

PEN CITY CURRENT

It's **Black & White** and **Read** all over

Monday, November 28, 2022 | 8 pages | Volume 6 • Issue 200



www.pencitycurrent.com



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

The Fort Madison lights are on full display again in Central Park with the holidays in full swing. All the Fort Madison lights are in the park this year again for visitors.

Hound grapplers ready for runs at state

PREVIEW: New state tourney rules could benefit Hound wrestlers this year

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

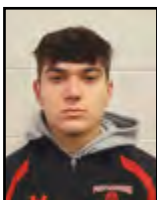
FORT MADISON - The Bloodhounds have won the last four Southeast Conference wrestling titles.

A fifth seems to be in the cards.

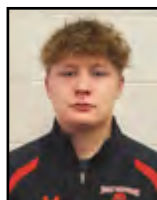
The Bloodhounds return some experience and depth in the heavier weight classes for the 2022-23 season. And Head Coach Ryan Smith said there are tons of opportunities for scrappy kids in the lighter divisions.

The Hounds return 2022 state qualifiers Daniel Sokolik and Ike Thacher. The other qualifier, Jakob McGowan, was lost to graduation.

But the state has changed the format for the state tournament,



THACHER



SOKOLIK

now allowing the top three finishers in each district qualifier to advance to Wells Fargo in February, a move Smith is a proponent of.

The state announced the changes on April 27, along with moving the dual tournament up a week and to the Xtreme Arena in Coralville.

"I like it. Over the years we've had some tremendous wrestlers that have come up a little short," he said.

"This will allow some of those kids right on the cusp, like last year in the wrestle-back matches, to get a chance to extend their season another week. If we would have had that last year, we would

See **HOUNDS**, page 8

EMPTY NEST

MHI nurse finds saviors from 1980 attack

It was August, 1980. 34-year old Head Nurse Marcia Marshall was working at the Mental Health Institute (MHI) in Mt. Pleasant. She needed to change the dressing on the hands of a patient, "Billy." Billy had been in a scuffle earlier in the day with another patient and had injured his

hands. He was now heavily sedated with his wrists in restraints, attached to a thick belt. He was asleep in the day room. Marcia woke him up and said, "C'mon, Billy, I need to change your dressing." He lumbered down the hall, following Marcia to the treatment room. Billy was a big

man, not obese, but big and hefty. Another patient, was trying to come in the room. Marcia shut the door to keep him out, something she would later regret.

Marcia changed Billy's bandages. He

See **SWARM**, page 4

EDITORIAL



Turkey day turned over to daughter

For the first time in more than 30 years, I didn't make a Thanksgiving turkey.

The only smell in my house was the warm aroma of roasted garlic and onion. Adding those to your mashed potatoes during the mashing stage brings a heartiness to the side.

My niece Natalie had some not-so-subtle hints that my baby red potatoes last year were too salty. I love her - so we cut back on the kosher salt this year. The damn things were bland.

Kids.

So no turkeys, no two decades of the old joke about me inadvertently turning the oven off instead of the timer one year and putting dinner back about three hours.

No jokes about the dill pickle soup I made five years ago. I ate most of it myself. It was kind of a potato soup thing with dill pickles and the juice from the jar. I thought it was great.

I tried a pumpkin soup one year and my mom was the guinea pig. She smiled politely because her son made it. I ate most of it myself.

And I escaped this year with not being ridiculed for opening a bag of premade, frozen alfredo sauce and heating it up thinking it was potato soup. I think I drizzled it over my turkey that year and pretended I'd created something new. I ate most of it myself.

So the house was empty this year. No pies baking in the morning. No Taylor looking over my shoulder as I prepped, baked, and carved the turkey. No wife trying to navigate the timing of the oven to get the scalloped corn, candied sweet potatoes, and dinner rolls in around the bird.

But I got something better this year. And

See **TURKEY**, page 8

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WEATHER

MON 28 Nov.....Sunny and cool, 49° F/ 39° F
TUE 29 Nov.....Mostly cloudy and cool, 58° F/ 24° F
WED 30 Nov.....Sunny and cold, 30° F/ 15° F

IOWA LOTTERY

LOTTO AMERICA 11/26127 31 46 52, Star Ball: 7 All Star Bonus: 3
LUCKY FOR LIFE 11/265 12 18 19 31, Lucky Ball: 4
MEGA MILLIONS 11/2529 31 46 54 67, Mega Ball: 18 Megaplier: 2
PICK 3 11/24, 11/25, 11/26 MIDDAY8 0 9, 8 5 7, 8 6 6
PICK 3 11/24, 11/25, 11/26 EVENING8 5 2, 3 6 9, 4 0 3
PICK 4 11/24, 11/25, 11/26 MIDDAY5 11 2, 4 8 3 6, 3 9 0 3
PICK 4 11/24, 11/25, 11/26 EVENING6 4 1 2, 3 4 2 6, 5 6 4 2
POWERBALL 11/2615 30 47 50 51, Powerball: 3 Power Play: 10

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Obituaries

OBITUARIES

CINDY L. MASTERSON

Cindy LeAnn Masterson, 67, of Sutter, Illinois, passed away on Monday, November 14, 2022, at Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis, Missouri.



MASTERSON

Cindy was born on July 3, 1955, in Keokuk, Iowa, and graduated from Keokuk High School in 1973. She is survived by her husband of forty-two years, Jeff Masterson, of Sutter; her daughter and son-in-law Tashia Evans and Travis Worrell of Sutter; grandchildren: Haley Raye Evans and Rylee Worrell of Sutter, Rylan Worrell and Lucas Masterson of Keokuk; extended family Scott and Amie Rosson of Nauvoo, Illinois; siblings Ramona (Kirk) Savage, Lance (Steph) Stott, and Cory (Allison) Stott; and mother Judy Stott.

She was preceded in death by her father Ramo Stott, stepdaughter Barb Masterson, and her nephew Kyle Savage.

Cindy enjoyed spending time with family and friends, watching racing and the Chicago Cubs on TV, and spending time with her church friends at the Sutter Salem Bible Church.

A memorial service will be held at 2 pm on Saturday, November 26, 2022, at Printy Funeral Home in Hamilton. Visitation will be held from 11 am to 2 pm on Saturday, November 26, at the funeral home directly before the service.

Memorials may be directed to St. Jude Children's Hospital.

Tributes and condolences may be left at www.printyfuneralhome.com.

Printy Funeral Home of Hamilton is in charge of arrangements.

OBITUARIES

RICHARD J. BOEDING

Richard Joseph "Dick" Boeding, 93, of West Point, Iowa, passed away at 7:07 a.m. Thursday, November 17, 2022, at Southeast Iowa Regional Home Health and Hospice House in West Burlington, Iowa.



BOEDING

Born on February 6, 1929, in West Point, Iowa, the son of Edward H. and Irene (Strothman) Boeding. On August 27, 1952, he married Vera Watznauer at Saint Mary's Catholic Church in Fort Madison, Iowa.

He is survived by his wife; five children: Deb (Ron) Holtkamp of Montrose, Russ (Connie) Boeding of Waterloo, Karen Boeding of Ankeny, Ed (Nancy) Boeding of Moberly, Missouri, Roger (Diana) Boeding of Moscow; six grandchildren: Jason (Nicole), Brian, Matthew, Michael, Katelyn and Ryan Boeding; three great grandchildren: Madison, Ella and Gracie Boeding and brother-in-law: Harold Glasgow. Also surviving are several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; eight brothers: Lambert, Paulie, Bill, Charlie, Harry, Edward, Archie and Melvin Boeding; two sisters: Darlene Umthum and Rosemary Glasgow. Dick was a member of Saint Mary's of the Assumption Catholic Church, a 70 year member of West Point Knights of Columbus, the Tri-State Gun Club and National Rifle Association. He was a lifelong farmer. Dick enjoyed hunting, fishing, gardening and trap shooting where he won many awards.

Visitation will begin at 12:00 noon Tuesday, November 22, 2022, at Schmitz Funeral Home in West Point, Iowa, where the family will receive friends from 3:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. A Knights of Columbus Rosary will be recited at 4:00 p.m. and a Christian Wake Service held at 6:00 p.m.

The Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, November 23, 2022, at Saint Mary's of the Assumption Catholic Church in West Point, Iowa, with Father Dan Dorau as celebrant. Burial will be at Calvary Cemetery in West Point.

A memorial has been established in his memory for Saint Mary's of the Assumption Catholic Church, Southeast Iowa Regional Home Health and Hospice House or West Point Fire and Rescue.

Online condolences may be made to the family at www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com. Schmitz Funeral Home of West Point is assisting the family with arrangements.

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Obituaries

OBITUARIES

ROBERT D. SEABOLD

Robert Dale Seabold, 91, of Keokuk, IA died Sunday, November 20, 2022 at the Montrose Health Center in Montrose, IA.

He was born on February 15, 1931 in Keokuk, IA the son of George J. and Edith Pearl Rein Seabold. Robert graduated from Keokuk High School with the Class of 1949.



SEABOLD

He was a veteran of the United States National Guard and proudly served his country for four years.

On June 12, 1955 Robert was united in marriage to Joyce E. Biddenstadt at St. Paul United Church of Christ in Keokuk. She preceded him in death on November 26, 2018.

Robert was a farmer and also delivered milk for Tri-State Dairy to local homes for twenty-six years. He later became an over the road truck driver for Holland Trucking in Keokuk.

Robert was a member of the St. Paul United Church of Christ, the Elks Lodge #106, the American Legion Post 41 and the Keokuk Yacht Club.

Robert was a talented woodworker and made birdhouses, shelves and other wood crafts. He enjoyed playing card games including solitaire and poker. He played softball on his church league until the age of fifty and was an avid bowler and bowled on several bowling leagues through the years. Robert was a diehard Chicago Cubs fan. After his retirement Robert was a hobby farmer and had a huge vegetable garden every summer.

He is survived by three sons, Doug Seabold (Sue) of Keokuk, Bruce Seabold of Keokuk, Steve Seabold (Lisa) of Quincy, IL, eight grandchildren Bill Seabold (Jill), Nick Seabold (Ashley), Lacey Harnish (Josh), Adam Seabold (Kasey), Brooklyn Seabold, Brendan Seabold, Tyler Seabold and Amanda Schmitt (Brandon), eight great-grandchildren, Ryan Seabold, Andrew Seabold, Jordan Seabold, Gavin Harnish, Landon Harnish, Kyle Schmitt, Remington and Max Seabold, four great-great-grandchildren, Karter and Lynlee Seabold and Hadley and Laker Seabold. He is also survived by one sister, Shirley Wood of Kansas City, KS.

Besides his wife he was also preceded in death by his parents, one son, Tim Seabold, five sisters, Dorothy Seabold, Ruth Seabold, Louise Laubersheimer, Martha Seabold and Maxine French and two brothers, George and Carl Seabold.

Funeral services will be held at 2 pm Monday (November 28) at Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk with Joel Schlatter officiating. Burial will be in the Sunset Memorial Park in Keokuk.

Visitation will be held prior to the service on Monday from 1 - 2 pm with family meeting with friends at that time.

Memorials may be made to the St. Paul United Church of Christ or the City of Christmas.

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

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.



OBITUARIES

ARDELLE H. SKILLERN

Ardelle H. Skillern, 89, of Ft. Madison passed away at 6:40 PM on Monday, November 21, 2022 at The Kensington.



SKILLERN

She was born on March 28, 1933 in Chippawa County, MN to Arthur and Helma Mikkelson Dalen. On January 22, 1961, she married Bennie Skillern in Milan, MN and he passed away April 5, 2000.

Ardelle was a registered nurse for thirty nine years and retired from Ft. Madison Community Hospital in 1992. She was a member of the First Christian Church. Ardelle enjoyed sewing, crocheting, gardening, spending time with her friends and attending school activities.

Survivors include one son, Jon (Liz) Skillern of Shenandoah, IA; one daughter, Jana (Jeff) Hubbs of Ft. Madison; four grandchildren, Sean (Carly) Skillern, Darby Skillern, Jennifer Hubbs, and Jordan Hubbs; one great granddaughter, Vivian Skillern, a brother, Tom (Kay) Dalen of Detroit Lakes, MN and nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, and a daughter Christina in infancy.

Per her wishes, cremation has been entrusted to King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. The family will meet with friends from 10 AM until 11 AM at the First Christian Church on Saturday, November 26, 2022. A memorial service will be held at 11 AM at the church with Rev. Leslie Dalstra officiating. Burial will be at a later date in Soldiers' Circle, Oakland Cemetery.

A memorial has been established for First Christian Church and online condolences may be left at www.kinglynk.com.



Lunch Specials
Nov 28 - Dec 2
11am - 1pm

Monday, November 28
 Beef Stroganoff, Green Beans

Tuesday, November 29
 Meatloaf, Loaded Potatoes, Corn

Wednesday, November 30
 Chicken & Noodles, Mashed Potatoes

Thursday, December 1
 Fried Chicken Dinners

Friday, December 2
 Maidrites, Cheese Potatoes

Touching the Community with Care



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 #3 John Bennett Drive, Fort Madison
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Sports/From the Front

Crusaders still young, but looking to build on success

BY JOHN BOHNENKAMP
PCC SPORTS

FORT MADISON - Holy Trinity's boys basketball team won six games last season, but coach John Hellige thinks that can be a foundation for this season.

"It was baptism by fire," Hellige said. "The kids and the coaches really kept a positive outlook throughout the season. We just really tried to focus on each quarter, each game, to improve."

What Hellige appreciated the most was how the Crusaders wanted to keep going after their season had ended.

"We really didn't slow down," he said. "After the season, I told them I wanted them to take some time, and they were like, no, let's go."

That work led into a summer in which the Crusaders

played 21 games in different leagues.

"We got a ton more experience," Hellige said. "We basically got two seasons out of one season."

Holy Trinity, which opens Monday at home against WACO, brings back the bulk of last season's team. Hellige recited the stats — 74 percent of last year's scoring is back, along with 67 percent of the rebounding and 91 percent of the assists.

"Last year, we played a lot of younger kids and they got invaluable experience," Hellige said. "And we're still really young."

Leading scorer Conner Gehling returns after a season in which he averaged 13.1 points.

"He's had a great summer," Hellige said. "He's a huge part of our game plan."

Gehling and Luke Hellige, now a sophomore, combined

for 242 rebounds last season. Sophomore Adam Sobczak is back after leading the Crusaders with 90 assists.

Forward Nick Fullenkamp is the team's lone senior. Guard Maddox Rung is a junior.

Hellige also has a deep bench.

Freshman guard Layne Rung is a "drop-dead shooter," Hellige said. Brayton Schneider and Koby Jones provide frontcourt depth and Nathan Box and Tate Green will see time in the backcourt.

"We're still looking for that sixth man, seventh man, but we have a good group," Hellige said.

The momentum from last season, Hellige said, has carried over.

"I think we learned a lot," he said. "And the good thing is we don't just have one season with this group. We're still young and we've got room to grow."

Nurse able to re-connect with heroes

SWARM - Continued from Page 1

fell against Marcia, knocking her to the floor. "C'mon, Billy. Wake up," she said. Before she knew it, Marcia was flat on her back, with Billy straddling her chest, and his hands gripping her throat. "I'm going to kill you," he said.

Marcia tried to scream, but Billy's grip on her throat was too tight. She twisted, bucked and kicked. She tried to get her hands to his face but he was too tall. However he bit her thumb so she knows she did some damage to his face.

Marcia was giving up. She couldn't fight any longer; he was too strong. She had an out-of-body experience. She hovered in a corner of the room looking down. It's called "dissociation," when your mind takes you away from the trauma.

An Iowa Wesleyan College student, who was working at MHI for the summer, noticed the closed door, came in, and attempted to pull Billy off. Four or more young men joined the fray. Billy was hitting them and nearly bit off one kid's fingers. It was a brutal fight before they could get Billy subdued and into full restraints.

A staff member took Marcia to the hospital. Her throat was so swollen she couldn't talk. Billy had hit her in the face and pounded her head against the floor. She was given a tetanus shot because of her bitten thumb.

Marcia's husband was in Alaska on a field trip and Marcia was in no condition to go home alone. Dennis Nellor, the business manager at MHI, took Marcia home to his and his wife's house to spend the night. Kathy Nellor, Dennis' wife, was friends with Marcia.

Marcia didn't sleep at all that night. She kept thinking, "He tried to kill me."

It was a Friday night. On Monday morning, Marcia went to work with two black eyes, two knots on the back of her head, and a raspy voice. She wanted to thank the young men who saved her life but didn't know who they were. She always wished she could thank them.

Billy was transferred to Oakdale in Iowa City, a psyche facility for mentally ill prisoners, and Marcia lost track of him. Leftover effects for Marcia include "hyper-startle reflex," especially if she is touched from behind, and heightened personal security measures. In a room full of people, she tries to sit with her back to the wall.

Fast forward to today. Kathy Nellor and now Marcia Wiedemeier from Burlington, renewed their friendship. Kathy Nellor belongs to a book club in Mt. Pleasant and happened to mention the attack on Marcia at MHI years before. A lady in the book club spoke up, "That was my son who helped pull the man off."

Bingo. Marcia was able to talk to the lady's son, who is now in his sixties, and get the names of the other men involved. Amazingly, she has since talked to all four of them. All of the men were appreciative of the call, remembered every second of the incident, and filled in details Marcia wasn't aware of. She was finally able to thank them for saving her life. Marcia can now put the incident to rest. "Never give up your search," she says. "Whatever it is."

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Classifieds/Public Notices

PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICES

**PUBLIC NOTICE
MEETING MINUTES
West Burlington
Regular City Council
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday,
November 2, 2022**

The West Burlington City Council met in regular session on Wednesday, November 2, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. at West Burlington City Hall, 122 Broadway Street, West Burlington, Iowa, with Mayor Ron Teater presiding.

MEMBERS PRESENT:
Ron Teater, Kathy Newberry, Andy Crowner, John Johnson, Therese Lees, and Melanie Young

MEMBERS ABSENT:

ALSO PRESENT:
Police Chief Jesse Logan, Fire Chief/Building Inspector Shaun Ryan, Public Works Director Mike Brissey, City Clerk Kelly Fry, IT Administrator Brad Newberry, Finance Manager Angela Moore, and City Administrator Gregg Mandsager

**CALL TO ORDER
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL
PERFECTING & APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mayor Teater asked Council to amend the agenda by moving the request from United Private Networks, LLC request for a Three-Year Right-of-Way Permit from Old Business to New Business after item #3.

Moved by Lees, seconded by Crowner, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried by the following votes:

Ayes: Newberry, Crowner, Johnson, Lees, and Young

CONSENT AGENDA

- Approve minutes from the Regular City Council meeting on 10/19/2022

- Approve payment to French-Reneker Associates for engineering services related to the Mt. Pleasant St. Resurfacing - Phase II - \$6,396.68

- Approve payment of Claims as listed on the 11/2/2022 Expense Approval Report - \$67,055.39

Moved by Lees, seconded by Young, to approve the Consent Agenda items as presented. Motion carried by the following votes:

Ayes: Newberry, Crowner, Johnson, Lees, and Young

COUNCIL & STAFF REPORTS
City Administrator

Mandsager is working with Iowa Workforce Development to develop an education plan for the Wastewater Apprenticeship Program.

Public Works Director Brissey reported that a pump at the West III Lift Station has failed and repairs would be approximately \$3,130 repair. Also, two of the main valves in the East Lift Station have broken and it is critical that they be in working order in case of an emergency with the lift station.

Keokuk Contractor has estimated the repairs to cost \$21,735. There was a consensus that the repairs needed to be done as soon as possible. With no objection, they will get parts ordered and have the repairs approved at the next meeting.

Brissey also reported that Noris Asphalt has completed the grinding work on the Mt. Pleasant Street Resurfacing Project - Phase II. If the weather cooperates, they plan to start laying the asphalt next week.

The contractor is working on communication issues between the water tower and the controls. They have also discovered that the construction specifications call for the City to furnish the internet to the Water Tower. The cost would be approximately \$5,820. This will allow staff to receive alarms from the control system 24 hours a day. Brissey will get quotes for consideration at the next meeting.

Police Chief Logan reported that there was a hit and run on Hwy 406 Road. The department is following leads to determine who the driver of the vehicle was.

Fire Chief Ryan reported that he has completed the inspection at 914 Broadway for Midwest Realty and Sade Suites, a Nutrition shop in the 200 block of Broadway, and the daycare at SCC.

Finance Manager Angela Moore reported that she has completed the T.I.F./Urban Renewal Report and staff has been reviewing the initial audit report.

Council Member Young reported that she had taken part in a Table Top Exercise with Des Moines County Emergency Management. The exercise addressed Economic Recovery. Gina Hardin

with Des Moines County Emergency Management will be at the November 16th meeting to discuss Emergency Management with the Council.

City Administrator Mandsager reported that the Community Visioning Committee held its first meeting via zoom and will start holding regular meetings to start the visioning process.

CITIZEN INQUIRIES
No inquiries.

NEW BUSINESS
Speer Financial will present the City's Annual TIF/DEBT Report

Maggie Burger with Speer Financial presented the City's Tax Increment Financing Planning Report for 2022.

Consider the second reading of an Ordinance adopting Airport Approach Regulations

Council considered the second reading of an Ordinance adopting Airport Approach Regulations.

Support from the City of Burlington, Des Moines County, and the City of West Burlington would positively impact the funding available to the Southeast Iowa Regional Airport. The regulations proposed by the new section would not be more restrictive than what is already in place by the City's Zoning regulations, and the stipulations for development in the approach zones would not significantly impact development in West Burlington.

Moved by Lees, seconded by Newberry, approve the second reading of an Ordinance adopting Airport Approach Regulations. Motion carried by the following votes:

Ayes: Newberry, Crowner, Johnson, Lees, and Young

Consider the Board of Adjustment's decision to issue a Special Use Permit and grant a variance to the front yard setback requirements for a proposed Multi-Family Residential Housing Project in the Shottenkirk Estates Subdivision.

In 2021, Midwest Realty Group approached Council requesting support for their project, which would include the construction of a 48-unit apartment complex. At that time, the Council agreed there was a need for more housing in West Burlington and passed a Resolution supporting their application to the Iowa

Economic Development Authority (IEDA) for State tax incentives under the Workforce Housing Tax Credit (WHTC) Program. Earlier this year, Midwest Realty Group was awarded funding under the Workforce Housing Tax Credit Program to help fund their apartment complex project. Since they applied and were awarded the funding, the local housing market has been saturated with apartments, and the developer has changed plans slightly. Rather than building 12 unit apartment building, they are proposing more of a townhouse-style construction with outside entrances to each unit. Midwest Realty Group asked the Board of Adjustment to grant a Special Use Permit to allow the construction of three 4-plex units (two stories) and five 8-plex units (upper and lower units).

Developers, Ryan Nagrocki and John Mercer, with Midwest Realty Group, Inc. presented their project to Council.

Council reviewed the Board of Adjustment's decision to grant a Special Use Permit to allow the construction of Multi-Family Residential Housing units in a B-2 General Business District and grant a variance of 15' to the front yard set back requirement along Huston Street and Layne Drive. The Council asked several questions about the projects and discussed the need for sidewalks to connect the area with current housing and the proposed trail along Gear Avenue. The Council was happy to see the area being developed and felt the Multi-Family use was a good fit for the area.

Moved by Young, seconded by Lees, to accept the Board of Adjustment's decision to grant a Special Use Permit to Midwest Realty to allow the construction of Multi-Family Residential Housing units in a B-2 General Business District and grant a variance of 15' to the front yard set back requirement along Huston Street and Layne Drive. Motion carried by the following votes:

Ayes: Newberry, Crowner, Johnson, Lees, and Young

Consider a Three-Year Right-of-Way Permit application from United Private Networks, LLC

to install 5,105' of fiber infrastructure in the City's Right-of-way along Mt. Pleasant Street and N. Gear Ave.

United Private Networks, LLC has applied for a Right-of-Way Permit to install 5,105 feet of HDPE Conduit in the City's Right-of-way along the North side of Mt. Pleasant Street and the east side of N. Gear Ave. Public Works Director Mike Brissey met with United Private Networks, LLC, and discussed his concerns about the location of the fiber in the right-of-way. He was able to have his questions answered and recommended approval of the right-of-way permit as presented. This Three-Year Right-of-Way Permit will expire December 31, 2025.

Moved by Lees, seconded by Newberry, to approve a three-year Right-of-way Permit for United Private Networks, LLC. Motion carried by the following votes:

Ayes: Newberry, Crowner, Johnson, Lees, and Young

Discuss changes to Water Rates

City Administrator Mandsager presented Council with several options to cover the 12% water increase that Burlington Municipal Waterworks implemented in July of 2022. City Administrator Mandsager recommended an 8% increase to the current water rates and implementing a minimum connection fee for accounts with multiple users or connections. City Administrator Mandsager recommended an 8% increase to the rates and felt it should be adequate to cover the increase from Burlington Municipal Waterworks.

Melanie recommended moving forward with the recommendation for an 8% increase. Johnson compared the proposed rates to what customers in Ft. Madison pay. He would like to see the base rate changed. City Administrator Mandsager explained that the base rate is a charge that helps cover the cost of providing service to a property.

Moved by Young, seconded by Newberry, to move forward with consideration of an 8% increase to the current rates and implementation of a minimum charge for multiple users/connec-

tions. Motion carried by the following votes:

Ayes: Newberry, Crowner, Johnson, Lees, and Young

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 2. Valid Iowa driver's license
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 4. Certified Laboratory Assistant preferred
 5. Ability to perform complex laboratory analyses

Apply at City Hall, 811 Avenue E, Fort Madison, IA or email applications to jcul-len@fortmadison-ia.com by Friday, December 16th, 2022.



Classifieds/Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICES

**OLD BUSINESS
CITIZEN INQUIRIES
CLOSED SESSION**
Closed Session in accordance with Iowa Code Section 21.5(1)(i) to evaluate the professional competency of an individual whose appointment, hiring, performance, or discharge is being considered when necessary to prevent needless and irreparable injury to that individual's reputation and that individual requests a closed session.

Moved by Crouner, seconded by Young, to go into a Closed Session at 7:16 p.m., in accordance with Iowa Code Section 21.5(1)(i). Motion carried by the following votes:

Ayes: Newberry, Crouner, Johnson, Lees, and Young

Moved by Young, seconded by Newberry, to come out of closed session at 8:30 p.m. Motion carried by the following votes:

Ayes: Newberry, Crouner, Johnson, Lees, and Young

Consider any potential action following Closed Session

Council considered an amendment to Section 8.6 of City Administrator Mandsager's Employment Agreement related to the use of technology. The amendment adds language that states the employer will provide the employee with a desktop computer in addition to a laptop computer.

Moved by Young, seconded by Newberry, to approve an amendment to Section 8.6 of the City Administrator's Employment Contract related to providing a desktop computer for the City Administrator. Motion carried by the following votes:

Ayes: Newberry, Crouner, Johnson, Lees, and Young

ADJOURN

Moved by Lees, seconded by Crouner, to adjourn at 8:35 p.m. Motion carried by the following votes:

Ayes: Newberry, Crouner, Johnson, Lees, and Young

Ron Teator, Mayor
Kelly D. Fry, City Clerk

**PUBLIC NOTICE
MEETING MINUTES
Fort Madison
Public Library
Board of Trustees
October 20, 2022
5:30 p.m. in person
and electronically
via Zoom**

Board members present in person: Sharon Groene, Candice Smrt, Anne Heitz, Tom Pollpeter, Kathy Burkhardt

and Mary Whitcomb.

Others present: Sarah Clendineng, library staff. Jack Gray, city council liaison.

Meeting called to order with a quorum present at 5:30 pm.

Excused Absences: Motion to excuse the absences of Jane Bartlett, Ron Welder and Lon Spurgin – Smrt; 2nd – Heitz. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Agenda: Motion to approve the agenda removing the closed session and library director evaluation– Heitz; 2nd – Burkhardt. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments: No public comments.

Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve the minutes of the September 15 meeting– Burkhardt; 2nd – Whitcomb. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of the Bills: Trustee Groene inquired about the donation from the Senior Citizens Club. The Director clarified that she hadn't previously heard of the Senior Citizens club is but they wanted to donate to the library and she has added a gift plate for them on the donor wall. Trustee Burkhardt asked if the electric bill was high due to the changes in billing from the electric company. The director replied that the amount was about the same, or slightly lower, than the same time last year.

Motion to approve the October bills – Burkhardt; 2nd – Pollpeter. Motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence: No correspondence.

Director's Report: In addition to the attached report, the board asked for some more details on Hoopla. The director replied that it is another source for electronic materials, included books, magazines, music and movies and it has a nice selection. With Bridges, the library pays for content up front. Hoopla is pay per use. If someone uses 5 items at 1.99 per item, that would cost the library \$10 for that month. There are some things that have changed since it first came out. Hoopla now allows you to set a monthly budget so that, if you're patrons use all the money for that month, no one will be able to borrow anything else until the new month starts, to help keep from overspending. The main advantage of Hoopla is that there are no waitlists, however, the content is not identical to Bridges. This product would be in addition to

Bridges.

Trustee Burkhardt asked why the director was looking into a permanent barrier. The director replied that employees have not seemed to have been as sick since we put up the shower curtains and it is not because people are not coming into the library sick. Trustee Burkhardt expressed concerns about blocking things in and creating separation, reducing human connection. The director clarified that it will just be at the main two check out stations and the children's desk and it won't be to the ceiling. If anyone has seen what is at city hall, where it is completely enclosed, the barriers won't be like that. Trustee Burkhardt asked what librarians would do if someone who is visibly ill needs help and they have to step beyond it to help them. The director replied that staff would still assist them and there are masks provided for both staff and customers who might feel more comfortable wearing one. While it won't be 100% but having the barriers does seem to have reduced employee illness. The employees have also expressed that they are more comfortable with a barrier.

Trustee Heitz inquired about the glass on the light in front of the planter that got broken and inquired about putting a cage around it.

The director inquired about what to do when the secretary is not present at a meeting, Jane is not comfortable fulfilling that role if she is not present. If the board is okay with it, the director suggested that she serves as backup and present the minutes. The board seemed okay with that.

New Business
Review Operations Policy: There are several small changes, a lot of these are administrative, such as updating the mission statement. The director would like to add language blocking patron cards for overdue Inter-library Loan materials automatically, regardless of how far overdue the item is. Trustee Burkhardt inquired if we have a lot of patrons who don't return ILL materials. The director replied that there aren't a lot but this could be an incentive to speed up and improve the timeliness of their return.

It was also suggested to change the replacement card fee to encourage people keeping track of their cards.

The changes for

overdue materials are just to bring the policy in line with the changes that were made in May when the board stopped charging overdue fees.

Motion to approve the changes to the Operation Policy– Burkhardt; 2nd – Heitz. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion of Jerry Pickard Memorial:

Barb Pickard and her daughter Allison spoke with the director about using some of the memorial money for a book giveaway and the director suggested a time over Christmas break. The library will try to market this to encourage participation from daycare kids, as well. Trustee Burkhardt suggested amending the ages to include all high school students, even if they have turned 19. The director will just make sure to word it so that all high school students would be included. The fund is about \$5,000 and Barb and Allison were okay with whatever money isn't used for this program staying in the gift fund to be used for materials or programs, as needed.

There were no objections from the board to this program and the director will move forward with it.

Create a Newsletter E-Mail List

One of the sessions that the director attended at ILA was on marketing and creating a library newsletter. The director inquired if the board had any issue with the library using the e-mail addresses that it currently has for patrons and turning that into an opt-out mailing list for a library newsletter. The Newsletter would include information about upcoming events, articles about library resources, it would also be able to include more pictures than we are currently able to offer. The newsletter would be in addition to the newspaper column and could be included on the library's Facebook page and website. There would be an unsubscribe button that would actually work. We would also provide a way for people to opt-in and subscribe. The director is looking at doing this at least quarterly, not more than once a month.

There was a question about why there might be a cost in the future. The director had concerns about sending out a newsletter to thousands of people from a single e-mail box. Board members expressed concerns about paying to send

something out that you can post on Facebook for free.

Trustee Burkhardt inquired about putting out a survey before starting the e-mail list to gauge interest. Trustees Heitz and Smrt suggested just going ahead with it.

Motion to approve using the existing patron e-mail addresses to start an e-mail list with an opt-out option – Smrt; 2nd – Whitcomb. Motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Education
Director's Report on the ILA Conference

The pre-conference on book repair was fantastic. Kelly Shields learned a lot from it and I learned even more than Kelly did because she's already been repairing books. We also saw a demo of a machine that you put a book in and using heat, it loosens the glue from the spine, allowing you to remove the cover from the spine.

Then you can take any loose pages that are falling out and reseal them in. The final step is to use glue strips in the spine and put the book back in the machine which heats it up again and glues all the pages back together.

This would be especially helpful for our graphic novel collection because that tends to be the main point of failure on those. All the librarians who were at the conference were very interested in this and we were talking about going in on purchasing one of these machines together as a joint venture. It's only about \$1,300 for the machine and the starter supplies. The five libraries will be working on the logistics of whether we send it from library to library or if it just lives at one library and other libraries send their materials to be repaired.

The director got a lot out of the vendor booths this year. Advantage archives might be a resource for digitizing the Ted Sloat book, depending on what resources are available at the State Library. WebLinxInc is a new website design company and they would be an option if we decided to create a website separate from the city.

This was the first year at the conference for Edwards Creative. They are a graphic design company that does displays for museums or wall wraps or outside art. If we ever want to do anything creative with the Soffitaround the inside of the library, this would be a potential place to go. Midwest Pano helps to

create virtual and interactive library tours, the director will be having a meeting to talk with them tomorrow morning to get some more details.

There were also a number of program ideas. Cindy Wilson has written a book, "The Beautiful Snow" which is about the weather during the winter that coincides with the Laura Ingalls Wilder book, "The Long Winter" and she has a talk about how that weather affected the trains and what it took to get that supply chain moving again.

The director also got contact information for CultureAll. One of their programs is called Open-Book which was inspired by the Human Library Project and creates social cohesion through story sharing events were "Books" are people and are the "Reader". There was also a representative from Historic Voices that has a number of historic reenactors including literary characters, authors, presidents and presidents wives.

The Thursday morning group session about intersectionality and intersection was interesting. Especially the concept of not thinking about people as having disabilities but that people are disabled by things in their environment that limit their access to resources. One example could be kids who are in high school past the age of 18, making sure they have access to resources for high schoolers until they graduate, rather than cutting those off at the age of 18.

The session on auditing diversity in the library collection and did provide some good ideas to think about improving the diversity of your collection without doing a full audit. A full audit can be very time consuming.

The afternoon session on Thursday was on marketing strategies for libraries and was probably the most valuable session that the director attended. That was where she got e-mail list idea. We currently have a hit and miss marketing plan that the director will work on formalizing. The speaker also talked about using Facebook events for regular library programs, not just special events, so we're going to start that with some of our events and see how it goes. The director also realized she hadn't been including radio stations in press releases so she will add

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PUBLIC NOTICES

those to her media list.
Meeting adjourned at
6:10 pm until November
17, 2022.

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Pledge of Allegiance

Approve Agenda
Public Input
Consider Approval
of Resolution for Great
River Housing Trust Fund
Match
Consider Approval of
Employment Agreement
with Mark Long, Lee
County EMS Director
Consider Approval of
Xiphos Technical Services
Master Service Agree-
ment
Consider Approval of
Monday, November 21,

2022 Board Minutes
Consider Approval of
Claims for Payment
Personnel Actions:
A. New Hire (Replace-
ment) - Sheriff Office
B. Step Increase - Sec-
ondary Roads
Commission or Com-
mittee Reports
Adjourn

Possible workshop to
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Agenda
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From the front

Smiles found in odd holiday

TURKEY - Continued from Page 1

I didn't think that was possible for a Thanksgiving without anyone in my immediate family around. Lee was in Texas, Taylor in New York City, and Kelsey pumping through our hearts. What could be good about that? This.

I got to watch Taylor through a buffered video call make her first-ever Thanksgiving dinner. After watching her perform on stage in New York City three weeks ago, this was just as good if not better.

She got up early and called me and told me to hit the button that says "Video call". I did and there she was. Her hair pulled back with a few strands hanging loose. A plain white top and a I think, a few beads of sweat on her forehead that she would catch regularly with a small swipe of her wrist.

She made, and don't be wiggled out by this - it works, a mayonnaise and herb light paste in a blender and slathered the entire bird with it under the skin and all. She had dry brined it with salt overnight in the fridge.

After slipping the bird into the oven, she showed me around the apartment of her friend, Courtney, who we've come to love for her friendship to Taylor and her passion for the Minnesota Vikings. This place is a mansion speaking comparatively to the other apartments I've seen in NYC. I had to get ready to head north to family in West Burlington with my saltless potatoes and aromatics. A part of me just wanted to cover up in a fleece, watch the parade, and miss my family.

I digress at this point to say that more than a half dozen people in Fort Madison texted to check on me and invite me to dinner. No matter where I end up sitting on a porch, the people of Fort Madison will always be some of my favorites.

Others are celebrating while missing lost family members. As I'm getting ready to move through the holiday on my own, I think of all them that I know, and say a quick prayer.

Taylor called back when the food was ready to show me the feast she'd prepared. It looked almost identical to ours. She texted me throughout the morning saying she was so nervous her bird would be dry... that there was no basting broth in the bottom of the pan.

I told her that's a good sign. The mayo concoction seems to have been working and she had sealed in the juices. It did. The bird was juicy and didn't taste like mayo.

It came out perfect, but they had to "redo" the potatoes because they were overwhipped and gummy. Love that. They 'redid' the potatoes and waited for them to boil and soften - again.

She had the jiggling mound of cranberry straight from the can. She loves the Ocean Spray, right out of the can. Crescent rolls, potatoes, and all the rest, including my wife's wild rice stuffing. She did it. Every day this girl makes me proud. Makes me believe that I wasn't a failure as a father even though the destination of my life pulls me there regularly.

Seeing her do this "mostly" on her own and then dressing up for the occasion for this friend and her family made my Thanksgiving.

I'm thankful for what God has given me, and I'm bitter as hell for what's been taken away. I don't live in that grief alone, many here share that desolation, but in small gifts of the holidays we find a smile and even a laugh. My brother's family keeps me laughing, Taylor keeps me smiling, and my life keeps me wondering. I'm thankful for it all.

And we're all thankful again for the close to 1,000 meals served by the volunteers at the Fort Madison Community Thanksgiving. People got a meal out of the generosity of so many - something they can be thankful for, as well.

The holidays are once again upon us - but that's Beside the Point.

Chuck Vandenberg is editor and co-owner of Pen City Current and can be reached at charles.v@pencitycurrent.com.

Depth an issue at lighter weights

HOUNDS - Continued from Page 1

have taken almost the whole team." Smith said.

Fort Madison would have sent six more wrestlers to state in February had the change been implemented last season.

Junior Teague Smith, who'll start the year at 185 lbs., finished 3rd last year in a nailbiter wrestle back in the qualifier. Smith was ranked several times in the year in the top 10.

He said that will serve as a catalyst this year.

"I learned a lot in that day. It told me that I need to go all out every match," the junior said.

The setback certainly has Smith geared up for this year. He's been wrestling in the off-season and like most on the wrestling squad, was part of the Hounds' playoff-qualifying football team.

"He obviously didn't get where he wanted last year, so he's got a little chip on his shoulder," Ryan Smith said.

Thacher and Sokolik are both looking to get back to the state meet. The two both suffered first-round and first-round consolation losses at Wells Fargo last season.

Sokolik is in his final season as a senior and wants to place this year. But his top goal is to get as close to 50 wins this year as possible.

That would likely put on him on a legacy list of Hound wrestlers with more than 100 wins in their high school career.

"I think I need like 46 or 47 wins and I'm going to push really hard for that," Sokolik said.

"But yeah, I want to get back to state, too, and do my best to medal."

Thacher, who pestered opposing backfields during the football season, wants to place at state this year as well.

Last year at districts, he scored a pinfall with less than 10 seconds left trailing by 10 to take 2nd place at 195 lbs. and advance to Des Moines.

"I've got all the nerves about that out. I've been there and seen the quality (at state). I'll be more prepared this year."

Thacher was ranked 8th at 195 lbs. to open the year. Sokolik is 10th at 285 lbs. Smith is the highest ranked Bloodhound at No. 7 at 182 pounds.

He said he will likely drop down to 170 lbs. after the first couple events.

Sophomore Cory Arnett, who was a bit of a surprise last year, is also looking for another strong showing in 2022-23. Arnett just missed qualifying for state last year as a freshman at 285, losing a heartbreaker in the 2nd place match at districts.

"I was really tired in that match at the start and just wanted to get it over. Then about half-way through, I told myself to start trying to score, and then I really wanted it," he said.

"These coaches have really shown me what it's like to compete and win and now I have my sights set on going to state, placing, and who knows... maybe winning."

Ryan Smith said Arnett has come a long way since last year his first year of wrestling where he placed 3rd at districts, just missing the state tournament.

"So far what I've seen in the room...I've never seen someone pick up quite that fast to be honest with you," Smith said.

"He took a lot of lumps last year being it was his first year ever wrestling. Then at districts, wrestling a returning state qualifier for that true 2nd place and losing by one point."

The Hounds also return Logan and Aidan Pennock. Logan just missed qualifying, taking 3rd last year as a freshman when he didn't get a 2-point control awarded in the final seconds at 120 lbs. Aidan also had a 3rd place finish at districts.

Ryan Smith said it's fairly unusual for the Hounds to not have depth in the lighter weights, so it will be interesting in how the season unfolds there.

"Depth in an issue there," he said.

Gavin Siemens will return at 106. Tatum Schelich should settle in at 113. Noah Swigart could take the varsity spot at 120 and could battle with Schelich there. Logan Pennock will start at 126, with senior Aidan Woolever at 132.

Smith said 138 is a little light, but Calvin Johnson has the inside track along with Nolan Riddle, who just missed qualifying for state last year. Riddle will start at 145.

Aidan Pennock could start at 152 and get some challenges from Henry Wiseman and Emmett Kruse, with one of them probably wrestling at 160. Smith said Joe Hartman could be a wildcard at 160.

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