

PEN CITY CURRENT

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

Friday, January 13, 2023 | 8 pages | Volume 7 • Issue 17



www.pencitycurrent.com

House on 33rd lost to fire



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Fire Capt. Jay Blanchard carries a couple of live birds out of a burning home at 1623 33rd Street Thursday afternoon. The birds survived the blaze and no one was reported injured as a result of the fire in Fort Madison.

FAULTY WIRING: FM Firefighters battle fire for two hours; rescue animals

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - A home in the 1600 block of 33rd Street was destroyed by fire Thursday afternoon.

Fort Madison firefighters were called to 1623 33rd Street for a house that was burning in the front area around the roof of the porch.

Firefighters said no one was injured in the blaze, but two birds that were still alive in a cage were rescued. Officials said other animals on the property were able to escape harm.

The home was occupied at the time and fire officials said the owner, who is listed as Denise E. Miller, said she encountered some

electrical issues earlier in the day.

Firefighters said the blaze was caused by wiring issues in the home. Upon arrival, firefighters found fire and heavy smoke coming from above the roof of the porch and the main house.

Firefighters were on the scene for about two hours putting the fire out. Miller told fire officials that there was no insurance on the home. It was valued, according to Beacon-Schneider, at \$24,470 and is being considered a total loss.

Firefighters have been busy of late putting out structure fires, but the previous four have been vacant structures and investigations into those fires is ongoing.

No foul play is suspected in Thursday's fire. Fort Madison Police and Lee County EMS assisted with the incident.

STATE GRANTS

Burlington, Keokuk get housing grants

DAILY SERVICE: Keokuk gets \$600,000 and Burlington gets \$1 million for rehabs

DES MOINES - Governor Reynolds today announced a total of \$4 million in grant awards to assist the communities of Burlington, Grinnell, Keokuk, Mason City and Washington in the rehabilitation of a total of 131 owner-occupied and rental homes through the Home Rehabilitation Block Grant Pilot Program.

"I've been steadfast in my commitment to advancing housing opportunities to ensure that every Iowan can live near their work," said Gov. Reynolds. "To meet that goal, we must not only build new housing but we also must preserve our existing housing stock. Today's investments will give new life to more than 130 aging homes so that Iowa families can be proud to call them home for many years to come."

"The City of Mason City anticipates preserving a total of nearly 50 owner-occupied and rental homes through this investment," said Mason City Mayor Bill Schickel. "One of our top goals for 2023 is neighborhood flourishing and this award will give that goal a huge boost. I commend Gov. Reynolds for her transformational investment in housing that supports our efforts to make our communities the choice for Iowans to live, work and thrive."

The pilot program had \$4 million in eligible funds available and received applications totaling nearly \$4.5 million. Applications were scored on a competitive basis and included criteria such as housing need, impact, community readiness, public/private partnerships and additional funds leveraged. The projects awarded funding are leveraging an additional \$3.3 million in additional funding.

Grant Award Recipients:
City of Burlington: \$1,000,000

See GRANTS, page 8

HEALTH CARE

Reynolds targets \$15 million at apprenticeships

DES MOINES, IOWA - Tuesday, Governor Kim Reynolds announced during her Condition of the State address a new \$15 million round of funding targeted at growing Registered Apprenticeship (RA) programs across high-demand fields in health care. The expanded Health Careers Registered

Apprenticeship Program will support more programs that help Iowa meet the demand of its health care workforce.

First introduced last year, Iowa's Health Careers pilot supported RA programs that help students pursue nursing pathways. This year's program greatly expands opportunities for health

care apprenticeships to include EMTs, RN's, Direct Support Professionals, Behavioral Health & Substance Abuse Specialists, and other critical areas. To receive funding, the RA programs must provide an industry-recognized credential that can also be stackable and used

See REYNOLDS, page 8

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WEATHER

OpenWeatherMap
FRI 13 Jan.....Windy and cold, 33° F/19° F
SAT 14 Jan.....Sunny and windy, 40° F/30° F
SUN 15 Jan.....Mostly cloudy with late rain possible, 46° F/42° F

IOWA LOTTERY

LOTTO AMERICA 01/11.....5 23 45 46 51, Star Ball: 3 All Star Bonus: 2
LUCKY FOR LIFE 01/11.....24 39 41 42 45, Lucky Ball: 6
PICK 3 01/11 MIDDAY.....5 2 9
PICK 3 01/11 EVENING.....4 1 3
PICK 4 01/11 MIDDAY.....1 2 3 0
PICK 4 01/11 EVENING.....6 2 5 0
POWERBALL 01/11.....4 8 46 47 48, Powerball: 5 Power Play: 3

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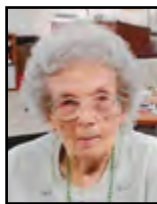
Obituaries

OBITUARIES

MELVA J. SOPPE

Melva J. Soppe, 92, formerly of Fort Madison, Iowa, passed away at 5:00 a.m. Thursday, January 12, 2023, at the West Point Care Center in West Point, Iowa.

Born on September 6, 1930, in West Point, Iowa, the daughter of George and Wilhelmina "Minnie" (Umthum) Groene. On June 19, 1960, she married Melvin E. Soppe at Saint Mary's of the Assumption Catholic Church in West Point. He preceded her in death on June 28, 1999.



SOPPE

Melva is survived by several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband: Melvin; two brothers: Wilfred and Elmer Groene; two sisters: Lorraine Overton-Scott and Adelaide Steffensmeier.

Melva was a member of Saint Mary's Catholic Church Holy Family Parish in Fort Madison and the Ladies Auxiliary of the Eagles Club in Fort Madison. She worked for Sacred Heart Hospital and Fort Madison Community Hospital from 1952 until her retirement in 1992.

The family would like to thank the staff of the Kensington and West Point Care Center for the care they gave Melva over the last several years.

Family will receive friends from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Saturday, January 14, 2023, at Saint Mary's of the Assumption Catholic Church in West Point.

A Mass of Christian burial will be held at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, January 14, 2023, at Saint Mary's of the Assumption Catholic Church in West Point, with Father Joseph Phung as celebrant.

Burial will be held in Calvary Cemetery in West Point.

A memorial has been established for the West Point Care Center.

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

Memorials may be made to the Alzheimer's Association.

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

MARY L. DAVIS

Mary Louise Davis, 73 of Keokuk, IA died Wednesday, January 11, 2023 at Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center in West Burlington, IA.

She was born August 30, 1949 in Keokuk, IA the daughter of David Howard, Sr. and Irene Louise Rudd Dunne. Mary graduated from Cardinal Stritch with the class of 1967.



DAVIS

On May 27, 1972 Mary was united in marriage to Lowell Davis, Jr. in Quincy, IL. He survives.

Other survivors include four daughters, Tabitha Halterman (Brian) of Keokuk, Rebecca Sanders (Michael) of Cedar Rapids, IA, Monica Lyons (Kristofer) of Monticello, IA and Elizabeth Stewart (Jeremy) of Keokuk, ten grandchildren, Gavin Halterman, Kaitlyn Halterman, Katie Schwers (Dylan), Jacob Sanders, Mary Grace Lyons, Davis Lyons, Amelia Mae Lyons, Emma Claire Lyons, Johnathan Stewart and Kayden Stewart and one great-grandchild, Emerie Halterman. She is also survived by one brother, Andrew Dunne (Kathy) of Keokuk and many in-laws and nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, two brothers, David Howard Dunne, Jr. and Joseph Vincent Dunne.

Mary had been employed by McDonald's in Keokuk for twenty years until her retirement in 2013.

Mary had a green thumb and grew all types of indoor plants. She enjoyed reading, crocheting, watching hummingbirds and cooking. She also enjoyed shopping and taking girl trips with her daughters. Above all else, Mary treasured the time she spent with her family, especially her grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m., Tuesday, at the Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk, IA with Reverend Milo VanVedlhuizen officiating. Burial will be in the Keokuk National Cemetery.

Visitation will be held prior to the service from 9-11 a.m., Tuesday at the funeral home with family meeting with friends at that time.

Memorials may be made to the Alzheimer's Association.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.vigenmemorial-home.com.

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PEN CITY CURRENT

It's Black & White and Read all over

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Obituaries/For the Record

OBITUARIES

SHERRY AGNEW

Sherry Agnew, 68, of Hamilton, IL died Tuesday, January 10, 2023 at St. Francis Medical Center in Peoria, IL.

She was born June 26, 1954 in Quincy, IL the daughter of Richard and Virginia Weatherspoon Wieprecht. Sherry graduated from Unity High School in Mendon, IL with the class of 1972.



AGNEW

On February 14, 1975, Sherry was united in marriage to Arold "Le-roy" Agnew at the Hamilton Christian Church. He survives.

Other survivors include one son, Jason Agnew of Lockridge, IA, one daughter, Jamie Agnew of Hamilton, IL, three grandsons, Carter Sprague, Jarin Agnew and Emmitt Agnew and one brother, Rick Wieprecht (Angela) of Warsaw, IL.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

Sherry had been employed by several local business including Duck's Red Fox, Casey's and Cardinal Cage.

She was a member of Assembly of God Church in Hamilton, IL.

Sherry enjoyed listening to the radio and watching television, especially Bonanza. She was an excellent cook and wonderful meals for her family and friends. Most of all, she loved spending time with her grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m., Monday, at the Warsaw Assembly of God Church in Warsaw, IL with Pastor Terry Massey officiating.

Visitation will be held prior to the service from 1-2 p.m., Monday, at the church with family meeting with friends at that time.

Memorials may be made to the family.

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

OBITUARIES

CHRISTOPHER D. MARKEY

Christopher Dean Markey, 51, of Stronghurst, Illinois, formerly of Dallas City, Illinois, passed away Tuesday, January 10, 2023 at the University of Iowa Hospitals & Clinics.



MARKEY

Chris was born January 20, 1971 in Burlington, Iowa, the son of William "Tony" and Priscilla Karen (Gooding) Markey.

Chris was a 1990 graduate of Dallas City High School. Following high school he attended trade school and worked as a union painter all of his life with IAUPT #1178 in Rock Island. He enjoyed wood working, riding motorcycles and four wheelers, and spending time with his friends and family.

Survivors include five children: Dylan Judd, Hailey Markey, Cierstynn Welcher, Dominick Markey and Adrianna Markey; two grandchildren: Alayna and Elliott and one more on the way; his significant other: Beth Beier; and four siblings: Joanne (Ronald) Brown of Elizabeth City, North Carolina, Jackie (Roger) Countryman of Stronghurst, Christina Markey of Ottumwa, Iowa and Paul Markey of Dallas City.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one brother: Gail Markey.

Services will be held at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, January 14, 2023 at Banks & Beals Funeral Home in Dallas City with Larry Hobby officiating.

Following the service the family will receive friends from 3:00 until 6:00 p.m. at the funeral home. Burial will be held at a later date in Gittings Mound Cemetery, rural Dallas City.

A memorial fund has been established. To leave a condolence for the family, please visit Mr. Markey's obituary banksandbeals.com.

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report

01/06/23 - 8:41 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 5000 block of Avenue O.

01/06/23 - 9:32 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 3300 block of Avenue L.

01/06/23 - 10:07 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 6000 block of Avenue O.

01/06/23 - 3:28 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a property damage accident at the intersection of 21st Street and Avenue E.

01/07/23 - 6:21 p.m. - Fort Madison police arrested John Charles Arthur, 58, of Wever, in the 2100 block of 303rd Avenue, on an unspecified warrant. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

01/08/23 - 12:07 a.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Craig Stephen Brown, 59, of Centerville, in the 1800 block of Avenue E, on charges of driving while barred, possession of drug paraphernalia, and possession of a controlled substance - 1,2,3rd. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

01/08/23 - 9:11 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 1100 block of Avenue E.

01/09/22 - 3:52 a.m. - Fort Madison police arrested William Paul Cochenour II, 30, of Fort Madison, in the 600 block of Avenue G, on a warrant for contempt of court on a charge of possession of methamphetamine. He was taken to Lee

County Jail.

01/09/23 - 3:13 p.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Brandon Lee Manning, 24, of Fort Madison, in the 1700 block of 35th Street, on a warrant for probation violation - burglary. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

01/09/23 - 3:35 p.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Johnathan Russell Barnett, 32, of Burlington, in the 1700 block of 35th Street, on warrants for parole violation - 1st degree theft, providing false ID, and 1st degree burglary. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

01/09/23 - 3:55 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 5100 block of Avenue O.

01/10/23 - 12:09 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a hit & run in the 400 block of 8th Street.

01/10/23 - 11:10 a.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Robert Eliza Walker, 24, of Fort Madison, in the 800 block of Avenue G, on a Burlington warrant for probation violation. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

01/10/23 - 2:56 p.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Elijah Ray McCampbell, 25, of Fort Madison, in the 700 block of Avenue F, on a Burlington warrant for larceny - 5th degree theft. He was transferred to another facility.

01/10/23 - 2:59 p.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Tru Raelynn Hand Hanson, 18, of Fort Madison, in the 800 block of Avenue G, on a West Point warrant for larceny - 5th degree theft. She

was transferred to another facility.

01/10/23 - 4:15 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a burglary in the 4600 block of Avenue J.

01/10/23 - 4:27 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 4800 block of Avenue O.

01/11/23 - 8:17 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1500 block of 29th Street.

01/11/23 - 5:15 p.m. - Fort Madison police cited Jennifer Rae Eid, 35, of Fort Madison, in the 1600 block of Avenue L, on a charge of driving under suspension.

01/11/23 - 6:45 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a property damage accident at the intersection of 23rd Street and Avenue H.

01/12/23 - 7:53 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 500 block of Avenue E.

Lee County Sheriff Report

01/06/23 - 11:09 a.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Russell Keith Kutcher, 40, of Fort Madison, at the North Lee County Courthouse, on warrants for violation of probation and 1st degree harassment. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

01/06/23 - 4:08 p.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested a 14-year-old male juvenile, of Fort Madison, in the 2500 block of 255th Street, on a charge of assault w/injury - law officer/other. He was referred to juvenile court.

01/07/23 - 7:17 p.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Charles DeWayne Henry, 52, of Keokuk, in the 3500 block of Hwy. 218, Keokuk, on warrants for domestic assault choking/bodily injury, failure to appear/contempt of court, and violation of probation. He was taken to Lee County Jail and later released on bond.

01/07/23 - 3:36 p.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies cited and released Jeremy Ryan Plowman, 43, of Keokuk, in the 2200 block of 357th Street, Keokuk, on a charge of dog at large.

01/07/23 - 9:06 p.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Trenton Darius Gosnell, 26, of Montrose, at the North Lee County Courthouse, on a judgment hold warrant. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

01/08/23 - 5:54 p.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies responded to a single-vehicle accident in the 2700 block of County Road 103. According to the report, a vehicle driven by Cody Lee Faingnaert, 34, of Keokuk, went off the right side of the roadway, crossed the center line and entered the ditch where it overturned, landing upright in the ditch. Faingnaert was transported to Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center Fort Madison and his vehicle was towed from the scene. No citations were reported.

01/09/23 - 8:52 a.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies responded to a single-vehicle accident at 303rd Avenue. According to the report, a vehicle driven by William Gay Jackson, 66, of Fort

Madison, was traveling southbound on 303rd Avenue on the bridge over Hwy. 61 when it lost control due to icy road conditions and the front of the vehicle struck the rail. Jackson sustained minor injuries. The vehicle received minor damage, but was driven from the scene. No citations were issued.

01/09/23 - 1:10 p.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Sasha Joe Lamb, 31, of Burlington, at the North Lee County Courthouse, on a warrant for failure to appear/contempt of court. She was taken to Lee County Jail.

01/10/23 - 8:16 a.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies responded to a report of a two-vehicle accident in the Central Lee school parking lot. According to the report, a vehicle driven by Charlene Vonna Smith, 72, of Montrose, was traveling through the parking lot in the wrong direction and struck a vehicle driven by Sabrina Lee Whitmore, 30, of Keokuk. No injuries were reported. Both vehicles sustained damages. Smith's vehicle had to be towed from the scene; Whitmore's vehicle was driven from the scene. No citations were reported, but Smith was listed as at fault.

01/10/23 - 6:02 p.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Andrew Michael Schweitzer, 39, of Cedar Rapids, at the North Lee County Courthouse, on a warrant for violation of probation. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

01/10/23 - 10:53 p.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Michael Anthony Weldon, 33, of Fort Madison, at the

sheriff's office, on a judgment hold warrant. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

01/11/23 - 3:06 a.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies responded to a single-vehicle accident on 300th Street. According to the report, an officer came upon an abandoned vehicle in a ditch during patrol. The vehicle left the roadway, struck a culvert, went airborne, and came to rest upright. The driver/occupants left the scene and did not report the accident.

01/11/23 - 6:02 a.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested James Alvie Wilsey, Jr., 54, of Keokuk, at the sheriff's office, on a judgment hold warrant. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

01/11/23 - 7:30 p.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Clint Adam Welch, 40, of Farmington, on charges of child endangerment and 2nd degree criminal mischief \$1,500-\$10,000. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

Fort Madison Fire & Rescue Report

01/09/23 - Fort Madison firefighters responded to six medical calls and one vehicle accident

01/09/23 - Fort Madison firefighters responded to four medical calls and one lift assist

01/09/23 - Fort Madison firefighters responded to one medical call.

Those listed above are arrested on suspicion of a charge and are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

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Sports

Kruse, Riddle spark Hounds to win at Fairfield

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
Pen City Current Editor

FORT MADISON - Fort Madison got some big wins on the way to a landslide victory over Fairfield Thursday night on the road.

The Hounds rolled to a 57-12 win surrendering just two losses both by pin at 113 lbs and 138 lbs.

It was also the first time ever that the Bloodhound girls wrestling team wrestled prior to the boys event during Fairfield's senior night.

In the boys event, Fort Madison recorded seven pins and two decisions.

One of the more dramatic pins came when Emmett Kruse came back in the third period to get a pin over Fairfield's Aiden Lyons at 160 lbs.

Kruse trailed 5-0 in the second period after missing a throw in the first period and winding up on his back. But the senior fought off Lyons' attempt to get the Hounds shoulders to the mat for 32 seconds at the end of the first period.

The two battled scoreless in the second and then Kruse got a take down against Lyons who appeared to be tiring toward the end.

Kruse let him up surrendering the one-point escape, but then dashed in for another two-point take down and then rolled it into a pin for six points.

Another big win came at 145 where Nolan Riddle scored a 3-0 decision in

a revenge win over Fairfield's Cason Miller, who pinned Riddle last year in conference wrestling.

"He's a good kid. He beat Nolan last year," said head coach Ryan Smith

"But Nolan looks better than he was last year. He looks better offensively and he's keeping people off his legs better this year."

All the Fort Madison wrestlers were wrestling up a weight class to account for senior Daniel Sokolik, who is still out at 220 nursing a bum knee.

"We knew that if everybody did their job we didn't have to risk putting him out there. If this was districts he'd have been out there. We're just being cautious," Smith said.

Sokolik went down prior to the holidays in a home meet.

Smith said Noah Swigart's win at 113 and Calvin Johnson's loss at 138 were also good matches.

"Seeing Noah win, and Calvin Johnson winning during his match - those guys being in the matches - that's good to see," he said.

Fort Madison only had three girls in the varsity meet because one of the Fairfield wrestlers suffered an injury and couldn't take the mat.

Fort Madison's Tatum Peters was going so hard in her match at 152 that she didn't even realize the match was over in

See **HOUNDS**, page 5



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Fort Madison Head Coach Ryan Smith congratulates Emmett Kruse after he turned around his match at 160 and scored a fall to help the Hounds to a 57-12 win Thursday night. Below, Joe Hartman stretches the Trojans' Cam McClain before recording a third period pin.



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Sports/Classifieds

Tatum Peters scores big win for Lady Hounds

HOUNDS - Continued from Page 4

her win.

"I had no clue it was the third period. I thought it was still the second. I typically don't look at the scoreboard until I'm finished so it doesn't discourage me," Peters said.

"But I honestly didn't know I won until he raised my arm. I was ready to go another period."

Head coach Kyle Doherty said he appreciates that energy but wished more girls had been able to wrestle.

"I think the girls have shown tremendous growth. We wrestled very well at Highland and Ottumwa this weekend," Doherty said.

"They have a lot of energy. Tatum not knowing what round it was - I kind of like that mentality. We left some points on the mat for sure, but we'll review that stuff and show them where and why."

Complete results for the boys match are below. The girls results weren't immediately available.

Fort Madison (FOMA) 57.0 Fairfield (FAIR) 12.0
 152: Aidan Pennock (FOMA) over Aiden Westercamp (FAIR) (Fall 0:57) 160: Emmett Kruse (FOMA) over Aiden Lyons (FAIR) (Fall 4:50) 170: Joe Hartman (FOMA) over Cam McClain (FAIR) (Fall 4:45) 182: Teague Smith (FOMA) over Dain Burkhart (FAIR) (Dec 11-4) 195: Landon Rudd (FOMA) over Logan Johnson (FAIR) (Fall 0:20) 220: Isaac Thacher (FOMA) over Dre Smithburg (FAIR) (Fall 1:59) 285: Cory Arnett (FOMA) over (FAIR) (For.) 106: Double Forfeit 113: Cael McCabe (FAIR) over Tateum Schelich (FOMA) (Fall 0:45) 120: Noah Swigart (FOMA) over Matthew Kensel (FAIR) (Fall 0:34) 126: Hayden Woolever (FOMA) over (FAIR) (For.) 132: Logan Pennock (FOMA) over Zach Westercamp (FAIR) (Dec 7-0) 138: Julian Pumphrey (FAIR) over Calvin Johnson (FOMA) (Fall 3:25) 145: Nolan Riddle (FOMA) over Cason Miller (FAIR) (Dec 3-0).



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

The Lady Hounds' Chloe Sokolik lifts her opponent in the second period. The Lady Hounds wrestled three matches prior to the boys' match with Fairfield.

PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE MEETING NOTICE

Lee County Conference Board Chairman, Garry Seyb, has scheduled a Conference Board meeting at the North Lee County Office Building, 933 Avenue H, Fort Madison, Iowa on Thursday, January 26, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. This meeting may be attended in person or electronically.

AGENDA

Roll Call
 Approve Agenda
 Approval of the Decem-

ber 8, 2022 Conference Board Meeting Minutes
 Motion to approve Lee County Policies for Assessor's Office
 Discussion of Commercial/Industrial Reappraisal
 Discussion of the 2023/2024 Proposed Budget
 Motion to approve the preliminary 2023/2024 Assessor's budget and set public hearing date
 Roll Call Vote
 Motion to Adjourn
 Public Hearing for 911 Budget FY 2024 and Conf. Board for LC Assessor Budget
 Thu, Jan 26, 2023 6:00

PM - 8:00 PM (CST)
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PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICES

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**PUBLIC NOTICE
MEETING NOTICE
TENTATIVE AGENDA
FORT MADISON
CITY COUNCIL**
Date: Tuesday,
January 17, 2023
Time: 4:30 P.M.
Place: City Council
Chambers
City Hall

FY 2023-24 BUDGET
WORK SESSION
Presentation and Dis-
cussion

**REGULAR MEETING
AGENDA**

The Regular Meeting will begin following the close of the Budget Work Session or 5:30 P.M. whichever is later.

INVOCATION
ROLL CALL
VISITORS AND AP-
PEARANCE REQUESTS:

At this time persons may address Council on any matters not on the Council agenda. After identifying yourself by name and address, please briefly state your issue.

PLEASE NOTE: This is not an opportunity to dis-

cuss issues with Council or to get information. In accordance with Open Meetings law, Council may not deliberate upon, nor take action on any complaint or suggestion or respond to any allegations which are not part of the published agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA
1. (Blank) MOVED and (blank) SECONDED to approve the consent agenda:

- Minutes of January 3, 2023;
- Liquor License Renewals: Hy-Vee Food Store, 2606 Avenue L,

effective March 19, 2023, Class E Liquor and River Rocks Bar & Grill, 709 Avenue H, effective January 28, 2023 – Class C Liquor;

- Claims dated January 12, 2023, December Manuals, December Financial Report; and
- Payroll of January 13, 2023.

PUBLIC HEARINGS
Sale of City-Owned Property at 1410-1412 Avenue E

Open Public Hearing Auction Property Close Public Hearing
2. (Blank) MOVED and (blank) SECONDED to adopt a resolution approving the sale of City-Owned property at 1410-1412 Avenue E to (blank) for a cost of \$(blank).

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS
3. (Blank) MOVED

and (blank) SECONDED to adopt a resolution approving the following applications for a Three-year Urban Revitalization Tax Exemption:

A. Thaddeus D/Kimberly Sommers, 1601 Avenue G, (garage)

B. Charles Edward/Emily Jo Logan, 117 – 16th Street (garage)

C. James Yager, 2218 Avenue B (general improvement)

D. Frederick A/Katrina J Dunn, 2130 Avenue H (garage)

4. (Blank) MOVED and (blank) SECONDED to adopt a resolution approving the Mayor's signature on Change Order #7, for Public Improvement Project 2020-05, Reconstruction of Old Hwy. 61, 6th to 10th Streets. (SEE COUNCIL REPORT NO.

2023-01)

5. (Blank) MOVED and (blank) SECONDED to adopt a resolution accepting Public Improvement Project 2020-05, Reconstruction of Old Hwy. 61 – 6th- 10th Streets. (SEE COUNCIL REPORT NO. 2023-02)

OTHER

6. (Blank) MOVED and (blank) SECONDED to approve the Mayor's appointments to the Planning and Zoning Commission: Barbara Asay and Thomas Schulz, terms expiring March 31, 2024, and Matt Emmett, term expiring March 31, 2025.

7. (Blank) MOVED and (blank) SECONDED to approve the Mayor's signature on a Community Catalyst Remediation Grant for 833/835 Avenue G.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS AND CITY MANAGER'S FINANCIAL REPORT

COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS/MAYOR ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT - The City Council next regular meeting will be 5:30 P.M. on Tuesday, February 7, 2023

A Budget Work Session has been proposed for Tuesday, January 31, 2023 (time to be determined).

HELP WANTED

LEE COUNTY SECONDARY ROADS ROAD MAINTENANCE WORKER II

Lee County is taking applications for a Road Maintenance Worker II, to work at the West Point Maintenance Shop. Duties will include the operation of light and heavy equipment and trucks to perform road maintenance and construction projects, occasionally plowing snow, and the performance of manual labor as required. Requires a high school graduate or G.E.D. equivalent and must possess a valid Class A commercial driver's license with air brake and tanker endorsements. Wage range is \$22.47 to \$27.35.

Lee County provides equal opportunity in employment to all persons regardless of age, race, creed, color, sex, national origin, religion or disability.

For a job description and to apply, download an application from our county website, www.leecounty.org or you can pick an application up at the Engineer's office and return your completed application along with a resume to Lee County Engineer, P.O. Box 158, Fort Madison, Iowa 52627, or email it to bhull@leecounty.org and copy it to shartson@leecounty.org Applications will be accepted until 4 p.m. on Tuesday, January 17, 2023.

If you have any questions please contact Lee County Engineer, Ben Hull at (319) 372-2541 or email him at bhull@leecounty.org.

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- \$.45 2nd shift / \$.65 3rd shift pay differentials
- Position is continuous shift operation
- 3% annual pay increases per contract
- \$175 monthly Company contribution to pension from date of hire
- 3% Company match to 401(k); 100% immediately vested
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Scene Around Town/From the Front



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Fort Madison firefighters pour water and foam in the side porch window of a home at 1623 33rd Street at about 12:50 Thursday afternoon. Faulty wiring is being blamed on the fire that destroyed the home.



Health care, social work are top job openings

REYNOLDS - Continued from Page 1

to advance a career in health care. Funding priority and preference will be given to partnerships that involve private or public accredited Iowa high schools.

“This new grant opportunity builds on the success we initiated last year and expands the number of available pathways Iowans can take to gain critical experience in one of the most important sectors of our economy,” said Governor Reynolds. “Apprenticeships are working in Iowa and opening important doors. We want to do everything we can to get Iowans engaged in the workforce and set up for meaningful careers.”

Applications for this year’s Health Careers Registered Apprenticeship Grant Program will be accepted on IowaGrants.gov beginning today, January 11. The deadline for applications will be March 9, 2023 at noon.

A total of \$15 million is being made available for this funding opportunity. Visit this link for grant documents and information on how to apply.

A grants webinar will also take place on January 27 at 11:00 AM to highlight the application process and answer questions. Interested participants are encouraged to join. (RSVP Link)

“Iowa is always looking to open more doorways to new careers, and registered apprenticeships are proving that this is possible even in the highest-demand fields,” said Beth Townsend, Director of Iowa Workforce Development. “Research shows that most apprentices will pursue careers in the same fields as their apprenticeships, so we welcome any applicants who are ready to help us expand the number of health care career options in Iowa.”

The health care and social assistance industry continues to have the highest number of job openings on IowaWorks.gov (approx. 12,000) and had four out of the top ten job postings in Iowa as of January 11, 2023. The grant program is designed to support the development or expansion of health care RA programs that are sponsored by Iowa-based Nursing Facilities, Residential Care Facilities, Assisted Living Facilities, Hospitals, Home Health Agencies, and Public/Private accredited Iowa High Schools, Community Colleges, and Universities.

Block grant helps local cities

GRANTS - Continued from Page 1

City of Grinnell: \$1,000,000

City of Keokuk: \$600,000

City of Mason City: \$1,000,000

City of Washington: \$400,000

The Home Rehabilitation Block Grant Pilot Program was created as a part of Gov. Reynolds’ \$100 million investment to increase the supply of housing options and protect and expand

housing opportunities for Iowans to live in or near the communities where they work. The funds are made available through Federal American Rescue Act State and Local Fiscal Relief.

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