



Pen City Current

Sunday, October 14, 2018 | 10 pages | Volume 2 • Issue 232

Mitchell, Moats vye for 84th District House seat



MOATS



Pen City Current Editor Chuck Vandenberg sat down with the candidates for local elections in one-on-one candid conversations about issues of importance to voters in southeast Iowa.



MITCHELL

Moats says Iowa needs to get back to helping people

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

MT. PLEASANT - A base approach to politics and a passion for helping stem the conservative tide in recent Iowa policies has Jason Moats running for a seat in the Iowa House of Representatives.

Moats, a 36-year-old Iowa correctional trades instructor in Mt. Pleasant, is challenging Republican Joe Mitchell of Wayland to take the place of retiring Iowa Rep. Dave Heaton-R of Mt. Pleasant in the 84th district of the Iowa House. Moats has been with the Iowa Department of Corrections in Coralville for about 12 years. Prior to that he was in construction fields.

The 84th district comprises Henry County and parts of Washington, Jefferson, and northern Lee County.

Moats is taking his first crack at public office and says Iowa is heading in the wrong direction with regards to collective bargaining, education funding, public health, and a variety of issues.

He grew up in Monticello and his parents were blue collar workers. The family helped with Moats' grandfather's farm with crops and livestock.

"I'm not a stranger to hard work and I plan on working hard for the residents of District 84," Moats said.

"Working hard was something that was instilled in me and helping those in need, whether that was a

See **DEMOCRAT**, page 4

Mitchell says voters shouldn't vote for party but the best candidate

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

MT. PLEASANT - He's probably the most politically seasoned candidate in southeast Iowa, but after just turning 21 this year, he's also one of the youngest in the state to seek office.

Joe Mitchell, a Wayland native and early graduate of WACO High School, is hoping to put his four years interning and staffing some of Iowa's top political figures, to work for southeast Iowa.

Mitchell is running against Mt. Union Correctional Officer Jason Moats for the 84th District House seat being vacated by Mt. Pleasant's Dave Heaton, who served for 23 years in the Iowa House of Representatives. Mitchell has served as a page in the Iowa House and Senate, worked for Iowa Senator Joni Ernst, and Gov. Kim Reynolds, and as an intern for a lobbying firm that represents health care, taxes, and regulation. He was Reynold's first intern picked during the transition period from Gov. Terry Branstad's departure.

The 84th district represents all of Henry County and part of Washington, Jefferson, and parts of rural north Lee County, including Houghton, St. Paul, West Point, and Donnellson.

The often soft-spoken Mitchell will graduate this fall from Drake University with a business administration

See **REPUBLICAN**, page 6

PORT's Boo-Athlon set for Oct. 27

Annual fundraiser offers 5K run and 10 mile bike races

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON - PORT (Promoting Outdoor Recreational Trails) of Fort Madison will be holding their fifth annual Spooktakular Boo-athlon fundraiser for recreational trails in Fort Madison. The Spooktakular Boo-athlon will be held on Saturday, October 27, 2018 starting at 9:00 a.m. at the Baxter Sports Complex.

The 2018 route will once again include both Phase I trail that runs from Ivanhoe Park to Bluff Road and Phase II trail that intersects Phase I and connects to 48th Street.

Registration and the start of each race will take place at the Baxter Sports Complex.

This multi-faceted event is sure to bring out all the ghosts and goblins who run, bike or both. Events include: Kid's Race-one for children up through the age of 6 and a one mile fun run for children 6 and over; 5K Run/Walk; 10 mile Bike Race; Duathlon (Run/Bike Event). There will be kid's games, prizes, refreshments and fun. Participants are encouraged to wear costumes-prizes will be awarded for different costume categories. Registration forms can be found online at www.fort-madison-ia.com under the Community tab/PORT; on the PORT of Fort Madison Facebook page or by calling Kathy Benda at 319-470-7848. The Spooktakular Boo-athlon is a community focused fundraising event. Matt's Greenhouse will once again be our premiere sponsor and the exclusive sponsor of the Kid's Runs.

PORT of Fort Madison received multiple grants and donations to fund the first two phases of the trail. Plans to begin Phase III are underway. The first section of Phase III, scheduled to be completed by the end of 2019, will connect the Baxter Sports Complex to Fort Madison Community Hospital.

PORT of Fort Madison operates as a subcommittee under the Parks & Recreation Department of the City of Fort Madison with the mission to improve and promote the walkability, run-ability and bike-ability of Fort Madison. For more information or to make a donation, contact Rachel Benda 319-371-5804.

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Obituaries/Weather

OBITUARIES

STEPHEN C. BROWN

Stephen C. Brown, 71, of Donnellson, Iowa, passed away at 2:47 p.m. Thursday, October 11, 2018, at his home in Donnellson.

He was born on December 6, 1946 in Fort Madison, Iowa, the son of Laborn and Cordellia Brown. On October 22, 1982, he married Jenny Hoyer at St. Paul's United Church of Christ in Donnellson.

Survivors include his wife: Jenny of Donnellson; two daughters: Stephanie Brown of Donnellson and Ashley (Jimmy) Eads of West Burlington; two sons: Jeremy M. (Heidi) Brown of St. Louis, Missouri and Stephen Michael Brown of St. Louis, Missouri; three grandchildren: Isabella, Brady and Carlie; mother and father-in-law: Fred and Jean Hoyer of Donnellson; two brothers: Wesley (Violet)

Brown of San Antonio, Texas and George Brown of Mt. Pleasant; two sisters: Judith Rochford of Havelock, North Carolina and Deborah Armstrong of Donnellson; two sisters-in-law: Tamara Howel of Burlington and Janice Durette of Tennessee. Also surviving are several nieces, nephews and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents; two sisters: Liz and Karen; two brothers: Seldon and Roger; three brothers-in-law: Larry, Herb and Bruce.

Steve worked as a CNA at the West Point Care Center, he also worked for Pipeline Cleaners; He was a member of St. Paul's United Church of Christ in Donnellson and the Donnellson American Legion. He was a Navy veteran having served during Vietnam. Steve enjoyed gardening, working in his flower beds, decorating for the holidays, drawing, and coloring. He especially enjoyed spending time with his family and pets.

Friends may call after 12:00 noon Sunday, October 14, 2018 at Schmitz Funeral Home in Donnellson where the family will receive friends from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. that afternoon.

A funeral service will be held at 10:30 a.m. Monday, October 15, 2018 at Schmitz Funeral Home in Donnellson with Reverend Bob Molsberry officiating.

Burial will be at Evangelical Cemetery, Donnellson with full military rites presented by the Donnellson American Legion.

In lieu of flowers, a memorial has been established in his memory.

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



BROWN

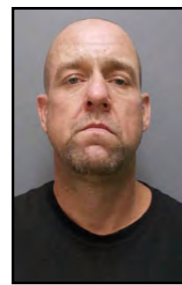


Keokuk man nabbed on meth charges

BY PCC STAFF

KEOKUK - The Lee County Narcotics Task Force reports the arrest of a Keokuk, Iowa man on a felony drug charge.

Bernard Eugene Boggs, 41, of Keokuk, Iowa was arrested on October 11th, 2018.



BOGGS

Boggs is charged with delivery of methamphetamine less than five grams, second or subsequent offense, a class C felony with an enhancement. Also possession of methamphetamine, a serious misdemeanor. If convicted, Boggs faces up to 31 years in a state correctional facility. Boggs also had several additional pending arrest warrants.

The arrest of Boggs stems from an investigation by the Lee County Narcotics Task Force into allegations that he was involved in the distribution of methamphetamine in the Keokuk area.

The Lee County Attorney's Office, the Lee County Sheriff's Office, and the Keokuk Police Department assisted the Lee County Narcotics Task Force in this investigation. The defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

The Lee County Narcotics Task Force is funded in part by the U.S. Department of Justice and the funds administered by the Iowa Governor's Office of Drug Control Policy.

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High - 42.3° F | Low - 28.4° F

TUE 16 Oct



Clear Skies
High - 47.0° F | Low - 39.3° F

WED 17 Oct



Clear Skies
High - 46.2° F | Low - 28.9° F

THU 18 Oct



Clear Skies
High - 44.2° F | Low - 36.9° F

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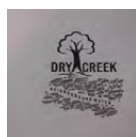
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Election Preview

Moats wants to know where all tax dollars are going

DEMOCRAT - Continued from Page 1

neighboring farm with someone who was ill, or a farmer that was five miles away. Helping people to get things done, that's part of me and half the reason why I pursued the career with corrections. I'm able to help Iowans stay safe by watching over offenders in the prison."

Moats said he wanted to take that a step further. He said it's tough for him to sit back and complain about situations if he's not doing anything about it. He said he feels a duty to get issues such as Medicaid, education, taxes, and mental health issues that are hurting Iowans, back on the table.

IPERS

"Seeing the middle class get knocked down by the 'tweaking' of Chapter 20 and now hearing talk the last couple years about 'tweaking' IPERS and cutting it out and going to a defined contribution - with 350,000 people belonging to IPERS - these people worked that job for years and they are counting on that contribution."

He said IPERS is self-sustaining and he contributes to IPERS as a state employee himself.

"That's paying their

retirement. If they cut that off, the state has to pay it, it's a benefit, but the court system will have to decide on it. When Detroit took that away, a court ruled a settlement of 70 cents on the dollar. That's just not right. If they change this and they only say he gets half of what he's contributed, that's a slap to the face of those people. I'm strong about keeping IPERS the way it is."

He said people retiring on IPERS traditionally stay in the area and that money stays in the state. Moats said when Chapter 20 was changed we lost good teachers to a marketing campaign from Minnesota.

Education funding

Moats said he believes if the state funnels more money to education, teachers will get better pay. The benefits need to be kept where they are and the state needs to help with insurance. He spoke of an area educator who writes a check for her insurance. He said the teacher doesn't get a paycheck from the school as all that money goes toward her family insurance and she has to write a check for an additional \$200 to

cover the cost.

He said the funding allocations are not following cost of living increases. He said he spoke with the school board in Winfield and officials said they would like to see more funding toward Pre-K programs.

"We sent our three children through preschool and that's beneficial. We need to have more teachers to cover the classrooms and the books and supplies are falling behind. After this year, teachers can no longer deduct supplies they purchase for their classroom. They took that away from them," he said.

He said instructors need to be paid what they are worth and give them tools to do their jobs.

"They are teaching the future of our nation and our state and we need to help them where we can," Moats said.

He said some of the budgets need to be moved into trades programs to help fill some of the skills gaps that exist in rural Iowa settings now.

"Nowadays, trades work pays pretty well, because of the lack of people with the skills to do those jobs," he said. "Not everyone can

go to college and we need to help people see that working with their hands can land them a pretty good job and create wealth rather than debt."

Health Care

"There is a time and a place for making money, but making money off the sick and disabled in Iowa is just wrong," Moats said. "Especially when our tax dollars are being used."

He said he's had conversations with the Iowa Hospital Association who claim there are ways to bring overhead under control. Moats said administrative costs were about 4% and now they are upwards of 15%. He said officials there indicated the state could bring those costs back down to 4%.

"I don't know for a fact if that's the best or not, but I want to look at other states to see what they are doing because we have to take care of our people," he said.

"My opponent said in a forum the other night, it's getting better. It's not getting better. Look at the area hospitals here in town and Fort Madison that have had to join with Burlington to stay open. These places aren't getting reimbursed."

Moats said it's time

to pull in the reins on insurance companies with regard to the high salaries and costs associated.

"We need to start by going back to the state run health care until we get this figured out. We should go to the companies that are currently being paid to cover these people and get the money back out of them," Moats said. "I don't know how we get that done, but if you look at Europe, everybody gets free healthcare and no one's making millions off that. No one can afford health care and the greed there is slowly diminishing people."

Moats said the changes were by the governor, but the legislature could have intervened to stop the mess he says has been created.

"I'm all ears and willing to sit down and listen and weigh out everything if people have good ideas."

State Budget

Moats said he wants to get more information on where Iowan's taxes are being spent. He cited the privatization of FMLA where the state paid an out-of-state company \$32,000 a month.

"We have HR departments in our workplaces that can be handling this. They were handling that up to this point and now we're spending a quarter of a million dollars a year on something that we can do right here. That money can be spent on health care or education," Moats said.

Water Quality

Moats said the state needs to re-energize and increase funding for the Department of Natural Resources so the state experts are affecting the change that is needed instead of waiting for private enterprise to maybe do it.

He said coming from a farming background, the bushels per acre have tripled since his grandfather farmed. He said he believed in bumper strips and creating oversight of large farming operations to make sure their tanks are leeching off into the ground water supply.

"My grandfather didn't apply chemicals on the ground. He believed in the natural rotation of crops and kept a field for cattle hay but he also worked his butt off milking cows, having stock cows, shelling

corn for other farmers and getting his own crops in. The hay would bring nutrients back into the ground and would spread hay on the field for that as well."

Iowa relies heavily on farming and I don't know how we go about that other than starting by better funding the Department of Natural Resources," Moats said.

Small Business

Moats said two-thirds of the fertilizer plant's employees are from out of state. He said the Apple officials didn't request assistance for their expansion in Des Moines.

"But they took it, didn't they? I'd like to see our smaller businesses thrive, that's what our state and nation is all about. These larger corporations, I get what they were after, the trickle-down economics of it. The theory is if the corporations make more money, then they can grow and offer more job. But what we're seeing is there is no growth and people aren't making more money. The corporate pockets are growing and we need to put an end to that and help the smaller mom and pop places," he said.

He said he small businesses create jobs, too and if those people are paid well the people stay and taxes are paid right here in Iowa.

Open Mic

"Nobody seems to know where our tax dollars are going. I want to know where we can cut, instead of the known places of education, public safety, and the health care system. I want to know where those dollars are at. The company out of state managing FMLA, that's money we can bring back. Medicaid, I want to touch on that, and mental health, and get these programs back in shape.

"I am down to earth and straight-forward. Not afraid to stir the pot and get things going. I'm tired of politicians listening to lobbyists and their party. At the end of the day our tax dollars pay the politicians, so they should be working for the people of their district. That's another push of why I'm doing this, I'm tired of the people I voted for not representing me. We need change and I want to be that change."



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Sports/Lottery Numbers

Beason, Panthers offense too much for Hounds

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON - It didn't take long for Mt. Pleasant to set the tone Friday night in handing the Bloodhounds their sixth straight loss.

The Panthers scored quick and often in the first half en route to a 47-7 win over Fort Madison on senior night at Richmond Stadium.

Senior quarterback Zach Beason had the game under thumb from the get go completing four of his first five passes in the first series of the night and scrambled for a six yard run before senior Levi Puig went off left tackle for the first score of the game.

Fort Madison experienced a disease of four-and-outs in the first half with senior quarterback Lennon Barker missing on three straight in the Hounds' first possession forcing a punt from deep in their own territory. Senior Tucker Johnson returned Barker's pooch kick to the Hounds' 38 and, three plays after a Panther holding flag, Beason found junior Rylan Seberg along the right sideline for a 31-yard touchdown and it was quickly 12-0. The Panthers failed on an extra point and a 2-point conversion attempt after the first two scores.

After junior Jace Burgher returned the kick to the Mt. Pleasant 30, the Hounds went four and out again. Barker did hook up with Trey Kuntz on 2-10, but Kuntz was tackled on the bubble screen for a 2-yard loss. Barker then threw errant again and Fort Madison was forced to punt.

The Panthers then went right back down the field. The Hounds had Mt. Pleasant stopped on third down three times in the drive but allowed the conversion all three times, before junior Logan Bass slipped around the left end for the Panthers' third score of the first period. Bass' run capped a 14-play, 62-yard drive and put the Panthers up 19-0.

"We didn't step up and we didn't play well to start the game and you can't get behind with a team like that," Shiffman said.

The Bloodhounds switched to pounding junior Kali Maestro who had three carries for 13 yards. The first of which was nullified on a Fort Madison holding call. Barker hit Dom Frantz on a screen for three yards, but the Hounds were out again without a first down.

Mt. Pleasant was moving the ball after returning the punt to their own 34 yard line. Beason completed his first two passes after a Mt. Pleasant penalty started the drive on 1st and 20 to make it 3rd and 4. Beason then went to the right off tackle for eight yards. On the ensuing first down, the Hounds stripped Bass on a carry to the left side and recovered the ball.

But another quick four and out with two Barker incompletions killed the momentum and forced Barker to punt out the shotgun again to the Panther 15-yard line.

Starting 1st and 10 at the 15, the Panthers converted 1st downs on two of the next three plays moving the ball to their own 46. But Harley Pennamon, who had an outstanding night on defense with 10.5 tackles to lead the Hounds, pulled Kyle Samples down for a 2-yard loss. Beason threw incomplete on 3-12 and the Hounds' defense forced the Panthers' first punt of the night.

Fort Madison would take over at the 10-yard line and Maestro would get the call, but a Panther face mask would give the Hounds an automatic first down. An offside penalty then made it 1st and 5 from the Hounds' 34. Maestro carried for four and on 2nd and 1, Barker tried a shotgun draw up the middle but coughed up the ball and Mt. Pleasant recovered. Center Caleb Wood was injured on the play and had to be carried off on a board and gurney and was taken to Fort Madison Community Hospital where he was up and moving around when the game concluded, according to Shiffman.

Beason would take control on the next drive, running for 11 yards and hooking up with senior Chase Lamm on two receptions for 29 yards. Beason also found Johnson on



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Junior Kali Maestro works to bust through the Panther defensive line Friday night in the Hounds' 47-7 loss.

a four-yard strike and then hit Seberg for 20 yards before the quarterback bulled in from three yards to up the lead to 26-0.

Mike Mosena brought the kickoff back to the Fort Madison 35 and then Maestro got his biggest run of the year with a 35-yard scamper on 1st and 10. Maestro got through the secondary but was caught from behind by Johnson on a shoe string tackle. The Hounds found themselves at 3rd and 7 after Barker threw incomplete and then scrambled for three. A Fort Madison penalty made it 3rd and 21 and Barker hooked up with Sheymouhr Redd-Donald for the first time for nine yards but an incompleting at 4th and 12 turned the ball over on downs.

Shiffman said Maestro had a good night, but the Hounds just couldn't get the spark to start a fire.

"He had a good run and we had a couple good plays, but you know, it's too little too late and we've got to play better when our backs are against the wall so to speak," he said.

See PANTHERS, page 8



Sheymouhr Redd-Donald (2) tries to break a pass to Mt. Pleasant's Levi Puig in the first quarter, but Puig made the circus catch to put the Panthers in the redzone on the Panthers' first series from scrimmage.

Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC



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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



10/12
4 24 46 61 70
Mega Ball: 7
Megaplier: 3



10/12 MID-DAY
1 7 3
10/12 EVENING
6 7 5



10/12 MID-DAY
6 4 0 2
10/12 EVENING
6 0 7 7

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Election Preview

Mitchell short on years, long on experience

REPUBLICAN - Continued from Page 1

degree and wants to put that education to work for his parents' company in Wayland, MD Orthopedics, which manufactures pediatric orthopedics for babies with club feet. The company currently employs 30 full-time employees.

His campaign thus far has focused on what's best for the communities in his district even if sometimes slightly adrift from party lines.

He said he went to Drake so he could continue to work at the statehouse. He served as chief clerk for Senator Bill Anderson, who was chair of the state commerce committee where Mitchell coordinated all the committee meetings and staffed out other clerks.

During the past legislative session, Mitchell worked for a lobbying firm and then heard the news that Heaton was retiring.

"Running for state rep has been one of these things that, since I was a page, was always in the back of my mind as some-

thing that would be really cool to do for your community," Mitchell said.

"When it happened I thought, 'Man is this the time I should do it?' and so I talked to a few people in the legislature who I trusted and asked if I should really do this. Sen. Anderson told me I had the experience and a couple people said there's never a perfect time, so just do it."

Mitchell said he probably wouldn't have voted for the Chapter 20 overhaul in 2017.

"I would have voted no because I think correctional officers should have been included with police and state troopers who were mostly excluded for that bill. I'm not going to say I wouldn't have voted for a bill that restructured Chapter 20, but it went too far all-in-all."

"My big thing is rural Iowa and District 84 first, and make sure I'm voting on stuff for the district and not for the party," he said. "I don't think that was good

for my district."

Health Care

Mitchell said there's some confusion in the district as to how the state privatized public health care, indicating that it was an executive move from Gov. Terry Branstad and not the legislature's work.

"This was an action by the executive branch. A lot of legislators, Democrat and Republican, didn't know this was going to happen. Now we're in a tough spot because it's not working out for everyone. But I see both sides of the issue. The Branstad Administration did this because Medicaid was rising 20% a year in cost so it wasn't sustainable. They had to do something to try and reign in the cost for the rest of Iowans."

He said it hasn't worked out perfectly and the legislature has tried to pass some oversight over the Managed Care Organizations and will probably do more of that this year.

"Nobody thinks this is running right, so we have

to get more oversight and then the governor, since this is an executive branch thing, hopefully she'll make some good changes. It has to start with the governor's office."

Education

Mitchell said he's spoken to every superintendent in the district and they are telling him that a 3% allowable growth should be the target for funding next year from the state.

"If elected I'm gonna try to get as close to that and fight for that, but the main thing for them of what's realistic is getting the SAVE penny sales tax that goes to all the schools renewed. It wasn't renewed last year and expires in 2020. We need to do that sooner than later so it can give stability to the district so they know what money is coming in. That will be a big thing for me, making sure that's renewed."

He said children's mental health is also critical for educators.

"They're dealing with a very high rate of depression and anxiety and suicide. I can't believe some of the things that are going on with kids biting and hitting and using profane words. It's nothing like anything I've ever seen. In my day, which wasn't that long ago, you'd have a couple of disruptive kids who had to stay after school, but it's out of control."

He said schools are severely lacking in guidance counselors and counseling isn't being done because the guidance staff is so busy building schedules.

"We're going to have to do something about that for sure," Mitchell said.

He said the state aid formula per student needs revamped.

"It's fair in the sense that it's the same number all over the state, but where it gets skewed is that the rural area schools spend thousands and thousands more on transportation. That needs to be reevaluated. It's 40 or 50 years old, but the challenge is no one wants to mess with it because it's gonna be a really big fight."

IPERS

Mitchell said he reiterates wherever he goes that a couple bad apples in the party have said something about IPERS, but no one really wants to touch IPERS.

"I've said that multiple times. Gov. Reynolds said something a few months ago about tweaking it, but has reversed her statement on that because it's just not worth it."

He said he went to Des Moines and sat with officials in the IPERS office and said it's a great system that's 82% funded for the next 40 or 50 years.

"If we ever switched people to a 401k those people wouldn't be paying into the system and eventually someone wouldn't get their pension. We've got to keep IPERS the way it is," he said.

Small Business

Mitchell said taxes are a big obstacle and the state should look at lowering the business taxes so owners can use that money to grow instead of giving it to the state.

"My dad started his small business and sometimes it's hard to get loans. He had to put up the house. So making it easier for entrepreneurs to borrow money would also be helpful to start-up and small business owners."

He said helping with the cost of health insurance by sustaining the Hawk-i program, as well as watching out for bills that may help larger corporations, but could hurt small businesses has to be done as well.

"It's not about passing more laws, but stopping bad laws," Mitchell said. "People might propose things that put more regulation on small businesses or a bill that would hinder small businesses by eliminating this program or that. We have to be a protector for small business and look at things closely to see if a bill is good or bad for businesses in my district."

Water Quality

He said there was a measure passed last year to put \$270 million over the next 12 years into water quality improvements.

"That's a start, but it's not enough. Any way we can encourage farmers to work in an environmentally safe way, we should look at and it starts with cover crops and no tilling, that seems to be the best way to just naturally deter chemicals getting into the watershed."

"A natural resource and recreational trust fund was passed by voters and that is funded with a small

increase of 3/8 of a cent to the sales tax. 70% of Iowans support that. Passing that bill would be a good thing. This is something that a private company isn't going to fund because there is no profit in it. It's something the state needs to do to attract people back to our rural communities. We have to do things like that."

Budget surplus

Mitchell said he thinks the \$127 million surplus announced in August was a byproduct of frugal spending.

"You'd rather be on the safe side and not spend every single penny you have and have a little savings. Having more sales than you think and more revenue is good thing," Mitchell said. "Governor Reynolds has smart people around her analyzing the budget and they knew how much would come in, they just happened to have more and that's a good thing for the state."

Open Mic

"I think I'm the best choice because I have more experience than my opponent. I said this in the primary, too, against my opponents. I've been there and I know how the process works. I have relationships built and I can get stuff done faster for the voters of District 84. I think Rep. Heaton did a great job of being bipartisan and really representing people on either side of the aisle and you saw that in his votes. He looked out for his constituents and, if you talk to any legislature on either side about who has been the most bipartisan legislator, they will tell you it was Dave Heaton or he was in the top three. And Dave has endorsed me."

"I don't care who you're going to vote for across the state, I don't think you should be running because you're tied to a party ideology. You should run because you care about the people of your district and care about representing those people's values and views, and protecting the workers there. I would just ask for your vote because I really do care about this district. I grew up here, my parents own a business here, and when my kids grow up here someday, they grow up in a better Iowa than even I did."



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Sports

Hounds want to keep county seat in FMHS

PANTHERS - Continued from Page 5

Five plays later, Mt. Pleasant was in the endzone again when Beason pump faked a screen and found Seberg behind the secondary for a 56-yard touchdown pass to put the lead at 32-0. After the ensuing kick off, both teams went four and out with Mt. Pleasant turning the ball over on downs and Fort Madison ran out the clock on the first half.

The Bloodhounds got the kickoff to start the second half and converted 2nd and 5 to a first down on a Mt. Pleasant penalty. The Hounds couldn't get anything else going and were forced to punt. Mt. Pleasant took over at the 37 and ran 10 plays but the Hounds held on 4th and 3 and took over with 5:37 left in the third.

Barker and Mosenia hooked up for a first down on 2nd and 4, and then did it again on 2nd and 3 to give the Hounds their first sustained drive of the game. Trey Kuntz took a Barker pass on 3rd and 1 for another first down. The Hounds were in business when the Barker-to-Mosenia route gained another 20 yards, but two incompletions sent senior kicker A.J. Nolting in to try a 43-yard field goal that fell short and the Panthers took possession.

Mt. Pleasant got the automatic clock going right after that when Beason took a 1st and 10 from the 14 into the endzone on his own to make it 40-0.

The Hounds went right back to the short passing game and Barker completed four of six in the next drive culminating on a Dom Frantz 8-yard scoring reception on 2nd and goal. Barker threw out to the left flat where Frantz caught the ball and cut inside the cornerback who made a

play, but not before Frantz dived across the goal line.

Mt. Pleasant would answer on the next series when Samples would bust free on the right and get behind the outside linebacker and take off 64-yards and the only thing that kept him from scoring was Redd-Donald who came from about 20 yards behind Samples to tackle him at the one. Mt. Pleasant kept feeding Samples to reward the big run and the junior finally sneaked in three plays later on third and goal for a 47-7 Panther lead.

Fort Madison brought the kickoff back to the 25 and, after a five yard gain on 2nd and 10, Barker hooked up with Sheymouhr Redd-Donald who had raced into Mt. Pleasant's secondary. Redd-Donald had a lane to the endzone and one player to beat. He put a shoulder fake in the run and then slipped on wet grass trying to cut outside and fell. Diego Lozano would take a carry for 10 yards on the next play and then Barker would throw his only interception of the night and Mt. Pleasant let the clock run out.

"That's a good football team," Shiffman said. "They're going to be second in our district and probably end up going to the playoffs. They're really well coached and have good size and good athletes. It was what we knew going in and we just didn't get the job done."

Barker finished with 18-35 for 186 yards, with a touchdown and one interception. Maestro led the Hounds on the ground with 77 yards on 12 carries. Frantz led the Hounds in receptions with six for 52 yards and a score.

The Hounds fall to 2-6 on the year with their last game at Keokuk for the coveted Lee County seat, a chair that current sits in the FMHS Multi-Purpose Room.

Dennis 4th, Cordray 5th at Southeast cross-country run

State qualifying meet set for Oct. 18 in Fairfield

**BY CHUCK
VANDEBERG**
PCC EDITOR

KEOKUK - FMHS freshman Katelyn Dennis took fourth place and senior Dayne Cordray took fifth to highlight Bloodhound cross-country action at the Southeast Conference boys and girls meet Thursday night in Keokuk.

Dennis' 21:36 was just :18 off of a top-three finish. Mt. Pleasant's Abby Ryon won the meet with 19:25 mark and Fairfield's Ashley Bloomquist finished at 19:43 to claim second place. Mt. Pleasant's Maggie Jennings took third at

21:18.

Cordray completed the 5K at 17:44 just five seconds out of fourth place and 12 seconds from a top three finish. Mt. Pleasant's Cody Mertens took first at 16:25 and fellow Panther Dalton Moyle finished second a full minute behind Mertens at 17:26.

Miguel Trejo and had a nice finish at 10th with a time of 18:26. FMHS' Hayden Wolfe was 11th just two seconds behind Trejo. Anthony Barnes took 14th with a time of 18:53 and Will Gager rounded out the top five for Fort Madison with a 17th place finish at 19:03. The top five scored 57 points for Fort Madison good enough for third place at the meet.

Austin Miller took 25th and Owen Kruse finished 26th overall.

For the Lady Hounds, Ashlynn Haas was 15th overall with a time of 23:07.67, in almost a dead heat with Washington's Ashley Telleen who ran a 23:07.12. Maddy McVey finished at 23:18 for 17th place. Claire Hellman captured 25th overall with a 25:12. The Lady Hounds only had four runners so they didn't receive a team score as the top five make up the point total.

State qualifying for both the boys and girls runners will take place Oct. 18 in Fairfield with races beginning at 4 p.m.

In the junior varsity runs, Alex Steffensmeier edged out Mt. Pleasant's Luke Ryon by three seconds with a 19:51 run, giving Steffensmeier first place overall in the boys run. Matt Hopper finished 26th at 23:10.

Tate Settles took sixth in the middle school boys run to lead FMMS with a time of 8:51.85, just missing a top-five finish by .67 seconds. Emmett Kruse, Carson Rashid both finished in the top 10 for FMMS.

In the girls middle school two-mile run, Madison Huebner, Emily Steffensmeier, Ellie Schulte and Kay Quittem finished 7th-10th in some nice pack running with Huebner leading the way at 10:13.



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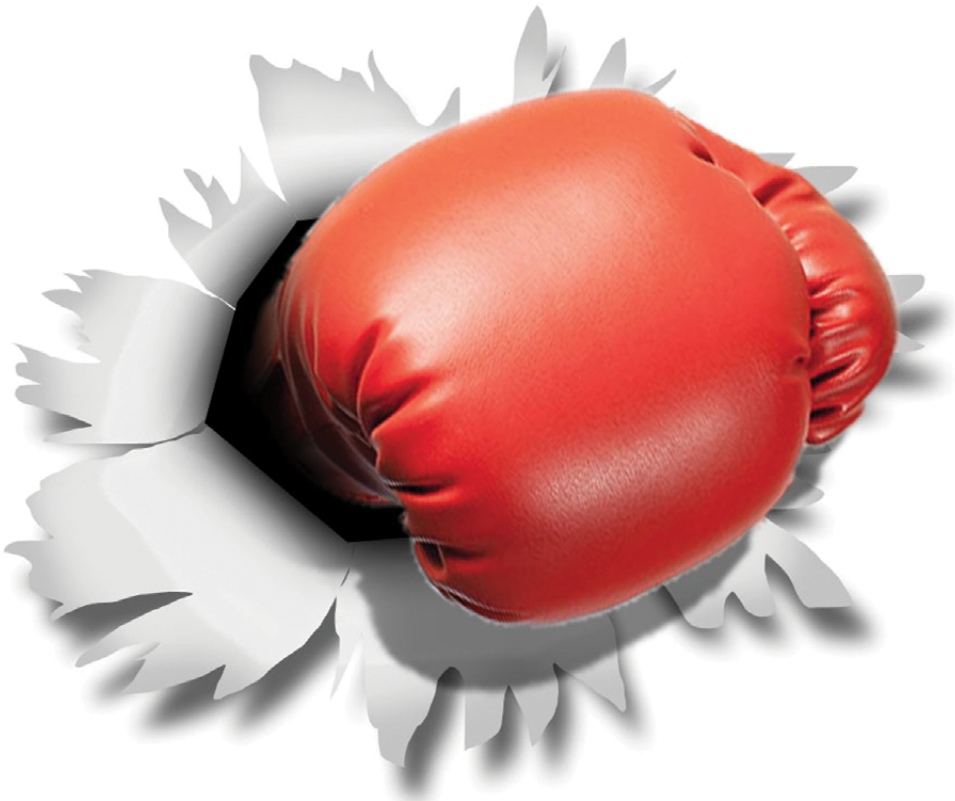
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10/15 Montrose Public Library
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10/16 Hoerner YMCA Keokuk
8:30am-10:00am

10/17 Donnellson Public Library
11:30am-1:30pm

10/18 Hotel Iowa Keokuk
8:30am-9:30am

10/18 Heritage Center Keokuk
10:00am-Noon

10/18 Eagle Bluff Apts. Ft. Madison
9:00am-10:00am

10/23 Rose Michael Gardens Ft. Madison
8:30am-10:00am

10/23 Parkview Apts. West Point
10:30am-Noon

10/25 LCHD (#3 John Bennett Drive) Ft. Madison
Noon-5:30pm

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LCHD offering October flu clinics

Lee County Health Department will be holding Flu Clinics throughout the month of October at various locations throughout Lee County. Flu clinics are open to the public, and offered to anyone ages 6 months or older. Medicare Part B, except Humana Gold choice, will be accepted for billing Medicare. Bring your Medicare card to the clinic. Flu vaccines for people without Medicare Part B will be \$25.

Complete Flu Clinic Schedule: Oct. 15, 8:00 am – 11:00 am – Montrose Public Library, 200 Main St., Montrose, IA; Oct. 16, 8:30 am – 10:00 am – Hoerner YMCA, 2126 Plank Rd., Keokuk, IA; Oct. 17, 11:30 am – 1:30 pm – Donnellson Public Library, 411 S. Main St., Donnellson, IA; Oct. 18, 8:30 am – 9:30 am – Hotel Iowa, 401 Main St., Keokuk, IA; Oct. 18, 10:00 am – noon – Heritage Center, 508 Main St., Keokuk, IA; Oct. 18, 9:00 am – 10:00 am – Eagle Bluff Apartments, 2803 Ave. A, Fort Madison, IA; Oct. 23, 8:30 am – 10:00 am – Rose Michael Gardens, 4516 Ave. L, Fort Madison, IA; Oct. 23, 10:30 am – noon – Parkview Apartments, 507 Iowa Joe St, West Point, IA; Oct. 25, noon – 5:30 pm – Lee County Health Department, #3 John Bennett Dr., Fort Madison, IA. Visit Lee County Health Department's website here to learn more: <http://www.leecountyhd.org/index.php/flu-schedule/>.

Veteran's Breakfast at Sunnybrook

Each month on the third Tuesday of the month, Sunnybrook Assisted Living hosts a Veteran's Breakfast from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. at 5025 River Valley Road in Fort Madison.

Heels & Wheels Car Care Clinic

Griffin Muffler & Brake Center invites you to their Women – Heels & Wheels free car care clinic, Saturday, October 20, 10am-1pm, 535 Avenue G, Fort Madison. Come learn about many topics including:

What's under the hood -How to check your oil - How your brakes work - Fuel saving tips - Shock absorbers and struts - Check engine lights - What regular maintenance is really necessary for your car

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Ghost Hunt

The Fort Madison Partners are sponsoring a Ghost Hunt on Oct. 26-27 with Iowa Paranormal conducting investigations at some of the most haunted homes west of

CURRENT-LEE

the Mississippi. For more information or tickets contact the Partners office at 319-372-5471.

YMCA's Trunk or Treat

This event had more than 600 children through the parking lot of the YMCA in 2017 and it's back for another year on Friday, October 26 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Vehicles can arrive at 5 p.m. for decorating. There is no charge for the event and businesses can decorate their car and handout candy as little goblins walk through the parking lot to receive goodies purchased by the businesses. Registration forms can be picked up at the YMCA and need to be returned by Friday, Oct. 19.

Witches Walk

Fort Madison's Main Street will be hosting a Witches Walk October 26th from 5 to 7 p.m. in downtown Fort Madison. For more information contact the Partner's offices at 319-372-5471. Wear your witches costume and shop downtown.

Ghost Hunt

The Fort Madison Partners are sponsoring a Ghost Hunt on Oct. 26-27 with Iowa Paranormal conducting investigations at some of the most haunted homes west of the Mississippi. For more information or tickets contact the Partners office at 319-372-5471.

Key Club Halloween Carnival

The annual Fort Madison High School Key Club and Fort Madison Kiwanis Halloween Carnival will be held on Oct. 27 from noon to 2 p.m. at the high school with games, costume contests and prizes.

PORT Boo-Athlon

The Fort Madison PORT Trail committee will be holding it's annual Boo-Athlon on Saturday, Oct. 27 at the Baxter Sports Complex. A 5K Walk/Run, a 10-mile bike ride and Duathlon will start at 9 a.m. Registration forms can be found online at www.fortmadison-ia.com under the Community tab/PORT; on the PORT of Fort Madison Facebook page or by calling Kathy Benda at 319-470-7848. and are due by Oct. 13 to guarantee a t-shirt.

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