



Pen City Current

Thursday, May 2, 2019 | 9 pages | Volume 3 • Issue 103



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Heavy flooding has caused the Mississippi River at Fort Madison to dump over into Riverview Park and has backed up storm water drainage causing additional flooding concerns throughout the lower parts of the city. Officials hope a projected 23.8" crest will be the end of the spring flooding.

Recent rains push flood levels to 23 feet

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – Heavy rains early this week have pushed already swollen local rivers over their banks, but a crest is predicted for early Friday morning on the Mississippi and then waters are expected to begin to recede.

Larry Driscoll, Fort Madison's city Public Works director was on the scene at the Riverview Park pavillion Wednesday morning assessing the situation.

Heavy flooding has caused the Mississippi River at Fort Madison to dump over into Riverview Park and has back up storm water drainage causing additional flooding concerns throughout the lower parts of the city.

Driscoll said the most up-to-date information he has is that the river will crest tomorrow, pending any additional rainfall, and then drop quickly.

"We're supposed to crest tomorrow and then they say we're supposed to drop three feet in two days if we don't get any more significant rainfall," Driscoll said.

This morning city crews and a handful of volunteers shored up the CB&Q museum building, and additional

city crews were dumping truckloads of sand at the city's waste water treatment facility.

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"We put out a request and had about 10 show up this morning and so we did CB&Q. And then the waste water treatment plant has a lot of work being done over there right now," Driscoll said.

"The problem is we just don't know what to do when it seems like the river's not going down. It seems to be staying above 18 feet and it's been that way since last fall. If would get back down to the average of 15 feet, then we wouldn't flood like this, but it's been up since September of last year and now we get this," he said.

He said the city's received 4.5" of rain in the last three days pushing the river up to railroad tracks and backing up storm water. With the recent snow this week in northern Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin, it's still a bit iffy when things will start to get back to normal.

Lee County Supervisors issued a declaration of emergency Wednesday afternoon, which opened up limited federal resources. Lee County Emergency Management

See FLOODING, page 9

Current writes another chapter with changes

Wright joins as consultant as PCC, Radio Keokuk partner up

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

LEE COUNTY – In an effort to become a more well-rounded news outlet and bring more information to the north Lee County market, Pen City Current is expanding its platform.

Lee Vandenberg, the company's president, announced this week that a new full-time digital marketing sales consultant and a part-time reporter have been added to the company to assist its news and advertising partners in their efforts to message effectively.



L. VANDENBERG

"Due to the wonderful reaction to our business over the past two and a half years, we've decided to make additional investments in our brand to help meet the needs of all our customers – advertisers and newsmakers," Vandenberg said.

"We're extremely excited and proud to add a name very familiar to our community to the brand. Brian Wright has agreed to join our efforts to be the top digital messaging outlet in southeast Iowa."

Wright comes from a strong background in sales and marketing with stints in the pharmaceutical industry for several companies and minor/major league baseball.

"I'm going back to my roots in marketing, advertising, and sponsorship, having been employed by Major League Baseball and Minor League Baseball, while working with businesses and brands to drive customers to their place of business or website for purchase through promotion," Wright said.



WRIGHT

"Since 2000, I have sold solutions to the needs of patients faced with medical conditions as a pharmaceutical sales representative. With Pen City Current, I can now offer a solution to the needs of area businesses in Burlington, Fort Madison, Keokuk and surrounding areas."

Wright said in today's global, high-tech economy, messaging is instantaneous and ever-present.

"I want my customers to be diverse in their brand marketing. Don't put all your resources into one form of advertising platform. The most successful of busi-

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Obituaries

OBITUARIES

SUSAN FRANCIS BENNETT

Susan Francis Bennett, 57 of Keokuk, IA died Monday, April 29, 2019 at Unity Point-Keokuk in Keokuk, IA.



BENNETT

She was born October 27, 1961 in Long Island, NY the daughter of John Koehler. She was united in marriage to Charles Bennett of February 13, 1999 in Memphis, MO. He survives.

Other survivors include her father, John Koehler of Knoxville, TN and one sister, Lori Koehler of N.C.

She was preceded in death by her mother.

Susan graduated from Long Island High School in Long Island, N.Y. with the Class of 1979.

Susan had been employed by Drummond in N.Y., Gull Industries in FL and Prototype Foundry in both Keokuk and Kahoka.

She was of the Catholic faith.

Susan enjoyed motorcycle riding, bowling and repairing and building computers. She was passionate about animals and liked to take care of her horses, hackneys and birds. She was a very giving person who would never hesitate to give you the shirt off her back.

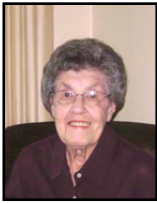
There will be no services.

Online condolences may be left for the family at www.vigenmemorialhome.com.

OBITUARIES

BELVA M. SIEGRIST

Belva M. Siegrist, 95, of Nauvoo, Illinois passed away at 11:50 p.m. Sunday, April 28, 2019 at the Fort Madison Community Hospital.



SIEGRIST

She was born on June 6, 1923 in Biggsville, Illinois the daughter of William R. and Harriett "Eva" Morris Adair. On June 12, 1946 she married Robert D. Siegrist. He preceded her in death on February 26, 1973.

Belva attended school in Stronghurst, Illinois graduating from Stronghurst High School in 1941. Following high school she attended and graduated from Gem City Business College in Quincy. She worked in Hamilton and Chicago, Illinois, but worked most of her life at the Nauvoo Cheese Company, retiring in 1988.

Survivors include, one daughter, Beverly (John) Schneider of Herscher, Illinois, two grandsons, Nick (Shannon) Schneider and Matt (Debra) Schneider, two great-grandchildren, Zane and Zianna, one sister-in-law, Iona Siegrist of Nauvoo and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, Robert, one brother, Wayne Adair and one brother-in-law, James Siegrist.

Funeral services will be held at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, May 1, 2019 at Schmitz-Banks & Beals Funeral Home in Nauvoo with Fr. Tony Trosley officiating. Visitation will be from 9:30 a.m. until time of services Wednesday at the funeral home. A memorial fund has been established for the Nauvoo Fire & Rescue. To leave a condolence please visit Belva's obituary at sbbfuneralhome.com.

OBITUARIES

JOHN F. LUTZEN

John F. "Jack" Lutzen, Jr., 79 of Keokuk, IA died Friday, April 26, 2019 at Great River Medical Center in West Burlington, IA.



LUTZEN

He was born November 6, 1939 in Hartford, CT the son of John F. Sr. and Phyllis Irene Randall Lutzen. Jack graduated from Newtown Missouri High School with the Class of 1958.

On December 4, 1985 he was united in marriage to Bobbi Joan Taylor Arrowood in Keokuk. She survives.

Other survivors include two sons, Chris Lutzen (Donna) of Princeton, MO and Cody Lutzen of Keokuk, one daughter, Dana Buckler (David) of Mercer, MO, two step-sons, Jason Arrowood (Chris) of Keokuk and Tony Arrowood (Misty) of Keokuk, five sisters, his twin sister, Jeannette "Jill" Ruiz (Richard) of Lillian, AL, Jennifer "Jema" Page of Winter Haven, FL, Diane Lyles (Bill) of Winnebago, IL, Deborah "Debbie" Errio (Bud) of Hollowayville, IL and Dorinda "Dorie" Hammer of Stillman Valley, IL, thirteen grandchildren, six great-grandchildren and numerous nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great nephews and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents and three brothers, David Lutzen (Diane's twin brother) in infancy, Jerome "Jerry" Lutzen and Randall "Randy" Lutzen.

He had been employed the majority of his life at General Telephone until his retirement in 1990.

He was of the Catholic faith.

Jack loved to golf and play pool. He enjoyed dancing and was particularly good at the Jitterbug. He was a jack-of-all trades and enjoyed tinkering around the house and garage. He could fix anything and was always willing to help others. He spent many hours as a volunteer at Great River Players and was honored with the Outstanding Service Award - Silver Wrench Award in 2011 for his dedicated service. He had a great sense of humor and loved to joke around with his friends. Most of all, Jack loved his family and his grandchildren were his pride and joy.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m., Wednesday at the First Baptist Church in Keokuk with Pastor Tim Ayers officiating. Burial will be at a later date in the Newtown Cemetery in Newtown, MO.

Visitation will be held after 1 p.m., Tuesday, at the Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk with family meeting with friends from 6-8 p.m.

Memorials may be made to the Parkinson's Research Foundation, Inc., 5969 Cattleridge Blvd, Suite, 100, Sarasota, FL, 34232.

On-line condolences may be sent to the family at www.vigenmemorialhome.com.

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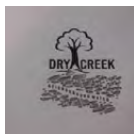
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Pen City Current obituary policy
The Current runs obituaries one time at no charge to funeral homes and they run the day they are submitted in most cases. They are also run as submitted by the funeral homes.

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Pen City Current

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Obituaries

OBITUARIES

MARLENE GERTRUDE BURNETT

Marlene Gertrude (Galland) Burnett, 78, of Hiawatha and formerly of Ft. Madison passed peacefully Sunday, April 28, 2019 at St. Luke's hospice surrounded by family.

Marlene was born on August 7, 1940 in Sciota, IL to Charles H. and Velma M. Blum Galland. She was a graduate from Donnellson High School in 1959 and then worked at Sheaffer Pen Company. While there she met her husband Rodger and they were married on June 1, 1963 in Franklin. Marlene touched many lives in numerous ways. First and foremost she was a mom and always did her best to protect her kids. Her greatest gift was nurturing children either her own or those who she babysat; she truly loved every child.



BURNETT

Marlene loved to prepare desserts to show how much she loved you, from angel food cake and pies to homemade noodles, she always made sure you were well fed. Marlene and Rodger loved to host pizza parties in their younger years serving her famous homemade pizza everyone enjoyed.

Marlene had a great sense of humor. She loved to laugh and her smile would light up a room. Even though Alzheimer's took her words, her laughter and joy still remained. Her laugh was truly infectious. As her Alzheimers' progressed her husband became her 24/7 caregiver. He selflessly worked to ensure that she could remain at home. He showed his love for his family through his acts of service for our mom. Marlene was also assisted by a wonderful team of nurses who provided exceptional and compassionate care. While at home her team of nurses showed compassion beyond words. They treated our mother as though she was family. Once her need of care increased, Colonial Manor of Amana treated Marlene with compassion and dignity and our family is forever grateful.

Survivors include her husband, Rodger of Hiawatha; four children Karen (Ted) Meckler of Tipton, Linda Luke of Carlisle, David Burnett of Shawboro, NC and John (Stephanie) Burnett of Ely; nine grandchildren and one great grandchild; one sister, Judy Doty of Ft. Madison and a special great niece, Kelly Nelton. She was preceded in death by her parents and a brother.

The funeral service will be held on Friday, May 3, 2019 at 12:30 PM at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory with Rev. Troy Weigert officiating. The family will meet with friends from 11 AM until the time of the service at the funeral home. Burial will follow in Kahoka City Cemetery.

A memorial has been established for Colonial Manor of Amana and online condolences may be left at www.kinglynk.com.

KAREN K. GILLETT

Karen K. Gillett, 78, of Fort Madison, Iowa died Monday, April 29, 2019 at The Madison, Fort Madison, Iowa. She was born December 30, 1940 in Fort Madison, a daughter of Arleigh Bradley and Mae Wright (Story) Keester. On June 14, 1959, she married Frank H. Gillett at the St. Paul Lutheran Church in Fort Madison.

Karen was a 1958 graduate of Fort Madison High School. She had a connection with children and worked in the library at Richardson School for 25 years. She enjoyed playing cards, reading, crossword puzzles, and shopping. She was a lifetime member of the St. Paul Lutheran Church. She loved her family and was a great wife, mom, and grandma. She was known as "Grandma Brown Bear" to her grandchildren.

She is survived by her husband, Frank H. Gillett of Fort Madison; one son, Scott (Mary) Gillett of Fort Madison; one daughter, Shelly (Nathan) Poole of Des Moines, Iowa; two brothers, Larry (Marlene) Keester of Eldridge, Iowa and Roger (Mary Lou) Keester of Bettendorf, Iowa; three grandsons: Torrey, Nathan, and Jacob; numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, two brothers, John and Bradley Keester; and five sisters: Hilda Keester, Wanda Worden, JoAnn Bohnenkamp Miller, Nina Brayton and Sheila Busard.

Her family will greet friends from 10:00 - 11:00 am Friday, May 3, 2019 at the Barr Memorial Chapel, Fort Madison. A memorial service will follow and begin at 11:00 am Friday, May 3, 2019 at the funeral home with Pastor Pete Hagglund officiating. Burial will be at Soldiers Circle, Oakland Cemetery, Fort Madison. A memorial has been established for The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research, contributions may be made at the funeral home. Online condolences to the Gillett Family may be made from the Barr Memorial Chapel, www.barrmemorialchapel.com.

NORMA MAY BROWN

Norma May Brown, 84, of Fort Madison, IA, passed away at 9:33 p.m. on Saturday, April 27, 2019 at Fort Madison Community Hospital. She was born on July 30, 1934 in Blackwater, MO to William W. & Nettie M. Potter Mercer. She married William E. Brown on March 11, 1953 in Bartlesville, OK. He preceded her in death on August 20, 2008. She was a nurse for many years and enjoyed bowling & bingo. She traveled all over the world with her husband, who was in the U.S. Air Force for 22 years.



BROWN

Norma is survived by: 1-daughter: Pam (Don) Ray of Fort Madison, IA; 1-son: Bryan (Debra) Brown of Kansas City, MO; 3-grandchildren; 6-great grandchildren & 1-niece. She was preceded in death by: her parents, her husband, 1-son: Kent, 1-granddaughter: Bridget, 3-brothers & 1-sister.

The family will receive friends from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 30, 2019 at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. The funeral service will immediately follow at 2:00 p.m. Burial will be held at 12:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 1, 2019 at Peninsula Cemetery in Blackwater, MO. A memorial has been established for the American Cancer Society. Online condolences to Norma's family may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: www.kinglynk.com.

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Sports/Lottery Numbers

Boys jump on Keokuk, atop Southeast Conference

BY ETHAN LILLARD
PCC SPORT

FORT MADISON – It's been a couple of years, but the Fort Madison Bloodhounds (6-5) are back sniffing around the top of the Southeast conference leaderboards in boys soccer.

Taking on Keokuk at Baxter Sports Complex Friday, the Hounds knew a win would set themselves in perfect position to control their own destiny with two big conference games on tap next week. Both of those contests will come against teams sitting atop the Southeast in Mount Pleasant (8-3) and Fairfield (6-5).

But first, Fort Madison knew it needed to focus on the task at hand in Keokuk (1-10).

Austin Sexton made sure his teammates had nothing to worry about heading into prom weekend, scoring two first-half goals and three total for the game, leading the Hounds to an impressive 6-1 win over the Chiefs.

"He really gets things done," Wellman said of Sexton. "He gets real-

ly confident inside the attacking third and it's showing ... it's a really nice weapon to have."

It took Sexton just five minutes to score his first goal Friday, picking up an assists from Javier Trejo to give Fort Madison an early 1-0 advantage. Despite the early score, Wellman wasn't pleased with his team's pace of play to begin the game.

"We weren't really happy with how fast we were playing the first 12 minutes," he said. "I think Austin made, for the most part, a singular effort after he got the ball from Javier. We weren't playing good through the middle third and the attacking third. We just didn't have a sense of urgency."

The Hounds started to show some life after the opening score, as Sexton again went speeding past the Chiefs defense in the 12th minute for an unassisted goal and a 2-0 lead.

"Austin does a lot of work up front," Wellman said. "He is very quick, he does a really good job of slowing down when he has the ball on his foot, bringing the defense in closer, and then exploding

into a run towards the goal ... He's a horse up front for us."

After getting tripped up by a Keokuk defender in the 27th minute, Miguel Trejo was awarded a penalty kick, which he sent into the top right upright to extend the Hounds lead to 3-0.

Trejo's PK goal was the last of the first half, as Fort Madison took the ten minute halftime break with a comfortable 3-0 lead. Wellman, however, was not comfortable the lead.

"We were talking about the fact that Jamin (Klose) is very dangerous," Wellman said of the Keokuk senior. "He can shoot from anywhere on the field ... We were talking about how 3-0 isn't necessarily a great lead against a player that can score anywhere on the field."

The Bloodhounds came out with a purpose in the second half and executed the game plan to perfection, keeping Klose close by and in check. In the meantime, Sexton continued his onslaught of the net, canning another goal off a Brody Rung/Just

Bowker assisted play in the 16th minute.

Keokuk put its first point on the board on a penalty kick just three minutes later, cutting the score to 4-1.

Wanting to get his teammates in on the fun, Sexton sent a screaming corner kick toward the box for Rung. Rung took the pass and sent it into the net for a 5-1 lead in the 21st minute.

The change of scenery appeared to be just what Rung needed. With just 11 minutes left in the match, Fort Madison's Reiburn Turnbull sent a kick towards the goal, but it glanced off the left upright. Playing heads up off the ball offense, Rung was there for the rebound and sent the ball sailing to the top right upright, sealing the contest 6-1 for Fort Madison.

"We actually made a personnel change," Wellman said. "We moved Austin out wide into Brody's position and Brody moved into forward just to give us a different look and get Brody the chance to get in more goal scoring opportunities so that he can build his confidence."

"He had been on a goal-scoring drought for a little while. Thankfully he is out of that drought now."

With prom weekend ahead, Wellman told his team a cautionary tale after the game about one



Photo by Ethan Lillard /PCC

FMHS' Austin Sexton and Keokuk's Jesse Nuno at the Baxter Sports Complex during the Hounds' 6-1 win Friday night. The Hounds are over .500 on the year at 6-5. Fort Madison takes on Mt. Pleasant on Thursday.

of his past state-hopeful teams that season was derailed due to players getting suspended for underage drinking. He also emphasized the importance of next week and what it means for the rest of the season and the chance of a possible Southeast conference crown returning to Fort Madison.

"We have to come with our heads right Monday so we can mentally prepare for Tuesday," Wellman said about the upcoming contest against

Fairfield. "It's a huge week in the conference for us ... We hosted Fairfield early on in the season and we lost 3-2 ... We can do it, but we have to execute in order to do it."

"One of our team goals is to finish top two in the conference. They've done the work to put themselves in position to accomplish that goal."

After their contest against Fairfield Tuesday, Fort Madison will travel to face another Southeast foe in Mount Pleasant Thursday.

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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



4/30
24 37 41 61 70
Mega Ball: 20
Megaplier: 3



4/30 MID-DAY
8 7 9
4/30 EVENING
9 2 3



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2 8 2 9
4/30 EVENING
8 2 9 4

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Sports/Weather

Doherty could be next FMHS football coach

BY ETHAN LILLARD
PCC Sports

FORT MADISON – Pending school board approval, long-time assistant coach Derek Doherty will be the new head football coach for the Fort Madison High School football team.

As head coach, Doherty's goal is to turn his players into coffee beans.

Yes, Coffee beans. Why?

"I tell our guys every morning in the weight room, 'Be a coffee bean,'" Doherty explained. "If you put a carrot in boiling water, it softens the carrot, it's changed by it's environment. If you put an egg in the boiling water, it becomes hard boiled, it's changed by it's environment. But if you put a coffee bean in there, it's now coffee. It – changed the environment."

As a science teacher, of course Doherty had to use a chemistry metaphor, but his team needs to take it heart in order to have success in 2019.

"That's one of the biggest things we need to do here is change the environment. We need to change the mentality and we need to change the culture. That's on the forefront, that's what we need to do there," he said.

"The X's and O's, sure,

we need to sit down and figure that out as a staff, but just being in these guys ears and getting them to believe in the things we see in them, and not just us as a staff, but what the community sees in them. We've got great kids, it's just getting them to believe in themselves."

Doherty knows what it like to have that self doubt.

After graduating from Fort Madison High School in 2003, Doherty took his four years of football experience to Monmouth University where he moved to inside slot receiver.

Things were going great for Doherty, that is until the end of his sophomore season.

"I ended up getting hurt the very last practice," Doherty said. "I caught a ball over the middle and I got hit. They thought I had dislocated my hip at first, because I was having a ton of trouble walking.

"I battled that and finally got into a doctor and found out that I had two herniated discs in my back. I ended up having to have back surgery and have some nerves moved. They actually gave me a 25 percent success rate for the surgery."

Despite such a low percentage of success, Doherty defied the odds.

"I feel like I dominated

that because I lift weights still, I roll Jujitsu still, I wrestle still, I feel great," The Hounds soon-to-be Head Coach said. "I got really lucky, but I was in a lot of pain for several years."

The pain and the road to recovery was difficult for Doherty. After a heart-to-heart with his then head coach Steve Bell in the weight room, Doherty made the decision to give up full contact football for good.

"Coach Bell pulled me over and started talking to me," Doherty said. "He asked me what my goals were and said I needed to start thinking about longevity and not being a crippled young man.

"It was a pretty powerful conversation. It hurt, but it is what it is."

Having sports as the centerpiece of his life and goals for so long, Doherty didn't know what to do with himself after realizing he was done playing football.

That's when times got the toughest.

"My senior year was really rough not being able to accomplish the things I wanted to accomplish," Doherty said. "Getting hurt in college and being told I couldn't play foot-



Photo by Ethan Lillard /PCC

Fort Madison science teacher Derek Doherty could be named the school's next head football coach. Doherty was recommended by AD-Jeremy Swink after a committee search for the school's next coach.

ball anymore, I was in a really dark place."

That's when Bell offered Doherty an opportunity that would end up changing his life for good.

"Coach Bell knew I was pretty devastated not being able to play," Doherty said. "He reached out to me and asked if I would be interested in helping out with the staff and doing that side of things. That was my first little bit of coaching experience."

Still being the same age as his teammates and still possessing the motivational drive to compete, Doherty enjoyed

coaching, but it was still a challenge for him mentally not being on the field with his teammates in full

pads.

"I remember liking it,

See **DOHERTY**, page 9

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5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

THU 02 May

Light Rain
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FRI 03 May

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High– 59.0° F | Low – 51.4° F

SAT 04 May

Scattered Clouds
High– 63.7° F | Low – 51.2° F

SUN 05 May

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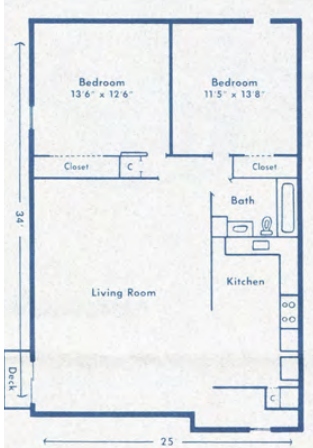
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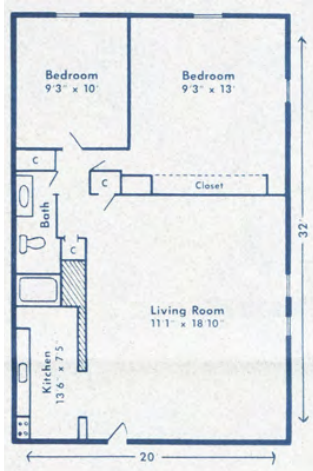
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From the Front

Current, Radio Keokuk take aim at county news

LILLARD - Continued from Page 1

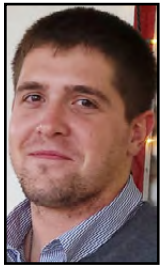
nesses utilize and take advantage of the market that exists," he said. "Seventy-seven percent of Americans own a smartphone and 90% get their news via mobile device with 89% using the Internet an average of 24 hours per week."

He said digital advertising accounts for 2/3 or \$60 billion of ad revenue in the United States annually.

"The power is in the palm of most Americans' hands, and the power of persuasion is in the form of digital marketing. I can build persuasion around a businesses brand through a strategic partnership with each individual business and its budget," he said.

"I have the resources through Pen City Current partnerships to offer pinpoint accuracy for every demographic and brand category to help drive specific or general targeting and I want to thank you for the opportunity to be part of your business success through digital marketing with Pen City Current. I look forward to helping grow your business".

Pen City Current editor Chuck Vandenberg said people can stop thinking he has a twin, as a new face is already being seen around north Lee County sports.



LILLARD

Ethan Lillard, the former sports editor at the Hancock County Journal-Pilot and radio broadcaster out of Carthage, has joined the team as a sports/news reporter.

Lillard will be covering all Fort Madison High School sports and will also be splitting his time in a new partnership with Radio Keokuk, which broadcasts on the FM dial at Z93.9, and the AM dial at KOKX 1310.

Lillard signed on with Radio Keokuk to bring live home broadcasts of FMHS Bloodhound sports. Vandenberg said as part of a blossoming partnership

with Radio Keokuk, Lillard agreed to provide sports content out of FMHS for the Pen City Current, as well.

"Working as a shared employee of the Pen City Current and Radio Keokuk is truly a dream come true for me. I get to apply my nearly three years of experience as a newspaper sports editor with my sports broadcasting experience and continue to grow at each," Lillard said.



GREENWALD

"I'm looking forward to the opportunities both of these companies present and look forward to bringing Lee County a product they might not have necessarily seen before. Broadcasting, taking pictures and notes, and capturing a story for each game is a challenge I not only accept, but look forward to."

Lee Vandenberg said the partnership with Radio Keokuk makes perfect sense since both companies are new, dynamic pieces to the media environment in Lee County, and it makes good business sense to share resources with co-owners Mike Greenwald and Leah Jones.

"We've been watching what was happening at Radio Keokuk since Mike and Leah breathed new life into that station, and it's been impressive this first year," Vandenberg said. "We're a lot alike in that we are all doing what we love and having a lot of fun. At the same time, we both have some neat ideas about news and marketing that are going to surprise some people."



C. VANDENBERG

Greenwald said the last generation's radio is gone and traditional newspapers are in steep decline. Now those with big ideas and a grasp of how people want their information are going to be those that advance in the industry.

"I see this partnership as a natural progression for both businesses. Media has changed, and radio as it

once was 30 years ago is dead. We need to be on social media and the Internet to remain relevant to the next generation. With the Pen City Current and Radio Keokuk sharing news resources we can be more efficient in covering all of Lee County and bringing stories to our audiences."

Greenwald's passion for radio comes from his childhood.

"I grew up listening to the radio. Learning about the world we live in, and especially discovering new music. I was that 10-year-old kid who would call the radio station after my parents went to sleep to make a song request, and wait with a cassette tape ready to record it the second I heard the song begin," he said.

Greenwald is ever-present in the community circles and knows the importance of providing timely, accurate news, while at the same time being a source of day-to-day connection and entertainment.



JONES

In addition to owning and managing several business in Keokuk, Greenwald has been on the Keokuk Concert Association Board, Keokuk Fine Arts Council, a member of his Church Council, President of the Keokuk Lions Club, President of the Keokuk Area Chamber of Commerce, Keokuk Economic Development Corporation, SCC Foundation Board, KAH Auxiliary including chairing Kardiak Kapers, and is currently the 5th Ward Keokuk City Councilman.

Radio Keokuk Co-Owner Leah Jones, said the partnership actually started almost a year ago.

"Chuck Vandenberg and the Pen City Current have been right beside Radio Keokuk with their support since square one," Jones said. "A partnership like this makes sense, benefits Lee County, and is something we are very proud of."

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Sports/From the Front

Alum plans to keep stacking program bricks

DOHERTY - Continued from Page 5

but I was probably too immature and still pretty upset on the inside that I couldn't play," Doherty said. "So I kind of asked to be removed from it. I needed my space.

"I think I just needed some time off. I couldn't really separate myself learning to be a coach versus still being a teammate because I really wanted to play still, I had the competitive itch and felt like I could play mentally, but physically, I couldn't."

Doherty used his time away from the game to try to mentally switch gears from student athlete to full-time student, but it was still weighing on him.

Luckily for Doherty, his support system had his back once again.

"My senior year I had a buddy that was on the football team," Doherty said. "I was still hurting emotionally and he could tell. He told me, 'Hey, I want you to help me coach wrestling.' It was a junior high gig. I tried putting him off and avoiding him because I didn't want to do it. And then finally he talked me into it."

After the first practice, Doherty wasn't sure if he wanted to go back, but after persistence from his friend, Doherty returned for day two. He's now glad he did, as his life changed forever after that second day at practice.

"I was helping out these kids I didn't know, had no idea who they were," Doherty said. "The next day my friend came down to get me ... I went, and it sounds weird, but I remember a little kid came up and he gave me a hug and said, 'I'm glad you're back.'"

"Honest to God, I remember calling my mom that day heading home and I said, 'I think I want to be a teacher.' She thought I was crazy because I had never mentioned anything about being a teacher ever in my life. It's funny how things work out because I think this is the best job in the entire world."

Doherty switched his major from business to education heading into his junior year and never looked back.

In his fifth year at Monmouth, Doherty started student teaching at West Burlington High School. Hearing he was back around the area, then Fort Madison wrestling head coach Ryan Smith called

Doherty and said he wanted him on his staff at Fort Madison.

Doherty joined the team's coaching staff and the next year started substitute teaching at Fort Madison High School. After one year of being a sub, Doherty landed a full-time gig as the school's Physical science teacher and now teaches Physical Science, intro to physics, intro to chemistry and biology, on top of being the weight room coordinator.

During Todd McGhghy's second year as FMHS's head football coach, he asked Doherty to join his staff and become his secondary coordinator and later wide receiver's coach. Doherty agreed and starting pulling double duties as a wrestling and football coach on top of his teaching and weight training positions.

Not having been involved with football since his sophomore year of college, Doherty came into his new gig a little rusty.

"I was young and I think a little naive on what I thought it took to be a football coach," he said. "I was not prepared, but I learned a lot from (McGhghy). He was very demanding, so it was a rough start for me, but I built off of it."

After McGhghy, then athletic director Andrew Mitchell took over as the head coach of the football team. That was Doherty's first taste of being a coordinator.

"I was the junior varsity head coach and helped Mitchell with the offense," Doherty said. "Luke Rickelman, who's my best friend, was our defensive coordinator at this point. I was helping him breaking down film and coming up with schemes and the stuff we thought we should be working on that week."

"I had my fingers on a lot of different things at that point just trying to be helpful - trying to be useful."

Two years later Mitchell resigned and Tony Shiffman became head coach. Doherty remained on staff and took over as running backs coach, knowing long-time friend and fellow wide receiver Justin Menke would be a great wide receiver coach.

Fast forward two years and Shiffman is out and everything has come full circle for Doherty, as (upon school board ap-



FMHS's Derek Doherty could be high schools' next football coach starting Monday.

proval Monday) he will become the next head coach of the Bloodhounds.

While just having been recommended for the position Tuesday, Doherty wasn't exactly sure what all of the X's and O's were going to look like, but was more focused on the big picture.

"It's been a wild experience because the one thing I've known for a long time is that we lack consistency here," Doherty said. "I played four years of high school football, I had three different head coaches. In the ten years I've been back, I've been under three head coaches."

"Really just building a program has been the No. 1 thing I've felt we need to do here. We need to build a football program. This isn't an activity anymore, this is a program and I think we have the right guys to do it."

Joining, or soon to join Doherty on staff, are Menke, and defensive coordinator and fellow Fort Madison graduate Jason Crooks, who also played linebacker at the University of Iowa.

Doherty has another Fort Madison graduate with collegiate football experience in mind, but wouldn't divulge names.

For Doherty, this is the opportunity he's dreamed of. Not only does he get to be a head coach, but he gets to do it at his alma matter and with his fellow teammates and fellow Fort Madison

graduates.

With nearly everyone currently on the staff from Fort Madison, the pride they all feel in revitalizing this program is something special to witness.

"It's everything," Doherty said. "selfishly, I'm super excited, but it's not about me. It's about these kids No. 1, it's about this staff, it's about administration - it's about this community."

"I'm very proud to say I'm from Fort Madison. I chose to come here, I chose to come back to this area specifically because I have a lot of pride. There's a lot of things I wanted to do and things that I wanted to accomplish here and I want our guys to feel a lot of the cool things I got to feel."

While Doherty puts much emphasis on building a football program and getting kids to buy in, he doesn't neglect the fact that at the end of the day, he has an obligation to his kids.

"I believe in education through football, that's my mission statement, 'education through football,'" Doherty said. "This is an extension of the classroom. As a classroom teacher I'm teaching content no doubt, but I'm also teaching life skills, social skills and that's what football is about."

"It's about making these kids be better men in the future and that's my No. 1 goal. We'll worry about the rest of it as it goes."

When Shiffman was the coach at Fort Madison, his team started a motto, 'Brick by Brick.' Becoming head coach this season, Doherty will not only adopt the slogan, but his team will become a physical metaphor for the saying as the long-time Hound builds the football program back to where it once was, brick by brick.

"We lost a head coach, an offensive coordinator, a defensive coordinator, this is bare bones," Doherty said. "(Shiffman) started laying those bricks his last two years and the goal is to keep building and building."

"I think the foundation has a great start, just piece-by-piece we are going to plug away. I'm not afraid of hard work, I know this staff isn't afraid of hard work and our kids aren't afraid of hard work. That's our mentality. Very blue collared, just laying bricks."

Waters could drop by Friday

FLOODING - Continued from Page 1

Agency Coordinator Steve Cirinna said the majority of the resources are for sandbags

"Technically, it's anything we can get from the state," he said. "The main thing is usually sandbags and we get that for critical infrastructure only, but not for general public. We asked for a FEMA declaration but you have to get to a certain amount of damage and we aren't close to that yet."

Cirinna said the Iowa Individual Assistance program could also be accessed by that's to assist

families that are 200% or below federal poverty limit. The program makes \$5,000 grants available to homeowners.

"But we haven't asked to turn that on. We only have a 45-day window and once we start seeing damage, we'll get that done. I don't want to do that prematurely and then people not have a chance to use it."

According to National Weather Service data, Burlington is predicted to crest at 23.2 feet and Keokuk at 23.8 between midnight and 1 a.m. Fri-

day, and then back under 21 feet by 1 p.m. Tuesday.

As long as we don't get significant rain it should go down rather quickly. But its all dependent on the rain. We're supposed to get some tonight, but not a lot, maybe 1/4 inch or so," Cirinna said

Great River Plumbing at the corner of 14th and Avenue M is completely surrounded by water. General Manager Ron Walker is hoping that the predicted crests hold true.

"At a foot that should buy us a couple more



days to see what happens over the weekend," Walker said.

He said it's not just the swelling of the river that's causing problems.

"It's not just the river. There's no storm water drainage because those are backed up too, so not only are we getting the flood waters, but any more rain has nowhere

else to go," he said.

If waters get above the crest level, Walker's afraid they will have to move equipment out of the building and then re-establish online communications which can be difficult in smaller businesses.

"Right now we're gonna watch it and see what happens tomorrow. Some

Great River Plumbing's office on 14th and Avenue M are completely surrounded by water on Wednesday afternoon.

are calling for rain all day tomorrow and then a couple days with no rain Sunday -Tuesday. Our biggest thing is that the storm sewer has no place to go," Walker said.

The buiding is 100% surrounded and the water's a couple inches deep."