

# PEN CITY CURRENT

It's Black & White and Read all over

Monday, October 9, 2023, 2023 | 8 pages | Volume 7 • Issue 167



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## More groundbreaking



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Lee County conservation officials, along with dignitaries from Climax Molybdenum and Lee County Supervisors, break ground on the district's new outdoor classroom. Climax donated \$25,000 to the project.

### GRANTS: Local groups, companies step up to help fund outdoor classroom

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

LEE COUNTY – Lee County Conservation officials broke ground on a new outdoor education classroom Thursday near Montrose.

The new facility is to be located just outside the conservation center at Heron Bend and is being designed to integrate public access to the facility as well as bringing outdoor classroom instruction to the center.

The facility will overlook the vista reaching back to the back waters of the Mississippi River.

The outdoor classroom has been in the works for the conservation department for the past eight years, but grants this year from

Climax Molybdenum and funding from Three Rivers Conservation and the Keokuk Area Community Foundation, the Lee County Charitable Fund, Keokuk Walmart, and Lee County Chapter of Quail Forever, have brought it close to reality.

Conservation Director Heather Huebner said the classroom will be a place for the public to come together in connection with nature.

"This outdoor classroom will be a place of learning, exploration, and inspiration. It will provide our students with the opportunity to connect with the natural world and foster a deeper appreciation of our environment and the importance of conservation," Huebner

See CLASSROOM, page 8



## Candidates need to do more than talk

Well, the political landscape is becoming very active.

Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis was in town Saturday getting a Wallyburger at the Fort Diner.

A bunch of people gathered around the iconic tiny restaurant located just off the riverfront in downtown.

DeSantis was in town as part of a heavy, but nonchalant, barnstorm of southeast Iowa. Rumor had it that the Republican was in town as a favor to Iowa Sen. Jeff Reichman, after Reichman threw his political weight behind the Florida governor.

Reichman pulled his support of former President and 2024 GOP frontrunner Donald Trump after Trump made some disparaging comments about Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds. Trump said if wasn't for him, Reynolds wouldn't be Iowa's governor. His claim isn't without merit as Reynolds was in a tight fight for election after being appointed by former Iowa Gov. Terry Branstad.

DeSantis gained national attention for his handling of Florida's recovery from hurricane Sandy, and most recently Idalia.

Trump has been flying in and out of Iowa for the past six months, planning to skip all the regular party debates and instead letting his ego dictate the campaign. And being pretty effective at it.

I had a chance to stop and chat with some of the campaign officials after DeSantis made a stop at Catfish Bend Casino Saturday night. The staff stopped at the Broadway in West Burlington for a tenderloin and a beer. I was there with some family.

I told the group that Facebook's algorithms were starting to be the bane of my existence and they needed to take a harder look at AI, but I've been there and done

See VOTE, page 4

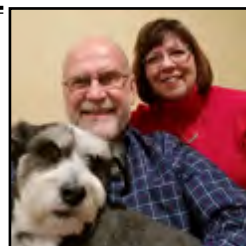
### EMPTY NEST

## Ukrainian family creates home in Mt. Pleasant

Oleg Karakash was a seaman from Kiliya, Ukraine. Where he was from, in the southern Odesa Region, most of the men worked as seamen or in Europe. The war was in the east, and hadn't touched the southern part until this summer. Oleg wasn't at home when his daughter, Dasha, was born, or when she took her first step or said her first word. He worked for six months, sometimes going for two or three days without sleep, and then would have a month off, when he mostly just slept.

### EMPTY NEST

By Curt Swarm



During his time off he met Yuliia. They were soon married.

Even before the invasion of Ukraine by Russia, Oleg, 29, and Yuliia, had decided

to leave. They went to Romania with their daughter, Dasha. Through Facebook they met Oleg and Anna Polakova, originally from Latvia, who had been in the United States for 20 years, the last three in Mt. Pleasant. The Polakovas offered to be the Karakashs' sponsor to bring them to the United States.

The Karakashs sold everything to raise money for their move to the US.

See WARM, page 8

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### WEATHER

MON 09 Oct..... Sunny and cool, 60° F/36° F  
TUE 10 Oct..... Sunny and cool, 64° F/45° F  
WED 11 Oct..... Cool, showers and storms likely, 64° F/53° F

### IOWA LOTTERY

LOTTO AMERICA 10/07..... 5 22 31 35 47, Star Ball: 10 All Star Bonus: 2  
LUCKY FOR LIFE 10/07..... 10 18 21 29 40, Lucky Ball: 17  
MEGA MILLIONS 10/06..... 12 24 46 57 66, Mega Ball: 22 Megaplier: 3  
PICK 3 MIDDAY 10/05, 10/06, 10/07..... 271, 895, 823  
PICK 3 EVENING 10/05, 10/06, 10/07..... 354, 753, 817  
PICK 4 MIDDAY 10/05, 10/06, 10/07..... 9177, 6075, 1929  
PICK 4 EVENING 10/05, 10/06, 10/07..... 4925, 3968, 6882  
POWERBALL 10/07..... 47 54 57 60 65, Powerball: 19 Power Play: 3

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# Obituaries

## OBITUARIES

### STANLEY K. WATSON

Stanley Keith Watson, 70, of Keokuk died Wednesday, October 4, 2023 at the Good Samaritan Society in Ottumwa, IA.

He was born on August 3, 1953 in Keokuk, IA, the son of Gerald and Lucille Varner Watson.



WATSON

Stanley had been employed by Midwest Carbide and Ferro-Sil of Keokuk until health reasons prevented him from working.

He was an avid bowler in his younger days, and spent many hours league bowling at the Arrowhead Bowl in Keokuk. Stan was a sports enthusiast. He loved watching football and baseball, and was a complete die-hard Cubs fan. He was a member of the Keokuk Odd Fellows Lodge 13.

Stan attended Bel Air Baptist Church when he could and professed his faith in Jesus Christ as his Savior.

He spent what time he could with his children and grandchildren, he often went to dinner with his grandson, Ashten, when Ashten was in town.

He is survived by two sons, Keith (Jennifer) Watson and Cody Watson, one daughter, Mackenzie Watson, six grandsons, Ashten Watson, Nick Bender, Noah Wright, Nolan Wessel, Jeremy, and Jared, two granddaughters, Alyssa and Natalie. He is also survived by one sister, Debbie Suter, one niece, Lora Suter Washburn and her daughters, Whitney Edwardson and Bethany Meyers and their families, one aunt, Helen Thorn and cousins, and by his special friend Claudia and her children and grandchildren who were like family to him.

Stan was preceded in death by his parents, one brother-in-law, Russell Suter, and one special aunt, Norma Varner.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m., Tuesday, October 10, 2023 at the Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk with Pastor Mike McMillen officiating. Burial will be in the Oakland Cemetery in Keokuk.

Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service from 10-11 a.m. at the funeral home with the family meeting with friends at that time.

Memorials may be made to Keokuk Odd Fellows Lodge 13 or USBC Youth Bowling.

Online condolences may be made to the family at [www.vigenmemorialhome.com](http://www.vigenmemorialhome.com).

## OBITUARIES

### LORRAINE A. MERYDITH

Lorraine Ann Merydith, 77, of Keokuk, IA died Tuesday, October 3, 2023 at her home.

She was born March 26, 1946 in Quinter, KS, the daughter of Eugene and



MERYDITH

Angie Cullen Hirsh. She graduated from Trego Community High School in WaKeeney, KS with the class of 1964 and attended Fort Hays State University in Hays, KS.

On January 29, 1966 Lorraine was united in marriage to Brent Merydith. He preceded her in death on March 17, 1993.

Lorraine moved to Keokuk in 1974 with her husband and they owned the Credit Bureau of Keokuk, House of Gifts, Taske Force, Inc. and Keokuk Spirits. She was the glue that held the businesses and family together until her passing.

She was a member of the Grand Theatre Foundation Board, Keokuk Yacht Club First Mates, Chuck Wagon Breakfast Club (since 1976), numerous Bridge Clubs, Golden Oaks Society, KYC Thursday Night Poker and the Keosippi Kickers Dance Group. She previously had been a member of the Keokuk Rotary, Keokuk Area Hospital Auxiliary and the Newcomers Club.

Lorraine took most pride in her family hosting family gatherings, games and parties where her door was always open. She enjoyed playing any kind of card games, especially bridge, poker, and euchre. She loved working puzzles, played Sudoku daily and enjoyed her evenings watching Wheel of Fortune at the Keokuk Yacht Club. She also loved to dance and would light up the dance floor every chance she got. Lorraine's favorite song to swing dance to was "Rave On" by Buddy Holly. She was also a Jimmy Buffet Parrot Head and loved her yearly trips to Mexico with her Keokuk Yacht Club friends. Lorraine was very active in the community and was an avid supporter of the Keokuk YMCA, the Keokuk Concert Association and Planned Parenthood.

She is survived by her partner in life for the last twenty years, Tom Boyd of Keokuk, two daughters, Dawn Merydith (Duane Taylor) of Seattle, WA and Tricia Merydith (Justin Johnson) of Keokuk, one son, Brent Wesley Merydith II (Renee) of Keokuk, bonus daughter, Jamie Robertson (Nate) of Cedar Rapids, IA, ten grandchildren, Merydith Kelley (Brett), McKenzie Marshall, Madylin Long (Nick), Evylin Merydith (Lauren), Brent Wesley "Tres" Merydith III, Penelope Merydith, Bryer Merydith, Kayla Robertson, Brady Robertson and Blake Robertson and three great-grandchildren, Luci Kelley, Hinley Helenthal and Kade Kelley. She is also survived by three siblings, Loretta Neyer (Terry) of WaKeeney, KS, Gene Hirsh (Carol) of Wichita, KS and Jeanette (Jerry) Seimens of Pratt, KS, one special sister-in-law, Connie Schmidt of WaKeeney, KS and several nieces and nephews.

Besides her husband, she was also preceded in death by her parents.

There will be a rosary reading Sunday, October 8, 2023 at 10AM at the Church of All Saints with a Celebration of Life at 2PM at the Keokuk Yacht Club.

Memorials may be made to the KYC First Mates or to the Grand Theatre Foundation.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at [www.vigenmemorialhome.com](http://www.vigenmemorialhome.com).

## Lee County Health Department 2023 Flu Shot Clinics

These clinics are open to the public

Thursday, October 5  
Newberry Center  
10:30am-12:00pm

Tuesday, October 10  
Montrose Public Library  
9:00am-11:00am

Thursday, October 12  
Heritage Center  
11:00am-12:00pm

Monday, October 16  
Donnellson Public Library  
11:30am-1:30pm

Tuesday, October 17  
West Point Public Library  
2:30pm-4:30pm

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or Private Pay of \$30



Children (17 years or younger) flu shots will not be available. To get a flu shot for your child please call (319)376-4767.

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# PEN CITY CURRENT

It's Black & White and Read all over

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Pen City Current, [www.PenCityCurrent.com](http://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

## KEITH W. FINK

Keith William Fink, 78, passed away on September 6, 2023 at his home in Dallas, Texas, after a battle with Parkinson's Disease and Alzheimer's.

Keith was born on March 24, 1945, in Blackpool, United Kingdom, the son of Wayne and Edith (Clinton) Fink. He emigrated from the United Kingdom to the United States in 1946 through Ellis Island, New York, with his mother aboard the Queen Mary and the USS Washington. He was raised in Keokuk, Iowa, graduating from Keokuk Senior High School in 1963. On March 12, 1966, Keith was united in marriage to Mary Susan Grogan in Keokuk, Iowa. Together they lived in Iowa, Florida, Indiana and finally Texas. Keith served in the US Army for 2 years receiving a rank of E-5 (Sergeant). He received his bachelor's degree from Culver-Stockton College in 1970 and his MBA from Western Illinois University in 1976. Keith retired in 2000 after 24 years of service as Vice President - Human Resources with H.J. Heinz Company-The Hubinger Company and Roquette America, Inc.

Keith was a golf enthusiast and some of his favorite times were shared with his Saturday morning foursome in Keokuk and with retirement buddies on various Florida courses. Keith took pride in achieving the title of Master Gardener and he was known to have the most well-manicured yard in his neighborhood. He was also an avid Iowa Hawkeyes fan, and the University has undoubtedly lost one of its most passionate supporters.

Keith is preceded in death by his parents, stepmother, Dorothy Fink, daughter, Valaurie Fink Davis, a very special uncle, Roy Fink and his wife, Amanda, his stepbrother, Jerry Chambers and several sisters- and brothers-in-law. He leaves behind his wife, Sue, his children, Michelle (Todd) Smiley, Brian (Steffy) Fink and Jayden (Josie) Fink; his grandchildren, Logan Smiley, Madison Smiley and her fiancé Joseph Nasca, Parker Fink, Grant Fink and Greyson Fink; and brothers, Kevin (Jodie) Wyant and Chuck Barclay; his sisters-in-law, Jeri Grogan, Diana Grogan, Judy Grogan and Sara Humphrey and many nieces and nephews. He will be sorely missed by his grand dogs who were his constant companions and brought him much comfort.

A funeral mass will be held at 11 a.m., Saturday, October 14 at All Saints Catholic Church in Keokuk, Iowa, with Father David Brownfield officiating. Military Rites will be held following the mass at the church. Burial will be in Oakland Cemetery at a later date.

There will be a visitation from 4-6 p.m., Friday, October 13 at Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk, Iowa. A prayer service will be held at 3:30 p.m. at the funeral home prior to the visitation.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Keokuk City of Christmas, PO BOX 73, Keokuk, IA 52632 or The University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, [uihc.org/donations](http://uihc.org/donations) or 1-800-648-6973.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at [www.vigenmemorialhome.com](http://www.vigenmemorialhome.com).



FINK

### OBITUARIES

## EARL A. JENKINS

God called the soul of Earl Albert Jenkins from his earthly home to an everlasting home on Saturday, September 30, 2023. Earl Albert Jenkins, the son of the late Manigault Jenkins, Sr. and the late Rosetta Jenkins Gregory, was born on June 02, 1939. After



JENKINS

graduation from Burke High School, Charleston, SC, in 1958, he worked in several professions as a tailor, pipe fitter and mechanic. With over 50 years of service, he retired from the Veterans Administration, where he was a supervisor in engineering services. Earl was a life-long member of Ebenezer A.M.E. church (class #28) in Charleston, SC. He married Carolyn M Jenkins in 1981 and the two were married for 42 years.

Earl was preceded in death by four daughters: Dottie (Matthew) Whiteside of North Charleston, SC, Monique (Cedric) Davis of Sally, SC, Latricia Jenkins of Augusta, GA, and Karen (Joseph) Taste of Cross, SC; one sister Ruth Phillips of New York City, and three brothers: Manigault Jenkins, Jr. of Cainhoy, SC, Rodney (Ellen) Jenkins of McClellanville, SC and Stevin Jenkins of Charleston, SC.

Earl leaves to mourn his passing, yet cherish his memories, wife, Carolyn Jenkins of Arkon, OH, and children: Veldas (Nathaniel) Rivers of Charleston, SC, Jennifer (Raphel) Baez of Moncks Corner, SC, Albert Jenkins of Solomen, MD, Frank White of Charleston, SC, and Earl Jenkins (Deloris) of Columbia, SC; his siblings Mildred Scantlebury (Dave) of Summerville, SC, Henry Evans of Charleston, SC, Joyce Taylor (Francis) of McClellanville, SC, and Stephanie Fleming (John) of Myrtle Beach, SC; 31 grandchildren, 56 great grandchildren, 7 great great grandchildren, and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives, friends and the Ebenezer church family.

A private burial will be held at Oakland Cemetery in Fort Madison. King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory is assisting the family with the arrangements. Online condolences to the Jenkins family may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: [www.kinglynk.com](http://www.kinglynk.com).

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## Sports/From the Front

# Campaigns gearing up nationally, locally

**VOTE** - Continued from Page 1

that.

Then I went off on a tangent about how there is a large swath of Democrats who could be motivated to move slightly to the right, if the right candidate hopped along. A couple things needed to happen for that to take place. No. 1, the top concern was that our next leader not have for his or her top priority, the creation of a legacy. The legacy will come from great leadership. I said I could vote for a conservative if that person brought the right credentials, had some running experience and whose concern was to bring this country together. They need a special insight into the electorate that can help heal a divide. Stop creating more emotional instability in the country and provide stability, have a tremendous sense of pride in the people and ancestors who built this country, had an effective sense of humor, and most importantly relished our role on the world's stage – not just flaunting our record of success over the past 250 years.

So bring on the debates and the stops at sandwich shops to shake hands in casual attire before the campaign itself whittles down the field and the attire gets more and more buttoned down.

The campaign has also ratcheted up on the local scene. Fort Madison Mayor Matt Mohrfeld will take on Rodney Hoskins and Jerry Reuther. Hoskins is becoming a perennial candidate and we can see him around town getting in congratulations lines at football games and showing up at City Council meetings.

The thing is this. We don't seem him much elsewhere. We don't see Jerry Hamelton around city circles either. As a matter of fact, I've seen more about his travels

in Prague than I have about his travels around Fort Madison. My point is this, Hamelton and Hoskins and Reuther can all put their names on ballots. But Fort Madison is in a growth mode and we need people to keep up with that growth.

Rusty Andrews can be found at almost any worthy city event usually working the event from the ground up. Councilwoman Donna Amandus has moved mountains to get dog parks and pickleball courts built. New councilman Dustin Yager helped get the Mexican Fiesta off the ground this year, Councilman Kevin Rink is a mainstay of this community and can be seen volunteering time for the Moose, or the Knights of Columbus. Those types of volunteer efforts that help keep this community moving forward are critical foundations to any political ambitions.

Yes, almost anyone can put their name on a ballot by the rules of Iowa and the federal government. But that doesn't guarantee an even footing in campaigning. These folks need to remember that there's more to running for office than campaigning. There's a thing called serving. Hamelton has been on a few boards and commissions, but he's not very visible. Hoskins is incredibly visible – physically, basically, and regularly, but his foundation is soft. When I asked several people who Jerry Reuther was, many of them, including me, had no clue who he was. Not a great place to jump off on a campaign. But that does not mean any of them aren't solid candidates.

What I'm saying is that you can just campaign, and you can win with a good campaign, but if you're not part of the fabric of the community – and that means doing some of the sewing – your shouting at the rain has less potency.

I've always wanted to run for office, but this great job I have gives me the chance to chronicle it. That is a critical part of the fabric of Fort Madison, and I do help sew that fabric. The important thing is someone needs to chronicle it and someone needs to help create the dialogue around it.

We will certainly take on that role again this year, 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](mailto:Charles.V@PenCityCurrent.com).

# Hawks find positives in Friday loss

BY JOHN BOHNENKAMP  
PCC SPORTS

DONNELSON — Doug Dodds saw something in his Central Lee football team that he hasn't seen in the last couple of weeks.

Focus.

It wasn't enough to help the Hawks in a 33-13 loss to Mid-Prairie on Friday night, but it made Dodds think his team is doing the right things heading into next Friday's regular-season finale against Mediapolis.

"There were a lot of positives in this football game," Dodds said. "I thought we played together as a group — 11 guys on offense, 11 guys on defense. We did what we needed to and I don't think Mid-Prairie had an easy night."

The Hawks (3-4 overall, 0-4 Class 2A District 5), who had scored just seven points in their last two games, consistently moved the ball throughout the game, finishing with 18 first downs and 291 yards of total offense. But penalties and two turnovers proved costly.

"We were consistent," Dodds said. "I thought we moved the ball well. Could we finish some of those drives? No. But at the same time, we were executing and guys were doing what they needed to do."

The Hawks got all of their points in the fourth quarter behind two big plays by quarterback Cory Jones, who finished the game after Kayden Calfee was knocked out of the game in the third quarter.

Central Lee had a fourth-and-1 at the Mid-Prairie 5-yard line when Jones appeared to be stopped on a quarterback sneak just short of the first-down line. But the play wasn't blown dead, and Jones backed up and pitched the ball to Kegan Damico, who raced to his left and got the Hawks' first touchdown of the night.

Jones' 79-yard touchdown run on Central Lee's next possession was a weaving trip through the Mid-Prairie defense.

"That's one of those plays where all 11 guys did their part," Dodds said. "I'm really happy with the fact that we have a two-quarterback system, and I hope to never go away from something like that. Kayden and Cory really work well together, and I'm proud of Cory stepping up and doing what he needed to do in the fourth quarter."

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## Sports

# Bloodhounds stripped down in loss to No. 4 Mt. Vernon

FORT MADISON – Sometimes you have to bite down on a stick and take the pain.

That's almost exactly what the Fort Madison Bloodhounds did in Friday's 45-7 loss to Class 3A No. 4 Mt. Vernon Friday in the home regular season finale at Richmond Stadium.

The Hounds suited up without starting quarterback Marcus Guzman who suffered a knee injury in last week's win over Keokuk.

They also played without backup quarterback and starting wideout Henry Wiseman who suffered a torn ACL on the same drive that Guzman was injured on.

That left junior Caleb Bolander, who hasn't played quarterback since 8th grade, to lead Fort Madison, mixed in with a couple wildcat formations with direct snaps to senior running back Hayden Segoviano.

Fort Madison 4-3 (1-2 in Class 3A District 4), worked up just 120 yards of total offense and scored in the 4th quarter with 4:01 left when Bolander got his first varsity touchdown finding Leif Boeding on a 24-yard toss into the right front corner of the endzone to avoid the shutout.

Mt. Vernon scored on their sixth play from scrimmage. Senior quarterback Joey Rhomberg went 3-5 for 57 yards and hooked up with Evan Brace on a 7-yard TD and a 7-0 advantage.

Fort Madison would go 4 and out and the fans realized quickly that the Hounds were playing with a hand tied-behind their back, missing two of their top offensive performers in Wiseman and Guzman.

The Mustangs brought the Fort Madison punt back to their own 34 and were in the endzone again in four plays when Rhomberg and

Watson Krob hooked up from 27 yards out for a 14-0 lead.

Fort Madison would again go four plays and punt, and Mt. Vernon would keep up the pressure with another 6-play 62-yard drive capped by Jackson Hird's 10-yard TD run and a 21-0 lead still in the first quarter.

The Mustangs appeared to have shut Fort Madison down on four plays again, but a roughing the passer call on 3rd and 10 nullified an interception and gave Fort Madison a 1st and 10. Four plays later Mt. Vernon blocked Fort Madison's kick. A personal foul after the kick resulted in the Mustangs taking over at their own 38, but three plays later they were in the endzone again for a 28-0 lead.

The Hounds would put a nice drive together toward the end of the first half, but Bolander would get picked off at the 7-yard line by sophomore Michael Ryan who took the ball 93 yards back for the score and a 35-0 lead.

The clock was inadvertently set to running despite the first half not being completed, but the rest of the half was without further scoring.

Mt. Vernon would put up a field goal and another touchdown in the second half before Fort Madison got on the board in the final few minutes.

Doherty said there's more for the Hounds to get ready for. The Mustangs and Davenport Assumption have all but locked up the top two playoff spots in District 4, but with the quality of teams in the district, the Hounds have an outside shot again at making the playoffs through the power rankings. Teams in the top 16 who don't qualify automatically in Class 3A's six districts can still make the 16-team playoff bracket.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Fort Madison junior Caleb Bolander breaks free for some yardage in Friday's 45-7 loss to No. 4 Mt. Vernon. Bolander was filling in for Marcus Guzman who sat out with an injury.

"There's definitely meat on the bone," Doherty said "But it starts with us taking the weekend and getting ourselves right. We're banged up, but we can heal. We just have to make it a priority. That's our first opponent right there - just us getting on the good side of health again.

"Where we are, we're a good football team. We need a good week of preparation and be ready to go Friday."

He said he was proud of Bolander's efforts and conviction being thrown into the mouth of the Mustang.

"I think that you have to start with Caleb Bolander. That kid was put in a really tough situation. We had conversations and just the type of kid he is he said, 'Yeah, I'll do it.' To take a receiver and put him at quarterback, it was incredible," Doherty said.

"He stepped up big time and we're so proud of him. That's the type of kid he is."

Bolander said he had a couple days to get ready, but

didn't want to let the team down.

"I learned two days ago I was going to start. Figured I had to step up for my team and be a leader for them," he said.

The junior said he didn't have regrets and didn't let the game get to him.

"The next one. Let's get the next one and not dwell on it. I could've stepped into my throws more. I didn't worry about them being No. 4 in the state. I just wanted to follow coach's game plan and do my best to get guys the ball and let them make plays."

Boeding finished with four catches for 50 yards and a touchdown. Cade Denning had 18 yards on two catches. Bolander had 31 yards on 10 carries and Segoviano had 22 yards on 11 carries.

Ike Thacher had four tackles, one for a 5-yard loss to lead the Hounds' defense.

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# Classifieds/Public Notices

# PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

## PUBLIC NOTICES

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**Lee County, Iowa**  
**Board of Supervisors**  
**Agenda**

**DATE: Monday,**  
**October 9, 2023**  
**MEETING**  
**CONVENING TIME:**  
**10:00 A.M. (CDT)**  
**LOCATION:**  
**933 Avenue H**  
**Fort Madison, IA**

---AGENDA---

Lee County Board of Supervisors  
 Oct 9, 2023, 10:00  
 -11:30 AM (America/Chicago)  
 Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.  
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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  
 Consider Approval

of Geotechnical Investigation for Project# BROS-C056(1 | 7)-5F-56 Discussion and Possible Action on Exception to Personnel Policy 3.12-Unpaid Leave  
 Consent Agenda  
 • Monday, October 2, 2023 Board Minutes  
 • Claims for Payment  
 Personnel Actions:  
 A. Position Change - Maintenance Department  
 B. New Hire (Replacement) - Sheriffs Office  
 C. Step Increases (2) - EMS  
 Reports:

A. Auditor's Report of Fees Collected  
 Commission or Committee Reports  
 Department Head Report-EMS  
 Adjourn

Possible Workshop to Follow  
**PUBLIC MEETING**  
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Work involves the coordination and monitoring of the County's information technology functions including the support of in-house or third-party computer applications and management of County's LAN/WAN network; computer hardware including PCs, printers, cabling; operating systems including Windows 10, Windows 11, various versions of Windows Server, and IBM i; and the Vertical telephone system.

Successful applicants will have three or more years of relevant experience; be well organized; possess excellent communication skills; and be disciplined, ambitious, and self-motivated. The Keokuk position will be based in our South Lee County Courthouse office after appropriate amount of training in our Fort Madison office.

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The application form can be obtained online or at:

Lee County Auditor's Office  
 933 Avenue H  
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Please submit cover letter, resume, and completed application to [kharter@leecounty.org](mailto:kharter@leecounty.org) or:

Kevin Harter, IT Director  
 933 Avenue H  
 Fort Madison, Iowa 52627

Post-offer background check, physical, and Board of Supervisors approval are required.

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**CENTRAL LEE COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**DONNELLSON, IOWA 52625**  
**DISTRICT OFFICE TENTATIVE AGENDA**  
**OCTOBER 10, 2023**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**7:00 A.M.**

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### PUBLIC NOTICES

1. Roll Call  
 2. Approve agenda  
 3. Receive Visitors:  
 a) Visitors to speak about items not on the agenda  
 b) Amy Fogarty - Nutrition Report  
 c) Kindergarten Report  
 4. Superintendent's Report:  
 a) Enrollment Update - 10/10/2023  
 b) IASB Board Convention - 11/16/2023  
 c) Strategic Plan Update  
 d) District Goals Update  
 e) Facility Projects Update  
 f) November Board Meeting - 11/14/2023 @ 7 a.m.  
 g) Vacancies  
 5. Consent Agenda (Motion) (Exhibit I)  
 a) Approve minutes  
 b) Financial Reports: General and Schoolhouse Funds, Clearing Account, Hot Lunch Account  
 c) Approve prepaid bills  
 d) Approve monthly bills  
 e) Overnight Trips:  
 1. Varsity Girls'/Boys' Cross Country to Ft. Dodge, Iowa - 10/28/2023  
 2. High School Girls' Volleyball Team to Coralville, Iowa - 10/30/2023 to 11/2/2023  
 3. Iowa State Dance/Drill Team to Des Moines, Iowa - 11/30/2023 to 12/1/2023  
 4. National FFA Convention, Indianapolis, Indiana - 10/31/2023 to 11/3/2023  
 5. FCCLA Fall Leadership Rally, Ames, Iowa - 10/17/2023 -10/18/2023  
 f) Open Enrollment Applications: Approve/Deny  
**NEW BUSINESS**  
 1. Second Reading of Board Policy No. 505.5 - Graduation Requirements (Motion) (Exhibit II)  
 2. Approve Early Retirement Plan (Motion) (Exhibit III)  
 3. Approve District Highway Sign Replacement (Motion) (Exhibit IV)  
 4. 2023-2024 SBRC Allowable Growth - At Risk (Motion)  
 5. Title 1 Application

Submitted  
 6. Approve Employee Handbook Modifications (Motion) (Exhibit V)  
 a. Alternative Movement to the Step & Lane for Teachers w/ Alternative Licensure (w/o a four year degree)  
 b. Nurse Compensation - TSS Language for "Professional Recognition Certificate" from BOEE  
 7. Approval of UMB Bank Bond Schedule Direct Payment/Direct Deposit via ACH (Motion)  
 8. Transfer: (Motion)  
 a) Debra Moore - Cook to Substitute Cook Effective 9/19/2023  
 9. Contract Approvals:  
 a) Audrey Roscum - Cook  
 10. Resignations: (Motion)  
 a) Carter Colby - Teacher, JV Boys' Basketball Coach, Assistant High School Track Coach  
 b) Melissa Jones - Cook  
 11. Volunteer Contract Approval: (Motion)  
 a) Cody Swan - High School Basketball Coach  
 12. Board Reports  
 13. Adjourn (Motion)

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**Minutes for the Lee County Conservation Board Meeting**  
**June 13, 2023**  
**Lee County Conservation Center**  
**2652 Hwy 61**  
**Montrose, IA 52639**

1. Called to order at 4:00 p.m.  
 Roll call: Alton\_x\_ Pollpeter\_x\_ Moore\_x\_ Patrick\_x\_ Benjamin\_x\_ Staff Present: Huebner, Oldfield, Pawling, Steele, Risser, Davis Supervisor: Holmes  
 2. Approval of Agenda  
 Motion by Alton to approve the meeting agenda.  
 2nd: Moore  
 Motion Carried  
 3. Approval of Minutes from May 9th, 2023  
 Motion by Benjamin to approve the minutes  
 2nd: Alton

Motion Carried  
 4. Public Input  
 No public input  
 5. Discuss and Take Possible Action on REAP Account  
 Becky Gaylord: Lee County Treasurer, reported on what the county is currently doing with several of their funds that are allocated to specific purposes. but are not being currently used. Gaylord has done plenty of research on the topic with state officials and our county attorney. Suggested that LCCB look in to putting some or all their REAP money into a 9-month CD to make more interest. Discussion was had on the drawbacks (if any) on if the money was needed prior the end of 9 months. It was stated that there would be a penalty but not more than what interest would be garnered from the investment.  
 Patrick made motion to take action allocating current REAP account balance to Lee County Treasurer's control to put in 9-month CD account  
 2nd: Pollpeter  
 Motion Carried  
 6. Approval of Bills  
 Alton made observations regarding the cost of rock purchases and asked about the arrival of Pawling's issued truck (7/1). Moore stated the cost of the break repair for Pawling's truck was abnormally high.

Motion by Benjamin to approve of the bills  
 2nd: Alton  
 Motion Carried  
 7. Approval of Financial Report  
 Huebner stated that the funds for the new skid loader and new trail at

Pollmiller Park had not been deducted yet and that camping revenue had not been applied either.  
 Motion by Patrick to approve the financial report  
 2nd: Benjamin  
 Motion Carried  
 8. Discuss and Take Action on Change Order for Pollmiller Trail  
 Motion to table topic by Alton  
 2nd: Moore  
 Motion carried  
 9. Discuss and Take Action on Shelter Rental at Denning  
 Motion by Alton to start renting out Denning shelter for \$40/day beginning 9/1/23  
 2nd: Patrick  
 Motion Carried  
 10. Staff Reports  
 Steele gave the EE report highlighting the number of field trips they completed during the month, in addition to a couple public programs.  
 Oldfield gave the parks reports highlighting the kickoff of the camping season with a total of 726 camping nights for the month; he also stated that the Pollmiller Beach opened Memorial Day weekend and has been very busy to begin the season.  
 Huebner gave her director report highlighting the progress being made to obtain vendors for the

Christmas in July event, as well as the Halloween Hoot event - both taking place at Poll miller Park. She discussed the new partnership with Hinterland dairy as the Pollmiller beach is now selling ice cream from the local dairy. She also stated that the strategic plan will be finalized in the near future, and she has been working on beginning steps for the Pollmiller shower house.  
 11. Board Member Comments  
 Patrick made the suggestion to discuss raising cabin rental fee per night. Alton stated that the cabin rental fee was higher than some hotels. Benjamin stated that it was worth discussing in the future.  
 Benjamin gave update on the Three Rivers Conservation Foundation by stating that they were beginning funding for an outdoor classroom and interpretive signage at the North Heron Bend boat ramp area.  
 12. Discuss and Take Action on Conservation Tech Position  
 Motion by Patrick to promote Jacobs from Conservation Tech 1 to Conservation Tech 2 position  
 2nd: Benjamin

Motion carried  
 13. Request for closed session regarding potential selling of particular real estate per 21.5(1) 0) of Code of Iowa: To discuss the purchase or sale of particular real estate only where premature disclosure could be reasonably expected to increase the price the governmental body would have to pay for that property or reduce the price the governmental body would receive for that property.  
 Motion to enter closed session at 4:47p.m. by Benjamin  
 2nd: Alton  
 Roll Call: Alton-Aye, Pollpeter-Aye, Moore-Aye, Patrick-Aye, Benjamin-Aye  
 Motion Carried  
 Motion by Benjamin to leave closed session at 4:58 p.m.  
 2nd: Moore  
 Motion Carried  
 14. Adjournment  
 Motion by Benjamin to adjourn the meeting at 5 p.m.  
 2nd: Patrick  
 Motion Carried  
 Richard Moore, LCCB President  
 Heather Huebner, LCCB Director

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## From the Front

# LCC breaks ground on outdoor education center

**CLASSROOM** - Continued from Page 1

said. Sean Blanchard, a member of Three Rivers Conservation, said the project was actually in the plans about 10 years ago. "This is such a fun milestone. I'm so proud of the work of the Lee County Conservation and the Three Rivers Conservation as a member the last five years. Their contributions have made improvements to all major parks, and camping amenities have been expanded and improved." Blanchard said many members of the public have impacted the Lee County Educational program. In fiscal year 2021- 2022, 2,400 adults and more than 15,000 students participated in conservation programs.

He said after the group helped drive the Places to Play initiative, which put new playgrounds in all the county parks, they revisited their mission statement.

"The mission is to bring people together in education and recreational opportunities in partnership with Lee County Conservation, and to instill a desire of stewardship for generations to come," he said.

"It was in that spirit that we chose to focus on environmental education as our next strategic initiative."

Blanchard said the outdoor classroom will enhance the experience of the students and provide new opportunities for Lee County's conservation staff to create new programs for youth and adults alike.

He thanked the staff and past directors who laid the foundation for the project. "I believe it is no coincidence that the Lee County Conservation staff are genuinely some of the most good and friendly people you will ever meet."

Supervisor Chuck Holmes said he was unaware that the outdoor classroom had been part of the district plans for the past eight years.

"They stuck with the dream and, more recently, they've been able to get funding in grants to move forward with the project. We're ready to move forward with this project and this is a project that Lee County can be very proud of," Holmes said.

Amy Conlee, the senior social performance specialist at Climax Molybdenum, said it's a Freeport-McMoRan commitment to help provide opportunities and support for county projects. She said the guiding principle for the social performance activities is transforming tomorrow together.

"This allows us to work collaboratively with communities to make transformative change and increase overall individual community opportunities for well-being and capacity."

She said the grant will provide \$25,000 from the Freeport McMoRan Foundation's Social Investment Fund.

"We know this project will have a great impact and we are proud to be transforming tomorrow together," Conlee said.

Huebner said there is still fundraising work to be done, but they have enough current funding to allow the project to begin.

She said the classroom will be a covered outdoor space of about 900 square feet. There will be additional outdoor concrete space with seating to allow educators to teach outdoors or inside the covered classroom. She said the facility will also be available for the public to use for outdoor events as the schedule allows.

## Ukrainians now want to help others

**WARM** - Continued from Page 1

They flew from Bucharest, the capital of Romania, to Munich, Germany and then to Chicago, where the Polakovas met them and brought them to Mt. Pleasant. Oleg Karakash has a Social Security number, a work permit that allows him to work in the United States for two years, and is getting his driver's license. They recently bought a used vehicle. Oleg may be going to work for Lomont Molding in Mt. Pleasant.

They lived with their sponsor for a few days, but now are living in an apartment house in Mt. Pleasant that is owned by their sponsor. Oleg and Yuliia are helping their sponsor renovate the apartments. They are not looking for food stamps or handouts, although a lot of people helped them with furniture, dishes, clothing and food. They want to work and pay taxes because in the United States they see how taxes are put to work on infrastructure, education, and public works. In Ukraine they had to pay for everything, like health-care and public toilets. Yuliia is hesitant about expressing an opinion for fear of getting in trouble. It will take some time for them to get used to life in the United States.

They keep in touch by telephone with their family back in Ukraine. On the day of their arrival in the United States, their

city was heavily bombed. Oleg's mother said they left just in time.

Oleg doesn't want to kill. Even his father and uncle, who were in the military, say, "No more war." Oleg can make money here in the US and give it to the people who need it. This way he can help. His most important priority is making sure his family is safe and that his daughter grows up in a healthy environment. He appreciates seeing some good places in the world.

Oleg and Yuliia have heard that there is another Ukrainian family who is trying to relocate to Mt. Pleasant. Oleg and Yuliia want to help that family get settled in any way they can, whether it be financial or just learning how to do things, like get a drivers license, furniture, dishes, find a job, or the internet hooked up.

Oleg and Yuliia left everything behind to come to the United States. It's a difficult transition and most people need a lot of help doing it. They miss their family terribly, but are making new friends here. They are impressed by the way so many people want to reach out and help them. They want to return that help to others in need. They are young and healthy and not afraid of work. They have their whole lives ahead of them. The future is theirs to reach out and take. They will succeed, God willing.

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**Lunch Specials**  
**October 9-13**  
**11am - 1pm**

**Monday, October 9**  
**Roast Beef, Cheese Potatoes, Green Beans**

**Tuesday, October 10**  
**Meatloaf, Loaded Potatoes, Corn**

**Wednesday, October 11**  
**Chicken & Noodles, Potatoes, Blueberry Fluff**

**Thursday, October 12**  
**Fried Chicken Dinners**

**Friday, October 13**  
**Lunch on the Sidewalk**