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### **SPORTS:**

No. 4 HTC girls bounce No. 9 New London in three straight at home Monday.

See page 4

# Pen City Current

Tuesday, Sept. 11, 2018 | 8 pages | Volume 2 • Issue 205

## West Point looking for new council member

Code requires Bales to resign after purchasing home outside city limits

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

WEST POINT - West Point city officials are looking for someone to step in and serve on the council for at least one year.

At Monday's regular meeting of the West Point City Council, Mayor Paul Walker accepted the resignation of Councilman Shawn Bales, who's moving out of the city limits and can no longer serve on the council according to city code.

Bales told the council it has been his family's dream to own a home in the country and his family has purchased a home in a rural part of the country, but it requires him to step off the council.

"I've thoroughly enjoyed these past three years working along side all of you to ensure that West Point continues to be a strong and vibrant community," Bales said reading from a prepared statement. "West Point has many exciting projects in the near future and I firmly believe with the leadership the city has right

now the city will drive forward as strong as ever."

Walker said he was sorry to see Bales go, but was happy he was able to realize his dream of a country home.

The city will now enter a 60-day window to replace him on the council.

"We're going to ask citizens to come forward and we'll to start advertise for that and then cut it off the Friday before our next council meeting," Walker said. "At that point of time if we get one, two or three people or whatever, the Policy and Administration committee will have interviews with the candidates and then we'll have a special meeting before the October meeting so we can appoint someone at that time."

State code also provides for a petition process where a resident can petition the city with the required number of signatures to hold an election for the vacant seat.

"This window also gives someone 60 days to petition



Courtesy pho

West Point Mayor Paul Walker presents former City Administrator Gary Menke with a certificate of appreciation for his years helping lead the city.

the city for a special election. That election would cost about \$4,000," Walker said. "If a petition is received, the city, at that point, would not be permitted to appoint someone."

See COUNCIL, page 8

### Officials shoring up cybersecurity leading to elections

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - With fall elections about seven weeks away, Lee County officials are taking steps to ensure that county voters feel safe about the integrity of their ballots.

Nikki Sugars, the county's election administrator, said the county has gone over and above state recommendations to ensure that Lee County voter information and

ballots are kept secure.

"Since the 2016 presidential election, elections have been redesignated as critical infrastructure so there's federal funds to help secure the elections process," she said Monday afternoon.

"So basically we've been doing all this server security planning, and firming everything up. We've been working with Luann Schmitt, the county information technology coordinator, to make sure our firewalls are protecting our servers."

Sugars said last year the staff at the Lee County Auditor's office went through cybersecurity training, which was done online through the Secretary of State's office, but this year the focus was on the rest of Lee County employees who have access to county servers to complete the training.

She said the Iowa Secretary of State's office has provided all counties with processes they need to go through before the upcoming elections to raise voter confidence in Iowa elections.

"We've got a list of things the Secretary of State's office has given us that, in a snapshot, shows the processes we need to go through to raise voter confidence," she said, "We've always had the same processes with paper ballots and ballot security, but now we have different initiatives we have to meet before this next election."

See **ELECTIONS**, page 8

### Missouri sorghum gets state warning

BY PCC STAFF

DES MOINES - The Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH), the Johnson County Public Health Department, and the Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals (DIA) today issued a consumer advisory for sorghum made by Ozark Country Sorghum in Dunnegan, Missouri. Laboratory tests conducted by the State Hygienic Laboratory (SHL) at the University of Iowa indicate the product has "extremely high nitrate levels, which can be hazardous especially if consumed by infants and children," DIA Food and Consumer Safety Bureau Chief Steven Mandernach said.

IDPH and Johnson County health officials are investigating two cases of possible methemoglobinemia associated with the consumption of this sorghum. "The bottom line is that no one should eat this product," said IDPH Medical Director, Dr. Caitlin Pedati. "If you have it in your kitchen, you should throw it away."

Consumers who have purchased Pure Missouri Ozark Country Sorghum should throw it out. The sorghum is packaged in one pint and one quart jars and may be available at grocery stores, specialty retail stores, and country stores, or available from online suppliers. Consumers should not return the product to the store.

### Advertiser Index

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### **Business News/Celebrations**

### Celebrations

### **GRACYN VIRGINIA KRAUS**

FORT MADISON - Abi Kraus and Chris Arnold, of Nauvoo, are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Gracyn Virginia Kraus, on Sept 3, 2018 at the Fort Madison Community Hospital.

She joins sister Sawyer Kraus at home.

Grandparents are Shelly and Kory Kraus of Monticello, Ill.; Tracy Arnold of Hamilton, Ill.; and Bill Arnold of Montrose. Great-grandparents are Sam Nicol of Nauvoo, Ill.; and Ed Land of Hamilton, Ill.

Pen City Current congratulates the family on this wonderful news.

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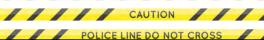
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### **For the Record/Lottery Numbers**

### For the Record

#### **Fort Madison** Police Report

09/07/18 - 8:09 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 2000 block of 303rd Avenue. 09/07/18 - 10:43 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 3900 block of Bluff Road. 09/07/18 - 10:57 a.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Douglas Alan McPherson, Jr., 37 of Fort Madison in the 3100 block of Avenue O, on a warrant out of Des Moines County for failure to appear. He was taken to Lee County Jail and held. 09/07/18 - 11:43 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 900 block of Avenue H. 09/08/18 - 2:07 a.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Alexander Kelly, 46, of Fort Madison in the 1500 block of Avenue M, on a charge of driving while barred (habitual offender). He was released on a promise to appear. 09/08/18 - 11:28 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a stolen bicycle in the 1800 block Avenue F. 09/08/18 - 12:32 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 2000 block of 303rd Avenue 09/08/18 - 12:59 p.m. - Fort

Madison Police arrested Stoney Keelan Morse, 27, of Fort Madison in the 1500 block of Avenue M, on a charge of trespassing. He was taken to Lee County Jail and released on a promise to appear. 09/08/18 - 2:26 p.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Sarah. S. Stuber, 41, of Fort Madison in the 2600 block of Avenue I. on a warrant for probation violation out of Wisconsin. She was taken to the Lee County Jail and held. 09/08/18 - 4:37 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a hit and run in the 1100 block of Avenue E. 09/09/18 - 1:19 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 2000 block of 303rd Avenue. 09/09/18 - 9:42 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a gas drive off in the 1700 block of Avenue H. 09/08/18 - 9:44 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 500 block of Avenue D.

#### Lee County Sheriff's Report

09/06/18 - 7:08 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a one-vehicle accident on State Route 16 where a vehicle driven by Edward Lynn Dora, 80 of Muscatine, hydro-

planed on slippery roads and lost control. No injuries or citations were issued at the scene. 09/07/18 - 8:46 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Kalifa Ayana Mae Devon McCaleb, 19, of Fort Madison at the sheriff's office, on a warrant for failure to appear. She was released on her own recognizance. 09/07/18 - 10:46 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Jordin Rod Dale Snowden, 25, of Montrose in the 700 block of Avenue F in Fort Madison on a court-ordered hold. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and released on a transfer. 09/07/18 - 5:35 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Cory Jacob Porter, 24, of Fort Madison, at the intersection of 18th Avenue and Abel Road in Donnellson, on two warrants for failure to appear and one charge of possession of drug paraphernalia. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and released on a transfer. 09/07/18 - 6:58 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Cody Scott Glasgow, 27, of Montrose at the sheriff's office on a judgment entry. He was released for time served. 09/08/18 - no time listed - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Darryl Keith Atkins, Jr., 34, of Burlington at Wever Junction on a warrant for contempt of court. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and released on his own recognizance. 09/08/18 - 11:42 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Matthew Morris Traman, 42, of Fort Madison at the sheriff's office on a judgment entry warrant. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held. 09/09/18 - 4:04 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Shawn Issac Jobe. 39. of Keokuk in the 3300 block of 276th Avenue in Keokuk on charges of possession of a controlled substance, and possession of drug paraphernalia. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held. 09/09/18 - 10:08 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Dwight Lee Glasgow, 56, of Denning Street in Houghton on charge of possessing stolen money. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held. 09/10/18 - 5:27 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Scott Wesley Joseph Lynch, 39, of Donnellson, in the 2400 block of 235th Avenue in Donnellson, on a warrant for probation violation. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.

#### Fort Madison Fire & **Rescue Report**

09/07/18 - Fort Madison firefighters responded to four medical calls and one false alarm 09/08/18 - Fort Madison firefighters responded to two medical calls

firefighters responded to three medical calls, one burn complaint and one smoke detector malfunction



# of Houghton, in the 300 block 09/09/18 - Fort Madison Relay For Life of North Lee County

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| Lotto America <sup>™</sup>          | Wed & Sat      | 8:59 pm                 | 10:00 pm                   |
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### Charles Vandenberg, Editor (319).371.1670

editor@pencitycurrent.com

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

sales@pencitycurrent.com

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### **Pen City Current**

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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

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### **Sports**

# Holy Trinity girls sweep No. 9 New London

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG

PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - The 4th-ranked HTC Crusaders fought off the tenacious defense of New London in a three-set sweep Monday night in girls volleyball action.

The Crusaders were coming off a 10-day break during the Tri-State Rodeo and took the court for only the second time this year and rolled to a 25-13, 25-21, 25-23 win. HTC's other win was a three-set sweep of Danville back on August 11th.

The Tigers jumped five places in last week's Iowa High School Girls Athletic Union rankings from 14 to 9 with a 9-1 record with their only loss coming at the hands of Davenport Assumption 0-2.

HTC Head Coach Melissa Freesmeier said the Crusaders knew New London was solid defensively and the girls would have to be patient.

"New London was defensively sound as we knew that they would be," she said. "They're game-ready and this is our match number two. I just think today we look at it and see where we need to work and we get better. But it's just a matter of getting game-ready. We don't play against each other in practice, we drill."

Senior Erin Anderson got HTC going in the first game serving to a 10-1 run with senior Emily Box being able to overcome New London's blocking scheme with five kills in the run. A serve that went left out ended the run. New London would outscore the Crusaders 7-5 over the next 12 points, but the Tigers would only score three of its first seven points offensively with the rest coming off Holy Trinity errors.

Anderson got back-to-back kills at 15-7 and 16-7 and Claire Pothitakis made it three in a row with her kill at 17-7. Holy Trinity would keep the 10-point gap through the first set with Box getting two more kills and a big block at 24-13. New London ended the game with a net error at 25-13.

New London rebounded to make the next two sets competitive. Box had a kill to start HTC up 1-0 but a long attack from senior Taylor Boeding tied it at one. The two teams traded points until a Tigers' attack went long to give the Crusaders a 6-3 lead.

HTC would push that lead to 10-6 when Pothitakis got another kill from her outside post. Anderson would miss on her next serve, one of only two on the night by the Crusaders, and New London would





Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Freshman Kassi Randolph throws an assist behind her that would find its way over the net in the first set of the Crusaders' 3-set sweep of 9th ranked New London.

then go on a 10-7 run that tied the set at 17 when the Tigers' junior Addy Pry scored a kill from the center. New London would then take its first lead of the night when Anderson missed on an attack. Sophomore Katie Denning came back with a kill on the next point to even things back up at 18.

Anderson then recorded back-to-back aces to give HTC some breathing room at 20-18, but a defensive error and long attack from Denning tied it back at up at 20.

Box would re-enter on rotation and took things over with three kills in the next five points to give HTC the second set 25-21.

At 16-13, with Box on the sidelines in a rotation, Freesmeier chatted her up a bit.

"I just told her to be patient, do the little things and help the younger kids out," Freesmeier said "She's a competitor and she's driven and sometimes she gets amped up. But geesh, she did great tonight with 19 kills in three matches - you can't get better than that and she played some good back row, too."

Box finished the night with 19 kills in 39 attacks with only three errors.

The third set was an extended affair. The Tigers would never have a lead in the set, but stayed within three points the entire way and got within one point seven different times and had one tie at 5-5. Pothi-

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takis had two kills at 10-6 and 11-7, but the Tigers' senior Kristen Rohdy ended a point for New London to get to 9-11. The two would trade points again until 15-13 when HTC got caught with four hits and the set was again within 1 at 15-14.

Rohdy erred on her next serve and then Box led the Crusaders on four straight capped by an Anderson kill at 19-14. New London would string together a 3-point run of its own to close the gap to 19-17, but Anderson would end another point at the net and kill the run at 20-17 HTC.

The Crusaders would keep a two to three-point lead until an error by Denning at the net closed the gap to 1 at 23-22. Anderson would get a kill on the next New London serve. The Tigers would counter to make it a one point, game, but Box ended the night with a kill at 25-23.

Freesmeier said she expected the match to be tough for scoring.

"I expected what they gave us. Box and Claire and Erin had some great shots and they dug 'em up and we knew that was going to happen. But those are the fun matches and the ones that get us ready going forward," she said.

Pothitakis was second on the team in kills with 10 on the night. The sophomore is in her first year playing regularly with the varsity.

"Melissa was getting on us the week before rodeo to keep working hard together, and with Kassi (Randolph) being our new setter that has helped a lot, but it's been hard adjusting from Maya (Rashid) being gone, but we've been doing okay so far," Pothitakis said after the match.

Freesmeier said having her do well on the outside made it tough on the Tigers to throw up blocks.

"That's a big thing for us to have an outside come and play like that in her debut," she said. "We had three hitters to go at them and it was tough to keep that blocking defense in. Having her on the outside really helped us."

She said the runs New London was able to get were a result of the Crusaders trying to do too much.

"When they got on a run, we were trying to do too much and we just needed to settle in and do what we need to do to keep them off balance."

Randolph, just a freshman, finished with 24 assists on the night. Anderson led the Crusaders with 24-25 serving with four aces, seven digs, and a block. Taylor Boeding and Elyse Pothitakis led the Crusaders defensively with 14 and 12 digs, respectively. Box had four blocks.

Holy Trinity travels to Burlington Notre Dame on Tuesday before hosting Van Buren Thursday. They then travel to a Keokuk invitational on Saturday.

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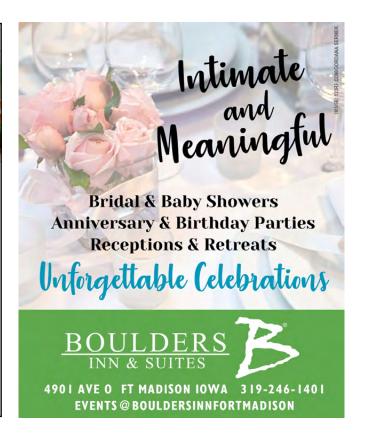


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### **PUBLIC** NOTICES

**PUBLIC NOTICE** Lee County, Iowa **Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting** Agenda **DATE: TUESDAY, September 11, 2018 MEETING CONVENING TIME:** 9:00 A.M. LOCATION: **Correctional Center** 2530 255th Street, Montrose, IA **AGENDA** 

Pledge of Allegiance Approve Agenda 9:01 a.m. Public Hearing for Amendment of Fiscal Year 2019 Budget

Consider Approval of Resolution Amending Fiscal Year 2019 Budget

Consider Approval of Appropriations Resolution Consider Approval of September 4, 2018 Board Minutes

Consider Approval of Claims

Public Input

Consider Approval of Tax **Abatement Resolution** 

Consider Approval of Special Class C Liquor License for Hawkeye Restaurant 340th Street Keokuk Personnel Actions:

A. New Hire-Health Department (Replacement)

tee Reports

Adjourn

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### From the Front/Weather

### Fraise says voters have nothing to fear with voting machines

**ELECTIONS** - Continued from Page 1

Some of the initiatives include cyber security workshops that Sugars said the staff has completed. She said the state can mandate the training courses, but the county is taking security very seriously and she said the state is taking it very seriously, so the county is doing all they can to take protect the processes and information.

Lee County is also registered with the Elections Infrastructure - Information Sharing and Analysis Center (EI-ISAC) and a multi-state ISAC. She said the two groups create a cooperative of people in the fields of state and local governments and elections officials who are trying to prevent any form of cyber attacks.

"So if something happened, say in Illinois, they would let us know by saying 'Hey, this happened over hear and you might want to be aware of it."

She said the state has also been doing random cyber-hygiene scanning on county servers to make sure they are all healthy and pass inspection. Lee County has already had one scan done and Sugars said they passed, but the state will continue to randomly scan county systems.

Sugars said her biggest fear is the weakest link.

"The happy clicker is my biggest fear, honest to God, it can really wreak havoc with communications. I've already had one election where ransomware hit and I had to administer an election without my email. When they were rebooting my email, we lost power, so I learned from that you've got to be prepared for anything. I'm thinking about this stuff in my head all the time and I have a lot of backup plans."

She said she's been visiting with many groups in the county, including service clubs, to talk with people about what the county is doing to ensure their votes are counted and their information is protected.

"We just want people to know that we are doing everything in our power and going over and above to make sure everything is secure," Sugars said.

Lee County Auditor Denise Fraise said she thinks people are still concerned about using touch screen machines during elections.

"I think a lot of people are afraid of our touch

screen machines," Fraise said. "It's just a ballot marking device, it has nothing to do with the tabulation of your ballot. It's not hooked up to the Internet or server or anything. It's just plugged into an electrical outlet, so there is nothing to fear there. We would prefer people use that because it's just a blank thing and it's .03 cents compared to a printed ballot."

Sugars said when you use the machine it prints out the ballot with a bar code and it shows what your vote was, and it costs the county 25 cents less when people use the touch screen machines.

The ballot goes into the tabulators and it reads the barcode where the vote information is stored. It also prints out your selections so you can make sure that it prints what you selected.

The only time the ballots are on the Internet is when the county forwards the information to the state, but Sugars said there are safeguards in place there, too.

"We have the original information here and we have to verify what we sent with the state, so nothing can be changed."

She said the county will do a pretest and a public demonstration on the machines prior to using them.

Also, for the first time ever, the Secretary of State's office will be doing randomly selected audits of precincts in each county. Sugars said the absentee board will conduct the audit and that will involve counting ballots in the randomly chosen precinct.

"That will be done before the canvas, so if we find anything off, Denise could call for an administrative recount. She said the state will ask for a hand recount of the ballots to see how the results match the machine," Sugars said.

Through 2018 voters will still be able to vote without an ID but they have to sign an oath of identity. In 2019 voters will only be allowed to vote with a state issued ID card. In lieu of that, they would have to cast a provisional ballot and then show ID within a predetermined number of days following the election for the ballot to count.

Sugars said she doesn't foresee any security issues going into the election.

"We've gone over and above what we're being asked to do because security is very important to us."

### **City thanks Menke**

### **COUNCIL** - Continued from Page 1

"Shawn has really come a long ways in three years and I'm sorry to see him go," Walker said.

But Walker said he regularly receives comments on how clean the city is and how well its run.

"We set the bar a little higher than most towns. I tell people all the time, 'Show me a town of 1,000 people that has a square like ours. You're probably not going to find one," he said. "When we have something going on, people get behind it and we roll with it instead of having controversy all the time about can we do this or can't we do this. Somebody makes a decision and you go with it, right or wrong, and that seems to be working. Shawn, thanks for being a part of that."

In other action, Mayor Walker presented former City Administrator Gary Menke with a certificate of appreciation. Menke resigned from the position in August and Dennis McGregor has taken the job. McGregor told the council that August was spent getting up to speed with city staff and properties and he was looking forward to helping the city move forward.





**Anthony B Fullenkamp** Financial Advisor

1233 Ave H Ft Madison, IA 52627 319-372-8001

MKT-5894I-A

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### **5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST**

TUE 11 Sep



Clear Skies High– 77.9° F | Low – 55.2° F

WED 12 Sep



Clear Skies High- 79.7° F | Low - 60.6° F

THU 13 Sep ———



Light Rain High– 80.6° F | Low – 63.4° F

FRI 14 Sep



Light Rain
High– 81.6° F | Low – 63.2° F

SAT 15 Sep



Light Rain High– 85.1° F | Low – 68.8° F

<u>OpenWeatherMap</u>