



Pen City Current

Thursday, Nov. 30, 2017 | 8 pages | Volume 1 • Issue 276

PORT to dedicate Phase II on Dec. 10

Event coincides with inaugural Ugly Sweater fundraiser

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON - The committee for Promoting Outdoor Recreation Trails

(PORT) of Fort Madison would like to invite the community to join us on Sunday, December 10th at 12 noon for the dedication of Phase II of the PORT trail. Phase II was completed in October and runs behind the Fort Madison Middle School connecting 48th street and Phase I of the PORT trail. The dedication ceremony will take place on the trail off of 48th Street.

Fort Madison Mayor Brad Randolph will dedicate this newest portion of the PORT trail system. Representatives from the Fort Madison schools will be present as well.

PORT of Fort Madison received multiple grants and donations to fund the first two phases of the trail. Land used for Phase II was donated by the Fort Madison School district and the City of Fort

Madison.

Following the dedication of the Phase II trail will be the inaugural PORT Ugly Sweater Run. This is a fundraising event for Phase III of the PORT Trails. The Ugly Sweater Run is a non-timed, family fun event, great for walkers and runners of all levels. It will cover both Phase I

See PORT, page 3

“The Dividing Tree” takes a dramatic look at religion of holidays

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG

PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - It's not your typical holiday season community playhouse production. But that's not what Old Fort Players director Kelly Shields wanted when she agreed to direct the program.

This isn't the year for holiday cheer and Christmas carols, but more of latkes, a menorah, a Christmas tree and an ongoing familial clash over how a divided family can find peace during the holiday season while balancing the reasons for the “westernized” Christmas and the traditional Jewish Hanukkah holiday.

OFP Presents “The Dividing Tree” a two-act play by Mark Ogle, beginning on Dec. 8 at 7:30 p.m.

Sam Barton, played



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Jonathan Robbins, as Sam Barton, dances with wife “Shel”, Richar Abel while daughter Alexis Klein, played by Maren Robbins, watches on as part of a rehearsal for OFPs’ “The Dividing Tree”.

by OFP actor Jonathan Robbins, is a Christian and his wife Michelle (“Shel”), played by OFP veteran Richar Abel, is Jewish. Neither of them practiced their religions faithfully in the past and both brought children

into the marriage. The couple thought they could conduct holidays respecting how the children had celebrated in the past, but traditions knock together in this sometimes humorous and sometimes intense

two-act play.

Other cast members include Sam's 13-year-old daughter Marie played by Xandra Abel, and Shel's two children, VJ Myers played by Colby Moore,

See PLAY, page 8

Presidential hopeful Delaney to stop by Hy-Vee

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON - John Delaney an announced Democratic candidate for President of the United States will be in Fort Madison on Saturday, December 2nd at

4 pm at the Hy Vee Deli, 2606 Avenue L for a “meet & greet” with Iowans.

Congressman Delaney represents the 6th congressional district from Maryland. He is known as an original thinker and has started two successful companies that are listed on the NYSE. He has been described as one of the most substantive and bipartisan new members in Congress.

The Public is invited. It is hoped there will be much discussion on issues facing our country.

For more information, contact Lee County Democratic Chairman Rick Larkin at 319-470-7744.



DELANEY

TUESDAY SPORTS

Hounds use OT to start season with win

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

OTTUMWA - It took some extra time, but the Fort Madison boys basketball team won its first game of the season 63-59 over host Ottumwa on Tuesday night.

Senior Caleb Cresswell had the ball on a break and fed sophomore Jayden Fedler toward the end of regulation to tie the game at 52.

See HOOPS, page 4

Advertiser Index

Classifieds	Ps.5-6	Kempker's True Value Rental	P.3
Dr. Mark C. Pothitakis Family Dentistry	P.7	Lee County Health Department	P.4
Farm Bureau Financial Services – Larry Holtkamp ..	P.4	Professional Services	P.6
Fort Madison YMCA	P.4	Public Notices	Ps.5-6
Great River Regional Waste Authority	P.2	Test Klitchen Education Foundation	P.4
Green Oak Development	P.5	The Kensington	P.8
Hope Associates Real Estate	P.5	UnitedWay.org	P.6
International Eye Care Center	P.8	West Liberty Foods	P.5

News Index

Area News	P.3
Current–Lee	P.2
For the Record	P.3
From the front	Ps.3-4,8
Local News	P.3
Lottery Numbers	P.3
Sports	P.4
Weather	P.8

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CURRENT-LEE



JOIN THE MOVEMENT!

IMPLEMENT THESE SIMPLE STEPS TO CREATE A HEALTHY FOOTPRINT

MONDAY

CREATE SPACE:



Create and indoor space for all your recyclables. Pick up recycling bins at our Ft. Madison or Keokuk facilities. Curb side pick up is available. Check the city websites for details.

TUESDAY

GO PAPERLESS:



Decrease your need for paper products. Elect for paperless statements, digitize shopping lists, documents and more!

WEDNESDAY

GO WASTE FREE:



Make a conscious effort to not use your waste bin. Recycle or compost any items that have an end of life solution.

THURSDAY

REUSE:



Instill new life in items you would normally toss out. Such as jars and containers, clothing, paper products and more.

FRIDAY

COMPOSTING:



Build or purchase a composting bin for food & yard waste. Use your composted goods to better build a healthy garden in the Spring.

SATURDAY

PROCUREMENT:



Only purchase what is made to be recycled. Look for the recycling symbol on the packaging.

SUNDAY

ENJOY:



Sit back, relax, and enjoy a healthier, happier, cleaner Earth!

Thank you



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1-319-372-6140

Keokuk Transfer Station:
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Keokuk, IA
1-319-524-6175

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CURRENT-LEE

The original Ivy Bake Shoppe now taking orders for holiday treats

Remember the original Ivy for your holiday desserts, sweet trays, catering, & gift certificates. Order yours by Tuesday, December 21st. Call us at Burlington Uptown Ivy (319)754.5924 or visit us at 514 Jefferson Street, downtown Burlington. Visit us online at www.ivybakeshoppe.com.



Sheaffer's Golf Club plans customer appreciation party

FORT MADISON - The Sheaffer Memorial Golf Course will be holding a Customer Appreciation event on Dec. 2, 2017 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. with complimentary food, beer and soda.

Course pro Ryan McMillan will be on hand with hefty discounts on green punch cards and discounts for first time pass holders and first time cart leasers and other specials.

Customer Appreciation Party
December 2, 2017
11:00 AM - 3:00 PM
Complimentary food, keg, and soda

HUGE savings on annual passes and punch cards for the 2018 season!

First time pass holders \$500 + tax

First time cart leasers \$500 + tax

Coats for Hope 5k this Saturday

ST. PAUL - Coats for Hope 5k Fun Run, Saturday, December 2, 9:00am, St. Paul Shelter House. Rain or shine. All proceeds will help provide coats to local children.

Coats For Hope 5K
Fun Run @ 9:00 Saint Paul Shelter House December 2nd, 2017 Rain or shine

All proceeds and donations will go towards purchasing/providing coats to children in local schools and daycares

- Location of race: Saint Paul Shelter House located at 2020 Locust Street St. Paul (IOWA may say West Point) IOWA
- Participants may register for the race 1 of 2 ways, either by:
 - \$20 Entry fee
 - By donating a children's coat (good shape please)
- Registration will be from 8:00 till 8:45
- Make checks payable to: Coats For Hope
- Registration: Send Forms to:
 - Chris Hutson
 - Attn: Coats for Hope
 - PO Box 63
 - Denmark Iowa 52624
- All registration forms will be used as Entry to a Raffle once last participant finishes race.
- This is a **NON TIMED EVENT!**
- If you have any questions, please send them to chutson@fmcchosp.com

Registration Form

Name _____ Telephone# _____

Email Address _____

Signature (if under 18, parent or guardian) _____

I'm hoping to prevent kids being left in the cold

Pen City Current will list your event in this highly visible CURRENT-LEE section in increments of 25 words for \$15. Add a photo for \$5. Non-profit organizations are eligible for the reduced rate of \$10 per 25 words and \$3 per photo. To place your listing, click here or call Lee at (319)371.4125.

For the Record/Area News

For the Record

Fort Madison Police report
 11/28/17 - 8:01 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident at the intersection of 48th Street and Bluff Road.
 11/28/17 - 8:32 a.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Taylor William Scott, 25, of Fort Madison, in the 2000 block of Avenue J, on a charge of driving while barred. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
 11/28/17 - 9:41 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 2000 block of Avenue G.
 11/28/17 - 11:39 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a stolen bicycle in the 1200 block of 38th Street.
 11/28/17 - 2:02 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 1100 block of Avenue E.
 11/28/17 - 3:58 p.m. - Fort

Madison Police arrested 11/28/17 - 4:14 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 3600 block of Avenue Q.
 11/28/17 - 4:20 p.m. - Fort Madison Police cited Allen William Penrod, 21, of Fort Madison, in the 2200 block of Avenue G, on a charge of driving while suspended. He was released upon citation.
 11/28/17 - 11:11 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 3900 block of Bluff Road.

Lee County Sheriff's report
 11/28/17 - 1:48 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Jacob Anthony Haage, 24, of Montrose, at the Lee County Sheriff's office on two warrants of violation of probation. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.

11/28/17 - 3:20 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested James Lincoln Holmes, Jr., 42, of Elvaston, Ill., at the Lee County Sheriff's office on two warrants for failure to appear and theft in the 2nd degree.

11/29/17 - 3:36 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested a 14-year-old male juvenile from Keokuk and transported him to the Lee County Juvenile Detention Center. *Those listed above are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.*

Fort Madison Fire & Rescue report
 11/27/17 - Fort Madison Firefighters responded to two medical calls.
 11/28/17 - Fort Madison Firefighters responded to one medical call and one assistance call.

Initial Phase III work being started before winter

PORT - Continued from Page 1

and Phase II of the PORT trails for a 3-mile course. All participants are encouraged to wear their best or worst holiday ugly sweater. Participants will then be invited back to the Baxter Sports Complex for an afternoon of football and refreshments. Registration will start at 11 a.m. at the Baxter Sports Complex. To pre-register visit the PORT of Fort Madison Facebook page.

Tree clearing for Phase III is underway as fundraising continues. Phase III will connect 48th Street 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, contact Rachel Benda 319-371-5804.

GRHS to hold open house for CEO

WEST BURLINGTON - The public is invited to an open house celebrating the career and retirement of Great River Health System President and CEO Mark Richardson. It will be from 5 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 12, at Pzazz! Convention and Event Center, 3001 Winegard Dr., Burlington.

Richardson joined the health system in April 1997, three months before the groundbreaking for Great River Medical Center and two medical office buildings. Besides overseeing continued growth, he is credited for changing the culture of one of Iowa's largest independent hospitals and health systems.



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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 SM	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



11/29
 24 26 28 59 63
 Powerball: 16
 Power Play: 3



11/29
 1 4 5 16 38
 All Star Bonus: 2



11/29 MID-DAY
 2 1 4
11/29 EVENING
 4 4 0



11/29 MID-DAY
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11/29 EVENING
 4 5 0 3

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Sports

Hounds wipe out 8-point deficit in OT win

HOOPS - Continued from Page 1

Head coach Ryan Wilson said Ottumwa was assessed their second delay of game violation in the overtime period which resulted in a technical foul and gave the Hounds two free throws and the ball.

The Hounds picked up defensively in the second half allowing Ottumwa 11 points in each of the third and fourth periods. The Hounds outscored Ottumwa 11-7 in the extra period, capped by two free-throws by junior Logan Rashid with 4.9 seconds remaining to give the Hounds the four-point win.

Wilson said the Hounds struggled defensively in the first half dealing with Ottumwa's game off the dribble.

"First half we got our butts kicked off their dribble drive," he said. "I think they made six of their seven 3s in the first half."

Senior Treavor Kokjohn led the Hounds with 20 points and 16 rebounds, including 4 of 8 from the three point line. Cresswell finished with 12 points including a 3-pointer and 5-8 shooting from the free throw line. Rashid finished with 11 points. Sheymouhr Redd-Donald and Brandon Keester each had eight for Fort Madison and Fedler rounded out the scoring with four.

"We were 19-53 from the floor and 17-24 on free throws so we didn't shoot very well," Wilson said. "But it was a two-hour road trip and we're down by as much as 10, so we overcame some obstacles and got the win."

The Hounds rushed out to a 6-0 lead in the first quarter but Ottumwa came back to take a 14-12 lead after a 9-4 run. The Hounds got 3s from Keester, Kokjohn, and Rashid in the first period. Ottumwa pushed to a 30-25 lead at the end of the first half after a 3-pointer by each team in the final minute of the half. The gap held most of the way through the third period and the Hounds found themselves down by eight 52-44 with less than three minutes to play in the game. An 8-2 rally capped by Fedler's bucket at the end tied the game at 52.

The Hounds take on Keokuk in the home opener on Friday night in a junior varsity girls, varsity girls, varsity boys triple header, with the junior varsity tipping off at 4:45.

HTC girls fall to 1-1 with loss at Van Buren

BY PCC STAFF

KEOSAUQUA - After an easy 72-42 season-opening win over Burlington Notre Dame last week, the Crusaders found scoring a bit tougher Tuesday on the road at Van Buren.

The Warriors dropped HTC 54-34 behind 17 points from Taryn Scheuerman and 16 from senior Hannah Hudson.

Van Buren raced out to a quick 12-6 first quarter lead and extended the lead to 12 with a 30-18 lead at the end of the first half. Senior Brett Schneider, who had a team-high 23 points against the Nikes last week, had eight points in the first half for HTC but that's all she would manage as Van Buren was able to hold her scoreless in the second half.

Junior Emily Box had eight points in the loss. Senior

Mya Lawlor had five points on the night while fellow senior Samantha Hoenig and sophomore Ashlynn Haas each had four points. Junior Taylor Boeding added a three pointer and senior Madison Mohrfeld added a bucket in the loss.

The Crusaders move to 1-1 in the Southeast Iowa Superconference South division.

In the season opener against Notre Dame, Box had a dozen points and had 10 boards to lead the Crusaders on the glass. Hoenig, Boeding, and Haas all added seven points each. Sophomore Avery Hopper was a perfect 3 of 3 from the field for 6 points. Junior Eryn Anderson and Mohrfeld each had five points. Boeding led the Crusaders with four assists and Box had seven steals and a block on defense for HTC.

The Crusaders play their first five games on the road and travel to WACO on Friday night.

Cold shooting hampers Crusaders

BY PCC STAFF

KEOSAUQUA - Shooting woes plagued the Holy Trinity boys basketball team Tuesday night as they fell to host Van Buren/Harmony 63-44.

Sophomore Matt Hellige led the Crusaders with 12 points on a night that saw HTC shoot 27 percent from the field and less than 25% from the 3-point line. Hellige was 4 of 6 from the field and 4 of 4 from the free throw line.

"We struggled with our shooting. Just couldn't find the bottom of the basket," said head coach John Hellige. "Van Buren won the 50/50 balls and out rebounded us."

Holy Trinity got behind early, trailing the hosts 13-8 after the first quarter, but came back with a 13-11 second half advantage to trail just 24-21 at halftime.

Freshman Jake Eaves hit on 2 of 7 three point attempts to finish with seven points on the night. Senior Collin Thornton had nine points including 5 of 6 shooting from the free throw line. Adam Rauenbuehler and junior Brant Holtkamp each had five points. Blake Crabtree had three points, Ryder Brune had a bucket and Quentin Schneider had a free throw.

Holy Trinity couldn't get anything going in the second half as Van Buren outscored the boys in blue 23-37 in the second half to put the game out of reach.

"We will regroup and start to get ready for WACO on Friday night," Hellige said. The Crusaders did shoot 80 percent from the free throw line in the loss.

HTC is 0-1 on the season and will travel to WACO Friday night.

In the junior varsity contest, HTC's boys also lost 63-44. Cole Thornton and Chandler Rung each had eight points to lead HTC.

Lady Hounds start season 0-2 with Ottumwa loss

BY PCC STAFF

OTTUMWA - The Fort Madison Lady Bloodhounds dropped their second game on the road to open the season Tuesday night 46-19 to Ottumwa.

Senior Amber Dilsaver led the Hounds with nine points as no FMHS player made it into double figures. The Hounds managed only four points in the first quarter and three in the third quarter as Ot-

tumwa pulled away in the second quarter outscoring Fort Madison 18-6 to take a 26-10 halftime lead.

Sophomore Anna Kester had four points for the Hounds followed by senior Taylor Shannon with three. Braxton McGhghy added a bucket and Elee-sha Estrada added a free throw to round out the scoring for Fort Madison.

Ottumwa's Mogan Greiner led all scorers with 12 points and Kasey Nickerson added 10.

The Hounds also dropped the season opener to Centerville 36-40 last Friday.

Kester fired in three 3-pointers enroute to a team-high 13 points. The Hounds held a 16-14 half-time lead but then were outscored 26-20 in the second half in the loss.

Freshman Maddie Rashid scored eight points on 3 of 8 shooting from the field. Dilsaver had five points while McGhghy and sophomore Sara Bernhart each had four points. Senior Katie Larson added a bucket for the Hounds. Dilsaver had 11 rebounds in the game. Kester added five.

The Hounds are 0-2 on the young season and host Keokuk on Friday night.

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Pen City current

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the Y

Public Notices/Classifieds

PUBLIC NOTICES

**PUBLIC NOTICE
FORT MADISON
COMMUNITY SCHOOL
DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
WORK SESSION
December 4, 2017
6:00 P.M.
AGENDA**

- I. Call meeting to order and determination of a quorum
- II. Recognition of guests
- III. Approve the agenda
- IV. Study on Curriculum
- V. Adjourn

**PUBLIC NOTICE
ORDINANCE NO. D-047**

**AN ORDINANCE
AMENDING TITLE 2 OF
THE FORT MADISON
CITY CODE, ENTITLED
"BOARDS AND
COMMISSIONS" AND
TITLE 8 "PUBLIC WAYS
AND PROPERTIES"**

The following is a brief summary of Ordinance Number D-047:

Addition of a new Chapter 1, General Provisions, setting a minimum age for board and commission members, specifying term begin and end dates, adding alternates to certain boards

and commissions, specifying how vacancies are filled, removal of board members, attendance requirements, defining a quorum and providing gender balance as required by Iowa Code and include provisions that were included in each chapter of this title.

Changing the length of terms for certain boards and commissions.

Renaming the Park, Recreation and Docks Board, to Parks Board, and reducing the number of times the Parks Board shall meet every year.

Removing language concerning ex officio or non-voting members on the Historic Preservation Commission.

Removing language requiring the Old Fort Madison Fort Commission and/or Fort management staff to prepare detailed operations budget, capital budget and annual budget.

Creating references for language referenced in the State Code;

Creates a new Title 8, Chapter 13, Parks and Park Facilities, outlining rules and regulations for parks and park facilities.

Removing the following boards in their entirety: Chapter 2, Band Commission, Chapter 7, Human

Rights Commission, Chapter 9, Riverfront Self-Supporting District, Chapter 12, Retired and Senior Volunteer Program, Chapter 13, Construction Board of Appeals, Chapter 16, Cable Television Commission, Chapter 17, Fort Madison Sister Cities and Chapter 18, Fort Madison Cattermole Cultural Commission.

A complete copy of Ordinance D-047 is available for review at City Hall, 811 Avenue E, Monday through Friday (with the exception of scheduled holidays) from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and is also available at the City of Fort Madison website at fortmadison-ia.com.

Section 2. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

Section 3. If any section, provision, or part of this ordinance, shall be adjudged invalid or unconstitutional, such adjudication shall not affect the validity of this ordinance as a whole or any section, provision or part thereof not adjudged invalid or unconstitutional.

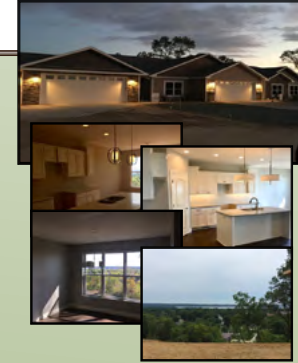
Section 4. This ordinance shall be in effect after its final passage, approval, and publication as provided by law.

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2188 Old Denmark Road E
14.65 acres • 638,514 sq. ft.
Listing #20162574



48th Street
50.82 acres • 2,213,719 sq. ft.
Listing #20162779



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Public Notices/Classifieds

PUBLIC NOTICES

PROVED BY THE City Council this 21st day of November, 2017.

/s/Chris Greenwald, Mayor
or Pro Tem

City of Fort Madison,
Iowa

ATTEST:

/s/Melinda L. Blind, City Clerk

**PUBLIC NOTICE
ORDINANCE NO. D-046
AN ORDINANCE
AMENDING TITLE 10,
CHAPTERS 8, 10, AND 11
OF THE
CITY CODE OF THE
CITY OF FORT MAD-
ISON CONCERNING
RESIDENTIAL ZONING
SETBACKS AND LOT
REQUIREMENTS**

The following is a brief summary of Ordinance Number D-046:

The following definitions were added:

Deck: A structure built above grade without a roof attached to the primary structure.

Porch: A structure built above grade with a roof attached to a primary struc-

ture.

Covered Patio: A roof system built over a hard surface level floor, concrete, brick or other, at a grace attached to a primary structure.

Front yard setbacks were changed to allow an exception whereby the front yard setback can be reduced to less than 25 feet if 40% of the houses already set at said distance.

Rear yard setbacks can be reduced from 30 feet to 14 feet if existing conditions meet requirements.

A complete copy of Ordinance D-046 is available for review at City Hall, 811 Avenue E, Monday through Friday (with the exception of scheduled holidays) from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and is also available at the City of Fort Madison website at fortmadison-ia.com.

Section 2. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

Section 3. If any section, provision, or part of this ordinance, shall be adjudged invalid or unconstitutional, such adjudication shall not

affect the validity of this ordinance as a whole or any section, provision or part thereof not adjudged invalid or unconstitutional.

Section 4. This ordinance shall be in effect after its final passage, approval, and publication as provided by law.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE City Council this 21st day of November, 2017.

/s/Chris Greenwald, Mayor
or Pro Tem

City of Fort Madison,
Iowa

ATTEST:

/s/Melinda L. Blind, City Clerk



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From the Front/Weather

OFP holiday presentation kicks off Dec. 8

PLAY - Continued from Page 1

and Alexis Klein, brought to life by newcomer Mar- en Robbins. Shel's father, Jerry Solomon is played by Jim French and Nora Barton, Sam's mother is played by Peggy Bell.

VJ rejects most religious practices and thought in favor of environmental- ism, while Alexis is excit- ed about the materialism of her new Christian family opportunities. Ma- rie tries to find a balance between the two. They're all working at cross pur- poses.

Shields said when she decided to step in and direct the OFP's holiday production she sought something with more realism that the usual song and dance holiday offerings.

"I was kind of tired of the too sweet Christmas play where everyone sings happy... happy... happy so I thought, ' why don't we go for a little more realism,'" Shields said. "So instead of looking for a Christmas play, I Googled for a holiday play so we could find a bit more diversity in how we look at a Christmas play. I read the synopsis for it and in the first part of it I was struck by how few walls were in this script. There was no design for the set at all it

“
One of the conflicts is the lack of communication and that's very real and a part of a lot of people's every- day life. I got really excited about it.”

-Kelly Shields
OFP director

just made suggestions... director chooses, director chooses so I thought okay, they wanted the director to use their imagination and I thought that's what we need - a little imagina- tion.”

She said the play struck her as something akin to "Our Town" saying the play allowed for creativity and permits the players to interpret more of their roles.

"The cast is very quick and the kids are great. They have so much talent there. Each one read for their part and I knew they were the ones. It's encouraging kids to use their imaginations and to deal with the issues their characters are dealing with and it allows them to be real kids," Shields said.

Sam finds himself conflicted trying to hold to traditional Christmas traditions, while respect- ing his commitment to his wife and her family

that the holidays would be easy to navigate - all while trying to hold down his job as an attorney repre- senting energy interests, which finds him at odds with VJ's principles.

"The line I love the most is 'You don't want to bring your work home, but it's bringing you home in a straight jacket,'" She said. "One of the conflicts is the lack of communi- cation and that's very real and a part of a lot of peo- ple's everyday life. I got really excited about it."

She said everyone builds internal and mental walls and we deal with them in different ways. "The Dividing Tree" portrays how different approaches to dealing with those walls can fit, or in some cases, divide loved ones.

"It really is a play that works in a real-time kind of way, to have two families that are so different, work together to



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

The Barton children, VJ, Alexis and Marie, argue about the best way to apply tinsel to the family Christmas tree in a rehearsal of "The Dividing Tree" the Old Fort Players holiday production that runs Dec. 8-10 and Dec. 15-16 with 7:30 start times except for a 2 p.m. show on Dec. 10th.

become a single unit. The music at the end is supposed to reflect that," she said.

The menorah and the tree are the icons in the play that divide the family and then actually bring them back together.

The play is sponsored by

Connections Bank and In- surance. The performanc- es are Dec. 8-10 and 15-16 with all show times at 7:30 p.m. except for a Sunday, Dec. 10 2 p.m. matinee.

Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$8 for children at the OFP playhouse at 725 Avenue G. Tickets are

for sale prior to show time and for more information contact the playhouse at 319-372-9559 or visit the website at www.oldfort-players.com or at Face- book at the following link <https://www.facebook.com/Old-Fort-Play-ers-126581100737291/>.



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FRI 01 Dec	Partly Cloudy High– 47.0° F Low – 36.6° F
SAT 02 Dec	Clear Skies High– 50.2° F Low – 31.1° F
SUN 03 Dec	Clear Skies High – 53.1° F Low – 44.2° F
MON 04 Dec	Clear Skies High– 55.5° F Low – 44.2° F

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