



Pen City Current

Thursday, Nov. 2, 2017 | 8 pages | Volume 1 • Issue 255

KIDS Committee gearing up for 3rd bond try

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - If at first you don't succeed.... The Kids Committee is back up and running, and aiming at an April bond issue for a new prek-3rd grade elementary school to replace Richardson and Lincoln elementary schools in the Fort Madison School District. The price tag on the new building will be slightly higher than the \$27 million when the bond was proposed in December of 2016 and again in June.

About 18 people from the committee met on Wednesday night at Hillview Village in an initial brain-storming session on how to approach the referendum going forward.

The referendum in June fell 4.4% short of the required

“

...of the registered voters in the district, only 28% of our parents voted in that election. That's the problem right there.”

- Nick Hanson,
DLR Group

60%-plus 1 needed for approval with 1,517 registered voters in the district supporting the measure.

Nick Hanson, business development leader from

DLR Group, the firm retained to help plan and design the new building, unveiled some eye-popping numbers from the previous attempt.

He said the turnout for the last election had more yes votes than those that voted in total in the December effort. So the effort to get more people to the polls was successful.

“Within the district, we have 2,300 parents and, of those, 1,500 are registered to vote. So 66% are registered which, really isn't too bad,” Hanson said. “However, of the registered voters in the district only 28% of our parents voted in that election. That's the problem right there. Now, I don't know how they voted, but only 423 of those registered voters, voted in that June election.

See **BOND**, page 2

Houel unveils laureate project Saturday



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Cecile Houel, stands next to one of her Nobel Peace Prize Project works that will be on display and for sale at a reception for the project that is set for Saturday from 5 to 8 p.m. at her 731 Avenue G studio.

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - You may have seen someone quietly, but feverishly, working behind the glass and a locked door at 731 Avenue G in the past couple years.

On Saturday, you can go in and get a glimpse of what's been going on.

Cecile Houel will be hosting an event from 5 to 8

p.m. on Saturday at Cecile Houel's Studio, entitled “Twelve Portraits to Celebrate Peace”.

The event, which will feature a viewing of Houel's work over the past two years, will also feature wine and Fort Madison's food wizard Martha Wolf will be providing appetizers for guests. Houel had originally thought of making the showing an invitation-only

See **SHOWING**, page 8

Food drive tonight at Cabaret

Young Professional's group trying to beef up Food Pantry shelves for holidays

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON - The Fort Madison Young Professional's club is holding a food drive for the Fort Madison Food Pantry on Thursday, Nov. 2, beginning at 6 p.m.

The group is asking for donations to help prop up the food pantry for Thanksgiving. Items being accepted include canned items such as peaches, green beans, corn, spaghetti, ravioli, tuna, chicken and potatoes. Other items being requested include pasta, pasta sauce, canola oil, peanut butter, skillet meals, and pancake mix. Shampoos and laundry detergents are also on the much-needed list.

Items can be dropped off Thursday night at the Cabaret, 1337 Avenue G, throughout the evening. For more information, contact Savanna Collier at the Fort Madison Chamber of Commerce at 372-5471 or via email at chamber@fortmadison.com.

Election Letters to Editor

Letters to the Editor in support of candidates in the city election Nov. 7 will be accepted through midnight Sunday. No letters will be accepted after that date in an effort to establish fairness in the process. Only one letter per person of voting age is accepted.

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Obituaries/Local News

OBITUARIES

SHARON MARIE FRAZER

Sharon Marie Frazer, 57, of Donnellson, Iowa passed away at 9:21 p.m. Monday, October 30, 2017 at the University of Iowa Hospital and Clinics.



FRAZER

Born September 3, 1960 in St. Paul, Minnesota the daughter of Lyle and Elaine (Thompson) Haigh

Survivors include her three children: Ian Frazer of Miami, Florida, Camille Frazer of Phoenix, Arizona and Grant Frazer of St. Paul, Minnesota; her parents: Lyle and Elaine Haigh of West Point, Iowa; two brothers: Norman (Kim) Haigh of Burlington, Iowa and Steve (Jill) Haigh of Ottumwa, Iowa; one sister: Clarice (Mike) Hutchens of St. Louis, Missouri and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents and twin brothers in infancy.

Sharon was a 1979 Graduate of Marquette Catholic High School. She graduated in 1983 from Iowa Wes-

leyan College with her degree in Education and Psychology she later received a Special Education Degree at Culver Stockton College. She worked as a special education teacher. Sharon enjoyed gardening, crafts, reading, cooking, praying, hosting holiday parties and music. She was always very supportive of her children.

The family will receive friends from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. Saturday, November 4, 2017 at the Schmitz Funeral Home in Donnellson, Iowa.

A Memorial Service will be held at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, November 4, 2017 at Schmitz Funeral Home in Donnellson, Iowa with Reverend Bob Molsberry officiating.

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

A memorial has been established in her memory. Schmitz Funeral Home Donnellson is assisting the family with the arrangements.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com.

RITO LOZANO

Rito Lozano, 91, of Ft. Madison passed away at 8:45 AM on Wednesday, November 1, 2017 at his home.



FRAZER

He was born on February 22, 1926 in Ft. Madison to Alfredo and Eulalia Castillo Lozano. On June 1, 1946 he married Paula Porrez in Ft. Madison. Rito worked at Pilly Brush, DuPont and then retired from IAAP. He enjoyed fishing, hunting, bowling, softball, baseball and playing cards.

Rito especially loved spending time with his children and grandchildren.

Survivors include his wife, Paula Lozano of Ft. Madison; three sons, Sam (Laura) Lozano, G.J. (Lisa) Lozano and Travis Lozano all of Ft. Madison; six daughters, Rita (Joe)

Cangas of Des Moines, Eulalia "Lali" Rick Leach of Oklahoma, Sheri (Donnie) Dobbs of Cedar Rapids, Pam Lozano of Ft. Madison, Renay (Memo) Dominguez of Guerrero Chihuahua, Mexico and Betsi Lozano of Ft. Madison; twenty five grandchildren, fifteen great grandchildren; one great great granddaughter and one brother, Angelo Lozano of Ft. Madison. He was preceded in death by his parents; a son, Tyrone; three brothers and three sisters.

A celebration of life will be held on Sunday, November 5, 2017 at the Eagles Club in Ft. Madison from Noon-4 PM. Per his wishes, cremation has been entrusted to King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory.

A memorial has been established in his memory and online condolences may be left at www.kinglynk.com.

Group looking at data for next effort

BOND - Continued from Page 1

And only 203 voted in both elections. And I just don't know why that is."

Hanson said typically in bond elections, 20% of the people will vote yes and 20% will vote no, and the committee needs to figure out how to get at the other 60%.

The decision to launch the referendum lays in the hands of the Fort Madison School Board, and the board has not taken action on the referendum, but a vote could be coming on that in the near future.

Several committee members said some reactions after the election pointed to the idea of building a new high school and moving the elementary students into the current high school.

Hanson said that idea isn't feasible physically on the land available and would cause the bonding amount to skyrocket.

"The cost of a new high school would raise the cost astronomically," Hanson said. "They're doing some things right now including HVAC and windows. The site would fit the school but it won't fit a stadium which would run you an additional \$10 million just for that. It just doesn't make sense at this point to move in that direction."

Hanson said renovating the two current elementary schools will cost more than \$34 million when all code improvements are implemented.

Ideas being discussed by the committee are internet-based surveys, parent groups, register to vote campaigns and other efforts that will help energize the base of parents in the district who are not coming out to vote according to the data.

The group will be meeting again in December to continue to work on plans.

5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

THU 02 Nov



Few Clouds
High - 66.5° F | Low - 43.5° F

FRI 03 Nov



Clear Skies
High - 46.9° F | Low - 42.0° F

SAT 04 Nov



Light Rain
High - 57.6° F | Low - 54.6° F

SUN 05 Nov



Light Rain
High - 72.6° F | Low - 66.6° F

MON 06 Nov



Light Rain
High - 60.1° F | Low - 53.2° F

[OpenWeatherMap](#)

Ladies' Night

Thursday, November 9th • 4:00pm - 7:00pm

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For the Record/Opinion

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report
 10/30/17 - 10:53 a.m.
 - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 5000 block of Avenue O, 10/30/17 - 2:36 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident at the intersection of Eighth Street and Avenue F. 10/30/17 - 3:49 p.m.
 - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 1000 block of Avenue H. 10/30/17 - 9:48 p.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested John Robert Winkel Mead, 38, of Fort Madison at the intersection of Avenue L and 21st Street on a charge of disorderly conduct, possession of drug paraphernalia, interference with official acts, public intoxication - 2nd offense. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held 10/30/17 - 10:42 p.m.
 - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident at the intersection of Hwy. 61 and Country Club Lane. 10/31/17 - 12:19 a.m.
 - Fort Madison Police

responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 900 block of Avenue G. 11/01/17 - 6:24 a.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Jaime Lynn Novak, 40, of Fort Madison in the 1600 block of Avenue L on a charge of failure to appear for driving while suspended. He was taken to Lee County Jail and held. 11/01/17 - 7:34 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 200 block of 1st.

Lee County Sheriff's Report

10/31/17 - 9:56 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff's Deputies arrested Eric David Willey, 55, of Fort Madison at the Lee County Sheriff's office on warrants for violation of probation and judgment hold. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held. 10/31/17 - 1:10 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Mark Allen Brewer, 33, of Argyle, in the 200 block of White Plains Rd., in Montrose, on charges of driving while barred, possession of drug paraphernalia, and possession

of controlled substance. He was taken to Lee County Jail and released on a promise to appear. 10/31/17 - 3 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Brandon Caine Oliver, 33, of Burlington, at the Lee County Sheriff's office on a warrant for violation of probation. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held. 10/31/17 - 11:58 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a one-vehicle accident on Hwy. 2 near Primrose Cemetery. According to the report a deer came out of a ditch a struck a vehicle driven by Kelly Jo Peck, 53 of Farmington. No injuries or citations were issued on the report. *All persons in these listings are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.*

Fort Madison Fire & Rescue report

10/30/17 - Fort Madison firefighters had no calls to report 10/31/17 - Fort Madison firefighters responded to two medical calls.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Local residents supports current Mayor

To the Editor:

The City of Fort Madison elections this fall are vitally important to the continued growth of our great city. Over the past few years, we have seen the formation of a very capable team of players whose sole interest is in making Fort Madison a better place to live and work. From our City Manager on down, we have a staff of public safety, public works, and management employees that are doing an amazing job of keeping Fort Madison moving forward. Our city government has provided the leadership for an impressive list of accomplishments, all while staying within a very demanding budget. None of this could have happened without the outstanding leadership of our Mayor, Brad Randolph. First as a councilman, then as Mayor, Brad has been a strong voice of reason and a dedicated public servant on our behalf. Many of the projects under way or recently completed would not have been possible without the leadership of

Mayor Randolph and his team. Some of those projects include working with the PORT committee to provide safe recreational trails, the construction of the Baxter Sports Complex, the façade improvements and redevelopment of properties in the downtown Main Street district, the ongoing infrastructure improvement plan for Fort Madison and the upcoming rehabilitation of Highway 2 thru Fort Madison. None of these would have occurred without the involvement of our city government and the leadership of Brad Randolph. That is why it is vitally important that we retain the experienced leadership of our Mayor, Brad Randolph, in the city elections this November.

Please join me in voting to re-elect Brad Randolph as Mayor of Fort Madison!

Larry D. Smith
 Fort Madison

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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



11/1
 3 6 19 26 44
 Powerball: 1
 Power Play: 2



This game ended with 10/28 drawing. Rollover winnings will be a part of the new Lotto America Game beginning 11/15



11/1 MID-DAY
 9 2 2
 11/1 EVENING
 1 4 5



11/1 MID-DAY
 1 1 0 0
 11/1 EVENING
 8 3 5 3

Pen City Current encourages you to play responsibly.

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OPINION

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

TO MY CONSTITUENTS FROM YOUR 2ND WARD COUNCILMAN BRIAN WRIGHT

As your councilman and representative since 2011, I say thank you. Thank you for trusting in me and supporting me as your voice for 2nd ward. The trust and support shown me in successful election and re-election, has shown your confidence and shared vision for 2nd ward and the city as a whole. We have shared a common goal of being progressive and having a vision of enhanced quality of life and development throughout the ward and city during the last four years. Our council created a comprehensive plan for the city, to bring about the needed change in infrastructure and roads, quality of life enhancements, and other related projects that will move our city forward and remain a viable and sustainable community for future years to come. This plan has allowed our council and city personnel to implement and complete planned projects in a timely and effective manner, as to be able to provide the best quality of services and amenities to the public. We have seen this in 2nd ward and will continue to see the plan in action for the future. We as a council have heard your voice and have taken action to move the city forward and progress, bringing about positive change and growth in all areas of community.

In 2nd ward, much has been done and much is planned the next four years throughout the ward and city as a whole. Public Works has been able to asphalt overlay the following: Denmark Road, Denmark Hilltop, alley between Avenue C & D between 13th & 14th streets, Avenue B from 12th to 14th streets and the side streets of 12th, 13th, & 14th. The city has also redone

15th street from Avenue M to Avenue L, along with new intersections throughout 2nd ward. Reconstruction of the 1300 & 1400 blocks of Avenue F and 15th street hill were completed in 2017. New infrastructure has been placed and alleys have been graded or asphalt overlay has been done, with a regular and annual alley maintenance program implemented to improve and maintain the quality of alleys. Also for the first time ever, all streets have been crack-sealed.

Happenings in the city have been many as well. The city has been able to provide quality of life enhancers like the P.O.R.T. trail system, upgrades to city parks with new playground equipment, upgrades to rodeo park, new trails and restored trails throughout rodeo park, investment in the building of Baxter Sportsplex, and more has been able to offer citizens options for health and entertainment.

Economic development is important to job creation and stability of economy. For this reason, the city has invested in expansion of infrastructure to Silgan Containers and the west end, provided incentives for the Gregory Manufacturing expansion to increase production and hiring, and worked with economic development and other partners to bring about plans to relocate industry to Fort Madison. We have already seen this with the revitalization of 18th & Avenue H with the placement of Fareway grocery store as another option for citizens and jobs in the community.

I love history and the city has much history to offer its citizens and tourists from around the region and countries. The city has invested time and resources, along with monies into enhancing and improving our histor-

ical attractions. We have allocated monies to improve security at the Old Fort and also repair structures at the Old Fort. Marketing and tourism efforts have been increased and implemented at the direction of the marketing director. The marketing director has been working with regional and national tour companies, placing brochures in hotel brochure racks and travel magazines, partnering with other communities like Nauvoo and other Southeast Iowa communities to bring people from around the area to our attractions, and developing items for increased revenue into our community's historical landmarks and attractions. As part of tourism and economic development, I am in favor of relocating the train depot to the newly renovated historical train depot along the riverfront. This relocation is needed, as the current location for Amtrak will no longer be viable and will serve the purpose of safe and convenient on/off of passengers and families.

In closing, I have heard you as your councilman since 2011 and will continue to work for projects to be completed in 2nd ward. If re-elected, my first priority is to improve Avenue F from 2nd to 22nd with emphasis placed on the 900 to 1500 blocks of Avenue F, as I feel these blocks are in most need of repair and replacement. Second, I will continue to approve and improve the infrastructure that is needed in 2nd ward and surrounding. Fire and police protection is always paramount, and will continue to be top of mind as well. The city has already been working with and helping form neighborhood watch groups to be of assistance to the police. Another part of enhancing the ability to thwart crime and other related activities is to continue the program of demolishing dilapidated structures and cleaning up nuisance properties throughout 2nd ward and the city. These are my priorities and goals for bringing about positive change and moving the city in a direction that enhances the lives of all its citizens.

Yard signs don't win elections, RESULTS WIN ELECTIONS! I, along with the city council, have produced positive results for 2nd ward and the community. I ask you to re-elect me as your voice of positive change and continued progression to a future that is vibrant and sustained for the community as a whole. For more information and video, please visit fortmadison-ia.com for the candidate forum archived video under city council live broadcast in your web browser. You can also listen to my interview with Tri-States Public Radio at tspr.org by clicking on the election 2017 button halfway down the page and click my photo. Again, thank you for allowing me the honor to serve as your voice and representative and I look forward to the honor and privilege to do so another four years.

RE-ELECT BRIAN WRIGHT 2ND WARD COUNCILMAN ON NOVEMBER 7TH! - BRIAN WRIGHT



VETERANS DAY

HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

Honor your family members that answered the call to serve in our special Veterans Day edition on Friday, November 10th.

It is our honor to publish this information. There is no charge for this service.

Submit your photos and information using the form on our website or email it to admin@pencitycurrent.com or mail it to Pen City Current, PO Box 366, Fort Madison, IA 52627.

Please include photo (color or black & white), veteran's name, branch of service, tour(s) of duty, your name and contact information in case of questions. A brief personal message is also welcome.

Submissions are due by the end of the day Tuesday, November 7th.

SAMPLE LISTINGS



CPL Jerome "Jerry" Leroy Brosi
 US Army
 Korean War
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 - Zeke and Shawna Ross and Family



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- **Warehouse - Inventory (Stager) - 2124**
- Qualifications: Previous experience in inventory management in a manufacturing or warehouse environment.
- **Maintenance Electrician - 2526**
- Qualifications: 5 to 7 years of experience in electrical maintenance, PLC technician/electrical education courses, in depth mechanical/electrical aptitude, schematic reading/interpretation.
- **Packaging Technician - 2575**
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Classifieds

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WINE & BEER WALK

MAKING SPIRITS BRIGHT SINCE 2010 FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17 5PM TILL 8PM

Glass Pre-Sale Event:
November 10th • 5-7pm
located at **Chuong Garden**
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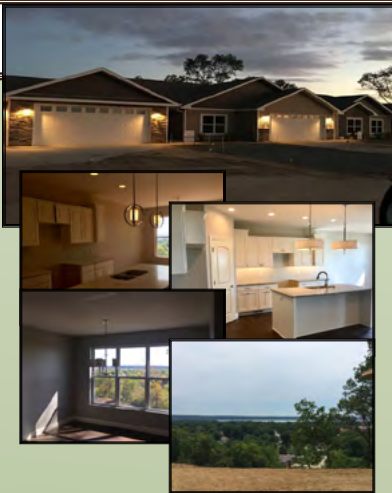


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Nobel Prize paintings will be offered at show

SHOWING - Continued from Page 1

event, but changed it to a public showing to create a chance to speak with more individuals about her work and its inspirations.

Houel, who's been in the United States for just over two years, is of French-Tunisian decent and still carries the European accent which just adds a little more umph to her work.

The God's Feet series is a group of 14 paintings and sculptures incorporating shoes and its representation of individual paths.

But the hallmark of the showing will be 12 portraits featuring Nobel Peace Prize winners. The canvas oil paintings are 4' x 4' and jump off the board with oils that hold emotion and power and capture the personality of the bestowed winners.

Other portraits in the project series include Mikhail Gorbachev with the Berlin Wall in the background with the blood hammer breaking through the wall and sickle and star, A Mandela with a triumphant hand in front of dirt streets; a deep-in-thought profile of President Barack Obama with a face heavy of concern; and a troubled Elie Wiesel, a world leading spokesman on the Holocaust, depicted on a pile of books with a weary hand to the head fronted by a skull.

"Her passion and desire gather with her subjects' and it translates beautifully onto the canvas, leaving the viewer with a sense of what these personalities envisioned for us all," wrote Tammy McCoy in a brochure outlining the Nobel Peace Prize Project. McCoy is the executive director of Burlington's Art Center.

Houel has incorporated emotion into the Nobel prize winners, who fell victim to assassination, by allowing the paint to run down in areas of the art to depict the sadness and tragedy associated with the loss of each winner.

"It's a work of twenty years," Houel said. "But it's been in production since I got this space two years ago in December. There are, like, 140 winners so it's like 10 years of work. 1st is Martin Luther King, Jr. and it was too small at 3' x 3', so I went to 4x4. I have actually completed 13, I had Mahatma Ghandi and I thought for sure he had won a Peace Prize, but he did not. But I have Nelson Mandela and Mother Theresa and others. It's in me and my mission is to speak about love and peace."

Houel said the studio is a working studio but Saturday will serve as a working studio gallery.

"This is still a studio, it's looking like a gallery right now but it's a working space," she said. "I'm up to number 14 of The God's feet. It takes me a month to a month-and-a-half to do one. Everything is homemade on Belgium linen canvas. It's really the first time I've opened publicly this space. Everything is for sale. It's original art and I'm very proud of it."

A percentage of all arts sales of the project will be donated to charities related to each laureate. For more information on Houel's work visit www.cecile-houel.com.

Houel stands next to one of the 10' x 10' "God's Feet" projects in her studio at 731 Avenue G. Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Cecile Houel, explains one of the other finished works hanging in her studio at 731 Avenue G. Houel is holding a viewing and reception on Saturday from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. with wine and appetizers by Martha Wolf.