# **INSIDE:** Central Lee FFA awards honors at annual banquet • See page 2

# PEN CITY CURRENT It's Black & White and Read all over

Monday, June 5, 2023 | 9 pages | Volume 7 • Issue 102

# Council to install 5th Ward replacement

## **WORK SESSION:** City Council to discuss vision for new City Manager

FORT MADISON – A new council person will be installed on Tuesday as city officials start framing what the new city manager position will look like.

An extended meeting is set for Tuesday with interviews being held with two candidates to replace councilman Chad Cangas who resigned last month after deciding to move out of his district.

The Fort Madison City Council will conduct interviews with Angela Salazar and Dustin Yager on Tuesday starting at 4:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers. Mayor Matt Mohrfeld said he plans on one of the two being installed prior to beginning of the regularly scheduled council meeting. The council most recently installed Angela Roller by the same process when Tom Schulz resigned after winning a county supervisor seat in November.

"This will be the same process. We'll ask questions and they will be interviewed at the same time," Mohrfeld said. "After that they will ask for a recommendation in the form of

See CITY, page 8

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# FMHS graduates 131 seniors



Photo courtesy of FMHS

Fort Madison senior Kane Williams gave an address Saturday at the Fort Madison High School graduation ceremony. The high school graduated 131 seniors at its 2023 commencement.

# Artists porfolio makes her an artist of arts

## www.pencitycurrent.com

## EDITORIAL



# FM officials had foresight Davenport missed

We're all thinking about it, but we're not sure anyone's talking about it. So we'll talk about it here.

A building collapsed in Davenport this week and lives were lost. Still more are yet to be recovered, with at least three missing.

Lots of people in Fort Madison were commenting on our stories about the city of Fort Madison taking over the Block building downtown. The building was falling into disrepair to the point where City Building Director Doug Krogmeier and Fire Chief Joey Herren barricaded streets off because bricks were falling and walls were leaning.

Through court action, the city took control of the building and then paid to have it shored up.

No more barricades... no more threat. To our knowledge, the building still hasn't been transferred to a developer so it's in city hands. What that looks like is still being discussed between the city and potential developers, but the important thing at this point is that Krogmeier, Herren, and the city clearly did the right thing.

There was real concern that building was going to collapse. The courts ordered the building cleared until it could be shored up and private ownership did some preliminary work to shore the building up, but it wasn't deemed sufficient by the city. Now the building has been property restored on the west side to prevent any collapse. The building is empty to prevent any loss of life. Now developers can inves-

How do you describe an artist? You talk about their art. Well, what if the artist has more than one art form as most artists do? You talk about each of their art forms as defining part of the artist, like one piece of the pie. In Grace Bell's artist portfolio there is photography, music, jewelry, metal smithing, reflexology (healing is creation or creativity), managing an art gallery, and more to come.

Born in Memphis, Tennessee and spending her first seven years in Toledo, Ohio, Grace Bell mainly grew up in La Jolla (pronounced "Hoya"), California, in what is known as



By Curt Swarm

the Gold Coast or Riviera of California. It was idyllic: beaches, ocean, sand, sun, surfers... with an average temperature of 68 degrees

year round. In the second grade she learned to paint without

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## WEATHER

Mon 05 Jun...... Hazy early then mostly sunny & warm, 85° F/ 61° F 🏻 🔔 ------ Partly sunny & warm, 86° F/ 62° F 🛛 🌨 TUE 06 Jun ..... 📖 Partly sunny & warm, 81º F/ 58º F 🛛 🗢 WED 07 Jun WA LOTTERY LUCKY FOR LIFE 06/03..... **.....**357,0Ў9,515 PICK 3 MIDDAY 06/01, 06/02, 06/03 ...... ....402,986,108 PICK 3 EVENING 06/01, 06/02, 06/03 ...... PICK 4 MIDDAY 06/01, 06/02, 06/03 ......8252, 5866, 8445 PICK 4 EVENING 06/01, 06/02, 06/03.....0086, 3575, 2637 POWERBALL 06/03......15 45 64 67 68, Powerball: 18 Power Play: 2

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# **Obituaries/Scene Around the Area**

## **OBITUARIES**

### EDITH M. CROWELL

Edith May Crowell, 81, of Keokuk, passed away on Wednesday, May 31, 2023, at Timber Point Healthcare Center in Camp Point, Illinois.



Edith was born on September 26, 1941, in Keokuk, Iowa, the daughter of Raymond Kenneth and Jane Elizabeth (Howard) Chaknine. In 1974, she was united in marriage to Randy Crowell, Sr. They were later divorced. Edith attended Anchor of Hope Church in Keokuk, and was employed in several jobs in the area, including dry cleaning, Drydens, janitorial work and childcare. She was a die-hard Elvis and Harry Potter fan, and always rooted for the Kansas City Chiefs and the St. Louis Cardinals. She enjoyed reading, but most of all, she loved her

grandchildren dearly. Edith will always be remembered as being a loving, sweet soul with an ornery side. She always spoke her mind and called it how it was.

Edith is survived by her son Randy Crowell, Jr., of Keokuk; her daughter Chrissy Crowell of Keokuk; two grandchildren: Suzanne Crowell of Keokuk and Adrian Crowell of Keokuk; five grandchildren: Raelynn, Ally, Dominic, Christian and Vincent; four siblings: Frank, Mary, Suzie and Red Chaknine, all from Keokuk; and her beloved dog Phoenix. Other survivors include numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

Edith is preceded in death by her parents and three brothers: George, Bucky and Raymond.

Funeral services will be held at 12 pm (Noon) on Wednesday, June 7, 2023, at De-Jong-Greaves-Printy Funeral Home in Keokuk. Visitation will be held on Wednesday from 10 am to 12 pm (Noon) at the funeral home directly before the service.

Memorials may be directed to the family in care of Randy Crowell for expenses. Tributes and condolences may be left at www.dejongsfuneralhome.com. DeJong-Greaves-Printy Funeral Home of Keokuk is in charge of arrangements.



# Lunch Specials June 5 - 9 11am - 1pm

Monday, June 5

Minit Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans

Tuesday, June 6 Meatloaf, Loaded Potatoes, Sweet Corn

# Wednesday, June 7 **Burnt Ends Sandwich, Cheese Potatoes**

## **OBITUARIES**

# GARRY H. MAXWELL

Garry H. Maxwell, 80, of Wever, IA, passed away at 12:20 a.m. on Friday, June 2, 2023 at his home. He was born on October 23, 1942 in Bennington, VT to Dale & Beatrice LaBounty Maxwell. He married Eva Louise Rutledge on January 6, 1968 in



Warrenton, MO. He was a truck driver for 40 years and served in the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam War. He attended First Baptist Church in Fort Madison and volunteered for Great River Hospice & Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center. He enjoyed gardening and especially spending time with his family.

MAXWELL

Garry is survived by: his wife: Eva Rutledge of Wever, IA; 3-daughters: Bobbie Collis of

Fort Madison, IA, Angel Prince of East Galesburg, IL & Teresa (Jeff) Beal of Danville, IA; 9-grandchildren & 16-great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents and 1-brother, Dalton.



Cremation has been entrusted to the care of King-Lynk

Funeral Home & Crematory. A celebration of his life will be held at a later date. Burial will be at Augusta Cemetery in Augusta, IA. Online condolences to the Maxwell family may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website:



Image courtesy of Central Lee

Five individuals were recognized recently at the 2023 Central Lee FFA banquet. Front (L-R) Mr. Brian Moeller, Ms. Breana Houtz; (back) Mr. Cody Swan, Mr. Noah Altenhofen, and Mr. Mark Stanley. Congratulations!! #CTEworksforCL



# Thursday, June 8 Fried Chicken Dinners

Friday, June 9

Lunch on the Sidewalk

#### Charles Vandenberg, Editor

(319).371.1670 charles.v@pencitycurrent.com

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## Lee K. Vandenberg, Sales Manager

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## **Education News**

# Holy Trinity Catholic releases final 2023 honor rolls

FORT MADISON – Holy Trinity Catholic Schools has announced its 4th quarter and 2nd semester honor rolls for the 2022-2023 school year. Pen City Current joins our advertisers and readers in congratulating these students on their academic success. Job well done!

4th Quarter Honor Roll 2022-2023

#### 4.0 Honor Roll

7th Grade – Olivia Bendlage, Carter Gehling, Morgan Krogmeier, Callie Kruse, Emma Menke, Layne Schmitt

8th Grade – Ellie Hellman, Kara Lake, Emma Scheetz, Emmalyn Snaadt, Brooklyn Todd

9th Grade – Chase Hemann, Layne Rung, Brock Scheetz, Isabella Wheatley-Behne

10th Grade - Koby Jones

11th Grade – Mary Kate Bendlage, Michael Chapman, Taegan Denning, Connor Gehling, Jenna Hellman, Natalie Randolph, Maddox Rung

12th Grade – Kayla Box, Alexa Dingman, Jenna Di-Prima, Laura Mehmert, Rachel Menke, Anayi Navarro **A Honor Roll** 

7th Grade – Mason Roach, Noah Schinstock, David Vradenburg, Faith Ward

8th Grade – Eva Denning, Elizabeth Griffin, Megan Holtkamp, Sydney Jarvis, Adalyn Kruse, Max Kruse, Tanner Williams

9th Grade – Nathan Box, Johnathan Hummel, Addison Link, Blake Mohrfeld, Presley Myers, McKayla Schinstock

10th Grade – Anna Bendlage, Teagan Snaadt

11th Grade – Daltin Boeding, Jacob Hummel, An-

drew Mehmert, Seth Moeller, Edward Schroeder 12th Grade – Mary Hellige, Jacob Pothitakis

#### **B** Honor Roll

7th Grade – Cooper Boylan, Jay Ellison, Kinnick George, Natalie Meller, Chase Menke, Tanner Snaadt

8th Grade – Kat DiPrima, Jack Hellman, Elijah Kline, Corbin Moeller, Gavin Peitz, Caleb Rea, Mia Skinner

9th Grade – James Denning, Jameson Denning, Emily Hummel, Sarah Menke, Emma Mohrfeld, Carson Pauly, Corbin VanNiewaal

10th Grade – Luke Hellige, Mason Kruse, Tobias VanHamme



**CLICK FOR DETAILS** 

11th Grade – Reagan Holvoet, Ethan Peitz, Mary Beth Scheetz

12th Grade – Emily Boeding, Brooke Mueller, Taylor Nelson, Riley Timmerman

2nd Semester Honor Roll 2022-2023

#### 4.0 Honor Roll

7th Grade – Olivia Bendlage, Carter Gehling, Mor-

gan Krogmeier, Emma Menke, Layne Schmitt

8th Grade – Ellie Hellman, Kara Lake, Emma Scheetz, Emmalyn Snaadt

9th Grade – Chase Hemann, Brock Scheetz, Isabella Wheatley-Behne

10th Grade – Anna Bendlage, Koby Jones, Teagan Snaadt

11th Grade – Mary Kate Bendlage, Michael Chapman, Taegan Denning, Connor Gehling, Jenna Hellman, Natalie Randolph, Maddox Rung

12th Grade – Kayla Box, Alexa Dingman, Jenna Di-Prima, Laura Mehmert, Rachel Menke

#### A Honor Roll

7th Grade – Calli Kruse, Mason Roach, Noah Schinstock, David Vradenburg, Faith Ward

8th Grade – Eva Denning, Elizabeth Griffin, Jack Hellman, Megan Holtkamp, Sydney Jarvis, Adalyn Kruse, Max Kruse, Caleb Rea, Brooklyn Todd, Tanner Williams

9th Grade – Nathan Box, Johnathan Hummel, Addison Link, Presley Myers, Layne Rung, McKayla Schinstock, Corbin VanNiewaal

11th Grade – Daltin Boeding, Jacob Hummel, Andrew Mehmert, Seth Moeller, Ethan Peitz, Mary Beth Scheetz, Edward Schroeder

12th Grade – Emily Boeding, Mary Hellige, Anayi Navarro, Jacob Pothitakis, Riley Timmerman



#### **B Honor Roll**

7th Grade – Cooper Boylan, Jay Ellison, Kinnick George, Natalie Meller, Chase Menke, Tanner Snaadt

8th Grade – Sara Boeding, Kat DiPrima, Elijah Kline, Corbin Moeller, Gavin Peitz, Mia Skinner

9th Grade – James Denning, Jameson Denning, Emily Hummel, Sarah Menke, Blake Mohrfeld, Emma Mohrfeld, Carson Pauly

10th Grade – Luke Hellige, Mason Kruse, Brayton Schneider, Adam Sobczak, Tobias VanHamme

11th Grade – Reagan Holvoet

12th Grade - Brooke Mueller, Taylor Nelson



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## For the Record/From the Front

# Bell plays in improvisational ensemble in Iowa City

### SWARM - Continued from Page 1

brushes at an Art Center next door to the school (now the San Diego Museum of Contemporary Art- SDMCA). The Art Center had an exhibit of all the childrens' art work. They chose Grace's painting as the opening piece for the show. That got her to thinking, "Hmm, I want to be an artist."

Given a Brownie camera when she was eight years old, photography was it for Grace. She could take a picture, have it developed and printed and in a day or so...A PICTURE! Twenty-some years later, after a two year course in photography at San Diego City College, Grace bought used darkroom equipment, converted part of her one-car garage into a darkroom and voila!... her pictures... tweaked to taste!

When Grace was in the ninth grade, her parents sent her to boarding school in Washington DC to broaden her experience. She was in class with politicians' children. She thought, "There's a world out here I haven't seen before."

She never took a music lesson but learned to play the flute by ear. Grace was also making ceramic jewelry and doing metal smithing and pottery.

In Los Angeles Grace met a Buddhist monk. He told her, "The Western mind is like a squirrel in a cage. Running all the time. There is no time for thought, no time to hear what you're being told. You need to meditate." Grace learned to meditate and found focus. It changed her life. The Monk had her paint her mirrors black. "You are not to look at yourself. You are to be in love with this world and life." Although she no longer paints her mirrors black, she still lives by his wise words.

Grace had an art gallery in Hermosa Beach, near the airport in Los Angeles, right around the corner from the world famous Jazz Lighthouse. Aspiring artists could show their work. David Hammons, now a well known artist, had a reception in Grace's gallery during the turbulent 60's. In the late 70's, he was featured at the fore-mentioned SDMCA.

Grace always felt she wanted to pursue healing. In her thirties in Iowa she met Edna King, a reflexologist, who said, "Grace, you ought to study Reflexology." After moving back to La Jolla in 1977, a friend of Grace's mother was dying of cancer. Grace told her, "I don't know if I can help your cancer, but I can help your pain." Her mother's friend had been given four months to live. She lived four years. Word got around and Grace spent 35 years practicing Reflexology.

Grace Bell is best known for her photographs of jazz, blues, avant-garde, and most recently country musicians. Her photos in color & B&W of (in alphabetical order) Count Basie, Dave Brubeck, John Cage, Ray Charles, Miles Davis, Bo Diddley, Ella Fitzgerald, Stan Getz, David Grisman, Herbie Hancock, John Lee Hooker, B.B.



King, Taj Mahal, Sonny Rollins, Big Mama Thornton, William Elliot Whitmore and hundreds more are regarded as among the best photos ever taken of them. Although Grace does not use Photoshop, she has converted her analog pictures to digital and in the process learned to print, edit and publish digitally.

As if that weren't enough, Grace Bell, along with her husband Will Parsons, Patrick Hazell, John Lake, Michael Lytle and Dave Olive are in an improvisational ensemble that originated in Iowa City in the 1970's. Their music is best documented in the album "Iowa Ear Music" (1976 as vinyl and 2009 in a revised CD). A Downbeat magazine review, that awarded the album its highest rating (5 stars) and listed the 45 participating musicians, concluded with: "The noteworthy aspects are many. There are fine individual moments... And there are four years of painstaking editing and trial mixes... Most significant, however, is the Iowans' indomitable spirit of exploration and free-flowing imagination." Both LP and CD covers featured Grace's photos.

Grace hopes to publish a book of her life's work with the various included artists writing about each other. If she gets this book published (and I have a feeling she will), snap it up. It will be one-of-a-kind. Sort of like Grace Bell herself. You have to admire her raw talent, creativity and, most importantly, her persistence.

Grace and her husband split time between San Diego and Keokuk. While in Keokuk they live in a modest cabin at their son John Patterson's "Green Frog Distillery" north of Keokuk. To contact Grace Bell email her at gracebakerbell@aol.com.

## For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report

05/25/23 - 12:00 p.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Tyler McKenzie Cassady, 34, of Marion, in the 4800 block of Avenue O, on charges of 3rd degree theft greater than \$750 less than \$1,500 and 1st offense trespassing. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

05/25/23 - 4:04 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a burglary in the 400 block of 4th Street.

05/25/23 - 4:31 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 1600 block of Avenue I.

05/26/23 - 5:51 p.m. - Fort Madison police cited Brittany Marie Goldie, 28, of Keokuk, in the 300 block of Avenue G, on a charge of possession of a controlled substance - 2nd.

05/26/23 - 10:46 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a property damage accident at the intersection of 15th Street and Avenue D.

05/27/23 - 7:31 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 2700 block of Avenue L.

05/27/23 - 1:11 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 3100 block of Avenue P.

05/27/23 - 1:22 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a burglary in the 1200 block of Avenue G.

05/27/23 - 3:38 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a property damage accident at the intersection of 11th Street and Avenue E.

05/27/23 - 11:19 p.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Randy Allen Davis, 59, of Fort Madison, in the 2700 block of Avenue J, on charges of disorderly conduct - loud noise and possession of a controlled substance - 2nd. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

05/28/23 - 10:34 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 1300 block of Avenue G.

05/28/23 - 6:05 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 2600 block of Avenue L.

05/28/23 - 6:06 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 2300 block

05/28/23 - 7:12 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 1500 block of Avenue H.

05/28/23 - 9:52 p.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Takota Nelson, 23, of Fort Madison, in the 700 block of 34th Street, on charges of assault - displaying a dangerous weapon and 2nd degree criminal mischief \$1,500-\$10,000. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

05/28/23 - 10:14 p.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Michaela Nicole Hanson, 43, of Fort Madison, in the 100 block of Storms Court, on a charge of 1st offense domestic assault - bodily injury. She was taken to Lee County Jail.

05/29/23 - 9:33 p.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Charles Raymond Jackson, 34, of Burlington, in the 3900 block of Bluff Road, on charges of disorderly conduct - threat and 2nd degree harassment. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

05/30/23 - 3:21 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 300 block of Avenue D.

#### Lee County Sheriff Report

05/25/23 - 3:07 p.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Ricky Leon Riddle, 45, of Montrose, at the sheriff's department, on a charge of 5th degree criminal mischief - hate crime. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

05/25/23 - 3:11 p.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Amber Rae Grooms, 39, of Fort Madison, at the North Lee County Courthouse, on 2 charges of violation of probation. She was taken to Lee County Jail.

05/26/23 - Lee County sheriff deputies had no activity to report.

05/27/23 - 12:00 a.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested John Eugene Land, Jr., 41, of Keokuk, at the South Lee County Courthouse, on a warrant for 3rd degree burglary and a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia. He was taken to Lee County Jail and later released on a pre-trial release.

of Avenue H.

# Contact Tracy to Schedule Your **COMPLIMENTARY REVIEW**

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## Scene Around Town/From the Front

# City did right thing shoring up Block building

### COLLAPSE - Continued from Page 1

tigate the possibilities of getting the building back on the city's tax roles... instead of collapsing into the street.

Most people want to shout at the rain when it comes to government overreach, but then we have people who protest the government hasn't done enough. This story was all over national news as downtown residents protested against sluggish recovery efforts.

I couldn't help but think about how Fort Madison would be reacting under the same situations.

Would they blame the city for not doing more to secure the building, with or without tenants, or would they saying at least the city didn't overreach as wood, bricks, and drywall lay on the pavement at the foot of a crumbled structure.

Thoughts then turn to what's next. Lawsuits, deaths, blame, investigations, journalism, insurance companies, all in the wake of the event. Why was the owner fined \$300? Max fine allowed? Why did the Mayor call off recovery efforts? Are there still bodies in the rubble?

This could have been Fort Madison. No one would make the stretch that a crumbling of the Block building on the southeast corner of Avenue G would have been of this magnitude but a building that would have collapsed on the Mayor's watch. Right onto 8th Street.

People would still complain and criticize city officials, but you can't watch that situation unfold in Davenport and not think about us here in Fort Madison.

Thumbs up to city officials for tackling that building head on. Nothing works right for everyone and processes like this usually leave someone hurting emotionally, but fortunately, as we see the tragedy unfold in Davenport, no one was hurt here physically.

Fort Madison officials get credit for that in our book. The Mayor moved the project So, you haven't seen much of me lately out and about. Your friendly neighborhood reporter has been homebound with an ailing mother and can't be left alone right now. Rest assured we're doing everything we can from our home and on zoom, and with GameChanger and the good help of great people, to keep news coming to you. My family will likely end up at Mayo Clinic next week, but rest assured we're still keeping an eye on things and will be back in full force very shortly – but that's Beside the Point.

Chuck Vandenberg is editor and co-owner of Pen City Current and can be reached at <u>Charles.V@PenCityCurrent.com</u>.







Image courtesy of FMHS

A Fort Madison High School graduate gets her diploma from FMHS Co-Principal Patrick Lamb Saturday at the FMHS 2023 Commencement ceremony in Fort Madison.

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# **Classifieds/Public Notices**

# PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIED

**PUBLIC NOTICES** 

PUBLIC NOTICE Lee County, Iowa **Board of Supervisors** Agenda DATE: Monday, June 5, 2023 MEETING **CONVENING TIME:** 10:00 A.M. (CDT) LOCATION: 933 Avenue H Fort Madison, IA

---AGENDA----

Board of Supervisors Jun 5, 2023, 10:00-11:30 AM (America/Chicago) Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone. https://meet.goto. com/114925861 You can also dial in using your phone.

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If you would like to pose a question to the Board, please use the Chat feature and wait for the

Chairman to address you. If you are participating by phone, please wait until everyone is done speaking before addressing the Board. Please keep your microphone muted to cut down on background noise. If you are participating by phone, press #6, this will mute your phone.

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Approve Agenda Public Input

Consider Approval of Airfare for LCHD's HRSA Grant Coordinator to Travel to Required 2023 HRSA Rural Community-Based Program Reverse Site Visit in Washington DC July 12-14

**Consider Approval** to Replace 2 Part-time EMTs and One Part-time Paramedic

**Discuss and Consider** Approval of Resolution Approving Mental Health Agency of Southeast lowa 28E

**Discuss and Consider** Approval of Mental Health Agency of Southeast Iowa 28E Member County Signature Page for Lee County

Consider Approval of Second Reading of Automated Traffic Enforcement Ordinance

Consider Approval of Second Reading of Automated Traffic Enforce-

## HELP WANTED **GROUNDMAN**/ LABORER

The West Point Municipal Utility System has an immediate opening for a Lineman/ Groundman.

Applicant must be able to assist with electrical power line construction, maintenance, and repair. You install both aerial and underground lines and monitor transformer function. Your duties include assembling and preparing the line apparatus, digging holes, operating utility vehicles, reading and recording meters, stocking trucks, using hand and power tools, and cleaning up the area after project completion. A lineman/groundman works regular hours, but you must also be available for any after hour call outs and emergencies

ment Revenue Disbursement Ordinance

Consider Approval of **Resolution Setting Public** Hearing for Vacation of a Certain Part of A venue C in West Point

Consider Approval of **Resolution Setting Public** Hearing for Vacation of Alley in Mooar

Consider Approval of **Resolution Setting Public** Hearing for Vacation of Alley in Croton

Consider Approval of **Resolution Correcting** Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2023

Consider Approval of **Resolution Transferring** American Rescue Funds to General Basic Fund

Consider Approval of **Resolution Amending** Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2023

Consider Approval of **Resolution Amending** Budget and Appropriations for Information Technology

Discussion and Possible Action for Funding for Keokuk Ambulance Building

Consent Agenda • Tuesday, May 30, 2023 Board Minutes

- Claims for Payment **Personnel Actions**
- A. Step Increase- Sheriff's Office

B. New Hire- Treasurer's Office (Replacement)

Reports: A. Commission of

Veteran Affairs Minutes of Meeting B. Auditor's Report of

Fees Collected Commission or Com-

mittee Reports Adjourn

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PUBLIC NOTICE FORT MADISON AIRPORT COMMISSION **MEETING NOTICE MONDAY, June 5, 2023** 6:00 P.M. **Municipal Airport** 50 Airport Road, Fort Madison, IA 52627

#### AGENDA

ROLL CALL APPROVAL OF MIN-

Patrick Profeta General Manager

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# **Classifieds/Public Notices**

UTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING BUSINESS: 1. Transformer Grant Update 2. AWOS Update AIRPORT MANAGER REPORT ADJOURNMENT

**PUBLIC NOTICE TENTATIVE AGENDA** FORT MADISON **CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING/** WORK SESSION Tuesday, June 6, 2023 4:30 P.M. City Council Chambers, **City Hall** 

ROLL CALL

1. 5TH WARD COUN-**CIL VACANCY** a. Council Candidate Interviews

b. Council Discussion c. (Blank) MOVED and (blank) SECONDED to adopt a resolution appointing (blank) as 5th Ward Council Member, effective June 6, 2023. 2. Oath of Office

3. Work Session: Vision for City of Fort Madison and City Manager

**REGULAR MEETING** Tuesday, June 6, 2023 5:30 P.M. or FOLLOWING CLOSE OF SPECIAL SESSION **City Council Chambers**, City Hall

### 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 discuss issues with Council or to get information. In accordance with Open Meetings law. Council may not deliberate upon, nor take action on any complaint

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 May 16,

2023;

· Liquor License Renewals:

Casey's #2319, 1428 -38th Street, effective July 1, 2023 – Class E Retail; Casey's #2023, 1208 Avenue H; effective July 1, 2023 – Class E Retail; Fareway #177, 1820 Avenue H, effective July 23, 2023 – Class E Retail; Elks Lodge #374, 719 Avenue H, effective July 1, 2023 - Class F Retail Alcohol:

• Partial List of Cigarette Permits;

· Claims dated May 31, 2023, May Library Claims and May Manual Claims; and

· Payroll of May 19, 2023.

UPDATE: Old Fort Madison

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

2. (Blank) MOVED and (blank) SECONDED to approve the first reading of an ordinance amending Title 1, Administration, Title 2, Boards and Commissions, and Title 6, Health and Sanitation. (SEE COUNCIL REPORT 2023-16)

3. (Blank) MOVED and (blank) SECONDED to approve the first reading of an ordinance amending Title 9, Traffic, Chapter 7, Stopping, Standing, Parking, to set the locations of all parking restriction signs by resolution. (SEE COUNCIL REPORT 2023-17)

4. (Blank) MOVED and (blank) SECONDED to adopt a resolution approving changes to the City's Personnel Manual. (SEE COUNCIL REPORT 2023-18)

5. (Blank) MOVED and

# **PUBLIC NOTICES**

(blank) SECONDED to adopt a resolution approving property tax exemptions for: MBMRE/MM Real Estate, for property located at 2231 Avenue H (new four-unit residential apartment building) and 236 Avenue E (new residence).

6. (Blank) MOVED and (blank) SECOND-ED to adopt a resolution approving the Mayor's signature on a one-year Contract for Transportation Services between the City and Southeast Iowa Regional Planning Commission, effective July 1, 2023. (SEE COUNCIL REPORT 2023-19)

7. (Blank) MOVED and (blank) SECONDED to adopt a resolution approving the Mayor's signature on a contract with BerganKDV of Des Moines, lowa, for audit services for the City of Fort Madison. (SEE COUNCIL REPORT 2023-20)

8. (Blank) MOVED and (blank) SECONDED to adopt a resolution approving the request of Asay Properties to demolish the structure at 1227 Avenue Ε.

#### OTHER

9. (Blank) MOVED and (blank) SECONDED to approve the Mayor's appointment of Chris Greenwald to the Fort Madison Housing Authority, filling an unexpired term, term expiring June 3, 2024.

10. (Blank) MOVED and (blank) SECONDED to approve the Mayor's reappointment of Tyler Caldwell to the Airport Commission, term expiring September 30, 2026.

11. (Blank) MOVED and (blank) SECONDED to approve the bid of Norris Asphalt Paving Co., LC, of Ottumwa, Iowa, for Phases 1, 2, and 4, in the amount of \$525,216 for the Marina Asphalt Project, the cost to be reimbursed to the City of Fort Madison by the Southeast Iowa Aquatic Restoration Group, Inc. d/b/a Fort Madison Marina. **DEPARTMENT RE-**PORTS

COUNCIL COMMU-NICATIONS/MAYOR ANNOUNCEMENTS

**ADJOURNMENT - The** next regular City Council meeting will be 5:30 P.M. on Tuesday, June 20, 2023

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 2023-**

WHEREAS, Fifth Ward **Council Member Chad** Cangas resigned as Council Member effective May 15, 2023; and

WHEREAS, it is required by Section 372.13 of the Code of Iowa that a vacancy in elective City office be filled by special election not more than 90 days after it occurs or be filled by appointment not more than 60 days after it occurs;

WHEREAS, as required by Section 372.13 of the Code of Iowa notice was published on June 1, 2023, in the "Daily Democrat" of the Fort Madison City Council's intent to fill the vacancy by appointment;

WHEREAS, the appointed person would serve as 5th Ward Council Member until the election results of the November 7, 2023 election are certified or until an intervening special election; and

WHEREAS, interested parties have submitted letters of interest; and WHEREAS, the City

Council has reviewed the

letters and interviewed the candidates during on June 6, 2023 City Council meeting.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT MADISON, IOWA, that (blank) be hereby appointed as the Fifth Ward Council Member following the resignation of Chad Cangas until an intervening election or special election.

PASSED AND AP-PROVED this 6th of June, 2023.

Matt J. Mohrfeld, Mayor City of Fort Madison, Iowa ATTEST: Melinda L. Blind, City Clerk

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#### or suggestion or respond



Pen City Current will not publish an e-Edition Thursday through Tuesday, June 8-13 so we can enjoy some family time. The e-Edition will resume Wednesday, June 14. Thanx for reading!

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## For the Record/From the Front

# Salazar, Yager submit names for open council seat

#### **CITY** - Continued from Page 1

a motion, vote on it, and seat them at the meeting immediately."

In her application to the position, Salazar cited her volunteer support of the community through the Mexican Fiesta, the LULAC, the Eagles Club, and the Moose Lodge.

"I want the 5th Ward to benefit from my enthusiasm for hard work, my ability to understand complex problems, and expertise in managing multiple priorities," Salazar wrote. "I plan to support the residents of the 5th Ward by bringing their concerns and ideas to the Fort Madison City Council."

Salazar said she wants to focus on housing initiatives and public health. She's a recently-certified public health worker.

"I would like to work with local agencies responsible for improving children's health, quality of life, safety assessments, and outreach," she wrote. Yager, a Correctional Counselor at Iowa State Penitentiary, said he wanted to contribute to the momentum the city is seeing.

"I am passionate about making Fort Madison better every day, not only for current residents but for future residents as well," Yager wrote on his application.

"If given the privilege to serve on the City Council, I believe that my ability to communicate effectively with people would make a positive impact on not only the citizens I would represent, but also the other council members I

would be working with." Yager said he will look at issues and make deci-

sions and opinions based on personal beliefs and values.

"I believe these attributes would allow me to step into that vacant position on the Council and immediately get to work, continuing to make Fort Madison better as an organization."

The council received one other application, but that person has since rescinded interest in the position.

After the session to fill the vacancy, the council will immediately move into a work session to discuss the vision for the new city manager's position.

Former City Manager David Varley resigned in May and the council, along with Mayor Mohrfeld, want to spend some time redefining what the role of City Manager will look like in Fort Madison. After that work session, the Council will enter its regular Tuesday meeting agenda. Several changes to the city's personnel manual are on the agenda in a single item. Peggy Steffensmeier is recommending that upgrades to the policy manual including early retirement language that allows employees to elect early retirement at any time after reaching full retirement age and prior to turning 65.

The council will also vote on a measure to allow parking restrictions to be set by resolution rather than a three-read ordinance.

## For the Record

05/27/23 – 1:39 a.m. – Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Kolton Alan Enke, 26, of Denmark, in the 600 block of Kilbourn Avenue, Denmark, on charges of open container - passenger - 21+ YOA and violation of a domestic no-contact order. He was taken to Lee County Jail and later released on bond.

05/27/23 – 2:37 a.m. – Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Jacob John Montgomery, 36, of Wever, in the 600 block of Academy Avenue, Denmark, on a charge of 1st offense trespassing. He was taken to Lee County Jail and later released after paying a fine.

05/27/23 – 3:02 a.m. – Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Sarah Anne Herriman, 25, of Fort Madison, in the 600 block of Kilbourn Avenue, Denmark, on charges of open container - driver 21+ YOA, 1st offense OWI, and violation of a domestic no-contact order. She was taken to Lee County Jail and later released on her own recognizance.

05/27/23 – 11:41 a.m. – Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Jenny Lynne Leis Rook, 36, of Keokuk, at the sheriff's department, on a judgment hold warrant. She was taken to Lee County Jail and later released on time served.

05/27/23 - 11:25 p.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Todd Keith Woods, 59, of Keokuk, in the 2400 block of 340th Street, Keokuk, on charges of possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of a controlled substance - 1,2,3rd. He was taken to Lee County Jail and later released on his own recognizance. 05/28/23 - 3:07 p.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies responded to a single-vehicle accident in the 3400 block of Hwy. 27 N. According to the report, a vehicle driven by Glen James Pederson, 56, of North Dakota, lost control, striking a concrete divider, and then veering into the opposite wall. No injuries or citations were reported. Pederson's vehicle suffered disabling damage and was towed from the scene. 05/29/23 - 2:03 a.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Brad William Lile, 43, of Fort Madison, in the 1600 block of 303rd Avenue, Fort Madison, on charges of 2nd offense OWI and driving under suspension. He was taken to Lee County Jail and later released on his own recognizance.

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