



Pen City Current

Monday, July 24, 2017 | 6 pages | Volume 1 • Issue 177

Bagpipes, band wrap up park series



Photos by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC



The Nauvoo Bagpipe Band joined the Fort Madison City Band to wrap up the Summer City Band concerts in Fort Madison's Central Park Sunday night. The band marched in from the northeast corner and played several tunes before giving way to the City Band.

Summer reading and a nasty cold

I made it all through winter and spring without my token cold, and was feeling pretty confident, like maybe, along with old age comes an immunity to the gift that keeps on giving. Then this insufferable heat hit. I noticed a burning in the back of my throat that didn't amount to much. "It'll be gone tomorrow," I told myself.

Wham! It was like I was hit by a Mack Truck.

Summer colds are the worst. They hang on and won't go away, like a little kid brother on your first date. In the winter, the low outside temps, I think, help kill the cold, like the first hard frost kills off diseased rabbits. But in summer, the heat brews you in your own stew. Yuck.

Alas, if there's any good news about a summer cold (and there is), it's that it gives you a good excuse to pull the shades in an air-conditioned house, sit back in the recliner with a cup of mint tea, and open a good book. I'm just going to throw out a gob of books here, and you can pick and choose as you like.



SWARM

Frank Conroy There seems to be a renewed interest in Frank Conroy, not Pat Conroy, Frank Conroy. Frank Conroy is the author/musician who became director of the writers workshop at the University of Iowa. He is now deceased, but his legacy as an author/musician and teacher lives on. Frank Conroy reminds me a lot of Garrison Keillor, both story-telling-and-looks wise. Some of his newer writing has been published, which is a treat, and his older, established works, if you haven't read them already, are well worth re-reading—the ultimate compliment for any author. His newer stuff: "Time & Tides" and "Dogs Bark, but the Caravan Rolls On" (catchy title) are essays and short stories on topics such as music, writing and authors, like F. Scott Fitzgerald. The older stuff: "Body & Soul" and "Stop-Time" are autobiographical in nature but describe two different boys growing up in dysfunctional, semi-caring, musical, worlds. Don't try to make sense out of the two different boys. Remember, Frank Conroy is a writer, and writers will lead you down back alleys and dirt roads where you would never go alone.

I actually talked to Frank Conroy one day on the telephone. I had been reading "Body & Soul" and toying with the idea of applying for acceptance in the writers workshop at the University of Iowa, mainly because Frank Conroy was its director. Conroy has a wide vocabulary. I ran across a word in "Body & Soul"

See **SWARM**, page 6

County's new software to aid services

BY PCC STAFF

WEST DES MOINES — The Iowa State Association of Counties (ISAC) is pleased to announce the release of the Community Services Network (CSN) 3.0. This system is used by county community services professionals and providers to manage budgets, payments, client information, and outcomes data.

CSN is a robust, web-based management information system that

is currently used by 98 counties in Iowa. Polk County will begin using the system this year. CSN launched in January 2010 for the primary purposes of tracking and managing mental health data by county community services departments. CSN now handles all aspects of client care coordination including case notes, funding authorizations, financial services such as claim payments, integration with county auditor's

accounting systems and budgeting. There are 883 active users within 369 governmental entities who use CSN to manage 221,187 clients. There are 12,018 providers housed in the system. Since 2015, a total of 368,085 claims have been paid totaling over \$282.5 million.

Within the past two years the system has expanded to offer functionality to additional county departments including General Assistance, Sub-

stance Abuse, and Veteran Affairs. The latest release has improved the experience of the end user, enhanced and improved security, added many new features, as well as integrated community services providers into CSN.

"All changes to CSN have been made with the purpose of enhancing and improving the care for consumers in a holistic,

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Country Artist



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From the Front/Lottery Numbers

New system should save time for those looking for services

COUNTY - Continued from Page 1

secure manner. CSN is regularly audited and has been certified as fully HIPAA compliant. The system also incorporates the additional Iowa Code security regulations, and users are required to follow strict security guidelines to keep consumer information safe and secure," said Shane Walter, Iowa County Community Services Association President and Sioux County Community Services Director.

A lot of accurate data has come from the system because a substantial number of entities using the system and regions and counties are standardizing business processes. The integrity and amount of data allows the legislature to make informed decisions regarding the services provided across the state. The mental health disability services system recently

shifted from a county to a region-based system. CSN helped to allow counties to undertake this transition more easily.

Bill Peterson, ISAC Executive Director stated, "CSN 3.0 will continue to help government employees do their job efficiently and accurately while saving costs for the tax paying citizens of Iowa."

CSN is governed by the Iowa Counties Technology Services (ICTS) Board of Directors as well as the ICTS Advisory Committee and Operations Subcommittee. These bodies are made up of both users and other governmental officials and employees.

If interested in learning more about how your agency or entity can use CSN, please contact ISAC's IT Manager, Jeanine Scott, 515.244.7181

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Game	Draw Days	Sales Cutoff Time	Approx. Drawing Time
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Powerball®	Wed & Sat	8:59 pm	9:59 pm
Hot Lotto®	Wed & Sat	8:18 pm	9:40 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



7/23 MID-DAY
3 8 9
7/23 EVENING
4 7 3



7/23 MID-DAY
2 0 4 4
7/23 EVENING
9 5 8 5

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Public Notices/Classifieds

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE
Board Meeting Agenda
Great Prairie Area
Education Agency
July 25, 2017, Noon Board
Retreat &
Regular Board Meeting Ex-
ecutive Conference Room
Fairfield Arts &
Convention Center
200 North Main
Fairfield, Iowa
GPAEA Board Zoom
Join from PC, Mac, iOS
or Android: <https://zoom.us/j/420666315>
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568 7788 (US Toll) or +1
415 762 9988 (US Toll)
Meeting ID: 420 666 315

Agenda
MEETING CALLED
TO ORDER BY BOARD
PRESIDENT
BOARD APPROVAL OF
AGENDA
BOARD APPROVAL OF
PREVIOUS MINUTES
BOARD APPROVAL OF
INVOICES PAYABLE
BOARD ACTION ON
BOARD POLICY 707
TRAVEL ALLOWANCE
ADMINISTRATOR'S
COMMENTS:
I recommend waiving a
second reading of the Board
Policy as presented.
BOARD ACTION ON
CONTRACTUAL AD-
JUSTMENT

Jacoby Deshler, Evalua-
tion Assistant, 1267 hours,
\$13.53/hr, \$17,142.51 to
Teacher Associate-Juvenile
Home, 1624 hours, \$13.53/
hr, \$21,972.72
ADMINISTRATOR'S
COMMENTS:
I recommend approval of
the employee contractual
adjustment as presented.
BOARD ACTION ON
NEW EMPLOYEE CON-
TRACTS
Jane Trotter, Instructional
Technology Coach, 115

days (.6 FTE), MA, Step 18,
\$39,715.13
ADMINISTRATOR'S
COMMENTS:
I recommend approval of
new employee contracts as
presented.
BOARD APPROVAL
OF FY 2017-2018 BASEC
PROGRAM WITH MA-
HASKA/WAPELLO EAR-
LY CHILDHOOD IOWA
ADMINISTRATOR'S
COMMENTS:
I recommend approval of
the Agreement as presented.
BOARD ACTION ON A
LEASE AGREEMENT BE-
TWEEN THE GETTINGS
GROUP LLC AND GREAT
PRAIRIE AREA EDUCA-
TION AGENCY
ADMINISTRATOR'S
COMMENTS:
I recommend approval
of the Agreement for the
Juvenile Shelter program as
presented.
REPORTS TO THE
BOARD
Associate Administrator
and Directors Reports – Dr.
Angelisa Fynaardt, Asso-
ciate Administrator, Dr.
Lonna Anderson, Director of
Instructional Services, & Dr.
Sally Lindgren, Director of
Technology and Innovation
Chief Administrator Re-
port - Dr. Cindy Yelick
ADJOURNMENT

PUBLIC NOTICE
Lee County, Iowa
Board of Supervisors
Regular Meeting
Agenda
DATE: WEDNESDAY,
July 25, 2017
MEETING
CONVENING TIME:
9:00 A.M.
LOCATION:
Correctional Center, 2530
255th St.,
Montrose, IA 52639
AGENDA

Pledge of Allegiance
Approve Agenda
Consider Approval of
Tuesday, July 18, 2017
Board Minutes
Consider Approval of
Claims
Public Input
Consider Approval of
Maintenance Agreements
with J&S for Three Copiers
Consider Approval of
Courthouse Security Report
Abatement Resolution
Consider Approval of
Resolution Approving Sale
of Properties at Tax Auction
Consider Approval of
Resolution Abating Taxes
and Directing Treasurer to
Remove Building on Leased
Land Property from Tax
System
Consider Approval of
Resolution Abating Taxes
and Directing Treasurer to
Remove Mobile Home from
Tax System
Personnel:
A. Transfer from Re-
corders Office to Communi-
ty Services
Reports:
A. Manure Manage-
ment Annual Update for
GRANAT, LLC in Washing-
ton Township
B. Semi Annual
Settlement of the Board of
Supervisors
C. Recorder's Report
of Fees Collected
D. Manure Manage-
ment Annual Update for
JWP Swine in Des Moines
Township
Commission or Commit-
tee Reports
Adjourn

PUBLIC MEETING -
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• Initiative, organized, flexible
and detail oriented are words
that best describe the ideal
candidate.

Please submit resumes by
Wednesday, July 26th to
Fort Madison Partners, Attn:
Tim Gobble, 614 9th Street,
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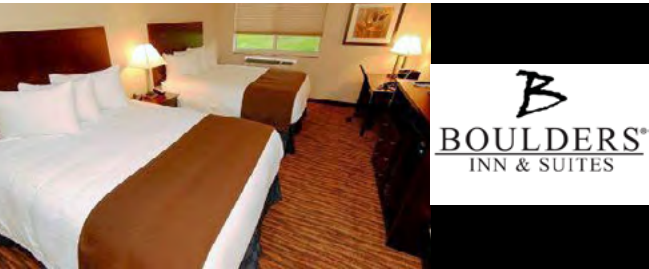


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Obituaries/Local News

5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

MON 24 Jul Partly Sunny
Low – 65.6° F | High – 78.8° F

TUE 25 Jul Clear Skies
Low – 68.8° F | High – 81.3° F

WED 26 Jul Moderate Rain
Low – 76.7° F | High – 85.4° F

THU 27 Jul Moderate Rain
Low – 74.7° F | High – 84.4° F

FRI 28 Jul Light Rain
Low – 66.1° F | High – 81.1° F

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Books help pass the summer heat

SWARM - Continued from Page 1

that I didn't know the meaning of. I looked it up in my "American Heritage Dictionary" and, lo-and-behold, if it didn't list the exact passage from "Body & Soul" as an example for usage of the word. I called the writers workshop and I'll be danged if Frank Conroy didn't answer the phone. I was flabbergasted. I told Frank Conroy about finding his passage from "Body & Soul" in the "American Heritage Dictionary" and he was humble and friendly, with a nice grandfatherly voice. He sent me an application for the writer's workshop, but I never filled it out. Something like several thousand writers apply for admission, with only a few accepted. Was I a wuss? Yep.

If Frank Conroy doesn't keep you from heat stroke, try Elizabeth Strout's new book, "Anything is Possible," or Fredrik Backman's (author of "A Man Called

Ove") new book, "Bear Town." For the man's man, Richard Russo's "Trajectory" will cure a cold. Anything by David Guterson will fit in great with fever hallucinations, and for pure motivation, something we all need during the doldrums of summer, the old stand-by, "Eat, Pray, Love" by Elizabeth Gilbert may open clogged air passages.

I've been rereading "Body & Soul," looking for that word that the "American Heritage Dictionary" uses to quote Frank Conroy. To no avail. But it sure helps alleviate the misery of a summer cold, sorta like those Vicks-treated nose tissues. Ah-ah, choo!

Have a good story? Call or text Curt Swarm in Mt. Pleasant at 319-217-0526, email him at curtswarm@yahoo.com or find him on Facebook. Curt's stories are also read at 107.3 FM in Farmington.

DEATH NOTICE

STEVEN G. WILMESMEIER

Steven G. Wilmesmeier, age 58 of Farmington passed away on Saturday, July 22, 2017 at his home. Arrangements are pending at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory.

Carousel Preschool sets registrations

FORT MADISON - Carousel Preschool will be having a registration day on August 3, 2017 from 1:00 - 7:00 p.m.

If you have already filled out a pre-registration form, you may bring your packet of registration papers to complete your child's registration process.

If you have not registered your child for preschool, you may register him/her on this day. Carousel Preschool 719 Avenue F, Ft. Madison, Iowa.

For more information, call 372-1424.

Got a news tip? Call Chuck (319)371.1670

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- Kaiden

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