



Pen City Current

Sunday, May 19, 2019 | 11 pages | Volume 3 • Issue 115

FM, County may ink interim police chief deal

Deal would have city pay \$50K to county over six months

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

LEE COUNTY – The Lee County Sheriff’s department is a vote away from overseeing the Fort Madison Police Department for six months.

In front of the Lee County supervisors at Tuesday’s



WEBER

regular meeting will be a 28E agreement that would designate anyone captain level or higher in the Lee County Sheriff’s Office as interim Fort Madison Police Chief until a permanent replacement can be found.

Fort Madison Police Chief Tim Sittig announced his retirement from the department two weeks ago effective May 31.

Under the agreement, the city would pay the county roughly \$50,000 in salaries and benefits, plus weekly stipends and any difference in salary for sheriff’s staff

who step up to fill in for whomever is designated to fill the interim position.

The agreement would still need approval of the Fort Madison City Council which will consider the document at its regular meeting Tuesday evening.

Lee County Sheriff Stacy Weber could assign anyone captain level or above to oversee the police department operations during the interim period as Fort Madison conducts a search for a new chief.

The interim chief would have authority to hire, sus-

See DEAL, page 8

2019 Iowa State Track Meet

Two Chiefs, one Hound medal Friday

Ailes 4th in long jump, Schneider, Martinez place 7th



Fort Madison’s Quentin Schneider clears a hurdle on the back stretch of the boys Class 3A 400-meter hurdles. Schneider won the heat and finished in seventh place overall. Keokuk’s Miracle Ailes and Braylon Martinez both medaled in the long jump.

Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

DES MOINES – Keokuk High School’s Miracle Ailes added to her 2019 medal count, while teammate Braylon Edwards and Fort Madison’s Quentin Schneider grabbed their first medal ever during Friday action at the 2019 Iowa State Track meet.

Schneider pulled away around

the final corner on the blue oval at Drake Stadium in Des Moines on his way to a 55.62 time in the Class 3A 400-hurdles.

The time was a personal best for Schneider on a cool, rainy day that started an hour late due to inclement weather. It was his first trip to state since his freshman year where he ran with the Bloodhounds distance medley team.

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“It felt really good,” he said “It was raining and it didn’t really affect me. I told myself that it was affecting everyone the same way so just go out and run.”

Schneider said he felt if he could win his heat, he would have a decent shot a medaling. He had

See TRACK, page 5



Beside The Point

Chuck Vandenberg,
Pen City Current - Editor

Kobelt’s passion should be bottled and sold

For the first time I can recall, if ever, the Fort Madison High School held a signing day for seniors who have been accepted to college trade programs, full-time trades positions, or apprenticeships.

I’ve always been torn on the value of publishing these types of events for simply selfish reasons. Both of my girls entered college with more than \$10,000 in annual scholarships and they didn’t get a signing day.

They worked jobs or were in sports, drama clubs, band, all that type of stuff. So balance was as critical for them in their success as the athletes and now trades students who get special mention. But that’s the way it goes.

We do graduation coverage and award nights for seniors, but I think we can all stipulate it’s just not the same.

But I went to this signing day on Wednesday and saw something I wasn’t really expecting, but should have been because I’ve witnessed it before at Fort Madison High School.

It’s an understatement to say that Clint Kobelt is no slouch in Building Trades instruction. He, along with a progressive eye to the future from FMHS principal Greg Smith and FMCSA administration, has quickly built FMHS’ trades program as the best in the state, and probably one of the top programs in the country.

I told Greg Smith he should take out billboards and start recruiting kids into that program. It’s valuable, attractive, and open enrollment allows it.

I say best because Kobelt’s students have won state

See KOBELT, page 8

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Obituaries/Sports

OBITUARIES

EDWARD D. NYE

Edward D. Nye, 86, of Keokuk, IA, died Friday, May 17, 2019 at his home. He was born on May 7, 1933 in Vincennes, IA, the son of Hugh Franklin and Bessie Fern Nye.



NYE

Edward was a proud veteran of the United States Army and served during the Korean War.

On June 11, 1955, Edward was united in marriage to Loretta Kaneer in Keokuk. She survives.

Other survivors include one son, Franklin Edward Nye (Kathy) of Argyle, IA, and two daughters, Cindy Sue Steele (Ron Bennett) of Keokuk, and Devella Ann Riles (Darryl) of Luray, MO, seven grandchildren, Candy Jo Wenke (Eugene), Shawn Nye (Courtney), Adam Nye (Robin), Amber Nye (Lavern Lowery), Andrew Nye (Jessica), Austin Nye (Tasha) and Heather Steele (Rayne Duran), fifteen great-grandchildren, one great-great grandchild and nieces and nephews.



He was preceded in death by his parents, two sisters and two brothers.

Edward had first been employed at Electro Metals in Keokuk. He then worked for Consolidated Packaging in Fort Madison for over 17 years until his retirement.

He was a member of the Alexandria Baptist Church. He attended Calvary Four-square Church in Keokuk.

He was a very talented wood worker and made tables for his family that they will enjoy and treasure forever. In his younger years he enjoyed squirrel hunting. Edward loved to watch western TV shows and movies.

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

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday at the Vigen Memorial Home with Pastor Danny Davis officiating. Burial with military rites will be held at the Keokuk National Cemetery.

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

OBITUARIES

JACQUELYN M. THOMAS

Mrs. Jacquelyn M. Thomas, 89, of Dallas City, Illinois passed away Thursday, May 16, 2019 at the Great River Hospice House, West Burlington, Iowa.

She was born on March 3, 1930 in LaHarpe, Illinois the daughter of Jack and Minnie Johnson Strong.

On May 12, 1951 she married D. Nyal Thomas in Pontoosuc, Illinois. He preceded her in death on January 19, 2004.

Jackie was a 1947 graduate of the Dallas City High School and then attended and graduated from Quincy Business School. She worked as a bookkeeper for the IRC in Burlington, Iowa and later worked as a bookkeeper for the Dallas City Community School. Jackie was a member of the Dallas City American Legion Auxiliary and was a leader of Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts.

Jackie and her husband faithfully attended his Navy Reunions. She enjoyed working in the flower garden, boating, watching sunsets on the river and especially loved her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Survivors include, one son, William (Janie) Thomas of Newton, NJ, one daughter, Nyla K. French of Dallas City, two grandchildren, Katie (Luke Heckenberg) French of LaHarpe and Tyler (Mary Zippe) French of Burlington and five great-grandchildren, Denver and Max French, Rhys Heckenberg, and Ezra and Indigo French.

She was preceded in death by her parents and husband, Nyal.

A memorial service will be held at 11:00 a.m. Friday, May 24, 2019 at Banks & Beals Funeral Home in Dallas City with Rev. Jim Luder officiating. Friends may call after 3:00 p.m. Thursday, May 23, at Banks & Beals where the family will receive friends from 5:00 until 7:00 p.m. In lieu of flowers a memorial fund has been established for her great-grandchildren's education or the Dallas City American Legion Auxiliary. To leave a condolence please visit Jackie's obituary at banksandbeals.com.

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.

FMHS girls end tennis season at regionals

BY PCC STAFF

FAIRFIELD – Senior Alyse Schmidt was the only Fort Madison's girls tennis player to advance in Wednesday's individual regional competition at Fairfield High School.

Out of the two singles matches and the two doubles matches the Bloodhounds competed in, just one athlete was able to advance past the first round.

Sitting at the No. 6 seed, Schmidt was paired up against Davis County High School's Haley Swan. Schmidt came away with an easy 6-3, 6-1 win against Swan, but Maharishi's Olivia Goodale ended Schmidt's run in the second round with a 6-1, 6-2 win.

Lily Cadwallader was the other girl to

See **TENNIS**, page 8



Come to one of the Live Healthy @ the Market events to learn about area health & wellness services.

June 4, 4:00-6:00pm - Montrose Farmer's Market

June 15, 8:00-11:30am - Keokuk Farmer's Market

June 24, 4:00-6:00pm - Fort Madison Farmer's Market

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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



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Pen City Current

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Local News

Price named FMCH Employee of the Year

Hospital honors employees during National Hospital Week

Submitted article

FORT MADISON - The American Hospital Association describes National Hospital Week as a week that “celebrates hope and healing, and the hospitals, health systems, and the women and men who support the health and well-being of their communities through dedication and care from the heart.” The 2019 National Hospital Week ran from May 12 to May 18.

Fort Madison Community Hospital celebrates their employees with a series of events throughout the week. The Employee Recognition Banquet held Tuesday, May 15 was one such event. The Employee Recognition Banquet honored employees who had provided five to thirty-five



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Pictured from left to right Jeremy Alexander, CEO, stands with 2019 FMCH Employee of the Year Luna Price, and Amanda Burgus, Director of Emergency Department. Below from left to right, Shelby Burchett, COO is pictured with employees Ann Torgler; Teri Welborn; and Mary Overton, all with more than 25 years of service at FMCH.



years of service to FMCH. They are as follows:

5-Year Recipients:
Cheyenne Arnold, Anna Batley, Denise Bryant, Shelby Burchett, Heather Helmick, Ashlea Horstman, Emily Lindner, Leslie Lyon, Michelle McGhghy, Amanda O’Tool, Ashley Plenge, Tom Stanford, Ashley Shatley, Jenna Sturms, and Danica Weisinger

10-Year Recipients:
Jeremy Alexander, Kelly Bergman, Amanda Burgus, Kayla Clark, Kathy Davidson, Hallie Eisnicher, Carrie Green, Jessica Johnson, Penny Johnson, Lynn Jones, Tracy Jordan, Beth McBurney-Daly, Gwen Moss, Maria Muegge, Cathy Ough, Katelyn Pezley, and Tiffany Rhodes

15-Year Recipients:
Debbie Green, Jenica Hampton, Michelle Hornung Roseller Libarnes, Stan Seager, Julie Setterberg, Wendy Simpson, Kristin Smith, Megan Stull, Kim Tackett, and Lindsay Walker

20-Year Recipients: Dr. Kathy Anderson, Kim Fraise, Patty Harvey,

Deann Huffman, Carrie Kruse, Becky Orr, and Tracy St. Clair

25-Year Recipients: Lisa Lozano and Mary Overton

30-Year Recipient: Tricia Weirather and Teri Welborn

35-Year Recipients: Ann Torgler

Once all of the service awards were presented, the Employee of the Year was announced. Luna Price, RN, Emergency Department was recognized as the 2019 Employee of the Year.

Other Employees of the Month in the running for this honor included: Mary Jo Koller, Teri Welborn, Ashley Hasek, Hallie Eisnicher, Mary Overton, Darrell Featheringill, Pat Stecker, Heather Sniegowski, Julie Cartwright, Anji Dustin, and Mel Holtkamp.

“Hospital week is a time for us to come together as a health care organization to recognize all of the great things happening at FMCH. We make it a fun week, focusing on all of our employees,” expressed Angie Budnik, Community Relations Director.



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Do your part during this year’s Spring Cleaning activities by making sure you’re choosing products safe for our planet.

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This year, do your part to keep our environment clean, too!



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2019 State Track - Saturday results

Ailes wraps up state with two more medals



Photos by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Above, Keokuk's Miracle Ailes sprints through the finish line in the Class 3A 100-meter finals of the 2019 Iowa State Track Meet Saturday at Drake Stadium in Des Moines. Ailes finished with a 12.73, good for 3rd place overall. At right, Fort Madison's Matt Hellige looks for running room in the 1600-meter run.



BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

DES MOINES – Keokuk's Miracle Ailes and Fort Madison's Matt Hellige wrapped up the final day of the 2019 Iowa State Track meet in a neat little package.

Ailes won two more medals to go with the two she won on Thursday and Friday, including the state title in the girls' 3A high jump. Hellige, running in his first ever state mile run, finished 12th after getting caught in the pack at the end of the third lap.

Ailes finished third in the 100-meter dash with a 12.73 behind Davenport Assumption champion Carly King's 12.42 and Dubuque Wahlert's Libby Wedewer's 12.6. About an hour later she wrapped up a sparkling sophomore state track meet with her fourth medal of the three-day meet in the 200, taking 5th place and walking gingerly off the track.

"I wasn't feeling it," she said of the start of the 200. "Coming around the curve I felt something pop in my foot and I started to slow down, and then at the end I just tried to keep going and I passed a girl and it was good. I got fifth and I was proud of myself."

She said her success at this year's meet will serve as a springboard for a 2020 junior season that she's already looking forward to.

"I feel pretty good. Coming in I was just focusing on the high jump, but you know, I medaled in everything and I'm really proud of myself and I can't wait to see what I'll do next year," she said.

In the 100-meter dash, Ailes said her start was key to the strong finish.

"I was really digging coming out of the blocks. I felt really good because usually my starts aren't the best, but that was one of the best starts of the season."

Hellige, running with the top Class 3A milers in the state, said the distance events can get a little physical.

He got off the start in the middle of a pack and quickly moved to the front five where he stayed until most of the way through the first three laps despite getting arm bumped on turn one of the second

“

Right at the beginning there was a little pushing and shoving and that's part of it sometimes in running. You have to expect that at state with the high stakes meet. This was a great, fun, and exciting weekend and I think I learned a lot. It's so great to have a chance to come up here and run two races."

-Matt Hellige,
State track medalist

lap. Halfway through the third lap, the junior slipped back into the middle of the pack and then tried to make a move in front of the first turn of the final four but couldn't find room with runners five and six abreast coming into the final lap.

His 4:37.06 was good enough for 12th place overall and Hellige was happy with the performance despite not medaling in the top 8.

"Right at the beginning there was a little pushing and shoving and that's part of it sometimes in running. You have to expect that at state with the high stakes meet," he said.

"This was a great, fun, and exciting weekend and I think I learned a lot. It's so great to have a chance to come up here and run two races."

He said the improvement came from working on different tactics and strategies.

"I really worked on race strategy and pacing and lots of hard workouts. There were those days when I was feeling tired and I just made myself get out there and do it. I had a mindset that I wanted to qualify in both these races so I just told myself get out there and do it."

Pothitakis scores 3 in HTC win

BY PCC SPORTS

WEST POINT – The anticipated cross-town match-up for Fort Madison and Holy Trinity girls' soccer teams turned a bit one-sided Friday evening at South Park in West Point.

The Bloodhounds had won three of their last

four games coming into Thursday's contest and had outscored opponents 8-4, including three shut outs. HTC had two of its last three heading into the final week of the season.

Fort Madison's good fortunes of late didn't help the Hounds on the road Friday giving up the most points in a game this season, as Holy Trinity went on to win 7-1.

Claire Pothitakis was a force for the Crusaders, leading the team with three goals on the night. Elle Rashid, Elyse Pothitakis, Eryn Anderson and Taylor Crabtree also chipped in a goal apiece.

"The girls turned in an excellent performance after a week off," Holy Trinity Head Coach Michael Sheerin said. "We controlled the game

for the most part other than giving up a penalty kick.

"Tonight's stellar defense was back with a full squad with Maille Sheerin and Mya Lawlor returning from injuries. We were very happy that no one else was hurt tonight and the girls turned in a great team performance."

Keeper Sam Pothitakis had a rather uneventful night between the crossbars for the Crusaders, logging a single save.

Fort Madison's next contest is against Southeast conference foe Fairfield back home at Baxter Sport Complex. Holy Trinity's next game is Tuesday at Keokuk against the Chiefs.

The Crusaders move to 10-5 on the season, while the Bloodhounds slide to 8-6.

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More from the 2019 State Track meet

Schneider wins 2nd heat, medals in 400 hurdles

TRACK - Continued from Page 1

the top time through two of the three 3A heats, and after the race, turned to watch the final heat come down the back stretch with times in the 54-second range. He then looked to the video board and watched times come off and saw his time was 7th best, prompting a wide smile.

“That was my goal, I wanted to just come up here and place. I wanted to win the heat so that was I tried to do. I knew if won the heat, I could probably catch a place,” he said.

“I just wanted to give it my all. It was my last race of the year and I gave it everything I had.”

Ailes, just a sophomore, said her counting was off a bit in the finals of the long jump, but she was looking forward to working on the event in the off-season and having better results next year.

Dubuque Wahlert’s Aliyah Carter set a new meet record on her first jump of her flight with 18’ 8.5”.

During the finals Ailes took off on her last two leaps prior to the board and ended up with sub 16-foot jumps.

“I’m not supposed to look down and I was counting in my head and I think I just got off on my counting,” she said.

“But I’m going to keep working on this in camps during the summer and off-season and I think next year can be a very good year for me in this event.”

Ailes won the girls 3A state high jump

event on Thursday and will be searching for a couple more medals in Saturday where she will compete in the finals of the 100 and 200-meter dash beginning at 11:45. The Saturday schedule has been moved up to an 8 a.m start time instead of 9 to avoid additional inclement weather.

Martinez made to the finals after qualifying in the top 8 in the 3A boys long jump with a leap of 20’ 3.25” in the first flight, which was long enough to win the flight and qualify him for the finals. He fouled on his second two leaps, but of which were under 20’.

The Keokuk boys 4x200 team of Martinez, Cory Skinner, Dylan Jeffers and Anthony Potratz, didn’t medal after finishing 6th in the second heat with a time of 1:33.73, about a second off their fastest time of the season. The 8th place team, Harlan, medaled with a 1:32.7

“It just didn’t work out for us, said Potratz, who ran the final leg of relay for the Chiefs. “The only thing that changes is there’s people in front of us here and I just think I gotta go catch ‘em now. That’s the only thing that changes...we just have to chase them here.”

Skinner said the team’s best time of the year was 1:32.70, and they would have needed that performance to medal.

“This is definitely an atmosphere change. These are teams we’ve never seen before... and they run fast,” Skinner said.



Photo by Ethan Lillard/PCC

FM’s Matt Hellige runs around a fallen 3200-meter run participant in Thursday action. Hellige medaled with a 5th place finish in his second year running the event at state.

ner said.

Saturday’s events have been moved up one hour due to incoming inclement weather so Ailes will compete for the 100-meter dash title at approximately

11:50 a.m. and the 200-meter dash at about 1 p.m.

Fort Madison’s Matt Hellige will be running in the boys 3A mile run with a projected start time of 1:25 p.m.



Photos by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Keokuk’s Braylon Martinez lands on his first attempt in the boys 3A long jump Friday afternoon at the Iowa State Track Meet in Des Moines. Martinez finished in 7th place overall. Below, freshman Raquel Schneider brings in the final leg of the Hounds shuttle hurdle relay.



Keokuk’s Tyjai Mueller clips the bar on one of his attempts at 5’11” on Thursday in the boys 3A high jump competition. Mueller was battling left leg issues after his first clear of 5’9”.



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PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Lee County Board of Review will meet on Wednesday, May 22nd, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. at the South Lee County Office Building, Supervisors' Board Room, 25 No 7th, Keokuk.

AGENDA

Approve minutes of previous meeting
Oral hearings

PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Fort Madison City Council will hold a public hearing concerning the Fiscal Year 2018-19 Budget Amendments on Tuesday, May 21, 2019, at 5:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 811 Avenue E, Fort Madison.

You may appear at the hearing to express your views concerning the above. Written statements may be submitted to the Fort Madison City Clerk, P.O. Box 240, 811 Avenue E, Fort Madison, Iowa, 52627 no later than 4:30 PM on May 21, 2019 or delivered before the hearing is closed.
Melinda L. Blind
City Clerk

PUBLIC NOTICE Lee County, Iowa Board of Supervisors Agenda

**DATE: TUESDAY,
May 21, 2019
MEETING
CONVENING TIME:
9:00 A.M.
LOCATION:
Correctional Center
2530 255th Street,
Montrose, IA**

Pledge of Allegiance
Approve Agenda
9:01 a.m. Public Hearing for Proposed Sale of County Owned Property and Proposed Sale of Real Estate Owned by Trustees of Argyle Sanitary District in Unincorporated Town Of Argyle

Consider Approval of Resolution Approving Sale of Cotuly Owned Property in Unincorporated Town of Argyle

Consider Approval of Resolution Approving Sale of Real Estate Owned by Trustees of Argyle Sanitary District in Unincorporated Town of Argyle

Approve Tuesday, May 14, 2019 Board Minutes

Consider Approval of Claims

Public Input

Discussion of Solar Project for County Buildings

Discussion of Agreement with City of Fort Madison for Contractual Services of Sheriff's Office to Provide Interim Police Chief

Consider Approval of Ray Essex as Medical Investigator

Consider Approval of Service Agreement with Nyhart Company for GASB 75 Services

Personnel Actions:

A. New Hire-Conserva-

tion (2-Seasonal)

Reports:

A. Commission of Veteran Affairs Minutes of Meeting

B. Commission of Veteran Affairs Quarterly Report

Commission or Committee Reports

Adjourn

Workshop to Follow

PUBLIC MEETING
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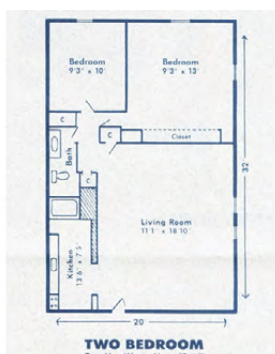
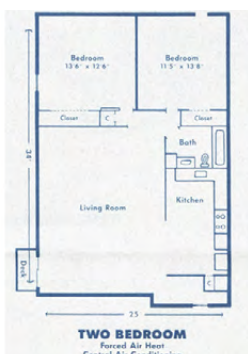
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EOE

NOTICE OF JOB OPENING

**Victim Witness Coordinator
Lee County Attorney's Office
Keokuk and Fort Madison**

Lee County Attorney's Office has an opening for a Victim Witness Coordinator position (40 hours per week) with a start date of July 1, 2019.

The Victim/Witness Coordinator position is responsible for managing, coordinating, monitoring, and providing case assistance for juvenile and criminal cases within the County Attorney's Office. The Victim Witness Coordinator will establish communications with victims and witnesses and/or their advocates, notify victims of their rights, keep victims and witnesses informed of the status of files/cases, provide victims and witnesses with information, locate witnesses required for effective prosecution, and assist with case management.

The position's successful applicant is preferred (but not required) to have the following:

1. Completion of some college level degree or in criminal justice, behavioral sciences, or related fields or any equivalent combination of training and experience.
2. Knowledge of legal terminology, legal format, and legal forms.
3. Knowledge of modern office practices, procedures, and equipment.
4. Knowledge of Electronic Document Management System (EDMS).
5. Knowledge of Iowa Courts Online.
6. Ability to prepare accurate and timely documents, correspondence, and reports, including documentation and data for grant funding.
7. Ability to learn and/or operate the County Attorney's Office computer programs.
8. Ability to work in a fast-paced environment
9. Ability to multi-task.
10. Must be a self-starter and motivator.
11. Ability to communicate with the public and act as a liaison for the victim to attorney staff in order to facilitate the communication of the victim as the case progresses.
12. Ability to provide emotional and educational support to victims and witnesses of crimes.
13. Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with supervisors, attorneys, co-workers, and the public, as well as law enforcement personnel and Clerk of Court
14. Ability to maintain a large case load.
15. Must be able to travel all over the County.

The position is a grant-funded position with a salary of \$35,000 annually plus benefits

For more information about duties email request to bbowden@leecounty.org

Please send resume to
Ross Braden, Lee County Attorney
25 N. 7th St., PO Box 824, Keokuk, IA 52632
or e-mail rbraden@leecounty.org
by May 28, 2019



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From the Front/Weather

Program positions students for income, not debt

KOBELT - Continued from Page 1

trades competitions the past two years and are going to a national competition in June. It's not a guess, these kids are perennially smart with real world skills that take them from high school to a well-paying job, not necessarily the nightmarish debt of college. A debt bubble, I might add, I believe will pop in the very near future because in my small macroeconomic mind, the income potential does not clear the hurdle of the debt.

But what grabbed me on this occasion, and a couple others in my time covering FMHS, is the emotion with which this teacher talks about his students.

Kobelt literally stammers through public speaking because his emotions run so high for the kids he teaches. It's a passion for teaching I haven't seen since my mom, who taught for 32 years, had it when she first started. The flicker went out with her as a science teacher as mandated curriculum removed most of the one-on-one time with the students.

Kobelt seems to cling to that and is making a tremendous success. Each of the four students that were honored Wednesday got a big hug from Kobelt who talked briefly about a project the students were going to see through, even if it meant staying past graduation to

get it done.

"These guys said, 'Mr. Kobelt, we said we were gonna do this and if it's not done, we're not leaving.' We're not leaving. They worked their whole lives for this moment when the doors are open and all they have to do is walk out.... We're not leaving. Who does that?!..." he said rhetorically to the 30 people in the room.

"Who does that?!"

The students included Dom Franz, Elton Kruse, AJ Nolting, and Brandon Keester. Keester was accepted to a Southeastern Community College program, Kruse was going to work right away for Carl A. Nelson, Frantz was going to work and then planned on entering an apprenticeship with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, and Nolting was accepted to a Kirkwood Community College trades program.

It's not the recognition of the students that's striking to me. We've written about all these boys....and this program as well, many times in the Pen City Current. What was striking was the passion and emotion that Kobelt, as a public school teacher, exuded for these students.

In a world of Chapter 22s that have soured some teachers, social media influences that have soured some



kids, and short funding that has soured us all, this man sees something else. A way out for kids without a way.

I was moved... by him being moved. I was moved to write about this man because as we search for, and are starved for, role models, he is one. Not just for students....teachers too.

Graduation season is upon us. Congratulations to all the students crossing the stage this spring. We here at Pen City Current congratulate you on all your accomplishments, and we wish you well in each and every endeavor you take on. Take it from us... you never know what you're gonna get.

Sheriff would need city approval on personnel issues

DEAL - Continued from Page 1

pend, discipline, and fire officers with the coordination and approval of Fort Madison City Manager David Varley and the city's attorney. The approval is also required of any expenditures of city funds in excess of \$500.

The agreement also stipulates that whomever serves in the capacity as interim chief would "not be obligated to take phone calls or other direction from elected officials of the City, except as communicated by the City Manager".

The agreement requires the sheriff's department to consult with the Fort Madison City Attorney with regard to any issues dealing with Iowa Code 80F which governs the administrative rights of the state's peace

officers and emergency personnel, including city police.

Also on the agenda is continued discussion of possibly installing solar panels on county property under an agreement where a third party would install the panels at no cost to the county, The county would then pay the company that fronted the cost of the installation for electricity provided by the panels. Two companies, one from Burlington and one from Fort Madison, have bid the project to Supervisors.

The county will also hold a public hearing on the sale of two lots of county-owned property in Argyle, including a maintenance shed and adjoining property.

Wins hard to come by at girls regionals

TENNIS - Continued from Page 2

compete for Fort Madison in the singles bracket. Drawing the short straw, Cadwallader squared off with one of the best in the state in Fairfield's Anatta Charoenkul.

Charoenkul was able to hold Cadwallader scoreless, taking the opening round 6-0, 6-0. Charoenkul advanced all the way to the singles championship, falling to fellow Fairfield teammate Yana Gaskell 6-0, 7-6, 7-2.

Larissa Ferrill and Lanie Kuntz teamed up for Fort Madison's best chance at winning the doubles tournament. The Hounds combo faced off with Davenport Assumption's duo of freshman Faith Resnick and senior Audrey Jestel.

Ferrill and Kuntz dropped the opening set 6-2 and were close to forcing a tiebreaker in the second set, but fell to Jestel and Resnick 7-5 for a first-round exit.

Fort Madison's second doubles squad of Zoe Ramatowski and Kirklynn Nafziger opened the first round of doubles against Davis County's Abby Vaughn and Isabella Tranquillo. Vaughn and Tranquillo took the first set easy 6-0, but Ramatowski and Nafziger fought back in the second to make things interesting, but ultimately fell 6-4.

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5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

SUN 19 May



Moderate Rain
High- 71.7° F | Low - 51.4° F

MON 20 May



Clear
High- 59.3° F | Low - 54.8° F

TUE 21 May



Heavy Intensity Rain
High- 59.3° F | Low - 55.2° F

WED 22 May



Scattered Clouds
High- 78.0° F | Low - 68.1° F

THU 23 May



Moderate Rain
High- 83.8° F | Low - 71.9° F

[OpenWeatherMap](#)

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E S T A T E S
FORT MADISON, IOWA



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Finished Walk-out Basement
2,900 sqft Finished
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2 Car Garage
Finished Walk-out Basement
1,680 sqft Finished
Price: \$340,000



Riverview Condo
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3 Bedrooms—3 Full Baths—
3 Car Garage
Finished 9ft Walk-out Basement
2,800 sqft Finished
500 sqft Storage
Price: \$330,000



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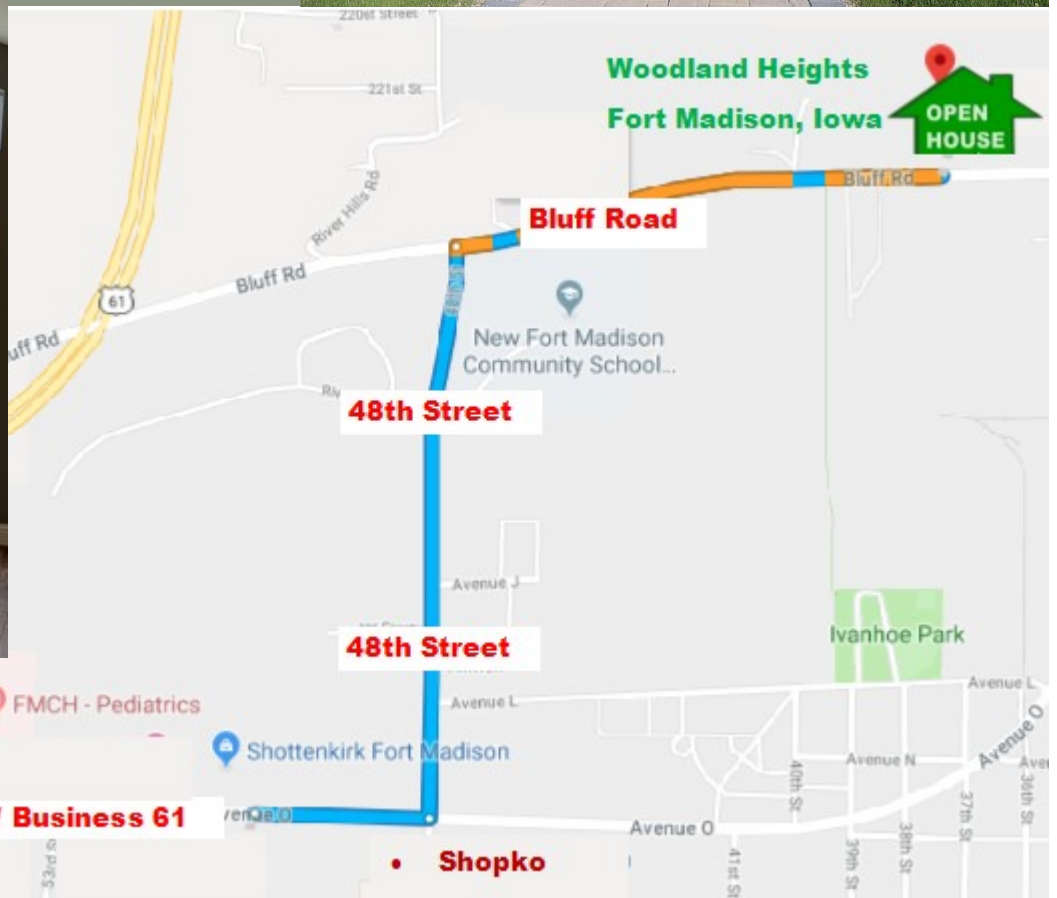
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