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INSIDE TODAY:

Rump, Kirk celebrate their July wedding.

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Urrent Monday, August 7, 2017 | 6 pages | Volume 1 • Issue 189

Staff, facilities on candidates' minds

Editors' Note: Due to the number of candidates for the upcoming election school board election, Pen City Current will be running platform stories looking at two candidates at a time.

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG PCC FDITOR

FORT MADISON - The future of education, from teachers to facilities, is the driving force behind the candidacies of district residents Renee Ehlers and Gunther Anderson.

Both turned in paperwork to seek one of three open positions on the Fort Madison Community School



District board at the Sept. 12 election. Current president Timm Lamb will not be seeking re-election and board members Tim Wondra's and Gayla Young's terms are both expiring.

Ehlers said the run is something she's been thinking about for some time.

"I've been contemplating this for the last year or so. During that time, I've also been on the Lincoln Parent Teacher group and there's a need there. They (teachers) need a rep they can talk to and share opinions with."

Ehlers was also the chairwoman of the KIDS Committee, the group tasked with trying to get the



ANDERSON

referendum passed to construct a new elementary school and she said for the past year she's been promoting growth in the district.

"It's a huge loss with Timm leaving. I can't fill his shoes, but we need to continue to talk progress and growth and moving forward," she said.

Ehlers has two children in the district and her husband, Mike, is a teacher at Fort Madison High School. Ehlers said she realizes that could be problematic, but she said her ambitions are to help the district and

See CANDIDATES, page 3

Hats off to

RiverFest

committee

have put together a team

Sorry to use the gen-

C. VANDENBERG night, had

well-timed events and pro-

gramming, good security and helped several groups

including the Great River Honor Flight program and

festival,

which just

put a wrap

around the

second year

great music,

Sunday

eration X slang, but this

that rocks.

enny and Charles Craft



RiverFest Breakfast

Volunteers with the American Legion Post 82 served breakfast Sunday morning as part of a charity fundraiser to send local veterans on an Honor Flight to Washington D.C. The event raised more than \$3,200, which will pay for eight veterans to make the trip. Fareway Grocery, Lee County Bank, Fort Madison Elks Lodge, Kohl Wholesale, and American Legion Post 82 donated the food for the event.

Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Good samaritans, CPR save man's life

CURT SWARM Empty Nest

 ${
m T}$ he heat and humidity were almost unbearable on Monday, July 17, even at 7:00 a.m. in the morning, when Marilyn and Bill Knox went for their daily walk around East Lake Park in Mt. Pleasant. 87-year-old Bill Knox found it difficult

to breathe, but he wasn't one to complain. Bill doesn't remember the walk or getting in the car to drive his wife and himself home. Bill Knox, unbeknownst, to his wife, Marilyn, was in the early stages of cardiac arrest.

Leaving East Lake Park, the blacktop road passes over Highway 218 and comes to a T inter-



SWARM

section. Bill continued straight. Marilyn shouted, "Turn, turn, turn!" to no avail.

The Knox car went airborne, coming down so hard it flattened a tire on a concrete foundation. the woman in distress, Marilyn, even though she had a cracked sternum and compression fracture of the spine from the accident, was able to exit the vehicle, crawl up a steep embankment, and flag down a passing motorist.

Dwight Alvine, also of Mt. Pleasant, was on his way to work. Seeing he pulled over. When he saw the wrecked vehicle in the ditch, he pulled out his phone and dialed 911 while giving aid to Marilyn.

Mike Mathews of Mt. Pleasant was also on his way to work. Seeing the

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the Fort Madison Police Reserves make some much needed cash. I've gotten to know the

Crafts from this year's news articles and have found them both to be people who's top priority is making sure everyone is having a good time. I spoke with Jenny and Charles on several occa-

See **RIVERFEST**, page 8

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Celebrations

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Wedding

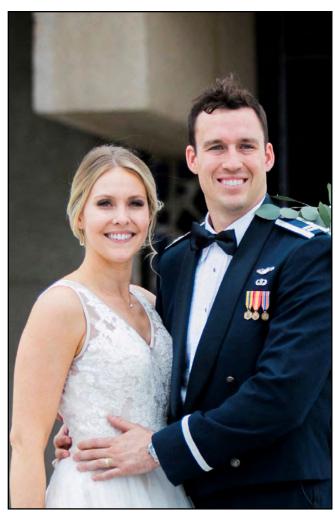
Rump, Kirk celebrate wedding

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. - Katherine Rump and USAF Captain Christopher Kirk were married on July 2, 2017 at Our Lady of the Skies Catholic Chapel on the base at the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs.

A reception was held following the wedding at the Spruce Mountain Ranch in Larkspur, Colorade.

The bride is a 2008 graduate of Holy Trinity Catholic High School in West Point, and a 2012 graduate of St. Ambrose University with a BA in Marketing and a Minor in Spanish. She works for the HON Company. The groom is a 2009 graduate of Burlington Notre Dame and a 2013 graduate of the US Air Force Academy with a BS in Management and a Minor in Spanish.

Co-maids of honor were Kayla Wills and Cassie Pratt, both friends of the



Captain and Mrs. Christopher Kirk

bride. Bridesmaids were Kirstin Kramer, Jordan Chappell, Alyssa Curtis, Sara Fedler, Stephanie McWilliams, all friends of the bride; Katy Kirk, sister of the Groom; and Kelly Pieper Leffler cousin of the Bride. Junior Bridesmaids included Abigail Gaughan and Cecilia Wynne, cousins of the Groom; Addison Rump and Avery Rump, cousins of the bride. The bride's personal attendant was Taylor Ort, cousin of the bride. Flower girls were Charlotte Gaughan and Veronica Wynne, cousins of the Groom and Rose Leffler, Cousin of the Bride. Ring Bearers: Colton Leffler, cousin of the bride and Finnley Harvey, friend of the couple. The co-best men were Capt Matthew Roberts and Capt Ryan Dukes, friends of the groom. Groomsmen were Capt. Anthony Navaroli, Tyler Hackenmiller, Capt. Todd Fletcher, Capt. Daniel Katz, Capt. Christopher Nelson, Capt. Taylor Broekhuis, Capt. Brennan Sweeney, Capt. Anson Harvey and Capt. Andrew Hoops (deployed). Saber Bearers included Capt. Parker Herrington, Capt. Drew McKnight, Capt. Connor Ference, Capt. Reggie Hargrove, Capt. Christian Minnick, Capt. Caleb Tucker, Capt. Adam Brakeville, Capt. Kyle Nazarek, Capt. James Hendershaw (deployed), and Capt. Cody Getz (deployed) all friends of the groom:. Ushers were Luke Schneider, Jarren Dirth and Nathan Giannettino, all friends of the groom, and Luke Burling, cousin of the

Mrs. Kirk's wedding dress was a bleached ivory lace v-neck sleeveless bodice with a champagne satin sheath skirt and removable white tuile overskirt and satin belt. She wore a floor length veil.

The couple planned a honeymoon traveling London, Spain and Italy

Fr. David Steinle, formerly of Burlington, presided over the ceremony that was attended by more than 370 family members and friends.

Piano, organ and musical direction was performed by Rebecca Gaughan, aunt of the groom. Additional keyboards were performed by Col. (Ret) James Burling, uncle of the groom. Cantor/Vocalist was Sadie Wynne, cousin of the groom. Vocalists were Eleanor Burling, Lt. Col John Gaughan III and Jessica Gaughan, cousins of the groom; Col. (Ret) John Gaughan II, uncle of the groom; and Monica Hinkle (Iowa City, formerly of Burlington) and Dr. Timothy Ahern (Burlington), friends of the



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From the Front/Lottery Numbers

Anderson, Ehlers campaign for teachers

CANDIDATES - Continued from Page 1

its teachers and would approach her work on the board with objectiv-

onflict there," she said. "I think I can make decisions where I wouldn't consider our situation. but the situations of the teachers and the district as a whole," she said. "I have a lot of friends and colleagues I've worked with over the years and I would take all that into consideration."

Ehlers currently works with the Department of Human Services in income maintenance and says she sees first hand the struggles of the kids in the district.

"For some kids, the school is their safe place. Lee County has one of the highest unemployment rates and one of the highest rates of child abuse in the state. For me, that's one of the reasons I want to stay involved.

She also said the district needs to be looking at the future of quality teachers available to the district. She said according a learning institute study, between 2009 and 2014 the number of students enrolled in collegiate prep teaching programs has reduced by 35% from 691,000 to 451,000.

"We have to be able to attract and retain good teachers. We need to look at non-traditional programs where maybe we can attract or entice local students to come back and teach here or a program where we can utilize local people to help fill positions."

One of the other six candidates, Gunther Anderson, has said he, too, had been considering a run for office during the last regular election. However, the twice failed school bond referendum and recent changes to Chapter 20 collective bargaining agreements convinced him to seek a spot.

"I was there when negotiations began last time to lend my support to the teachers and now one of the things that has been done is take language that is no longer negotiable from contract into a handbook," Anderson said. "A handbook can be changed at any time and I'd like to be there to be involved in any changes that are made."

He said the new bargaining laws make it difficult for the staff to stay motivated.

"Once I started running, I wanted to make sure I was steeped in the knowledge of the school board. I read the mission statement and it's difficult for me to see teachers being motivated when they are living paycheck to paycheck. We need to make sure we have a staff that has jobs they want to go to everyday."

Anderson and his wife have three children in the district, two in the middle school this year and

one at Lincoln Elementary. He said the district needs a new elementary school because he doesn't feel sending kids home due to excessive heat or teaching them in those environments is the best for the students or the teachers.

"Because I've got three kids in school, I have a vested interest in keeping things taken care of on that end. There's been a couple decisions the community has made lately that I'm concerned with and I want to get my foot in the door."

As the Recording Secretary for the UFCW Local 617 at Pinnacle

Foods, Anderson said he brings a different mindset as a potential board member.

"I'm not saying that no one else has these qualities and just speaking for myself, I've long been of fan of being right, not just thinking I'm right," he said. "If I get information that's different from what I think is right, I'm not the type of person to stick my head in the sand. I would listen to both sides of the discussion to make sure I understand both sides of it."

Holding an executive position with the union at Pinnacle, Anderson said he creates spread-

sheets and makes it a priority to make sure all union members are aware of any changes in wages and benefits during negotiations and he would be willing to do that with board issues as well.

"I wanted to make sure our union had all the information they needed so I created tables to help them understand the changes that were coming with regard to their wages, health insurance, etc. That's something I'm experienced with and would not only be willing to do that with the help of the board, but also would be insistent that it be done," he said.



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Charles Vandenberg, Editor (319).371.1670

editor@pencitycurrent.com

Lee K. Vandenberg, Sales Manager (319).371.4125

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Pen City Current

Founded in 2016



P.O. Box 366 | Fort Madison, IA

Nissa Rung, Advertising (319).520.8953

n.rung@pencitycurrent.com

Shawna Ross, Advertising (319).470.0622

sross@pencitycurrent.com

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

Public Notices/Classifieds

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE
Lee County, Iowa
Board of Supervisors
Regular Meeting
Agenda
DATE: TUESDAY,
August 8, 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, August 1, 2017 Board Minutes Consider Approval of

Claims Claims

Public Input Consider Approval of

Resolution and Application for Traffic Safety Funds for W62 from Highway 27 to 340th Street

Consider Approval of Resolution and Application for Traffic Safety Funds for W62 from 340th Street to Highway 61

Safety Update Consider Approval of Memorandum of Understanding with Sheriffs Union Changing Time Period for Step Increases

Consider Approval of Correction to Personnel Policy's Vacation Accrual Chart Consider Approval of Tax

Abatement Resolution Consider Approval of Class C Liquor License for Boonies Bar & Grill, Fort Madison Personnel:

- A. Change in Position-Community Services
- B. Step Increase-Health Department

Reports:

A. Treasurer's Report of Fees Collected

Commission or Committee Reports Adjourn

PUBLIC MEETING -CITIZENS WELCOME

Workshop to follow

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PUBLIC NOTICE
Lee County
Conservation Board
Meeting Agenda
August 8, 2017
6:00 p.m.

Lee County Conservation Center 2652 Highway 61 Montrose, IA 52639

- 1. Call to order
- 2. Duck hunting rules presentation
 - 3. Public input

This is the time of the meeting that a citizen may address the Board on any matters pertaining to the Lee County Conservation Board. The Board cannot take formal action at the meeting on matters not included on the regular agenda, but may ask the staff to research the matter or have the matter placed on a subsequent agenda.

- 4. Approval of minutes from July 11, 2017
- 5. Approval of August bills
- 6. Approval of financial report

7. Consider approval to install a gate or barrier to prevent vehicle access at all times to Indian Path on the southeast side of HWY 61 near the railroad bridge

- 8. Consider approval to install a gate to restrict vehicle access at Indian Path on the northwest side of HWY 61 during high water, wet conditions, etc.
 - 9. Staff Reports
- 10. Board comments
- 11. Adjournment Next meeting will be September 12, 2017

Hearing and vision assistance available upon request

Citizens are welcome to all LCCB meetings

PUBLIC NOTICE
Meeting Notice
CITY OF
FORT MADISON
Board of Adjustment
Organization
WILL MEET ON
Wednesday, August 9,
2017, 6:00 PM
AT THE Council
Chambers at City Hall 811
Ave E
TO DISCUSS THE
FOLLOWING:
AGENDA

- 1. Roll Call
- 2. Approval of minutes 7/12/17 meeting
- 3. Non-agenda item comments, (if any)
- 4. Case #17-06: Special use Permit to allow for LCD/Message Board sign for Holy Trinity High School at 2600 Ave A facing west.
- 5. Case #17-10: Variances to reduce required side yard setbacks (add additional row of storage units to the south).
- 6. Case #17-11: Special Use Permit for Cottage Business (pet grooming) at 412 24th St.
 - 7. Adjournment

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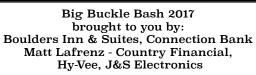




Classic Car













From the Front/Weather

Getting CPR trained could save a life

SWARM - Continued from Page 1

woman lying on the side of the road with a backpack on, and a man waving and apparently giving aid to the woman, he was totally confused. He thought Marilyn must have been a walker or jogger along side the road. When he pulled over, he saw the vehicle in the ditch. Dwight Alvine pointed at the car, indicating that Mathews should check on the driver.

As Mathews approached the vehicle he could see the driver collapsed and unconscious behind the wheel. He ran to the driver's side, but the door was locked. He ran back around to the passenger side and opened the door. Bill Knox looked to be in pretty bad shape, and was gasping for air. Mike Mathews is a dentist and has had CPR training. He felt Bill Knox's carotid artery for a pulse. There was no pulse. He reached over and unlocked the driver's-side door, went back around the car, pulled Bill Knox from the vehicle, and commenced CPR. He had gone through four cycles of CPR, rocks digging into his knees, when the Mt. Pleasant Police arrived with an AED (Automated External Defibrillator.) He helped the policeman place the patches, stood up to relieve his knees, and watched the AED initiate a

Paramedics arrived and took over. Bill Knox was loaded into the ambulance and transported, first to the Henry County Health Center Emergency Room, then to Mercy Hospital in Iowa City. In route to HCHC, paramedics were able to establish a pulse.

Bill Knox was in the hospital six days, and had a defibrillator installed in his chest. He looks to be in pretty good shape now. You would never know he had a heart attack.

Thanks to the quick action of Dwight Alvine, and the CPR of Mike Mathews, which maintained circulation while an ambulance was in route, Bill Knox is alive today. The odds of this happening are about one

Are Dwight Alvine and Mike Mathews heroes? Yes, although they are quick to point out that every person involved was critical to the life-saving effort. Marilyn Knox, even with serious injuries, was able to climb a steep embankment to wave down a passing motorist. Mount Pleasant Police were quick to arrive with an automated defibrillator. The Paramedics from HCHC performed advanced life-saving measures. And the doctors and nurses at Mercy Hospital in Iowa City are expert at handling heart patients. It was a total team effort.

Mike Mathews is adamant about the importance of the public taking CPR training. You can take classes through the fire department, the health department, the Red Cross, wherever, but CPR saves lives. It is critical that first-on-the-scene responders be able to maintain circulation of the victim until advanced life support arrives. You may be able to save the life of a loved one or, like Dwight Alvine and Mike Mathews, a

Marilyn and Bill Knox will celebrate 66 years of marriage in August, thanks to the quick response of a couple of Good Samaritans.

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

Plans already cooking for 2018 RiverFest event

RIVERFEST - Continued from Page 1

sions about the event and we tried to keep the festival in our reader's minds as the event drew closer. But it's the looks on their faces that told the story. Speaking with Charles Thursday night and watching his face light up when I asked him how turnout compared to previous

Craft said it was 20x bigger than the inaugural year of the event. He had a farmer's smile on his face as though he was looking out over a fertile field as people filed in to see Captain Geech in the Entertainment tent. "I couldn't be happier with this turnout," he said. But something tells me he will be happier next year.

Jenny walked around speaking with guests Saturday night between country artist Buddy Jewell and Fort Madison native Shawn Moss, who, (if you didn't get a chance to hear him, you missed something), spoke for real when he told me it was unfortunate Garth Brooks was Garth Brooks first, because this guy is Garth Brooks.

Walking the grounds, and I'm not exaggerating here, I rarely went 20 minutes without seeing Rusty Andrews milling about making sure his priorities were being monitored.

I spoke with a lot of parents, aunts and uncles about the event and they all indicated they were happy that it was brought back this year and indicated they would be returning as long as the town kept having it.

Bob Smith, a former Fort Madison resident said he loved coming to the event because it captured small town American with a big venue feel and he would continue to come down to the event, because he loved the "beer tent" mentality mixed in with bigger city acts.

Plans are already underway for the 2018 event and although nothing is set in stone, Craft and Co. are kicking around lots of marketing ideas such as a national rock band, pickleball tournaments and dragon boat racing. They even had one of the boats in the entertainment venue this year. If you haven't ever competed in dragon-boat racing, I would encourage you to start working out now. That'll work the shoulders but it's a hell of a lot of fun.

Doug and Shanna Krogmeier put on the RiverFest Games and had people playing intense sand volleyball, throwing bags in holes and running all over the Riverfront area.

The committee is genuinely trying to find something for everyone and is getting pretty close to hitting the nail on the head. Thanks folks for a job well done...again.

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TUE 08 Aug



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WED 09 Aug



High - 75.5° F | Low - 58.2° F



High - 80.9° F | Low - 65.8° F

FRI 11 Aug



Heavy Intensity Rain High - 68.3° F | Low - 68.3° F

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