



Pen City Current

Tuesday, Oct. 29, 2019 | 17 pages | Volume 3 • Issue 226

P.O.R.T. run caps year of progress

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – A cavalcade of costumed runners showed up on a chilly Saturday morning to help raise funds for the continued progress of the city's P.O.R.T. trails.

The annual Spooktacular Boo-Athlon run, typically on a fall Saturday at the Baxter Sports Complex helps raise funds for the Promote Our Recreational Trails organizations efforts.

A lot of the grants committed on a local, regional, state and even federal level require matching funds and the efforts from events like Saturday's Boo-Athlon help keep revenues flowing for one of the largest coordinator fundraisers in the city's history.

Angie Budnik, a committee member with PORT said it's been a very good year for the organization.

"Our big project this year is to do the connection between the (Baxter) Sports Complex and the hospital and that will be done hopefully by the summer of 2020," she said.

"That will be the third of the first three phases we wanted to do."

The group also got a big boost in August when the Great River Health System-Fort Madison Community Hospital Community Foundation earmarked funds to help build a recreational trail up 15th Street in Fort Madison.

See P.O.R.T., page 6



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Mark Panther gets a hug in his Minion outfit from a youngster getting ready for the kids' race at the P.O.R.T.'s annual Spooktacular Boo-Athlon.



Summit panel talks rural broadband

Federal port designation also one of summit's topics

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

QUINCY – A panel of the top rural Internet executives convened Friday in Quincy to talk about the future of rural service in the tri-state area.

The panel convened as part of the 2019 Tri-State Development Summit held at the Oakley Lindsay Center where other issues such as workforce development education, and a Mississippi River Federal Port designation.

The Summit represents 36 counties in Missouri, Illinois, and Iowa combined representing 100s of leaders impacting 700,000 people.

Kristi Ray, executive vice president of the Mt. Pleasant Chamber Alliance, moderated a broadband panel discussion that featured Danville Mutual Telephone Company CEO Tim Fencil, Ralls Technology of New London, Mo.; COO Bob Winsel; and Adams Fiber's CEO Jim Broemmer of Adams County.

The panel said there are continuing mapping concerns with federal Census Block mapping. Broemmer said that mapping can indicate a census block is considered served even if one home in the block has service over the 25/3 threshold which 25 megabits per second download and 3 megabits upload, even if all the others homes in the block don't have that service.

"There's certainly a problem with the mapping. The Census block mechanism, and restrictions that are in place, makes it very hard to allocate funding for when you have one house out of 50 homes in the census block being served, and you want to serve those other 49 but you can't get funding today," Winsel said.

Fencil said even those FCC maps show a block as covered, he said that just isn't the case. He said there isn't a quick fix for the issues facing the rural tri-state area, but the conversations taking place are what will eventually

See SUMMIT, page 7



FRAISE

Fall is spectacular now in Minnesnowda

There are two seasons in Minnesota: winter and road construction. Ginnie and I were on our way to Minneapolis to visit family. I-35 North was reduced to single-lane traffic, choked to near standstill, for mile upon torturous mile, not a construction worker in sight. What gives? I had to constantly remind Ginnie to look on the positive side, "If it's moving, it ain't bad." The City of Minneapolis

EMPTY NEST

By Curt Swarm

was much the same: mind boggling road construction, like the city was trying to get all the work done before the infamous "Minnesnowda" winter.

But we finally made it, to the welcoming, loving arms of family. Now to see the city in the colorful fall.



Minneapolis streets, in established neighborhoods, are filled with some of the most gorgeous hardwood trees you'll see anywhere, forming protective canopies over almost hidden streets. I picked up a maple leaf—solid red on one side, tan on the other—

and gave it to Ginnie.

For a taste of Minneapolis, we went for Thai. Having a bit of an allergy, I tried my first ever curry. That cleared the sinuses right out!

Minneapolis has so much to offer if you're interested in art. A tour of the Minneapolis Sculpture Garden, the largest urban sculpture park in the world, was first on our list. The "Spoonbridge and Cherry" sculpture,

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Obituaries

OBITUARIES

DONALD L. NIGGEMEYER

Donald L. Niggemeyer, 83, of Fort Madison, IA, passed away on Friday, October 25, 2019 at 7:20 PM at the Ft. Madison Community Hospital.

He was born on May 8, 1936 in Ft. Madison to Henry and Elsie Krumpleman Niggemeyer. On January 31, 1959 he married Elaine Fowler in Ft. Madison. He worked at Consolidated Packaging as a Supervisor and retired after forty one years of service. Don was a member of Holy Family Parish and the Knights of Columbus. He enjoyed working on antique clocks and re-finishing furniture. He was known as the "neighborhood handyman" and helped anyone out with whatever was needed.



NIGGEMEYER

Survivors include his wife, Elaine Niggemeyer of Ft. Madison; a son, Mark Niggemeyer of Dallas, TX; a daughter Dana (Chuck)Chrisman of Burlington; one grandson, Camden Chrisman of Olathe, KS; a sister, Barb (Fred) Otte of Ft. Madison; a brother, James (Mary Jane) Niggemeyer of Ft. Madison; several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents; a sister, Charlene; three brothers, Melvin, Wilbert and Robert; two half brothers, Ralph and Clarence and a half sister, Julia.

Per his wishes, cremation has been entrusted to King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. A graveside service will be held at Sacred Heart Cemetery on Tuesday, October 29, 2019 at 10 AM with Rev. Joseph Phung officiating.

A memorial has been established for PAW Animal Shelter and online condolences may be left at www.kinglynk.com.

LARRY "SHANE" TUTTLE

Larry "Shane" Tuttle, of Farmington, IA, passed away Friday, October 25, 2019 at 7:40 PM at the Great River Medical Center.

He was born on July 31, 1968 in Ft. Madison to Larry C. and Karen Brown Tuttle. Shane worked at Bluebird in Mt. Pleasant. He enjoyed fishing, painting and being with his animals. His great love was spending time with his family and friends.



TUTTLE

Survivors include his son, Billy Barrows of Farmington; a step son, Joey (Brittney) Barrows of Bonaparte; a sister, Kelly (Harlan) Martin of Donnellson; a brother, Byron "BJ" (Jill) Tuttle of Mt. Pleasant; several aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins. He was preceded in death by his parents; two sisters in infancy and his grandparents.

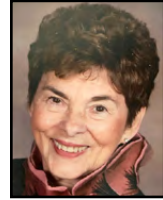
Per his wishes, cremation has been entrusted to King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. A celebration of life will be held at a later date. Online condolences may be left at www.kinglynk.com.

OBITUARIES

KAREN ELIZABETH BANGERT

Karen Elizabeth Bangert, 80, of Burlington, IA died Thursday, October 24, 2019 at Great River Hospice House in West Burlington, IA.

She was born on October 6, 1939, in Keokuk, IA the daughter of Leonard and Elizabeth Klepfer Reeder. Karen graduated from Keokuk High School with the Class of 1958.



BANGERT

On September 18, 1960 she was united in marriage to Richard Bangert in Keokuk, IA and they celebrated fifty-eight years of life together. He preceded her in death on March 24, 2019.

Along with her husband Richard, they owned and operated Bangert Computer Systems, in Burlington.

She was very active in the community and enjoyed socializing with others. She had been a member of the P.E.O., quilting club, bridge club, Questers and the garden club. She loved to garden and received her Master Gardener's certification. She and her husband had several large "pick-your-own" strawberry patches in Burlington and the surrounding area for fifteen years. Karen was a skilled seamstress and made beautiful quilts that her family will treasure. One of her favorite pastimes was playing bridge. She enjoyed collecting dolls and glassware among other things. She loved to travel and over the years many memorable trips were taken, including train rides to the west and spring breaks with the family. Karen was very close to her family and cherished the time she spent with them.

She is survived by three children, Kurt (Theresa) Bangert of Kansas City, MO, Kathleen (Brett) Hodson of St. Louis, MO and Kevin Bangert of Burlington, IA, five grandchildren, Justine, Reid, and Virginia Bangert and Izabel and Hugh Hodson, one brother, Paul (Sarah) Reeder of Cincinnati, OH and several nieces and nephews.

A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m., Tuesday at the First United Methodist Church, 421 Washington St. in Burlington with Reverend Melisa Bracht-Wagner officiating. Burial will be in the Aspen Grove Cemetery in Burlington.

Visitation for family and friends will be held prior to the service from 10-11 a.m., Tuesday at the church.

Memorials may be made to the ALS Association and may be mailed to the Vigen Memorial Home, 1328 Concert St., Keokuk, IA 52632.

Online condolences may be left for the family at www.vigenmemorialhome.com. Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk, IA is assisting the family with arrangements.

Pen City Current obituary policy

The Current runs obituaries at no charge to funeral homes and they run the day they are submitted in most cases. They are also run as submitted by the funeral homes.

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Lee County Health Department Hospice was established in 1989, and was the **First Medicare Certified Hospice in Southeast Iowa**. We pride ourselves on providing quality and comforting care to residents in Lee, Des Moines, Henry, and Van Buren Counties in Iowa, and Hancock and Henderson Counties in Illinois.

30 Years of Hospice Open House

Thursday, November 14, 2019
3:00pm-6:00pm

Special Presentation at 4:30
Lee County Health Department
#3 John Bennett Drive
Fort Madison, Iowa

Staff, past and present, will be on hand to share on how hospice got started, and the services we provide.



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Pen City Current

Founded in 2016



P.O. Box 366 | Fort Madison, IA

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Pen City Current and www.pencitycurrent.com are products of Market Street Publishing, LLC. Pen City Current is published Sunday through Friday mornings.

For the Record/Letter to the Editor

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report

10/24/19 – 8:27 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 1700 block of Avenue B. 10/24/19 – 10:31 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 7000 block of Avenue E. 10/24/19 – 10:33 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a personal injury accident in the 4800 block of Avenue O. 10/24/19 – 3:03 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 3000 block of Avenue E. 10/24/19 – 6:27 p.m. – Fort Madison Police arrested Michael Travis West, 40, of Fort Madison in the 2700 block of Avenue N on a charge of OWI 1st-offense. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held. 10/24/18 – 6:45 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1200

block of 26th Street.

Lee County Sheriff's Report

10/24/19 – 5:40 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Steven Douglas Stonehouse, Sr., 54, of Burlington, at the sheriff's office on warrants for contempt of court and probation violation. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held. 10/24/19 – 9:21 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies cited Antoine Anthony Pierce, 34, of Marshall, Texas, in the 1300 block of Hwy. 27, on a charge of possession of a controlled substance. He was released upon citation. 10/24/19 – 10:21 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Matthew Scott Stephenson, 44, of Fort Madison, at the intersection of Hwys. 2 and 61 on a charge of driving while barred. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.

Hancock County

Sheriff's report

10/14/19 – Carroll V Brewer, age 45, of Fort Madison, was arrested on a Hancock County Warrant charging him with Failure to Appear/ Failure to Pay on original charges of No Valid Driver's License. Brewer was also arrested on Lee County IA warrants charging him with Violation of Probation and Controlled Substance Violation. Brewer was released to Lee County Iowa Authorities. 10/14/19 – Amy D Wagy, age 41, of Hamilton, IL was arrested on a Brown County Warrant charging her with Theft. Wagy was released after posting the required bond and given a future court date. 10/15/19 – Robert R L Duncan, age 29, of Keokuk, was arrested and charged with Driving While License Suspended. Duncan was released after posting the required bond and given a future court date. 10/15/19 – Jeremy C Martin, age 35, of Plymouth, IL was arrested on a Mc-

Donough County Warrant charging him with Failure to Appear on original charges of Delivery of Methamphetamine. Martin was released to McDonough County Authorities. 10/16/19 – Danielle R Clark, age 28, of Carthage, IL was arrested and charged with Possession of Methamphetamine. Clark was also arrested on a Hancock County Warrant charging her with Theft of Lost or Mislaid Property. Clark was released on her own recognizance and given a future court date. 10/16/19 – Drew P Billings, age 24, of Burnside, IL was arrested on an Iowa Department of Corrections Warrant charging him with Escape/Voluntary Absence from a Residential Correctional Facility. Billings remains lodged in the Hancock County Jail in lieu of bail awaiting extradition to Iowa. 10/16/19 – Andrew M Schiedel, age 31, of Fort Madison, IA was arrested on a Hancock County

Warrant charging him with Petition to Revoke or Modify Sentence on original charges of Violation of Unlawful Possession of Methamphetamine. Schiedel remains lodged in the Hancock County Jail in lieu of bail awaiting his next court appearance. 10/16/19 – Susan K Smith, age 35, of Carthage, IL was arrested and charged with Possession of Methamphetamine. Smith was released on her own recognizance and given a future court date. 10/17/19 – Christopher M Gollither, age 32, of Keokuk, IA was arrested and charged with Violation of Bail Bond. Gollither remains lodged in the Hancock County Jail in lieu of bail awaiting his next court appearance. 10/17/19 – Chrystal L Loveless, age 36, of Hamilton, IL was arrested and charged with No Valid Driver's License. Loveless was released after posting the required bond and given a future court date.

10/18/19 – Trevor A Harmon, age 34, of Lomax, IL was arrested on a Hancock County Warrant charging him with Failure to Appear/ Failure to Pay on original charges of Theft, Driving While License Suspended, and Unlawful Possession of Methamphetamine. Harmon was released after posting the required bond and given a future court date. 10/19/19 – Zacariah D Taylor, age 22, of Carthage, IL was arrested on a Hancock County Warrant charging him with Possession of Controlled Substance. Taylor was released after posting the required bond and given a future court date. 10/20/19 – Triston K Davis, age 34, of Burlington, IA was arrested and charged with Driving While License Suspended. Davis was released after posting the required bond and given a future court date. *Those listed above are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.*

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Every vote matters on Election Night

The election is right around the corner, are you ready to vote? Our local election, not unlike those on the national level, is extremely important. Our community needs to move forward, free from radicalism, misinformation and aggression. I believe that we need teamwork to achieve a strong

retail base, maintain our safe communities and strengthen families. This "team" encompasses many stakeholders, not just the City Council, Mayor and school board, but every person in our community. It means you! So, let's start our progress by ensuring every registered voter hits the polls on

Tuesday, November 5th. Your vote does matter! It matters because without it, the angry vote wins, without it, the negative vote wins, without it we sacrifice progress to the face of unattainable promises. Please vote!

Rebecca Bowker
Fort Madison, IA



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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




10/27 MID-DAY
5 5 2
10/27 EVENING
8 4 5



10/27 MID-DAY
7 0 1 7
10/27 EVENING
3 3 8 2

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PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE
Fort Madison Community School District
1930 Avenue M
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
October 21, 2019

I. The meeting was called to order by President Wondra at 6:00 p.m. Directors Hope, Ross, Hotop and DiPrima were present. Also present was Superintendent Slater.

II. Recognition of guests. President Wondra welcomed members of the audience in attendance and explained the procedures for the meeting.

III. Reading of Foundation documents. The Board read and reviewed the Foundation documents consisting of the Vision, Mission and Belief statements and the Goals for the Fort Madison Community School District.

IV. Monthly communications

A. Student Rep report. The Board received an update of ongoing activities at the High School.

B. Curriculum Corner. The Board received an update from Todd Dirth and Melissa Helt on the Middle School PACK.

C. "Did You Know?" The "Did You Know?" document was accepted as presented.

D. Superintendent Goal Report. Dr. Slater gave an update on the district's progress towards the Board of Directors' goals.

E. District Presentations. FMCSA Website Tour.

Sebastian Seifert gave the Board a tour of the updated website.

Enter: Steffensmeier at 6:37 p.m.

V. Approve the agenda. It was moved by DiPrima and seconded by Hope to approve the agenda as presented. The motion passed on a 6-0 voice vote.

VI. Consent agenda. It was moved by DiPrima and seconded by Steffensmeier to approve the consent agenda as presented. The consent agenda consisted of minutes from the September 16, 2019 regular meeting; October 7, 2019 Work Session; financial reports including the September Balance Sheet, September Revenue Summary, Expenditure Report and Student Activity Report, accounts payable for the September General Account Board bills for Approval, October General Account Board bills for approval, Student Activity Board bills for approval and Nutrition Account Board bills for approval; resignations from Kayla Danek-Talbot as associate at Richardson, Penny Wilson as secretary at the middle school and Joseph Danek-Talbot as bus driver; employment of Deana New-

by as custodian at Richardson, Clara Watts as custodian at Richardson, Amy Gruntmeir as technology support at the high school, Kay Diton as foodservice at the high school and Jacob Heibredner as building maintenance mechanic. The motion passed on a 6-0 voice vote.

VII. Action Items

A. Director of Curriculum and Student Services.

B. Superintendent.

1. Consider approval of policy changes.

a. 201 – Board of Directors' Elections. It was moved by Hope and seconded by Steffensmeier to approve policy 201 as presented. The motion passed on a 6-0 voice vote.

b. 202.3 – Term of Office. It was moved by Hotop and seconded by Steffensmeier to approve policy 202.3 as presented. The motion passed on a 6-0 voice vote.

c. 202.4 – Vacancies. It was moved by Hope and seconded by Ross to approve policy 202.4 as presented. The motion passed on a 6-0 voice vote.

d. 203 – Board of Directors Conflict of Interest. It was moved by Ross and seconded by Steffensmeier to approve policy #203 as presented. The motion passed on a 6-0 voice vote.

e. 210.2 – Board Meeting Procedure. It was moved by Ross and seconded by Steffensmeier to approve policy #210.2 as presented. The motion passed on a 6-0 voice vote.

f. 501.5 – Attendance Areas. It was moved by Hope and seconded by Hotop to approve policy #501.5 as presented. The motion passed on a 6-0 voice vote.

2. Consider approval of lane changes. The Board reviewed the lane changes. It was moved by Hope and seconded by DiPrima to approve the lane changes as submitted. The motion passed on a 6-0 voice vote.

3. Consider approval of fundraisers within the athletic department. The Board reviewed the list of current/past/future fundraisers within the Athletic Department. Discussion followed. It was moved by Ross and seconded by Steffensmeier to approve the list of fundraisers as presented. The motion passed on a 6-0 voice vote.

4. Consider approval of the travel request from Greg Smith for the high school Guiding Coalition team to attend RTI training in Madison, WI from December 2-5, 2019. The Board reviewed the trip request. It was moved by Ross and seconded by Hotop to approve the request for travel from Greg Smith and the high school Guiding Coalition team to attend RTI training in Madison, WI from December 2-5,

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PUBLIC NOTICES

2019. The motion passed on a 6-0 voice vote.

5. Consider approval of the travel request from Bonnie Peterson-Slee to attend the National Association of Agricultural Educators in Anaheim, CA from December 3-6, 2019. The Board reviewed the trip request. It was moved by DiPrima and seconded by Hotop to approve the request for travel from Bonnie Peterson-Slee to attend the National Association of Agricultural Educators in Anaheim, CA from December 3-6, 2019. The motion passed on a 6-0 voice vote.

C. Board Secretary/Business Manager.

1. Consider approval of Transportation Report for Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2018. The Board reviewed the Transportation Report. It was moved by Steffensmeier and seconded by DiPrima to approve the Transportation Report as presented. The motion passed on a 6-0 voice vote.

2. Food Service Update. Tiffany Fullhart, Director of Food Service, presented information regarding the Food Service Program. Discussion followed. It was moved by Hope and seconded by DiPrima to approve the update as presented.

VIII. Discussion Items

A. Director of Curriculum and Student Services

1. Fall Data Report. Superintendent Slater reviewed fall data with the Board. Discussion followed.

2. Statewide Assessment Comparison. Superintendent Slater reviewed the statewide assessment comparison with the Board. Discussion followed.

3. Official Enrollment. Superintendent Slater shared enrollment information with the Board. Discussion followed.

B. Superintendent.

1. Policies for 1st reading. The Board reviewed Policies 204-206.4. These policies will be brought back at a later meeting for final approval.

2. Board plan for American Education Week (November 18-22, 2019) Breakfast will be provided by the Board of Directors on Tuesday, November 19, starting at 7:00 a.m. in each school building.

3. Scheduled Building Instructional Tour. Building

instructional tour of Carousel and YMCA Pre-schools is scheduled for November 19th.

4. School Improvement Needs Assessment. This will be scheduled with IASB.

5. Certified Employee Attendance. The certified employee attendance report was accepted as presented.

6. Board Member Attendance. The Board reviewed and discussed the Board member attendance report.

C. Board Secretary/Business Manager.

IX. Comments from the audience. There were none.

X. Legislative update. The Board received a legislative update.

XI. Announcements.

November 4, 2019 - 6:00 PM - Work Session, Board Room, Central Office

November 5, 2019 - Board Elections

November 18, 2019 - 6:00 PM - Regular Meeting, Board Room, Central Office

November 20-21, 2019 - IASB Annual Convention

XII. Adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Tim Wondra, Board President

October 21, 2019

Sandra Elmore, Board Secretary

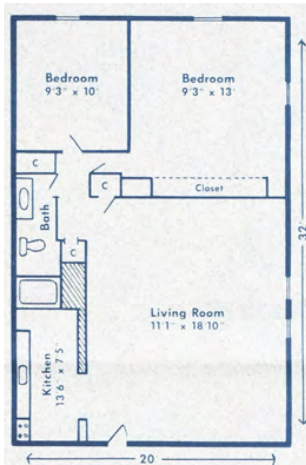
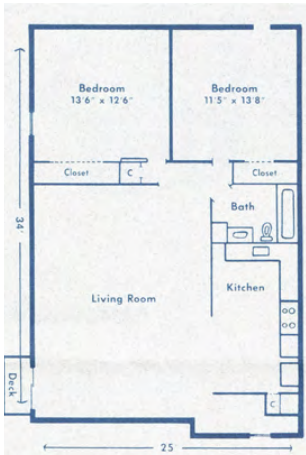
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Third phase should be complete by summer 2020

P.O.R.T - Continued from Page 1

son to Rodeo Park.

The Foundation presented their proposal for the north/south path in July. The exact path of the trail that goes up 15th Street will be determined by engineers, but \$1.5 million was earmarked for the project and the foundation hoped to have work done by September of 2020.

The other announcement for the trail organization was a Phase 4, which will add needed trail pathways on 48th Street from the sports complex north to Bluff Road.

“Our goal is so that people won’t have to switch sides of the road if they don’t want to until they get to the corner by the middle school. So we’re basically trying to connect it all and finish it all off,” she said.

“That’s always been our goal – to connect the whole town with trails and so this just gets us one step and closer. We’re proposing to get Rodeo connected to Bluff and then hopefully P.O.R.T. can take over whatever to make a large circle, but we haven’t made that official decision yet.”

The 3rd Phase connecting the second phase at the Sports Complex west to the hospital is an expensive project due to some wetlands mitigation and having to raise the trail.

It wasn’t all good news for the P.O.R.T. trail this year when City Public Works Director Larry Driscoll, announced his resignation with plans to move to the Cedar Rapids area. Driscoll was instrumental in coordinating the P.O.R.T. committee’s work with the city.

“Larry has been instrumental and has been our champion and biggest advocate with the city. He’s made things happen and we really appreciated that effort,” Budnik said.

Budnik said the P.O.R.T. group has been very fortunate with grants this year and in the past with federal trails grants and Wellmark grants. A 2018 federal Dept. of Transportation grant, coupled with a Wellmark grant, a Transportation Alternative Program grant and funds from the Southeast Iowa Regional Riverboat Commission have pushed the group over the \$500,000 needed for the Phase 3 project.

As for the annual fall run, Budnik said turnout was good despite other holiday activities. The event included a run for kids, the 5K run and a 10K bicycle ride.

“The turnout today was pretty good. You never know because runs are hit and miss these days. It used to be that runs that were only thing people had to do,” Budnik said.

“And when we started this six years ago there wasn’t a whole lot going on around Halloween and now it’s a pretty popular time of the year.”

She said they had about 125 people register for the run and a lot signed up on Saturday morning

HTC’s Graham named to 2019 All-State Band

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON – Lucy Graham, of Holy Trinity Catholic High School, has attained the highest individual honor available to Iowa high school musicians by being selected as a member of the 2019 All-State Band. Lucy Graham is the daughter of Brian and Brenda Graham of Fort Madison and is an instrumental student of Mrs. Emily Otte.

The 2019 Festival will

celebrate the 73rd anniversary of this prestigious event. District auditions for the 279 piece All-State Band, 227 piece All-State Orchestra, and 601 member All-State Chorus were held Saturday, October 26, 2019 at Le Mars, Hampton, Independence, Atlantic, Indianola, and Washington.

Please check the IPTV website (www.iptv.org) for the exact dates and times. This program is under the auspices of the Iowa High



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Letter to the Editor/From the Front

Mississippi River port would be a top 20 U.S. port

SUMMIT - Continued from Page 1

ally lead to the solution.

"The big thing is to have communities and counties reach out to us," Fencil said. "the more we talk about an issue, the more education we can share about that issue, the more people are going to understand."

Fencil said fixes can't be a band-aid solution. He said four years ago the speeds required were 4/1 and now requirements are 25/3.

"If we go out and try to build a 25/3 network for years from now that criteria is not going to be 25/3 anymore because everything that needs an off/off switch is going to need a connection to the Internet. You're not going to need 25/3, you're going to need a 100/100."

Broemmer said in August the Federal Communication Commission authorized a \$20.4 billion Rural Digital Opportunity Fund which will disperse those Universal Service

Funds (USFs) as subsidies for rural broadband efforts over the next 10 years. Funds can go to cable broadband providers as well as telecoms.

Broemmer said even that amount won't fix the issue, but the question is how much of that can be brought to the tri-state area.

"To go after that money, we've got to work collectively so we can tell a really good story during that grant writing process," he said.

Winsel said the key aspect going forward is collaboration and getting officials educated at local, state, and federal levels.

"They may understand it, but have they experienced it, have they been to the guy out there that can't get service and has to go to McDonalds or whatever WiFi access they can find for the kids to do homework," he said.

"The more we talk about an issue, the more

education we can share on the issue, the more people are going to understand. I encourage all of you to talk to your legislators, federal, state, regional and make sure they understand this is a concern to you."

Ray said she was reassured by the panel when they talked about the funding options that are out there, and the fact that they talked about trying to work to get some of the money allocated to the tri-state area.

"I was reassured that they already know what they have to do to get it and that it will come directly to them and not through the state," she said.

"Because that makes that money flow that much faster. It's reassuring but it takes so long for that process to unfold."

She said there's no silver bullet to the concerns that people have right now, but she said when the rural

providers understand the problem and are looking at ways to solve the problems, that's a good start. But the next big question will be how the Internet Service Providers are going to use the money once they get access to it.

"That's been the million dollar question all along. There's been funding before. Now, granted that funding has got us to where we are today. It's just a very, very large problem we're trying to solve. It's not a quick fix. People in that room today don't care about 100 years from now, they care about, 'Can I get it tonight?'"

Ray said topics like transportation are easier to accomplish because everyone can get behind it, but some of the other issues like workforce development are trickier because groups within the summit area can be at different places.

"That's the thing about

a summit, it's always a challenge working regionally to find what is that common area," Ray said.

Port proposal

Lee County Economic Development Group CEO Dennis Fraise said his big takeaway was a discussion on a Mississippi River federal port designation.

"The thing I was really interested in was getting a port designation for the entire area. That whole stretch, I think there's some real synergies there we can work on and it sounds very doable for us. It's one of those things these groups are tailored made to deal with," he said.

The proposed designation would include all ports along the Mississippi River on Iowa's side from Dubuque to Keokuk, and the corresponding ports on the Illinois side of the river.

According to 2012 Iowa compiled data, Iowa companies ship more than

4.5 million tons of goods on the Mississippi River, and bring in about 1.25 million tons.

"That's something I really took away is why don't we have that because that seems to open up federal dollars for all kinds of things including fixing the locks," he said.

A federal designation which would make the area a top 20 port nationally.

Dana Millard, LCEDG's project director said the summit creates strong collaborations and helps determine priorities as well as giving insight into what other groups are doing within the area.

"The river has been changing over the past several decades and those projects bring us together as a region," she said.

"And being able to work together on things like workforce initiatives and what others are doing to recruit all helps our area grow."

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Bowker right for person for 1st Ward

Dear Editor

Rebecca Bowker is running for City Council, First Ward. I hope you will vote for her and here's why: I have witnessed her sacrifice when her friends needed her, donate to those in need and stand up for those who couldn't stand for themselves. She is not easily intimidated and will do the right thing.

I believe she is the only choice for City Council.

Ian Hauck,
Fort Madison

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Local News/Weather

Austin's Spam museum part of fall Minnesota getaway

SWARM - Continued from Page 1

by artist Claes Oldenburg and his wife Coosje, is one of a kind. It's an eye-catching, smile-provoking work of art, just one of many wonders in the sculpture garden. Ginnie's Fitbit buzzed 10,000 steps, a reward for beauty seen.

Next: MN Nice Cream, for an afternoon snack, then pizza for supper at a quaint eatery in a village borough. I loved the diversity, with a Muslim mosque and Buddhist monastery within blocks of each other, everyone in harmony, smiling and saying hi, just like in small town Iowa. Little motorized scooters dotted the city streets, as well as bicycles. Huge hybrid electric transit buses hummed people from point A to point B. Who needs a car? The flavor and beat of the city was infectious.

Our hotel was crowded with teen girls—hockey

players—in town for a tournament. I asked one of the parent-chaperon-coaches where they were from. Alaska! They had flown in, rented a vehicle to haul the girls and equipment, and were ready to play. I told him that I didn't know girls played hockey. He said they were pretty scrappy. I asked him if they liked to fight, like the men. He pointed to one of the girls who was missing front teeth. (Just kidding.)

Saying goodbye to family was sad, but on the way home a special treat: a tour of the Spam Museum in Austin, Minnesota. Yes! If you haven't visited the Spam Museum, it's well worth the side trek. Iowa may be the pork capital of the world, but Hormel and Spam, ("the food that won the war") is in Austin, Minnesota. Jokes aside, the Spam Museum is a class act. How many cans of Spam tall are you? Ginnie and I both splurged in the gift shop. I now have a Spam pocket knife, ink pen

that lights up, and pajama bottoms. Ginnie has a Spam kitchen towel, spatula, Spam-or-cheese slicer, cookbook, and four different kinds of Spam: Teriyaki, Portuguese Sausage, Tocino, and Hickory Smoke. There are over a dozen different kinds. After the tour we meandered across the street to a restaurant for lunch, and had (drum roll) pineapple and Spam pizza! Yep. Spam bam thank you Ma'am!

On the trip home we took Highway 218 South, all the way to little ol' Mt. Pleasant. The fall scenery was spectacular on "The Avenue of the Saints." We almost stopped to gather pumpkins at one farm, and apples at another. Get aways are fun, but it's always nice to be home again, home again, jiggy jog.

BTW: I have one maybe two openings in my 4th annual winter creative writing class. If interested, my contact information is below. Stay out of trouble until next week!

Have a good story? Call or text Curt Swarm in Mt. Pleasant at 319-217-0526, email him at curtswarm@yahoo.com, or visit his website at www.empty-nest-words-photos-and-frames.com.

19th Street Trick or Treat again on Beggar's Night

Submitted article

FORT MADISON – Kempker's True Value & Rental and Fareway Grocery are teaming up once again for their annual 19th Street Trick or Treat on Fort Madison's Beggars Night, Thursday, October 31st from 5 p.m. -7 p.m.

Hall's Ice Cream, New Dimensions, Griffin Muffler and Brake Center, Salvador's Emporium, American Family Insurance – Agent Lydia Atterberg, Your Heat and Air Guy, and Holtkamp's Floors, Decor and Furniture are also part of the spooktacular event and will be there handing out treats and goodies. Kempker's and Fareway will be offering Hot Dogs, Chips, and a Drink to all the kids in costume.

19th Street between Avenue H and Avenue I will be barricaded off shortly before and during the event for the safety of trick-or-treaters and their families. Parking will be available in either the Fareway Grocery store parking lot or Kempker's True Value and Rental parking lot.

Trick or treaters are also encouraged to head to The Kensington for more treats as the residents will be set up inside, ready to hand out treats and see all the costumes!

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WED 30 Oct  Clear
High– 32.5° F | Low – 32.3° F

THU 31 Oct  Clear
High– 30.2° F | Low – 21.0° F

FRI 01 Nov  Overcast
High– 31.0° F | Low – 30.4° F

SAT 02 Nov  Moderate Clouds
High– 33.6° F | Low – 25.4° F

[OpenWeatherMap](#)

Sports

Hounds surrender "county seat"

BY CHUCK
VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Hound senior Mike Mosena breaks free on a kickoff return in the first half Friday night. Mosena would break to the sidelines and race all the way to the Chiefs' 21 before getting tackled.

with the Hounds getting some help when the Chiefs were flagged for having an ineligible man down field on a 16-yard completion on 1st and 10.

The punt snap went over the head of Keokuk's kicker and Larson pounced on it at the Chiefs' 21-yard line. This time the Hounds would find the endzone when Larson hit Mosena in the left side of the endzone off some misdirection. The Hounds missed the PAT to make it 14-6.

Keokuk would put together a 7-play drive but were stalled due to an illegal procedure penalty and two incompletions from quarterback Corey Skinner.

Fort Madison would take over on downs at their own 35, but couldn't get anything going with a couple incompletions from Larson. Quentin Schneider's punt was returned to the Hounds 45 and four plays later Keokuk's Calum Tackes would bull in from the 3 for a 21-6 lead with the PAT.

The two teams would exchange 4 and outs on the next two possessions before Keokuk put together another sustained drive with Tackes doing most of the work carrying the ball five times and then pushing his way in from the 11 with 2:28 left for a 28-6 lead.

But Fort Madison would push the effort again returning the kick to the 40 and then going nine plays. On 4th and 3, Larson would call his own number on the run-pass-option to slip into the endzone on the left side with just :12 left in the half. The 2-point conversion was good and the Hounds trailed 14-28 at the half.

Neither team would score in the third quarter, thanks

in part to a key interception by Calem Maclearn, who was tied up with a much taller Anthony Potratz for most of the night. The Chiefs went to the right side shoulder route about eight times on the night trying to take advantage of Potratz' height advantage, but Maclearn was able to get turned around in the endzone and picked off a Skinner attempt on 4th and 5 at the Hounds 15.

With the Hounds still trailing by 14 at the 8:38 mark, Fort Madison marched 64 yards in 9 plays including converting two fourth down plays, but chewed up a lot of clock before Larson found Schneider over the Chiefs secondary for a 36-yard scoring strike to close the gap to the final score of 28-20 with five minutes left in the game.

Doherty used a couple of timeouts strategically, but the Chiefs were able to run the clock out on the season and the seniors final time of the field.

Doherty was visibly frustrated after the game and chocked it up to the loss of the game, the loss of the seniors, and the loss of a winning season.

"All of the above - just knowing how close we were to all of it. Take that head start off the board and the things that we just haven't done and don't do... and we gotta ball game," he said.

"But first of all, I love all our seniors and I'm very thankful for all of them. This program is moving in the right direction and they are the leading force behind that.

"When we say family we mean it. When you watch these guys hugging each other and crying and passing

messages onto the other guys, you know it's real."

Senior Diego Lozano said the Hounds played like a one-half team for most of the year, and they were working and talking in practice about making this game a full-game effort.

"Really, the big thing we needed to do... we were a one half team. We talked in practice this week about playing one half and that we have to put two halves together," he said.

"We fought with everything we had to come back, we just fell short. It sucks, man."

Larson finished with one of his better games of the year going 9 of 21 for 193 yards and two scores. He also ground out 16 yards, a team high, on 16 carries and a score. Larson took over the team this year as a junior and Doherty said he grew a lot and will be counted on next year.

"Will Larson is a fighter - a tough kid - and a very competitive spirit. He's done a great job for us and we're lucky to have him coming back," Doherty said.

"This class means so much to me because there my first class. They believed in me when I had trouble believing in myself."

Schneider led the team in receiving with his best game of the year hauling in six passes for 93 yards and a touchdown. He also led the Hounds in tackles with 8.5 including six solo, three for losses.

Hawks end season on winning note

BY PCC STAFF

BLOOMFIELD - The Central Lee Hawks finished the year on an uptick with back-to-back wins as they knocked off Davis County 28-6 Friday night.

Davis County got on the board first with a 32 yard touchdown strike through the air with just under four minutes gone in the first quarter, but that's all the scoring the Mustangs would get in the game as Central Lee dominated from that point on.

Senior Adam Boeck would get his first of three touchdown runs of the night on Central Lee's next possession on a 1-yard plunge. The Hawks would miss the PAT to tie the game at 6-6.

Neither team was able to put up any points in the second period, but half way through the third period Boeck would capitalize on some hard running by senior Dalton Westercamp, who had 140 yards on 32 carries on the night.

Boeck was score on a quarterback keeper from three yards out. The Hawks tried a 2-point conversion run after the score to make up for the missed PAT, but the run failed and Central Lee had a 12-6 lead with 8:23 left in the third.

With the Hawks first possession in the final period, Boeck again scored at the goal line on a 1-yard run, but his time he hooked up with TJ Stutes for a two-point pass play to give Central Lee 20-6 lead with 11:58 left in the game.

Westercamp would find the endzone for the first time of the night with 6:13 left in the game on a seven yard scamper and Boeck threw to Dylan Stuecker for the two point conversion to set the final at 28-6.

The Hawks finished the season 2-7 tied for fourth in Class 2A's District 6, which is a marked improvement over the 2018 squad that finished winless on the year.

Mid Prairie and Williamsburg tied for the district title with 6-3 records.

Eddyville-Blakesburg-Fremont was third at 3-6. The Hawks tied with Davis County at 2-7, and Albia finished the year 1-8.



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CAUTION
POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS

FORT MADISON - Fort Madison Athletic Director Jeremy Swink got a chorus of "boooos" from a disgruntled Hound student section as he carried the "county seat" out and set it on the 40-yard line for the Keokuk Chiefs to take home.

The Chiefs handed the Bloodhounds a 28-20 defeat Friday night at Jim Yeoul Field on the final game of the season leaving the Hounds just shy of the team's first winning season since 2010, at 4-5.

It was a season that showed promise and flashes of being able to play with some of the best teams in the conference. Head Coach Derek Doherty has said all year the Hounds needed to play with attitude and effort.

He got both on Friday night as the Hounds battled back after going down 14-0 just five minutes into the first quarter.

On the Chiefs, second play from scrimmage, after a Fort Madison 4 and out, Senior Braylon Martinez took a hand off at the Chiefs own 13 bounced down the right side of the Chiefs line and found a hole. Martinez, who qualified for Drake and the Iowa State Track meet in the 100 meter run, blew past the Hounds secondary for an 87-yard touchdown.

The Chiefs kicked off and Fort Madison started at its own 21. Junior Quarterback Will Larson tried an inside screen that was tipped and intercepted by senior Dylan Jeffers who raced left and outran the Hounds into the endzone for another score.

"You can't give people a head start. I'm gonna take 100% of the responsibility for that. The only thing I can come up with is we weren't ready from the jump - can't do that against good football teams," Doherty said.

But the attitude and effort kicked back in.

Senior Michael Mosena brought the ensuing kickoff toward the Hounds fans and raced down the sideline left and was caught from the side at the 21. On 2nd and 9, Larson found Brock Califf at the back of the endzone alone, but Califf, trying to tiptoe the back line, had the ball bounce off his hands.

Larson would get a yard on the next carry and then throw incomplete to turn the ball back over to the Chiefs.

Keokuk would go 4 and out on the next possession

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