daniel Meierotto of West Point, Edward (Darla) Meierotto of West Point, Charles (Lori) Meierotto of Pilot Grove, Samuel (Carla) Meierotto of West Point, Martin (Julie) Meierotto of West Point and Marvin (Teresa) Meierotto of West Point; one sister: Paulette (Jim) Wenke of West Point. Also surviving are several nieces, nephews and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents; three brothers: Leroy, John and Joseph and one sister-in-law: Kathy Meierotto.

Greg was a 1973 graduate of Marquette High School. He was a lifelong farmer having owned his farm since 1979. Greg also worked at Merschman Seeds for forty-four years. He was a member of St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church. He enjoyed garden tractor pulls. Most of all, his daughters and grandchildren meant everything to him.

Friends may call after 12:00 noon Thursday, February 28, 2019, at Schmitz Funeral Home in West Point where the family will receive friends from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. that evening.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:00 a.m. Friday, March 1, 2019, at St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church in West Point with Father Dennis Hoffman as celebrant.

Burial will be at St. James Cemetery in St. Paul.

In lieu of flowers, a memorial has been established in his memory for Fort Madison Community Hospital Hospice or Great River Tractor Pulling Association.

Schmitz Funeral Home of West Point is assisting the family with arrangements. On-line condolences to the family may be made at www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com.

Pen City Current obituary policy

The Current runs obituaries 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.

OBITUARIES

CHARLES LOUIS KITE, JR.

Charles Louis Kite Jr. 55, of Argyle, Iowa, passed away at 7:14 p.m. Wednesday, February 27, 2019 at his home.

He was born on September 6, 1963 to Charles Louis and Mary Louise (Wagner) Kite.

Survivors include one son, Courtney Alan Kite; one brother Justin Kite; three sisters: Linda White, Rita White and Valerie Shaffner. Also surviving are several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Charlie and Mary and brother-in-law Bill White.

He was a graduate of Central Lee High School, Donnellson, Iowa.

Charlie worked as a truck driver, He enjoyed watching T.V.

His body has been entrusted to Schmitz Funeral Home for cremation. A graveside service will be held at a later date at the Argyle Memorial Gardens.

Memorials have been established in his memory.

Schmitz Funeral Home of Donnellson is assisting the family with arrangements.

On-line condolences to the family may be made at www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com.

5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

FRI 1 Mar

Light Snow
High- 25.5° F | Low - 19.2° F

SAT 2 Mar

Light Snow
High- 18.5° F | Low - 18.1° F

SUN 3 Mar

Light Snow
High- 12.1° F | Low - 5.1° F

MON 4 Mar

Light Snow
High- 6.3° F | Low - 0.0° F

TUE 5 Mar

Snow
High- 7.4° F | Low - 1.7° F

OpenWeatherMap

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