

Pen City Current

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Monday, July 2, 2018 | 7 pages | Volume 2 • Issue 156

South Park All Lit Up

HISTORY, HOBBIES & HORTICULTURE

Fort Madison Area Artists Association's Garden Tours bring enthusiasts out on Sunday stroll through county's pretties landscapes - Page 2

Empty Nest

Disability doesn't stop life of paralyzed Mt. Pleasant father - Page 3

Pen City
current

Cover photo by
Ava Peitz, PCC HTC Intern

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Area News

Garden tour brings hobbies, gardening together

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

LEE COUNTY - A cooler, breezier Sunday afternoon turned into the perfect setting for a tour around area homes where art and gardening came together.

The Fort Madison Area Artists Association's annual Garden Tour was held Sunday afternoon at six different locations in Lee County. Three of the venues were homes in Fort Madison and three others were out in the county on Green Bay Road and on 175th Street.

Vic Peirrot and his wife Rose put on a summer display of quilts, some of which were created by Rose herself, as part of the tour on Green Bay Road. In addition to some fully bloomed landscaping on the homestead, the Peirrots also showcased a functional shed adorned with vintage and modern tools and one playhouse fit for a houseful of kids.

"My mother and great-grandma, that's where the quilts have come from. Some have come from auction, but two I made. The gal that did the embroidery on one is here. Each one is individual and has its own story, I guess," Rose Peirrot said.

She said they had been asked for the past couple years to be part of the Garden Tour and finally were able to host the event, after conflicts got in the way in the past.

Peirrot has lived in the house since 2001 in a previous marriage, and the past three and half years after marrying Rose after both of their spouses had died in the



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Nauvoo glassblower At Sunday's FMAAA Garden Tour, Jim Topic talks about some of the globes he's created and how the art can work in just about any garden or landscaping. Below left, Cindy Streeter of Burlington talks with Vic Peirrot about a painting at Peirrot's home on Green Bay Road.

same week.

Vic said the homestead has been in the family since his grandfather, who was born on a farm in Hamilton, came over to Green Bay looking for work in the 1920s. He found work on a farm and ended up marrying the farmer's daughter. His grandfather raised his family in a home he built on the current property. Vic's father then built a new home on the property and took the original home down.

When Peirrot's father died, they tried to sell the home before Vic decided to purchase the home himself. After an electrical fire heavily damaged the home, everything but the studs had to be rebuilt.

Three generations of quilts with a variety of themes from farming to patriotic dotted the Peirrots' property as visitors meandered about, getting a feel for the art and the landscaping.

At the home of Wayne and Mary Starnes in the 1400 block of Avenue F in Fort Madison visitors were able to tour the Starnes' backyard which has landscaping and shrubbery surrounding three sides of the lot with a garage on the fourth adorned in vibrant summer colors as well.

Glassblower Jim Topic was on hand hanging globes he had created himself in his workshop gallery and studio in Nauvoo. He also showcases some interesting globes that resemble flames on candles. He said at some point he'd like to offer them wired up to solar squares to make

“

There's nothing like a bright piece of glass in your garden when you know it's a dull winter day and the sun comes out and get this 'psshhh and this spark of light.

-Jim Topic,
Nauvoo glassblower and gardner

them look like real flames.

Topic said he enjoyed being part of the tours.

"I like to incorporate the glass in the garden. I like the glass in nature because the light changes. You look at some of the colors and you get that situation where the light changes and you get a whole different look and feel to the glass as the light changes, even as the seasons change," Topic said.

"There's nothing like a bright piece of glass in your garden when you know it's a dull winter day and the sun comes out and you get this pssshhH! and you get this spark of light."

Topic said he has a garden of his own and likes to work it and experiment with the glass and light.

See **GARDENS**, page 6



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Obituaries/Opinion

Crippling accident doesn't stop Mt. Pleasant father

Willy Amos of Mt. Pleasant is the poster child for Hy-Vee's "Helpful Smile in Every Aisle." And it's genuine. If it wasn't for his wheelchair, you would never know that he is paralyzed from the waist down. As Store Manager for the Hy-Vee Drugstore in Mt. Pleasant, you will see Willy out front working with customers, or in the back unloading a truck, stocking shelves, or building displays. He's a human dynamo on wheels, with a smile on his face all the time—because he's having fun. Customers tell him to slow down or he's going to get a speeding ticket. Willy just laughs and asks how he can help them.

Willy Amos, doesn't let paralysis slow him down. It was Tuesday, November 4th, 2008, the year of major flooding in the spring. Willy and a friend were in tree stands with compound bows, deer hunting. It was a beautiful fall day in the middle of rutting season. There was a lot of activity and Willy's friend had already taken a shot at a deer and missed. They decided to move their tree stands for afternoon hunting. Evidently Willy didn't get his tree stand secured properly. He fell 25 feet, landing on the back of his neck. Unconscious for a few minutes, he came to and knew he was hurt badly. He was having trouble breathing and he had no feeling in his legs. Crazy thoughts went through his head like, "I'm going to die here alone in the timber."

His friend found him. Willy used his friend's cell phone to call his wife to tell her goodbye and that he loved her. The friend dialed 911 and then had to leave Willy alone so he could direct emergency personnel.

Willy drifted in and out of consciousness. He remembers crying out to God, "Please save me!" He heard people coming toward him, shouting, "Hey, Willy!" They did an assessment. Willy thought, "This is not the way I want to live." He knew all the emergency personnel and asked one of the policemen to shoot him. The policeman told him to calm down, that they were going to get him out

EMPTY NEST

By Curt Swarm



of there. They had to carry him 300 yards through dense timber. When Willy heard the sounds of Life Flight, he thought, "Man, I'm really in bad shape."

Not only did Willy not have any feeling in his legs, but he also had two collapsed lungs. Chest tubes were installed on his flight to the University of Iowa Hospital, where his wife was waiting for him.

Eight hours of surgery later, he revived long enough to ask the surgeon if he would ever walk again. The surgeon didn't

mince words. "Nope," he said. "You severed your spinal cord and will never walk again."

Willy thought, "Okay. Now I need to focus on what to do next."

Six months later, after state-of-the-art rehabilitation at Great River Medical Center in Burlington, Willy Amos went back to work in a wheelchair at Hy-Vee. They welcomed him with open arms. Willy could have taken disability, but it's not in his nature.

See **SWARM**, page 6

OBITUARIES

VIRGINIA ANN LOGAN



LOGAN

Virginia Ann Logan, 94, of Fort Madison, IA, passed away at 2:30 a.m. on Sunday, July 1, 2018 at the West Point Care Center. She was born on February 11, 1924 in Fort Madison, IA to Albert & Minnie Klesner Votzmeier. She married Gordon Junior Logan on November 27, 1948 in Quincy, IL. He preceded her in death on December 5, 1983. She worked at the Sheaffer Pen Company and Motorola in Quincy in her early years, retiring from the former Sacred Heart Hospital as a nurse's assistant with 17 years of service. She was a

member of Holy Family Parish, Altar & Rosary Society, C.L.A., Daughters of Isabella, Fort Madison Women's Club and the Fort Madison Community Hospital Auxiliary. She enjoyed playing cards & Bingo, watching the Iowa Hawkeyes play & talking on the phone.

Virginia is survived by: 3-sons: Michael (Debbie Dunn) Logan of Fort Madison, IA, Donald (Lisa) Logan of Van Meter, IA & Gregg (Gayla) Logan of Pleasant Hill, IA; 1-daughter: Cathy (Jimbo) Scott of Fort Madison, IA; 7-grandchildren; 7-great grandchildren & 1 on the way; 3-sisters: Betty Super of Montana, Beverly Fritz of Indiana & Mary Lee Votzmeier of Missouri. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband & 1-brother.

The family will receive friends from Noon to 1:00 p.m. with the Mass of Christian Burial to immediately follow at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 3, 2018 at Ss. Mary & Joseph Church with Rev. Mark P. Spring officiating. Burial will be held in Sacred Heart Cemetery. A memorial has been established for Fort Madison Community Hospital Hospice. Online condolences to Virginia's family may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: www.kinglynk.com. King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory is assisting the family with the arrangements.

EASY SHARPS DISPOSAL for greater community health & safety



Great River Regional Waste Authority now has a new sharps disposal bin at the Fort Madison facility. Making disposal easy for our customers and allowing safer handling for our employees. A similar sharps disposal bin will soon be available at our Keokuk Transfer Station.

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For the safety of everyone involved, please do not place plastic jugs or bottles containing sharps in your recycling tote or in any non-designated bin at our drop off sites.



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PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE
Lee County, Iowa
Board of Supervisors
Regular Meeting
Agenda
DATE: TUESDAY,
July 3, 2018
MEETING
CONVENING TIME:
9:00 A.M.
LOCATION:
Correctional Center
2530 255th Street,
Montrose, IA
AGENDA

Pledge of Allegiance
Approve Agenda
Consider Approval of
Tuesday, June 26, 2018
Board Minutes Consider
Approval of Resolution
of Appropriations for FYI
9 Consider Approval of
Claims

Public Input
Personnel Actions:
A. Step Increase-Secondary Roads
B. Merit Increase-Sheriff's Office
Reports:
A. Commission of Veteran Affairs Minutes of Meeting
B. Manure Management Annual Update for Pieper Inc.
Commission or Committee Reports
Adjourn

PUBLIC MEETING -
CITIZENS WELCOME

Workshop to follow

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Lady Hounds get first road win at I.C. Liberty

Featheringill hits 3-run home run in bottom of the fifth to lift Fort Madison in nightcap

BY CHUCK
VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

IOWA CITY - Maycee Featheringill drilled a three-run homer in the top of the fifth inning to help FMHS to its first road win of the year with an 8-4 win in the nightcap of a doubleheader at Iowa City Liberty Friday night.

The Hounds started the scoring in the second game in the top of the third inning when Jassmine Bass reached on a walk and then swiped second. Senior Sadie Smithburg flew out to left and Olivia Williams hit into a groundout at third, moving Bass up a base.

Kamryn Bailey walked and stole second with Bass holding at third. Maycee Featheringill singled to score Bass before Allison Helmick fanned to end the inning.

Liberty tied it up in the bottom half of the third on an unearned run due to an error by Williams behind the plate. Katelyn Dennis would get three of the next four hitters to strike out ending the inning.

FMHS went 1-2-3 in the top of the fourth. Dennis gave up a lead off single to Liberty's Miranda Jones in the bottom of the fourth. Jones would get to third on a fielder's choice and a wild pitch, but Dennis would

settle in and get a couple infield pops to retire the side.

Bass singled to start the fifth and would move to second on a throwing error by Liberty pitcher Delaney Alberts. The flood gates would open when Smithburg followed with a single. Olivia Williams then stroked a two-run single scoring Bass and Smithburg, who had stolen second.

Bailey drew a walk and then Featheringill hit an 0-1 pitch for a three-run home run to stake the Hounds to a 5-1 lead. Still with no outs, Helmick walked before Ivy Geerdes fanned for the first out of the inning. Lauren Bailey singled followed by Teryn Parsons' single that was mishandled at second allowing Helmick to come around and score. Bass grounded out to third for the second out scoring Bailey. Smithburg would fly out to center to end the rally.

Liberty put up three more runs in the bottom of the fifth highlighted by Eva Stewart's RBI single with two outs. Dennis gave up a fielder's choice to the next hitter, but got Alberts for ground out to second to end the inning FMHS 8, Liberty 4.

Dennis would get Liberty 1-2-3 in the bottom of the sixth and then gave up a harmless single in the bottom of the seventh before Stewart flew out

to right to end the game.

Liberty shut out the Hounds in the opener 3-0 on a stellar performance from eighth grader Kinsley Robertson. Robertson gave up just two hits, one to Smithburg and the other to Dalyn Wondra. Wondra got to second base in the second inning and Smithburg would get to third on a stolen base, but that's all the offense FMHS would muster in the opener.

Cassie Powers went four inning keeping Liberty without a run, but freshman Marit McCaffery doubled to start the fifth. Claire Geiman then reached on a throwing error by the Hounds on a sacrifice bunt to third. Powers got the next two hitters retired, but gave a up a two-run triple to Raquel Trolliet to break up the shut out.

McCaffery would get an RBI single in the bottom of the sixth inning to in what would turn out to be the final run of the game.

The Hounds played in the Gooselake Invitational on Saturday. Those results will appear on Monday. The Bloodhounds travel to Keokuk on Monday before hosting Washington to wrap up the regular season on Tuesday night.



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Area News/Lottery Numbers

Six homes featured on annual tour

GARDENS - Continued from Page 2

The Starnes' property also showcases bamboo on the west side of the property and some Canadian Hemlock.

The tour ran from noon to 4 p.m. and after a slow start on High Point, visitors began to show up and look at the new peaches beginning to show on a peach tree on the south side of the property owned by Chuck and Barb Wilkens.

The property has been with the Wilkens for 16 years. The owners weren't on the property for the tour, but Chuck Wilkens displayed many of the antique chairs he's refurbished. A fenced-in garden with the peach and apricot trees also housed a variety of vegetables. After observing the vegetable garden, most visitors moved along the rear timberline to catch a view of barges and recreational boaters from about 300 feet up the bluff.

Ralph Stuekerjuergen brought his zoom lens for some pictures over the bluff and then toured the rest of the homes along the tour path.

Pat and Janelle McCrabb, in the 2000 block of 337th Avenue, featured red rhubarb that had been transplanted from Janelle's mother's yard in Dubuque. The property also houses more than 15 varieties of heritage roses. Gin Lammert and Carlene Atwater were on hand to document the season in paint.

Dean and Sue Mabeus had a regular crowd in the 1600 block of Green Bay Road just about a half-mile from the Peirrots. The former home of Dean's Produce is now just land for family and friends. Boar goats and an old smokehouse were also highlights for those who stopped along the highway for a visit. Scotts Miracle Gro raffled off products while Curt Swarm was showcasing metal sculptures.

In the 3500 block of 175th Street, Ed and Jim Lemberger put their organic winery on display. Wine and cheese pairings were set out for visitors as well as a variety of produce including tomatoes, peppers, melons, and gourds, along with strawberries and blueberries.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Mike and Nancy Sanders of West Point stop by the FMAAA Garden Tour's High Point location Sunday to view Chuck and Barb Wilkens' garden and landscaping.

Job, coaching still on the chore list

SWARM - Continued from Page 3

He had started working at Hy-Vee when he was 16 years old. He's been there 31 years. It's the only job he's ever known. It's who he is.

Willy had been an athlete in high school, playing both baseball and football. He has three kids, two boys and a girl. He has always coached their baseball, basketball and softball teams. When his daughter, Rylee, asked him who was going to coach her softball team, the Hotsticks, he said, "I am."

And he does. From his wheelchair he hits infield and outfield practice, and still coaches third base just like he always did. Once, the opposing team coach came over and asked who was coaching? Willy said, "I am."

Even in a wheelchair, Willy looks to be more fit than most people. Would he trade places with someone else? No, he doesn't think so. This November will be the ten-year anniversary of his accident. You can find him in an aisle of Hy-Vee Drug Town in Mt. Pleasant, smiling, of course. He believes in the philosophy of former Hy-Vee CEO, Dwight Vredenburg, "If there's a customer in the store and the store is on fire, help the customer first, then put out the fire."

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 106.3 FM in Farmington.

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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



6/30
20 24 27 35 42
Star Ball: 9
All Star Bonus: 5



6/30
3 9 20 42 61
Powerball: 24
Power Play: 2



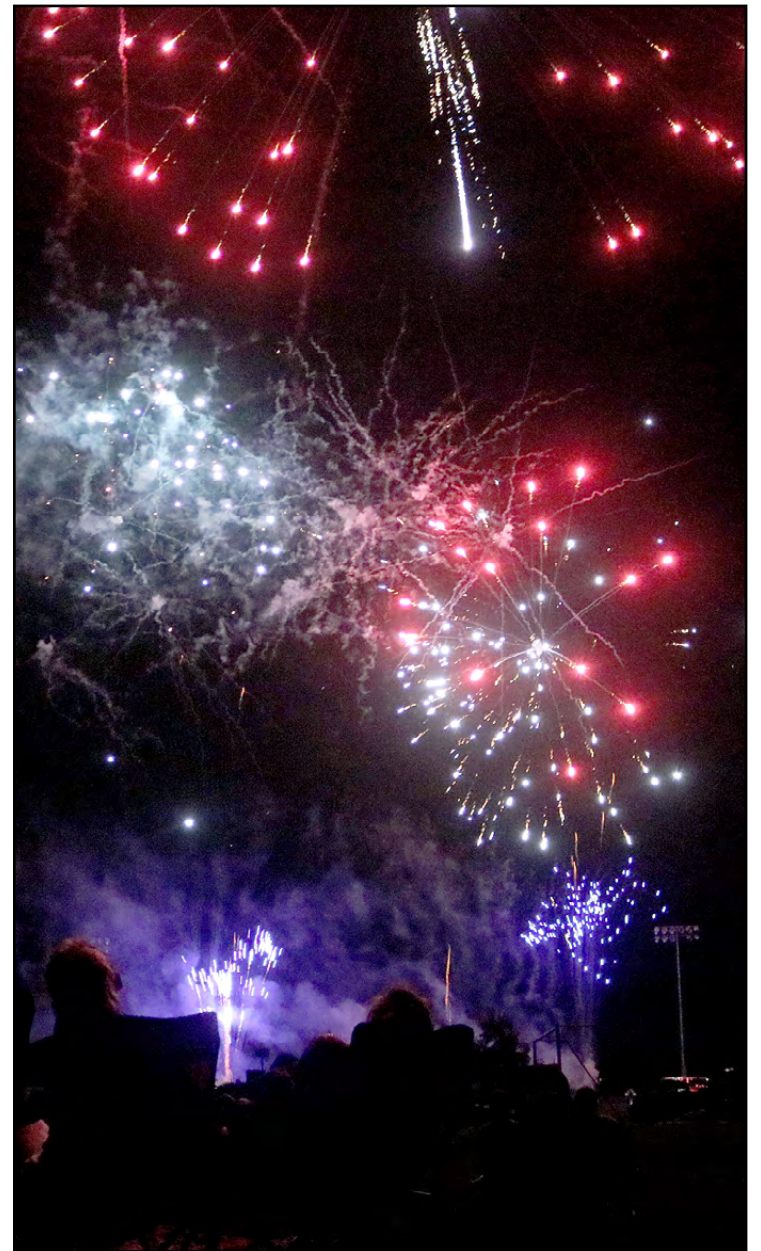
6/30 MID-DAY
4 9 5
6/30 EVENING
7 8 7



6/30 MID-DAY
0 8 7 0
6/30 EVENING
2 4 9 8

Pen City Current encourages you to play responsibly.

West Point Fireworks/Weather



Photos by Ava Peitz/PCC HTC Intern

5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

MON 02 Jul

Clear Skies
High- 77.7° F | Low - 66.6° F

TUE 03 Jul

Moderate Rain
High- 83.0° F | Low - 75.8° F

WED 04 Jul

Moderate Rain
High- 84.2° F | Low - 77.0° F

THU 05 Jul

Moderate Rain
High- 88.0° F | Low - 76.2° F

FRI 06 Jul

Light Rain
High- 87.4° F | Low - 76.2° F

[OpenWeatherMap](#)



Pen City Current will not publish a digital e-Edition on Wednesday, July 4 or Thursday, July 5 in observance of the Independence Day holiday. Breaking news will be published to the website as it happens and our digital e-Edition will return on Friday, July 6.

Please Celebrate Safely!



Senior Community BINGO



2nd Wednesday of every month
at 2pm in our dining room

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