

PEN CITY CURRENT

It's Black & White and Read all over

Monday, September 25, 2023 | 8 pages | Volume 7 • Issue 157



www.pencitycurrent.com

Two city contests Nov. 7

MAYOR/AT-LARGE: Two vie for at-large seat, while three battle for mayor's chair

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – There will be two contested races in the Fort Madison general election on Nov. 7.

The Fort Madison Mayoral race will feature two-time Mayoral candidate Rodney Hoskins, Jerry Reuther, and incumbent Matt Mohrfeld. Fort Madison mayors serve two-year terms.

Mohrfeld defeated Hoskins 823-61 in 2019, and 565-135 in 2021. Hoskins also ran for City Council in 2015 and lost to Chad Cangas 122-32.

Kevin Rink and Jerry Hamelton will square off for the at-large seat that will be on the ballot.

Rink has served the past eight years first being elected in 2015 and has retained his seat for the past four terms. Rink has tinkered with the idea of not running again the last several times his seat has come up on the ballot.

Hamelton has been trying to get a seat on the Fort Madison City Council through election and appointment for the past four years. He lost to Rink in the 2019 election 790-646 and then has been not been selected to replace a candidate during two different appointments due to early term resignations.

EDITORIAL



We have to see through the haze

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

Is it just me or is life just hazy right now?

I had to put a new taillight assembly in my truck and paid close to \$200 for it.

I asked what the markup was and they told me it was one of the cheaper light replacements. Some new LED lights with directional technology are running \$1,400. Whaaat? I don't need directional headlights thank you.

It's not the cost of the light that bothers me, it's the why. Screw the why, it's just the way it is.

Profits soaring, inflation soaring. People seem all too frequently to forget that profit margins can have a direct impact on inflation. It's the "if you didn't take more, we wouldn't have to pay more" mentality.

I own a business, but I try to win on volume, not on cost. It's tough enough out there for a lot of people. In a microcosm of economics, we have to balance profits with capacity, otherwise customers tend to turn and go the other way, or to your competition. Then they choose based on other factors because everyone in the same business locally charges about the same price. See a gas station for example.

I paid \$5 for a pack of gum the other day. Five bucks.

I looked at the lady across the counter for about five seconds. It's not her fault. It's really nobody's fault. It's just the way things are going.

And the haze is literal and palpable. Canadian wildfires in the physical sense, politics in the abstract. It makes me wonder how much longer it will take us to realize that it's just haze.

We've all heard it before because people say it all the time – we're better together than we are as individuals. There's one

See HAZE, page 8



Photo by John Lovretta/ Special to PCC

Holy Trinity Catholic High School players Adalyn Kruse (3) and Mary Kate Bendlage (13) block a shot by Mediapolis High School's Brenna Thie (6) during their Southeast Iowa Superconference game, Saturday, September 23 at Southeastern Community College's Loren Walker Arena. See Page 8.

CITY NEWS

Councilwoman arrested late Saturday on OWI charges

PCC Staff

KEOKUK – Fort Madison City Councilwoman Donna Amandus was jailed Saturday night and charged with OWI.

Amandus was stopped and arrested by the Lee County Sheriff's deputy



AMANDUS

after leaving the Keokuk Yacht Club about 11:30 p.m.

According to the Lee County Jail, Amandus had not been released as of Sunday morning. The jail is awaiting an initial

response from a district judge before issuing her release.

Amandus represents Fort Madison's 3rd Ward and is up for re-election in November.

Amandus has also run for state representative, Fort Madison Mayor, and Lee County Board of Supervisors.

INDEX

Business Directory.....P.7
CLASSIFIEDS.....Ps.6-7
Complete Rental.....P.4
Fort Madison Food Pantry.....P.5
FROM THE FRONT.....P.8
Fullenkamp Insurance.....P.3

Lee County Health Department
Hospice.....P.2
Mohrfeld Solar.....P.8
OBITUARIES.....P.3
• Philip E. Hecht, 79
OPINION.....P.8

Pen City Current.....P.7
Pilot Grove Savings Bank.....P.3
Public Notices.....Ps.6-7
Sonny's Super Market.....P.4
Southeast Iowa Regional Airport.....P.8
SPORTS.....Ps.4-5,8

WEATHER

OpenWeatherMap

MON 25 Sep.....Patchy fog early, chance of p.m. showers, 80° F/ 59° F
TUE 26 Sep.....Chance of showers and thunderstorms, 75° F/ 57° F
WED 27 Sep.....Mostly sunny and cool, 73° F/ 56° F

IOWA LOTTERY

LOTTO AMERICA 09/23.....15 32 34 39 50, Star Ball: 10 All Star Bonus: 2
LUCKY FOR LIFE 09/23.....15 18 30 44 46, Lucky Ball: 6
MEGA MILLIONS 09/22.....10 13 14 57 66, Mega Ball: 3 Megaplier: 2
PICK 3 MIDDAY 09/21, 09/22, 09/23.....818, 950, 360
PICK 3 EVENING 09/21, 09/22, 09/23.....062, 992, 352
PICK 4 MIDDAY 09/21, 09/22, 09/23.....5736, 2439, 1326
PICK 4 EVENING 09/21, 09/22, 09/23.....0911, 2716, 7729
POWERBALL 09/23.....112 20 33 66, Powerball: 21 Power Play: 2

SUBSCRIBE

Scan the code to subscribe today
Paid & Free Options Available!



Touching the Community with Care



Lee County Health Department Hospice

Your Choice for Compassionate Hospice Care

in Lee, Des Moines, Henry, and Van Buren counties in Iowa
& Hancock and Henderson counties in Illinois

Hospice Services include

*24/7 on-call nursing staff • Skilled nursing services
Social worker visits • Music & massage therapy
Homecare aide assistance • Volunteer services
Spiritual & grief support*

Providing comforting end-of-life care since 1989



#3 John Bennett Drive, Fort Madison
(319) 372-5225 or (800) 458-6672
Medicare Certified

www.LeeCountyHD.org

Obituaries

OBITUARIES

PHILIP E. HECHT

Philip Edward Hecht, 79, of Ft. Madison, Iowa, passed away peacefully on Saturday, September 23, 2023 at his home surrounded by his loving family. Phil was born on January 17, 1944 in Moline, Illinois, the son of the late Waldemar (Walt) P. Hecht and Mary J. (Cramer) Hecht of Burlington, Iowa. Phil and Christine M. Jedlicka were united in marriage on June 12, 1965 in Westmont, Illinois while she was a student at Michael Reese Hospital School of Nursing in Chicago and he was serving in the U.S. Navy.



HECHT

Prior to moving to Iowa with his parents, Phil attended LaMesa Elementary School and Monroe Junior High School in Albuquerque, New Mexico. He graduated from Burlington High School in 1962.

Phil went on to earn an associate's degree from Burlington Junior College (1964), a bachelor's from St. Ambrose University (1998) and a master's from Western Illinois University (2001) where he was initiated into Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society. Additionally, he held certificates from Harvard Business School in strategic management and The Wharton School in finance.

While in the Navy Phil graduated from the United States Armed Forces Defense Information School and was deployed in combat operations in Vietnam during 1965-66 holding assignments with Attack Squadron 93 and the Executive Division on board USS Enterprise.

During high school and junior college Phil worked for J. S. Schramm's in advertising and display. From 1966 until 1973 he was employed as an industrial engineer with Schaub Engineering in Downers Grove, Illinois and Mason & Hanger in Middletown, Iowa. In 1974 he joined Vega Industries at their Mt. Pleasant, Iowa Heatlator site as an industrial engineer. Over the years in Mt. Pleasant he held positions as manufacturing engineering manager, operations manager, manager of manufacturing, and vice president of member and community relations. The company had several name and ownership changes over the years and in 2006 Phil retired as a vice president with Hearth and Home Technologies after 33-years with the company.

Phil is survived by his beloved wife of 58-years, Christine; his son Alan M. Hecht of West Point, Iowa; his daughter Audrey L. Roman and granddaughters Ava and Emily of Bettendorf, Iowa; four sisters, Kathleen Williams (Russ) of Mediapolis, Iowa; Nancy Scott Swanson (Mark) of Ashland, Wisconsin; Deborah Coon (Jeff) of Mediapolis, Iowa; Susan Wagner-Hecht (Christine) of Cedar Rapids, Iowa; and his sister-in-law Darlene Hecht of Ft. Worth Texas. He was preceded in death by his parents, brother Calvin, and his father-in-law and mother in-law Hans and Anna Jedlicka.

His greatest joy in life was spending time with his loving wife, son, daughter, and

two granddaughters. He felt truly blessed to have a wonderful, kind, generous and supportive wife; a very helpful, compassionate and thoughtful son; and a sweet loving daughter who is an amazingly talented and dedicated mother to his precious granddaughters.

Phil enjoyed traveling and felt right at home whenever he vacationed in the American southwest where he grew up. He also cherished the times he spent in France, Germany, Switzerland, Mexico, Cuba, Hong Kong and the Philippines.



Phil enjoyed life to the fullest; however, he always looked forward with great anticipation to the day when he would be with his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

A 54-year resident of Lee County, Phil most recently served on the Lee County Economic Development Group board, the Southeastern Community College Foundation board, and the Fort Madison Library board of trustees. His past community involvement included serving as a director with Great River Region Partnership, as a board member with Iowa Region 16 Workforce Development, and being president of both the Mt. Pleasant Area Manufacturers Association and Henry County Area Junior Achievement.

Per his wishes, cremation has been entrusted to the care of King-Lynk Funeral Home and Crematory in Fort Madison, IA. A private family celebration of life will be held followed by interment at Clarendon Hills Cemetery in Darien, Illinois. Online condolences to Phil's family may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: www.kinglynk.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.

Making Dreams Come True Since 1911

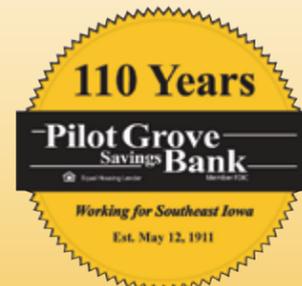


Meet our loan officers from left to right: Scott Piper, Brett Wrieden, Justin Menke, and Nichole Nagel

Owning your own home doesn't have to be just an American Dream. It can be YOUR dream come true!

Call today to talk to one of our home loan officers.

— 319-469-3951 —



Donnellson | Fairfield | Fort Madison | Houghton | Keokuk | Mt. Pleasant | Packwood | Pilot Grove | West Burlington | West Point | Winfield

www.PilotGroveSavingsBank.com

Celebrating 60 Years of Service to You.



Integrity.
Commitment.
Teamwork.



307 5th Street West Point | 319-837-6178 or 800-292-2208
Monday through Friday 7:30-5 · Saturday by appointment

www.FullenkampIns.com

Charles Vandenberg, Editor

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

Lee K. Vandenberg, Sales Manager

(319).371.4125
lee.v@pencitycurrent.com

Copyright © 2023 by Pen City Current

All published materials are property of Pen City Current and cannot be used without express written permission.

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

Member LION Publishers
www.lionpublishers.com



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

Sports

Bloodhounds fail to launch at No. 7 Knights



Photos by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC Editor

DAVENPORT – Some games are just tough to dismiss.

Fort Madison Head Coach Derek Doherty took the blame for a disheartening 38-7 loss to No. 7 Davenport Assumption in Class 3A District 4 action Friday night.

Doherty said he had let the Hounds become undisciplined and that was on him. But he said that's something that will be fixed next week.

The Hounds scored their only touchdown in the waning moments with the Knights' No. 2 on the field with a 38-0 lead and a running clock.

Junior Marcus Guzman found Leif Boeding behind the secondary in the right corner of the field at Pat and Jack Bush Stadium to avoid the shut out.

Prior to that 62-yard 3-play drive, the Knights had essentially shut the Hound offense completely down.

The longest play from scrimmage prior to the final drive was 10 yards of hard running by Guzman where he almost escaped into the secondary for a bigger gain. The Hounds had just 178 yards of total offense and snapped the ball just three times in the third period as the Knights ground out the clock in the second half.

"Right now, it's beyond just flushing it," Doherty said. "I feel like that's been our default to say 'it's okay, just flush it'. At some point it's gotta not be okay."

"I love our guys always, but I'm extremely frustrated with and disappointed in myself because I've allowed us to be undisciplined and it showed tonight."

Again Fort Madison started strong, holding the Knights to a punt on their first possession and then forced a turnover on downs with Assumption just eight yards from the goal line.

However, three plays later Guzman threw a pick to the Knights' Will McIntosh at the Fort Madison 10-yard line. Two plays later Assumption was on the board with a Jake Timmons' six-yard scamper.

Fort Madison would again have no luck on offense going four and out with no yards. Assumption would then drive 73 yards on 11 plays, but Fort Madison would hold them to a 22-yard field goal for a 10-0 deficit.

Fort Madison's best drive of the night,

aside from the final scoring drive, came on the Hounds' ensuing possession. The Hounds pushed for three first downs highlighted by Guzman's 10-yard run and a couple of jet screens to Leif Boeding for 15 yards, but a 3rd and 4 pass fell incomplete and the Hounds were forced to punt with 2:09 left to the Assumption 25.

The Knights gained 22 yards on the first two plays and then Timmons threw a bomb down the left side to running back Angelo Jackson. Senior Henry Wiseman got a hand on the ball and popped it up into the air, but Jackson was able to bobble the ball while running backwards, made the catch, turned, and ran into the endzone for a 17-0 lead.

Fort Madison would try to run the clock out on the half, but a couple penalties gave the ball back to Assumption with about 40 seconds left in the half.

Two quick connections from Timmons to Bauer Caspers had the Knights at the 1-yard-line and Jackson would punch it in for a 24-0 lead going into the half.

Fortunes wouldn't fare better for the Hounds in the second half as Assumption put up another score in the third quarter and again on the first play of the fourth to start the running clock.

Doherty said with this being just the first district game, the Hounds still have a lot to play for, but they need to set their discipline and buy-in right now.

"Our pad level is atrocious right now. We've talked about it - we drill it, and there's no excuse for it. I've got a lot to figure out over the next few days and we're gonna fix it starting Monday," he said.

"They wanted it, and I'm not sure we wanted that one. I think we thought it would be cool if it happened. I honestly felt that way last week, too. Mentally, we've grown, but were just not there yet. We belong in these games, but I'm not convinced they believe they belong in these games."

Guzman threw for 89 yards on 11-18 passing with the late touchdown and the interception. He rushed for 50 yards on 13 carries. Boeding had 40 yards and a score on three catches. Segoviano led Fort Madison with 10 tackles. Ike Thacher was a bright spot on defense with six tackles for loss including a sack.

The Hounds fall to 3-2 on the year and host Keokuk on Friday night for the 'County Seat'.

The Fort Madison Bloodhounds found things complicated on offense and defense Friday night in a 38-7 loss to Davenport Assumption. Above Ike Thacher brings down Angelo Jackson on a gap run, and at right, Marcus Guzman finds rare running room against the Knights' defense.



SONNY'S
Super Market

Lunch Specials
Sept 25-29
11am - 1pm

Monday, Sept 25
Chicken Strips, Tater Tots, Applesauce

Tuesday, Sept 26
Tenderloins, Cheese Potatoes, Brownie

Wednesday, Sept 27
Burnt Ends, Mac & Cheese, Slaw

Thursday, Sept 28
Fried Chicken Dinners

Friday, September 29
Lunch on the Sidewalk

The Right Tools Make All the **DIFFERENCE**
Find them at Complete Rental

SAVE 15%
Lawn & Garden Rentals

Complete Rental
(319) 372-8105
www.CompleteRentalFM.com

Images for reference only. Actual product may vary.

*Offer good September 12-30, 2023. Not good with any other offer.

Sports

Hawks fall to 0-2 in District with loss at Albia

ALBIA — It was a drive executed to near perfection — except for getting that last yard.

And what came next was one of the biggest momentum swings of Central Lee's 37-7 loss to Albia on Friday night.

The Hawks (3-2 overall, 0-2 Class 2A District 5) trailed 22-0 at halftime, but had some energy after stopping the Blue Demons (3-2, 1-1) inside the Central Lee 10-yard line before blocking a field goal to end the first half.

Central Lee then took the second half kickoff and drove all the way to the Albia 1-yard line before quarterback Kayden Calfee was stopped on fourth down, giving the ball back to the Blue Demons. And all they did was drive 99 yards in eight plays for the touchdown — a 28-yard pass from Albia quarterback Luke Wynn to receiver Connor Fisher — that finished the Hawks' hopes.

"We came out at halftime and did exactly what we wanted to," Central Lee coach Doug Dodds said. "We go right down the field, we're where we want to be, and they got the stop. And then they just executed and made a heck of a drive."

It was that kind of night for the Hawks, who never got into an offensive rhythm in the first half as the Blue Demons' speed kept Central Lee from doing anything outside the tackles.

"I think they did a really nice job of rallying to the football on defense," Dodds said. "They made it apparent they weren't going to let us get to the outside."

Albia scored twice in the first quarter for a 16-0 lead. Wynn had touchdown runs of 16 yards and 1 yard, and threw two two-point conversion passes.

Wynn's 12-yard touchdown pass to Fisher early in the second quarter pushed Albia's lead to 22-0. The Blue Demons were driving for what could have been another

score in the closing seconds, but Central Lee's Kegan Damico blocked a 24-yard field goal as time ran out on the half.

Spencer Maddison, who rushed for 132 yards, provided Albia's final points with a 7-yard touchdown run in the fourth quarter. But Central Lee answered with a 74-yard touchdown run by Calfee on the first play after the ensuing kickoff for its only points.

Wynn threw for 214 yards and rushed for 56.

Calfee had 12 carries for 90 yards to lead Central Lee. Chase Johnson rushed for 76 yards.

It was Albia's fifth consecutive win over the Hawks.

Central Lee plays at West Burlington next Friday.

"We fixed our mistakes from last week, and that was a big message this week," Dodds said. "So that was good to see. They're a great group of kids to be around all of the time, and we're just going to keep working. We've got a lot of games left to play, and I told them that."

**FT MADISON
FOOD
PANTRY**

**INVITES YOU TO
SHARE YOUR
GARDEN BOUNTY**

Carly

**EXCESS GARDEN PRODUCE IS GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED
FOR OUR PANTRY SHELVES**

DELIVER TO 3421 AVE L, FT MADISON, IA
MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY
9-12 AND 1-3

Classifieds/Public Notices

PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE
Lee County, Iowa
Board of Supervisors
Agenda
DATE: Monday,
September 25, 2023
MEETING
CONVENING TIME:
10:00 A.M. (CDT)
LOCATION:
933 Avenue H
Fort Madison, IA

---AGENDA---

Lee County Board of Supervisors
 Sep 25, 2023, 10:00-11:30 AM (America/Chicago)
 Please join my meeting

HELP WANTED

PUBLIC WORKS
GENERAL OPERATOR

GENERAL PURPOSE
 Performs a variety of unskilled or semi-skilled maintenance work, operates a variety of equipment in the construction, operation, repair, maintenance and replacement of City street, sanitary and storm drainage facilities and systems.

DESIRED MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS
 Education and Experience:
 • Graduation from high school education or GED equivalent and
 • Two (2) years of experience relating to construction, maintenance, or repair, or
 • Any equivalent combination of education and experience.

Special Requirements:
 • Valid State Driver's license
 • Class B CDL or the ability to obtain one within six months of hire.

Necessary knowledge, skills, and experience:

• Some knowledge of equipment, facilities, materials, methods and procedures used in maintenance, construction and repair activities;
 • Skill in operation of some of the listed tools and equipment;
 • Ability to perform heavy manual tasks for extended periods of time; ability to work safely; ability to communicate effectively verbally and in writing; ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with employees, other departments and the public; ability to understand and carry out written and oral instructions.

Submit applications to Justina Cullen at City Hall, 811 Avenue E, Fort Madison, IA 52627 or via email at jcullen@fortmadison-ia.com by 4:30pm on Friday, September 29, 2023.



from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://meet.goto.com/742398053>

You can also dial in using your phone.
 Access Code: 742-398-053

United States: +1 (872) 240-3412

Get the app now and be ready when your first meeting starts:

<https://meet.goto.com/install>

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.

Pledge of Allegiance
 Approve Agenda
 Public Input
 Domestic Violence Prevention Month Proclamation

HELP WANTED

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT FULL-TIME OPERATOR/LAB TECHNICIAN

GENERAL PURPOSE
 Assist in the operation and monitoring of the water reclamation facility. Additional duties performed include collecting routine water samples and performing laboratory test; cleaning clarifiers, wet wells and elevated tanks; maintenance of pumps, valves and meters; property maintenance to the building and grounds; and completing daily documentation.

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 Wastewater Certification in the State of Iowa.
 4. Knowledge of electrical and mechanical equipment
 5. Ability to operate computer programs

Apply at City Hall, 811 Avenue E, Fort Madison, IA or email applications to jcullen@fortmadison-ia.com by Friday, September 29th.

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



Update on Broadband Expansion Project

Consider Approval of Resolution Transferring Remaining IT Funds from FY23 to FY24 IT Budget Discussion and Possible Action on Employee Replacement Policy Consent Agenda
 • Monday, September 18, 2023 Board Minutes
 • Claims for Payment Personnel Actions:
 A. Corrected Step Increase- Sheriffs Office Reports:
 A. Sheriffs Monthly Report
 Commission or Committee Reports
 Adjourn

Possible Workshop to Follow
PUBLIC MEETING
CITIZENS WELCOME

Vision and hearing assistance available upon request

Contact Title VI Administrator
 319-372-3705
 County Website: www.leecounty.org

PUBLIC NOTICE PROCEEDINGS FORT MADISON CITY COUNCIL 9/19/2023

At 5:30 P.M., Council met in adjourned session on Tuesday, September 19, 2023. Mayor Mohrfeld presided with Council Members Gray, Yager, Amandus, Roller, Bowker, Rink and Andrews present.

On motion, Council approved the Consent Agenda: Minutes of 9/5/2023; Liquor License Renewal: The Rail Yard, 1310 – 14th Street; Setting public hearing for 5:30 P.M. on 10/3/2023 concerning rezoning property north of 2205–48th Street from R-1, One Family Residential, to I-1, Limited Industrial District; Claims dated 9/14/2023; August Financial Report; & Payroll of 6/8/2023.

At 5:31 P.M., Mohrfeld opened the public hearing concerning the Voluntary Annexation of property north of 2205 – 48th Street. With no oral or written comments, Mohrfeld closed the public hearing at 5:32 P.M. On motion, Council adopted Resolution No. 2023-63, approving the voluntary annexation of property north of 2205 – 48th Street.

At 5:31 P.M., Mohrfeld opened the public hearing concerning the Rezoning Property located at 6135 and 6139 Reve Court, 5811 and 5909 Avenue O, and two parcels of land bounded by Business Highway 61, Highway 61, Reve Court and 5909 Avenue O, from B-2, Highway Business and R-1, Single Family Dwelling District, to B-3, General Wholesale District. With no oral or written comments, Mohrfeld closed the public hearing at 5:32 P.M. On motion, Council approved the first reading of an ordinance Rezoning Property located at 6135 and 6139 Reve Court, 5811 and 5909 Avenue O, and two parcels of land bounded by Business Highway 61, Highway 61, Reve Court and 5909 Avenue O, from B-2, Highway Business and R-1, Single Family Dwelling District, to B-3, General Wholesale District.

On motion, Council approved Ordinance No. D-104, amending Title 1, Administration, Chapter 4, General Penalty; and Title 7, Police, Chapter 2, Misdemeanors. On motion, Council approved the first reading of an ordinance enacting a Code of Ordinances and compiling certain existing general ordinances of the City of Fort Madison dealing with subjects embraced in such Code of Ordinances.

On motion, Council adopted Resolution No. 2023-64, authorizing the filing of an application for the Iowa Department of Transportation's State Recreational Trail Program for construction of Connecting Fort Madison!

EXPENDITURES	
General	\$ 35,125.44
Special Revenue	46,933.24
Road Use	9,482.45
Capital	82,269.16
Water	23,046.25
Sewer	66,662.10
Sld Wst. IWC	27,698.16
SW Utility	1,279.60
	<u>\$291,926.93</u>

REVENUES	
General	\$171,506.17
Special Revenue	304,241.46
Road Use	1,110.00
Debt	69,384.99
Capital	10,132.63
Water	6,227.55
Sewer	23,406.55
Sld Wst & IWC	1,973.71
Sewer	970.16
	<u>\$588,953.22</u>

CLAIMS - 9/19/2023
 ABC FIRE EXTINGUISHER, ANNUAL FIRE EXT INSPECTION..... 700.70
 ACCESS SYSTEMS, REPAIRED FAX MACHINE 62.50
 ANDREW MCFALL, BOOT ALLOWANCE

Phase IV 48th Street Trail Connector. On motion, Council adopted Resolution No. 2023-65, approving an application for a 3-Year Urban Revitalization Tax Exemption for Asay Properties, LLC, for property located at 911 Avenue D. On motion, Council adopted Resolution No. 2023-66, setting public hearing for 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 3, 2023, on the sale of City-owned property at 215 Avenue G.

BerganKDV gave a presentation on the City's Fiscal Year 2022-23 Audit. On motion, Council moved to receive and file the City's audit for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2023. With Bowker abstaining, on motion, Council approved the Mayor's signature on a Subrecipient Agreement between the City of Fort Madison and Fort Madison Beautification to outline that the City of Fort Madison, at the request of Fort Madison Beautification, will be applying for a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Downtown Revitalization Fund (DTR) grant for the rehabilitation of facades within downtown Fort Madison and that Fort Madison Beautification will be procuring for the architect and historian and pay the invoices for these services. On motion, Council approved hiring a Transitional Assistant to the City Clerk.

The meeting adjourned at 6:39 P.M.

/s/ Matt J. Mohrfeld, Mayor

ATTEST: /s/ Melinda L. Blind, City Clerk

PAYROLL		9/8/2023
General		202,065.58
Old Fort		1,690.37
Road Use		25,678.04
Water		37,173.50
Sewer		32,103.03
Solid Waste		16,556.63
Airport		486.54
Storm Water		<u>3,066.74</u>
		<u>\$318,820.43</u>

..... 107.31
 ARAMARK UNIFORM SERVICES, UNIFORM 757.13
 ARNOLD REFRIGERATION, INC., DIAGNOSE/REPAIR WATER VALVE 1,171.50
 AT&T MOBILITY, PHONE/HOT SPOTS

..... 1,741.18
 AUTOZONE, V-BELT 33.27
 AXON ENTERPRISE, INC, ANNUAL TASER FEE..... 6,696.00
 B&B PROPANE, PROPANE @ SHOWER HOUSE..... 79.00
 BATES SANITATION & ASPHALT, PORTA-POTTIE RENTAL 960.00
 BLACKHAWK AUTOMATIC SPRINKLER, ANNUAL FIRE SPRKLN INSPECTION..... 235.00
 BUILDING MATERIALS INC, OS SHED/SIGNS/PAINT 2,408.14
 CASEY HUEBNER, TRAINING 300.00
 CODY POTTHAST, COLLEGE REIMB..... 1,599.47
 CULLEN PEST CONTROL, TERMITE RE-NEWAL..... 344.00
 DAILY DEMOCRAT, PUBLICATIONS..... 433.04
 DIAMOND CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, COLD PATCH 2,939.15
 DODD PRINTING & STATIONERY, COPY OF CANON DRAWINGS 22.50
 DUNKIN GARAGE & TOWING, VEHICLE FULL SERVICE..... 200.00
 DV CAPITAL LLC, REPAIR VAN 225.99
 ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE, TESTING SUPPLIES 214.10
 EUROFINS ENVIRONMENT TESTING, WEEKLY SLUDGE TEST 308.16
 FARM & HOME SUPPLY, BOLTS/NUTS 128.39
 FORT MADISON TOURISM BUREAU, 2023/24 SUBSIDY 22,500.00
 FRENCH-RENEKER-ASSOC., PROF FEE 11,192.29
 GREAT RIVER REGIONAL WASTE, GARBAGE COLLECTION.. 22,217.31
 GS SYSTEMS, INC., YEARLY RENEWAL 800.00
 HACH COMPANY, TESTING SUPPLIES.. 1,239.85
 HELLIGE LAWN CARE, TRIMMING HEAD STONES..... 3,100.00
 HOENIG TREE SERVICE INC, TREE REMOVAL 3,230.00
 HOWARD R GREEN COMPANY, PROF FEE 19,827.36
 HUFFMAN WELDING & MACHINE, HAMMERS 327.86
 HUMBURD AUTO SERVICE, REPLACED TIRES 1,434.84
 ICONNECTYOU, INTERNET FOR FINGERPRINTS 5.00
 IOWA ONE CALL, LOCATES..... 121.80
 IOWA STATE PENITENTIARY, PRISON TOURS

Classifieds/Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICES

..... 1,500.00	ING CO., PROF FEE	SHELTER 6,604.33	INC., EROSION INSTAL-	RATORY, POOL SAMPLE	TOTAL 291,216.80
JET GAS, TANKWAGON	..... 1,164.02	MOWEN CLEANING	LATION..... 37,887.50	..... 14.50	GENERAL 35,125.44
DIESEL..... 2,667.78	MCFARLAND, TOWELS	SERVICE LLC, JANITO-	SANDRY FIRE SUPPLY,	TIM'S REPAIR SHOP,	SPECIAL REVENUES
JETCO, ADJUSTED LEV-	..... 45.99	RIAL SERVICE...1,311.50	L.L.C., BOOTS 550.50	FUEL 220.00	..... 45,718.68
ELS TO MATCH	MELLER PLUMBING,	MUNICIPAL SUPPLY	SCHNITZELBANK,	TIMECLOCK PLUS, LLC,	ROAD USE..... 9,482.45
..... 1,434.75	REPAIRED TOILET	INC., METERS .. 1,135.00	WHEEL/GUN CARRIAGE	ANNUAL LICENSE FEE	CAPITAL PROJECTS
JIM BAIER INC., RE-	..... 400.00	NORTHERN SAFETY	..... 750.00	(9.23-9.24)..... 1,320.00	..... 82,269.16
PLACE ALTERNATOR	MENARD - WEST BURL-	CO. INC., FIRST AID KIT	SCS ENGINEERS, AR	TRUCK REPAIR INC.,	WATER..... 23,046.25
..... 2,458.59	INGTON, LADDER	SUPPLIES..... 165.18	DEPT., PROF FEE -	REPAIRED TRUCK	WASTEWATER
KEN'S HEATING, COOL-	..... 148.04	PITNEY BOWES BANK	LANDFILL..... 5,050.00	..... 2,000.28	..... 66,662.10
ING AVENUE C SEWER	MEXICAN FIESTA, DO-	INC., POSTAGE	SE IA REGIONAL PLAN-	UPS, SHIPPING 20.54	SOLID WASTE
..... 20,739.88	NATION 2,000.00	..... 2,100.00	NING COMM, PHASE IV	USA BLUE BOOK, PAINT	..... 27,698.16
LEXIPOL LLC, WELL-	MICROBAC LABORATO-	QUALITY FLOW SYS-	GRANT ADMIN.. 3,750.00	..... 2,668.35	AIRPORT..... 1,214.56
NESS APP..... 1,899.05	RIES LLC, DAILY SAM-	TEMS, INC, MONITOR-	SHOTTENKIRK, HINGE	WARNER ENGINEER-	TOTAL 291,216.80
LISCO, PHONE/INTER-	PLING..... 171.00	ING MODULE.... 1,922.54	..... 110.78	ING ASSOC, PROF FEE	
NET 1,967.76	MIGUEL LANDEROS,	RED LION RENEW-	SOUTHEAST IA RE-	..... 56,000.00	
MASTERCARD, ZOOM	NUISANCE..... 3,329.02	ABLES, ELECTRIC	GIONAL MED, PRE-EM-	WATER SOLUTIONS UN-	
..... 3,438.89	MOHRFELD ELECTRIC,	..... 7,219.65	PLOYMENT..... 2,168.85	LIMITED, CHEMICALS	
MCCLURE ENGINEER-	REPAIRED ELECTRIC @	RHINO INDUSTRIES,	STATE HYGIENIC LABO-	..... 7,219.69	

#ShopLocal
Support your local
business community!

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

 Patrick Profeta
General Manager

Keokuk Auto Credit
We Tote the Note

No Credit Check Low Weekly Payments
www.keokukautocredit.com

1728 Main Office: 319-524-2334
Keokuk, IA 52632 Fax: 319-524-2373

Your Neighborhood Hardware and Rental Store!

KEMPKER'S
True Value RENTAL

1904 Avenue H Fort Madison | 608 S 9th St Burlington | 1405 E Washington St Mt Pleasant

Visit us online: kempkerstruevalue.com

Complete Comfort. Affordable Price.

 **YORK**



Full Service HVAC Company
Serving Fort Madison, Burlington, and surrounding areas with over 30 Years Experience!

Ft. Madison: 319-372-4328
Burlington: 319-752-4328
All Areas: 877-380-4328

24 Hour Service • FREE Estimates • Servicing All Makes

www.YourHeatAndAirGuy.com

YOUR AD HERE
for as little as \$50 per month

Call Lee at 319.371.4125
or email classifieds@pencitycurrent.com

Auto Detailing . Car Wash . Sign Rental

Turbo Wash

(319) 372-WASH (9274)
Fort Madison



Gift certificates available

Locally owned & operated

Dirty Dog Detailing & Boarding

Grooming by appointment
Monday, Wednesday, Friday & Saturday
319-371-9044

2090 250th St Donnellson, IA 52625

Over 51 Years Combined Professional Animal Experience

Owners Barb Ball & Natalie Dauma
Family owned & operated



Life insurance can be life-changing

Life won't always go as planned. That's why there's life insurance. It can help you protect your family's future, no matter what happens. Call me today.

Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.®

Individual premiums will vary by customer. All applicants subject to State Farm® underwriting requirements.

Jess Sutcliffe, Agent
2623 Avenue L
Fort Madison, IA 52627
Bus: 319-372-5982
www.fortmadisoninsurance.com

State Farm Life Insurance Company (Not licensed in MA, NY or WI)
State Farm Life and Accident Assurance Company (Licensed in NY and WI)
Bloomington, IL
2001574



DODD PRINTING & STATIONERY
Est. 1877

Photo Correction
Business Cards
Flyers
Office Supplies
Vinyl Banners
T-Shirt Printing

Coffee Mugs
Posters Art Supplies
Printing
Office Furniture
Trifold Brochures

621 Avenue G Fort Madison, IA
ENJOY FREE DELIVERY TO FORT MADISON, KEOKUK, BURLINGTON & THE SURROUNDING AREAS!

319.372.2721
doddprinting.com

General Insects
Termites

Cullen
PEST CONTROL

(319) 372-1060

Toll Free 1-888-818-7378
Email: cullenpest@hotmail.com
www.cullenpest.com

Residential Commercial

Mice Bed Bugs

"Cause who needs bugs?"

Advertise
in a brand new way.

Reach thousands of potential customers each day & grow your business. Call today!

Lee (319)371.4125 • Chuck (319)371.1670

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

Sports/From the Front

VOLLEYBALL

HTC runners-up; Lady Hawks 4th at SEISC tourney

BY JOHN BOHNENKAMP
PCC Sports

WEST BURLINGTON — There were six West Burlington volleyball players on the court.

To Holy Trinity at times during the SEI Superconference championship match, it seemed like there were a lot more than that.

The Falcons' defense kept the No. 2 (Class 1A) Crusaders from using their power on the way to a 25-19, 25-18 win on Saturday at Loren Walker Arena.

"I really think that West Burlington dug up a lot of balls," Holy Trinity coach Melissa Freesmeier said. "They played better than we did defensively."

The Falcons, ranked No. 15 in Class 2A, avenged a five-set loss to the Crusaders earlier this season with a stifling defense that covered virtually everything Holy Trinity tried.

A 5-0 start to the first set created a tone for the match for the Falcons. Holy Trinity's sole lead in the match was at 2-0 in the second set, but although the Crusaders kept the set close, a 5-point run from the Falcons when they were up 15-14 helped them control the final points.

"We can't hang our heads — we had good moments," Freesmeier said. "They just kept us on our toes all night."

The Falcons were especially difficult up front behind senior middle hitter Taryn Havener.

"We errored the ball a little too much, especially in that first set," Freesmeier said. "They put us in tough situations. They kept the pressure on us all night. They put some blocks on (middle hitter) Presley (Myers), and Presley hasn't been blocked much all year. That was frustrating for her."

It was expected that these two teams would meet in the final — Holy Trinity was the top seed, while the Falcons were seeded second. It had the feeling of a postseason matchup, and Freesmeier said the lessons from the loss will help.

"We got the first one, they got this one," Freesmeier said. "We can take things and learn from it."

The Crusaders hadn't lost a set in the tournament coming into the championship. They swept all three matches in Thursday's pool play, then defeated seventh seed Mediapolis 25-23, 25-20 in the quarterfinals and 12th seed Central Lee 25-11, 25-21 in the semifinals.

"Mediapolis is better than they were seeded," Freesmeier said. "Central Lee is coming on strong right now. It was a good night. We wanted to get to the championship match, and of course, we wanted to win the championship. But you can't take anything away from West Burlington."

Central Lee finished its strong showing in the tournament with a fourth-place finish. The Hawks — who survived a difficult pool, going 3-1 in a group that included fourth seed Wapello and fifth seed WACO — defeated Van Buren County 25-23, 26-24 in the quarterfinals before falling to the Crusaders. They then took Wapello to three sets in the third-place match before losing 20-25, 27-25, 15-11.

"This was huge," Central Lee coach Amy Cook said. "We're finally recognizing to just have fun, and to communicate is the key. And then everything finally falls into place. We're realizing that now."

"I'm super proud of them. I am proud of them for just getting here. We proved to ourselves that we could do this."

City volunteers working to put "us" back into the social mix

HAZE - Continued from Page 1

thing that has always drawn me to small towns and that is that you can wave at people as you drive or walk or jog by. They almost always would wave back. Now, maybe 25% of the time people wave back.

Maybe it all starts there. Have we forgotten what it's like to be members of the social experiment? Have our emotions moved us so far from each other that we look for acrimony before we look for common denominators? We can't blame COVID, it started before then.

Education, commerce, socialization, the things that naturally bring us together have become such an emotional gameboard that we forget it takes all of us to define each of us.

I chose to go to Davenport this Friday because it's my commitment to Friday night football. I only played football in high school for one year, but it was the best time I've ever had. I made a lifetime mistake by not playing all four years. Maybe I lost a chance at some college money, too. We'll never know.

But that choice pulled me away from an event Friday night that really is geared toward putting "us" back into the mix.

We've written about PorchStock on several occasions, but I have a real

interest in how this things turns out. Sure, it's music and food and drink, but it may be something of a sea change. Inviting people to our homes - some strangers, some neighbors, some out-of-towners to be sure, is something different to our town.

Keokuk does something similar and has been and I hear it's a success of sorts.

I'm not sure this is an idea stolen, or just something that was cobbled together. But I think it's cool, and promising, and I hear there were good groups of people at many of the locations around town. But in a weird twist, it appears that people chose to stay on sidewalks and not intrude on people's lawns. I think that's telling. We didn't want to go in their yards. It's a sign of respect of property, but also energy against energy. Didn't we want you to come up to the porch? Get up close and celebrate each other on a gorgeous night?

It was the first of what should be many PorchStocks, and we'll grow into it.

But it paints a picture of where some of us are at in the social experiment. We're a bit squeamish anymore. It shows we've lost our way in so many aspects of life, but we're not abandoned, we're just lost. Most people lost are found.

Personally, I blame poor

leadership on a global scale. Attitude reflects leadership. Locally, our leadership is strong. Look at improvements around the city and additional events and efforts that are underway. We're taking steps forward and, although some don't like the way it's done, or see the bigger picture, they are steps.

But nationally and internationally leadership is weak, and on all sides of the political spectrum. People are more concerned with individual legacies than they are with doing the job they were elected to do. When you put your name on a ballot, you commit to doing what's best for the whole, and not just the few. That's twisted right now and lends to the haze.

To burn it off we need to stop finding the little things that divide us and focus on that which unites us. A good burger, rallying around a dog park or a pickle ball group, a rodeo, a football game, a walk-about in a community of people who want to hang out together.

From that the kindling catches and the flame burns brighter. We just, well, have to start the fire — But that's Beside the Point.

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



*Fighting to get you
the compensation
you deserve.*



ACCIDENT & INJURY LAW

320 North 3rd Street, Suite 100, Burlington, Iowa 52601-0337
1603 Main Street, Keokuk, IA 52632

www.PothitakisLaw.com

FLY SOUTHERN AIRWAYS EXPRESS
Now booking your flights from Burlington to St. Louis & Chicago O'Hare at
IFlySouthern.com Get There. Faster

SOUTHEAST IOWA REGIONAL AIRPORT **SOUTHERN AIRWAYS EXPRESS**

Are you ready to lower your electric bills?

MOHRFELD Solar
• Energy Audit
• Solar System Design
• Solar System Installation
• System Monitoring

P: 319-372-5536
E: Mohrfeld@mohrfeldelectric.com