

PEN CITY CURRENT

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

Thursday, December 15, 2022 | 9 pages | Volume 7 • Issue 8



www.pencitycurrent.com

Roller appointed to council

JAN. 1: Angela Roller takes over Schulz' 2nd Ward seat beginning with the new year

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - A long-time Fort Madison resident has been appointed to fill a vacant seat on the City Council.

Angela Roller was appointed with a 4-3 vote of the council on the first vote. Councilwoman Rebecca Bowker nominated Roller while another nomination was being put forward.

Donna Amandus seconded the vote and councilman Rusty Andrews and Jack Gray both supported the action.

Councilmen Tom Schulz, Kevin Rink, and Chad Cangas opposed the nomination.

Roller faced off against former City Councilman Jason Huppert and former candidate Jerry Hamelton.

Hamelton said after the meeting that he plans to run as an at-large candidate in the 2023 election.

Roller is a employee of the Iowa State Penitentiary along with Councilwoman Bowker, and a former employee with the state Department of Health and Human Resources.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

City Council candidates Angela Roller and Jerry Hamelton field questions from the Fort Madison City Council Monday night at City Hall. The Council appointed Roller to fill the 2nd Ward seat being vacated by Tom Schulz who was elected as a Lee County Supervisor in the November general election.

"I've worked in the public sector for more than 25 years

See **COUNCIL**, page 3

EDITORIAL



Artemis 1 harkens the memories of pioneers

It is amazing what takes up room in our memory.

Yes, our basement can accommodate stacks of storage bins and shelves lined with boxes filled with what we politely assure our spouse is "important stuff" from our life. Our memory is no larger than our head, but long-forgotten details are tucked away there amid the cobwebs.

Those details are brought back to life by the unlikely of events. For me, one of those occurrences was the launch and then the landing of the Artemis 1 spacecraft a few weeks ago.

I am a kid of the 1950s and '60s. So, naturally, it should not be a surprise that I have long been fascinated with space exploration, although I was too frightened by heights to climb trees or enjoy roller-coasters.

This kid spent hours sprawled on my stomach in the family living room during those breathtaking early years of human space travel. I scoured the Ottumwa Courier and Des Moines Register for articles. My most important link to the distant events was our black-and-white television, which was about the size as a washer or dryer today.

Last month, like the little boy from Bloomfield, I was up past midnight when Artemis 1 lifted off from the Kennedy Space Center on Nov. 16, lighting up the Florida sky. Before it returned to Earth on

See **EVANS**, page 9

New light display

The digital lighted display on Matt Emmett's home across from Fort Madison City Hall on Avenue E in Fort Madison was turned on for the first time Tuesday night.

Motorists can tune their radios to FM 87.9 to see the lights synced to holiday music.

Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC



Area bracing for potential of winter storm as holiday approaches

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

LEE COUNTY - The area is bracing for a holiday winter storm that could dump up to five inches of snow locally, with the potential for blizzard-like conditions Thursday and Friday.

Lee County Sheriff Stacy Weber said he got a call from Lee County Emergency Management Coordinator Jason Dinwiddie about the potential of the storm.

"We're making sure we've got things ready to keep our deputies and vehicles

on the road," Weber said.

"For the motorists, just like I always say, plan ahead and leave early. Make sure you have enough fuel to keep the car running and warm if you were to

See **STORM**, page 4

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WEATHER

WED 21 Dec..... Cloudy and cold, 30° F/13° F
 THU 22 Dec..... Heavy snow and cold, 24° F/ -7° F
 FRI 23 Dec..... Bitter cold with chance of snow, 1° F/ -5° F

IOWA LOTTERY

LOTTO AMERICA 12/19.....4 10 25 34 50, Star Ball: 5 All Star Bonus: 3
 LUCKY FOR LIFE 12/19.....10 12 23 32 45, Lucky Ball: 11
 PICK 3 12/19 MIDDAY.....3 5 0
 PICK 3 12/19 EVENING.....4 4 6
 PICK 4 12/19 MIDDAY.....7 8 3 9
 PICK 4 12/19 EVENING.....4 6 4 8
 POWERBALL 12/19.....7 37 55 65 67, Powerball: 12 Power Play: 5

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Obituaries

OBITUARIES

JACK V. BOEDDEKER

Jack Verdell Boeddeker, 81, of Fort Madison, Iowa, passed away on Sunday, December 18, 2022, at Blessing Hospital in Quincy, Illinois.

Jack was born on July 27, 1941, at his home outside Fort Madison, Iowa, the son of Junior and Martha (Watznauer) Boeddeker. On February 24, 1963,



BOEDDEKER

he was united in marriage to Ronda Kamps at Concordia Lutheran Church in Warsaw, Illinois. She survives.

Jack worked as a farmer and owned and operated the B-Bar-B Western Store outside Fort Madison, Iowa, for many years. He also drove a semi, logging over a million miles without a single accident. Jack raised, trained and sold American Quarter Horses, winning many awards throughout his career. He was a member of the American Quarter Horse Association, several rodeo associations, and the Denmark Congregational Church of Christ. Jack was a man of many talents, enjoying steer-wrestling, bird-hunting, golfing and bowling. He was a world class skeet shooter and was the second person inducted into the Iowa Hall of Fame.

Jack is survived by his wife Ronda Boeddeker of Fort Madison, Iowa; two daughters: Joni (Brad Martin) Pumphrey of Wever, Iowa, and Lori (Richard Hurley) Prado of Memphis, Missouri; five grandchildren: Cody Pumphrey of Fort Madison, Garrett Pumphrey of Wever, Jaclyn Prado of Fort Madison, Jace Prado of Burlington, and Josee Williams of Unionville, Missouri; his brother Jerry (Doris) Boeddeker of Fort Madison; and his niece Sheri Boeddeker of Fort Madison.

Jack is preceded in death by his parents.

According to his wishes, no services will be held.

Memorials may be directed to the Denmark Fire and Rescue.

Happy trails until we meet again.

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

Printy Funeral Home of Warsaw is in charge of arrangements.

OBITUARIES

CHARLES H. MILLER

Charles H. "Charlie" Miller, 81, of Wever, IA, passed away on Monday, December 19, 2022 at 6:47 PM at the Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center in West Burlington surrounded by his family

He was born on June 27, 1941 in Burlington to Henry and Florence Cronk



MILLER

Miller. On July 22, 1961 he married Elyn Chapin. Charlie was a lifelong farmer and a member of Denmark Congregational United Church of Christ. Charlie enjoyed going for breakfast at the Fort Colony, being outdoors and going on Gator rides. He loved and collected anything John Deere and was a Kansas City Chiefs and St. Louis Cardinal fan. Charlie got great joy out of visiting his neighbors and offering them a Snickers and a Pepsi. His family was most important to him. He especially loved his grandchildren and attending their events.

Survivors include his wife, Elyn Miller of Wever; one son, Bryan (Aimee) Miller of Spencer, IA; two daughters, Teresa (Landon) Rampy of Ft. Madison and Denise (Roger Strunk) McGowan of West Point; five grandchildren, Ashley (Jay Chrosniak) Miller, Aaron Miller, Ashley (Caleb) Booten, Brodey and Jakob (Kearstin Mason) McGowan; seven great grandchildren; five sisters, Marge Ireland and Sharon (Kenneth) Baldwin both of Wever, Barb (Larry) Shacklett, Nancy (John) Graham and Donna (Donald) Charles all of Burlington; numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, a grandson PJ Gray, his step mom, Mildred Miller; brother-in-law, Maurice "Junior" Ireland and a niece, Deb Ireland.

The funeral service will be held on Friday, December 23, 2022 at 11 AM at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory with Revs. Chad Savage and Dean Graber officiating. Burial will follow in Hillcrest Memorial Park Cemetery. The family will meet with friends from 9:30 AM until the time of the service.

A memorial has been established for the Ft. Madison High School FFA Organization and online condolences may be left at www.kinglynk.com.

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Business News/From the Front

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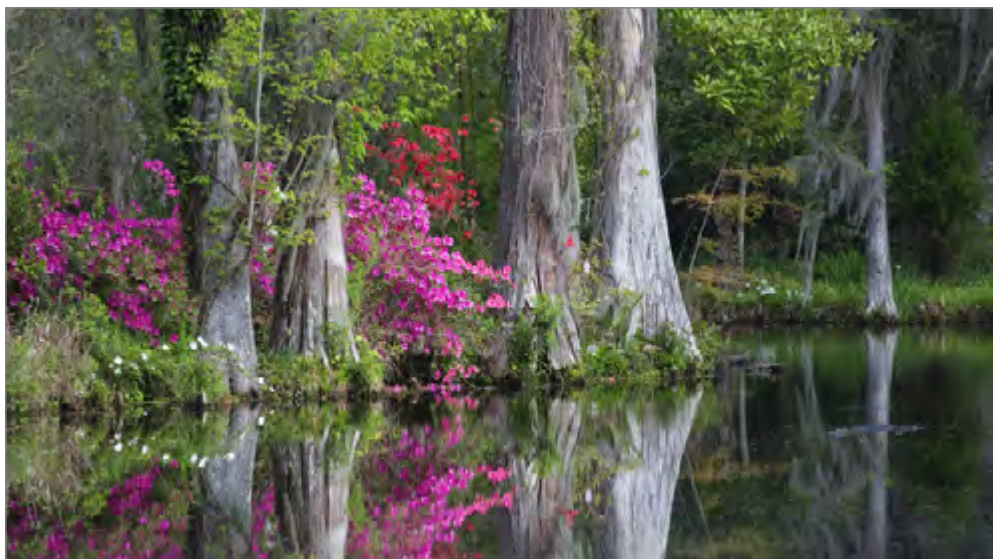
It is also time to start planning your Cabin Fever Getaway, and Trailways Travel has the perfect one! Join us March 24 - 31, 2023 to Charleston, SC and Savannah, GA with a stop in the quaint seaside town of Beaufort, SC in between. Visit Magnolia Plantation, sure to be bursting with color from the azaleas, camellias, and rhododendrons in bloom.

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the U.S. on Wadmalaw Island, enjoy a guided city tour of Charleston including the Battery and Citadel plus free time to explore on your own.

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Visit our website at TrailwaysTravel.com or give us a call at 319-753-2864, ext. 162 for further information or to reserve.



Schulz says "goodbye" to council

COUNCIL - Continued from Page 1

and I work with many different populations, in difficult situations and with difficult clientele, and I feel that has helped me better understand where people come from and their perspective on things," she said.

Roller said there are lots of wonderful things going on in Fort Madison and it's a good time to be here.

"My objective would be to come in and learn, be a team player, and to be more on the path that Fort Madison is on," she said.

She said private investment and buy in with city projects is critical to keep the momentum going.

"The city doesn't have the funds to take on all these projects alone, so having buy-in from business and industries is a good thing," she said.

Roller's seat will be up for election again in November of 2023 unless a special election is held prior to that general election.

The meeting also served as Schulz's last meeting. He was elected in the general election to replace retiring Lee County Supervisor Rick Larkin on the board of supervisors.

"It's been very much a pleasure serving with this body. I'm thoroughly impressed with the staff the city has and the fact that they nurse-maided me so well in the beginning," Schulz said.

"It's been a humbling and wonderful experience. I promise you with all my heart I'm still going to be a regular attender of these meetings, although I'll be sitting in the cheap seats.

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Member LION Publishers

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Pen City Current, www.PenCityCurrent.com, and Pen e-Saver are products of Market Street Publishing, LLC. Pen City Current is published Monday through Friday mornings by 6AM.

Founded in 2016

P.O. Box 366 | Fort Madison, IA

Scene Around the Area/From the Front



Courtesy photo

Central Lee Superintendent Dr. Andy Crozier takes a pie in the face Monday night as part of a Hawks' Sports Boosters fundraiser.

Storm may weaken or stray

STORM - Continued from Page 1

get stranded.”

Weber said one of the more crazy warnings is to remind motorists to wear coats. “People often get in the car and they think they’re okay, they’re just going here or there and then something happens and they’re sitting in the car with 50-mph winds. That’s brutal,” he said.

Dinwiddie said weather predictors are not sure on snowfall amounts but he said the latest information is maybe not as much as had been expected, so he cautioned against the extreme cold.

“We’re more concerned about the frigid temperatures. When it gets that cold, sometimes that deicer doesn’t work real well. And people need to be indoors,” Dinwiddie said.

He said motorists should also keep unfrozen water and snacks in their car and make sure tires are road worthy.

“Sometimes they think they’ll be okay with and get through the winter, but if their tires aren’t road worthy they need to either get new ones if they can afford them, or wait till the roads are cleared. Otherwise we risk accidents,” he said.

According to the National Weather Service out of the Quad Cities, blizzard conditions are possible with extremely cold wind chills as low as 30 to 40 below, starting mid-day Thursday.

The storm is expected to hit portions of north central, northwest, and west central Illinois, east central, northeast, and southeast Iowa and northeast Missouri from Wednesday evening through late Friday night.

Travel could be very difficult with widespread blowing snow that could significantly reduce visibility. The hazardous conditions could impact morning and evening commutes. Strong winds could cause tree damage and potential power outages.

The cold wind chills as low as 30 below zero could cause frostbite on exposed skin in as little as 30 minutes. * The weather service said there is uncertainty around snowfall totals, but impacts from the combined effects of the wind and snow are expected.

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Sports

Lady Hounds edge Washington in 2022 finale



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Fort Madison's Aija Jenkins (0) wrestles the ball away from Washington's Makenna Conrad in the 4th quarter Tuesday night in Fort Madison. The Hounds won 52-46.

JOHN BOHNENKAMP
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - The Christmas break has come at a good time for Fort Madison High School's girls basketball team.

The Bloodhounds will take some momentum into the time off after Tuesday's 52-46 home win over Washington.

Fort Madison coach Toni Sargent is hoping to find a team to scrimmage over the holiday break, but she knows her team could use a little rest.

The Bloodhounds had lost three games over two days, so bouncing back was important.

"You always hate it because you don't play for a long time," Sargent said. "We don't play until January 6, so it seems like we do have a long time off. It makes it a long time, but it also comes at a time when the kids actually need a little break because it's a long season."

The Bloodhounds (6-3 overall, 3-1 Southeast Conference) led almost the entire game, but needed to hold on in the fourth quarter as the Demons (5-3, 2-2) rallied.

Fort Madison led 44-32 at the end of the third quarter, then didn't get another field goal until Camille Kruse scored inside with 2:12 left in the game. Washington got within two points twice, but couldn't get a

lead.

"We were just kind of rushing our shots," Sargent said. "We were taking shots that we didn't need to take. We weren't working some time off the clock. I know we have the shot clock, but we could have worked it down a little bit to take better shots."

"Our shots that we took weren't necessarily bad, it was just they weren't falling."

Kruse, who had 23 points, took control of the game in the second quarter. She didn't score in the first quarter, but had 13 in the second, including seven to open the quarter to put Fort Madison up 19-7.

"She is one of those kind of players who can just score at will," Sargent said. "Sometimes she isn't as selfish as she should be — she tries to get everyone else involved, and that's OK. But then she'll take over and come up big when we need her to."

Aija Jenkins added 12 points for the Bloodhounds.

Now, they can get a break.

"This is a great group of girls," Sargent said. "We're 6-3, and we hoped to be a little better. A couple of those games could have gone either way, but it is what it is. So I'm happy where we're at right now."

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Classifieds/Public Notices

PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE
CITY OF
WEST BURLINGTON
Regular City Council
Meeting
Wednesday,
December 21, 2022
6:00 PM
West Burlington
City Hall
122 Broadway Street

TENTATIVE AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER
 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
 ROLL CALL
 PERFECTING & APPROVAL OF AGENDA
 CONSENT AGENDA
 All items on the Consent Agenda are Action items that will be considered by a single vote. Council members may request that an item be pulled for discussion and held for a separate vote. Items on the Consent Agenda may include claims over the City Administrator's authorized spending limit, payments related to previously approved contracts, and non-controversial or routine expenses as defined by the City's Purchasing Policy.

1. Approve minutes from the Regular City Council meeting on December 7, 2022
 2. Approve Payment to French-Reneker-Associates for engineering related to Mt. Pleasant St. Resurfacing - Phase 2 - \$18,073.92
 3. Approve payment to Roederer Transfer & Storage Co. - \$9,005.31
 4. Approve payment of Claims as listed on the 12/21/22 Expense Approval Report - \$335,216.68
- COUNCIL & STAFF REPORTS**
- ADMINISTRATOR:
 - PUBLIC WORKS:
 - POLICE DEPARTMENT:
 - FIRE/BUILDING DEPARTMENT:
 - CLERK/FINANCE/IT:
 - OTHER STAFF REPORTS:
 - COUNCIL REPORTS:
 - COMMUNITY REPORTS:

CITIZEN INQUIRIES
NEW BUSINESS

1. Consider the renewal of Property & Casualty Insurance for 2023
2. Consider renewal of the Employee Wellness Program for 2023
3. Consider payment to the City of Burlington for West Burlington's share of the RISE Grant reimbursement owed to IDOT following ABB's failure to create enough jobs for the RISE Grant project
4. Consider Pay Request #18 and Change Order #8 from Boomerang Corp. for the Mt. Pleasant Water Tower & Booster Station Project
5. Consider a Resolution appointing a representative to serve on the Southeast Iowa Regional Planning Commission Board of Directors
6. Consider the final of an Ordinance setting Water Rates effective January 1, 2022
7. Consider a Resolution amending the 28E

Agreement for Southeast Iowa Narcotics Task Force to include Henry County as a member

8. Consider the first reading of an Ordinance amending Section 136 of the City Code related to Snow Removal
9. Consider options for replacing the City's Sewer Jet Truck

OLD BUSINESS
CITIZEN INQUIRIES
CLOSED SESSION

1. Council will hold a Closed Session in accordance with Iowa Code Chapter 21.5(1)(c) to discuss strategy with Counsel in matters that are presently in litigation or where litigation is imminent where its disclosure would be likely to prejudice or disadvantage the position of the government body in that litigation.

ADJOURN

LOST & FOUND
LOST CAT



Lost: Male, long-haired Siamese cat with blue eyes. Missing from North 4th Street in Keokuk since December 6. Was wearing a black collar with skulls and a bell on it. If found please call or text Rachel at 435.632.2718.

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Central Lee names three to Fine Arts Hall of Fame

HAWKS: Roth, Hammer-Parks, Krehbier inducted into Class of 2022

DONNELSON — The Central Lee Community School District has inducted three new members to its Fine Arts Hall of Fame as part of the Class of 2022.

This year, the Hall of Fame is honoring three Central Lee graduates who were involved in the district's fine arts departments and other extracurricular activities—and have leveraged their talents into successful careers.

“At Central Lee, we value the experiences our students have in the fine arts, which we see as being equally important to academics and athletics,” said Dr. Andy Crozier, Central Lee Superintendent. “We are privileged to have had so many talented artists and musicians make significant impacts on our schools. We look forward to recognizing each of our fine arts inductees and their incredible achievements, from Emmy Awards to using their talents to fundraise for their communities.”

Inductee David Roth is a 1969 graduate of Central Lee High School and was involved in the concert and marching bands, playing the tuba. He lettered three years in football and was also involved in the senior play. While in high school, he started a band that was later named World Inc., and in 1978, he started the Ozone Ramblers. The Fort Madison-based band entertained loyal fans for four decades.

Roth is also a member of Dusty Calhoun and Dogtown 3. He was an integral member of the



DEC Hands for 25 years as a cast member and guitar player, raising thousands for local families in need and providing numerous opportunities for Central Lee students to perform. Most recently, he created the “To Ukraine from Iowa with Love” live music event, raising over \$20,000 to help Ukraine refugees. Roth continues to be an avid supporter of live music in and around Lee County.

Also inducted this year is Kelsey Hammer-Parks, a 2008 graduate of Central Lee and a 2011 graduate of the University of Northern Iowa, where she graduated summa cum laude. She is an Emmy Award-winning documentary filmmaker and video storyteller, with her interest in video production beginning at Central Lee with the support of Deanna Lind Reynolds and Kris Brewer.

During high school, Hammer-Parks was involved in activities that included community problem solving, science fair, basketball, golf, softball, jazz band, and marching band (serving as drum major for three years).

Her career highlights as a filmmaker include receiving a Midwest Regional Emmy and the Edward R. Murrow award for a docuseries on the stories of vulnerable Iowans after the devastating derecho storm of 2020.

A graduate of the class of 2008, Morgan Krehbier earned a GPA of 4.18 and participated in yearbook, art club, community problem solving through the TAG program, marching band, and show band. She is a 2012 graduate of Northwestern University, where she earned a bachelor of arts in art theory and practice, with honors.

Krehbier has since worked as a designer and art director for numerous publishers and publications, including “Burn the Place” (long-listed for the National Book Award) and “Crown: An Ode to the Fresh Cut,” which received Caldecott and Newberry honors.

She runs her own design agency, Morgan Krehbier Creative, from her home in Chicago. She also donates her time and creative resources to help local mutual aid groups organize and provide support for her community.

The Fine Arts Hall of Fame was created as a means of recognizing, preserving, and promoting Central Lee's rich history and tradition of excellence in fine arts. It emphasizes the importance of high-achieving graduates and former staff members who made a big impact on the school community during their time in Central Lee.

Community members, families, staff, and alumni are encouraged to nominate individuals for Hall of Fame recognition. A committee then reviews all nominations and determines each year's inductees. Central Lee also has Academic and Athletics Halls of Fame.

For individuals to qualify for a nomination, they must have graduated from Central Lee schools or have been a staff member. They also must be at least five years removed from their time in the district. The nomination form is available at <https://bit.ly/CLHOFNomination>.

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Scene Around the Area/From the Front

Iowa has had its share of space pioneers

EVANS - Continued from Page 1

Dec. 11, this uncrewed capsule traveled 1.3 million miles and orbited the moon for six days.

The trip was a big step forward in what NASA plans will be the return of American astronauts to the moon's surface in 2025. Humans have not been there in half a century, not since the last Apollo landing in December 1972.

The news of Artemis 1's voyage has unearthed memories from my cranial storage space, many that were expected but some that came out of the blue.

Of course, my Iowa pride swelled as I thought about the native sons and daughters who have played key roles in space exploration.

That includes the experts at what now is called Collins Aerospace in Cedar Rapids. These men and women designed and built the communications gear used on space missions.

That also includes more astronauts and NASA ground controllers than you might think. Among them are Steve Bales, the school janitor's kid from Fremont, who played a pivotal role in the final, hair-raising minutes before the first moon landing in 1969, and Peggy Whitson, the farm girl from Beaconsfield, who has spent 665 days in space, more time than any other American, man or woman.

Another memory Artemis brought to the surface was of James Van Allen, another kid from southern Iowa. Van Allen was a product of the Mount Pleasant public schools, Iowa Wesleyan College and the University of Iowa, and he was responsible for turning the university into one of the world's leading space research institutions.

It was Van Allen who designed and built the scientific

instruments that were carried into space in January 1958 by Explorer 1, the first satellite to be successfully launched by the United States. Explorer weighed only 30 pounds and was less than 7 feet long, and its rocket was dwarfed by the massive missile that carried Artemis 1 into space.

Van Allen studied the scientific evidence collected by the Iowa instruments on Explorer 1 and the next Explorer to orbit the Earth. He concluded there were bands of radiation trapped around the Earth by its magnetic field. The existence of these cosmic rays was one of the biggest discoveries of the early years of space research — forever putting the name of the explorer from Mount Pleasant in the history books, alongside the ocean-going explorers from centuries long past.

I was fascinated by the Van Allen Belts, as they came to be known. I eagerly followed every news report about space in the popular school newsletter called "My Weekly Reader."

When Van Allen died in 2006 at the age of 91, his death was reported around the globe because his pioneering work in space exploration led him to be called the father of space science.

The human mind has a way of hanging onto odd memories. One of mine involves Van Allen.

During my four years at the University of Iowa, I did not live in a dormitory. It was too expensive. Instead, during my freshman and sophomore years, I rented a bedroom in houses five blocks up the street from the classroom and laboratory building where Van Allen worked.

During my sophomore year, my room was on the second floor of an elderly woman's home on North Linn Street. She rented a bedroom to students like me to supplement her Social Security income — just as her parents brought in extra money during the Great Depression by renting that spare bedroom to students.

She informed me that in the late 1930s, my room had been rented to a polite, serious-minded young graduate student named James Van Allen.

He did not leave any stray scientific knowledge in that room when he moved on after obtaining his master's degree and Ph.D. Or, at least, I found none there.


But the two of us did have other similarities than just the room we occupied. Looking at photos of his office in Van Allen Hall, my family would feel obligated to point out that he and I had desks that could safely be described as cluttered.

Randy Evans can be reached at DMRevans2810@gmail.com.



State Rep. Martin Graber spoke at the National Cemetery in Keokuk over the weekend. More than 2,000 wreaths were laid on Veterans' stones at the cemetery.

There's Snow
Place Like Home
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Pen City Current will not publish an e-Edition Thursday, December 22 through Monday, January 2.
Our special 2022 Year In Review editions will publish
Tuesday, January 3 through Thursday, January 5.
Breaking news will continue to be published on our website 24/7.

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