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SPORTS:

HTC 3rd, Central Lee 4th at Superconference volleyball tournament Saturday.

See page 5

Pen City Current

Golf carts, ATVs one roll call away

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG

FORT MADISON – A packed Fort Madison Council Chambers saw the Fort Madison City Council edge

closer to allowing golf carts and ATVs on certain city streets.

The council voted 4-3 on the second reading of the

ordinance to allow the vehicles on city streets with the

exception of 15th and 18th streets, Hwy. 2, and Business 61.

The ordinance would follow county regulations and would allow licensed drivers 18 and older to operate

golf carts, ATVS, and side-by-sides on city streets.
Earlier this year, the Lee County Supervisors and

West Point City Council approved similar measures. Councilmen Matt Mohrfeld, Chris Greenwald, Rusty Andrews, and Kevin Rink voted in favor of the move, while Bob Morawitz, Mark Lair, and Chad Cangas all voted against the measure. The vote was on the same lines as the first reading.

The ordinance will require a third reading at the Oct. 15 meeting and then would go into effect after it is published.

Eleven residents went to the podium to give their opinion on the proposed code change.

Councilman Chad Cangas suggested toward the end of the discussion that the issue be put on a ballot to applause from the standing-room only crowd, but Morawitz said that wouldn't be a legal question.

"That's not a question that the state will allow you to put on a ballot," Morawitz said.

He said the comments he's received from the constituents he's heard from is that they don't want the change

See ORDINANCE, page 5

SCC project

Southeastern Community College President Dr. Michael Ash speaks to the Fort Madison City Council about the college's plan for the former CarSmart building at the corner of 6th Street and Avenue G. The council approved a 1st reading on proposed changes.

Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC



Tuesday accident sends one to FMCH

Traffic lights down at intersection

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON – A Tuesday afternoon three-car accident has sent one person to the hospital with unknown injuries.

According to a release from Fort Madison Police Chief Mark Rohloff, at 12:11 p.m., officers were dispatched to a rollover accident in front of Fort Madison Community Hospital.

Upon arrival it was discovered that a crash had occurred at the intersection of Avenue O and 53rd Street. The traffic lights at the intersection are inoperable, and had been replaced with temporary stop signs and warning flags. Two vehicles were found in the intersection, with a truck on its side just west of the scene.

Witnesses reported observing a van and a car stopped at the intersection facing west waiting for traffic to clear, when at that point a westbound pickup truck approached and struck the rear end of both vehicles. The force propelled both cars into the intersection and caused the pickup truck to roll multiple times before coming to a rest across the street.

The driver of the truck, a 2017 Dodge Ram was identified as Kristopher Lee Amberger, 50, of West Point, IA. He was able to exit his own vehicle and refused medical treatment. The driver of the car, a

See **ACCIDENT**, page 9



Wednesday, Oct. 2, 2019 | 9 pages | Volume 3 • Issue 208

Beside The Point

Chuck Vandenberg, Pen City Current - Editor

King issues raises more than money

The Stead Family Children's Hospital was our place of residence for about three days last year.

Our daughter was found passed out in the hallway of her dorm at the University of Iowa and was diagnosed with pulmonary hypertension. She'd had it for years and we didn't know. That's not something for which a father ever forgives himself.

But the facilities at that oblong, wave-recipient of a hospital are best in the nation. Our child was in the best place in the world. And we knew it.

The fact that the entirety of Kinnick Stadium turns on Saturdays throughout the fall and waves to those children is a wave at my daughter. The fact that Carson King's sign has generated \$2 million (as of Friday night) for that hospital is warming to say the least. Enough so that Governor Kim Reynolds made Saturday Carson King Day in Iowa.

But the whirlwind of King's past three weeks has stirred up a sloppy, thick, and perplexing muck that has me thinking about how the premiere newspaper in Iowa is stuck defending itself...even today.

There's substantial merit to those who say we've morphed into a society where journalism doesn't just shoulder the burden of unearthing the grim and corrupt, but now we get after the less-than-perfect.

King retweeted some racist stuff as a 16-year-old from the raunchy Tosh.O show. I caught glimpses of the show at its prime and was left wanting to take a shower. Somewhat like Ridiculousness now. But there's a market for everything and capitalistic minds capitalize.

But for me, I see a state that's now advertising for a new "state beer". Busch donated \$350,000 (a capped amount for sure, but also more than I have to donate.... definitely). Venmo is donating and the great people of the social media universe are donating. The end game is that goodness floats.

We forgive this man's immaturity for something he did eight years ago because of something he's doing now. That same tool of a civilized society should also be applied to Anheuser Busch for exercising extra caution in protectings its brand...and is should be applied to

See **KING**, page 9

Advertiser Index

Business DirectoryPs.7-8	Lee County Health DepartmentP.4
ClassifiedsPs.7-8	Merschman SeedsP.5
Or. Mark C. Pothitakis Family Dentistry	Mobile Nursing ServicesP.7
Edward Jones – Tony FullenkampP.2	PointsBet SPORTSBOOK at Catfish Bend Casino P.3
Fort Madison Community HospitalP.5	Test Kitchen Education FoundationP.2
Fort Madison Family YMCAP.2	The Kensington
Great River Regional Waste AuthorityP.6	Tony Wolfe Insurance Services

News Index

For the RecordP.2
From the frontPs.5,9
Lottery Numbers P.9
ObituariesPs.3,6
-Phillip Francis Hoenig
–Eustolia T. Sanchez
-Julia Norreene Schmitt
–Carol A. Wyatt
–Jana Elaine Heule Ziegler
Sports P.5

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For the Record/Weather

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report

9/25/19 - 7:07 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism on Tammy Lane. 09/25/19 - 12:54 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in 2100 block of Hwy. 61. 09/25/19 - 1:53 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 3300 block of Avenue L. 09/26/19 - 3:20 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 600 block of 13th Street. 09/26/19 - 12:45 p.m.

- Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 4500 block of Avenue O. 09/26/19 - 3:47 p.m. Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a stolen vehicle of 3100 block of Avenue K. 09/26/19 – 4:53 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 900 block of Avenue F. 09/27/19 - 2:01 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 800 block of Avenue F. 09/27/19 - 6:24 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a stolen vehicle in the 2700 block of Avenue K.

09/25/19 - 8:39 p.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Amanda Jean Smith, 25, of Fort Madison in the 4600 block of Avenue J, on a warrant for failure to appear. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held. 09/25/19 – 9:08 p.m. – Fort Madison Police arrested Amber Lynn Koper, 38, of Fort Madison, in the 3900 block of Bluff Road on a charges of serious domestic abuse assault and child endangerment. 09/26/19 - 4:09 p.m. -Fort Madison Police cited Michael Roa, 60, of Fort Madison, 1100 block of Avenue H, on a charge of disorderly conduct. He was released upon citation. 09/28/19 - 9:48 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a shoplifter in the 1900 block of Avenue H. 09/28/19 - 12:37 p.m.

- Fort Madison Police

responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 2700 block of Avenue I. 09/29/19 - 10:35 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a stolen vehicle in the 1700 block of Avenue D. 09/29/19 - 2:49 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 2400 block of Avenue H. 09/29/19 - 5:00 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 400 block of Avenue E. 09/29/19- 8:09 a.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Dustin Derrick Derr, 31, of Keokuk, in the 2200 block of Avenue L, on charges of driving while barred, possession of a controlled substance. possession of drug paraphernalia and a warrant out of Henderson County. III. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.

Lee County Sheriff's Report

09/26/19 - 10:46 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Rod Wayne Knustrom, 56, of Fort Madison on Bluff Road on a charge of driving while barred and operating while intoxicated – 2nd offense. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held. 09/27/19 - 6:18 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Austin Michael Stanley, 23, of Keokuk, at the sheriff's office, on a judgment hold. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held. 09/27/19 - 8:11 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a two-vehicle accident on Hwy. 2 near Bluff Road. According to the report, a vehicle driven by Tessa Taryn Gendron. 15, of Donnellson struck the rear of a vehicle driven by Kyndon Reilly Boatman, 17, of West Point while Boatman was braking to turn left on Bluff Road. No injuries or citations were reported at the scene. 09/29/19 - 9:43 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Michael Andrew

Smith, 29, of Danville, at the sheriff's office on a charge of disorderly conduct. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held. 09/29/19 - 10:00 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Andrew William Brosman, 25, of Fort Madison, at the sheriff's office on a judgment hold. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held. 09/30/19 - 9:43 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Logan David Bode, 31, of Keokuk, at the sheriff's office on a charge of disorderly conduct. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held. Those listed above are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Fort Madison Fire & **Rescue Report**

09/28/19 - Fort Madison firefighters responded to two medical calls and one assist. 09/29/19 - Fort Madison firefighters responded to three medical calls and one burnt complaint. 09/30/19 - Fort Madison firefighters responded to four medical calls.





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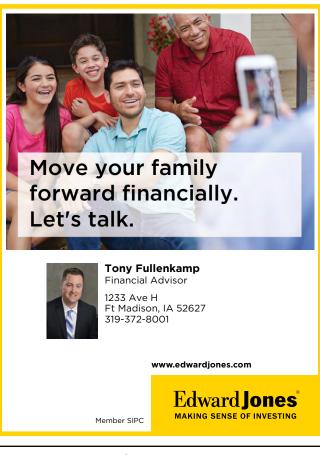
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5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

WED 02 Oct



Heavy Intensity Rain High- 66.9° F | Low - 64.0° F

THU 03 Oct



Broken Clouds High- 63.5° F | Low - 49.0° F

FRI 04 Oct



Broken Clouds High- 61.0° F | Low - 54.9° F

SAT 05 Oct



Heavy Intensity Rain High- 56.7° F | Low - 53.4° F

SUN 06 Oct



Scattered Clouds High- 65.8° F | Low - 54.5° F

OpenWeatherMap

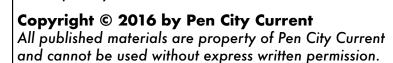
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Obituaries

OBITUARIES

JULIA NORREENE SCHMITT

Julia Norreene Schmitt, 91, of Sunnybrook in Fort Madison, passed away at 5:00 P.M. Thursday September 26, 2019 at Sunnybrook.



SCHMITT

Born August 8, 1928 at Bonaparte, Iowa the daughter of Arthur and Nora (Wallingford) McCracken. On March 16, 1947 at Primrose, Iowa she married Carl Schmitt. He preceded her in death on September 20, 2001.

Survivors include one daughter: Vada (Craig Conrad) Lampe of

Houghton, Iowa. Four sons: Arthur Schmitt of Richmond, Texas, Roderick (Valerie) Schmitt of Bonaparte, Iowa, Sidney (Luan) Schmitt of New London, Iowa, Verne (Debra) Schmitt of New London, Iowa. Twenty grandchildren, thirty-two great grandchildren, four great grandchildren and three step grandchildren. Also surviving is her special son-in-law Melvin (Sharon) Carr, three nieces, three nephews and several great nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, daughter Marcia Carr, daughter-in-law Linda Schmitt, son-in-law Randy Lampe, three sisters and one nephew.

Norreene was a 1945 graduate of Bonaparte High School and a member of the Sharon Presbyterian Church. She was a beloved mother and grandmother. The family will meet with friends from 2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. Sunday at the Schmitz Funeral Home in West Point.

Funeral services will be held at 10:30 A.M. Monday September 30, 2019 at the Schmitz Funeral Home in West Point with Pastor David Mixon officiating.

Following the funeral service her body will be cremated. Burial will be in the Primrose Cemetery near Primrose.

Memorials may be made to Great River Hospice or Fort Madison Sunnybrook.

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





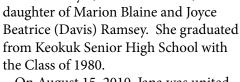
OBITUARIES

JANA ELAINE HEULE ZIEGLER

Jana Elaine (Ramsey) Heule Ziegler, 57, of Staunton, IL formerly of Keokuk, IA went to be with the Lord on Wednesday, September 25, 2019 at Mercy Hospital in St. Louis, MO.

She was born on February 8, 1962 in Keokuk, the

ZIEGLER



On August 15, 2010, Jana was united in marriage to Ronnie Ziegler in Litchfield, IL. He survives.

She is also survived by three sons, Joshua Heule (Johanna) and Jared Heule of Keokuk, and Jacob Heule of Fulton County, MO, one daughter, Cayla Heule (John) of Gilbert, AZ, three step-children, Cassie Scroggins (Thomas) of Staunton, IL, Cayla Burdell (Daniel) of Litchfield, IL and Carlie Ballard (Chris) of Pontoon Beach, IL, two brothers, Daniel Ramsey of Mt. Sterling, IL and Chris Ramsey (Julie) of Keokuk, one sister, Linda Burdette (Mike) of Keokuk, nine grandchildren, Rachel Heule, Marcus Heule, Baylie Da-

vis, Brooklyn Heule, Makenna Heule, Emma Miller and Noah Walton all of Keokuk, Alyson Hamelton of Gilbert, AZ, and Britani Heule of Prairie Du Roacher, IL, five step-grand-children, Hazle and Cyan Burdell, Ella, Naven and Spencer Scroggins, niece and nephews, Jamie Hamelton (Terry), Jody Coppler (Michelle), Jeffrey Coppler, Steve Burdette (Adrienne) and Aaron Burdette (Elizabeth) and one aunt, Irene Bloyd of Keokuk.

She was preceded in death by her parents, one sister, Debbie Adams, one grandson, Lucas Andrew Heule, her ex-husband, Mark Heule, grandparents, Marion and Della Ramsey and Hugh and Gladys Davis, one uncle Hughie Davis and her in-laws, LeRoy and Barbara Ziegler.

Jana enjoyed reading and working on crossword puzzles. She also enjoyed her dogs, who were her faithful companions. Jana was a loving wife, a wonderful mother and grandmother and the best sister and aunt. Her greatest joy was spending time with her family.

A Celebration of Life will be held at 6 pm Thursday at Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk with Pastor Derek Olsen officiating.

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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Sports/From the Front

HTC 3rd, Central Lee 4th at Superconference tourney

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC SPORTS

BURLINGTON – The Holy Trinity Crusaders just missed taking Class 2A's 4th-ranked Van Buren Warriors to a tiebreaker at the Southeast Iowa Superconference volleyball tournament Saturday at SCC.

The Crusaders, ranked 10th in Class 1A in the latest poll, fell 26-28 in the second game just missing a chance at a tiebreaker to go to the conference championship match against Class 2A's 6th-ranked Mediapolis

After avenging a loss to New London earlier this year in pool play of the Southeast Iowa Superconference

tourney Thursday night, the Crusaders got revenge on a two-game loss to Central Lee a week ago. HTC downed the Hawks 25-10, 25-20 to take third place.

Van Buren finished second at the tourney and Mediapolis won the tourney with a 25-23, 25-11 win over Van Buren.

Claire Pothitakis and Kassi Randolph combined for 30 kills in the three game tournament finals held at Loren Walker Arena. Pothitakis was 42-50 attacking, while Randolph, who was a setter last year, continues to work her way into a top hitter on the team was 42 of 47 with 13 kills. The sophomore also had 28 assists and went 21 of 21 with four aces and 23 digs.

Senior Maille Sheerin went 33 of 35 serving with five

aces. Freshman Brooke Mueller went 41 of 45 hitting with 12 kills. Katie Denning had six blocks to lead the Crusaders. Denning also had 11 kills.

The Crusaders (17-7) are at home Thursday against

Central Lee placed took fourth place overall in the tournament after falling to HTC

Central Lee beat New London 23-25, 28-26, 15-13 and then lost to Mediapolis 17-25, 17-25 before falling to HTC

Mya Merschman had 27 kills on the night. Abby Wellman had 22 kills for Central Lee. Zoe Eschman was 20 of 21 serving at 69 assists at the finals. Chloe Weber went 11 of 11 serving and had 26 digs.

Mid-Prairie pulls away after good Central Lee start

BY PCC STAFF

WELLMAN – The Central Lee Hawks were giving Mid-Prairie of game through the first quarter, but the Golden Hawks ran away with the things from that point on. The Hawks fell to 0-5 on the year with a 60-7 loss on the road.

Central Lee's only score came on a 21-yard run by Adam Boeck with 7:09 left in the first quarter to tie the game at 7-7.

Mid-Prairie would score again with 3:08 left in the first period on a nother 11-yard touchdown run. Junior Kayden Reiner had three scores for the Golden Hawks on just 11 carries for 141 yards. Junior Keegan Gingerich and sophomore Tyler Helmuth had the other rushing touchdowns for Mid Prairie.

Gingerich also had a 53-yard receiving touchdown as well.

For Central Lee, Boeck went 4-12 for 40 yards throwing and two interceptions. He and Westercamp split most of the yards from scrimmage on the ground for Central Lee with Westercamp pulling down 27 yards and Boeck going for 23.

Senior David Vance recorded 6.5 tackles on the night followed by Evan Pohren with 6.

Mid-Prairie (3-2) got the running clock going with 11:05 left in the third period on a 15-yard fumble return for a touchdown to put the Golden Hawks up by 32 at 39-7. The score was the second touchdown off a fumble recovery on the night for Mid-Prairie.

Central Lee (0-5) travels to 0-5 Albia on Friday night.

Some want issue pushed to next council

ORDINANCE - Continued from Page 1

so that's how he will continue to vote.

Greenwald said his position is centered around creating a new law and whether the law creates a freedom or a limitation.

"This brings one of the biggest things that a council can do – create a law. We live in a free country and it comes down to whether we prohibit a freedom or allow it," he said.

Fort Madison resident Dave Bohnenkamp spoke to the council and asked that the issue be tabled until the next city council is seated in January.

Former City Councilman Brian Wright asked what it would take to reverse the ordinance should it be passed by the current council. City Attorney Robert Johnson said it would be like any other added agenda item at the request of the City Manager, the Mayor, or two city council representatives.



Lady Hounds 1-4 at Liberty Invite

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON – The Fort Madison Lady Hounds salvaged one win a five match invitational Monday night at Iowa City Liberty.

Fort Madison managed to split two games with Fairfield 25-22, 21-25 and then came away with a 15-6 tiebreaker win.

Two of the Bloodhound losses came at the hands of Solon in pool play 13-21, 14-21, and then again in consolation play 10-21, 16-21. Iowa City Liberty also downed Fort Madison 15-21, 8-21 and Clinton claimed the other win over Fort Madison 9-21, 11-21

Hitter Jillian Wiseman had 24 kills on 72-90 hitting on then night to lead the Hounds. She also had 22 digs. Junior Lauren Bailey had 54 assists and went 29-32 serving and led the squad with 25 digs

Reyna Lampe was 39 of 47 hitting with 12 kills and went 28-30 from the service line. Madison Pirri went a perfect 19-19 serving with six aces on th night.

The Hound travel to Washington Tuesday night for a conference matchup.







Derek Breder, M.D.

Brent Woodbury, M.D.

Dr. Brent Woodbury ◆ Dr. Derek Breder ◆ Paul Ostby, P.A.-C ◆ Kyle Gibson, P.A.-C



ORTHOPEDICS & SPORTS MEDICINE 319-376-1135 ◆ www.fmchosp.com

Obituaries

No Plastic Bags in the recycling bins

When recycling, be it at one of our convenient drop off sites, or putting out your residential recycling bin for the pickup, please **DO NOT** put items in plastic bags. They are not recyclable at Great River Regional Waste Authority.

For a complete listing of what we do recycle, contact your local City Hall, or one of our facilities for a service guide. Check with your local retail stores such as Hy-Vee or Walmart for their recycling capabilities. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation concerning this issue!!





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OBITUARIES

PHILLIP FRANCIS HOENIG

Phillip Francis Hoenig, 70 of Fort Madison, IA died early Tuesday morning at the Great River Hospice House in Burlington, IA.

Phil was born June 14, 1949 in Fort Madison, IA. He was the second child of Leo and Adelaide (Friye) Hoenig. He is survived by his four children Jozef (Holly) Hoenig of Galva, IL Heidi (Sean) Leitch of Bel Air, MD, Johann Hoenig of Ft. Madison and Franz (Darian) Hoenig of Ft. Madison Three grandchildren Addison Hoenig, Jude Hoenig and Juliet Leitch. His brother Anthony "Mike" Hoenig of Ft. Madison, sister Kathleen (Dennis Kelsch) Hoenig of Salt Lake City, UT. Also, several nieces, nephews and cousins. He was preceded in death by his parents Leo and Adelaide Hoenig and his younger brother Stephen Hoenig.

Phil attended the Sacred Heart Catholic school in Fort Madison. He developed a passion for music and spent much of high school playing with different bands. He worked at Rempe's music house in Fort Madison where he developed an interest in fixing pipe organs. He eventually traveled to Pennsylvania to begin an apprenticeship for an organ builder.

Phil returned to Iowa and spent the next 40 years mastering his craft of building, restoring, tuning and playing the pipe organ. He could play a wide variety of instruments, and was a skilled woodworker. He possessed an incredible ability to tune pipe organs by ear, a talent that few have. Phil's work can be found all over the United States, even as far as Tokyo, Japan where he built and delivered several pipe organs.

In addition to being a talented and hard worker he was also a family man, a father to four children. Both family and music were infinitely important to Phil. He taught his children the importance of hard work and of being themselves. He was a creative and unique soul who was truly one of a kind. A beautiful sound has left this world with Phil's passing.

The memorial mass will be held at 11 AM on Monday, October 7, 2019 at Ss. Mary & Joseph Church with Rev. Joseph Phung officiating. The family will meet with friends from 10 AM until the time of the service at 11 AM at the church. Per his wishes, cremation has been entrusted to King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory.

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

EUSTOLIA T. SANCHEZ

Eustolia T. Sanchez, 95, of Ft. Madison, IA, passed away at 1:18 AM, Tuesday, October 01, 2019 at the Ft. Madison Community Hospital.

She was born on November 9, 1923 in Ft. Madison to Vicente and Maria Vasquez



Mendez. On May 16, 1942 she married Felix Sanchez in Ft. Madison and he passed away on January 15, 2009. Eustolia was a member of Sacred Heart Church, Altar and Rosary, Our Lady of Fàtima, and Gua-

laupana. She volunteered for numerous events at the Lulac. Eustolia enjoyed flowers, gardening and would share her crop with her family. She loved her family. Her greatest joy was cooking for them and having all of them together.

Survivors include one daughter, Belia (Dan) Hernandez of Ft. Madison; seven sons, Ricardo (Sue) Sanchez of Seattle, WA, Lorenzo

Sanchez of Racine, WI, Reynaldo (Julie) Sanchez of Ft. Madison, Arthuro (Virginia) Sanchez of Seattle, WA, Andres (Elaine) Sanchez of Seattle, WA, Roberto (Mary Beth) Sanchez of West Burlington and Joseph (Tami) Sanchez of Ft. Madison; a daughter in law, Jessica Sanchez of Seattle, WA thirty grandchildren, eighteen great grandchildren and one on the way; five brothers, Eusebio "Abie" Mendez, Johnny Mendez, Eddie Mendez, Roger Mendez all of Ft. Madison and Jerry Mendez of Livermore, CA; four sisters, Rufina Martinez, Carolina Mendez and Sally Hernandez all of Ft. Madison and Anna Luna of Galesburg, IL; numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; a son, Felis; one sister Juanita; three brothers, Aurelio, Lupe and Ruben.

Friends may call after 2 PM on Tuesday, October 8, 2019 at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory where the family will meet with friends from 4:00-6:00 PM. A rosary will be recited at 3:30 PM PM and a wake service will be held at 6:00 PM. The funeral mass with be held on Wednesday, October 9, 2019 at 10:00 AM at Sacred Heart Church with Rev. Joseph Phung officiating. Burial will follow in Sacred Heart Cemetery. A memorial has been established for Sacred Heart Church and online condolences may be left at www.kinglynk.com.

CAROL A. WYATT

Carol A. Wyatt, 76, of Burlington, IA, passed away at 4:37 p.m. on Sunday, September 29, 2019 at her home. She was born on May 1, 1943 in Quincy, MA to Robert S.

worked in management for several businesses and enjoyed fishing and Carol is survived by: her husband: Dale Wyatt of Burlington, IA;

She married Dale A. Wyatt on March 16, 1990 in Andrew, IA. She

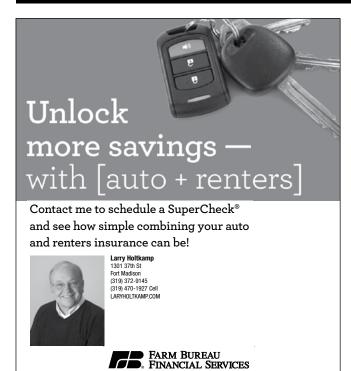
1-son: Eric (Adrianne) Wyatt of Lyndonville, VT & 1-grandson: Jack Wyatt of Lyndonville, VT. She was preceded in death by her parents. Cremation has been entrusted to the care of King-Lynk Funeral

WYATT Home & Crematory and no services are planned. Online condolences to Carol's family may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: www.kinglynk.com.

the classifieds

Business Directory

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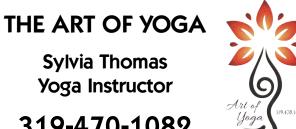




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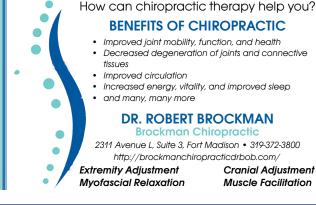
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From the Front/Lottery Numbers

Paper's handling of story muddies up the waters

KING - Continued from Page 1

That kid, Aaron Calvin, was doing diligence on a story, a practice and habit that people of the WORLD have to come count on from journalists – digging into stories and revealing not just the truth....but the whole truth. Reputable accounts indicate he "no longer"

works for the publication"

but if he was dismissed,

it makes forgiveness of

the company tougher for

even me to swallow. The

Executive Editor herself

said a board convened to

make a determination of

tweets should be included

whether the 8-year old

in the piece. And they

made the determination

the Des Moines Register.

that it should be included buried at the bottom. I think that's a shallow gesture because someone's gonna read the whole thing...and someone's gonna comment.

If that account holds true, his dismissal is him being thrown on the sword and that's not acceptable. But if he left under his own accord, its easier to stand by the paper.

I still believe in my four decades or so of cynicism that there's more to this story than has been totally revealed yet, but my bigger concern at the moment is what's happening to society's impression of journalism and the role

of news reporting in our society.

As part of the news gathering community, even in our hyperlocal endeavor here, we make decisions every day on how much time and resources we commit to tips, requests, news stories, and other coverage.

No, as many people have messaged us and asked, we do not do regular background checks on sources in our stories. Where in the world would that time come from? You folks still think there's two of me. BUT...we don't own a five-story professional building staffed with everything we would need to do those back-

ground checks. If so, we probably would.

I've been in the Des Moines Register before and I'm pretty sure the reporter, who is a reputable reporter around the state, didn't do a background check on my social media feeds. He wouldn't have found anything because I typically don't engage unless its for clarification. And when I was 16, the only phone we had had this wiggly cable attached to it that I regularly overstretched talking to girls until all hours of the night.

So my question in this piece is this... Where would you prefer us to stop?

It's always been my philosophy that we peel the layers back, but how far is far enough? It's also critical to remember this: we don't print everything we hear. Not even close.

King went to social

media for beer money and when it became more than he was expecting he decided he would donate the rest to the hospital with no clue at that point that Busch and Venmo were jumping on board. They did, and then it went viral and exploded. At that point, it's not that big of a leap for a reporter who's professionally trained to look at all angles of a story and to check out King's other social media activity.

I'm a journalist, and admittedly am nowhere near qualified to pass judgment on that editorial board for printing the past King tweets. I wouldn't have done it because the added editorial risk didn't outweigh the value of the good deed. But this same journalist says there is no blame here, only the continued dismantling of the fourth estate in this country.

We are challenged to pursue unabated and with zeal, the truth in that which we report. That's supposed to be our mission.

Corporations are gobbling up most of the newspapers in this country, sucking the life out of them through management fees and staff reductions, and leaving the dried fruit on the ground in hopes that someone local will pick it up with grand illusions of rebuilding it to greatness.

Now throw in social media culture dictating through what one publication called the "culture of cancellation" and you leave us wondering – what is it that you really want from us?

It's pretty easy to copy and paste a press release... but that's Beside the Point.

Chuck Vandenberg is editor and co-owner of Pen City Current

Motorist had to be extricated from vehicle

ACCIDENT - Continued from Page 1

2001 Pontiac was Sandra Louise Seager, 58, of Donnellson, who had to be extricated from her car by the fire department. She was transported by ambulance to the FMCH emergency department for treatment.

The driver of the van, a 2016 Honda, was identified as Sabrina Marie Brown, 37, of Niota, IL, who had a complaint of minor injury and would later seek medical care.

All vehicles were disabled and required to be towed from the roadway. Responders to the scene included the Fort Madison Police Department, Fort Madison Fire Department, Lee County EMS, and the Lee County Sheriff's Department.

Amberger was taken to the Fort Madison Police Department where he was initially charged with a traffic offense of "Following Too Closely."

The case is currently under investigation and no further details are available for release.



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