



# Pen City Current

Monday, Sept. 17, 2018 | 7 pages | Volume 2 • Issue 210

## HOPE

RELAY FOR LIFE  
American Cancer Society

# Hundreds battle heat to battle cancer

*Relay For Life, Mexican Fiesta, and Bloodhound football give residents plenty to choose from Friday night*

BY ANIAH ROSS  
PCC INTERN

FORT MADISON - Not even a hot, muggy Friday evening could break the spirit of support and determination in the fight against cancer.

The annual North Lee County Relay for Life took place on the track at Fort Madison Community High



Kim and Megan Shacklett, Lisa Lihs, and Lisa Edwards stand with the Lee County Bank booth at the North Lee County Relay for Life.



Photos by Aniah Ross/PCC Intern

Gabe Keppel gets his face painted and hair done with the help of Rhonda Taube, Angie Pardall, and Louren Mettemburg at the North Lee County Relay for Life Friday night.

School's Richmond Stadium beginning at 5 p.m.

The event included the annual luminaria in honor those who have lost their life in battles with cancer and those that are continuing and winning the fight. Food was provided by Isaak Walton with pizzas from Brad's Pad and Casey's. A portion of the program was also dedicated to honoring those in attendance who were fighting cancer as part of a survivor's salute.

According to committee member Justin Pieper, of Group Benefit Partners, figures from the event including corporate and individual donations won't be available until the wrap up the Relay season in October.

But Pieper said the turnout was fantastic and the event was inspiring for all who came out.

"I think the turnout is fantastic. We're happy so many teams came out," he said.

"I specifically worked with the corporate sponsorships and we had tremendous support from the businesses in the community, which is awesome. It's such a fun and inspiring time to hear all of the survivors hear about all the years they've survived cancer. It makes it easy to wanna raise money and help the cause."

## EMPTY NEST

By Curt Swarm



### Two books for your fall reading table

I'm going to recommend two books for fall-fest reading. One is "Vinegar Girl" by Anne Tyler, and the other is "Long Haul, A Trucker's Tales of Life on the Road" by Finn Murphy.

Anne Tyler has written 20 best sellers and received numerous writing awards, including the Pulitzer Prize. When a book of hers pops up in the "Recommended for You" section on my Kindle, I pay attention. "Vinegar Girl" is Anne Tyler at her best. Her use of dialogue to build characters, unique story-telling ability, and quality prose make her one of America's top writers today.

"Refreshing" comes to mind when I think of the story line in "Vinegar Girl." Without giving away the plot, the tale involves a thirtyish, boyfriendless, girl, I mean woman; her mad scientist father; and the mad-scientist father's foreign lab assistant. The lab assistant's immigration status is about to expire, so the father, believing he can't complete his research without his irreplaceable lab assistant, schemes to marry off the lab assistant to his, shall we say, homely daughter. Intertwined in this hilarious, intriguing, extremely well-written story are familiar themes of immigration, marriage for love as compared to arranged marriages, and happiness versus obligation.

The foreign lab assistant points out to the daughter, "In my country they have proverb: 'Beware against the sweet person, for sugar has no nutrition.'" The daughter responds with, "Well, in my country they say that you can catch more flies with honey than with vinegar." The foreign lab assistant comes back with, "But why you would want to catch flies, hah? Answer me that, vinegar girl."

And so it goes. I'll give "Vinegar Girl" the coveted Empty Nest Five-Star Award.

I heard Terry Gross of NPR's Fresh Air interview Finn Murphy, truck driver-author of "Long Haul, A Trucker's Tales of Life on the Road." Murphy is quite well spoken, obviously very bright, and surprisingly funny. I made a mental note that I might want to read this book, not that I'm interested in truck driving. Then one of my readers wrote me a letter. Yes, people still write letters and use snail mail. This reader highly recommended "Long

See SWARM, page 6

### Advertiser Index

Classifieds .....Ps.4-5	Public Notices..... P.4
Great River Regional Waste Authority..... P.3	Rashid Pharmacy & Wellness ..... P.6
Griffin Muffler & Brake Center ..... P.7	RSVP of Lee County ..... P.6
Hope Associates Real Estate ..... P.4	Scotts Miracle-Gro Company ..... P.4
Mobile Nursing Services, LTD. .... P.4	The Kensington ..... P.2
Professional Services..... P.5	Tony Fullenkamp Edward Jones..... P.3

### News Index

Area News .....Ps.2-3
For the Record..... P.3
From the front..... P.6
Lottery Numbers..... P.2
Obituaries ..... P.2
-Gene A. Gerhardt
-James Ray Mitchell
Opinion ..... P.6
Scene Around Town.... P.6
Weather ..... P.6

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# Obituaries/Area News

## OBITUARIES

### GENE A. GERHARDT

Gene A. Gerhardt, 82, of Niota, Illinois passed away at 8:45 p.m. September 11, 2018 at West Point Care Center in West Point, Iowa.

He was born on March 20, 1936 in Niota, Illinois, the son of Walter and Helen (Morrill) Gerhardt.



GERHARDT

Survivors include: one son: Greg Gerhardt (wife: Rinskje "Reny" de Leeuw) of Nicholasville, Kentucky; one sister: Darlene Hartweg of Hamilton, Illinois; his former wives: Violet Gerhardt-Williams, Sherry Diaz, and Virginia Gerhardt. Also surviving are several nieces and nephews.

He is preceded in death by his parents; daughter in law: Paulette Gerhardt; sister: Bonnie; and brother: Bill Gerhardt.

He was a graduate of Nauvoo High School. He was a lifelong farmer and an avid horseman. Gene had a special talent with horses and enjoyed training and riding. He was a champion Western rider and enjoyed fishing here in the states and in Canada. Gene was affiliated with Appanoose Faith Presbyterian Church.

Gene's body has been entrusted to Schmitz - Banks and Beals Funeral Home for cremation.

A memorial service will be held at a later date with burial at Nauvoo City Cemetery.

In lieu flowers a memorial has been established for the Brain Restoration Center in care of Greg Gerhardt of 105 Parker Lane, Nicholasville, Kentucky 40356.

Schmitz - Banks & Beals Funeral Home in Nauvoo is assisting the family with arrangements. On-line condolences to the family may be left at [www.sbbfuneral-home.com](http://www.sbbfuneral-home.com).

## OBITUARIES

### JAMES RAY MITCHELL

James Ray Mitchell, 83, loving husband and father, passed away on Friday, September 14, 2018 at Mercy Hospital in Cedar Rapids, IA. Jim married Sadie Mary Rashid on July 4, 1962 in Carthage, IL. To those who knew him, Jim was a gentle big man who loved the outdoors, especially shooting sports. He



MITCHELL

was a quality control engineer for the Atomic Energy Commission until he retired to join his son in law, Ron, in a beer distributorship. Jim was a patriotic American who was proud of his service in the United States Air Force where he was also a pitcher for the Air Force Fast Pitch Softball Team and played on the Air Force Football Team. He was a member of the Fort Madison Eagles Club and Fort Madison Elks Lodge.



Jim is survived by his wife Sadie Mitchell of Fort Madison, IA; 3-daughters: Pam (Ron) Watson, Rhonda (Stephen) Koser & Cynthia (Wayne) Otte all of Fort Madison, IA; 1-son: Idol (Jill) Mitchell of Macomb, IL; 20-grandchildren & 28-great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by: his parents, 2-sons: Kenneth Rashid & Ronnie McChesney, 2-grandchildren: Matthew Watson & Miranda Huebner and 1-great granddaughter: Alexia Otte.

Friends may call after 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 18, 2018 with the family to receive friends from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday evening at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. A private family funeral mass will be held at Sacred Heart Church with Rev. Mark P. Spring officiating. Burial will be held at Sacred Heart Cemetery. A memorial has been established for St. Jude's Children's Hospital. Online condolences to Jim's family may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: [www.kinglynk.com](http://www.kinglynk.com).

### GRHS looking for medical explorers

WEST BURLINGTON- Great River Health System's Medical Explorers program is hosting an open house at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday,

Sept. 19, in the Walnut Room on the lower level of Great River Medical Center, 1221 S. Gear Ave., West Burlington. Through Medical

Explorers, high school students take in-depth looks at health careers. It is led by Doug Peters, MD, and Laura Hadden, MD, Great River Family Medicine.

Parents are encouraged to attend the open house with students. Participation is limited, so students should register at the first meeting. There is a \$44 fee; financial help is available.

Health care careers are challenging and rewarding. Jobs in demand include diagnostic medical sonographers, medical billing and coding specialists, medical laboratory technologists, nurses, pharmacy technologists, occupational and physical therapy assistants, physicians, radiologic technologists and respiratory therapists.

For more information, call 319-753-2798.



### IOWA LOTTERY WINNING NUMBERS

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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



9/15  
22 33 46 47 50  
Star Ball: 3  
All Star Bonus: 3



9/15  
2 18 19 24 34  
Powerball: 3  
Power Play: 3



9/15 MID-DAY  
6 6 6  
9/15 EVENING  
8 6 9



9/15 MID-DAY  
3 1 5 6  
9/15 EVENING  
8 1 6 8

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For more information about this hot deal please call Victoria at (319) 372-4233, or send an email to: [VMatlock@Kensington-Evergreen.com](mailto:VMatlock@Kensington-Evergreen.com).



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## Pen City Current

Founded in 2016



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## For the Record/Area News

### For the Record

#### Fort Madison Police Report

09/13/18 - 6 :27 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 200 block of Crescent Lane.  
 09/13/18 - 11:28 a.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Patrick Dale Wright, 44, of Fort Madison in the 800 block of Avenue G, on a warrant for probation violation. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.  
 09/13/18 - 2:48 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 2000 block of Avenue D.  
 09/13/18 - 3:05 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a hit and run in the 2000 block of Avenue L.  
 09/13/18 - 4:55 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 500 block of 12th Street.  
 09/13/18 - 6:33 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1200 block of Avenue F.  
 09/13/18 - 7:23 p.m. - Fort Madison Police cited Mark Anthony Davis, 31, of Revere, Mo., in the 1200 block of Avenue G, on a charge of criminal trespass. He was released upon citation.  
 09/13/18 - 7:23 p.m. - Fort

Madison Police cited Paul Douglas Bowden, 34, of Fort Madison in the 1200 block of Avenue G, on a charge of criminal trespass. He was released upon citation.  
 09/13/18 - 7:31 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a shoplifter in the 4800 block of Avenue O.  
 09/13/18 - 8:21 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1300 block of Avenue I.

#### Lee County Sheriff's Report

09/13/18 - 10:23 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Taylor Dean Burgess, 21, of Keokuk at the sheriff's office on a warrant for failure to appear. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.  
 09/13/18 - 3:21 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a report of a two-vehicle accident on Hwy 218 and 330th Street. According to reports, a vehicle driven by Betty Allegra Peterson, 85, of Keokuk, struck a vehicle driven by Carolyn Kirk Roberts, 55, of Keokuk upon entering the southbound lane of Hwy 218 from 330th Street. Peterson was cited for failure to yield right of way. One inju-

ry was reported at the scene.  
 09/13/18 - 3:30 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Nathan Roger Cadwell, 24, of Keokuk on warrants for contempt of court and failure to appear. He was taken the Lee County Jail and held.  
 09/13/18 - 5:09 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Robert Allen Kokjohn, Jr., 38 of Fort Madison, at the sheriff's office, on a warrant for criminal mischief - second degree. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.  
 09/13/18 - 10:50 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Christina Colleen Bennett, 33, of Keokuk, in the 700 block of South 2nd Street in Keokuk, on a charge of prohibited open burning. She was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.  
 09/14/18 - 8:15 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Michael Dean Marsh, 47, of Fort Madison in the 1600 block of 330th Avenue on a charge of violating a temporary restraining order. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held. Those listed above are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

# Monarch program Friday at Pollmiller

Submitted article

WEST POINT - Lee County Conservation's annual Monarch Butterfly program will take place Friday, September 21st, 2018 from 5:30-7:00pm at Pollmiller Park. Pollmiller is located on the east side of West Point along County Rd 103.

A Lee County Conservation naturalist will teach participants about the life cycle of monarch butterflies and will guide butter-

fly catching and tagging in the prairie. Butterfly nets will be provided. Attendees will also assist Lee County Conservation's Wildlife Manager in a prairie seed collection activity. The seeds collected will be used to boost diversity for thirsty pollinators at Heron Bend Park.

The program will provide an opportunity to participate in Journey North's 23rd annual Symbolic Migration by creating life-sized paper butterflies

that will be sent to elementary schools in Mexico.

Attendees are encouraged to dress for the weather. Long pants and closed-toe shoes are recommended. The event will be canceled if there is inclement weather. All weather related cancellations will be made on the Lee County Conservation's Facebook page.

For more information, contact the Lee County Conservation Office at 319-463-7673.

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 Financial Advisor

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**Classifieds/Public Notices**

# the classifieds

## PUBLIC NOTICES

**PUBLIC NOTICE  
FORT MADISON  
COMMUNITY SCHOOL  
DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
ORGANIZATION  
MEETING  
September 17, 2018  
(Immediately following  
regular meeting)**

- I. Call meeting to order and determine a quorum
- II. Administer oaths and election of officers
  - A. Oath of office to new Board members
  - B. Election of president
  - C. Oath of office to president
  - D. Election of vice-president
- III. Consider Board appointments
  - A. Sandra Elmore, Board secretary / treasurer
  - B. Brett Nitzschke - Lynch Dallas, PC, school district attorney
  - C. Daily Democrat, official publication
- IV. Adopt meeting rules, procedures and committee assignments
  - A. Establish time, day and location for regular meetings
  - B. Determine seating arrangement
  - C. Determine finance committee
  - D. Selection of County

- Conference Board representative (1)
  - E. Selection of negotiations committee (2)
  - F. Selection of calendar committee (1)
  - H. Selection of facility study committee representative (1)
  - I. Selection of SIAC representative (1)
  - J. Selection of audit committee (2)
  - K. Selection of community foundation group (2)
  - L. Appoint LAN member
  - M. Appoint Delegate assembly member
  - V. Discussion Items
    - A. Director of Curriculum and Student Services – Kim Harmon
      - 1. Superintendent – Erin Slater
        - 1. Plans for American Education Week
        - 2. Discuss February Board meeting date
        - 3. Board member Attendance
        - 4. Schedule October building tour
        - 5. Board Self-Evaluation
      - C. Board Secretary/ Business Manager – Sandy Elmore
        - 1. Comments from the audience

- VII. Legislative update
- VIII. Announcements
  - October 1, 2018, 6:00 p.m. - Work Session, Board Room, Central Office
  - October 8, 2018, 6:00 p.m. - Special Meeting, Board Room, Central Office
  - October 15, 2018, 6:00 p.m. - Regular Board Meeting, Board Room, Central Office
  - November 14-16, 2018 - IASB Annual Convention, Des Moines
  - IX. Adjourn

**PUBLIC NOTICE  
NOTICE TO BIDDERS**

Sealed bids clearly marked "BIDS FOR CITY WIDE CLEAN UP" will be received at the office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 811 Avenue E, P.O. Box 240, Fort Madison, Iowa, until 10:00 A.M., on September 25, 2018, for the following:

Supplying all equipment, fuel and other materials for the Fall 2018 Citywide Clean-up held on October 11-12-13, 2018.

Any bids received after this time will be returned unopened.

All bids properly received will be opened and publicly read aloud in the Council

Chambers in City Hall.  
The City of Fort Madison reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive minor technicalities, and to accept that proposal which the City Council deems to be in the best interest of the City.  
Melinda Blind, City Clerk  
City of Fort Madison  
(319) 372-7700 ext 206

**PUBLIC NOTICE  
PROCEEDINGS OF THE  
REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
OF THE  
WEST POINT UTILITY  
SYSTEM  
WEST POINT, IOWA  
September 11, 2018**

The West Point Municipal Utility System Board of Trustees met in regular session at, West Point City Hall, West Point, Iowa 52656 on September 11th, 2018. Board Chairman Randy Welding presided and called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Board Member Brian Schmitz was present along with Board Member Ted Vonderhaar. Tentative agenda was approved by consensus. Status of delinquent accounts was discussed and considered by Board Members in

detail. Field operations report, as prepared by Utility Superintendent, was discussed by Board Members in detail. Board Chairman was reported on the following: The next regular Utility System Board Meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, October 9th, 2018 at West Point City Hall 5:30 p.m. and is open to the public. On motion, minutes of prior regular meeting of August 14th, 2018 was approved. On motion, approved warrants payable for September 11th 2018 as presented. On motion, meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m., September 11th, 2018.

**EXPENDITURES FOR  
MAY 2018**

3rd GENERATION ELECTRIC - TRENCHING	150.00
ABOLT, RON - REBATE	100.00
AGRINEED - HOSE, WEED KILLER	108.92
ALTEC INDUSTRIES -ROTATION MOTOR REPAIR.	708.52
DAILY DEMOCRAT- LEGAL PUBLICATION	101.57
DELTA DENTAL - INSURANCE	137.20
EFTPS - FED/FICA TAX	6,051.01

FLETCHER-REINHARDT - SUPPLIES	4,590.21
FLOYDS EZWAY - TRASH PICK UP	120.00
GATEWAY HOTEL - LODGING: D SMITH	129.92
IOWA ONE CALL - LOCATE SERVICES	29.70
IOWA UTILITIES BOARD - ASSESSMENT FY17-18	322.00
IPERS -RETIREMENT	3,650.71
MCFARLAND SWAN - OFFICE SUPPLIES	42.94
MASTERCARD - REAMER	138.78
MEDIACOM - TELEPHONE	226.81
MENKE PROFESSIONAL - WRECH SET, OIL DRY	122.44
METERING & TECH SOLUTION - METERS	4,354.61
MUNICIPAL SUPPLY INC. - CLAMPS	179.10
PAULS PLUMBING - AC REPAIR	76.86
RATHBUN REGIONAL WATER - WATER PURCHASE	6,378.00
RESALE POWER GROUP OF IOWA - ELECTRIC PURCHASE	111,610.04
RICHOH USA - COPIER / LEASE	61.34
SAFETY MEETING OUTLINES - SAFETY MAGAZINE	41.00
SMITH, DIANE - MILEAGE / MEAL REIMBURSE	127.58
STATE HYGIENIC LAB	138.00
STUART C. IRBY - WIRE	6,813.62
TASCO - PAGER SERVICE	122.95
TREASURER STATE OF IOWA - SALES TAX	4,840.18
UPS - DELIVERY	189.30
US POSTAL SERVICE - STAMPS	250.20
VAN METER - SUPPLIES	303.16
WELLMARK BC/BS OF IOWA - INSURANCE	2,178.55
WEST POINT LUMBER-SUPPLIES	263.80
WEST POINT UTILITIES - UTILITY CHARGES	271.87
WEX BANK - GASOLINE	287.38

/s/ Randy Welding, Chairman  
Attest: Dawn M. Holtkamp, Billing & Collection

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REHABILITATION & SKILLED NURSING WHEN GOING HOME AFTER A HOSPITAL STAY ISN'T AN OPTION.

*Pictured: Kati McGuffin, OTA and Bill Jones, PTA*

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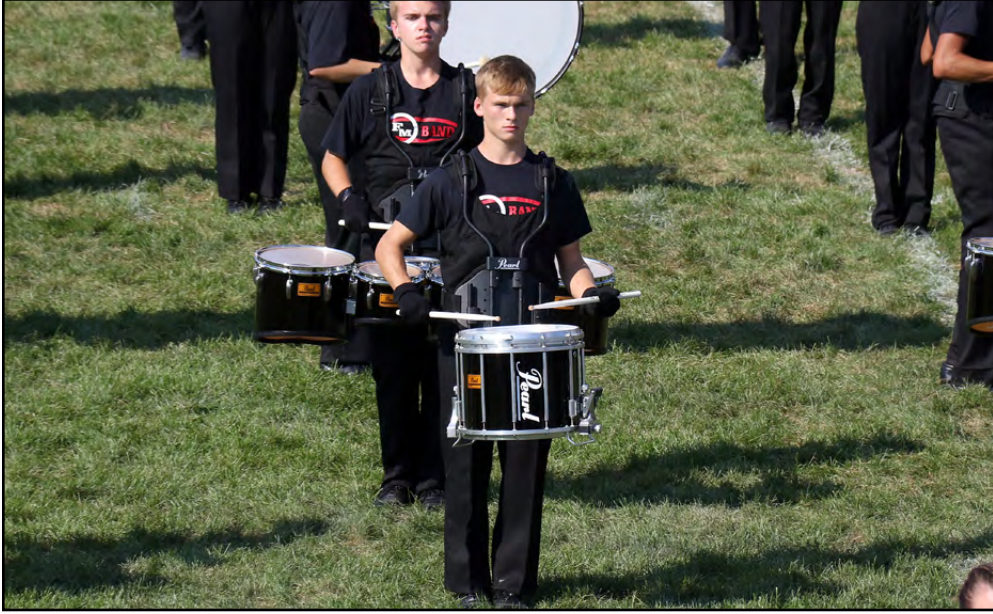
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## Scene Around Town/Opinion



Photos by Donald K. Aliprandi/Special to PCC

Fort Madison High School Marching drummer Austin Sexton performs during the 15th Annual Fort Madison Marching Band Classic September 15, 2018. Below a Davenport drum section performs.

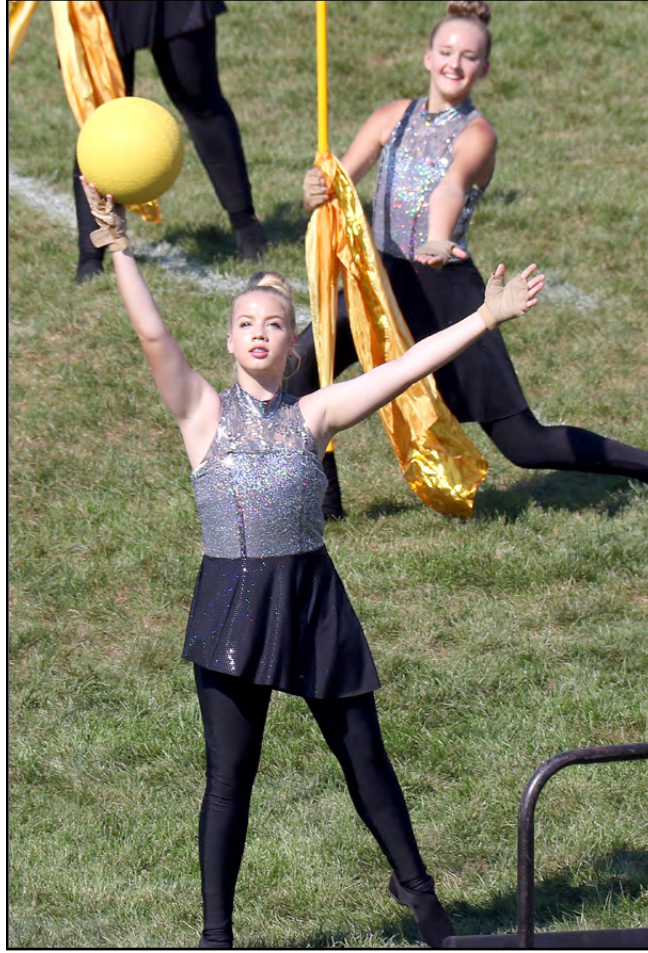


Photo by Donald K. Aliprandi/Special to PCC

Davenport High School Marching Band performs their "Let the Sun Shine In!" theme at the 15th Annual Fort Madison Marching Band Classic September 15, 2018. Eight schools competed in the classic in some pretty warm temperatures. Classic officials said band members were not required to full dress in band gear for the afternoon's competition.

## Lots to learn from truck driver's over the road book

**SWARM** - Continued from Page 1

Haul." That did it. I pulled up "Long Haul" on my smart phone and couldn't put it down.

What can a truck driver

tell me? Well, gee, I learned that "Interstate highways have even numbers for east-west routes and odd numbers for north-south

routes. The larger the odd number, the further east it is and the larger the even number the further north it is. I-5 goes up the West Coast, and I-95 goes up the East Coast." "East-west I-10 (the Dime) goes from Jacksonville, Florida, to Los Angeles (Jayville to Shakeytown). I-90 goes from Boston to Seattle (Beantown to Needle City)." "Three-digit numbers indicate spur routes to the system. Odd-numbered three-digit routes do not reconnect to the main highway; even-numbered routes are circular and are usually beltways around cities. Using Washington, DC, as an example, I-495 goes around the city, and I-395 ends in the city." "... your primary guide needs to be a map. You need to visualize the route in your mind....since they started using GPS, drivers get lost or confused three times more than when they used road maps."

And that's just information. The story-line is even more interesting. Keep your dictionary handy. Murphy is an articulate truck driver, as well as talented writer. I'll give "Long Haul" another Empty Nest Five Stars.

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 find him on Facebook. Curt stories are also read at 106.3 FM in Farmington.

### 5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

**MON 17 Sep** \_\_\_\_\_

Partly Cloudy  
High – 87.9° F | Low – 75.5° F

**TUE 18 Sep** \_\_\_\_\_

Clear Skies  
High – 90.5° F | Low – 73.1° F

**WED 19 Sep** \_\_\_\_\_

Light Rain  
High – 89.1° F | Low – 74.1° F

**THU 20 Sep** \_\_\_\_\_

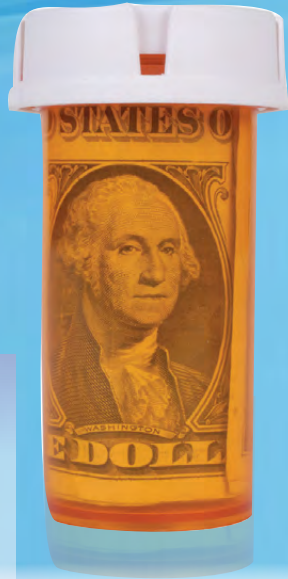
Light Rain  
High – 90.1° F | Low – 81.4° F

**FRI 21 Sep** \_\_\_\_\_

Light Rain  
High – 69.8° F | Low – 59.7° F

[OpenWeatherMap](#)

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Fort Madison & Central Lee Keokuk  
Tammy at 319-372-8043 Sue at 319-524-4504  
rsvp@unitedwaygr.org vc@unitedwaygr.org






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