



# Pen City Current

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## Loebsack peeks in on FMHS career training programs



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

U.S. Rep. Dave Loebsack, along with Fort Madison High School Principal Smith, left, and Dr. Slater, center, visit the welding class at Fort Madison High School Thursday afternoon. Loebsack visited three schools on Thursday, wrapping up his trip in Fort Madison.

### *Loebsack says he'll keep fighting for federal CTE funding*

**BY CHUCK VANDENBERG**  
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – With a pronounced skills gap in Lee County, career training education is floating to the top of state school priority lists and U.S Rep. Dave Loebsack visited Fort Madison High School Thursday to look at what's happening in that arena locally.

Loebsack took a 30-minute tour with Fort Madison High School Superintendent Dr. Erin Slater and Principal Greg Smith visiting the school's welding, culinary, automotive, and ag classes, and spoke with instructors about the programs.

Loebsack asked what the biggest

need was and Smith told him resources to expand the program.

Smith said he uses federal Perkins grants to help put equipment and supplies in the programs, but that money is short lived. He said local businesses and industries have donated hundreds of thousands of dollars to the high school programs, but resources are still a high priority to expand.

"I've got a waiting list. I'm out of teachers, I'm out of space... We need an off-campus regional center where all three high schools in Lee County can come, even from out of state if we've got room," Smith said.

Other regional education centers, such as the center near Kirksville

College in Cedar Rapids, offer certificate programs where students can earn dual credits on site, including job certifications, and go to work right out of high school.

Loebsack, who taught at Cornell College in Iowa for 24 years, said the generation that looked at college as the ultimate prep for a career has passed.

"I don't believe that people need to go to a four year college, or get a degree beyond the graduate degree," he said.

"Some may not need to do that at all. It may not be for them, they may care about it and that's fine,

See **LOEBSACK**, page 2



### Beside The Point

Chuck Vandenberg,  
Pen City Current - Editor

### *Poll says no ATVs; but we vote "Yes"*

An overwhelming response to a six-day Facebook poll showed that about 64% of our readers don't believe golf carts, ATVs, and UTVs should be allowed on the streets.

It's an interesting poll and quite a few people questioned us on how many of the respondents were from Fort Madison. We don't believe it's relevant because about 93% of our readership is north Lee County and those readers have a viable opinion.

They move through Fort Madison on a regular basis, and when you consider that we had more than 70 comments on the issue on the post, they were genuine opinions.

Here's ours for what it's worth. Why not?

Former City Councilman Brian Wright has been railing publicly against the issue, and on the Facebook post saying the council voted it down in the past due to safety concerns and he asks, "what's changed".

First and foremost, the council has changed. Councilman Matt Mohrfeld rejuvenated the idea about 10 weeks ago calling it a piece of Americana – folks riding to the park with sandwiches and lemonade to listen to music or visit an art fair or what have you.

Councilman Bob Morawitz says the vehicles aren't rated for street use, which is indicative that the manufacturers don't even believe they are safe on city streets.

But there is merit to the argument that a bicycle, a moped, or City Manager David Varley's motorcycle are no safer on the streets than a golf cart, and are probably a little less safe than an ATV/UTV with a roll bar. I mean that's real...that makes sense. The safety argument doesn't fly in our opinion.

There is a lady that rides right down our street on a motorized scooter, the type of which you'd see in a grocery store. Again, you can't make the argument for safety. It just doesn't fly.

What would fly is one of the vehicles that isn't working properly going 10 mph with an orange flag waving in the air and backing up traffic for three blocks. We cover the news.... we gotta go.

Lee County Sheriff Stacy Weber said he had his

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## From the Front

# Slater says district assessing above state, federal requirements

LOEBSACK - Continued from Page 1

but they can get a great job without doing that. They might have to go to a community college, but not always do they even have to do that."

Slater said the district is working closely with industrial and business partners to identify how the district can help with demands on those employers.

"Greg's a part of it, too. We sit at the table with business and industry and say, 'What is it that you're needing, what is the workforce demanding, and what can we do to help to help get kids plugged in?'. Those conversations are important to have," Slater said.

Loebsack said he's not convinced that Secretary of Education Betsy DeVoss knows what needs to be done, but said Congress needs to make sure funding for such programs as Perkins

grants stay in place. "That's why CTE is so important. We'll see what happens with budget caps and by Sept. 30, we have to have appropriations done. We did our job in the House, but the Senate is lagging behind, which always seems to be the case," Loebsack said.

"The good news is more and more schools are doing exactly what you folks are doing here. Again, it goes back to what are these students going to do when they are done here, and just recognizing that setting people on a four-year track and beyond is not necessarily the way to go."

Loebsack said the economy is a big factor in maintaining the need for these programs so high schoolers are a valued resource for employers.

"As long as the economy is going strong, we're

going to be able to get these kids jobs."

Loebsack also asked how the district was performing with the Every Student Succeeds Act, which is the federal education mandate that replaced No Child Left Behind in 2015 under President Barack Obama.

"You don't have such a straight jacket on you as you did with No Child Left Behind, right?" Loebsack asked Fort Madison Superintendent Dr. Erin Slater.

Slater said the district is still responsible for the Iowa Assessment, but school leaders have been working on additional assessments that identify real-time student needs.

"We're still accountable to the Iowa Assessment and we make sure we do that, but one of the things our district has been working on the last four years is multiple

assessments, formative assessments. Doing that on-time real-time instruction and then that real time feedback for kids and teachers," Slater said.

He said No child Left Behind focused on everyone being above average which really made no sense.

"I think No Child Left Behind is a classic example of Congress making a law not knowing what the hell they were doing," Loebsack said.

Slater said she believes the district is assessing students at a higher level than the government requires.

"We need to because those are the faces we see very day. Parents are sending them to us, they're expecting them to be successful so we need to make sure we are doing everything we can," Slater said.

# County not seeing major problems with new law

GOLF CARTS - Continued from Page 1

doubts when the county installed a new law allowing the use of the vehicles on secondary roads. They can cross highways but only perpedicularly to get from one secondary road to the next.

Weber said just as recently as Tuesday that he's been surprised by how little trouble has been caused by the new code. He even referenced a rally at Charleston Board of Trade where more than 60 ATVs and UTVs were on site and the sheriff's department had no issues with any of the riders on or off the site.

Chris Greenwald went on record with me last week saying he will not be selling golf carts at his dealership, River City Motors Plus. He said he's got way more credible product lines.

We have a park-to-park historical district and we, for one, think that riding around in golf carts could enhance that image. But I think you're going to see very few golf carts and more ATVs/UTVs.

Think about tourism. The way Iowa is going, you're going to be able to get just about anywhere on an ATV or UTV, side-by-side, whatever you want to call it. People could hold rallies for charities like they do with Poker Runs. This is the base entertainment for a lot of people and if they now can come through Fort Madison isn't that good for a lot of people?

We just ask one thing. If the speed limit is 25, for the love of god, please try to stay close to the speed limit. Golf cart gridlock will not sit well with the wife.

By the way, we also allow horses on the street...as you will see very very soon, but that's Beside the Point.

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## Obituaries/For the Record

### OBITUARIES

## GEORGE BROWN

George Brown, 75 years, of Fort Madison, Iowa died Wednesday, August 28, 2019 at his home. He was born January 11, 1944 in Pennsylvania, a son of George Andrews and Louise Brown. He first married Charlotta Grant. She preceded him in death. On January 21, 2000 he married Beverly (Hoenig) Wenke in Fort Madison. She survives.

George worked as a bowling alley mechanic. He and Beverly were co-owners of Americana Bowl for years. Later in life he flipped houses. He was an avid Pittsburgh Steelers, Chicago Cubs, and country music fan. He was very humble and kind.

He is survived by his wife, Beverly Brown of Fort Madison; one son, Joseph Brown of Fort Madison; three daughters: Kim (Bryan) Morehouse of Fort Madison; Susie (John) Frey of Toronto, Ohio; and Sherry (Johnathon) Sherrell of Steubenville, Ohio; one step-son, Martin (Trac) Wenke of Argyle, Iowa; one step-daughter, Cathy (Greg) Garrels of Burlington, Iowa; three sisters: Mary Brown, Marlene Brown, and Laura Marie Jones, all of Fredrickstown, Pennsylvania; several grandchildren, great grandchildren, step-grandchildren and a step-great grandchild; several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, first wife Charlotta, and two sons, William Lee Brown and George C. "Pokey" Brown.

Private graveside services and burial will be at a later date at Oakland Cemetery, Fort Madison. Barr Memorial Chapel in charge of the arrangements. A memorial has been established, contributions may be made at the Barr Memorial Chapel. Online condolences to the Brown family may be made at [www.barrmemorialchapel.com](http://www.barrmemorialchapel.com).

### For the Record

#### Fort Madison Police Report

08/28/19 – 9:31 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 700 block of Avenue G. 08/28/19 – 11:06 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 3000 block of Avenue P. 08/28/19 – 6:29 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1400 block of Avenue F. 08/28/19 – 8:56 p.m.

– Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1200 block of 37th Street. 08/28/19 – 4:10 a.m. – Fort Madison Police arrested Jessie Marie Maddox, 46, of Fort Madison in the 1200 block of 26th Street on a charge of 1st-degree harassment. She was taken to the Lee County Jail and held. 08/29/19 – 3:42 a.m. – Fort Madison Police arrested Katelynn Juni Leah Brogden, 26, of Fort Madison,

in the 4800 block of Avenue O, on a warrant. She was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.

#### Lee County Sheriff's Report

08/28/19 – 10:41 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Cole Allen Wyatt, 22, of Montrose, at the sheriff's office on a charge of OWI-1st offense. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and released on a promise to appear. 08/29/19 – 5:00 a.m. – Lee

County Sheriff's deputies arrested Nicholas Gordon Nelson, 35, of Manito, Ill., at the Super 8 Motel in Fort Madison on charge of OWI-1st offense. 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

08/28/19 – Fort Madison Firefighters responded to three medical calls and one burn complaint.



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# Current-Lee/Classifieds

## CURRENT-LEE

The following is a list of current events and happenings in Fort Madison and north Lee County as submitted to the Pen City Current.

### Lunch-Ala-Art

The Fort Madison Area Arts Association is holding Lunch-ala-Art Friday at noon featuring Parthenon Pizza, salad and dessert for \$9. Kath Neff will then host a gallery talk on fiber art. Call 372-3996 for details.

### Chamber Ladies Golf Outing

The Fort Madison Chamber of Commerce will be holding it's 8th annual Ladies Golf Outing on Sept. 13. For more information or to register your team email the chamber at [chamber@fortmadison.com](mailto:chamber@fortmadison.com)

### Riverview Games

The Fort Madison Riverview Games are back! On Sept. 14 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Riverview Park. Fort Madison service clubs, OCI Iowa Fertilizer, Hy-Vee, the Fort Madison YMCA, Kempker's True Value Rental and the Chamber are sponsoring this year's event. Volunteers are still need. Contact the

chamber at [chamber@fortmadison.com](mailto:chamber@fortmadison.com) for details or to volunteer.

### Pop Can Drive

The Fort Madison Middle School bands will be hosting their annual Pop Can Drive on Sept. 14th at FMMS from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Drop off location is no north side of the school. All redeemable cans and plastic bottles will be accepted. No glass or recyclables. Proceeds help defray costs of the band department. Contact Lisa Knipe at 319-372-4687 with questions.

### Bloodhound Booster Events

The Fort Madison Bloodhound Booster Club is hosting a BINGO night on Sept. 21, at the LULAC in Fort Madison. Also the Booster Club is having organizations in the area sponsor the Bark and Bite at home football games this year. Wilson BBQ is sponsoring this Friday with pulled pork sandwiches and baked beans.

### Ready-To-Rodeo

Events for this year's Tri-State Rodeo start Satur-

day, Aug. 31 with a pancake breakfast beginning at 6 a.m. and the Special Kids Rodeo to follow. Sunday is the annual chili supper from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Monday is the Lil Spurs Rodeo beginning at 10 a.m. in the Rodeo Arena followed by a pork dinner from 5 to 7 p.m. and then the Lil Miss Rodeo and All-Around Cowboy contest starting at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. is the annual Pee Wee Barrel Races to children under 12. Register here: <http://tristaterodeo.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/PeeWee.pdf>

### Tri-State Rodeo

The 72nd Annual Tri-State Rodeo kicks off with CINCH Chute-Out on Wednesday Sept. 4 and the nationally ranked outdoor rodeo action kicks of Thursday night through Saturday night with high stakes rodeo action and national entertainment featuring Micheal Ray on Thursday, Tracey Lawrence on Friday and Justin Moore on Saturday night.

See **CURRENT-LEE**, page 9

# the classifieds

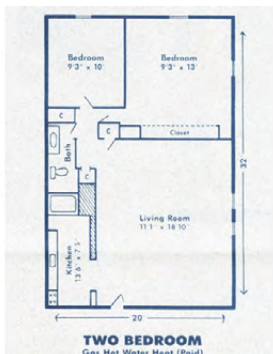
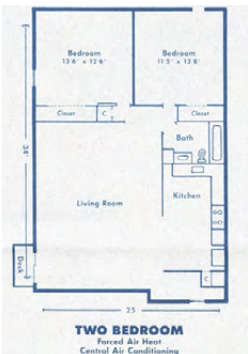
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**Classifieds**

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## Sports/Lottery Numbers

# Hounds, Hawks ready for opening week clash

*Doherty trying to make it three straight over Hawks in home opener*

BY ETHAN LILLARD  
PCC SPORTS

FORT MADISON- Heading into the fourth-consecutive season of the Lee County rivalry between the Hounds and the Hawks, Central Lee has a chance to even the series between the two programs at 2-2 over the five year span. Fort Madison has bested the Hawks the past two seasons, winning 21-0 last season and 56-35 in 2017-2018.

Both teams are starting fresh in different ways however, coming into the 2019 campaign.

Long-time Bloodhound Derek Doherty now finds himself at the helm for Fort Madison, while Central Lee looks to rebound

after a rough 0-9 season.

Both teams will also look similar in styles of play on both sides of the ball according to their head coaches.

"They're pretty identical to us," Doherty said. "They change their offense and they change their defense. Coach Ehret and I shared film, we decided that would be the fair route to go. We saw a lot of the same things we run. We're intrigued by that matchup to line up against their 11 and see who can execute better."

With the Hounds opening the season at home Friday night, getting off on the right foot and getting the first win of the Doherty era is crucial. A win Friday is just



the momentum boost Fort Madison needs to start the season off hot.

"We're going to be about energy and effort and having a good attitude and execution," Doherty said. "We know what our kids are capable of, it's just getting them to do it. For a lot of them, this is their first chance to execute under Friday night lights. That's exciting because we know how hard they worked this summer and here is their opportunity."

Last season Fort Madison went with a pass-heavy approach, as newly graduated Lennon Barker aired the ball out a team-high 283



times for 1,630 yards. By comparison, Kali Maestro led the team with 343 rushing yards on 88 attempts, while Diego Lozano ranked second on the team in rushing with 26 totes for 206 total yards.

Maestro and Lozano both return for their senior campaigns looking to improve upon last season's numbers, but the 1,630 passing yards may be harder to replace. The good news is it appears Fort Madison has an idea of who will be running the huddle this season with junior Will Larson taking first-team reps under center.

Larson will be without two of the team's leading receivers from last season in Dom Frantz and Shaymour Redd-Donald, but Parker Denning and Michael Mosenia both saw the field for plenty of snaps last season and

look ready to take over lead receiving roles this year.

As for Central Lee, regrouping from a winless season is one thing, but playing on the road against a bigger school makes Friday's contest even more of an uphill battle. Ehret knows Friday will come down to flight or fright for the Hawks.

"It's obviously a big test to play a bigger school," Ehret said. "They've gotten us the last couple of years. We just have to go over there and compete to the best of our abilities and hopefully we can do a little better than we did last year."

Defensively Fort Madison won't have to worry about slowing down the Hawks former leading rusher in Tyler Hopp, but they will have to be ready for the aerial attacks from now senior quarterback Evan Pohren who tossed a team-high 625 yards last season. As for formations and style of play, expect it to be somewhat of a mirror image of what Fort Madison will look like.

"Week one is crazy

because you don't know," Doherty said. "Yeah, we shared film, but we have some things inside of our system that we didn't show on film and I know that they have the same. It's kind of a crazy start I guess."

"You never know what you're going to get from them this first week. They've got some good athletes out there. Coach Ehret is a fantastic coach, so you know that their guys are going to be disciplined and ready to go and know what they need to do."

Two schools, two programs looking for a fresh start and two coaches who are looking to build a foundation for their futures both this season and beyond. While the program matchup and coaching matchups are intriguing, at the end of the day, players play and coaches coach.

"We talk to them about control the controllables, but once Friday night happens we can call plays and stuff, but we're really out of the mix," Doherty said. "It's up to them to get down and do what they need to do."



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## IOWA LOTTERY WINNING NUMBERS

### Lotto Drawings

Game	Draw Days	Sales Cutoff Time	Approx. Drawing Time
Lucky for Life®	Mon & Thu	8:30 pm	9:38 pm
Mega Millions®	Tues & Fri	8:59 pm	10:00 pm
Powerball®	Wed & Sat	8:59 pm	9:59 pm
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

IOWA  
**POWERBALL**  
POWERPLAY  
8/28  
9 32 37 41 56  
Powerball: 14  
Power Play: 10

**LOTTO AMERICA**  
ALL STAR BONUS  
8/28  
10 11 15 46 52  
Star Ball: 3  
All Star Bonus: 2

**PICK 3**  
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8/28 MID-DAY  
2 9 0  
8/28 EVENING  
9 8 6

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## Current-Lee/Weather

### CURRENT-LEE

#### Future Ready Iowa Summit

Sponsored by the Iowa Workforce Development, Iowa Business Council, Iowa Association of Business and Industry and Cryotech, the summit will be held at Cryotech in Fort Madison Sept. 10 at 7 a.m. Click here to register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/future-ready-iowa-employer-summit-fort-madison-tickets-69231620641>

#### Bridges Training

A Bridges Out of Poverty community training session sponsored by Young House Family Services will be held Wed. Sept. 11 at The Landing in Montrose beginning with check-in at 4:30 p.m. Training runs from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. and is free. To register email Shayla Blackburn at [sblackburn@younghouse.org](mailto:sblackburn@younghouse.org) or by phone at 319-371-7465.

#### Girl Scouts Discovery Night

All girls are invited to join in on a free Discovery night on Sept. 18 at the Fort Madison Public Library from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. For more information visit the website at [www.girlscoutstoday.org](http://www.girlscoutstoday.org) or call 800-798-0833.

#### North Lee County Relay for Life

The annual Relay for Life takes place this year on September 27th from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m. and will feature Maddie Poppe in Concert. This year's theme is "idols of strength".

#### Weekly Book Sale

Friends of the Fort Madison Public Library is holding a weekly book sales from 11 a.m to 1 p.m. on Thursday's at the Public Library.

#### Small Grand Things Grand Opening

The new venue south of West Point is having a Grand Opening on Sept. 28 from 6 p.m. to midnight with food, music, and fun featuring Wilson Bros, BBQ, Caleb Booten performing from 8 p.m.

to 10 p.m. and Will Stuekerjuergen DJing until midnight. For more information visit the website at [smallgrandthings.com](http://smallgrandthings.com).

#### Fort Madison Farmer's Market

The farmer's market continues through Sept. 30 on Mondays on the east side of Central Park in Fort Madison from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Every second Monday is Kid's Day at the market.

#### Kensington events

The Kensington is offering Senior's Only Community Bingo on the second Wednesday of every month at 2 p.m. The event is free for seniors and cash prizes are awarded. Caregivers Connection is held the 4th Tuesday of every month at noon. Call 319-372-4233 to reserve your seat.

### 5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

#### FRI 30 Aug



Light Rain  
High- 72.2° F | Low - 59.2° F

#### SAT 31 Aug



Light Rain  
High- 68.6° F | Low - 62.9° F

#### SUN 01 Sep



Overcast  
High- 73.5° F | Low - 68.5° F

#### MON 02 Sep



Moderate Rain  
High - 73.4° F | Low - 72.8° F

#### TUE 03 Sep



Partly Sunny  
High- 86.3° F | Low - 65.9° F

[OpenWeatherMap](#)

# No Plastic Bags in the recycling bins

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Pen City Current will not publish an e-Edition Monday & Tuesday, September 2 & 3 due to the Labor Day holiday

Breaking news will continue to be published to our website [www.pencitycurrent.com](http://www.pencitycurrent.com) and through our social media channels as it happens.

The e-Edition will resume publication on Wednesday, September 4.

Please celebrate safely.



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