



# Pen City Current

Tuesday, April 23, 2019 | 17 pages | Volume 3 • Issue 99

## Taylor, Kurtz see dismal future for Iowa's privatized health plans

*UnitedHealthcare's departure, federal investigation loom*

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – State Sen. Rich Taylor said this summer is not going to be good for hundreds of thousands on Iowa's privatized Medicaid system.



TAYLOR

At Friday's Legislative Luncheon in Fort Madison, sponsored by the Fort Madison Chamber of Commerce, Taylor and State Rep. Jeff Kurtz both anguished over the current state of Iowa's privatized Medicaid system.



KURTZ

any means," Taylor said. "I think we're going to go through the same issues we went through getting set up originally, but with only about half the people. I think we need to eliminate these MCOs that are taking care of our most vulnerable citizens."

In the past four weeks, UnitedHealthcare of the River Valley, announced it was pulling out of the state's privatized system effective June 30. On the heels of that announcement, the federal government's Office of the Inspector General announced it was

"I don't look for this to be a very sweet summer by

See **HEALTHCARE**, page 8

## EMPTY NEST

By Curt Swarm



## Aslan's books cement author's faith

I got the first book where I get many of my books, from 89-year old Tommy Sinnott of Nauvoo. He's my inspiration. The book, "Zealot, the Life and Times of Jesus of Nazareth," by Reza Aslan, had been a New York Times number-one best seller. Tommy paid a dollar for it in the "Book-Bargain" section of a book store. The cover drew by attention; the title drew my curiosity; the writing drew my respect. It is, without a doubt, the best written, most captivating book I have read in years. I remember becoming so spiritually uplifted while reading it that I thought the top of my head would come off.

I had been told this before, but had forgotten, "... practically every word ever written about Jesus of Nazareth, including every gospel story in Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, was written by people who...never actually knew Jesus when he was alive....With the possible exception of Luke, the gospels were not written by those after whom they were named."

Reza Aslan was born in Iran and was Muslim. As a teenager in America, he converted to Christianity. Through his education in religious studies, a PhD in Sociology, and his writing, which included stints at the University of Iowa Writers Workshop, Aslan's intention "with this book is to spread the good news of Jesus of history with the same fervor that I once applied to spreading the story of the Christ." "Jesus the man—is every bit as compelling, charismatic, and praiseworthy as Jesus the Christ. He is, in short, someone worth believing in."

I needed more of Reza Aslan. Voila, book two: "No God But God, The Origins, Evolution, and Future of Islam." Once again, to quote Aslan, "It is true that some verses in the Quran instruct Muhammad and his followers to 'slay the polytheists wherever you confront them' to 'carry the struggle to the hypocrites who deny the faith' and, especially to 'fight those who do not believe in God and the Last Day.' However, it must be understood that these verses were directed specifically at the Quraysh [Arab tribe that controlled Mecca] and their clandestine partisans in Yathrib—specifically named in the Quran as the 'the polytheists'

See **SWARM**, page 8



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Fort Madison Mayor Brad Randolph takes instruction from his coach Anita Lee as part of the Potowonok Circle of King's Daughters first ever "Clay, Paper, and Scissors" event Friday night at the Baxter Sports Complex.

## Local celebs raise \$3,000 for Potowonok group

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – The Baxter Sports Complex

pavilion turned into an art depot on Friday night.

The Potowonok Circle of Kings Daughters paired up some top-shelf local artists with local celeb-

rities to raise money for the ladies group's annual charitable functions.

Becky Carlsen, who coordinated the event, said the idea was kind of

swiped then adapted from Burlington's Battle of the Brushes.

"I've gone a couple

See **ART**, page 9

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## Obituaries/Education News

### OBITUARIES

## CAROL T. BECKMAN

Carol T. Beckman, 80, of Ft. Madison passed away on Saturday, April 20, 2019 at 2:15 PM at her home.



BECKMAN

She was born on March 8, 1939 in Quincy, IL to Dr. Ralph and Winifred Potter Thesen. Carol was an Electrologist for forty years and was formerly employed by Arroway Labs in Los Angeles, CA She also was co-owner of an aquarium shop in Quincy named End of the Line. Carol moved to Ft. Madison in 1992 after falling and getting a back injury. She loved animals and contributed to many children's and animal charities. Her favorite hobby was playing cards.

She is survived by her companion, Shirley Rodhouse of Ft. Madison and many friends. She was preceded in death by her parents.

A private burial will be held in Oakland Cemetery. King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory is in charge of the arrangements and online condolences may be left at [www.kinglynk.com](http://www.kinglynk.com).

## STEPHANIE MARGARET "STEVIE" GUZMAN

Stephanie Margaret "Stevie" Guzman, 55 years, of Fort Madison, Iowa died Sunday, April 21, 2019 at The Madison. She was born December 28, 1963, the daughter of Ernest and Irene (Salazar) Guzman.

Stevie loved music and was of the Catholic faith.

She is survived by her mother, Irene Nelson, of Fort Madison; one brother, Lance Guzman of Fort Madison; one sister, Diane (Steve) Wick of Fort Madison; aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, and her caregiver, Abbey Guzman. She was preceded in death by her father and one brother, Gaspar Reyes Jr.

Her body has been cremated. No formal services are planned at this time. Online condolences to the Guzman Family may be made at [www.barrmemorialchapel.com](http://www.barrmemorialchapel.com).

## HTC releases 2nd term honor roll

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON – Holy Trinity Catholic Schools has announced its third quarter honor roll for the 2018-2019 school year. Pen City Current joins our advertisers and readers in congratulating these students on their academic success. Job well done!

4.0 Honor Roll  
7th Grade  
Mary Kate Bendlage, Michael Chapman, Taegan Denning, Connor Gehling, Jenna Hellman, Natalie Randolph, Maddox Rung  
8th grade  
Kayla Box, Laura Mermert, Brianna Wright  
9th Grade  
Abby Holtkamp, Jack Malinski, Mitchell Pothitakis, Cassidy Randolph  
10th Grade  
Danny Caruso, Bailey Hellweg, Ava Peitz, Claire Pothitakis, Maria Rauenbuehler, Alison Robu, Chandler Rung, Jason

Thurman, Tori Vincent  
11th Grade  
Reed Fehseke, Reagan Garrels, Ryan Otte, Nicole Pothitakis, Samantha Pothitakis, Elle Rashid, Maille Sheerin  
12th Grade  
Sam Avery, Elyse Pothitakis, Kyle Scheetz, Katie Scoville, Jorie Whitaker  
A Honor Roll  
7th Grade  
Reagan Holvoet, Jacob Hummel, Andrew Mermert, Seth Moeller, Juniper Strickland  
8th Grade  
Emily Boeding, Alexa Dingman, Elliott Dostalek, Rachel Menke, Brooke Mueller, Paige Wasielewski  
9th Grade  
Claire Brock, Lucy Graham, Raquel Schneider, Anna Sobczak, Jackson VanHamme  
10th Grade  
Taylor Crabtree, Katherine Denning, Annabelle Scheetz, John Stinson, Roselynn Strickland, Vasin Thurman, Emma Torgler  
11th Grade  
Blake Crabtree, Brandon Delaney, Ambrosia Dustin, Ashlyn Haas, Jacob Mohrfeld, DaYeong You  
12th Grade

Henrique Almeida, Taylor Boeding, Brant Holtkamp, Adam Rauenbuehler, Hannah Torgler  
B Honor Roll  
7th Grade  
Daltin Boeding, Sheldon Kruse, Ethan Peitz, Breanna Peterson, Mary Beth Scheetz, Edward Schroeder, James Stinson  
8th Grade  
Halie Cain, Jenna DiPrima, Mary Hellige, Anayi Navarro, Jacob Pothitakis, James Scheetz, Riley Timmerman  
9th Grade  
Jackson Blint, Tessa Gendron, Michael Hellman, Blake Hemann, Mya Schmitz, Alexis Stalcup  
10th Grade  
Cassandra Campbell, Brandon Jarvis, Anna Schroeder, Mia Vradenburg  
11th Grade  
Abby Dingman, Evan Ellison, Claire Graham, Matthew Hellige, Wyatt Hellman, Mason Holvoet, Avery Hopper  
12th Grade  
Eryn Anderson, Joshua Barr, Emily Box, Ryder Brune, Connor Holvoet, Alec Mermert, Carson Schroeder, Yulu Zhang

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## Pen City Current

Founded in 2016



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# Obituaries/For the Record

## OBITUARIES

### LOUISE ELIZABETH McCLARY

Louise Elizabeth McClary, 65, of Fort Madison, IA, passed away at 10:52 a.m. on Sunday, April 21, 2019 at Blessing Hospital in Quincy, IL. She was born on July 27, 1953 in Fort Madison, IA to James & Mary Wiebler McClary. She was a caregiver for many years and enjoyed gardening, cats, mushroom hunting, yard sales, music and Volkswagen vans.



McCLARY

Louise is survived by: 1-daughter: Katie McGeehon of Fort Madison, IA; 2-sisters: Bonnie McClary of Fort Madison, IA & Nancy (Scott) Starkweather of Letts, IA; 2-brothers: Larry (Madaline) McClary of Kansas City, KS & David McClary of Franklin, IA; several nieces, nephews, great nieces & great nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents & 1-brother in law: Don Nietzel.

Cremation has been entrusted to King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory and a gathering for friends and family will be held at a later date.

A memorial has been established in Louise's memory and memorials may be sent to her sister: Bonnie McClary, P.O. Box 322, Donnellson, IA 52625. Online condolences may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: [www.kinglynk.com](http://www.kinglynk.com).

#### 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.

## For the Record

### Fort Madison Police Report

04/19/19 – 7:57 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a stolen vehicle in the 1100 block of 48th Street.  
 04/19/19 – 8:48 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 700 block of 5th Street.  
 04/19/19 – 9:22 a.m., – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a vandalism in the 2300 block of Avenue H  
 04/19/19 – 9:26 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a hit and run in the 2600 block of Avenue I.  
 04/19/19 – 12:16 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a hit and run in the 2600 block of Avenue L.  
 04/19/19 – 8:06 p.m. – Fort Madison Police arrested Matthew Jay Wells, 18, of Fort Madison in the 4500 block of Avenue O, on a warrant for trespassing, criminal mischief and possessing drug paraphernalia. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.  
 04/19/19 – 10:41 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in progress in the 500 block of 2nd Street.  
 04/19/19 – 9:20 p.m. – Fort Madison Police arrested Angela Jean Archie, 53, of Keokuk, in the 4500 block of Avenue O, on a warrants out of Clark County, Mo, for writing bad checks. She was taken to

the Lee County Jail and held.  
 04/20/19 – 12:10 a.m. – Fort Madison Police arrested Allen William Penrod, 22, of Fort Madison in the 4600 block of Avenue J on charges of burglary 1st degree, false imprisonment, obstruction of emergency communication and possession of drug paraphernalia. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.  
 04/20/19 – 3:37 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 2600 block of Avenue L.  
 0/19 – 3:44 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a personal injury accident in the 1900 block of Avenue H  
 04/20/19 – 5:51 p.m – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident at 18th Street and Avenue J.  
 04/20/19 – 6:10 p.m. – Fort Madison Police arrested Joshua Adam Bowen, 39, unknown address, in the 2600 block of Avenue L, on a warrant for trespassing and interference with official acts, and a charge of trespassing. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.  
 04/21/19 – 7:30 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 1300 block Avenue G.  
 04/22/19 – 1:48 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1800 block of Avenue A.

### Lee County Sheriff's Report

04/18/19 – 7:30 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Cody John Lutzen, 32, of Keokuk, at the sheriff's office in a charge of violation of probation. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.  
 04/18/19 – 8:34 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Mallory Lynette Wilson-McSwain, 28, of Fort Madison in the 6100 block of Avenue O, on a warrant for failure to appear. She was taken to the Lee County Jail and released after paying a fine.  
 04/18/19 – 9 a.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a one-vehicle rollover accident near mile marker 1 southbound on Hwy. 27. According to reports Juan Romero, 62 of Westfield, Ma., fell asleep at the wheel and drifter left off the roadway. After correcting the vehicle ran off the right side of the roadway and rolled into a ditch. Romero was transported to an area hospital for suspected injuries. No citations were reported.  
 04/18/19 – 10:05 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Michael Shay Grady, 54, of Fort Madison, in the 4500 block of Avenue O, on a charge of violation of parole. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.  
 04/19/19 – 4:46 a.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a two-vehicle accident. According to the

report, a vehicle driven by John Howard Tuftee, 60, of Knox City, Mo., pulled into the path of a vehicle driven by Dereck Duane Fenton, 29, of Mt. Pleasant who was headed southbound on Hwy. 61. Fenton struck the back axle of Tuftee's semitrailer and had to be extracted and was taken to University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics by AirEvac for serious injuries. Tuftee was cited for failure to yield.  
 04/19/19 – 7:25 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Ketra Deann Berrera, 53, of Carthage, Ill., on a warrant for theft in the 5th degree. She was taken to the Lee County Jail and released on bond.  
 04/20/19 – 6:33 a.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Stoyan Nikodijevic, 39, of Fort Madison at the intersection of 48th Street and Avenue O, on a charge of operating a vehicle while intoxicated. He was taken to the Lee Count Jail and held.  
 04/21/19 – 1:49 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a one-vehicle rollover in the 1700 block of 295th Street. A vehicle driven by Madelynn Jane Schaefer, 16, of Fort Madison, lost control and entered the westbound ditch flipping over on it's top. No citations or injuries were reported.  
*Those listed above are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.*



## IOWA LOTTERY WINNING NUMBERS

### Lotto Drawings

Game	Draw Days	Sales Cutoff Time	Approx. Drawing Time
Lucky for Life®	Mon & Thu	8:30 pm	9:38 pm
Mega Millions®	Tues & Fri	8:59 pm	10:00 pm
Powerball®	Wed & Sat	8:59 pm	9:59 pm
Lotto America™	Wed & Sat	8:59 pm	10:00 pm
Pick 3 - Midday	Daily	Noon	12:20 pm
Pick 3 - Evening	Daily	9:40 pm	10:00 pm
Pick 4 - Midday	Daily	Noon	12:20 pm
Pick 4 - Evening	Daily	9:40 pm	10:00 pm



4/21 MID-DAY  
8 6 3  
4/21 EVENING  
7 5 8



4/21 MID-DAY  
9 8 4 5  
4/21 EVENING  
0 0 8 0

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## Sports

# Schmidt does it her way - with one arm

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – For the past 12 years, Fort Madison's Alyse Schmidt has walked the halls of Denmark and Fort Madison schools, laughing in the quick pace of the hallways going from classroom to classroom.

She followed her sister Lexi to youth ballgames and neighborhood games of tag, like little sisters do. She wanted to be like her sister, and do the things she, and other kids in the neighborhood, did. And she did.

But Alyse did it missing her right arm from the elbow down. No right forearm. No right hand.

Meromelia is the medical description of being born without part of a limb. Alyse didn't recall what the medical condition was labeled, but she doesn't really care either.

The FMHS senior plays tennis on the Fort Madison Bloodhound girls tennis team. She didn't pick up a racquet until she was a freshman and quickly became fond of the game.

"It's turned out to be really fun. I didn't know what to expect going into it, but I've really enjoyed it and I think I'll take my racquet with me to college and play," she said. "It's a life-long sport."

Schmidt plays at Nos. 5 and 6 singles depending on the team and format of the matches.

While most players toss the ball with their weak-hand then either spring into the serve with their legs and hips, or hit more of a badminton-type serve, Alyse has to add a twist to hers.

To serve, she lays the ball on the face of the racket and holds it parallel to the ground with her left hand, and then flips the ball into the air and strikes it on the way down all in one smooth motion.

Once the ball is in play, Schmidt can hit ground strokes with good pace and then has to flick at



Photos by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Fort Madison senior Alyse Schmidt was born without her right arm from the elbow down, but the absent limb has not stopped her from playing on the varsity tennis team at Fort Madison High School.

one-handed back hands, where most girls play a two-handed backhand.

"I still struggle with my backhand. It's not the prettiest. Most high school girls don't do a one-hand backhand, but I don't have that choice," Schmidt said.

Head Coach Jeremy Swink, who's in his first-year with the team, said he had heard there was a one-armed girl on the team, but he didn't really get how unique it was until he saw her play.

"She came to me early on and asked how she could be more competitive with her serve," Swink said

"I told her, 'Alyse, just don't double fault and get those serves in. You'll be ahead of the game and don't give up points on the serve and I think she does that very well,' Swink said.

She said her game requires a little more practice getting timing on her backhand and working on her serve. As a freshman she was the No. 11 player on the team and moved into the top 10 as a sophomore. As a junior she played at No. 8 singles and as a senior she's

See **SCHMIDT**, page 5

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**Sports**

# Tennis is just one of the many sports Schmidt has played

**SCHMIDT** - Continued from Page 4

now playing at No. 6.

She said she regularly has opponents ask her what happened to her arm, but said she welcomes the conversations.

"I have a lot of people ask me what happened, but I'm used to that," she said. "There's no point in getting up-tight about it. It's so visible, there's no way to get around it. People are going to be curious and I'd rather they just ask."

She said she doesn't mind when young people ask her about not having her arm.

"I don't mind. They're just wondering about it and I feel like it's a good way to expose them to some of the other differences that they will be encountering in life," Schmidt said. "It's a good way for me to help others a little bit," she said.

Schmidt is also involved in weight training and has an attachment she can wear to help her maximize her workouts. But she said outside of training, she really does better without the prosthetics.

"I did get to try a myoelectric prosthetic, one of the fancy bionic ones, and it was really cool."

She said the myoelectric is a regular socket prosthetic, but it has sensors in the socket that pick up on how she would move her arm and she can do things like shake hands.

"I have a bag of old arms at home," she said with a chuckle. "I grow out of them and when I look back at the ones I've had and how far it's come in just my lifetime, and that's not very long, it's crazy."

Schmidt wants to go to college to major in microbiology at Iowa State University and wants to do DNA analysis at a crime lab.

She hasn't made up her mind on whether she wants to do that work in the state or move elsewhere, but she said her parents Stan and Shanan Schmidt have always been a silent partner in her upbringing without the arm.

"They've been alongside me through everything and they've done a good job of letting me find my own way and giving me opportunities," Alyse said.



Schmidt has little trouble finding pace with her forehand, but admits her background is a bit more difficult having to strike it one-handed, when most girls use both.

“*I don't spend part of my day thinking about 'how am I going to do this or do that'. I just do what I do.*”

-Alyse Schmidt, FMHS senior tennis player

"It was just congenital," her father said.

"Obviously we were surprised, but we were fortunate that there was a couple in town who approached us right away. They had adopted a daughter that was missing almost the exact same part. He was a Shriner and we got hooked up with that right away."

But he said with her older sister, Alyse just took off doing the things all the other kids were doing.

"Fortunately, with Alyse, we had Lexi and we didn't know anything different and Alyse followed Lexi and did what she was going to do. We didn't have to try to adapt, she just did it."

Shanan said she feels sometimes other parents look at them as if they are too hard on Alyse.

"Probably a lot of people look at us as being too hard on her," Shanan said. "We never really wanted to use it as an excuse and she never really has. She just has to adjust to it and figure it out. And she has," Shannon said.

Alyse said her parents have given her the space, opportunities, and freedoms to handle the situation on her own and she values that lesson from them.

"It's so visible that sometimes people give opinions, but in the end, it's my arm, my choice, and they've done really well teaching me that and giving me that choice."

Swink said he was aware of the condition, but didn't know where she would fit in the lineup.

"Once I saw it, I thought it was pretty amazing to see it. All the other tennis players just see her as Alyse and they don't think about it. They just think, 'Oh that's Alyse and she's a good tennis player,'" Swink said. "They don't think of all the hurdles she has to jump through to be that successful player."

"From that perspective it's even more amazing. She has a great outlook on the game and that's what's really helped her get better," Swink said.



In addition to tennis, Schmidt played youth sports including T-ball and volleyball. She is also involved in National Honor Society, Student Government Association, and Show Choir at the high school.

She also helps coach at camp with NubAbility Athletics where she helps other youth with missing limbs participate in sports and activities.

Schmidt's approach to life without the arm is the same as other people who have all their limbs.

"I was just born without it. They don't really know why, there's not a history of it in my family or anything," she said.

"You'll have your comments from kids. But if it wasn't my arm, it would have been because I'm short," she quipped.

She said she doesn't even really remember thinking about the issue as a younger child until she got to middle school.

"When I started middle school volleyball, that's when I first remember it being an issue for me, but it had nothing to do with the game," she said. "I didn't know how to put up my hair and I freaked out."

Schmidt said that's one of the few times she let not having the arm get to her.

"I don't spend part of my day thinking about 'how am I going to do this or do that. I just do what I do.'"

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**Classifieds/Public Notices**

# the classifieds

## PUBLIC NOTICES

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**Lee County, Iowa**  
**Board of Supervisors**  
**Agenda**  
**DATE: TUESDAY,**  
**April 23, 2019**  
**MEETING**  
**CONVENING TIME:**  
**9:00 A.M.**  
**LOCATION:**  
**Correctional Center**  
**2530 255th Street,**  
**Montrose, IA**

Pledge of Allegiance  
 Approve Agenda  
 Approve Tuesday, April 16, 2019 Board Minutes  
 Consider Approval of Claims  
 Public Input  
 Review of Loss Control Summary  
 Consider Approval of Contract for Human Resources Services with Lynch Dallas P.C.

Consider Approval of Contract with Secondary Roads Union  
 Consider Approval of Contract with Administrative Union  
 Consider Approval of Contract with Sheriff's Union  
 Consider Approval of Personnel Policy Pay Grid  
 Consider Approval of Health Insurance Premiums Chart for FY20  
 Consider Approval of Resolution Setting Public Hearing for Sale of County Shed Property  
 Consider Approval of Resolution Setting Public Hearing for Sale of Parcel Owned by Argyle Sanitary District  
 Personnel Actions:  
 A. Step Increases-Health Department (2)  
 B. Step Increase-Secondary Roads

Reports:  
 A. Recorder's Report of Fees Collected  
 Commission or Committee Reports  
 Adjourn

Workshop to Follow  
**PUBLIC MEETING**  
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**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**Fort Madison**  
**Community School District**

**1930 Avenue M**  
**Minutes of the**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**April 11, 2019**

I. The meeting was called to order by President Wondra at 6:10 p.m. Directors Ross, DiPrima, Hope and Hotop were present. Also present were Superintendent Slater, Director of Curriculum and Student Services Harmon and Secretary Elmore.  
 II. Oath of office to new board members. The oath of office was administered to Director Steffensmeier and Director Menke. Both responded to the oath with "I will" and assumed their positions of Director at the Board table.  
 III. Recognition of guests. President Wondra welcomed members of the audience in

attendance and explained the procedures for the meeting.  
 IV. 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.  
 V. Monthly communications  
 A. Student Rep report. There was none.  
 B. Curriculum Corner. Director of Curriculum and Student Services Harmon updated the Board on the Transition Alliance Program.  
 C. "Did You Know?" The "Did You Know?" document was accepted as presented.  
 D. Superintendent Goal Report. Superintendent Slater provided an update on the indicators of progress towards the Board's estab-

lished goals.  
 E. District Presentations. Greg Smith Perkins V. High School Principal Greg Smith shared a presentation with the Board regarding the Perkins V program.  
 VI. Approve the agenda. It was moved by DiPrima and seconded by Steffensmeier to approve the agenda as amended. The agenda was amended to add Items VIII11 Denise Osbon, teacher at Richardson at the end of the school year and VIII12 Shelby Richers, associate at Richardson and Item VIII1 Resignation/Termination of Alice Thomas, food service at the Middle School. The motion passed on a 7-0 voice vote.  
 VII. Consent agenda. It was moved by Ross and seconded by Hope to approve the consent agenda

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## PUBLIC NOTICES

as presented. The consent agenda consisted of minutes from the February 11, 2019 regular meeting; minutes from the March 4, 2019 work session, financial reports including the March Balance Sheet, March Revenue Summary, Expenditure Report and Student Activity Report, accounts payable for the March General Account Board bills for Approval, April General Account Board bills for approval, Student Activity Board bills for approval and Nutrition Account Board bills for approval; resignation from Kevin Moon as Director of Operations at the end of the fiscal year, Julie Moon as teacher at Richardson at the end of the school year, Elizabeth Woodbury as head cheerleading coach, Lindsey Rump as assistant cheerleading coach, Amy Thacher as assistant cheerleading coach, Mercedes White as food service at the high school, Carol Day as food service at the high school, Anthony Shiffman as teacher at the high school and as head football coach, Trisha Lampe as associate at Richardson, Dana Gonzales as associate at Richardson, Denise Osbon as teacher at Richardson at the end of the school year, Shelby Richers as associate at Richardson; employment of Kristen Shaffer as volleyball assistant coach, Lee Cashman as assistant softball coach, Stephanie Howard as varsity cheerleading coach, Karen Kester as associate at Lincoln, Yuri Detlefsen as custodian at the middle school and central office, Cazi Forbes as at-risk advisor at Lincoln, Melissa Claassen as social worker at Lincoln and termination of Alice Thomas as food service at the middle school. The motion passed on a 7-0 voice vote.

VIII. Action Items  
 A. Director of Curriculum and Student Services  
 1. Approve Transition Alliance Program contract with Vocational Rehabilitation Services. It was moved by Steffensmeier and seconded by DiPrima to approve the Transition Alliance Program contract with Vocational Rehabilitation Services as presented. The motion passed on a 7-0 voice vote.  
 B. Superintendent  
 1. Consider approval for the request of travel for the middle school Student Council members to go to Six Flags in Eureka, Missouri. The Board reviewed the trip request. Consensus was given for the trip.  
 C. Board Secretary/Business Manager  
 1. Approve audit for the Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2018. Secretary Elmore reviewed the Audit Report for the Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2018 with the

Board. Discussion followed. It was moved by Ross and seconded by DiPrima to approve the final audit report for Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2018 as presented. The motion passed on a 7-0 voice vote.  
 2. Approve canvass of votes from Special Election on April 2, 2019. The Board reviewed the Canvass of Votes. It was moved by Steffensmeier and seconded by DiPrima to accept the Canvass of Votes as presented. The motion passed on a 7-0 voice vote.  
 3. Approve Certified Budget for Fiscal Year 2019-2020. The Board reviewed the Certified Budget for FY2019-2020. Discussion followed. It was moved by DiPrima and seconded by Hope to approve the Certified Budget for FY2019-2020 as presented. The motion passed on a 7-0 voice vote.  
 IX. Discussion Items  
 A. Director of Curriculum and Student Services  
 B. Superintendent  
 1. Certified Employee Attendance. The certified staff attendance report was reviewed and accepted as presented.  
 2. Board Member Attendance. The Board reviewed and discussed the Board Member Attendance Report.  
 3. Re-schedule April building instructional tour for Central Office and the outdoor facilities at the high school. The instructional tour was scheduled for May 14, 2019, at 10 a.m.  
 C. Board Secretary/Business Manager  
 X. Comments from the audience. There were none.

XI. Legislative update. The Board received a legislative update.  
 XII. Announcements.  
 May 6 at 6:00 p.m. – Work Session, Board Room, Central Office May 20 at 6:00 p.m. – Regular Meeting, Board Room, Central Office  
 XIII. Adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.  
 Exempt Session: Negotiations – The Board held an exempt session as provided in Iowa Code Section 20.17(3) for the purpose of a negotiations session.  
 Tim Wondra, Board President  
 April 11, 2019  
 Sandra Elmore, Board Secretary

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**Fort Madison**  
**Community School**  
**District**  
**1930 Avenue M**  
**Minutes of the**  
**Public Hearing**  
**April 11, 2019**

I. The public hearing was called to order by President Wondra at 6:00 p.m. Directors Hope, Ross, DiPrima and Hotop were present. Also present was Dr. Slater, Superintendent and Director of Curriculum and Student Services Harmon.  
 II. Approve the agenda. It was moved by Hope and seconded by DiPrima to approve the agenda. The motion passed on a 5-0 voice vote.  
 III. Certified Budget FY2019-2020. The purpose of the public hearing was to receive written and oral comments regarding the

Certified Budget FY2019-2020.  
 IV. Receive written comments. President Wondra asked for any written comments. There were none.  
 V. Receive oral comments. President Wondra asked for any oral comments. There were none.  
 VI. Adjourn. The public hearing was adjourned at 6:02 p.m.  
 Tim Wondra, Board President  
 April 11, 2019  
 Sandra Elmore, Board Secretary

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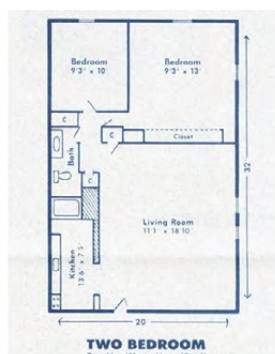
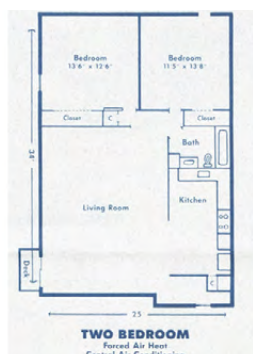
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**From the Front/Weather**

# Globalization creates different concept of God

**SWARM** - Continued from Page 1

and 'the hypocrites,' respectively—with whom the Ummah was locked in a terrible war." Writing such as this is no more violent than what is found in the Bible, such as in Mathew 10:34, "Do not think that I have come to bring peace on earth, I have not come to bring peace, but the sword."

The 41,000 year old "Sorcerer" is believed to be the first image of God found. Still needing more of Reza Aslan, I pulled up book number three, simply titled, "God, A Human History." In it I saw what is thought to be the oldest drawing of God yet found. Dubbed, "The Sorcerer," it was found in the Volp caves in the foothills of the Pyrenees, and is believed to have been drawn 41,000 years ago when Homo sapiens first arrived.

Also startling for me to learn was that, without exception, man's image of God has always followed political leadership. When kingdoms were governed by many rulers, there were many gods, such as a god for earth, for water, for the sun, for fertility, for crops, for hunting, for fighting, etc. When kingdoms were ruled by one king, the concept of one god was adopted.

I'm left wondering: if in our globalized world, as more and more countries become democratic and elect their leaders, how will man's concept of God change, if at all? Also, Aslan does not mention how direct inspiration/direction from God has or has not changed over time.

What is for certain is that, no matter how religious myths are shattered and reinterpreted, both Reza Aslan's and my faith have only been strengthened.

Now for book four: "Beyond Fundamentalism, Confronting Religious Extremism in the Age of Globalization."

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

# Dems say state in trouble with health care situation

**HEALTHCARE** - Continued from Page 1

launching an investigation into privatized state medicaid programs around the country.

Taylor said Iowans that were covered by UnitedHealthcare are finding themselves in lost in the shuffle.

"It's gonna be terrible. We've got 450,000 patients that are going to be reshuffled into the deck as to who their actual MCO is, and then does that MCO have a contract with the doctor or hospital they go to," Taylor said.

According to Kurtz, UnitedHealthcare's departure will effect a large number of Lee County residents.

"We're gonna have more than 6,000 people right here in Lee County that are going to have to find a new provider."

Kurtz was asked if it was possible to revert back to

the state program and the first-term legislator said it can, and should, be done.

"We can transition back, but it looks like it will have to be done piecemeal. One of the problems is that when the state ran it, administrative costs were 3 to 5% and now they're 12-15% and you know, 3 is less than 12, I don't care what kind of math you take," Kurtz said.

"This shouldn't be a laboratory for trying to prove your economic theory. This should be something that is done to make people better, I don't know how else to put it."

Taylor said there are too many people losing the quality of care the state should be providing and the federal investigation could result in mandates to the state based on federal money being used in the system.

"They could have the authority to tell Governor Reynolds that if she's spending federal Medicaid dollars, she has to get this system under control," Taylor said.

But he said the lack of reimbursement under the current system is another problem and will add to the problem of finding an MCO that is in-network for those people.

"Why would a provider

sign another contract to not get paid? Why would you do that?" he said after the luncheon. "When they don't sign, then the little girl down the highway from me a few miles isn't going to have any services."

Kurtz said the investigation could take several years, but a statement on the Inspector General's website said a report could be issued next year.

"I think we'll know something fairly quickly, but we won't know the whole scope of what's going on for maybe a year or two," he said.

"You've got more than 600,000 Iowans involved and it's going to take a lot of digging. But State Auditor (Rob) Sand is involved in there and I know he's been working on this since he took office. This was one of his big campaign promises."

UnitedHealthcare of the River Valley informed customers it will cease operations in the Iowa medicaid program on June 30, leaving just Amerigroup and Total Iowa Care left in the program.

Patients can continue to use UnitedHealthcare until June 30, but after receiving notification, they will have 90 days to determine where they will go for health insurance.



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<b>WED 24 Apr</b>	Overcast High- 61.1° F   Low - 52.2° F
<b>THU 25 Apr</b>	Light Rain High- 72.8° F   Low - 50.7° F
<b>FRI 26 Apr</b>	Clear High- 70.1° F   Low - 54.5° F
<b>SAT 27 Apr</b>	Light Rain High- 68.8° F   Low - 47.8° F

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**From the Front**

**Money raised helps a variety of community groups**

**ART** - Continued from Page 1

years to Battle of The Brushes and Tammy McCoy is a friend of my daughter's and I told the girls we should go up and see what it's about for a fundraiser," Carlsen said.

"We struggled to replace the Summer Soiree and Dueling Pianos the Potowonok used to do in the past and the charity ball we did in the winter, so we needed a big fundraiser to replace what was those events and this is it."

So Carlsen and other Potowonok members went to work recruiting high profile local professionals to pair up with local artists to start and complete works of art during an evening of hors d'oeuvres and cocktails.

With music being the theme of the night, Fort Madison Mayor Brad Randolph paired with Anita Lee on an oil painting, Fort Madison attorney Elaine Gray paired with Linda Ross on a clay sculpture, Bobby Holtkamp was coupled with Lori Illner Greene on a wire sculpture, and Julie Hohl, owner of Harvestville Farms and Harvestville Farm Mercantile, worked on a charcoal sketch with John Bybee.

"We had to reassure Bobby that he wasn't going to have to draw stuff. In Burlington, the Battle of the Brushes is all painting. And we decided to change it up into different mediums so you didn't have to worry about not being able to paint," Carlsen said.

Illner Green, who also serves on the Potowonok board, said she was happy to be paired up with Holtkamp, but it took a little prodding.

"We really wanted Bobby involved because of his personality, and he was like, 'We're not doing it if I'm drawing something' and I said I'll come up with something that would work for him," Illner Green said.

Holtkamp said his wife Jessica is part of the Potowonok group and as long as he didn't have to draw anything, he was excited to be part of the event.

"Jessica is part of the Potowonok group and I'm a big



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Lori Illner Greene works with Bobby Holtkamp at Friday's Clay, Paper, and Scissor's fundraiser at the Baxter Sports Complex.

fan of it, too. It's a good cause," he said. "Beth reached out to me and I was hesitant because I don't have that much art in my blood. But when she told me who I would be with, I jumped all over it because Lori's a great artist."

The two used copper wiring to create reduced scale representations of a saxophone, a guitar, and an auto-harp, then mounted them to wood.

Holtkamp and Illner Green's project was named People's Choice after collecting close to \$100 in his tip jar. The award came with a \$50 gift card to Buffalo61.

The event itself generated profits of close to \$3,000, including \$1,100 for the artwork, which was auctioned off at the end of the night.

Randolph, a dentist with offices in Burlington, said his artistic talents had been limited to creating teeth.

"I would say I didn't know I had an artistic style. In my profession I have to be a little bit of an artist because sometimes I have to create teeth out of nothing and there are contours and line angles in teeth, so I guess I have an understanding of it," Randolph said.

"But I'm happy to be a part of it because the cultural arts have a foothold in our community and I think it's great to showcase those things."

Hohl, who's also a member of the Potowonok group, said she, too was surprised by her works with the help of Bybee.

Harvestville Farm's Julie Hohl works with John Bybee on a charcoal sketch Friday night at Baxter Sports Complex. Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

"It's fun and something totally unique. I'm already really surprising myself and impressed. I'm completely filthy, but it's fun," Hohl said.

"I don't have an artistic bone in my body. He's been a great teacher and it's just a really cool experience not only for the artists and me, but for everyone else and it's for a good cause."

Gray was working a clay "amplifier", and said she was happy that it was helping through art work because the arts need more attention.

"We just sought out experts to pair with people like me who don't know much about it all and see what happens, because the arts are falling away," Gray said.

"Through the schools and through the communities and funding through the city, the arts are just falling away."

Part of the group's charitable support goes to Central Park's Gazebo, the Eichacker Center, Fort Madison Area Arts Association's Art Camp and Early-Out Programs, Fort Madison Food Pantry, Fort Madison YMCA, Special Olympics, Special Kids Rodeo, Christmas for Kids/Teens, Summer Band concerts, and Emma Cornelius Hospitality House.



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