



Pen City Current

Wednesday, Jan. 24, 2018 | 8 pages | Volume 2 • Issue 34

Nelson killer gets 50 years for murder

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – A Burlington man told a Lee County judge how, almost one year ago, he shot a Fairfield man in the eye and dumped his body at Indian Path Park along the Skunk River.

Joseph Mayorga, Jr., 35, Burlington, was accused of murdering 47-year-old James Merlin Nelson of Fairfield on or about Feb. 11, 2017. As part of a plea agreement with the Lee County Attorney's office and Asst. County Attorney Bruce McDonald, Mayorga pleaded guilty on Tuesday in front of Judge Mark Kruse at the North Lee County Courthouse to a charge of 2nd degree murder.

Mayorga then waived all pre-sentencing procedures and requested immediate sentencing, to which Kruse, after a lengthy procedural discussion with Mayorga on his decision to waive his rights prior to sentencing, sent him to prison for 50 years.

Mayorga must serve at least 35 years of the sentence before he can be considered for any type of release. He was also ordered to pay \$150,000 to the estate of Nelson.

Prior to sentencing, McDonald put Nelson's brother, David Summers of Birmingham, on the stand to give a statement on behalf of the family.

Summers remained standing and looked at Mayorga, who remained cuffed throughout the hearing.

"Joe, you've taken from us a great friend, a great brother, and a great uncle. We wish so much we could be in your family's position that we could go visit him. But we can't, we've lost him forever. You've taken a great deal and we love him and we miss him so much. I prayed for the Lord for him to grant me forgiveness, I haven't gotten that, but I will and I pray for your salva-

“

He said something about my wife and I became enraged and I shot him.”

-Joseph Mayorga, Jr.,
convicted on 2nd degree murder

tion. I just want you to know you've hurt us," Summers said through broken words and tears.

Mayorga made a statement apologizing to the family and said both families have suffered.

"Nothing can take back my actions, Mayorga said in red county fatigues. "I apologize greatly. We've all suffered - my family as well as yours. I'm sorry for my actions and for that I'll pay for the rest of my life. I apologize," he said standing and addressing 15 members of Nelson's family and friends.

Judge Kruse asked Mayorga to explain the details of the shooting.

Mayorga said he and Nelson were sitting in his 2007 Chevy Impala in the garage of his residence in Burlington talking when Nelson said something that angered Mayorga.

"He said something about my wife and I became enraged and I shot him," Mayorga said.

Kruse asked what weapon was used, to which Mayorga replied a .38 caliber revolver. Kruse then asked where he shot Nelson.

"In the eye," he replied.

See **MURDER**, page 8

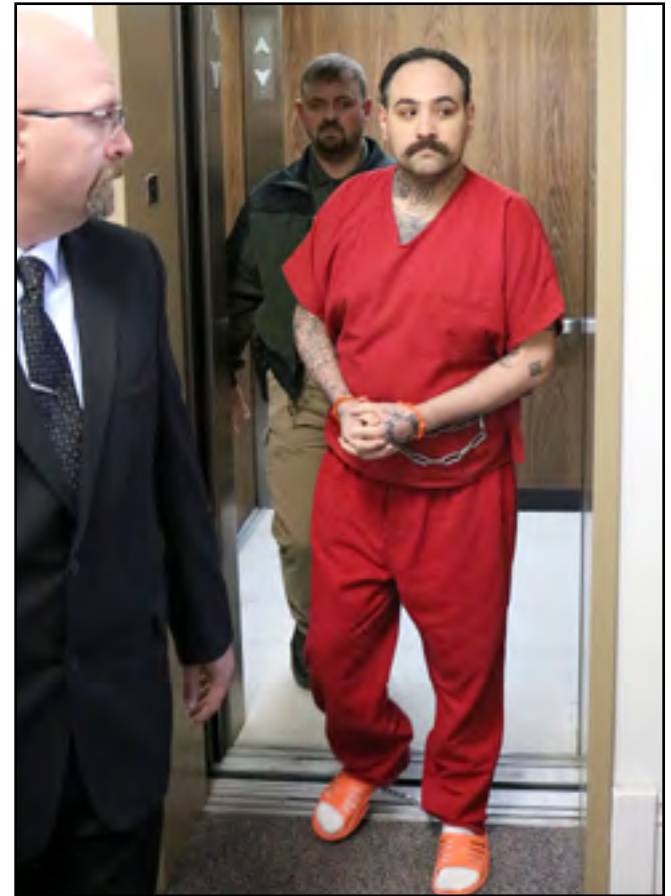


Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Joseph Mayorga Jr., is escorted to court at the North Lee County Courthouse this morning by Lee County Sheriff's Detective Chad Donaldson, left, and Lee County Jail Administrator John Canida, rear. Mayorga was sentenced to 50 years in prison for the Feb. 11, 2017 murder of James Merlin Nelson.

Poverty group set to move forward

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - An effort to address generational poverty in south-east Iowa took another step on Monday night as close to 40 people packed the United Methodist Church to hear from West Burlington's Vern Reed on the next steps of the program.

Reed, the at-risk coord-

inator for West Burlington High School, is the front man for the effort, known on Facebook as Building Bridges: A Southeast Iowa Initiative.

The Monday event was a chance to bring members of Lee County together to take the next step, which was to share an outline of how the program works and gauge the time and financial commitment in the county.



REED

An initial training took place in November in front of close to 150 concerned Lee

County residents.

"If things are going to change in our communities we have to look at something different than what we're doing," Reed said. "It goes back to our kids deserving a better

shot than they are getting today."

Reed said he believes in what Bridges teaches and that's what he brings to the table. But he said Bridges doesn't provide all the answers, but it brings a set of tools to deal with the what he terms as the "disease of generational poverty."

Reed also brought Mona Ash, the full-time

See **BRIDGES**, page 2

Task force makes meth bust in Keokuk

BY PCC STAFF

KEOKUK - The Lee County Narcotics Task Force reports the arrest of a Keokuk, Iowa woman on a felony drug warrant.

Jamey Lynn Hymes, 37, of 1302 Carroll Street, Keokuk, Iowa was arrested on January 22nd, 2018 at her residence on an outstanding felony drug warrant. Hymes is charged with delivery of methamphetamine less than five grams within 1000 feet of a public park, a class C felony with an enhancement. If convicted, Hymes faces up to 15 years in a state correctional facility.

See **BUST**, page 3

Advertiser Index

CBIZ Center for Business.....	P.5
Dave's Old Fashion Meats	P.3
Fort Madison Community Hospital	P.5
Great River Regional Waste Authority	P.8
Green Oak Development.....	P.7
KLM Realty	P.7
Lee County Health Department.....	Ps.2,8
State Farm Insurance – Thomas Klann.....	P.2
Test Kitchen Education Foundation.....	P.4
West Liberty Foods.....	Ps.5,7

News Index

Area News	Ps.2-3
For the Record.....	P.3
From the front.....	Ps.2-3,8
Local News	Ps.6,8
Lottery Numbers.....	P.2
Obituaries	P.3
–Thomas A. Buechel	
Sports	Ps.4-5
Weather	P.3

Scan the code to
Subscribe today
Paid & Free Options Available!



From the Front/Lottery Numbers

County anti-poverty group starts planning for Bridges program

BRIDGES - Continued from Page 1

Bridges coordinator in Des Moines County, to the meeting with him. Ash was a part-time administrator at Young House services in Burlington, but the Bridges group in Des Moines County has partnered with Young House to be able to have a non-profit status and have an in-house grant writing service.

He said the thought process was to put together some big ideas for the Lee County group to

consider moving forward. "Is there a committed group to putting together a Bridges initiative in Lee County, if not, then nothing else can happen at this point."

Reed brought up the hurdles that the Des Moines County effort ran up against in getting the process going. He said he wanted to share those missteps with the group to help save them some of the time and resources that didn't help the program move forward.

One of the biggest parts of the Bridges program is Getting Ahead classes.

"This is the high-octane fuel that drives everything in the initiative. A quite close second is challenging the middle class to look at poverty in a different way," Reed said.

He told the group that child care, transportation, food, and a \$20 cash incentive for each person participating in the getting ahead classes are things that weren't considered in the early stages of the Des



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

West Burlington School's At-Risk instructor Vern Reed speaks with about 40 people at the United Methodist Church in Fort Madison Monday night. The group is looking at starting a Bridges out of Poverty program in Lee County.

Moines County program, that ultimately hurt attendance out of the gate.

He told the group that the quarterly Getting Ahead classes will cost about \$5,000 to \$6,000 per class to make sure things are set for success.

"You have to be willing to measure success in a different way. This metaphorical disease has been happening for

generations. We in no way believe we're going to eradicate this in five years, but our goal is to eradicate it," Reed said.

Topics during the discussion focused on whether to have one city hold the Getting Ahead classes or have one in Keokuk and Fort Madison, and possibly in central Lee County. Reed said all the Bridges programs

have their own identity but he would recommend one steering committee coordinating classes in both north and south Lee County.

Continuing steps will include forming a steering committee, planning the first of the Getting Ahead classes, creating a budget, and looking at financing and coordination of volunteers.

LEE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT *Promoting Health Throughout the Lifespan*

Lee County Health Department has a number of programs to help you in every stage of your life. To learn more about the following programs visit us online by clicking this ad.



- Hospice
- Homecare
- Wellness
- Senior Health
- Environmental Health
- Emergency Preparedness
- 1st Five
- HOPES
- I-Smile Silver®
- Immunizations
- Child / Adolescent Health



Touching the Community with Care

2218 Avenue H • Fort Madison, IA
(319)372-5225 or (800)458-5572
www.leecountyhd.org



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



1/23
2 6 30 31 55
Lucky Ball: 7
Megaplier: 4



1/23 MID-DAY
1 3 9
1/23 EVENING
2 6 0



1/23 MID-DAY
2 5 7 1
1/23 EVENING
3 2 5 5

Two heads are better than one.



Thomas Klann RICP LTCP LUTCF
Agent
Bus: 319-372-5982
www.fortmadisoninsurance.com
2623 Avenue L
Fort Madison, IA 52627



Sam Vidal
Licensed Team Member
Bus: 319-372-5982
samantha@fortmadisoninsurance.com

Especially when it comes to reaching your financial goals.

If you have questions or just want to discuss your options, we're both available to talk.

Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.®
CALL US TODAY.



Subscribe to
#PCC today

Free and Paid Options Available.



#HyperLocalSuperFresh

Obituaries/For the Record

OBITUARIES

THOMAS A. BUECHEL

Thomas A. Buechel, 71, of Farmington, Iowa, passed away at 7:20 p.m. Monday, January 22, 2018 at the Keosauqua Health Care Center in Keosauqua, Iowa.



BUECHEL

Born November 9, 1946 in Fort Madison, Iowa the son of Richard and Josephine (Hoenig) Buechel. On July 20, 1968 he married Nancy Elaine Schreck in Kahoka, Missouri.

Survivors include his wife: Nancy of Farmington; two daughters: Janet (Michael) Browning of Farmington, Iowa and Stephanie (Steven) Buechel of Farmington, Iowa; one son: Bradley (Melissa) Buechel of Farmington, Iowa; ten grandchildren: Levi, Nieca (Jeremy), Haley, Cameron, Keegan, Jovan, Jersey, Jayla, JoShawn and Jentry; two great grandchildren: Kaimrin and Levidikis; three sisters: Tonya Logue of Gresham, Oregon, Helen Stotler of Tampa Bay, Florida and Cheryl Barnes of Washington, Iowa; two brothers: Rick Speed of San Diego, California and Allen Speed of Whitney, Texas. He is also survived by several nieces, nephews and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one sister: Diana Scott.

Tom was a 1965 graduate of Aquinas High School. He served in the Army Reserves during the Vietnam War. He retired from Armour Dial after thirty three years of service. Tom was a member of St. Boniface Catholic Church in Farmington and the Richardson Anthony American Legion Post #231. He loved bowhunting, deer hunting, fishing, boating, riding horses and gardening. He was an avid St. Louis Cardinals and Rams fan. His favorite thing in life was being with his family and friends.

Friends may call after 12:00 noon Thursday, January 25, 2018 at Schmitz Funeral Home in Farmington where the family will receive friends from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. that evening.

The Mass of Christian Burial will be at 10:30 a.m. Friday, January 26, 2018 at St. Boniface Catholic Church in Farmington with Father Dennis Hoffman celebrant. Burial will be at Greenglade Cemetery with full military rites presented by the Farmington American Legion Post #231.

Memorials have been established in his memory for the Farmington American Legion or HCI Hospice.

Schmitz Funeral Home in Farmington is assisting the family with arrangements. On-line condolences to the family may be left at www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com.



For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report

01/22/18 - 4:52 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 400 block of Avenue A.
 01/22/18 - 8:49 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 1100 block of Avenue C.
 01/22/18 - 2:34 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 2200 block of Avenue H.
 01/22/18 0 4:02 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 3500 block of Avenue L.
 01/22/18 - 7:37 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 300 block of 23rd Street.
 01/22/18 - 10:25 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in

the 2700 block of Avenue O.
 01/23/18 - 8:07 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 1300 block of Avenue F.

Lee County Sheriff's report

01/22/18 - 3:31 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Casey Lyle Wright, 36, of Ottumwa, in the Wapello County Jail, on a warrant for contempt of court. He was taken to Lee County Jail and held.
 01/22/18 - 10:49 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Hunter Lee Hageman, 20, of Keokuk, in the 1500 block of High Street, on a charge of possession of a controlled substance. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
 01/23/17 - 3:56 a.m. - Lee

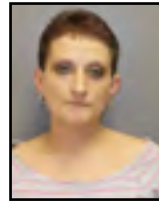
County Sheriff's deputies arrested Curry James Breuer, 30, of Keokuk, in the 300 block of Hwy 218 for trafficking in stolen weapons. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held. Those listed above are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Fort Madison Fire & Rescue report.

01/20/18 - Fort Madison firefighters responded to one house fire, one car wreck, a false alarm, a gas order call, and four medical calls
 01/21/18 - Fort Madison firefighters responded to one stove fire and one burn barrel complaint
 01/22/18 - Fort Madison firefighters responded to one structure fire.

Keokuk's Hymes busted on felony methamphetamine charge

BUST - Continued from Page 1



SCHILLER

The arrest of Hymes stems from an investigation by the Lee County Narcotics Task Force into allegations that she was involved in the distribution of methamphetamine

in the Keokuk area.

The Lee County Attorney's Office and the Keokuk Police Department assisted the Lee County Narcotics Task Force in this investigation.

The defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

WED 24 Jan



Light snow
 High - 29.6° F | Low - 26.4° F

THU 25 Jan



Clear Skies
 High - 43.3° F | Low - 36.6° F

FRI 26 Jan



Clear Skies
 High - 51.9° F | Low - 39.9° F

SAT 27 Jan



Clear Skies
 High - 44.8° F | Low - 24.1° F

SUN 28 Jan



Clear Skies
 High - 21.8° F | Low - 13.2° F

OpenWeatherMap

COLD WEATHER...HOT BUYS!

Unbreaded Pork Tenderloins
Limit 30 Please
79¢ Each

12 oz. Each Iowa Chops
2/\$4

Center Cut Pork Chops
\$2.99

Reg. or All Beef Homemade Smoked Wieners
\$5.98

Front 1/4 Beef
 100 lbs. - Cut Wrapped & Frozen - \$399
All Cuts Boneless
 Chuck Roast, Arm Roast, Ribeye Steak, Brisket & Ground Beef

Fresh Pork Steak
\$1.99 lb.

Fresh Ground Chili Meat
\$3.98

Choice Boneless Chuck Roast
\$3.99

CLIP AND COUPON

\$2.00 OFF

3 lb. Box Jumbo Snack Sticks or Homemade Wieners

\$2.00 OFF

10 lb. Box of Dave's Certified Ground Beef (10 1 lb. Packages)

DAVE'S OLD FASHION MEATS

Better Meats - Better Prices - It's My Job!

Ad Effective: 1-23-18 thru 1-29-18

We Accept U.S. E. & MO EBT Cards
 111 North 1st St. Montrose, IA
 1-319-463-7150
 HOURS: Monday-Friday 9:00am-6:00pm, Sat. 9:00am-5:00pm, Closed Sunday
We're Serious! Only Wholesale Prices Will Match or Beat!

Charles Vandenberg, Editor
 (319).371.1670
editor@pencitycurrent.com

Lee K. Vandenberg, Sales Manager
 (319).371.4125
sales@pencitycurrent.com

Copyright © 2016 by Pen City Current
 All published materials are property of Pen City Current and cannot be used without express written permission.

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
ross@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.

Sports

Hounds knock off Class 3 Clark County, Mo

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - The Bloodhounds took a big bite out of a tough week with a hard fought win over Missouri's No. 4 ranked Class 3 Clark County.

The Hounds needed to hold off a late run by the Indians in the fourth quarter to seal a 59-52 win and move to 11-4 on the season with No. 4 Mt. Pleasant looming in a Friday contest.

The Hounds had a slim 26-24 lead at halftime and Clark County's 6'7 Chandler Bevens was just getting heated up with 10 points in the first half. Fort Madison senior Kaleb Cresswell had 11 points in the first half but picked up his third personal foul early in the third period and had to take a seat next to head coach Ryan Wilson. Senior Treavor James-Kokjohn had eight in the first half for the Hounds.

At the 6:37 mark, Fort Madison held a 51-44 lead, but the Indians' senior Cole Kirchner buried a 3-ball from the right side to cut the lead to four. Fort Madison's Sheymouhr Redd-Donald missed a 3-pointer after good ball movement by the Hounds found him wide open on the left side. On the next possession, Clark County's senior Zeb Riney hit another 3-pointer, this time from the left as the Indians worked the ball inside out with Bevens in the post, to make it a one-point game 51-50.

Wilson put Cresswell back in with about four minutes left in the game and Cresswell took an errant Hound shot back through the lane where he was fouled converting the layup. He converted the freebie and the Hounds were back up by four 54-50.

The Indians then missed four straight from the field and were called for three personal fouls in the next 1:30 to put the Hounds in the bonus. Kirchner fouled the Hounds' point guard Logan Rashid with :57 left in the game and Rashid converted both freethrows. Bevens scored over James-Kokjohn on the next possession to make it 56-52 with :40 left, but the Indians again fouled Rashid.

The junior hit the first end of the one-and-one, but the second caromed off the right side of the rim where Sheymouhr Redd-Donald was there to clean it up and kick it out to let the Hounds run a little more off the clock. The Indians were forced to foul in the possession and Rashid capped the win with two more free throws with :17 left to put the Hounds up by the final margin.

Sheymouhr played a great third quarter offensively and defensively," Wilson said. "He stepped up big with Kaleb in foul trouble and that rebound off the missed free throw at the end was the biggest of the game."

Wilson said it was the best effort the team has put forth this year.

"This was our best game all season. We played as a team all around and we will need to duplicate tonight's effort on Friday against a very good Mt. Pleasant team."

Rashid and Cresswell finished with 14 points each to lead Fort Madison. James-Kokjohn had 10 points on the night, but held Bevens to just a bucket in the 3rd quarter and seven total in the half. Redd-Donald finished with seven points, Brandon Keester had 6 and Lorenzo Riles and Jayden Fedler each had four points for Fort Madison.

The Hounds travel to Mt. Pleasant on Friday for a junior varsity/varsity double header starting at 4:45 p.m.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

The Hounds' Sheymouhr Redd-Donald goes up in the lane in heavy traffic in the fourth quarter of the Hounds' 59-52 win Tuesday night over Clark County, Mo.

Hounds grapplers pin Fairfield

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON - The Fort Madison Bloodhounds surrendered just three losses in a 61-18 win over the Fairfield Trojans on Tuesday night's Senior Night in a makeup dual held at the Fort Madison Middle School.

Nathan Steffensmeier started the rout with a pin over Stetson Spees halfway through the second period. Fairfield's Zach Barnes got the best of Will Larson with a fall in the first period, but the Hounds' Aaron Steffensmeier put the Hounds right back on top with a pin over Peyton Cline at the 1:40 mark in period 1. Bryce Britton wrestled at 152, where 4th-ranked Harlan Steffensmeier usually wrestles. Britton

scored a pin at 1:16 to hold the weight class for Fort Madison and then Steffensmeier came in at 160 and recorded a very quick :40 pin for his 148th career win to tie Russell Weakley for most wins in FMHS history.

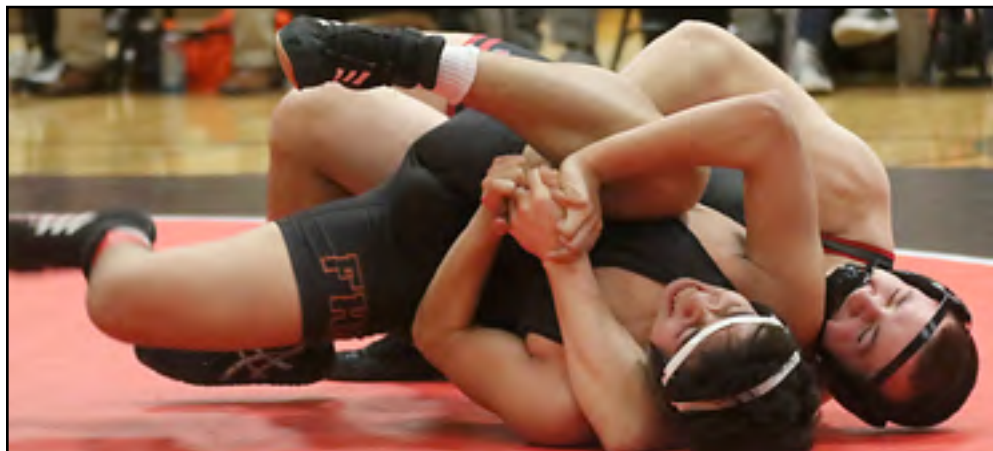
Steffensmeier will try to take sole possession of that record when the Hounds host Kirksville and Centerville Thursday night in Youth Night at the Hound Dome.

Other Hounds recording pins in the win were Austin Haas, Lennon Barker, Alex Lauber, and Dayne Cordray. Ryan Steffensmeier scored a 12-1 major decision at 126 and Elton Kruse won in sudden victory 10-8.

Fort Madison (FOMA) 61.00
Fairfield (FAIR) 18.00
132: Nathan Steffensmeier (FOMA)

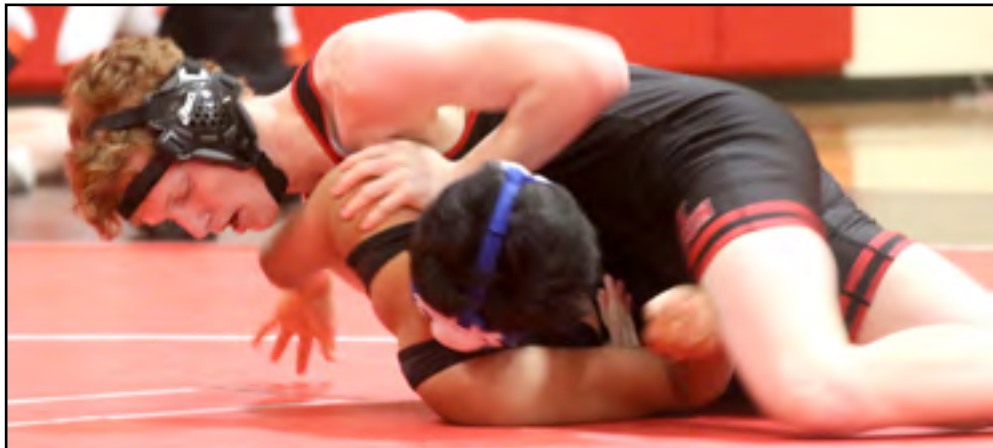
over Stetson Spees (FAIR) (Fall 3:06) 138: Zach Barnes (FAIR) over Will Larson (FOMA) (Fall 1:46) 145: Aaron Steffensmeier (FOMA) over Peyton Cline (FAIR) (Fall 1:40) 152: Bryce Britton (FOMA) over Arya Patel (FAIR) (Fall 1:16) 160: Harlan Steffensmeier (FOMA) over Caleb Heisel (FAIR) (Fall 0:40) 170: Austin Haas (FOMA) over Alex Camero (FAIR) (Fall 1:58) 182: Lennon Barker (FOMA) over Wyatt Baker (FAIR) (Fall 1:51) 195: Alex Lauber (FOMA) over Aidan Pohren (FAIR) (Fall 1:09) 220: Danen Settles (FOMA) over (FAIR) (For) 285: Brendon Lunsford (FAIR) over Dalton Mabeus (FOMA) (Fall 2:00) 106: Elton Kruse (FOMA) over Cohyn Roach (FAIR) (SV-1 10-8) 113: Jonah Cooper (FAIR) over Mason Schau (FOMA) (Fall 1:11) 120: Dayne Cordray (FOMA) over Brody Angstead (FAIR) (Fall 0:32) 126: Ryan Steffensmeier (FOMA) over Mason Allen (FAIR) (MD 12-1)

Junior varsity results
132: Quinton Ross over Logan Adam (Dec. 9-5), 132: Logan Kearns over Toby Oliver (Fall 0:17), 132: Quinton Ross over Blake Metz (Fall 2:44), 106: Owen Kruse over Brecken Courtright (Dec. 3-0), 113: Jacob Bland over Courtney Six (MD 12-0), 126: Dawson Hunt over Dagan Burnett (Fall 2:50), 126: Logan Kearns over Tommy Jones (Fall 0:33)



The Hounds' Austin Haas gets a grip on Fairfield's Alex Camero and closes in on a pinfall win.

Photos by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC



At 152 lbs, FMHS's Bryce Britton has the upper hand on Arya Patel in Tuesday night's 61-18 win over the Trojans at the FMMS.

Central Lee downs Crusader boys, 72-42

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON - The Central Lee boys got 17 points from senior Evan Doyle in a 72-42 win over Holy Trinity Catholic Friday at Shottenkirk Gymnasium.

The Hawks rushed to a 14-7 first quarter lead highlighted by a couple of 3-pointers from senior Jake Fraise and one from junior Sam Hirner.

Central Lee held the Crusaders at seven points for five minutes before a bucket at the six minute mark put the score at 9-18. The game got uptempo in the last half of the second quarter but Holy Trinity, who saw the return of senior Collin Thornton, who has been out with a fractured wrist, couldn't keep up with the 10-4 Hawks as they put up a 15-8 run to end the first half.

Sophomores Matt Hellige and Reed Fehseke led the way for HTC in the first half with six and seven points, respectively.

Central Lee pushed the lead to as much as 23 in the third quarter and 37 pulling away in the final period.

Hellige and Fehseke each scored a dozen for the Crusaders, who travel to Danville on Friday. Quentin Schneider scored seven, while Brant Holtkamp had five, and Chandler Rung scored three points. Blake Crabtree added a point for Holy Trinity.

In Monday's junior varsity matchup, the Crusaders came out on top 49-44 over the Hawks, highlighted by 14 from Chandler Rung. Cole Thornton added 10 points and Jason Thurman added 9 for HTC.

We Celebrate Education!



We're proud of
our Star Students
Kaydey &
Karley Plate!
A Honor Roll

Ellie
Test Kitchen
807 Avenue G • Fort Madison
www.tkef.org

Sports

HTC gives 14-1 Hawks a test in 60-51 loss

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - It was about this time last year when Head Coach Tony Johnson's Holy Trinity Crusaders went down to Central Lee and became the talk of the town by knocking off the highly touted Hawks on the road.

The HTC girls had several leads on the night, but couldn't hold off MacKenzie Northrup and the 14-1 Hawks as Central Lee walked out of Shottenkirk Gymnasium with a 60-51 win in Southeast Iowa Superconference South girls basketball action.

At the start it looked like it might be a repeat of 2017 as HTC raced out to an 11-4 lead with three minutes left in the first quarter. The Hawks clawed their way back with a 5-0 run but then the Crusaders put up a 6-2 run, still in the first quarter, to go back up by six 17-11. But Central Lee put six more on the board to trail HTC by one 17-16 going into the second quarter.

Senior Madison Mohrfeld went 4-for-4 at the free throw line and junior Taylor Boeding hit a 3-pointer to lead the Crusaders.

Central Lee took the lead with about four minutes left in the first half at 23-22 and then pushed the lead to 26-24 before sophomore Ashlynn Haas hit from long range to give the Crusaders a one point

lead, a lead they would give up just prior to the end 27-30.

The third period started much the same as the first with Holy Trinity shutting down the potent Hawks for a full four minutes on an 11-0 run that saw HTC up 38-30 and then 40-32 before Central again staged a late period rally and cut the deficit to three at 40-37.

HTC hit a rut in the middle of the fourth period giving up a 9-0 run to give Central Lee a 7-point lead at 50-43 and couldn't get any closer than the seven points the rest of the way.

Junior Emily Box led the Crusaders with 14 points on the night. Senior Brett Schneider, who came into the game third in the conference in scoring, was held to just nine points. Boeding had nine points on the night, Eryn Anderson scored seven, Avery Hopper had five points, Mohrfeld finished with her four, and Haas had three.

Northrup led Central Lee with 20 points, Mya Merschman added 15, and Makenna Hall chipped in with 14. Central Lee (15-1) hosts New London on Friday night.

HTC travels to 13-4 Danville on Friday night in girls/boys varsity doubleheader.

In junior varsity action Monday night, HTC downed Central Lee 61-29 behind 16 points from sophomore Avery Hopper, 10 points from Bailey Hellweg, and 11 from Ashlynn Haas.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

FMHS Activities Director Andy Mitchell presented Holy Trinity Catholic's Brett Schneider, left, who ran cross country in the shared girls program with FMHS and the Hounds' Caleb Gehle with their plaques as 2017 Class 3A state track meet participants. Schneider placed 8th in the 800 meter run and Gehle placed 3rd in the Wheel Chair shotput and 6th in the 100- and 200-meter wheelchair races.

**EARN GOOD MONEY
COMPETITIVE BENEFITS
TRAVEL THE COUNTRY
WORK INDEPENDENTLY
TRAIN IN 4 WEEKS**

Class A CDL Truck Training
Learn more! 319-208-5375

CBIZ
CENTER FOR BUSINESS

ARE YOU AT A CROSSROADS?
Walk down the path toward a new opportunity.

IMMEDIATE INTERVIEWS TUESDAYS 9AM-3PM
Or to apply online, click this ad or go to <http://careers.wlfoods.com>

WLF
West Liberty Foods.

**Stay Active,
Stay Healthy**

Is pain or injury causing you to sit on the sidelines? Let the experts in the FMCH Orthopedic clinic get you back in the game and back to living an active, healthy life.

Derek Breder, M.D. Brent Woodbury, M.D.

Dr. Brent Woodbury ♦ Dr. Derek Breder ♦ Paul Ostby, P.A.-C ♦ Kyle Gibson, P.A.-C

fmch
FORT MADISON COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

ORTHOPEDICS & SPORTS MEDICINE
319-376-1135 ♦ www.fmchosp.com

Local News/Classifieds

FMCH names Whitaker December EOM

Submitted article

FORT MADISON - Fort Madison Community Hospital recognized Jeri Whitaker as their December Employee of the Month. Whitaker works as a Registered Nurse on the Medical/Surgical Unit at FMCH. She has been with FMCH since May of 2017. Whitaker was recognized with this nomination:

No matter when you see her, this employee is ALWAYS happy and trying to make others around her happy. My staff thinks she is the greatest because of that also because she is the first staff person who has ever included them in things that their department is doing, like a pot-

luck. She just makes them feel better about themselves and the job they do every day. She shows them she appreciates what they do and has fun with them. When she feels she has offended someone or has been short with them she is quick to apologize. This flows over to the patients who love her too. I had two patients tell me they just loved her because of her personality and it made their day. If we could all take on just a little of her happy-go-lucky personality imagine how much better our days would go! Finally, one day at breakfast she left her change and said to use it to pay for the next customer's breakfast. This created a fun morning and

as the customers were told the 'why' behind getting their breakfast for free, we had others leave money just to keep it going. It was a win-win!

"I was blessed to be trained by amazing nurses, Colbi, Courtney and Andy were the welcoming group who showed me the ins and outs of FMCH. The core staff on Med/Surg is wonderful and our supervisor Carolyn holds us all together," expressed Whitaker. "My favorite part of working here is the wonderful family environment that this hospital possesses."

Whitaker enjoys spending time outdoors with her husband when not working.



Photo courtesy of FMCH

Carolyn Krone, Director of Inpatient Services, left, presents Jeri Whitaker with the Fort Madison Community Hospital Employee of the Month for December, along with Jeremy Alexander, Interim President/CEO.

The Employee of the Month is an initiative developed by the Reward & Recognition team. Each month a FMCH employee is honored for going above and beyond for the good of the patient, their co-workers and the organization.

the classifieds

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Elevated Comfort.

"I keep coming back! The beds are amazing and the staff is fabulous!"
- Mark M.

We are expanding! 78 Rooms with choices to fit all your needs!
Now taking reservations for Fishing Tournaments, Sporting Events and the Annual Tri-State Rodeo!

Boulders Inn & Suites
Fort Madison, Iowa
4901 Ave O
Fort Madison, IA 52627
Tel: 319-246-1401
www.bouldersinnandsuites.com
Email: info@bouldersinnfortmadison.com

Like us on Facebook!

ADVERTISE YOUR SERVICE BUSINESS

90 days • Only \$74⁹⁹
2x2 Business Card Size Ad

Place your ad online 24/7 www.pencitycurrent.com
Email your ad classifieds@pencitycurrent.com
Call (319)371.4125

5 Generations of Printing

DODD
EST. 1977
PRINTING & STATIONERY

Posters
Business Cards
Photo Correction
Wedding Invitations

Supplies
Custom Design
Office Furniture
Online Ordering

319-372-2721 • doddprinting.com

It's possible to achieve the retirement of your dreams.

Prepare now, so that when the time comes, you can enjoy retirement on your own terms.

Schedule a SuperCheck® so we can discuss your world and your future today.

Larry Holtkamp
1301 37th St
Fort Madison, IA
(319) 372-9145
LARRYHOLTkamp.COM

FARM BUREAU FINANCIAL SERVICES

Auto | Home | Life | Annuities | Business | Farm & Ranch

Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company, Farm Bureau Property & Casualty Insurance Company, Western Agricultural Insurance Company, West Des Moines, IA. *Company providers of Farm Bureau Financial Services (1776-B-17)

RODEO PARK REHAB

Short-term rehabilitation

Fully equipped state-of-the-art therapy gym
Occupational, physical, and speech therapy
Personalized therapy plan
Private rooms
Compassionate nursing staff

We'll get you ready to:
"Giddy Up & Go Home!"

319-372-8021 | 1702 41st Street, Fort Madison, IA

Shopping for a mortgage?

Thomas Klann RICP LUTCF, Agent
State Farm Agent
2623 Avenue L
Fort Madison, IA 52627
Bus: 319-372-5982
NMLS #139716, NMLS MLO #1359992
MLO License #24290

We have a great selection.
As life changes, so do your needs. Let State Farm Bank® help with a mortgage that fits your life and your budget. Let us help you make the right move. Bank with a Good Neighbor®.
CALL ME TODAY FOR MORE INFORMATION.

State Farm Bank®

Some products and services not available in all areas.
1001306.1 State Farm Bank, F.S.B., Bloomington, IL

Because your wedding gown is *Precious*

WEDDING GOWN PRESERVATION

IRIS CITY CLEANERS
319 385 9707 . 888 485 9707
www.IrisCityCleaners.com

LMNOP

Friday
January 26th
7:00 - 10:00

1135 Ave. E • Wednesday-Saturday 5:00pm

Classifieds

HELP WANTED

Buffalo61 Bar & Grille Now Hiring

The Buffalo61 Bar & Grille is now hiring for all positions:

- Cooks
- Servers
- Bartenders
- Hosts

Experience is a must.

Must be able to work in a fast-paced environment where outstanding customer service reigns and must be available beginning mid-to-late February for training.

Fill out an application or turn in your resume at The Buffalo, 2016 South Main Street, Burlington, IA 52601.

No Phone Calls.



HOUSES FOR RENT

HOUSE FOR RENT: 2 Bedroom, 1 Bath centrally located at 1933 Avenue I in Ft. Madison. Refrigerator and stove provided. \$550/month. Please call (319) 371-4040 for more details or appointment to view. Leave a message if no answer.

Subscribe to #PCC today

Free and Paid Options Available.



ARE YOU AT A CROSSROADS?

Walk down the path toward a new opportunity.

One of North America's fastest growing food processing companies has immediate openings for highly motivated individuals to join their team!



**IMMEDIATE INTERVIEWS EVERY TUESDAY 9AM-3PM
GET A RAISE BEFORE YOU EVEN GET STARTED!**

2nd Shift – General Production

Positive attitude and excellent attendance demonstrated by a solid work history

Pay: ~~\$11.50 per hour plus \$0.30 shift differential~~

Pay: **\$11.85 per hour plus \$0.30 shift differential**

Competitive benefits package includes health, vision, life, and dental insurance, employee discounts, matching 401k. Plus paid holidays and vacation effective first day of employment.



West Liberty Foods.

Apply online at <http://careers.wlfoods.com>
Equal Opportunity Employer

Call us

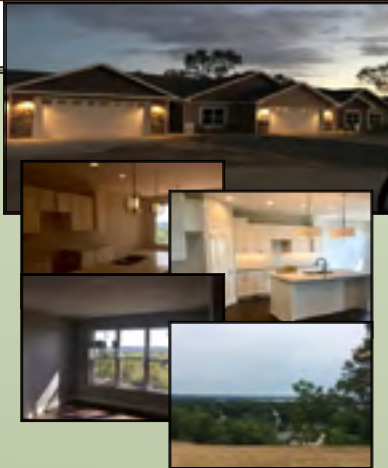
for all your real estate needs.



KEEPING LIVES MOVING
It's what we do.



Make one of these New Homes your New Home today!



3502 & 3504 WOODLAND HEIGHTS o Ft. Madison, Ia

Maintenance Free Luxury Condominium w/ 3 Car Garage
Stunning River Views, Many Upgrades

Condominium Features:

3 Car Garage, 3-4 Bedroom, 9ft Finished Walk-out Basement, Master Suite, Private Deck & Patio
Quartz Counter Tops, Tile Master Bath, Stylish Custom Wood Product Cabinetry

Exclusive Residence Features:

- Landscaping, Building Exterior & Winter Maintenance Provided
- Private Pond with walking trail and relaxing patio
- Vibrant views including the Mississippi River, Colorful Forest & Private Pond



302 33rd Street o Ft. Madison, Ia

Built in 2015 - Tri-Level Home
3 Bedrooms - Master Suite w/ Master Bath & Walk-in Closet
2.5 baths

Engineered Hardwood Floor
Open Floor Plan
Finished Basement
Spacious Yard

New Safe Family Friendly Neighborhood - Green Oak Development



41 7th Street o West Point, Ia

3 Year Tax Abatement, \$7,500 Savings!
3 Car Garage

Open Floor Plan Concept with Great Room
Master Suite with Walk-in Closet & Dual Sink Vanity
Massive 9 Foot Basement with Game/Bar Area
Main Floor Laundry
Large Storage Room
New Neighborhood with Great Family Atmosphere

Call Jill to view any of these beautiful homes!

YOUR AD HERE

(319)371.4125

Selling classic cars in a modern way



Up to 200 words • 1 photo • 14 days
FREE

Place your ad online 24/7
www.pencitycurrent.com

Email your ad to
classifieds@pencitycurrent.com

Call (319)371.4125



Follow us on Facebook!

www.greenoakdevelopment-ia.com

Call: 319-470-2540

From the Front/Sports



It's Time To Celebrate New Beginnings! Twenty8Teen

Thank you to all of our customers who helped us reduce our environmental footprint in 2017!

Great River Regional Waste Authority is looking forward to continuing our efforts to manage our environmental footprint and help educate our communities on ways to help in 2018!

Things to remember in 2018 when recycling:
Please do not place plastic bags in recycling bins.

Rinse & Clean all food jars and cans before placing in recycling bins.

Flatten boxes for better storage and volume reduction. *Empty all boxes before recycling.

Place all recyclable products loose in bins.

Do not recycle wrapping paper.

Properly dispose of all electronics and household hazardous waste. [Click Here](#) for more guidance!

For your convenience:

- Convenient Drop-Off Locations in 10 cities
- Curbside Recycling Bins are available at our Ft. Madison and Keokuk locations
- HHW Collection Available by appointment during regular business hours at our Ft. Madison and Keokuk locations



GRRWA
Great River Regional Waste Authority

Ft. Madison Main Office: 2092 303rd Ave
 Fort Madison, IA
 1-319-372-6140

Keokuk Transfer Station: 111 Carbide Lane
 Keokuk, IA
 1-319-524-6175

Visit Us Online! • www.grrwa.com • facebook.com/grrwa

Mayorga apologizes to family as part of sentencing

MURDER - Continued from Page 1

Kruse asked Mayorga if he realized that shooting someone at close range could kill him.

"I didn't...I guess I kind of blacked out at that point. I didn't understand what was going on...there was a lot going on," he said.

Kruse asked Mayorga if the crime happened in Lee County, to which Mayorga responded it hadn't. That caused a brief delay as Mayorga's attorney Allen Cook and McDonald met with the judge to discuss the issue of the crime happening in Burlington and a possible venue issue.

However, after a brief recess to review the case law on crimes being committed in one county and the body disposed in another, the issues were resolved as Mayorga, after discussion with his attorney, waived any venue issues.

"It was the same night that I drove him to Indian Path, which is in Wever, Iowa in Lee County, and disposed of his body right there," Mayorga said.

Cook said Mayorga was willing to waive those venue issues to prevent the case starting all over and wanted to put the issue behind him.

Nelson's body was discovered at the park at about 11 a.m. on Feb. 11 by

visitors of the park. According to family members, Nelson was working construction at the Iowa Fertilizer Company prior to his death, but they weren't sure what his job status was when he was killed.

On Feb. 11th, the Lee County Sheriff's Office responded to a call of a possible deceased person at a Lee County roadside park near Wever, Iowa.

Upon arrival, a male subject, later identified as 47-year-old Nelson, was found deceased. An autopsy performed on Nelson determined that he was killed by a single gunshot to the head. According to Iowa Department of Criminal Investigations Special Agent Rick Rahn, since the body was discovered in Lee County, the court case would be handled there, however Mayorga had the option to ask for a change of venue.

Mayorga had been incarcerated in Muscatine County on a federal gun charge but was transported to Lee County on Sept. 28 to face murder charges. Information was sketchy at the trial as to the disposition of the guns charge, but Kruse said the sentence would run concurrent to any probation or parole associated with that case.



FMHS wrestler Harlan Steffensmeier gets his 148th career with this pin Tuesday night. The win ties the school record set by Russell Weakley

Lee County Health Department - Hospice



**Hospice Volunteer Training
 Providing Comfort on the
 Journey Home**

**March 6 - March 27, 2018
 4 Tuesday Evenings
 6:00-9:00pm
 Lee County Health
 Department office**

No fee to the general public. To register, call Lee County Health Dept.-Hospice at **(319)372-5225** or **(800)458-6672** by March 2nd.

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



#3 John Bennett Drive ~ PO Box 1426
 Ft. Madison, IA 52627
www.leecountyhd.org ~ LIKE us on Facebook