

PEN CITY CURRENT

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

Friday, July 7, 2023 | 8 pages | Volume 7 • Issue 117



www.pencitycurrent.com

Cool Summer Market



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Visitors to Fort Madison's annual Summer Downtown Market walk down Avenue G on a cool Thursday afternoon. There is one more summer market in August.

IOWA NEWS

40% of ESA applications are for those transferring

DES MOINES – Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds has announced that 29,025 K-12 students applied for a Students First Education Savings Account (ESA) during the program's monthlong application period which closed on June 30.

"The tremendous response from Iowa families demonstrates there's both a need and a strong desire for school choice in our state," said Governor Reynolds. "Allowing parents to choose the education that's best for their children levels the playing field and creates equal opportunities for Iowa's students."

The program is part of the governor's landmark Students First Act which was signed into law in January and promotes school choice by providing ESAs for eligible students who choose to attend accredited private schools in Iowa. Universal eligibility will be phased in over three years. All incoming Kindergarteners and all public-school students are eligible in year one with the start of the 2023-2024 school year. Eligibility for families of children currently enrolled in accredited private schools will be income based over the first two years. During the 2023-2024 school year, private school students with household incomes at or below 300% of the federal poverty level (FPL), currently \$90,000 or less for a family of four, are eligible. The following year, income eligibility expands to include household incomes up to 400% FPL, currently \$120,000 or less for a family of four. Beginning in the 2025-2026 school year, all K-12 students in Iowa are eligible regardless of income.

This year, ESAs will be funded with \$7,635—the same amount appropriated by the state to support the education of each public-school student during the 2023-2024 academic year. The funds must first be used to pay tuition and fees; remaining balances can then be used to cover other approved educational expenses.

See **VOUCHERS**, page 5

Mt. Pleasant's Swarm brings sculptures to FMAAA exhibit

BY LORI ILLNER GREENE
FMAAA DIRECTOR

Long time FMAAA Member, Curt Swarm is exhibiting in the Main Gallery at the FMAAA Art Center located at 825 Ave G in Fort Madison during July with his whimsical found-metal sculptures. Curt's motto is, "One man's junk is another man's treasure." If he can see a face, or human or animal form in a piece of junk, he can make it come to life through welding and/or plasma cutting. "Human beings can teach themselves to do most anything, all they have to do is go for it, make the effort and not be discouraged." This self-taught welder has made every mistake there is to make, and then some.

Curt likes to make metal sculptures out of old farm equipment as a way of preserving farm heritage. He started welding when he had two old pieces of farm junk that he thought needed to be attached together. Curt bought the cheapest 110 v welder he could find from Menards and taught himself to weld. No matter that he just about burned down the garage and had to be hauled to the emergency room at 2:00 am with burned eyeballs! Now, he has a 220v welder and a plasma cutter. Curt knows no moderation and does everything to excess. He is a recovering alcoholic and drug addict having

been clean and sober for 33 years. He was inspired and encouraged by Brian Riggs, the previous Director of FMAAA, to weld up a storm. His metal sculptures are on, or have been on, public display in Mt. Pleasant, Oskaloosa, Jefferson and are in many private collections.

Of his creative tendencies Curt says, "Art is in the eyes of the beholder, and all art is for the glory of God. Writing is art and writers are artists." Writing is Curt's number one preferred art form, with fabricating metal sculpture and photography in second and third place. He wants his writing to be

See **SCULPTURE**, page 8

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WEATHER

FRI 07 Jul..... Warm with afternoon storms, 78° F/ 61° F
SAT 08 Jul..... Warm with scattered storms, 77° F/ 59° F
SUN 09 Jul..... Sunny and warm, 82° F/ 60° F

IOWA LOTTERY

LOTTO AMERICA 07/05..... 9 21 38 39 48, Star Ball: 8 All Star Bonus: 2
LUCKY FOR LIFE 07/05..... 8 16 26 30 38, Lucky Ball: 2
PICK 3 MIDDAY 07/05..... 2 9 0
PICK 3 EVENING 07/05..... 8 9 7
PICK 4 MIDDAY 07/05..... 3 2 1 9
PICK 4 EVENING 07/05..... 3 0 2 3
POWERBALL 07/05..... 17 24 48 62 68, Powerball: 23 Power Play: 2

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Obituaries/Iowa News

OBITUARIES

ROBERT D. LUCHSINGER

Robert D. "Bob" Luchsinger, 94, of Fort Madison and Wheatridge, CO passed away on Tuesday, July 4, 2023 at the Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center in Ft. Madison.

He was born on August 21, 1928 in Toledo, OH to William and Ruth Mylander Dean and was later adopted and raised by his step father, Lester Luchsinger and his Mom, Ruth. Robert married Sue Ayers in 1948 and to this union were born two sons, James and Jeff. Sue preceded Robert in death. On August 1, 2009 he married Norma Poland. In his younger years Bob worked various jobs and later made his career in human resources for the hospital in Sandusky, OH for ten years and as an assistant hospital administrator for fifteen years at Parkview Hospital in Toledo, OH.

He served in the US Army and the reserves. Bob was very active in the Port Clinton Yacht Club the American Legion and the Elks Club. He was a member of E.L.C.A Lutheran Church. This year Robert was granted an award for serving Capital Masonry for seventy years. Bob loved to share stories of his many escapades with buddies in his youth. He was especially proud of his Willy's Knight "gangster car" In his later years he loved teaching everyone to play hand and foot. Bob was a kind, ornery and loving man who will be greatly missed by all.

Survivors include his wife, Norma Luchsinger of Ft. Madison and Wheatridge, CO; two sons, James (Deb) Luchsinger of Albany, OR and Jeff (Jackie) Luchsinger of Arvada, CO; three step children, David (Sandy) Poland of Nauvoo, Carol (Roy) Jerred of Nauvoo and Marilyn (Michael) Cannady of Cedar Rapids; one grandchild; one great granddaughter, six step grandchildren and thirteen step great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents.

The celebration of life will be held on Saturday, July 8, 2023 at 11 AM at King-Lynk Funeral & Crematory with Pastor Gayle Pope officiating. The family will meet with friends from 10 AM until the time of the service at 11 AM. Burial will be in Nauvoo City Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, a memorial has been established for Shriner's Childrens Hospital and online condolences may be left at www.kinglynk.com.



LUCHSINGER



OBITUARIES

GARY L. OLSON

Gary Lee "Coffee" Olson, 73, of Houghton, Iowa, passed away at 5:57 p.m. Tuesday, July 4, 2023 at the V.A. Medical Center in Iowa City.

Gary was born on November 2, 1949 in Fort Madison, Iowa, the son of Clarence and Mary (Chesnut) Olson. On September 29, 1979 he married Lucille Hellweg in Houghton, Iowa.



OLSON

He is survived by his wife: Lucille, two children: Andy (Maria) Olson of Atkins, Iowa, and Lynn Olson of Newhall, Iowa, four grandchildren: Caleb, Ava, Bella, and Landon, one sister: Linda (Mike) Panther of Fort Madison, Iowa, one brother: Tom Olson of Texas, also surviving are several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, one sister: Pat Bouressa, one sister-in-law: Christine, and one brother-in-law: Dan Bouressa.

Gary owned and operated Gary "Coffee" Olson Construction. He was a member of the Farmington American Legion, he served on the Houghton City Council and a United States Army Veteran serving during Vietnam. Coffee enjoyed his grandchildren and attending their events, he was an avid NASCAR fan, and enjoyed drinking coffee with his friends.

The Family will receive friends from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Saturday, July 8, 2023 at the St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Houghton.

A funeral Service will be held at 10:00 a.m. Saturday, July 8, 2023 at the St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Houghton with Father Dan Dorau officiating.

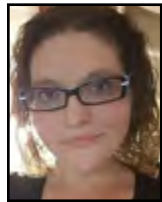
Burial will be in St. Johns Cemetery with full military rites presented by the Farmington American Legion Richardson - Anthony Post #231.

A memorial has been established to Houghton Fire and Rescue or St. Johns Catholic Church.

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

KIRA R. THOMPSON

Kira Rae Thompson, 40, of Fort Madison, IA, passed away on Sunday, July 2, 2023 at her home. She was born on January 18, 1983 in Tucson, AZ to Danny E. & Christine I. Grunwald Reeves. She enjoyed going on drives, taking pictures and watching movies.



THOMPSON

Kira is survived by: her mother: Christine Johnston of Casa Grande, AZ; her father: Danny Reeves of Oklahoma; 2-brothers: Aaron Reeves & Cameron Reeves of Casa Grande, AZ and her boyfriend: Joe Egan of Fort Madison, IA. She was preceded in death by her grandparents.

Cremation has been entrusted to the care of King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory and no services are planned. Online condolences to Kira's family may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: www.kinglynk.com.

Players Workshop holds auditions

BURLINGTON - Players Workshop will hold open auditions for the first show of the 2023-24 season, the musical comedy

Sister Act, on July 23-24, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at the Workshop, 1431 Grove St., Burlington.

Parts are available for 7 males, 9 females, plus an ensemble, all ages late teen and up. No special preparations are needed or experience are needed to audition.

Sister Act was written by Bill and Cheri Steinkellner, with music by Alan Menken and lyrics by Glenn Slater, and additional material by Douglas Carter. It was adapted from the popular movie of the same name, which starred Whoopi Goldberg.

Sister Act tells the story of disco diva Deloris Van Cartier, who witnesses a mob murder; the police place her in protective custody in the one place they feel the mob won't find her—a convent! Disguised as a nun, she clashes with the Mother Superior and chafes against the rigid lifestyle, but, working with a moribund choir, she turns the place upside down, only to blow her cover while doing so, and mayhem ensues.

For more information on auditions, contact director Matt Poling (319-750-0334 or matsmp1981@mediacombb.net), go to www.playersworkshoptheater.com, or check the Players Workshop Facebook page.

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

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

Obituaries

OBITUARIES

SHARON S. BENNETT

Sharon Starr Bennett, 82, of Keokuk died Wednesday, July 5, 2023 at the Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center in Ft. Madison, IA.

She was born December 16, 1940 the daughter of William and Hannah Thomas Clouse in Des Moines, IA.

She was united in marriage to Chester Starr in June of 1967. He preceded her in death on May 3, 1996.

Sharon was employed with Keokuk Area Hospital as a unit clerk for thirty-eight years until her retirement. She started her hospital work as a volunteer candy striper at St. Joseph Hospital in Keokuk.

She was a member of Emmanuel United Methodist Church in Keokuk and attended Bethel Bible Church in Argyle.

She enjoyed target shooting, reading and going to auctions. Most of all she loved being with her family.

Sharon is survived by her loving companion, Larry Batley of Keokuk, two sons, Dale Starr (Mary) of Jacksonville, FL, and Kenneth Jones (Diana) of Warsaw, IL, three daughters, Sharon Voorhees of Houston, TX, Patty Handyside (John) of Hannibal, MO, and Debra Jones of Keokuk, nine grandchildren and eight great grandchildren, a brother, Don Clouse (Denise) of Des Moines, two sisters, Joann Coop of Albia and Judy Hagmeier of Keokuk along with numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

Besides her husband, she was preceded in death by her parents, a son, Gary Starr, a brother, John Clouse, granddaughter, Lacey and two brothers-in-law, Bill Hagmeier and Les Coop.

A funeral service will be held at 1 p.m. Monday at the Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk with Pastor Aaron Hand officiating. Burial will be in the Oakland Cemetery in Keokuk.

Visitation will be held prior to the funeral from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the funeral home with family meeting with friends at that time.

Memorials may be made to the Emmanuel United Methodist Church in Keokuk. 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

ROBERT G. MOORE, JR.

Robert G. "Bob" Moore, Jr., 94, of Ft. Madison, passed away at 12:45 AM on Wednesday, July 5, 2023 at the Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center in Ft. Madison.



MOORE

He was born on April 2, 1929 in Centertown, MO to Robert G. and Ella Walker Moore, Sr. On June 13, 1953 he married Arlene "Pat" Steinhauer in California, MO and she passed away on July 27, 1992. He later married Laverna Alarie and she passed away on November 15, 2022. Bob served in the US Navy during WWII and was a 1953 graduate of the University of Missouri. He was a mechanical engineer at First Miss and Sheaffer Pen Co. He became a Christian in 1941 and led a life as a devout Christian who loved the Lord. He was a member of Grace Bible Church where he served as an Elder and later attended Madison Baptist Church. Bob taught Bible classes and was also a leader of Community Bible Study. He was an avid sports fan and enjoyed spending time with his family.

Survivors include two daughters, Julie Gerdes of Ft. Madison and Janet (Tracy) Vance of Fairfield; one grandson, Ross (Amanda) Vance of New London and one great granddaughter on the way. He was preceded in death by his parents, both wives, one brother and one sister.

The funeral service will be held at 11 AM on Monday, July 10, 2023 at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory with Pastor Ken Barlow officiating. The family will meet with friends from 10 AM until the time of the service at 11 AM. Burial will be in Oakland Cemetery.

A memorial has been established in his memory and online condolences may be left at www.kinglynk.com.

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Sports

Knoxville gets past Lady Hounds in Region 6



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Senior Erika Kruse lets go with a pitch in the fourth inning. Kruse wrapped up her career suffering the loss, but earned praise from Head Coach Jared Rehm who said it was the best she pitched all year.

IT'S TIME



Colorectal cancer screening saves lives!

The recommended age for colorectal cancer screening has been lowered from 50 to 45 because colorectal cancer cases are on the rise among young and middle-age people. Colorectal cancer is one of the only cancer screening tests that can prevent cancer by finding precancerous polyps in the colon or rectum and removing them before they become cancer or find cancer early when it may be easier to treat. There are several screening options available. So, if you are over the age of 45, or at high risk for colorectal cancer, talk to your doctor about when to start getting screened and which screening option is best for you.



Right **place**. Right **care**. Right **here**.

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

KNOXVILLE – A lot of two-out damage was done Thursday night in Knoxville.

Unfortunately, Fort Madison came up on the short side of things in a 3-2 loss to Knoxville in the Class 4A Region 6 post-season bracket, ending the Lady Hounds' season.

Fort Madison finishes the year 16-13 overall and 7-8 in the Southeast Conference.

The Hounds rallied in the top of the 6th to come back from a 3-0 deficit.

Taylor Johnson got on beating out an infield single to short, but was called out at second on an iffy call where Knoxville shortstop Emma Dunkin seemed to have touched second and slid past trying to get a double play, but appeared to have caught the ball after she left bag.

Lauryn Helmick, who was safe at first on the fielder's choice, would come around to score when senior Erika Kruse blasted a shot into the lawnchairs beyond the right-center field fence sending fans scattering on the liner.

Kruse's homer cut the lead to 3-2, but Fort Madison wouldn't get any closer as Knoxville senior Ashlyn Finerty set the Hounds down 1-2-3 in the top of the seventh.

The Lady Panthers opened the scoring in the third inning when Kruse surrendered a lead-off walk and then plunked Addison Dunkin to put two on with no outs.

A sacrifice bunt moved the two up to 2nd and 3rd. Kruse would coax an infield pop-up for the second out freezing the runners, but Brittany Bacorn and Finerty would both single back-to-back to score two.

Reilyn Turnbull snagged a liner at second to end the inning but Panther starter Ciara Heffron was dealing right along with Kruse who probably had her best night on the mound all season hitting the strike zone regularly with velocity and accuracy.

Bacorn would add a bomb that probably traveled close to 250 feet over the

left-center fence in the Knoxville half of the 5th, also with two outs for what would prove to be the game-winner.

Kruse struck out six and gave up the three runs on just five hits.

"That was the best I've seen her pitch all year long. I'm not just saying that. Her accuracy was on point," said Fort Madison Head Coach Jared Rehm.

Rehm lost Neeley Rehm on Sunday to a knee injury. The Hounds have been playing without power-hitter Lexi Whaley all season after she underwent shoulder surgery prior to the start of the year.

Jared Rehm said he wanted to give his daughter a chance to hit with the outcome still in doubt. The senior was second on the team for the year in singles with 31 and was hitting .343 on the year.

"It was kind of like a senior send-off really. We were hoping she could get something into the outfield and then get to first and we'd have had someone come in for her," Rehm said.

After the game, Rehm said he had considered appealing the play at second where Johnson was called out.

"I pondered it. But I thought (the other official) was 84-feet away. He made the call and I didn't see him overturning it. It's a judgment call over there. There's a whole lot I can't do about that," Rehm said.

If Taylor had been ruled safe, Kruse's home run would have been a three-run bomb and would have tied the game.

Fort Madison will lose three seniors – Kruse, Emily Steffensmeier, and Rehm.

Rehm said he'll miss the seniors who he's been working with for the past eight years, and longer with his daughter.

Kruse finished the year with eight home runs and 25 RBIs, while hitting .438 second best on the team to junior Helmick's .441. She was also 4-8 on the year on the mound with 46 strikeouts and a 6.03 ERA.

Steffensmeier hit .393 with 29 hits, six doubles, and 13 RBIs. She had a sparkling .937 fielding percentage. Rehm was 12-5 on the mound before suffering the injury last week. She struck out 67 hitters and carried a 3.84 ERA.

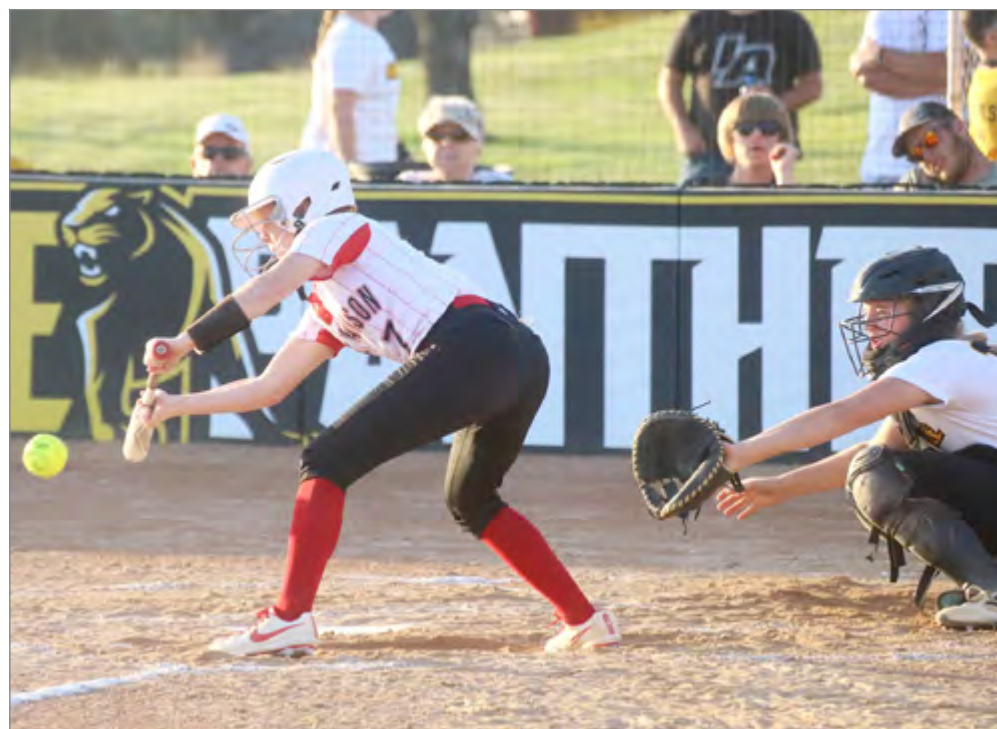


Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Fort Madison's Alivia Holmes lays down a sacrifice bunt in the 5th inning to move Elizabeth Tanner into scoring position Thursday in Knoxville.

Sports/From the Front

Lady Hawks roughed up at Washington

BY JOHN BOHNENKAMP
PCC SPORTS

WASHINGTON — One bad inning ended Central Lee's softball season.

But coach Jason Hawk reminded his team that an inning should not take away what the Hawks accomplished this season.

Washington used a seven-run second inning to take a 10-1 win in Thursday's Class 3A Region 8 quarterfinal.

The Demons (24-12) will play at Davenport Assumption (30-6) in Saturday's semifinal.

Central Lee (21-9) ended a brilliant season that included a 12-0 mark on the way to the SEI Superconference South Division title, the first league championship for the program since 1979.

What the Hawks accomplished, Hawk said, should not be forgotten.

"We had a great season," Hawk said. "And that's what I told them. I told them there was nothing to hang our heads about, it was a great season. We accomplished a lot."

What was painful for the Hawks was how the game got away in the second inning. The Demons had two hits, but thrived on the five Central Lee errors and a couple of mental mistakes that were just as painful.

"Once you have one error, one thing, go wrong, it just keeps going and going," Hawk said. "And that's what happened in that inning."

"The thing about it was we had mental mistakes, and those can be harder to overcome than the physical ones. You're going to have the physical ones, but the mental ones are harder to come back from sometimes."

The game was tied at 1 when the Demons took control. They added two more runs in the third, then Central Lee pitcher Everlee Harvey allowed just two hits over the final 3 1/3 innings.

"This team has never given up," Hawk said.

"We've been down seven, eight runs before, and we've come back. And that's the thing with this team — there's no give-up in them."

"Take away that second inning, it would have been a close game. We go into the last inning down 3-1 or something like that, anything is possible. But like I said (to the team), that's how softball goes sometimes."

Central Lee's lone run came in the second inning, when Bailey Schwartz walked, stole second, move to third on a groundout, and scored on Harvey's groundout.

The Hawks, who led Class 3A with a .377 batting average, had just two hits — a single by Jaci Hawk in the first inning and a single from Harvey in the fifth. Washington pitcher Bella Salazar struck out four.

"Their pitcher kept us off balance," Coach Hawk said. "We came into the game ranked first in 3A in batting average, and it didn't show tonight, because of how they played on defense, and how they pitched."

Washington had nine hits, eight coming from 1-2-3 hitters Leighton Salazar, Ella Greiner and Haley Mitchell.

The Hawks lose four seniors — Harvey, Schwartz, Alix Congdon and Abby Simmons.

"There's only going to be one winner at the end of it, and unfortunately it wasn't us," Hawk said. "Like I said, you can't hang your heads on one game, or one thing. You have to look at the overall picture."

Accounts could be funded by July 15

VOUCHERS - Continued from Page 1

es or held for subsequent school years.

To date, 17,481 ESA applications have been approved. The remaining applications are pending additional review. The state has 30 days following the close of the application period to complete the review process and determine the eligibility status of all pending applications.

Of the applications approved at this time:

- 40% are for students planning to move from public to accredited private schools, while 60% are for students already attending accredited private schools whose families qualify based on income eligibility for the upcoming school year (at or below 300% federal poverty level (FPL), or up to \$90,000 for a family of four).

- The average net household income for ESA applicants planning to move from public to accredited private schools is \$128,507 (more than 400% FPL); and \$62,199 for private school applicants.

- 14% of applicants have household incomes less than 100% FPL (less than \$30,000 for a family of four); 31% have incomes ranging from 101% to 200% FPL (above \$30,000 and up to \$60,000 for a family of four); 36% range from 201% to 300% FPL (above \$60,000 and up

to \$90,000 for a family of four); the remaining 19% are above 300% FPL (above \$90,000 for a family of four).

In addition to applying and being approved for an ESA, families must separately apply to the accredited private school of their choice and, if accepted, update their ESA account indicating the school their child plans to attend. Then, the school is able to invoice the family for tuition and fees through their ESA account. Once parents approve the payment, funds are transferred from the ESA account and payment is made to the school. ESA funds remain in the state's possession until a student's parent or guardian approves payment to the school.

Approved ESA accounts may be funded as soon as July 15. The first payment from an ESA must be used for tuition and fees to an Iowa accredited private school.

If a student is approved for an ESA but does not attend an accredited private school by September 30, the ESA account will be closed for the school year. The funds remain with the state and are returned to the general fund.

The final number of ESA program participants and other program details will not be available until certified school enrollment numbers are finalized later this fall.

BACK PAIN?

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MYTH #1: Sciatica (pain down your leg) is always caused by a herniated disc!

No way...even though most doctors will sell you a \$3,000 MRI at the first sign of leg pain. But they don't tell you about a 5-inch muscle in the hip that can squeeze the sciatic nerve. And it feels EXACTLY like you've got the worst slipped disc on earth. It's a major discovery and...

The good news is that it can be easy and inexpensive to correct! How? Just keep reading! But first, here's a picture to show you where the pain comes from:



MYTH #2: Stiffness from Arthritis means you're getting old...and it must be the reason for all your pain and stiffness!

Not true, because thousands of folks with arthritis in their backs have absolutely NO PAIN! Then why do YOU feel like your back will snap if you bend forward or twist too fast? Because the truth is:

Your stiffness may be caused by a hidden, even more dangerous problem than arthritis, and it can lead to a hip replacement!

You see, most folks believe that something mysterious (like maybe an "arthritis fairy") waded a wand over them, and they're cursed... doomed to suffer forever.

But did you know that many arthritis problems are CAUSED by a combination of unseen imbalances in the spine and surrounding muscles? It's the most common cause of hip replacements but not that hard to correct if we catch it in time. It's like the tires on your car...

If the alignment is off just a teeny-weeny bit, at first you don't notice, but over a few thousand miles you start to see signs of wear...that is, if you're lucky enough to catch it before a flat on the freeway ruins your day. In your spine, you're lucky if you catch untreated imbalances before they ruin your spine! How to fix them? Just look at Myth #3.

MYTH #3: Your Back is "Out"!

Sure, that's exactly how it feels. But guess what, we found that's usually not the case. It sounds good, but we now know better. You see, there are 7 different reasons for that painful, locked-up and stuck feeling that causes so much misery:

- low-grade spasm
- pelvis torque and tension
- imbalance of hips

- fallen or dropped arches
- stiff vertebra joint
- adhesions in leg muscle
- pinched nerve

It's NOT just your spine, and it's NOT just your muscles. As a matter of fact, if one of the major muscles that stabilize the spine is partly spasmed, a "2nd stringer" will have to carry the load. But this is a serious problem...

It's like having your plumber doing all the dangerous electrical work!

Sure, he may get it done, and it may work at first, but how long until there's a fire? Or your back locks up? Which leads me to our next myth:

MYTH #4: "It's Only a Muscle!"

Boy, it's scary how many people think muscle problems are no big deal. Unfortunately, tight, bound-up, and spasmed or tight muscles can wear out joints faster than you can say, "Charley Horse!"

That's why it's important to examine the spine AT THE SAME TIME as the muscles that control it. It's also why we've had such outrageous success with even the worst backs at James Healthcare. Because we deal with BOTH the spine and muscles at the same time. We have spine doctors (chiropractors), pain doctors (nurse practitioners) and muscle professionals (therapists) and together they deliver an outstanding way to help "bad backs". This ties in to Myth #5 and the diagram:



MYTH #5: "Muscle Relaxants" will help your muscles heal! Good grief, NO!

Your muscles tighten up for a reason, and muscle relaxants are like turning back the clock on a time bomb...you know it's still going to blow up! Sure, you may feel better now, but you'll pay later...and pay "in spades"! So don't fall for these lies about your low back. They'll keep you hurting, frustrated and exhausted forever!

WOULDN'T YOU RATHER:

Turn over in bed without pain waking you up?

Get up in the morning without being as stiff as a board?

Be able to stand for as long as you want without sitting down for relief?

Lean forward over the sink without that "stabbing" in your back or leg?

SCIENTIFIC BREAKTHROUGH:

A hidden muscle may be causing your SCIATICA! Does Your Back Seem "Too Old" for Your Own Body? Not everyone qualifies for treatment, so help us see if you do. If you check off even one box, drop what you're doing and call James Healthcare NOW. And bring this coupon when you come in for your 39-Point "Back-Pain Track-Down Exam". Now check off what describes you:

- Tension...always tight across the beltline
- Bent—crooked off to one side and can't stand up straight if your life depended on it
- Trigger Point...zinging pain to butt-cheek
- Stiff as a board...creak and groan when you first get out of bed in the morning
- Traitor...can't trust your back and what it's going to do—or when!
- Vice-like...constantly locked down tight!
- Shooting...vicious but short-lived
- Lumbago...hard to pin it down—just seems to hurt all the time, but it's hard to say where
- One-sided...right at that "bone" on one side
- Jack hammer...pounding off and on like a heartbeat or a toothache in your back
- Aching from 1-5 years
- Chronic pain for over 5 years

No one will try to sell you anything, and you make no commitment...you just find out what's wrong!

P.S. Why You MUST Not Wait! Because of appointment availability, we can only honor this \$27 offer or bringing in a new or gently used winter coat through October 31, 2022. So don't say, "Well, maybe I'll be better tomorrow." Don't put your life on hold. Don't call in sick again. Live your life pain free! Tie your own shoes for a change.

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James Healthcare & Associates, Inc.
612 Main Street

"I broke my back when I was 41 years old and have had problems from then on, until June 2017. Dr. James gave me my life back! I have very few back problems now. It is great to be able to do my everyday duties without back problems." —Roger Kirchner

James Healthcare & ASSOCIATES, INC.

Dr. Jason James, DC
Dr. Mack Kohnke, DC
Ashley Neuweg, ARNP
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PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE PROCEEDINGS FORT MADISON CITY COUNCIL 7/5/2023

At 5:30 P.M., Council met in regular session on Tuesday, July 5, 2023. Mayor Mohrfeld presided with Council Members Yager, Andrews, Bowker, Rink, Gray and Roller present. Council Member Amandus was absent.

On motion, Council approved the Consent Agenda: Minutes of 6/20/2023; Liquor License Renewals: MOD and Lost Duck Brewing; Resolution No. 2023-48, Approving Fiscal Year 2023-24 Budget Transfers; Claims dated 6/29/2023, June Library Claims; Payrolls of 6/16/2023 and 6/30/2023.

On motion, Council approved Ordinance D-100, amending Title 1, Admin-

istration, Title 2, Boards & Commissions, and Title, 6, Health & Sanitation. On motion, Council approved Ordinance D-101, amending Title 9, Chapter 7, Stopping, Standing, Parking. On motion, Council approved the 1st reading of an ordinance amending Title 7, Police, by adding a new Chapter 13, Special Events. On motion, Council adopted Resolution No. 2023-49, to set locations of parking restriction signs. On motion, Council adopted Resolution No. 2023-50, accepting the submitted plat of survey and waiving subdivision requirements (Title 11 – Subdivision Regulations) for Blue Grass Farms, Inc., for property located at and immediately east of 1944-303rd Avenue, within two miles of City Limits. On motion, Council approved

the Mayor's signature on a Grant Agreement with the Iowa Economic Development Authority for a Community Catalyst Building Remediation Grant for the James Block

EXPENDITURES	
General	\$ 49,679.39
Special Revenue	152,141.49
Road Use	31,962.03
Capital	356,604.80
Water	624,188.17
Sewer	1,241,636.21
Sld Waste, IWC	5,389.73
SW Utility	1,922.25
	<u>\$2,463,524.07</u>

REVENUES	
General	\$ 23,414.09
Special Revenue	656,755.34
Road Use	158,592.13
Debt	1,481.74
Capital	558,630.13
Water	328,656.25
Sewer	262,023.18
Solid Waste/IWC	85,176.95
SW Utility	17,933.00
	<u>\$2,092,662.81</u>

CLAIMS - 7/5/2023

ACCESS LEASING SYSTEM, PRINTER LEASE	771.09
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Building. The meeting adjourned at 6:05 P.M. /s/ Matt J. Mohrfeld, Mayor ATTEST: /s/ Melinda L. Blind, City Clerk

PAYROLL 6/30/2023	
General	167,800.90
Old Fort	14,460.49
Road Use	18,856.62
Water	24,412.42
Sewer	24,664.92
Solid Waste	14,597.22
Airport	315.09
Storm Water	2,240.86
	<u>\$267,348.52</u>

PAYROLL 6/16/2023	
General	210,526.41
Old Fort	4,367.44
Emp Benefits	7,875.59
Road Use	25,491.10
Water	30,912.99
Sewer	31,561.60
Solid Waste	14,465.79
Airport	495.22
Storm Water	3,076.27
	<u>\$328,772.41</u>

ALLIANT ENERGY, ELECTRIC	1,339.05
ANSER IOWA, ANSWERING SERVICE	232.00
ARAMARK UNIFORM SERVICES, SHOP TOWELS	581.96
BATES SANITATION & ASPHALT, PORTA-POTTIE RENTAL	75.00
BELSON OUTDOORS, BENCHES	6,178.59
BITUMINOUS MATERIALS, HOT PATCH	1,730.65
BROZENES HYDRAULIC SERVICE, HARNESS	132.25
CALHOUN-BURNS AND ASSOCIATE, PROF FEE	4,963.06
CODY POTTHAST, COLLEGE REIMB.	1,440.00
DIAMOND VOGEL INC., YELLOW PAINT	90.00
DODD PRINTING &	

STATIONERY, OFFICE SUPPLIES	229.60
DOUDS STONE, LLC, ROADSTONE	654.88
DUNKIN GARAGE & TOWING, VEHICLE SERVICED	1,052.00
EASTERN IOWA TIRE, INC., REPLACE TIRE	405.67
EMILY BIDDENSTADT, RIBBON CUTTING PORT	80.00
EUROFINS ENVIRONMENT TESTING, SLUDGE SAMPLE	308.16
FARM & HOME SUPPLY, SAFETY CLOTHING	282.88
FIRE SERVICE TRAINING BUREAU, TRAINING	600.00
FORT MADISON WATER DEPT, WATER	16.54
GLOBAL INDUSTRIAL, CHAIR	227.94
GRAINGER, FILTER	70.13
GREAT WESTERN SUPPLY CO, TOWELS	116.11
GREENWOOD CLEANING SYSTEM, JANITORIAL SUPPLIES	2,317.15
HOWARD R GREEN COMPANY, PROF FEE	16,136.50
HUFFMAN WELDING & MACHINE, PARTS, ETC	424.27
HUMBURD AUTO SERVICE, TIRE REPAIR	25.00
IA DEPT. OF PUBLIC DEFENSE, TRAINING	1,025.00
ICAP, MARINA COVERAGE	3,647.00
IDEAL READY MIX COM-	

PANY, INC, CONCRETE @ 2X4	2,709.38
IOWA BRIDGE & CULT VERT, PAY EST	30,000.00
IOWA LEAGUE OF CITIES, MEMBERSHIP DUES	4,921.00
IOWA MUNICIPAL WORKERS, 25% of 2023/24 PREMIUM	21,545.00
IOWA ONE CALL, LOCATES	137.00
KIMBALL MIDWEST, MINI-BULB/FITTING	16.16
LAND & WATER VEGETATION CONTROL, WEED CONTROL	395.00
LIBERTY UTILITIES MID-STATE, HEAT	252.24
LYNCH DALLAS, P.C., PROF FEE	4,964.50
MARICORP US, PAY EST #4	135,051.52
MCFARLAN, JANITORIAL SUPPLIES	231.95
MENARD, REFRIGERATOR/BALL VALVES	751.48
MUNICIPAL EMERGENCY SERVICES, UNIFORM	315.00
MICROBAC LABORATORIES LLC, TESTING	504.25
MID-IOWA SOLID WASTE EQUIPMENT, PARTS	320.00
MIDAMERICAN ENERGY COMPANY, ELECTRIC	550.06
MIGUEL LANDEROS, NUISANCE ABATEMENTS	1,955.00
MOHRFELD ELECTRIC, FLOW METERS	220.80
MUNICIPAL SUPPLY INC., METERS & PARTS	

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- Blurry Vision
- Extreme Thirst
- Frequent Urination
- Increased Appetite
- Fruity Breath Odor
- Fatigue and Weakness
- Rapid Deep Breathing



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PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

HELP WANTED

WATER TREATMENT PLANT FULL-TIME OPERATOR

GENERAL PURPOSE

Operates and repairs all pumps and appurtenances necessary to produce high quality and adequate quantity of water to meet system demands. Performs routine maintenance on equipment, collects and analyzes water samples, and completes inspections.

DESIRED MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

- Education and Experience:
1. Graduation from high school diploma or GED equivalent
 2. Valid Iowa driver's license
 3. Obtain a Grade II Water Treatment License in the State of Iowa
 4. Ability to perform basic laboratory analyses

Apply at City Hall, 811 Avenue E, Fort Madison, IA or email applications to cullen@fortmadison-ia.com by Friday, July 21, 2023.

Applications can be found on the city website at www.fortmadison-ia.com



WATER DISTRIBUTION - FULL-TIME DISTRIBUTION CREWMAN

GENERAL PURPOSE

Under the general direction of the Distribution Supervisor, prepares excavations, installs and repairs water mains and appurtenances, reads water meters, and completes service work orders.

DESIRED MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

- Education and Experience:
1. Graduation from high school diploma or GED equivalent
 2. Valid Iowa driver's license
 3. Obtain an Iowa Grade II Water Distribution License within four years from hire date
 4. Ability to operate tools and equipment pertinent to the water distribution field.
 5. Work in confined spaces
 6. Frequently stands, squats, bends over, kneels, reaches, and lifts above and below shoulder height.

Apply at City Hall, 811 Avenue E, Fort Madison, IA or email applications to cullen@fortmadison-ia.com by Friday, July 21st.

Applications can be found on the city website at www.fortmadison-ia.com



PUBLIC NOTICES

.....	4,235.00
NORRIS ASPHALT PAVING, PATCHING ...	682.62
O'REILLY AUTOMOTIVE, INC., AUTO PARTS	1,014.64
PITNEY BOWES, E-Z SEAL	82.99
POSTMASTER, FORT MADISON, POSTAGE	1,954.20
QUAD CITY TESTING LABORATORY, EQUIPMENT INSPECTION	733.90
QUARRY CREEK ELK AND BISON, SAFETY SHOES	236.69
QUILL LLC, OFFICE SUPPLIES	174.30
SOUTHEAST IA REGIONAL MED, PRE-EMPLOYMENT SCREEN	575.00
THE SHREDDER, ON-SITE SHREDDING	180.00
TRUCK REPAIR INC., RADIATOR REPLACEMENT	2,917.00
TRULIE MAYES, TREATS @ RIBBON CUTTING.....	72.00
UPS, SHIPPING	43.98
USA BLUE BOOK, TESTING KITS	999.23
VEENSTRA & KIMM, INC, PROF FEE ...	440.00
WATER SOLUTIONS UNLIMITED, CHEMICALS	6,486.93
WILKENS-ANDERSON, DETERGENT	165.76
WILSON BROTHERS, PORT BOARD MEALS	68.00
TOTAL	271,055.06
GENERAL	29,819.69
SPECIAL REVENUES	6,435.59
ROAD USE.....	14,659.09
CAPITAL PROJECTS	186,151.08
WATER.....	16,808.68
WASTEWATER	10,693.66
SOLID WASTE ..	3,921.46
AIRPORT.....	643.56
STORM WATER	1,922.25
TOTAL	271,055.06

MANUALS - JUNE 2023

ALLIANT ENERGY, ELECTRIC.....	11,399.76
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES, DVDS; LIBRARY ITEMS.....	464.57
ANSER IOWA, ANSWERING SERVICE	210.00
ASCENT - AIRPORT FUEL, AIRPORT FUEL FOR RESALE....	4,029.39
CENTURY LINK, PHONE	185.59
DODD PRINTING & STATIONERY, ENVELOPES	913.88
EMAHJENATION ENTERTAINMENT, BAND CONCERT - 6/18....	75.00
FOCHTMAN-DEVINE PROPERTIES, GRANT PAYMENT.....	5,045.00

GREAT WESTERN SUPPLY CO, CLEANING SPRAY.....	25.75
IOWA DEPT. OF REVENUE, SALES & WET TAX - JUNE 2023....	15,490.33
IOWA FINANCE AUTHORITY, PRINCIPAL/INTERST/SERV FEE	1,815,783.25
MASTERCARD, TRAINING EXP/OFFICE SUPPLIES	1,317.79
MERCHANT SERVICES,	

CREDIT CARD FEES - MAY 2023	4,455.50
MIDWEST GROUP BENEFITS, FLEX SPENDING PROCESSING FEE	13,074.28
MIGUEL LANDEROS, NUISANCE ABATEMENT	2,582.06
MOHRFELD ELECTRIC, INSTALL NEW REGULATOR	1,000.00
MOWEN CLEANING SERVICE LLC, JANITO-	

RIAL SERVICE	905.10
RANGEMASTERS TRAINING CENTER, AMMO	1,002.45
SE IA AQUATIC RESTORATION, CAT GRANT REIMB	194,963.72
SQUARE, APP FEES	38.32
WELLMARK BC/BS, HEALTH INS PREMIUMS	102,339.38
WEX BANK, FUEL USAGE	17,167.89

TOTAL	2,192,469.01
GENERAL	19,859.70
SPECIAL REVENUES	139,963.40
ROAD USE.....	17,302.94
CAPITAL.....	170,453.72
WATER.....	607,379.49
WASTEWATER	1,230,942.55
SOLID WASTE ..	1,468.27
AIRPORT.....	5,098.94
.....	2,192,469.01

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Iowa News/From the Front

Snake Alley film festival set

BURLINGTON, IOWA - The 11th annual Snake Alley Festival of Film (SNAFF) will return to the Capitol Performing Arts Center in downtown Burlington from July 13 - 16.

With a lineup of 100 short films from around the world, SNAFF continues to attract filmmakers and screenwriters from far and wide. This year, the festival received submissions from as close as southeast Iowa and as far as South Africa.

Attendees will take in a variety of genres including comedy, drama, documentary, sci-fi/fantasy, music videos, and

animation.

A highlight that makes this festival stand out from others is the screenplay table reads. These table reads have become a catalyst for new collaborations and connections in the industry.

SNAFF director Tadd Good reflects, "We've had experiences when people have met for the first time at these table reads, gone on to create a film, and returned to the festival with that film. It's a testament to both the talent and opportunities found at SNAFF."

Additional highlights include a Q&A with

filmmakers, SNAFFter Parties, a free screening of PBS's The Film Lounge episode 702, and an award ceremony on July 16.

"The whole event is a fun opportunity for film enthusiasts and filmmakers to network, exchange ideas, and build friendships," Good shares. "Some people come to enjoy the films, some are new to filmmaking, and others are established in the industry. This is a four-day celebration of cinema for everyone."

Tickets for the Snake Alley Festival of Film are available for purchase at BurlingtonCapitolTheater.com and the box office. Prices are \$7 per block, \$15 for a day pass, and \$50 for a festival pass, granting access to all the films, table reads, and events throughout the festival.

For more information, visit SnakeAlleyFestival-offilm.com or contact info@snakealleyfestival-offilm.com.

Author takes his artwork to FMAAA's July exhibit

SCULPTURE - Continued from Page 1

his legacy and hopes to see one or more of his books made into a movie (maybe with an Academy Award!?)

Curt Swarm had a career as an Insurance Agent for United Health Care. He has a degree in English from Iowa State University. He has written and published three books: "Protected", "Bossy", and "Task Force IED." A fourth book, "Esther" is in the hopper. Curt writes a weekly human interest column "Empty Nest" that's in approximately 50 newspapers in three states including Ft. Madison's Daily Democrat, Pen City Current, Keokuk Daily Gate, Van Buren County Register, The Hawkeye, Burlington Beacon, and Southeast Iowa Union. His wife, Ginnie, is his editor. He teaches Creative Writing in his home in the winter. Students have published books, poetry, and movie scripts. Curt Swarm indicates that his life is "totally dedicated to God, art and the pursuit of happiness, which is creativity, which is Godliness." He is a native Iowan, and lives in Mt.

Pleasant with his wife. Has two children and four grandchildren, all of whom live in Mt. Pleasant. Daughter, Annie Guldberg, is a well-known artist, recently painting murals at Oakland Mills Nature Center.

This month's exhibition is available for viewing Tuesday through Saturday 10am to 5pm July 5 through the end of FINALE on July 29 at the Fort Madison Art Center. The exhibit is sponsored by Your Heat and Air Guy. We thank Tom Schultz and all of our sponsors - they make it possible to have a new exhibition every month.

Please note that Curt Swarm has once again generously offered to share a portion of his proceeds with the Art Center... so please keep that in mind if you fall in love with one of his pieces on exhibit this month. His work may be the perfect addition to your garden or landscaping! Plus, we have several of Curt's books available for sale in the Member Gallery.

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