



# Pen City Current

Friday, January 26, 2018 | 8 pages | Volume 2 • Issue 36

## Budding artists show off fall work

BY CHUCK  
VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - A Saturday reception at the Fort Madison Area Artists Association showcasing the fall artwork of local elementary students was standing room only for the first hour.

The west side of the gallery was loaded from the ceiling to the floor with classroom fall art projects of students from the Fort Madison public, Central Lee, and Holy Trinity Catholic elementary schools.

FMAAA Director Brian Riggs hung the art projects vertically with each class' respective art works hanging from the top off all the walls in the gallery clear to the floor. "I think this is the most we've ever had," Riggs said. "I think the most before was like 450 or 500, but this year I had to find room to hang about 700 pieces. It's just a great showing and a great representation of what's going on in the art classes



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Donnellson's Katie Koller and Madison, a kindergartner at Central Lee, look up at the works of art hung at the Fort Madison Area Artist Association's Budding Artist exhibit as part of the reception for the work on Saturday afternoon.

of our area schools.

The January exhibit is not judged, but when the students get into high school, FMAAA gives a month exhibit for those grade levels and those showing are judged with ribbons and prizes.

The FMAAA reserves that part of the gallery every January to show the work of the kids for the

1st semester.

"This is just a great example of what's being taught at these grade levels and the dedication to art education by Katie Price and Amy Hellige at Fort Madison schools, Ann Canida and Jaime Jones from Central Lee, and Lois DePrima and Steve Rung at Holy Trinity Catholic," Riggs said.

"You get to see the variations in the teachings and the skills of the kids. It's really a neat exhibit that we get to do each year."

Riggs said the Saturday reception, which ran from 2 to 4 p.m. and for the first hour or so it was standing room only as parents came down to the event to find their children's school work

## Tourism board cuts funds to NLCHS, FMAAA

*3.5 hour meeting gets a bit heated at moments*

BY CHUCK  
VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - The board overseeing city hotel/motel tax revenues, slashed the contributions received by the historical society and the city art's group.

After a marathon meeting that lasted more than 3.5 hours Tuesday, the Fort Madison Tourism Commission voted to cut contributions from the city's hotel and motel tax funds to the North Lee County Historical Society by close to \$7,000 and the Fort Madison Area Artist Association by about \$5,000.

ANDREWS

Mayor Brad Randolph, who chairs the commission, then recommended to move the funds plus \$1,000 to part-time City Tourism Director Jean Peiton's budget.

The moves leave the NLCHS with a 6% contribution from the funds generated off a tax on hotel and motel stays in the city with a cap of \$12,000. The group

was previously receiving 9 percent of the funds or just over \$19,000 per year. That percent was not capped, as for the previous five or six years the fund had more

money due to Iowa Fertilizer Plant construction workers taking up beds while the facility was being built.

The FMAAA, represented by Director Brian Riggs, was also cut, but not as steep, with the commission agreeing to a 7.5% contribution or \$15,000 max.

Andy Andrews, representing the NLCHS, and councilman Rusty Andrews who serves as the group's treasurer, battled the commission for close to an hour over the contribution rate. The commission has clear intentions of moving the funds being allocated to groups away from support of brick and mortar operational expenses to costs associated with advertising and marketing tourism events.

Andrews showed expenses just under \$700

See **TOURISM**, page 3



RANDOLPH



## Service groups cook up run for Test Kitchen

*Night run 5K set for April 7*

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - Three city service clubs are planning a spring 5K run with proceeds to benefit the Elliott Test Kitchen in Fort Madison.

Shirley Hoenig, who's helping spearhead the event for the Fort Madison Kiwanis Club said Kiwanis looked at the idea last year, but volunteer numbers were a bit down.

"We came up with the idea over a year ago because the



Burlington Kiwanis group was having great success with their Color Run," Hoenig said. We thought we could do it ourselves but the volunteer numbers weren't there so this year we decided to reach out to the Fort Madi-

See **GLO**, page 8

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## Local News/Current-Lee

### CURRENT-LEE

LEE COUNTY – Raffle tickets for Lee County Pheasants Forever 25 Gun Raffle are available from any club member or at the banquet. Tickets are \$10 each and are limited to 3,000. The raffle will be held during the chapter's annual banquet on February 24, 2018. Proceeds from the raffle are used to support the Tri-State Young Guns and Fort Madison Clay Crushers High School Trap Shooting Teams. For more information about the raffle, go to <http://www.leecountypf.org/raffles/>.



Pen City Current will list your event in this highly visible CURRENT-LEE section in increments of 25 words for \$15. Add a photo for \$5. Non-profit organizations are eligible for the reduced rate of \$10 per 25 words and \$3 per photo. To place your listing, click here or call Lee at (319)371.4125.

### For the Record

<p><b>Fort Madison Police Report</b></p> <p>01/24/18 - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 1700 block of Avenue B.</p> <p>01/24/18 - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 5200 block of River Valley Road.</p> <p><b>Lee County Sheriff's Report</b></p> <p>01/24/18 - 8:57 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Justin Allan Dennis,</p>	<p>24, of Wayland, at the Lee County Sheriff's office, on a charge of disorderly conduct. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.</p> <p>01/25/18 - 12:53 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Jason Michael Dye, 39, of Keokuk, in the 3900 block of Valley Road in Keokuk, on two counts of possession of a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia, no proof of insurance, fraudulent use of registration and driving under suspension. He was taken to</p>	<p>the Lee County Jail and held.</p> <p><i>Those listed above are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.</i></p> <p><b>Fort Madison Fire &amp; Rescue report</b></p> <p>01/24/18 - Fort Madison firefighters responded to one assist and two medical calls. All persons in these listings are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.</p>
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## Potowonok Circle donates to Christmas for Teens



Courtesy photo

Submitted article

FORT MADISON - The Potowonok Circle of Kings Daughters, represented by Kate Lamb, left, was happy to present a check to Kelli Metcalf, who represents Christmas for Teens. This money was used to gift 75 teens with gift cards. The Potowonok Circle is proud to help this organization make Christmas brighter for the teens identified by the committee. For more information on the group you can visit them on [Facebook](#).

# Two heads are better than one.



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Volunteers are needed in Iowa counties of Lee, Henry, Van Buren, Des Moines and in Illinois counties of Hancock & Henderson.



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Founded in 2016



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## From the Front

# Savings put into city tourism budget

**TOURISM** - Continued from Page 1

for advertising and marketing on the group's 2017 financial statement.

"When you show us you're only spending \$700 on advertising and marketing and you have \$96,000 in the bank, how do I justify giving you another \$19,000," Randolph asked Andrews.

"If you're gonna just look at advertising costs, you can't," Andrews said.

The meeting was a continuation of an October meeting where both the NLCHS and the FMAAA were taken to task over murky financial statements, with both funding requests being tabled until Tuesday night's meeting.

Rusty Andrews challenged Randolph saying that the funds have always been used for operational costs since the commission was founded and changing that now would be pulling the rug out from under the group. Andrews also said the city itself uses funds for costs not associated with advertising, including using the city's portion of the tax pool on the new depot.



WRIGHT

City Manager David Varley then asked the commission how they wanted the city to set up paying the new structure when the city hadn't yet appropriated the funds. Commission member Julie Hellman, who's in her first year on the board, asked how it was a problem this time and not previous years. Rusty Andrews showed that it was a technicality in the bylaws of the commission. The conversation, which got heated at times between Varley and Randolph, resulted in the groups being asked to come in March, when the city works up its annual fiscal budget, to make their funding request at that time.

"I don't want you to ask me a question, I want you to give me an answer," Randolph said to Varley. "Going forward....how do we do this to avoid this technicality."

Varley said having the groups come to the commission to request funding in March or April, as the city's preparing its budget, would work better.

Riggs said he's doing more marketing and advertising FMAAA than the historical society is and it's time for a separation in funding amounts. Since the formation of the commission, the two groups have been funded equally.

Newest commission member Brian Wright asked Riggs how much money he spent in 2017 on advertising and marketing. Riggs said he couldn't put an amount on it because a lot of his event line items are listed as a sum profit or loss, which he said were all profitable. However, Riggs said if he had to guess, he would say \$10,000 to \$15,000 last year. He said his marketing entailed post cards, some radio, some newspaper advertising, postage, and his time.



VARLEY

Wright said he could see a difference in Riggs' marketing efforts for the FMAAA compared to the historical society. Commission member Lori Illner recommended keeping the contribution rate for the FMAAA the same, saying they were more of a cultural entity and not historical and they were using the money properly.

Randolph said it was important to remember before the fertilizer plant construction, the 9 percent represented less than \$10,000 for some years and what's happening now is a correction of sorts.

He recommended the \$12,000 savings, plus an extra \$1,000, be put into Peiton's budget bringing the tourism budget to \$35,000 from its current \$22,000. The recommendation also included bumping the current year's budget by \$13,000. He said Peiton has already secured six bus tours through the city this year and wanted to bump the budget to keep that momentum going.

In other action, the commission heard a request from Jadi Zioui, the owner of the Parthenon Restaurant, who was looking for funding to construct a step-up stage in the Parthenon to host local talent shows and to produce videos highlighting Fort Madison's history and points of interest. Her funding request was denied by the board.

The commission also heard reports from Charles Craft, co-chair of the rejuvenated Riverfest summer festival. Craft said the group has added dragon boat races and will feature national acts of the level of Steamboat Days. That lineup will be revealed at Kinnick South on March 10.

Fort Madison Partners Director Tim Gobble also reported on the disappointing turnout of the King Kat catfish tournament held last summer and said that he wouldn't be recommending a funding request for the tournament again this year.

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## Sports/Lottery Numbers

# Bloodhounds trying to solve Panther puzzle

**BY CHUCK VANDENBERG**  
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - The Bloodhound boys basketball team has lost seven straight to Southeast Conference rival Mt. Pleasant since the 2014-15 season.

Earlier this year, the Panthers handed Fort

Madison a 62-38 loss at the Hound-Dome, after two consecutive seasons of sweeps. Both of the seasons saw the Panthers end the Hounds post-season run.

The Hounds' Treavor James-Kokjohn leads the state in Class 3A in rebounding with 14.3 per game and is second in the

state overall behind Brady Gavin of Martensville-St. Mary's who's at 16.4 per outing, but Head Coach Ryan Wilson said James-Kokjohn will also have to score early if the Hounds are to have a chance to win.

"We've got to get Treavor going early," Wilson said. "He's been a huge

part of what we've done this year. We'll need him to rebound and we're going to need him to score early as well. We almost have to be perfect to beat them. Mt. Pleasant is a very disciplined, well-coached basketball team. They play hard, they look to push and get you out of comfort zone."

The Panthers' senior Brady Sartorius is leading the conference in scoring at 22.6 points per game and is second in Class 3A behind Zach Lester at 30.7. James-Kokjohn is second at 15.9 each time out. But the records

would point to a pretty even game. Sartorius and fellow senior Jordan Magnani combine for 30.2 points per game, but James-Kokjohn and senior teammate Kaleb Cresswell combine for 30.5 points per outing.

Junior point guard Logan Rashid who slipped into double figures for the first time this year after last week's 23-point performance against Holy Trinity. He had 14 Tuesday in Fort Madison's win over Clark County.

The biggest accomplishment of Tuesday's win, despite a win over

the No. 4 team in Class 3 in Missouri, was the teamwork and support the team showed. At times, the Hounds can be heard being critical of each other on the floor, but in Tuesday's win the on-court support of each other was seen and heard on the floor and from the bench.

"When we play together, we're all on the same page," Wilson said. "When we don't spend that extra effort getting after each other, things tend to go a lot better for us."

See PANTHERS, page 5



## 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

**1/25**  
8 9 31 43 45  
Lucky Ball: 6

**1/25 MID-DAY**  
2 7 3  
**1/25 EVENING**  
2 8 2

**1/25 MID-DAY**  
6 9 4 5  
**1/25 EVENING**  
6 5 3 3



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

FMHS junior Logan Rashid, shown here in earlier action this year against Burlington Notre Dame, will be called on to help lead the Bloodhounds in an attempt to snap a 7-game losing streak to the Mt. Pleasant Panthers on Friday night on the road.

Pen City Current encourages you to play responsibly.

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Chuck & Kayla

## Sports

# Steffensmeier sets new school record

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON - FMHS senior wrestler Harlan Steffensmeier broke the school record on Thursday night with a forfeit win and a pin over Luca Tornatore of Kirksville in just 1:04 to lead Fort Madison to a sweep at the Hound-Dome.

The Hounds knocked off Centerville 56-17 and Kirksville 48-17 at a home three-way, dual meets Thursday night in Fort Madison to highlight high school wrestling action.

No Hounds got two pins on the night, but the Hounds took advantage of seven forfeits on the night. Senior Ryan Steffensmeier got the quickest pin of the night at 126 lbs putting Centerville's Tyler Starr to the mat in just :13. Elton Kruse recorded two wins on the night with a pin of Caden Sales of Centerville at 1:36 and then dumped Kirksville's Logan Blickhan in a 3-0 decision.

The Hounds travel to Fairfield Saturday for the conference tournament and then travel to Burlington on Feb. 1, before state qualifying on Feb. 10.

A complete listing of the final results of Thursday's match is listed below

Fort Madison (FOMA) 56.00 Centerville (CENT) 17.00  
 160: Keaton Poe (FOMA) over (CENT) (For.) 170: Chance Hocker (FOMA) over Ryan Currington (CENT) (TF 15-0 4:31) 182: Nic Jewett (CENT) over Lennon Barker (FOMA) (Fall 5:07) 195: Alex Lauber (FOMA) over Kameron Flick (CENT) (Fall 0:39) 220: Danen Settles (FOMA) over Cole Cooper (CENT) (Dec 3-0) 285: Dalton Mabeus (FOMA) over Michael Currington (CENT) (Fall 2:51) 106: Elton Kruse (FOMA) over Caden Sales (CENT) (Fall 1:36) 113: Mason Schau (FOMA) over (CENT) (For.) 120: Dayne Cordray (FOMA) over Chris Bowen (CENT) (Fall 0:18) 126: Ryan Steffensmeier (FOMA) over Tyler Starr (CENT) (Fall 0:13) 132: Gage Moorman (CENT) over Nathan Steffensmeier (FOMA) (TF 19-1 4:39) 138: Nolan Bogle (CENT) over Will Larson (FOMA) (Dec 7-4) 145: Tiger Terpstra (CENT) over Aaron Steffensmeier (FOMA) (Dec 5-2) 152: Harlan Steffensmeier (FOMA) over (CENT) (For.)

Fort Madison (FOMA) 48.00 Kirksville (KIRKSVIL) 17.00  
 145: Aaron Steffensmeier (FOMA) over Morgan Wilcox (KIRKSVIL) (Fall 1:05) 152: Harlan Steffensmeier (FOMA) over Luca Tornatore (KIRKSVIL) (Fall 1:04) 160: Zack Nugent (KIRKSVIL) over Keaton Poe (FOMA) (MD 10-2) 170: Chance Hocker (FOMA) over (KIRKSVIL) (For.) 182: Lennon Barker (FOMA) over Reed Athon (KIRKSVIL) (Fall 0:59) 195: Alex Lauber (FOMA) over (KIRKSVIL) (For.) 220: Colton Gillespie (KIRKSVIL) over Danen Settles (FOMA) (Dec 7-2) 285: Dalton Mabeus (FOMA) over (KIRKSVIL) (For.) 106: Elton Kruse (FOMA) over Logan Blickhan (KIRKSVIL) (Dec 3-0) 113: Luther Evans (KIRKSVIL) over Mason Schau (FOMA) (Dec 10-9) 120: Dayne Cordray (FOMA) over Donovan Gaines (KIRKSVIL) (Dec 7-2) 126: Ryan Steffensmeier (FOMA) over (KIRKSVIL) (For.) 132: Dylan Treasure (KIRKSVIL) over Nathan Steffensmeier (FOMA) (Dec 9-7) 138: Blake Howard (KIRKSVIL) over Will Larson (FOMA) (MD 11-0)

In junior varsity action Martin Vineyard won in sudden victory 7-5 and Jared Settles lost in a 3-1 decision to Centerville's Ethan Messmaker, both at 160 lbs.

# Hounds need top play for win

**PANTHERS** - Continued from Page 4

Back on Dec. 15, the Panthers came to Fort Madison and slapped a 38-62 win on the Hounds, the seventh win in a row for Mt. Pleasant. Wilson said the second half got away from the Hounds, but if you factor out a seven-point turnaround spurred by a technical in the first quarter, the game would have been three points at the half.

"We've always struggled to score against them to be completely honest," Wilson said. "We need to score some more points, give ourselves a shot and we've got to match their intensity. I'm not afraid or worried about a high scoring game, we can run, too."

He also said trying to get some penetration off the

dribble from Rashid and senior Sheymouhr Redd-Donald, who's been scrappy of late in the lane and helping get the ball back out to the perimeter where Rashid, Cresswell, and 6th man Brandon Keester can all heat up at any time.

"When we get in the lane it opens everything up and allows us to score in many different ways and finish at the rim. But they play help defense so well it's tough to get to those inside places."

The 11-4 Hounds have won five straight and eight of their last nine. Play starts at 4:45 Friday with a junior varsity game prior to the varsity game. The Hounds travel to Central Lee on Saturday to round out the

## Iowa DNR Fishing Report - Week of Jan. 25

### SOUTHEAST

#### Big Hollow Lake

Use extreme caution if you are going out this weekend, especially around the edges. They are starting to lose ice pretty fast now. Bluegill - Fair: Anglers are still picking up some nice bluegills out in the flooded timber and to the right of the boat ramp. Black Crappie - Slow: The crappies have been pretty hit and miss. One day you can catch them while the next day you aren't sure they even exist.

#### Lake Belva Deer

Bring your rubber boots, the top of the ice is getting sloppy. Bluegill - Fair: Work the creek channel out in the flooded trees. Black Crappie - Good: Anglers are still picking up crappies out along the creek channel in the flooded timber.

#### Lake Darling

Warm weather at the end of this week will not be good for ice conditions. As of Jan. 25, ice is roughly 6 inches thick; lots of water and slush on top. Bluegill - Fair: Bluegills are still down near the bottom in 10 to 12 foot of water. Fish near the habitat and you can still find them. Black Crappie - Good: Work the habitat in 10 to 12 feet of water; it will take a while, but you can still catch a nice batch.

#### Lake Geode

The lake is drained for renovation.

#### Lost Grove Lake

Ice conditions are still pretty good as of Jan. 25. Don't look for them to be near as good by the end of the weekend. Black Crappie - Good: They are still out in 20 to 25 foot of water. Drill a few holes out around the trees and you can still find a nice batch of crappies.

For more information on the above lakes and rivers, contact the Lake Darling Fisheries Office at 319-694-2430.

#### Mississippi River Pool 19

Tailwater stage is 4.04 feet at Lock and Dam 18 above Burlington and has risen close to a foot the past couple days. Tailwater stage is forecast to reach 5.5 feet by next week. We received reports that the ramps in Burlington and Tama Beach were still frozen in. With the rising water levels and warm temperatures, there are unsafe ice conditions.

The main channel has been opening up and there has been some tailwater fishing the past few days. Tailwater stages have been rising the past few days. With the rising river levels and warm temperatures, there are unsafe ice conditions. If you have questions on fishing Pools 16-19, contact the Fairport Fish Hatchery at 563-263-5062.

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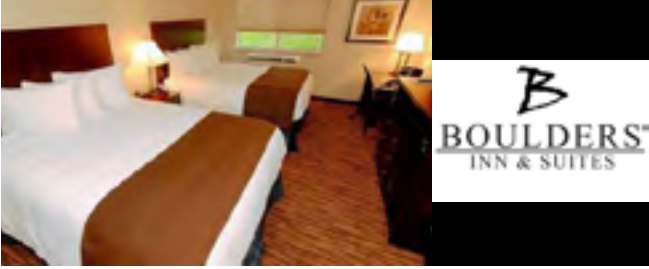
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**From the Front/Weather**


**5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST**

**FRI 26 Jan**  
 Light Rain  
 High- 50.6° F | Low - 42.5° F

**SAT 27 Jan**  
 Clear Skies  
 High- 45.8° F | Low - 26.3° F

**SUN 28 Jan**  
 Clear Skies  
 High- 36.0° F | Low - 31.9° F

**MON 29 Jan**  
 Clear Skies  
 High - 31.5° F | Low - 16.9° F

**TUE 30 Jan**  
 Light Rain  
 High- 48.1° F | Low - 32.9° F

[OpenWeatherMap](#)

**Sponsors still sought for April 7 Glo Crazy Run**

**GLO** - Continued from Page 1

son Lions Club and Fort Madison Rotary and they were open to the idea.”

Now a committee of about 10 people, including members of both Fort Madison Kiwanis and Fort Madison Lions, are making plans for the event. Fort Madison Rotary is planning on sending manpower to the event on April 7th beginning at the Baxter Sports Complex.

The run will take place at 8 p.m. that Saturday and will begin and end at



en was one of those items so we thought this would be a good way to continue funding that effort.”

She said she hopes that it becomes an annual event with funding continuing to go to Elliott Test Kitchen.

“I think it needs to be an annual event with funding going to the Test Kitchen for as long as it’s here to help our students,” Hoenig said.

The Test Kitchen was formed by former restaurateur Kumar Wickramasingha as a joint effort to help students with educational assistance along the lines of homework and test preparation such as ACT and SATs. In addition, groups of students cook meals for the other students during learning times as well as during community events held at the Test Kitchen location.

the sports complex and will run along Phase 1 and 2 of the Fort Madison. P.O.R.T. trail.

Hoenig said the committee is hoping for 100 to 150 runners for the inaugural 5K run called Glo Crazy for Education. Registration information will be made available in the coming weeks and anyone wishing to be a sponsor of the event

is encouraged to contact Hoenig at 319-470-2564 or Chuck Vandenberg at 319-371-1670.

Kiwanis used to make an annual contribution but in reviewing the 2017-18 budget cuts had to make.

“We started working on the budget this year for the 2017-18 year and we had to cut some funding and the Elliott Test Kitch-

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