

PEN CITY CURRENT

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Charges mount in sex scandal

RESTAURANT SEARCHED: Police find recording device in Amigo's restroom

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - After a lengthy investigation, Charles Dean Meyer, age 50, of Fort Madison, was arrested August 18th 2022 in connection to a 2021 sex offense involving a minor. He was subsequently jailed on felony charges of Prostitution and 3rd Degree Sexual Abuse of a Child, and remains incarcerated at the Lee County Jail.

After Meyers' arrest, additional search warrants were executed at his residence and place of business in which electronic devices and storage media were seized.

Consequently, the Department has filed another 15 ag-



MEYER

gravated misdemeanor charges, to include Invasion of Privacy and Sexual Exploitation of a Minor.

These new allegations stem from the discovery of digital images of women in various stages of undress utilizing the restroom of Vel's Amigos Restaurant in Fort Madison between July of 2020 and August of 2021.

This investigation is still in its preliminary stages, and more charges and victims stemming from the recording device placed in the restroom are expected.

See **CASE**, page 6

OPINION

EMPTY NEST

By Curt Swarm



Swarm pens third book

It's going to the top! "Task Force IED", my third book, is going to the top of the best seller lists. Amazon has it rated at five stars. Unlike my first two books that were autobiographical, "Task Force IED" is a fictional narration based on a true story. I interviewed many Middle East War veterans, both men and women, and their spouses, both men and women, to compile this incredible story of valor, tragedy and wounded souls.

Just in time for Dawg Days of August, "Task Force IED" is about the Iowa National Guard's fight against IED's (Improvised Explosive Devices) in Iraq. The war against terrorism rapidly evolved from one of gun battles and kicking in doors, to a war against IED's. The IED's themselves evolved from pressure sensitive devices that tripped by stepping on them, or running over them with a vehicle, to detonation by insurgents using hard wired devices and cordless telephones.

Two Iowa National Guard soldiers are credited with turning the war against IED's. Using their civilian skills, they developed a computer program that would predict, within 80% accuracy, where every IED in the entire country of Iraq was located, something the entire military wasn't able to do. This fictional 451 battalion was responsible for finding and removing over 800 IED's in their one-year deployment, saving countless lives and injuries to US soldiers. But it wasn't without a price. The 20% inaccuracy was real and equated to actual lives lost and devastating injuries.

"Task Force IED" is also about the National Guard's return home to an unusually high rate of suicide, PTSD, drug and alcohol addiction, divorce, bankruptcy and general human decay. Why was this happening after such a stellar perfor-

See **AUTHOR**, page 10



Courtesy photo

Cryotech, with a production facility in Fort Madison, celebrated 30 years in business in July.

BUSINESS NEWS

Cryotech Deicing reaches 30 years in the industry

PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON – Cryotech Deicing Technology, a division of General Atomics International Services Corporation, is celebrating 30 years of success and growth as a chemical manufacturer. Cryotech has a global presence and serves,

most notably, the deicing and agricultural industries.

Beginning in 1992, Cryotech started with one pavement deicing product, Cryotech CMA®, and four founding employees. With the success of CMA, the pavement deicing portfolio was expanded to include products certified for use on

ramps and runways. Today, Cryotech is the North American market share leader for acetate-based liquid and solid pavement deicers into the aviation market.

Following achievements in the pavement deicing market, Cryo-

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WEATHER

FRI 26 Aug.....Mostly Sunny & Warm, 81° F/ 59° F
SAT 27 Aug.....Partly Sunny & Warm, 82° F/ 65° F
SUN 28 Aug.....Mostly Cloudy & Warm, 84° F/ 68° F

IOWA LOTTERY

LOTTO AMERICA 08/24.....20 22 26 27 49, Star Ball: 4 All Star Bonus: 3
LUCKY FOR LIFE 08/24.....23 26 30 38 40, Lucky Ball: 12
PICK 3 08/24 MIDDAY.....3 2 3
PICK 3 08/24 EVENING.....9 3 2
PICK 4 08/24 MIDDAY.....0 9 6 3
PICK 4 08/24 EVENING.....2 6 8 5
POWERBALL 08/24.....6 24 35 37 44, Powerball: 22 Power Play: 4

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Obituaries

OBITUARIES

SHERRY L. EMDIA

Sherry Lee Emdia, 69, of Ankeny and formerly of Ft. Madison, went to be with the Lord on Thursday, August 18, 2022 in Ankeny.

She was born on February 24, 1953 in Ft. Madison to Donald and Phyllis Hayes Emdia. Sherry graduated from Ft. Madison High School and the University of Iowa with a degree in accounting and finance. Her employment history includes Stanford University followed by a management position at Mercy Hospital in Des Moines. She owned and operated Comprehensive Medical Management in Des Moines since 2001 until her recent retirement in early 2022. She enjoyed traveling, cooking, football and her friends and family. Sherry was a member of the Assembly of God Church in Ankeny and loved serving Jesus. She actively supported many causes and had a special place in her heart for a missions team in Mexico.

Survivors include her mother, Phyllis Emdia of Ft. Madison; two sisters, Karen Gurney of Ft. Madison and Nancy (Dick) Klemensen of Des Moines; one brother, Donald (Cyndi) Emdia, Jr. of Donnellson; one niece, Jessica (Chase) Greiner and one nephew, Alex Emdia. She was preceded in death by her Father, Donald "Corky" Emdia, Sr., Grandparents and her precious dogs, Hailee and Sasha.

A private family graveside service will be held in Oakland Cemetery. King-Lynk Funeral Home is assisting Sherry's family. A memorial has been established for PAW Animal Shelter and online condolences may be left at www.kinglynk.com.



EMDIA

Pen City Current obituary policy

Pen City Current runs obituaries one time at no charge to funeral homes and they run the day they are submitted in most cases. They are also run as submitted by the funeral homes. Reposting of obituaries due to changes can only be requested by the submitting funeral home and will be assessed a \$15 reposting fee.

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OBITUARIES

DEBORAH C. KOHLMORGAN

Deborah "Debbie" Colleen Kohlmorgan, 70 of Keokuk, IA died August 25, 2022 at her home.

Debbie was born November 22, 1951 in Keokuk, IA the daughter of Dale Floyd and June Colleen Farnsworth Miller. She graduated from Keokuk Senior High School with the Class of 1970.

On October 2, 1971 Debbie was united in marriage to Tom Kohlmorgan in Keokuk. He survives.

Other survivors include two daughters, Heidi Jo Kohlmorgan (Christine) of Hamilton, IL and LeeAnn Joy Leggett (Josh) of Keokuk, one son, Neal Thomas Kohlmorgan (Jess) of Hamilton, IL, eight grandchildren, Schuyler Westermeyer (Dalton), Shelby Savage (Philip Engler), Summer Savage (Ethan Rose), Kase Kohlmorgan, Rowdy Leggett, Kage Kohlmorgan, Tuff Leggett and Kara Kohlmorgan and four great-grandchildren, Scarlett Westermeyer, Calvin Westermeyer, Thomas Engler and Summit Engler. She is also survived by six siblings, Carolyn Underwood of Keokuk, Joyce Vaughn (John) of Keokuk, Andrea Schwiete (Randy) of Keokuk, Barb Schlotter (Mark) of Canton, MO, Kevin Miller of Keokuk and Tina Reinoehl (Steve) of Keokuk, one sister-in-law, Kathy Krome (Rodney) of Keokuk and numerous nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her parents, three children, Jeramy Neal, Kristina Elaine and Tara Kathleen, one sister, Cindy Frueh, father and mother in-law, Wilbur and Mary Edna Kohlmorgan and one brother-in-law, Roger Underwood.

Debbie was the co-owner of Kohlmorgan Hauling in Keokuk for forty-seven years, until her retirement on July 1, 2021.

Debbie loved to decorate her home, work in her flower gardens, decorate cakes and baking. She also enjoyed spending the day shopping with two of her sisters or with her daughter, LeeAnn. She loved collecting antiques and having lunch in the park with her husband. Debbie cherished the time she spent with her family, making every birthday, holiday and event special for everyone.

A memorial service will be held at 11:00 a.m., Saturday, September 3, 2022 at Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk, IA with Pastor Derek Olsen officiating.

Visitation will be held after 1 p.m., Friday, September 2, 2022 at the funeral home with family meeting with friends from 6 - 8 p.m.

Memorials may be made to the Keokuk Union Depot or the Rand Park Flower Garden.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.vigenmemorialhome.com.

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For the Record

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report

08/10/22 - 7:14 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 5000 block of Avenue O.

08/10/22 - 12:58 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 600 block of 35th Street.

08/10/22 - 6:17 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 700 block of Avenue G.

08/11/22 - 3:32 a.m. - Fort Madison police cited Matthew Scott Stephenson, 47, of Fort Madison, in the 2200 block of Avenue L, on a charge of driving under suspension.

08/11/22 - 10:01 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 1900 block of Avenue I.

08/11/22 - 11:30 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 5000 block of Avenue O.

08/11/22 - 5:58 p.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Emily Ann Kruse, 27, of Fort Madison, in the 500 block of 16th Street, on a Hancock County warrant for failure to appear - possession of a controlled substance. She was taken to Lee County Jail.

08/11/22 - 8:34 p.m. - Fort Madison police cited Candace Jade Guihan, 36, of Fort Madison, in the 2200 block of Avenue E, on a charge of driving under suspension.

08/12/22 - 12:15 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a burglary in the 5200 block of River Valley Road.

08/12/22 - 7:33 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a stolen vehicle in the 2400 block of Henry Ladyn Drive.

08/12/22 - 3:43 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 1500 block of Avenue G.

08/13/22 - 1:22 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of vandalism at the intersection of 23rd Street and Avenue E.

08/13/22 - 12:09 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1300 block of Avenue J.

08/13/22 - 9:40 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 900 block of Avenue G.

08/14/22 - 7:37 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 200 block of Avenue G.

08/14/22 - 12:06 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a re-

port of a property damage accident in the 2900 block of Avenue N.

08/14/22 - 1:10 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 900 block of 30th Street.

08/15/22 - 9:20 a.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Hailey Rae Nicole Cox, 24, of Fort Madison, in the 200 block of Avenue H, on a charge of domestic abuse assault. She was taken to Lee County Jail.

08/15/22 - 11:12 a.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Patricia Lynn Dobson, 54, of Fort Madison, in the 1200 block of 26th Street, on a charge of violation of a domestic no-contact order. She was taken to Lee County Jail.

Lee County Sheriff Report

08/10/22 - 8:23 a.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies responded to a report of a two-vehicle accident on the ramp from Hwy. 61 N. to Hwy. 2 E. According to the report, a vehicle driven by Toni Michelle Hunold, 30, of Argyle, was stopped at the stop sign to merge onto Hwy. 2 from Hwy. 61 when a vehicle driven by Cole Allen Wyatt, 25, of Montrose, lost site of Hunold's vehicle as it approached the stop sign. Wyatt's vehicle struck Hunold's vehicle. No injuries or damages were reported and both vehicles were able to be driven from the scene. Wyatt was cited for failure to maintain control.

08/10/22 - 9:45 p.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested a 17-year-old juvenile, of Burlington, at the intersection of S. 16th Street and Exchange Street, Keokuk, on a charge of operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated. She was released to a parent.

08/11/22 - 7:43 p.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Alivia Lauren Williams, 18, of Burlington, in the 1800 block of County Rd. 103, Fort Madison, on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia and speeding. She was taken to Lee County Jail and later released on a promise to appear.

08/12/22 - 8:01 a.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Ashly Ann Sholl, 38, of Keokuk, at the North Lee County Courthouse, on a warrant for violation of probation. She was taken to Lee County Jail.

08/12/22 - 9:57 a.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Jenny Lynne Leis Rook, 36, of Keokuk, at the sheriff's office, on a judgment hold warrant. She was taken to Lee County Jail and later released on weekend served.

08/12/22 - 3:28 p.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Nicholas Louis Hocker, 40, of Montrose, on warrants for contempt - violation of a no-contact order, 1st degree harassment, violation of probation, 2 warrants for failure to appear/contempt of court, and tampering w/witness or juror. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

08/13/22 - 7:16 a.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested David James Markell, 26, of Keokuk, at the South Lee County Courthouse, on a warrant for failure to appear/contempt of court. He was taken to Lee County Jail and later released after paying a fine.

08/13/22 - 7:09 p.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies cited and released David Brian Fulton, 58, of Fort Madison, in the 2500 block of 280th Street, Montrose, on charges of drivers license denied/revoked - OWI and speeding. He was released on a promise to appear.

08/13/22 - 7:09 p.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Heather Reshaun Hamilton, 28, of Burlington, at the intersection of 5th Street and E Avenue, West Point, on a charge of interference with an official act. She was taken to Lee County Jail and later released on a promise to appear.

08/14/22 - 3:30 a.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Michael Vincent Onofrietti, 40, of Georgia, in the 1300 block of Orleans Street, Keokuk, on a warrant for violation of parole. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

08/14/22 - 5:24 a.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Anton Jonation Pobega, 32, of Wisconsin, in the 2100 block of 220th Street, Donnellson, on a charge of public intoxication. He was taken to Lee County Jail and later released after paying a fine.

08/15/22 - 9:48 a.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Michael John Dobrynski, 36, of Illinois, at the South Lee County Courthouse, on a judgment hold. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

08/15/22 - 3:20 p.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested

Roy Daniel Bielser, 76, of Illinois, on a charge of 1st offense OWI. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

08/15/22 - 4:00 p.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Adam Ray Sutton, 44, of Fort Madison, at the South Lee County Courthouse, on a warrant for pretrial release violation. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

08/16/22 - 12:00 a.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Cory Scott Crawford, 43, of Montrose, at the South Lee County Courthouse, on warrants for 2nd offense domestic abuse assault and 1st degree harassment. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

Hancock County Sheriff Report

07/17/2022 - HARPER, JERMAINE Q (42 of Quincy, IL) Hancock County Warrant

07/17/2022 - FRENCH, ALEXIS J (19 of Quincy, IL) Hancock County Warrant

07/18/2022 - CORWIN, AUSTIN J (26 OF Fort Madison, IA) Driving While License Suspended

07/18/2022 - HAYNES, MOLLY R (29 of Fort Madison, IA) Hancock County Failure to Appear Warrant x2

07/19/2022 - AKERS, DAPHNE K (42 of Colchester, IL) Hancock County Warrant

07/22/2022 - GIBSON, JOHN W (42 of Plymouth, IL) Obstructing Justice, Aggravated Animal Cruelty, Animal Cruelty, Failure of Animal Owner's Duties, Possession of Methamphetamine, Possession of Firearm without a FOID Card

07/22/2022 - HYMES, JAMEY L (41 of Keokuk, IA) Hancock County Warrant

07/22/2022 - PIERCE, JOHN K (53 of Warsaw, IL) Retail Theft

07/23/2022 - BROWN, MIKE P (32 of West Point, IL) DUI - Alcohol

07/24/2022 - DECK, COLBY R (25 of Hamilton, IL) Driving While License Suspended

07/26/2022 - HORN, STEVE J (63 of Valley Spring, AR) Possession of Methamphetamine, Possession of Controlled Substance

07/26/2022 - RHOER, JAMES M (38 of Fort Madison, IA) Des Moines County Warrant

07/27/2022 - REID, RYLEE N (17 of Fort Madison, IA) Driving While License Suspended

07/28/2022 - COCHENOUR, KELSEY F (34 of Kahoka, MO) Possession of Methamphetamine

07/28/2022 - CLARK, DANIELLE R (31 of Carthage, IL) Child Abduction

07/29/2022 - HANKS, STANLEY M (72 of Burnside, IL) Failure to Reduce Speed to Avoid an Accident, Improper Transportation of a Child Under 8 (times 2)

07/30/2022 - SCACCID, KEVIN B (56 of Carthage, IL) Suspended Registration

08/02/2022 - MEIEROTTO, KALEB R (23 of Mt. Sterling, IL) Hancock County Warrant

08/02/2022 - LAMBERT, CINDY J (41 of Macomb, IL) Hancock County Warrant

08/03/2022 - LAWS, DAVID A (41 of Pineville, KY) Possession of Methamphetamine, Hancock County Warrant, Adams County Warrant, Possession of Hypodermic Syringes, Driving While License Suspended, Operating Uninsured Vehicle

08/03/2022 - STIERN, ANNA N (27 of Augusta, IL) Hancock County Warrant

08/04/2022 - JAMESON, RICHARD W (52 of Burlington, IA) Hancock County Warrant

08/09/2022 - CLIFTON, DANIEL (38 of Hamilton, IL) Suspended Registration

08/10/2022 - DOBSON, PATRICIA L (54 of Fort Madison, IA) Possession of Methamphetamine

08/10/2022 - JAMES, DANIEL R (44 of Keokuk, IA) Possession of Controlled Substance

08/10/2022 - SMITH, JULIA A (22 of Keokuk, IA) Hancock County Warrant

08/10/2022 - PILKINGTON, ANTHONY S (30 of Hamilton, IL) Hancock County Warrant

08/11/2022 - STUREK, CORTEZ MJ (26 of LaHarpe, IL) Hancock County Warrant

08/12/2022 - VERGARA, JUAN

C (29 of Carthage, IL) No Valid DL

08/12/2022 - HOWE, DEREK R (37 of Warsaw, IL) Hancock County Warrant

08/12/2022 - GAUS, CHRISTOPHER P (40 of Hamilton, IL) Possession of Methamphetamine, Teasing a Police Animal

08/12/2022 - BROWN, JOSEPH D (46 of Carthage, IL) Hancock County Warrant

08/12/2022 - LAST, JOHN D (57 of Ottumwa, IA) Hancock County Warrant

08/13/2022 - MURPHY, RENEE M (50 of Burlington, IA) Possession of Methamphetamine

08/13/2022 - HOSTETLER, RICCY S (28 of Pontoosuc, IL) Possession of Methamphetamine

08/13/2022 - TONES, STEVEN R (69 of Blandinsville, IL) Expired Registration

08/13/2022 - BOUDEWYN, DALTON L (21 of Keokuk, IA) Hancock County Warrant

08/14/2022 - FISCHER, LINDSET M (41 of Dallas City, IL) Hancock County Warrant x 2

08/15/2022 - MCGHGHY, JIMMIE J (72 of Warsaw, IL) Failure to Reduce Speed to Avoid Accident

08/15/2022 - NELSON-BROWN, DAWN C (51 of Warsaw, IL) Possession of Methamphetamine

08/16/2022 - LANNING, GARRETT W (20 OF Warsaw, IL) Hancock County Warrant

08/16/2022 - RICE, TINA L (49 of Beardstown, IL) Hancock County Warrant

08/16/2022 - ROTH, AARON D (32 of Little York, IL) Hancock County Warrant

08/17/2022 - RICE, ADAM T (57 of Beardstown, IL) Hancock County Warrant

08/17/2022 - SAAR, KODY M (28 of Hamilton, IL) Hancock County Warrant

08/17/2022 - FOSTER, NICHOLAS C (20 of Warsaw, IL) Lee County Warrant - Sexual Abuse

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Charles Vandenberg, Editor

(319).371.1670

charles.v@pencitycurrent.com

Lee K. Vandenberg, Sales Manager

(319).371.4125

lee.v@pencitycurrent.com

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PEN CITY CURRENT

It's Black & White and Read all over

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Central Lee Sports

HAWKS FOOTBALL PREVIEW

Hawks hoping to find winning ways in heavy district

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

DONNELSON - Central Lee has been in rebuild mode for the past several years and this year will be no different.

But Hawks Head Coach Chuck Banks said he's very excited about the year, which could be his first full year on the sidelines after illnesses including COVID interrupted his first two years.

The Hawks went 0-8 last year in Class 2A District 6. Banks said athleticism and off-season work has the Hawks in a good position to take big strides this season, but he said numbers are down.

"We don't have quite as many as we've had in past years. We have three ineligible, two hurt, and two at the state fair," he said. "So we have some catching up to do."

The core skills group will be players who got plenty of experience last year, but are still very young.

Chase Johnson, just a sophomore, will be relied upon to carry a heavy load this year at fullback and anchoring the inside linebacker position.

But Johnson said he feels good about the improvement of the offensive and defensive fronts and is looking forward to getting in behind the horses and producing for the Hawks.

"Most of our line has improved from last year. I'm excited to get in behind those guys and get a lot of yards this year," he said.

Johnson had just 72 yards on 33 carries last year, but he had 19.5 tackles which was fourth best on the team in his first varsity season.

Jones hauled in 16 receptions for 149 yards and two scores, all team highs.

But he said despite being courted to move to quar-



JONES



JOHNSON



terback last year, the team needed him to fill the other roles.

"They were pulling me aside last year and talking to me about quarterback but that would have been 3rd string. They needed me to play receiver last year," Jones said.

As quarterback he said the eyes have to be moving on more targets and the mind has to capture more action.

"In this role you have to watch pretty much everyone where, as a receiver, you can watch one or two things," Jones said.

Banks said Calfee, who threw for about 180 yards in a backup role to Bryce Finney, will also figure into the quarterback spot.

"They both can give us what we need at any given moment," Banks said.

Hunter Gregory had 108 yards on 52 carries as just a sophomore, which were also both team highs in 2021. Gregory will platoon with Johnson in the backfield, and Banks said there could be some surprises there.

"Cory's a playmaker. He's just so quick and can make things happen," Banks said.

"At the end of the day, when we look at our offensive identity, Cory is a special kid along with those full-backs.

Jones said he's had some good rapport with junior Landan Lowenberg in 7-on-7 drills earlier this summer. Lowenberg averaged 6.5 yards per catch last year and also ran some plays out of the backfield.

Banks said the interior will be led by fourth-year starter Keating Fuger who will anchor the line at center in his senior season.

Junior Braedon Barlow, and seniors Josh Hawk and James Hemingson will all play both ways as interior components. Senior Brody Fuller will also figure in the mix. Banks said Fuller will probably hold down the defensive end spot and work in the larger offensive packages.

"We've got a lot of guys that are going to play both ways," Banks said.

Blake Bergman could have a breakout year, according to Banks. Bergman comes back for his senior year after averaging 14 yards per catch in 2021.

Sophomore Bo Herdrich could also see big numbers working as a receiver with Jones calling the plays, and Banks said Shane Barnhart has worked hard in the offseason and gotten himself in shape to contribute.

Getting better every day in all aspects of the game is Banks' philosophy this year.

"I'm coming in with the motto we gotta look at ourselves every day during the season and say, 'Are we a better man today physically, mentally, spiritually than we were the day before. When we bring that philosophy into it - it's different,'" Banks said.

"Last year we improved from the beginning of the season. There were a lot of kids that hadn't started in any sports," he said.

"It's a fresh slate this year and we're not going to take anything for granted.

"We're family first around here and I preach that from day one and I think it's paying off. It's here more than any other year I've been coaching."

Banks said Williamsburg will be the team to beat and could win the state title outright. Mid-Prairie will be the cream of the crop again.

The Hawks open at home Friday night against Van Buren in what's becoming a district and conference rivalry. Week 2 sees Central Lee travel to Cardinal.

HAWKS FOOTBALL PREVIEW

Lady Hawks challenged with inexperience in loaded SEI

BY JOHN BOHNENKAMP
PCC Sports

DONNELSON - Inexperience comes with its challenges, and Central Lee High School volleyball coach Amy Cook is finding that out with her team as it gets ready to start the season.

There are some veteran players, but for the most part the Hawks don't have a lot of varsity experience.

That has meant August has been about building the fundamentals of the program.

"It's really about building that trust and the communication on the court," Cook said. "Just being a young team comes with a little bit of being timid at first. They're getting a ton better at

that. But it's something we have to keep honing in on a little bit."

The Hawks went 16-11 last season, 5-3 in the powerful SEI Superconference South Division.

Cook likes what she has seen so far from her team in preparation for Saturday's season-opening matches at a tournament the Hawks are hosting.

"I think things are going great," Cook said. "We have a lot of seniors, but we only have two coming back who played a lot on varsity. So we have a young team in that aspect. They're getting better every day — just trusting each other and building those relationships. They're good kids, and I'm really fortunate for that."

The Hawks do have power in their outside hitters. Senior Makayla Morrison had 308 kills and, as a 97 percent server last season, will be a full-rotation player. Senior Bailey Schwartz, the other outside hitter, had just 10 kills last season, but Cook said the work she has put in during the offseason has paid off.

The rest of the lineup is young, though.

Freshman Taylor Jones and sophomore Halle Lampe will be the middle hitter. Senior Karlie Pohren, who saw some varsity time last season, and freshman Kenna Sandoval will be the setters. Senior Mya Lampe will also be part of the rotation, but she didn't play last season.

See LADY HAWKS, page 7

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Iowa News/From the Front

Human Services, DCI helping with FMPD case

CASE - Continued from Page 1

The owner and management team of Vel's Amigos Restaurant have been highly cooperative with law enforcement in conducting the investigation. No evidence has been found to suggest that anyone other than Meyer had knowledge or involvement in the recordings.

The Fort Madison Police Department reminds the public that the charges are an accusation of a criminal offense, and that the defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Meyer is being held on a \$50,000 cash only bond.

The Iowa Department of Human Services and Dept. of Criminal Investigations is working with Fort Madison Police in the investigation.

Unemployment insurance rates lowest in 24 years

DES MOINES – Governor Kim Reynolds and Iowa Workforce Development announced today the schedule of unemployment insurance rates used to tax Iowa employers will drop to its lowest level in 24 years – the lowest rates currently allowed by Iowa law.

“Today’s announcement is great news for our employers who are already dealing with significantly increased costs due to historic inflation,” Gov. Reynolds said. “Iowa faced the pandemic and its economic impacts head on, and due to our conservative fiscal practices and prudent investment in Iowa’s Unemployment Trust Fund, unemployment insurance taxes in our state will soon reach their lowest rates since 1999.”

Iowa law requires Iowa Workforce Development to establish a table each year to determine the unem-

ployment tax rates that will impact eligible employers. The trigger for deciding which unemployment insurance rate table to implement is derived from a formula based primarily on the balance in Iowa’s unemployment insurance trust fund, unemployment benefit history, and covered wage growth.

Based on this formula, contribution rates will be drawn from Table 8 in calendar 2023 after five consecutive years of being drawn from Table 7. The switch means that a business paying the median tax rate (on employee wages totaling \$36,100 or more annually) and remaining in the same tax rank as 2022 would pay \$72.20 less per employee in unemployment taxes in 2023.

Today’s announcement follows a decision by Gov. Reynolds last year to invest \$237 million in ARP funds to stabilize the unemployment trust fund following record payouts due to COVID-19. In 2020, at the heart of record unemployment, Gov. Reynolds also directed that \$490 million of CARES Act coronavirus relief funds be used to support the UI trust fund.

“Governor Reynolds’ commitment to maintaining and preserving the Unemployment Trust Fund throughout the pandemic will result in real savings for Iowa employers in 2023,” said Beth Townsend, Director of Iowa Workforce Development. “Employers will see, on average, a 25 percent reduction in their unemployment taxes next year, and those savings will provide more resources for Iowa employers to invest in growing their businesses.”



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W-2319018

Sports

Knustrom building Lady Hounds program in second year

FORT MADISON - Fort Madison volleyball coach Kelly Knustrom and assistant Kirsten Shaffer have been busy in preseason practice.

A program roster of 42 players can do that.

Knustrom, in her second season with the Bloodhounds, feels her team is ahead of last season, when building a foundation and culture required some teaching.

"We have a lot to work on, but they're learning quickly and responding to things," Knustrom said. "As far as skill stuff from last year, we're so much further along."

It's an increase in numbers from last season. Having that many players has required some growth for the Bloodhounds' older players.

"It's good," Knustrom said. "We've been practicing all together. It's made some of them that needed pushed, pushed. It's helped our upperclassmen develop as leaders, just because of the large numbers and only two coaches."

Knustrom learned a lot about her team during a scrimmage session Monday in Mediapolis. The Bloodhounds faced Holy Trinity, West Liberty, West Burlington, Mediapolis and Fairfield.

"We learned that we needed to quicken up our game a little bit," Knustrom said. "I think we do some really good things in practice, so I thought it was good to go judge ourselves against other teams."

Knustrom lost a lot of hitting power from last season — Alaina Simpson, Anna Lynk and Genevieve Ruble combined for 386 kills. But she has been able to put together a lineup with players with varsity experience.

Aija Jenkins, who had 42 kills, moves from the middle to outside hitter.

"I'm super impressed with some of the things she's doing," Knustrom said.

McKenna Cashman and Elle Ruble will work on the right side, with Taylor Johnson (46 kills) and Lauryn Helmick (5 kills) in the middle.

Molly Knipe (350 assists, 33 kills) is back at setter. Isabella Boeding, Amy Yasenochok, Alexus Beebe and Dalaney Walker will provide back-row help.

Knustrom spent the week before the Bloodhounds' season opener at the Bondurant-Farrar Tournament working with the team on being "uncomfortable."

"I got some pushback yesterday," Knustrom said, laughing. "But we're working at being 'uncomfortable.' It's good to be prepared."

The Bloodhounds won just eight times last season, but Knustrom thinks the foundation is in place for a better year.

"Skill-wise, I feel like I'm not just bringing in everything new," Knustrom said. "We're trying to break years of habits, and I think we're doing that. The culture, I think, is getting there."



Hawks have work cut out for them in SEI Superconference

LADY HAWKS - Continued from Page 5

The Hawks will have to contend with a division schedule that includes top-ranked (Class 1A) Holy Trinity, No. 8 (Class 1A) and defending state champion Notre Dame, and No. 4 (Class 2A) West Burlington.

"We do have a really tough conference," Cook said. "But that's really the only way you're going to get better, when you play those tough teams. Yeah, it's harder during the actu-

al conference games, but it's going to make us better in the end, I feel like."

For now, it's just about getting to know each other for the Hawks.

"They're definitely stepping up — the seniors are doing a great job of leading the team," Cook said. "We've just got to build those relationships, and I think we're doing that."

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Friday, August 26
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Classifieds/Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE MEETING MINUTES

Subject to change as finalized by the City Clerk. For a final official copy contact the City Clerk's office at (319) 753-8124.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE BURLINGTON, IOWA CITY COUNCIL Meeting No. 15 August 1, 2022

The Burlington City Council met in regular session at 5:30 p.m. in the Thomas J. Smith Council Chambers, City Hall, 400 Washington Street, with Mayor Billups and Council Member Critser present. Council Member Graham-Murray participated via electronic communications. Council Members Maupin and Rinker were absent.

BURLINGTON CITY COUNCIL TENURE AWARD:

* Randy Kershner, Property Maintenance Lead Person, 30 Years of Service

PROCLAMATIONS OF RETIREMENT:

* Brian Luers, Fire Lieutenant, 30 Years of

Service

* Jeff Werner, Firefighter, 41 Years of Service
PROCLAMATION:

* National Night Out -

Marc Denney

COMMENTS FROM

AUDIENCE: None

CONSENT AGENDA:

To the Public:

All matters listed under Item I., Consent Agenda, having been discussed were considered to be routine by the City Council and were enacted by one motion. There was no separate discussion of these items. If discussion was desired, that item was removed from the Consent Agenda and was considered separately.

Introduced By: Critser

Seconded By: Billups

MOTION: To approve all items listed under Item I., Consent Agenda.

DISCUSSION: Mayor Billups reviewed the items listed on the consent agenda to the viewing audience. All present had opportunity to speak and nothing additional was filed in the office of the City Clerk.

(VOTE: 3 - "AYES")

CARRIED

HEARING:

1. Statement: Consid-

eration of a Perpetual Easement Purchase Agreement Between the City of Burlington, Iowa and Burlington Shortline Railroad

COMMENTS: Nick MacGregor, Assistant City Manager for Public Works, stated that the easement encompasses the area currently occupied by the Burlington Short Line Railroad and this item will clean up the lack of a written easement. All present had opportunity to speak and nothing additional was filed in the office of the City Clerk.

Introduced By: Critser

Seconded By: Billups

Motion to Close CARRIED

Introduced By: Critser

Seconded By: Billups
Resolution Granting Permanent Easements to Burlington Shortline Railroad

DISCUSSION: None.

(VOTE: 3 - "AYES")

ADOPTED

ORDINANCES:

Introduced By: Critser

Seconded By: Billups

1. Motion for Preliminary Adoption of the Second Reading of an Ordinance Rezoning the Properties Locally Known as 311, 312 and 313 South 9th Street from R-4, Multi Family Residential to C-1, Limited Commercial Zoning District

DISCUSSION: Angela Andon, City Planner,

stated that there were no changes to the Ordinance Rezoning the Properties Locally Known as 311, 312 and 313 South 9th Street from R-4, Multi Family Residential to C-1, Limited Commercial Zoning District from the first reading. All present had opportunity to speak and nothing additional was filed in the office of the City Clerk.

(VOTE: 3 - "AYES")
CARRIED

Introduced By: Critser

Seconded By: Billups

2. Motion for Preliminary Adoption of the Second Reading of an Ordinance Rezoning the Property Locally Known as 2107 Agency Street from R-2, Single Family Residential (Transitional) to C-1 Limited Commercial Zoning District

DISCUSSION: Angela Andon, City Planner, stated that there were no changes to the Ordinance Rezoning the Property Locally Known as 2107 Agency Street from R-2, Single Family Residential (Transitional) to C-1 Limited Commercial Zoning District from the first reading. All present had opportunity to speak and nothing additional was filed in the office of the City Clerk.

(VOTE: 3 - "AYES")
CARRIED

RESOLUTION:

Introduced By: Critser

Seconded By: Billups

1. Resolution Approv-

ing Interlocal Agreement Between the City of Burlington and Des Moines County for the 2022 Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program Award

DISCUSSION: Marc Denney, Police Chief, stated that the proposed Resolution approves an Interlocal Agreement Between the City of Burlington and Des Moines County for the 2022 Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program Award for the purchase and utilization of active shooter response equipment. He stated that the City of Burlington and Des Moines County have agreed to spend up to \$20,363.00 for the purchase of the equipment. All present had opportunity to speak and nothing additional was filed in the office of the City Clerk.

(VOTE: 3 - "AYES")

ADOPTED

Adjournment: 6:00 p.m.
Approved: August 15, 2022

Katie Music, CMC Jon D. Billups

City Clerk Mayor

(See recording on file in the office of the City Clerk for complete discussion and documentation.)

ITEM I.

Consent Agenda

FINANCES AND MISCELLANEOUS

Minutes of Previous Meetings

Payroll and City Claims

BEER, LIQUOR, WINE

AND CIGARETTES REPORTS AND BONDS

RESOLUTIONS:

1. Resolution Approving Nuisance Abatements for Various Properties

2. Resolution Approving Purchase of a 2022 Elgin Pelican NP Street Sweeper for the Public Works Department

3. Resolution Approving Final Acceptance and Release of Retention Monies for the Locust Sewer Separation Project

4. Resolution Approving Final Acceptance, Final Payment and Release of Retention Monies for the 2020 Flood Mitigation Project Phase VI

5. Resolution Approving an Agreement with Impact 7G, Inc. for Historical Reconnaissance Services Associated with the Madison Avenue and 9th Street Resurfacing Project

6. Resolution Approving Distribution Plan for American Rescue Plan Act Funding for Burlington Police Department Watchguard Storage System Improvements

7. Resolution Approving Required Local Match for High Quality Jobs Program to Western's Smokehouse and Meat Market, LLC

8. Resolution to Install Stop Signs at the Intersection of 5th Street and Valley Street

SET DATE FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS:

1. Consideration of an Ordinance Repealing Ordinance No. 3464 and Rezoning the Property Located at 313 North Roosevelt Avenue to C-2, General Commercial Zoning District (August 15, 2022)

2. Consideration of Urban Renewal Plan Amendment (September 6, 2022)

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Candidates for this position must possess strong leadership qualities, strong communication and collaboration skills, program management experience, and excellent planning and organizational ability. In addition, aptitude with both financial management and community relations is must as the FMHA ED must effectively and efficiently direct operational budgets, improve revenue, develop and implement the FMHA strategic plan as well as enhance relations with the community, internal stakeholders and vendors.

Education or Work Experience Requirements: Bachelor's degree, Associate's Degree and two years experience, or four years of related work experience.

To Apply: The Fort Madison Housing Authority is an equal opportunity employer. Interested candidates must submit a writing sample and have the ability to discuss relevant experience during an interview. To submit resume and relevant writing sample, please email Rebecca Bowker, Chair Fort Madison Board of Commissioners, at Rejobo74@gmail.com.



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From the Front

Swarm sets book signings in area

AUTHOR - Continued from Page 1

mance in the Middle East? Fact: 22 Veterans are dying by suicide each and every day. This book, "Task Force IED" attempts to answer this haunting question and offer a solution.

I will be doing a "Meet the Author" and book signing at the following locations, with books available:

Friday, Sept. 2, from 1:00-5:00 pm, Museum A on the Old Thresher's grounds in Mt. Pleasant. Take in the Old Thresher's Reunion!

Saturday, Sept. 10, from 2:00-4:00 pm, at the First Presbyterian Church, 902 S. Walnut St. in Mt. Pleasant. Cookies, cake, punch and coffee will be served by Ginnie.

Thursday, Sept. 15, from 4:00-7:00 pm, at Burlington by the Book, 301 Jefferson St., Burlington, IA. A

Farmer's Market will also be in progress on Jefferson St.

Sunday, Sept. 18, from 10:00 am-4:00 pm, at Art in the Park, Central Park, between Ave. E&F and 10th&9th St., in downtown Ft. Madison. Come look at the art!

Saturday, Sept. 24, 9 am-4:00 pm, Lamb Lane Farm, 1991 315th Ave., Ft. Madison, IA. This is Barb Zumdome's annual Baa Stock, feathering local artisans. Fun! See the lambs!

Friday, Sept. 30, 10:00-11:00 am, Mt. Pleasant Library, 307 E. Monroe St., Mt. Pleasant, IA. Senior coffee.

Saturday, Oct. 1, 10:30 am-12:00 noon, New London Library, 103 E. Main St., New London, IA.

Friday, Nov. 11, 12:00 noon-1:00 pm, Main Street Art, 106 S. Main St., Mt. Pleasant, IA. This is a brown bag lunch in honor of Veteran's Day.

"Task Force IED" by Curt Swarm is available on Amazon in soft and hard cover, and Kindle, as well as Barnes and Noble and Walmart.

Let us never forget our veterans and what they've been through for us.

Have a good story? Call or text Curt Swarm in Mt. Pleasant at 319-217-0526, find him on Facebook, email him at curtswarm@yahoo.com, or visit his website at www.empty-nest-words-photos-and-frames.com.

Cryotech has eye on FM expansion, ag product lines

ANNIVERSARY - Continued from Page 1

tech expanded into aircraft deicing fluids. Leveraging its knowledge of deicing chemicals and the aviation industry, Cryotech is proud to be the market share leader for propylene-glycol based aircraft deicing fluids in North America.

"The rapid growth, in multiple markets and industries, is gratifying and inspiring," said Amy Munday, Vice President of Sales and Marketing at Cryotech. "Our commitment to service has been a key differentiator and is only possible because of the dedication and ingenuity of the Cryotech staff and our partners."

Cryotech looks to the future with optimism, continuing to focus efforts on diversification of the deicing portfolio with sustainable non-deicing product lines and expanded Fort Madison, IA facility utilization. Building on its acetate-based foundation, Cryotech is expanding into the agriculture market and has become a key supplier to the industry with multiple product offerings.

Cryotech employees celebrated the 30-year anniversary on July 14, 2022. To pay it forward, employees will be encouraged to volunteer in upcoming community events as well as the Living Lands & Waters River Clean-up program.

About Cryotech

Cryotech Deicing Technology is a division of General Atomics International Services Corporation, a San Diego based company specializing in defense and diversified technologies. Cryotech manufactures and markets environmentally compatible acetate-based highway, commercial, and airside pavement deicers, as well as glycol-based aircraft deicers and lavatory fluids. Each is considered safer for the environment because they readily biodegrade and exhibit low toxicity to vegetation and aquatic life. Through business development, Cryotech is focused on diversification with sales and active exploration into non-deicing markets and facility utilization opportunities.

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