



Pen City Current

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Bridges program moves to hiring phase

\$50K in seed money donated to hire p/t coordinator

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

LEE COUNTY – It's been more than a year in the works, but Lee County's efforts toward creating a Bridges out of Poverty program has reached another threshold.

According to Dennis Fraise, the COO and Chief Economic Developer with Lee County Economic Development Group, said the program has received seed



FRAISE

money to hire a part-time day-to-day coordinator.

The LCEDG group in conjunction with other volunteers and Keokuk and Fort Madison economic development organizations, have been spearheading efforts to get the program rolled out in the county.

The effort started after Fraise attended several sessions of Burlington's "A Southeast Iowa Initiative – Building Bridges," including a graduation session.

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The program aims at identifying the members of the county living in poverty and trying to knock down some barriers that make that poverty cross generations in families. After the identification, then the program aims at classes that help open lines of communication.

That was in 2017, and for a better part of 2018 the groundwork on getting the program up and running in Lee County has been taking place.

"We think in the next 30 days we'll have a coordinator hired. We've had this pent up energy and everyone wanted to help, but once we get the coordinator hired,

See **POVERTY**, page 2



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Newly appointed Fort Madison Community School District board member, Josh Wykert, gets sworn in by board secretary, Sandy Elmore, at Monday night's special board meeting. The appointment had to take place prior to 30 days after the death of former board member Gayla Young, who died on Jan. 1.

Wykert appointed to FM school board Monday

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – The Fort Madison School district has a full board once again.

After the tragic death of board member Gayla Young on Jan. 1, the board had 30 days to fill the spot by appointment, or a special

election would have been required by state code.

On Monday, the board appointed 34-year-old Josh Wykert of Fort Madison to fill Young's vacancy. Wykert is currently pursuing a master's degree in finance and is a financial officer with Cryotech Deicing in rural Fort Madison.

Wykert said after the meeting he was happy to be selected and looks forward to working on the board. He said there are several things he'd like to get done on the board.

"There's a lot of good things going on, but I think there are also some things we can improve on,"

See **BOARD**, page 8

School district "may" look at lower levy rate

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – With the Fort Madison School District just now starting their budgeting process, early numbers could possibly show a drastic reduction in the levy rate for next year.

District Business Manager Sandy Elmore told the board that all numbers are very preliminary and state aid numbers are also not certain, but with increased valuations for the county projected at close to \$733 million, the district could see a tax rate below \$13 for the first time in a while.

Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds said in her State of the State address that she'd like to see the legislature approve 2.3% in allowable growth for the state's public school systems.

Board member Dianne Hope said that's just a starting point and, by the time the figure is included in the state's budget, it could be drastically reduced.

But board member Lois DiPrima, who had taken over reporting legislative issues to the board, said the last memos she seen indicate that lawmakers are favorable to the growth rate.

"I think this might get pushed through," DiPrima said.

The state aid formula and allowable growth will be critical to this year's school budget. During budget workshops last year, the district wasn't allowed to take

See **LEVY**, page 8

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Obituaries/From the Front

First classes could start in Spring

POVERTY - Continued from Page 1

they will run the day-to-day operations and we'll take that off our plate," Fraise said. "We also have a great group of volunteers in a consortium in Lee County that will oversee the program here."

He said the Lee County Bridges program will partner with Young House to help with the financial aspect of the program. Young House Family Services, is also partners with the Burlington Bridges program and serves as the non-profit arm for those efforts.

Fraise said about \$50,000 has been raised in seed donations for the Lee County Bridges program, with Keokuk Economic Development Corp., Fort Madison Economic Development Corp., LCEDG, and the Benevolent Union of Keokuk have been the major donors to date.

He said other donations have come from Pilot Grove Savings Bank, Potowonok Circle of Kings Daughters, United Resources Council of Keokuk, and Climax Molybdenum.

The group does not yet have sustainable funding sources for the future, so Fraise said fundraising will continue to be part of the logistics of the organization going forward.

"Once people see the program and the impact it can have, I think they'll be more willing to help fund it," Fraise said.

Once the coordinator is hired, Fraise said the next step will be to identify people for a "Getting Ahead Class" that will be held in Fort Madison and Keokuk.

"That will require child care, transportation, and meals. So there are a lot of layers to this and it really will take a village in this case to make that happen," he said.

After that would be a "Staying Ahead" class where people from the "Getting Ahead" class will be connected with mentors and Fraise said that program in Des Moines County was rolled out to high schools as well.

Fraise said he hoped that first classes could start in the spring.

OBITUARIES

VIRGIL A. FEDLER

Virgil A. Fedler, 97, of West Point, Iowa passed away at 6:20 p.m. Sunday, January 27, 2019 at the West Point Care Center.

Born on April 29, 1921, the son of Lawrence and Mayme (Rotter) Fedler. After the war, he came back home and married Marjorie Wiggengjost on April 19, 1947. She preceded him in death on November 24, 2017.



FEDLER

Survivors include three sons: Gary (Becky) Fedler of West Point, Iowa, David Fedler of Nevada, Iowa, and Gordon (Susan) Fedler of West Point, Iowa; one daughter: Caryl (Ron) Abolt of West Point, Iowa; ten grandchildren: Michelle (Matt) Williams, Stefani (Shane) Pitkin, Megan (Justin) Sorensen, Brian Fedler, Scott (Janel Barnes) Fedler, Kimberly (Jason) Kempker, Kevin (Emma Hartz) Fedler, Sara Fedler, Kelly (Nathan) Lange, and Jill (Joey) Jordan; ten great-grandchildren: Nick, Lilly, & Carrie Williams, William & Timothy Sorensen, Connor Kempker, Elsie, Noah, & Isaiah Lange, and JJ Jordan.

He was preceded in death by his wife: Marjorie; his parents; one brother: Lester Fedler; two sisters: Irene Slater and Loretta Scharpman; one daughter-in-law: Chris Fedler; one great-granddaughter: Ellie Williams; four brothers-in-law: Bill & Bert Wiggengjost, Keith Slater, and Bill Scharpman; and one sister-in-law: Eileen Wiggengjost.

Virgil attended St. Mary's grade school. He served in World War II from 1942 to 1945 in Ireland, France, Belgium, and Germany. He was awarded the Quilt of Valor for his services in the army. He was a farmer all of his life. Virgil was a member of the St. Mary's of the Assumption Catholic Church where he sang in the funeral choir. He was a member of the Holtz-Geers American Legion of West Point and was a member to the Circle 8 Square Dance Club for over 53 years. He loved farming and working on the farm, going hunting, mushroom hunting, fishing, square dancing, playing cards, putting puzzles together and visiting with his friends and their farm neighbors. Although, he was retired from farming for quite a few years, he never truly gave it up. He made many woodworking projects for his whole family. Most of all, Virgil enjoyed his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren very much.

Friends may call after 12:00 p.m. Thursday, January 31, 2019 at Schmitz Funeral Home in West Point where the family will meet with friends from 3:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. A Parish Rosary will be recited at 3:30 p.m. and a Christian Wake Service at 6:30 p.m. at the Schmitz Funeral Home in West Point.

The Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:30 a.m. Friday, February 1, 2019 at St. Mary's of the Assumption Catholic Church in West Point, Iowa with Father Bruce DeRammelaere as celebrant.

Burial will be at Calvary Cemetery in West Point with Full Military Rites presented by the Holtz-Geers American Legion Post #668.

A memorial has been established to the West Point America Legion

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

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Obituaries/Letters to the Editor

Letter to the Editor

Catholic Schools week to be held this week

Dear Editor:

Catholic Schools Week, January 27-February 1, 2019, is an important time to celebrate the history and future of Catholic education in our communities. Holy Trinity Catholic is proud to carry on the tradition of faith in education and service to our communities.

Catholic schools are communities of faith. All schools seek not only to educate students but also to develop character and strong morals. What makes Catholic schools unique is that we accomplish this, and much more, through God's guidance. We deepen the understanding of the traditions of the Catholic faith and welcome families of all faiths.

Our schools are true communities of knowledge. Holy Trinity Catholic Schools foster scholastic achievement through a challenging and enriched curriculum in language arts, social studies, foreign language, math, history, geography, science, religion, music, fine and performing arts, and physical education. Our dedicated teachers support blended learning environments using different strategies for student engagement and success.

Catholic schools are also communities of service. Participation in numerous service projects throughout the year is practiced, but it goes beyond that. We develop a culture of seeking the good of others above self – at school, at home, and in our communities. This is the stewardship taught in our schools and in our faith.

Holy Trinity Catholic is immensely proud of our

history, our parishes, our families, and our students. We greatly appreciate the generosity of our families and community members who help us build and grow. With your support, we look forward to continuing our mission of faith in education for many years to come.

Thank you to all for your continued support of Holy Trinity Catholic Schools.

Sincerely,
Holy Trinity Catholic School System

OBITUARIES

IDA BLANCHE STAMPER

Ida Blanche Stamper, 89, of Keokuk, IA, died Saturday, January 26, 2019 at the Great River Hospice House in West Burlington, IA.



STAMPER

She was born on April 24, 1929 in Marshall, MO, the daughter of Jack and

Elsie Matchler Grandstaff. In 1946, Ida was united in marriage to Jap Richard Huston. He preceded her in death in August of 1954. She later was united in marriage to Charles Stamper and he preceded her in death on March 7, 1996.

Ida enjoyed spending time outdoors working in her vegetable garden and watching the birds. She also enjoyed making embroidery and macramé projects and watching Animal Planet and Judge Judy on television. Ida was a take-charge person who loved caring for her family and making sure everything was going right.

She is survived by her son, Bradford L. (Sherry) Huston of Keokuk, her step-daughter, Linda Stamper of Atlanta, GA, eight grandchildren, Tim (Deanne) Huston, Shawna (Brendon) Myers and Christopher (Autumn) Huston all of Keokuk, Steve (Jessica) Huston, Christine Huston and Debbie Huston all of Cedar Rapids, IA, Michelle Boyle and Nick O'Shea

both of Keokuk, numerous great grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren, including a special great-great-granddaughter, Jalee Matous. She is also survived by four brothers, Bob (Doris) Grandstaff, Troy (Pat) Grandstaff and Charlie (Carolyn) Grandstaff all of Missouri, and Carl (Joann) Grandstaff of Kansas, three sisters, Virginia (Doll) Campbell, Melvina (O.D.) Maglocklin and Opal Harrison all of Missouri.

Besides her husbands, Ida was preceded in death by her daughter, Sandy Huston Boyle O'Shea, her stepson, Charles A. Stamper, two sons-in-law, Tim Boyle and Andy O'Shea, one granddaughter, Gina Boyle, one great-grandson, Michael Boyle, four brothers, Ralph, Marvin, Jim and Leroy Grandstaff and three sisters, Anna Mae Grandstaff, Margaret Grandstaff and Marybell "Tini" Walker.

Visitation will be held from 1pm – 3 pm on Wednesday at the Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk with the family meeting with friends at that time.

Burial will be in the Keokuk National Cemetery at a later date.

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

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Sports/Lottery Numbers

Hayes, Settles take 1st at Southern Classic

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FAIRFIELD – Fort Madison took 3rd place at the Southern Iowa Classic Wrestling tournament in Fairfield.

Senior Sam Hayes returned after several weeks for health reasons and continued right where he left off recording three pins, all in under a minute and then scored a 4-2 decision over Washington's Logan Escher, who was 26-4 on the year.

The win over Escher earned Hayes the title at 195 lbs.

Fort Madison also got a first-place finish from junior Danen Settles.

Settles recorded a quick win over Jordan Salyers and then downed Prairie City-Monroe's Jace Smith in a 5-2 decision to move to the title match against Centerville's Caden Sales (19-11). Settles came out a head in the match 9-8 for the title at 285 lbs.

Dayne Cordray (120 lbs), Will Larson (132 lbs) and Gavin Wiseman (138 lbs) all captured third place finishes.

Centerville's Gage Moorman sent Larson into the consolation bracket early with a 5-2 decision, but the two met up again in the 3rd place match and Larson came out with a 9-8 win for the bronze medal.

Cordray went 4-1 on the day with his only loss to Centerville's Nathaniel Genobana (28-2).

Other top finishers

included Owen and Elton Kruse, who both took 4th place at 106 and 113 lbs respectively. Diego Lozano took 5th place at 182 lbs.

Complete results of the meet are listed below. 106 -Owen Kruse (23-12) placed 4th and scored 12.0 team points. Quarterfinal – Owen Kruse (Fort Madison) 23-12 won by decision over Caden Sales (Centerville) 19-11 (Dec 9-8); Semifinal – Carter Anderson (Albia) 27-3 won by decision over Owen Kruse (Fort Madison) 23-12 (Dec 9-2); Cons. Semi – Owen Kruse (Fort Madison) 23-12 won by fall over Ethan Domina (Clarke) 6-13 (Fall 0:23); 3rd Place Match – Dawson Townsend (Davis County) 25-8 won by decision over Owen Kruse (Fort Madison) 23-12 (Dec 5-3)

113 – Elton Kruse (20-10) placed 4th and scored 12.0 team points. Champ. Round 1 – Elton Kruse (Fort Madison) 20-10 received a bye () (Bye); Quarterfinal – Landon Fenton (PCM) 16-2 won by fall over Elton Kruse (Fort Madison) 20-10 (Fall 1:19); Cons. Round 2 – Elton Kruse (Fort Madison) 20-10 won by decision over Logan Carter (Albia) 17-18 (Dec 12-6); Cons. Round 3 – Elton Kruse (Fort Madison) 20-10 won by decision over Jonah Cooper (Fairfield) 11-5 (Dec 8-6); Cons. Semi – Elton Kruse (Fort Madison) 20-10 won by fall over Taylor Huggins (Davis County) 35-8 (Fall 3:12); 3rd Place Match – Tyler Landgrebe (Eddyville-Blakesburg-Fremont) 27-4 won by fall over Elton Kruse (Fort Madison) 20-10 (Fall 1:43).

120 – Dayne Cordray (17-11) placed 3rd and scored 20.0 team points. Champ. Round 1 – Dayne Cordray (Fort Madison) 17-11 received a bye () (Bye); Quarterfinal – Dayne Cordray (Fort Madison) 17-11 won by fall over Carson Coleman (Mount Pleasant) 16-13 (Fall 2:18);

Semifinal – Nathaniel Genobana (Centerville) 28-2 won by tech fall over Dayne Cordray (Fort Madison) 17-11 (TF-1.5 5:02 (26-11)); Cons. Semi – Dayne Cordray (Fort Madison) 17-11 won by fall over Cohyn Roach (Fairfield) 22-12 (Fall 0:22); 3rd Place Match – Dayne Cordray (Fort Madison) 17-11 won by injury default over Walker Ikerd (Washington) 33-3 (Inj. 0:00)

126 -Gavin Wiseman (22-15) placed 3rd and scored 20.0 team points. Champ. Round 1 – Gavin Wiseman (Fort Madison) 22-15 received a bye () (Bye); Quarterfinal – Gavin Wiseman (Fort Madison) 22-15 won by fall over Dalton Moyle (Mount Pleasant) 11-16 (Fall 2:45); Semifinal – Kayden Kauzlarich (Centerville) 16-1 won by tech fall over Gavin Wiseman (Fort Madison) 22-15 (TF-1.5 5:15 (18-3)); Cons. Semi – Gavin Wiseman (Fort Madison) 22-15 won by fall over Zethann May (Clarke) 9-11 (Fall 0:37); 3rd Place Match – Gavin Wiseman (Fort Madison) 22-15 won by fall over Brian Nicholson (PCM) 9-4 (Fall 2:51)

132 – Will Larson (17-10) placed 3rd and scored 17.0 team points. Champ. Round 1 – Will Larson (Fort Madison) 17-10 received a bye () (Bye); Quarterfinal – Gage Moorman (Centerville) 22-14 won by decision over Will Larson (Fort Madison) 17-10 (Dec 5-3); Cons. Round 2 – Will Larson (Fort Madison) 17-10 won by fall over Nathan Sample (Knoxville) 0-3 (Fall 1:26); Cons. Round 3 – Will Larson (Fort Madison) 17-10 won by fall over Clay Van Wyk (PCM) 8-19 (Fall 1:29); Cons. Semi – Will Larson (Fort Madison) 17-10 won by major decision over Davan Goering (Davis County) 34-11 (MD 14-4); 3rd Place Match – Will Larson (Fort Madison) 17-10 won by decision over Gage Moorman (Centerville) 22-14 (Dec 9-6)

138 -Nathan Steffensmeier (20-17) placed 6th and scored

7.0 team points. Champ. Round 1 – Nathan Steffensmeier (Fort Madison) 20-17 received a bye () (Bye); Quarterfinal – Chance Palm (PCM) 7-2 won by decision over Nathan Steffensmeier (Fort Madison) 20-17 (Dec 8-2); Cons. Round 2 – Nathan Steffensmeier (Fort Madison) 20-17 received a bye () (Bye); Cons. Round 3 – Nathan Steffensmeier (Fort Madison) 20-17 won by fall over JJ Beaver (Knoxville) 5-6 (Fall 3:14); Cons. Semi – Michael Thomas (Albia) 27-13 won by decision over Nathan Steffensmeier (Fort Madison) 20-17 (Dec 8-3); 5th Place Match – Hunter McFadden (Eddyville-Blakesburg-Fremont) 23-13 won by fall over Nathan Steffensmeier (Fort Madison) 20-17 (Fall 0:49)

145 -Quinton Ross (8-12) place is unknown and scored 0.0 team points. Champ. Round 1 – Peyton Cline (Fairfield) 14-16 won by fall over Quinton Ross (Fort Madison) 8-12 (Fall 1:53); Cons. Round 1 – Quinton Ross (Fort Madison) 8-12 received a bye () (Bye); Cons. Round 2 – Lucas Henderson (Centerville) 19-12 won by fall over Quinton Ross (Fort Madison) 8-12 (Fall 5:08)

152 – Jakob McGowan (14-15) place is unknown and scored 3.5 team points.; Champ. Round 1 – Jakob McGowan (Fort Madison) 14-15 won by tech fall over Matthew Logsdon (Centerville) 7-18 (TF-1.5 4:16 (15-0)); Quarterfinal – Cody Wallace (PCM) 30-7 won by fall over Jakob McGowan (Fort Madison) 14-15 (Fall 1:24); Cons. Round 2 – Jakob McGowan (Fort Madison) 14-15 received a bye () (Bye); Cons. Round 3 – Abe Wilson (Mount Pleasant) 20-6 won by fall over Jakob McGowan (Fort Madison) 14-15 (Fall 1:05)

160 -Chance Decker (0-3)

placed 6th and scored 3.0 team points. Quarterfinal – Conner Reed (Eddyville-Blakesburg-Fremont) 24-13 won by fall over Chance Decker (Fort Madison) 0-3 (Fall 1:26); Cons. Round 1 – Chance Decker (Fort Madison) 0-3 received a bye () (Bye); Cons. Semi – Corey Skinner (Keokuk) 17-14 won by fall over Chance Decker (Fort Madison) 0-3 (Fall 1:25); 5th Place Match – Conner Reed (Eddyville-Blakesburg-Fremont) 24-13 won by fall over Chance Decker (Fort Madison) 0-3 (Fall 0:31)

170 -Chance Hocker (16-15) placed 6th and scored 7.0 team points.; Champ. Round 1 – Chance Hocker (Fort Madison) 16-15 received a bye () (Bye); Quarterfinal – James DeMeyer (Mount Pleasant) 25-5 won by tech fall over Chance Hocker (Fort Madison) 16-15 (TF-1.5 4:43 (16-0)); Cons. Round 2 – Chance Hocker (Fort Madison) 16-15 received a bye () (Bye); Cons. Round 3 – Chance Hocker (Fort Madison) 16-15 won by fall over Eli Hamilton (Knoxville) 10-9 (Fall 0:26); Cons. Semi – Jonathan Bair (Clarke) 25-7 won by fall over Chance Hocker (Fort Madison) 16-15 (Fall 0:59); 5th Place Match – Caden Hill (Davis County) 29-14 won by fall over Chance Hocker (Fort Madison) 16-15 (Fall 4:22)

182 -Diego Lozano (24-11) placed 5th and scored 13.0 team points. Champ. Round 1 – Diego Lozano (Fort Madison) 24-11 received a bye () (Bye); Quarterfinal – Diego Lozano (Fort Madison) 24-11 won by fall over Mason Roberts (Eddyville-Blakesburg-Fremont) 16-18 (Fall 0:24); Semifinal – Lucas Roland (PCM) 17-3 won by fall over Diego Lozano (Fort Madison) 24-11 (Fall 2:54); Cons.

Semi – Coby Meyer (Knoxville) 20-5 won by fall over Diego Lozano (Fort Madison) 24-11 (Fall 3:04); 5th Place Match – Diego Lozano (Fort Madison) 24-11 won by fall over Mason Roberts (Eddyville-Blakesburg-Fremont) 16-18 (Fall 0:36)

195 – Sam Hayes (19-2) placed 1st and scored 28.0 team points. Champ. Round 1 – Sam Hayes (Fort Madison) 19-2 won by fall over Zack Glasscock (Keokuk) 7-21 (Fall 0:11); Quarterfinal – Sam Hayes (Fort Madison) 19-2 won by fall over Wyatt Baker (Fairfield) 0-2 (Fall 0:30); Semifinal – Sam Hayes (Fort Madison) 19-2 won by fall over Nyan Baker (Knoxville) 14-13 (Fall 0:25); 1st Place Match – Sam Hayes (Fort Madison) 19-2 won by decision over Logan Escher (Washington) 26-4 (Dec 4-2)

220 -Jarrett Settles (3-12) place is unknown and scored 0.0 team points. Quarterfinal – Nolan Stetter (Eddyville-Blakesburg-Fremont) 17-20 won by fall over Jarrett Settles (Fort Madison) 3-12 (Fall 2:18); Cons. Round 1 – Milo Johnston (Knoxville) 5-20 won by fall over Jarrett Settles (Fort Madison) 3-12 (Fall 4:27)

285 – Danen Settles (28-9) placed 1st and scored 24.0 team points. Champ. Round 1 – Danen Settles (Fort Madison) 28-9 received a bye () (Bye); Quarterfinal – Danen Settles (Fort Madison) 28-9 won by fall over Jordan Salyers (Keokuk) 0-2 (Fall 0:37); Semifinal – Danen Settles (Fort Madison) 28-9 won by decision over Jace Smith (PCM) 24-14 (Dec 5-2); 1st Place Match – Danen Settles (Fort Madison) 28-9 won by decision over Brady Clark (Centerville) 27-13 (Dec 3-2)



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
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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



1/27 MID-DAY
7 8 9
1/27 EVENING
0 7 7



1/27 MID-DAY
4 3 6 8
1/27 EVENING
8 7 20

Pen City Current encourages you to play responsibly.



Catholic Schools
Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed.

During this special week, we would like to thank our community, our HTC families, alumni, and all who support Holy Trinity Catholic Schools throughout the year. We **thank you** for your thoughtfulness and generosity.

Holy Trinity Catholic Schools are celebrating **Catholic Schools Week 2019** January 27 – February 2 **#CSW19**

Sports/Area News

HTC girls' rally falls short at No. 11 VB

Crusaders lead at half and trailed by just three with one minute left in game on road

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

VAN BUREN – Van Buren snapped Holy Trinity's winning streak at six, but it took all four quarters to get it done.

The Crusaders held a four-point half-time lead but surrendered the lead to the Class 2A 11th ranked Lady Warriors early in the third period as Van Buren opened the quarter on a 7-2 run to take a 29-27 lead with 4 minutes left in the period.

The Crusaders fought back to a one-point deficit and 36-35 going into the fourth period and then went up 38-36 on a 3-ball from Ashlynn Haas to open the scoring in the final stanza.

Van Buren would counter with a bucket on their next possession and both teams would go scoreless for the next three and a half minutes. Van Buren would stretch the lead to 43-38 as HTC went into a



BOX

five-minute scoring funk and didn't convert again until a minute was left where they closed the gap to 43-40, but wouldn't get any closer.

Senior Emily Box put up 19 points in the win including 12 in the second half. Senior Taylor Boeding had nine points, all on 3-balls, and Mya Lawlor added seven. Haas had just three points on the night, while senior Eryn Anderson and junior Avery Hopper had just two.

Head Coach Tony Johnson said the Crusaders tried some new things defensively and offensively to help prepare for regional action in a couple weeks.

"The girls did well since we haven't practiced in a week. As we keep saying, everything from here on out is all about playing our best for regionals.

Van Buren junior Taryn Scheuerman scored 25 to lead Van Buren who moved to 15-2 on the year snapping the Crusaders win streak.

Holy Trinity (12-6) travels to West Burlington on Tuesday. West Burlington downed Class 3A Central Lee 52-46 in a make-up game from last week.

Van Buren boys chase off Crusaders' rally

PCC STAFF

VAN BUREN – The Warriors put three players in double figures as they handed the HTC boys their 11th loss on the year.

Junior Matt Hellige led the Crusaders with 15 points, 11 in the second half. Hellige was the only HTC player in double figures in the game.

Van Buren jumped out to a 13-4 first quarter lead and then went on to outscore Holy Trinity 20-13 in the second quarter. Holy Trinity was held scoreless for about four minutes in the period.

The Crusaders turned the tables and got back into the game in the third period outpacing 22-13. Junior Blake Crabtree connected on two 3-pointers in the period. Kyle Bredemeyer scored five in

the period and Hellige went 5-of-6 from the free throw line and scored seven total points.

With HTC trailing just seven entering the final period, the Crusaders cut the lead to just four a 48-44 with six minutes left, but the home team went on a 12-5 run over a four minute stretch to put the game out of reach.

Crabtree and Brant Holtkamp each finished with nine points on the night. Junior Reed Fehseke finished with eight point. Bredemeyer had five and Quentin Schneider had four points for the Crusaders.

Holy Trinity takes their 4-11 record to West Burlington in a boys/girls junior varsity/varsity double header on Tuesday night.

United Way offering free nutrition class

RSVP/United Way of the Great River Region is offering a FREE healthy nutrition class on:

Wednesday, February 13th, from 9am-10am, at the United Way Resource Center, 3421 Avenue L, Fort Madison, Iowa.


Please call 319-372-8043 to sign-up. Free to the public.

United Way of the Great River Region supports non-profit organizations and agencies that provide programs addressing needs in health,

education and financial stability to residents in Clark, Hancock, and Lee Counties.

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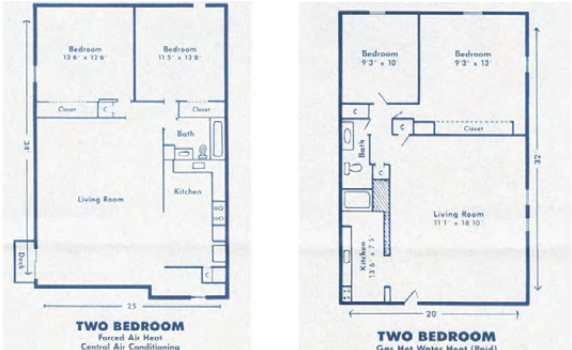
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Area News/Current-Lee

CURRENT-LEE

FORT MADISON – The following is a list of events and happenings going on in Fort Madison as submitted to Pen City Current.

HTC Celebrates Catholic Schools Week

Holy Trinity Catholic Schools is celebrating National Catholic Schools Week January 27 through February 2. During this special week, Holy Trinity Catholic Schools would like to thank their community, their HTC families, alumni, and all who support them throughout the year. We thank you for your thoughtfulness and generosity.



Nerf Wars at FM YMCA

The Fort Madison YMCA will be the site of another round of Nerf Wars on Sunday, Jan. 27. From 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. boys and girls ages 1 through 6 will compete in Nerf Wars in the gymnasium. Children must bring eye protection, their own Nerf guns, darts/bullets/balls. Cost is \$5 for members and \$10 for non-members. For more information contact program director Noah Dean or visit the YMCA's Facebook page for more information.

Local artist on display at SCC

Lori Illner Greene will have her art work on display at the Southeastern Community College Art Gallery, 1500 W. Agency Road in West Burlington from Jan. 28-Feb. 15. The gallery showing will feature her "Raptors and Other Birds of Prey" series.

Evening with Chuck Long

Former Iowa standout and NFL quarterback Chuck Long will be at Sheaffer Memorial Golf Course on Tuesday, Feb. 12 for presentation, including a social hour and dinner with doors opening at 4:30. The social hour and dinner will be from 5 to 6 and Long will speak at 6 p.m. with a question and answer to follow. For more information, contact Ryan at 319-528-6214 or by email at mcmillan@sheaffergolf.com.

Ribbon-Cutting

A ribbon cutting for The Kingsley Inn and River Rocks Bar & Grille will be held on Feb. 15 at 10 a.m.

Fort Madison Partners Annual Dinner

The Fort Madison Partners Annual Dinner will be held Feb. 22 at McAleere Hall in Fort Madison. A night of gaming, food and fun has been planned. Contact Partners at 372-5471 for more information.

B'town namd as RAGBRAI stop

PCC STAFF

BURLINGTON – Burlington has been selected to be an overnight stop for RAGBRAI 2019 on Friday, July 26. Chosen from more than 200 interested cities, Burlington will be the seventh stop and first of two towns along the route where riders can dip their tires in the Mississippi River.

"We are beyond excited to have RAGBRAI back in Greater Burlington. Hosting as an overnight stop for the first time will be an incredible opportunity to show off our community to tens of thousands of bike enthusiasts and new visitors." Stated Chelsea Lerud, Executive Director of Greater Burlington Convention & Visitors Bureau.

The Greater Burlington Partnership will be the lead planning organization for Burlington RAGBRAI 2019. Hundreds of volunteers are needed to help make Burlington RAGBRAI a success. To find the most up-to-date

information or to volunteer for Burlington RAGBRAI 2019, please visit www.BurlingtonRagbrai.com or call the Greater Burlington Partnership at 319-752-6365.

2019 will mark the sixth time Burlington has hosted RAGBRAI. Previous stops took place in 2009, 2000, 1990, 1984, and 1979.

The 2019 Register's Annual Great Bicycle Ride Across Iowa, which will take place from July 21 to 27, will start in Council Bluffs and end in Keokuk. In between, riders will stop overnight in Atlantic, Winterset, Indianola, Centerville,

Fairfield and Burlington. Clocking in at 427 miles with 14,735 feet of climb, the 47th edition of this roving cycling party is the eighth easiest in route history. The 2019 ride is also the sixth shortest and eighth flattest.

The full route, including pass-through towns and vehicle directions, is expected to be released in March.

For further information contact Chelsea Lerud, Executive Director of Greater Burlington Convention & Visitors Bureau at clerud@greaterburlington.com or call 319-752-6365.

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BEST OF S.E. IOWA 2018 1ST PLACE

From the Front/Weather

School district hoping state aid sets solid footing

LEVY - Continued from Page 1

advantage of gap funding due to a formula based on previous year's enrollment.

But Elmore said the district is looking at a loss of 43 students for the 2019-20 fiscal year with student enrollment at 2,109. In the current fiscal year, the per pupil state funding is \$6,664 per person. If the proposed rate goes up, that would move the per pupil rate to \$6,736.

That additional funding, accompanied with the increased county valuation, could put the district in a position where they could see \$145,000 in new money

at the current levy, or they could reduce the rate and ask for the same dollars that were needed to fund the district last year.

Elmore said the district was short about \$130K last year, but were able to make up the funds through attrition wherever possible and cutting here and there across the funds.

The district also approved last year an Instructional Support Levy that is made up of a property tax element that's included in the current \$14.44/\$1,000 assessed valuation, as well as income surtax.

School board now back at full strength

BOARD - Continued from Page 1

Wykert said.

He said the district is in need of a new elementary school and will lend his efforts to that task.

"I think technology is something we need to look at and then we need to improve on standardized testing and take the qualifiers out of it. We should strive to be the best in the area, in the region and in the state," he said.

Wykert's seat on the board, along with Brian Steffensmeier's seat, will both be up for election at either the next regular board election in November or during a special election, such as a bond referendum. Steffensmeier filled a vacancy created when former board member Jillian Troxel left the district.

According to board secretary Sandy Elmore, a special election would be to fill the remainder of Young's and Troxel's terms, which expire in 2021. However, at the next regular election, the board members could run to fill the vacancy or for a full board term.

Brad Menke and Trisha Hopper, both of Fort Madison, also filed applications for the vacancy. Menke got two votes from the board and Hopper got one.

Board members Carol Ross, Dr. Tim Wondra, and Lois DiPrima voted for Wykert. Jared Hotopp and Brian Steffensmeier voted for Menke, and Dianne Hope voted for Hopper. All three candidates were nominated and seconded by current board members.

The school district is working toward a spring elementary school bond referendum which would put both vacancies on the ballot with the referendum. Other candidates could file for that election as well.

Menke, who was a candidate in the last regular election said he will be running in the upcoming election.

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WED 30 Jan

Clear
High- -15.8° F | Low - -27.3° F

THU 31 Jan

Light Snow
High- -0.6° F | Low - -4.6° F

FRI 01 Feb

Light Snow
High- 3.9° F | Low - 0.5° F

SAT 02 Feb

Clear
High- 30.4° F | Low - 17.2° F

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