

PEN CITY CURRENT

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

Wednesday, October 11, 2023 | 8 pages | Volume 7 • Issue 169



www.pencitycurrent.com

Central Lee looks to the future

RECRUITMENT/SPACE: Board hears about moves on district's strategic plan

BY **CHUCK VANDENBERG**
PCC EDITOR

DONNELLSON – Central Lee's kindergarten teachers talked Tuesday morning about bringing students through the 'wild' of the first year of full-time schooling.

The rewards of handling the youngest full-time students in the district would probably be a little sweeter if the district had some elementary school space.

Despite a \$13 million renovation that was completed almost exactly two years ago, the district is still in need of more room at the elementary school as enrollment continues to grow.

The district has five kindergarten teachers and just as many teachers up through each grade. Space renovations at the elementary were part of the upgrade two years ago, but Superintendent Dr. Andy Crozier said plans need to start to accommodate the growing student body.

Crozier presented a brief district strategic plan update to the board at their regular meeting Monday morning.

As part of the update, Crozier said a first meeting is planned for Nov. 20 to start looking at a focus that includes the K-8 building and additional classrooms.

The district did have a slight uptick in enrollment this

See **FUTURE**, page 8



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Smoke rises from the North Bend fishing spot north of the Lee County Sheriff's office early Tuesday morning. The cool air settling on the warmer water caused the pre-Halloween eeriness.

KEOKUK

State grant extends SEIRMC Books to Babies program

KEOKUK - The popular Books for Babies campaign that provides each baby born at Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center in Fort Madison a book will continue thanks to a grant received by the Keokuk Education Association.

"We want to encourage families to read together early and often," Diane Berner, Keokuk Community School

District TAG program coordinator and kindergarten through third grade gifted education teacher, who submitted the grant application, said. "Books for Babies is a small start and we have wonderful local library services to support them."

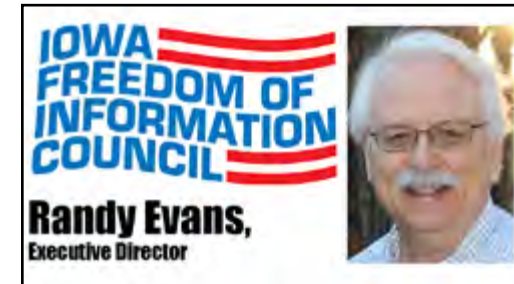
The association received the Iowa State Education Association Commu-

nity Outreach Grant for the seventh year in a row to continue the campaign through 2024. The program also provides information about local library programs and parent tips for reading with their baby.

According to a 20-year study led by

See **GRANT**, page 2

EDITORIAL



Disagreement on where to cut wasteful spends

For many years, an Iowa State University political science professor and I met several times a year for coffee and conversation.

During our coffee klatches, I probed my friend's thinking on world affairs, on government issues, and on politics in Iowa and across the United States. I suspect he tried to use these get-togethers to give me something of a graduate-level seminar in American government, absent any lectures.

Educators these days are frequently accused of trying to indoctrinate their students with a particular point of view. But what I came to realize during those sessions at the Stomping Grounds coffee shop in Ames was fundamental to excellence in teaching: The professor did not tell me what to think. He tried to get me to think more clearly and to analyze with more sophistication and depth. He helped me spot weaknesses in my own opinions and develop a better understanding of factors that may lead other people to see things differently than I did.

After retiring, my friend sold his acreage and left Iowa for a more scenic place to live. Our caffeine intake as declined, but we still stay in touch via email. Last week, the professor's Stomping Grounds "student" field-tested the professor's method of posing challenging questions to get people to re-examine their own opinions and see why some people have a different view than other people.

Senator Joni Ernst has posted a series of social media comments in recent weeks in which she made clear her

See **EVANS**, page 8

INDEX

Business Directory.....P.6	James Healthcare & Associates, Inc.....P.4	Pilot Grove Savings Bank.....P.8
BUSINESS NEWSP.5	Lee County Health Department.....P.5	Pothitakis Dentistry.....P.5
CLASSIFIEDSPs.6-7	LEE COUNTY NEWSPs.2,5,8	Pothitakis Law Firm, P.C.....P.2
Complete Rental.....P.5	Mohrfeld Solar.....P.3	Public Notices.....Ps.6-7
EDUCATION NEWSP.8	OBITUARIESP.3	Sonny's Super Market.....P.2
FOR THE RECORDP.2	• Samuel L. Gray, 71	Southeast Iowa Regional Airport.....P.4
Fort Madison Family YMCA.....P.4	• Gerald Ray Morgan, 73	SPORTSPs.4-5
FROM THE FRONTPs.2,8	OPINIONP.8	Tony Wolfe Insurance Services.....P.3
Fullenkamp Insurance.....P.8	Pen City Current.....Ps.2-3,6-7	

WEATHER

WED 11 Oct......Cool with showers and thunderstorms likely, 62° F/ 53° F ☁️🌧️
THU 12 Oct......Mostly cloudy, warm, chance of showers, 74° F/ 59° F ☁️🌧️
FRI 13 Oct......Cool with showers and thunderstorms likely, 69° F/ 48° F ☁️🌧️

IOWA LOTTERY

LOTTO AMERICA 10/09.....10 13 30 38 40, Star Ball: 8 All Star Bonus: 2
LUCKY FOR LIFE 10/09.....9 13 17 30 38, Lucky Ball: 10
PICK 3 MIDDAY 10/09.....6 5 1
PICK 3 EVENING 10/09.....7 7 7
PICK 4 MIDDAY 10/09.....7 5 1 2
PICK 4 EVENING 10/09.....1 3 4 9
POWERBALL 10/09.....16 34 46 55 67, Powerball: 14 Power Play: 3

SUBSCRIBE

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



For the Record/From the Front

Great River Health provides books and library info

GRANT - Continued from Page 1

Mariah Evans, University of Nevada, Reno, having as few as 20 books in the home has a significant impact on propelling a child to a higher level of education, and the more books added, the greater the benefit.

The books and library information are delivered to families by Briley Wildar, manager of the BirthPlace, and her department staff. Angela Budnik, director of marketing & communications at Great River Health, Monica Winkler, director of the Keokuk Public Library, and Merissa Lewiston all assisted with coordination and materials.

The Iowa State Education Association provides community outreach funds to encourage members and local associa-

tions to collaborate and create opportunities for community service or school projects. The funded projects should meet an identified need within the community, be sustainable and help build visible foundations for deeper relationships with students, families and communities. ISEA's mission is to "promote quality public education by placing students at the center of everything we do while advocating for education professionals."

"We are thrilled to be able to continue this successful program with the support of KEA, ISEA, Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center, Fort Madison, and the Keokuk Public Library," Berner said. "This is truly a community effort to improve literacy."

Follow Us @pencitycurrent



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

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report

10/9/2023 - 11:19 a.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Wayman Keith Ingram, Jr., 36 of Fort Madison, in the 700 block of Avenue F, on an active arrant for domestic abuse -2nd degree. He was taken to Lee County Jail and held.

10/9/2023 - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism on Oak Drive.

10/9/2023 - 4:21 p.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Alexander Kelly, 51 of Fort Madison in the 2300 block of Avenue N, on two active warrants for probation violation and pre-trial release violation, and on charges of possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of a controlled substance - 3rd offense. He was taken to Lee County Jail and held.

10/9/2023 - 7:59 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 2700 block of Avenue M.

10/9/2023 - 11:03 p.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Ashlee Nicole Brandy, 36 of Fort Madison, in the 1400 block of

Avenue D, on a charge of possession of drug paraphernalia. She was taken to Lee County Jail and held.

10/9/2023 - 11:08 p.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Michael James Carpenter, 32 of Fort Madison, in the 1400 block of Avenue D, on a warrant for violation of a pre-trial release and arrests for possession of drug paraphernalia, and possession of a controlled substance.

Keokuk Police Department

10/09/2023 - 9:45 a.m. - Keokuk Police arrested Joshua Paul Larson, 43, of Keokuk, in the 2100 block of Exchange on charges of assault with bodily injury, 3rd-degree harassment, and domestic abuse assault. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.

10/10/2023 - 6:40 a.m. - Keokuk Police arrested John Mitchell Donahue, 47, of Keokuk, in the 1200 block of Main Street on two charges of trespassing and charge of 5th-degree theft. He was taken to Lee

County Jail and held.

Lee County Sheriff's Report

10/09/2023 - 5:06 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Derrick Rodney Lynn Howe, 38, Warsaw, Ill., at the sheriff's department on a charge of 2nd-degree theft. He was taken Lee County Jail and held.

Those listed above are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Fort Madison Fire & Rescue Report

10/06/2023 - Fort Madison Firefighters responded to one lift assist, one two-vehicle accident, five medical calls

10/07/2023 - Fort Madison Firefighters responded to two lift assists.

10/08/2023 - Fort Madison Firefighters responded to one gas line leaking due to digging, one DOA assist, five medical calls, and one lift assist.

10/09/2023 - Fort Madison Firefighters responded to one burn permit and three medical calls.

ACCIDENT & INJURY LAW



Fighting to get you the compensation you deserve.



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

www.PothitakisLaw.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

Founded in 2016
 P.O. Box 366 | Fort Madison, IA

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.

Obituaries

OBITUARIES

GERRY R. MORGAN

Gerald "Gerry" Ray Morgan was born in Fairfax, Missouri on December 13, 1949 and entered the presence of his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on October 7, 2023 at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, Iowa City, Iowa surrounded by his family. His faith and his family were the most important things in his life. He is survived by his devoted wife Holly, and their sons, Miles (Jamie) and Micah. His memory will also live on through his precious grandchildren: Ezra, Esther, and Eden. Gerald is also survived by his brothers: Marion Morgan, Wesley (Alice) Morgan, and Harold (Joyce) Morgan; his sisters: Alma Morgan (Sue Wheat), Nancy Freeman (Kathleen Rohr), and Kathy Morgan; his sister-in-law Sandy Morgan; numerous nieces and nephews and many more family members and friends that he loved like family. Gerald was preceded in death by his parents, Miles and Katherine, his siblings: Ada (Gary) Copeland, Joseph Morgan and Mary (Ronnie) Long, his sisters-in-law Joan & Joyce Morgan, his niece Julie Copeland and his mother-in-law Sheila Busard.

MORGAN

Gerald was raised in Missouri and graduated from Oregon High School in 1967, and served in the United States Air Force from 1970 to 1974. After honorable discharge from the Air Force, he worked as a phone contractor. He attended Christ Unlimited Bible Institute where he met his wife, Holly Busard. They were married on May 10, 1980. They were blessed with two boys Miles in 1981 and Micah in 1984. He became a Fort Madison police officer in 1982 and dedicated 33 years of his life in the service of his community. He was a pillar of strength and courage, always ready to

protect and serve, leaving an indelible mark on the lives he touched.

Beyond his commitment to duty, Gerald had a deep passion for life. He found solace in God's creation. He enjoyed fishing, hunting, and tending to his bountiful garden. His hands were never idle, as he could often be found splitting wood or enjoying quality time with his beloved grandchildren.

He loved his church family and loved worshipping with them at First Baptist Church of Farmington.

Gerald's relationship with Jesus was the most important part of his life. He would want you to know that we are all sinners in need of forgiveness that is freely available to anyone who places their trust in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. Gerald ultimately lived his life to love and serve others and tell them about Jesus and because of that faith, we are confident that he is rejoicing with his Savior now.



His family will greet friends from 9:00 - 11:00 am Friday, October 13, 2023 at the Barr Memorial Chapel in Ft. Madison, where a Celebration of Life service will begin at 11:00 am with Pastor Chad Welch officiating. Burial with military rights will be at Keokuk National Cemetery in Keokuk immediately following the service. A memorial has been established and donations can be left at or sent to Barr Memorial Chapel, 1919 Ave F, Fort Madison, Iowa 52627. An online guest book may be found at www.barrmemorialchapel.com.

OBITUARIES

SAMUEL L. GRAY

Samuel L. Gray, 71, of Fort Madison, passed away on Sunday, October 8, 2023 at 6:30 PM at the Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center ER in Ft. Madison.



GRAY

He was born on January 4, 1952 in Rockford, IL to Samuel and Mary Lee Bryant Gray. Sam worked as a mechanic for Shottenkirk and also the City of Ft. Madison. He loved working on cars, enjoyed watching street races on TV and was a NASCAR fan, especially Dale Earnhardt, Sr. He will be missed and loved

by his family and friends.

Survivors include his twin daughters, Heather (Dameon) Bowen-Jones of Powell, OH and Holly Bowen of Richmond, KY; two grandchildren, Avery and Brynn Jones; partner of thirty years, Mary Dawson of Ft. Madison and her children, Jerel Dawson and Sarah Dawson; one sister, Betty Gray-Brown of Madison, WI; nieces and nephews. He was preceded by his parents and two sisters, Marva and Gwen.

Per his wishes, cremation has been entrusted to King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory and there will be no formal services at this time. Online condolences may be left at www.kinglynk.com.

The average person is on their device
3+ hours per day.

**Reach your customers
wherever they are
with digital ads.**

Call Lee (319)371.4125

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

Are you ready to lower your electric bills?

MOHRELD Solar

- Energy Audit
- Solar System Design
- Solar System Installation
- System Monitoring

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

STABLE. PREDICTABLE.

That's what you can expect from a Wellmark Medicare supplement plan.

Call today to find coverage that's right for you.

319-372-5201



Tony Wolfe
Insurance Services
Fort Madison, IA
52627
Tony@tawins.com

An Authorized Independent Agent for **Wellmark** Iowa

This is a solicitation of insurance. Wellmark Medicare supplement insurance plans are not affiliated with any government agency. To be eligible, you must reside in the service area of the plan. Wellmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Iowa is an independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.

W-2319024 11/18



*Pen City Current will not publish
Friday, October 13
as our family remembers Kelsey Ray
on her 24th birthday*

Sports

Lady Hawk seniors end home play with 3-set loss to BND

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC Editor

DONNELSON – Senior night at Central Lee High School went a little quicker than hoped on Tuesday night.

But it wasn't without a little pregame celebration and a nod to a teammate lost.

The Central Lee Lady Hawks have been wearing a patch for Kodi Moeller on their warm-up jackets this year that says, "Love Like Kodi". Moeller was killed in a motor vehicle accident earlier this year.

The love crept in, however, as students made small speeches to the three seniors who were honored in their last season as Lady Hawks volleyball players.

Brooklyn Jones, Makayla Howard, and Josie Newton all were in the starting rotation for the Hawks in their final home match of the year against Burlington Notre Dame.

The Hawks fell 25-18, 25-16, 25-16 to the Nikes and fell to 0-7 in Southeast Iowa Superconference action, with regional action next on the plate at No. 11 Solon in the Class 3A Region 8 quarterfinals Tuesday.

Head Coach Amy Cook said the Lady Hawks are competitive in almost every match they play, but the girls are just losing their way for several points.

"I feel for the most part, we are right there with the people we are playing," Cook said. "A lot of our (issue) is the mental game and we just don't finish. That definitely did happen tonight. We

were digging the ball really well, but then we just weren't finishing."

The Hawks weren't really even in the first set until a 5-1 run at 12-23 staved off a quick Nike first-set win. The Hawks pushed back to a 17-24 deficit after getting some strong offensive and defensive play from Taylor Jones and Lila Sheppard in the run. Sheppard had back-to-back kills in from the Hawks' left side of the rotation to get Central Lee to 17 points. Jones had consecutive blocks on Notre Dame's Aviana West who was working hard from the Nike left side of the offense. But a kill from the middle ended the rally.

Central Lee held small leads at the front end of the second and third sets, but Notre Dame would rally in both sets at about the midway point and run away with the wins in the last two sets.

Cook said the Lady Hawks talked briefly about the upcoming regionals in the locker room after the game.

"We really just try to focus on the next game. But we know Solon is very good, so that's a tough start (to the regionals)," she said.

She also said she appreciated what the seniors brought to the program.

"You know, they're just great kids, to be totally honest with you," Cook said.

"They all bring their own thing to the team, they have drive, and they really do want to win."

Jones led the Hawks with 16 kills on the night. She was also 12 of 12 serving. Ellie Lake had 19 assists on the night and Jayden Mueller had 30 digs on defense for Central Lee.



Central Lee Lady Hawks' Ellie Lake (15) gets an assist ready for Taylor Jones (18) in the second set of Tuesday's loss to Notre Dame. Below, Lila Sheppard tries to block an attack in the first set.



BACK PAIN?

Do You Have Hip Pain? Are You As Stiff As a Board When You Try to Get Up From a Chair? Have You Run Out of Hope?

How 5 Lies About Low BACK PAIN May Keep You Hurting, Frustrated & Exhausted...Forever!

NEW Scientific Breakthroughs Often Make Short Work of Low Back Pain...Just What Big Medical Centers and High Priced Clinics Are PRAYING You Never Figure Out On Your Own!

Hi, I'm Dr. Jason James, and if you've got any kind of back, hip or leg pain, your worries may be over in just a few minutes. Why? Because I'm the owner of James Healthcare & Assoc. clinic, and I've discovered what may be the best healing secrets for "bad backs" — EVER!



Dr. Jason James, D.C.

I'd be stupid to make such a claim if I couldn't back it up. But I am so confident we can help your back, I insist on giving you a **100% SATISFACTION PLEDGE** at James Healthcare. I hate empty promises, and I also hate the lies most folks have been told about their backs. That's why it's important I expose these MYTHS about back pain.

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?") waved 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.

Call NOW! (319) 524-3339
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

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**

LEARN. GROW. THRIVE!

FREE
4 Year Old Preschool

Class space is limited!

ENROLL TODAY

Fort Madison Family YMCA

220 26th St. Fort Madison, IA
fortmadison.org | 319-372-2403

James Healthcare & ASSOCIATES, INC.

Dr. Jason James, DC
Dr. Mack Kohnke, DC
Ashley Neuweg, ARNP
612 MAIN STREET • KEOKUK, IA

319-524-3339

Sports/Business News

Keokuk Chamber hosts Dueling Pianos

PCC Staff

KEOKUK - The Keokuk Area Chamber of Commerce will host a night out with Dueling Pianos from 7-11 p.m. on Nov. 11, at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 11 N. Sixth Street, Keokuk.

Dueling Pianos from USA Entertainment consists of two grand pianos with two charismatic and hilarious musical entertainers performing requests to the delight of the audience. Those who attend the event will laugh and dance and be merry all night long.

Tickets are available for purchase as a \$30 general admission ticket that includes available seating and appetizers with a cash bar, or as a VIP Table for \$200, which admits four with a reserved table closest to the entertainment. The VIP table also includes dedicated servers for dinner and drinks (through the cash bar) and

available appetizers, with some complimentary drink tickets and raffle tickets. There are a limited number of VIP tables available.

General Admission and VIP tickets can be purchased online at keokuk-chamber.com/events, or in person at the Chamber office at 1026 Main. General Admission tickets only can be purchased at Radio Keokuk at 108 Washington Street. Online ticket purchases will not receive a paper ticket, unless the attendee contacts the Chamber and requests one, but the purchaser's name will be added to a Will Call list for check-in at the event.

There will be a cash bar at the event and raffle tickets available for purchase for prizes from Chamber members.

For more information or to purchase tickets, go to keokukchamber.com/events, email membership@keokukchamber.com, or call (319) 524-5055.

Lady Hawks place 2nd at Davis County Saturday

PCC Staff

DAVIS COUNTY - The Central Lee Lady Hawks continue to improve with post-season play less than two weeks away.

The Hawks finished first in pool play at the Davis County Tournament Saturday and took 2nd place overall after falling to Van Buren in the championship.

Central Lee downed Chariton in a battle to open pool play. The Hawks fell 17-21 in the first set but rallied for a 21-19, 15-11 win in the second set and tie breaker. The Hawks then swept Cardinal 21-19, 21-10 before beating Van Buren 21-18, 19-21, 15-9 in a three-set match.

In the title bracket action, the Hawks

downed New London 21-17, 19-21, 15-7 to get the championship rematch with the Warriors.

Van Buren would roll to a 21-9 first set win and the fought off a Central Lee rally to take the title 21-18.

On the day Taylor Jones had 42 kills, was 31/33 serving, with four aces, 17 blocks, and 33 digs to lead Central Lee. Kylie Fortune had 21 kills, 13 blocks, and two digs. Brooklyn Jones was 37 of 39 serving with four aces, had two blocks and 17 digs. Jalyn Hawk was a perfect 38/38 serving with two aces and 33 digs.

Ellie Lake led the Hawks in assists with 60 on the day.

Central (12-24, 0-6) hosts Burlington Notre Dame on Tuesday for Senior Night.

Get Stuff Done

Master the outdoors in October with these Specials of the Month

20% Off
Augers & Backhoes



www.CompleteRentalFM.com

Complete Rental | 5636 Avenue O, Fort Madison | 319-372-8105

Mention this ad at time of reservation. Not valid with any other discounts.

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

**We will accept
(please bring your insurance card):
Medicare
Wellmark
or Private Pay of \$30**



**LEE
CHD**

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

(319)372-5225 ~ (800)458-6672
www.leecountyhd.org

GENTLE, CARING DENTISTRY

FOR YOUR WHOLE FAMILY



POTHITAKIS
DENTAL GROUP



- Family Dentistry
- Teeth Whitening
- Dental Implants
- Extractions

Now accepting new patients

Ft. Madison East
(319) 372-3614

Ft. Madison West
(319) 372-4882

West Burlington
(319) 753-2515

New London
(319) 367-2311

Mediapolis
(319) 394-3255

Burlington
(319) 752-7993

www.DrMarkDDS.com

Classifieds/Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICES

**PUBLIC NOTICE
PUBLIC NOTICE
SECOND
WATER MAIN BREAK
BEVERDALE
SUBDIVISION, WEST
BURLINGTON, IOWA
WATER SERVICE
DISRUPTION DUE TO
EMERGENCY WATER
MAIN REPAIR**

EFFECTIVE: Tuesday, October 10, 2023 at 6:45 p.m.

LOCATION AFFECTED: Beaverdale Subdivision, West Burlington, Iowa

REASON: Second Water Main Break - The water is being shut off immediately due to a second water main break in the Beaverdale Subdivision. The contractor for the Beaverdale Subdivision/HOA has been notified and will be working to complete the repairs.

This main break will not affect hydrants. The Fire Department has been made aware of the issue. Following the repairs, a boil order will likely be in effect for the Beaverdale Subdivision/HOA.

DURATION: Water will be off in the Beaverdale Subdivision until repairs are completed.

City of West Burlington
Phone: 319-752-5451

**PUBLIC NOTICE
PROCEEDINGS OF THE
REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
WEST POINT CITY
COUNCIL
WEST POINT, IOWA
52656
OCTOBER 9, 2023**

Mayor Joseph Loving called the properly noticed regular meeting of the City Council of

the City of West Point to order in the West Point Library, 309 Fifth Street, West Point, Iowa 52656 on October 9, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. In addition to Mayor Joseph Loving indicated the following Council Members were present: Phil Kruse, Dan Waters, Bruce Wellman, Brian Meierotto and Will Stuekerjuergen.

Mayor reported the following: Municipal Utility Board Meeting Tuesday, November 14, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall, Library Board Meeting, Tuesday, November 14, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.; Next regular City Council Meeting is Monday, November 13, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. at the West Point Public Library.

Randy Welding presented the City Administrator's report.

**CLAIMS REPORT FOR
SEPTEMBER, 2023**

Amazon Capital Services	83.61
Baker & Taylor	779.65
City of West Point-Attorney Fees/Cambridge	562.50
Daily Democrat	225.26
Delta Dental of Iowa	121.92
Demco	168.59
Drake Hardware & Software	184.16
Faeth Wholesale	266.14
Floyd's E-Z Way	525.00
Galls	119.73
Globe Life Liberty National	39.08
GRRWA	992.00
Holtkamp Automotive Repair	80.16
Huffman Welding & Machine	90.47
ION Environmental Services	760.00
Jet Gas	995.45
Mastercard	1,386.25
Mediacom	518.21

Per Mar Security Services	319.80
Petty Cash	45.39
Pranger, Mary Jane	165.00
Ricoh USA	64.55
Sonny's Supermarket	36.00
Sun Life Financial	202.39
The Schnitzelbank	615.00
Treasurer-State of Ia	1,434.73
US Cellular	70.65
USPS	69.19
Verizon Wireless	40.01
Welding McKenzie	125.00
West Point Lumber & Hardware	98.41
West Point Professional Group	750.00
West Point Utilities	2,352.44
Wex Bank	1,002.71
Windstream	197.68

RECAPITULATION

FUND: PREV BAL, RCPTS, DSBSD, CUR BAL: Gen.Govt.: 424,374.26; 38,543.61; 32,335.89; 430,581.98
Grants: -16,134.60; --; --; -16,134.60; Cap Equip: 4127.06, ---, ---, 4127.06; Lib County/ St: 6,082.08; 3,437.06, 853.43; 8,665.71; Lib Mem & Gift: 14,260.63; 472.60; 562.50; 13,533.38; Hoenig Estate: 521,757.74; 472.60; 562.50; 520,722.64; Road Use Tax: 33,573.40; 14,389.30; 5,503.42; 42,459.28; LOST: 10,217.72; 9,990.20; 10,217.72; Restricted Gifts: 6,370.75; --; 35.08; 6,335.67 East Sewer; -26391.44; --; --; -26391.44; Walk Path; 43354.13; --; --; 43354.13; American Rescue: 61,068.30; --; --; 61,068.30; Sewer: 62,491.19; 22,859.69;

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Call Lee at 319.371.4125 today to advertise!

General Insects
Termites

Cullen
PEST CONTROL

(319) 372-1060

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

Mice
Bed Bugs

Residential
Commercial

"Cause who needs bugs?"

Patrick Profeta
General Manager

Keokuk Auto Credit
We Tote the Note

No Credit Check Low Weekly Payments
www.keokukautocredit.com

1728 Main
Keokuk, IA 52632

Office: 319-524-2334
Fax: 319-524-2373



Surprisingly great rates right around the corner.


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

I'm your one-stop shop for the service you deserve at a price you want. Call me for surprisingly great rates and Good Neighbor service right in your neighborhood.

Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.[®]

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

State Farm
Bloomington, IL
2001878



DODD
EST. 1877
PRINTING & STATIONERY

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

Coffee Mugs
Posters Art Supplies
Printing
Office Furniture
Trifold Brochures

621 Avenue G
Fort Madison, IA

319.372.2721
doddprinting.com

ENJOY FREE DELIVERY TO FORT MADISON, KEOKUK, BURLINGTON & THE SURROUNDING AREAS!

Auto Detailing . Car Wash . Sign Rental

Turbo Wash

(319) 372-WASH (9274)
Fort Madison

Gift certificates available

Locally owned & operated

Never Shiver. Don't Sweat.



Just call

Heat & Air Guy

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

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

Dirty Dog Detailing & Boarding

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

2090 250th St
Donnellison, IA 52625

Over 51 Years Combined Professional Animal Experience

Owners Barb Ball & Natalie Dauma
Family owned & operated

Classifieds/Public Notices

SHOP Classifieds

PLACE YOUR AD ONLINE AT WWW.PENCITYCURRENT.COM OR CALL (319)371.4125

HELP WANTED

Lee County IT has two open IT Technician positions, one based in our Keokuk office and the other in Fort Madison.

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.

Competitive salary; IP-ERS retirement plan; health, vision, and dental insurance; and other benefits are offered.

The application form can be obtained online or at:

Lee County Auditor's Office
933 Avenue H
Fort Madison, Iowa 52627

Please submit cover letter, resume, and completed application to 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.

Lee County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Learn more on our website at leecounty.org.



PUBLIC NOTICES

16,831.12; 68,519.76; Sewer Sinking: 20,069.03; 8,413.33; --; 28,482.36; Land-fill: -11,013.56, ---; --; -11,013.56

/s/ Joseph Loving, Mayor
Attest: Randy Welding, City Administrator
DRM /City Clerk

HELP WANTED

Public Works, Part-Time Sanitation Labor

Performs a variety of unskilled or semi-skilled maintenance work under direct supervision.

DESIRED MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Education and Experience:
Minimum Education Level - 8th Grade

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Loading, compressing, and dumping refuse, yard waste, and recyclable materials.
- Ability and willingness to perform labor intensive duties on a continuous basis.
- Must be able to frequently lift and/or move up to 50lbs. and occasionally up to 100lbs.
- Ability to positively interact with the public.
- High degree of self-motivation, good endurance, good hygiene, and a strong work ethic.
- This position will be for 28 hours per week, no Saturday, Sundays or holidays.

Apply at City Hall - 811 Avenue E, Fort Madison, Iowa or email applications to jcul-len@fortmadison-ia.com by 4:30pm on Monday, October 16, 2023.



PUBLIC NOTICE
The Mount Pleasant City Council will meet in Regular Session Wednesday, October 11, 2023, at City Hall, 307 E. Monroe Street, second-floor meeting room at 5:30 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Roll Call.
2. Consent Agenda: To the Public -All items with an asterisk(*) are routine by the City Council and will be enacted by one motion and a roll call of the Councilmembers. There will be no separate discussion of items unless the Mayor, a Councilmember or citizen so request, in which event the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered in its normal sequence on the Agenda.
3. Receive & file communications.
4. Approve agenda.
- *5. Approve minutes of previous meetings.
- *6. Approve payment of bills.
- *7. Receive report of Officers including Resolu-

HELP WANTED

LIBRARY PAGE PART-TIME

Fort Madison Public Library

The Fort Madison Public Library is seeking applicants for a library page position. 10 hours/week August through May, 12 hours/week June and July. Tasks will include shelving books, helping to prepare for and clean up after library programming and assisting during children's programs. Must be 16 years or older. Applications can be picked up and returned to the Fort Madison Public Library. Preference given to applications received before October 25. Contact Sarah Clendinning at (319) 372-5721 if you have any questions.



tion No: 2023-71 approving September transfers.

8. Old Business-
a) 5:30 p.m. Public Hearing to amend accessory building and shipping container ordinance.
b) 1st reading of ordinance to amend accessory building and shipping container ordinance.

* c) Renewal of a Special Class C Retail Alcohol License with Outdoor Service for The Topsy Traveler's LLC at 220 W. Monroe Street.

*d) Outdoor Sound Permit Application for Midwest Central Railroad and Midwest Old Threshers Halloween events in October.

*e) Renewal of a Class B Retail Alcohol License for Pilot Travel Centers LLC at 1300 Grand Ave

9. New Business
a) Approve proposal to repair hangar door at airport.

b) Authorize Mayor to sign an Engagement Letter with Ahlers Cooney, P.C. for amendment to the Mount Pleasant Urban Revitalization Plan.

c) Approve Amendment to Agreement with Shive-Hattery for Engineering Services for NE Lagoon Design-Construction.

d) Resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign an agreement with Iowa Department of Transportation for the General Aviation Vertical Infrastructure Program (GA VI) to receive funding for airport hangar roof replacement.

e) Resolution authorizing the hire of Volunteer Firefighter.

f) Resolution authorizing the hire of Volunteer Firefighter.

g) Resolution authorizing the hire of Volunteer Firefighter.

h) Authorize Mayor to sign contract with Healthy Paws Veterinarian Care, PLC to provide impound services for stray animals.

10. Public Forum.
11. Adjourn to meet in regular session on Wednesday, October 25,

2023, at 5:30 p.m.

PUBLIC NOTICE
MONTROSE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 11, 2023
4:30 P.M.
REGULAR MEETING
MONTROSE CITY HALL

AGENDA

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC: The Mayor and City Council welcome comments from the public during discussion. If you wish to speak, please step up to the Council table, state your name and address for the record and limit the time used to present your remarks to five minutes in order that others may be given the opportunity to speak. The normal process on any particular agenda item is that the motion is placed on the floor, input is received from the audience, the Council is given an opportunity to comment on the issue or respond to the audience concerns, and the vote is taken. On ordinances, there is time provided for public input at the time of the first reading. In consideration of all, if you have a cell phone, please turn it off or put it on silent ring.

CALL TO ORDER.
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

CONSENT AGENDA: All items listed under the Consent Agenda will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a request is made prior to the time the Council members vote on the motion.

1. Approve Agenda as written.
2. Approve September, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes.
3. Approve September 2023 Treasurer's Report as presented.
4. Approve Payment of Claims as presented.

PUBLIC FORUM: This is a time set aside for comments from the

public on topics of City business other than those listed on this agenda. Please understand that the Council is not likely to take any action on your comments at this meeting due to requirements of the Open Meetings Law, but may do so at a future meetings. The Mayor and City Council welcome comments from the public; however, at no time is it appropriate to use profane, obscene, or slanderous language. The Mayor may limit each speaker to five minutes.

EMPLOYEE COMMENTS:

COMMITTEE REPORTS:
Public Safety Chief Shields submitted his police report, General Government & Enterprise, Culture & Recreation, Public Works, and Economic & Community Development.

OLD BUSINESS:
1. Discuss Nuisance Abatement updates

NEW BUSINESS:
1. Consider and approve City Street Finance Report.
2. Discuss and possibly approve discontinuing the sale of trash tags at City Hall.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS.

ADJOURNMENT:
*Please note that this agenda may be changed up to 24 hours before the meeting time as provided by Section 21,4(2). Code of Iowa.

Tired of the same old results from your advertising?

Call Lee Today!
(319)371.4125

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

Place your ad online 24/7

From the Front

Board OKs incentive for early retirement

FUTURE - Continued from Page 1

year with some families that moved into Montrose and some open enrollment from other districts. He said total enrollment was up about nine students for the year.

Crozier said he hopes to have more meetings following the initial Nov. 20 meeting to keep talks going around future needs of the elementary school.

Other parts of the district's strategic plan, which Crozier called a moving document, including increasing learning and understanding of staff and parents of current mental health needs, challenges, and resources.

Crozier said the district has had three different mental health providers present to staff in August and is working to bring in more for professional development days.

He is also wanting to continue the implementation of leadership development focusing on K-12 collaboration and consistency.

Efforts are also in place to improve instructional and programmatic excellence, engaging parents including relationships with families in the district and staff recruitment, retention, and engagement.

One of the efforts to improve recruitment will be to offer an additional \$5,000 incentive to teachers who are thinking of retiring.

Early retirement in the district already is incentivized with a \$10,000 tax sheltered annuity payment if the district is notified by Nov. 1 of each school year, but the other \$5,000 annuity payment would kick in if teachers let the district know close to two years in advance of their retirement.

"This is to create a competitive advantage, it's not about the finances," Crozier told the board. "This is all around succession planning to be more thoughtful about when people are retiring so we have every advantage in trying to fill that position - sometimes many months in advance.

"The reason for our early retirement is so we have a competitive advantage for the hiring. That's it. Not for financial problems or none of the other reasons you'd have early retirement for."

Teachers would have to submit a letter of intent to retire at the end of the following school year and the teachers must complete both years of the letter of the intent. They must fill out and complete the filing process before Sept. 1 of that school year.

Where to cut is always polarizing

EVANS - Continued from Page 1

feelings about the nation's growing debt and about President Joe Biden's controversial decision to forgive \$9 billion in student loan debt.

She posted last week on X, the social media platform formerly known as Twitter, this statement: "Yesterday alone, our national debt increased \$275 billion. We cannot continue saddling future generations with trillions of insurmountable debt. It's time for Washington to stop spending money we don't have."

Taking my cue from the coffee shop Socrates, I responded to Ernst's comment by posting: "So, am I to assume you will be pushing in the new farm bill to end the taxpayer subsidies that cover two-thirds of the cost of premiums for farmers' crop and revenue insurance?"

The senator did not respond to my comment. But 30,000 people around the country have read our exchange, according to X's statistics. Almost 800 did give Ernst and me the benefit of their thinking.

"Touche!" wrote a political consultant from Massachusetts,

Another person wrote, "Independent American farmers demand no less."

A reader called John commented, "John Deere driving welfare queens? Whatever happened to boot straps?"

Another reader wrote, "Or end fossil fuel subsidies? Or cut the defense budget? Or undo more of the Trump tax cuts?"

A Florida lawyer wrote, "Don't get me started on crop insurance, which America SHOULD be subsidizing instead of paying for cheese we will never eat."

There was this comment about Ernst's concerns over insurmountable debt: "But you voted for Trump's TAX CUTS for the rich = 8 trillion in 4 yrs."

A reader calling himself Average Joe Iowan wrote, "We can't eat ethanol. It comprises over half of the corn Iowa's farmers produce. There is room to cut farm subsidies."

A reader in Minnesota asked, "If farmers are so successful why do they need government hand-outs?"

And then there was this take on the postings Ernst and I made: "Ernst: No, not THAT insurmountable

debt!!!"

But there were other readers who reacted strongly to what they see as the negative consequences of cutting taxpayers' subsidies for federal crop insurance. "That would send land prices in the Midwest sharply lower. Lots of repercussions."

A reader from western Iowa added, "Ya, why not go after farmers?"

Another reader calling herself Lady Patriot wrote: "Randy would rather see Iowa farmers fail. Thanks to Joni, that won't happen." To which another person wrote, "It's OK Randy. You get your food from the grocery store. Correct?"

One reader was even more pointed. "Let's also end taxpayers subsidizing healthcare. And we don't have to stop there. We can end all sorts of subsidies for people who produce nothing. That wouldn't make more sense now would it? Or, may you can just shut the **** up."

An Iowan with a similar view, minus a desire to stuff a sock in my mouth, wrote: "You should see flood insurance. Let's end taxpayers funding that too. And then we can do the same to the Affordable Care act. Yeah, let's end subsidies for those who produce nothing. The list is endless."

Back to my professor friend. He saw what I was doing on the X platform and responded to those who criticized my post: "Farm subsidies and 'paying farmers to NOT grow a crop' is in the bullseye of people from non-farm states. Cutting government spending is difficult because my crucial program — farmers — may be 'deep-state waste of money' to other Americans."

As usual, my friend had a broader take-away from the back-and-forth over the posts Ernst and I made. It is easy for most of us to agree there is room for the federal government to reduce spending. But the challenge comes in trying to get people to agree where those cuts should be made.

With the current divisions between D's and R's in Washington — and even among Republicans — it is difficult these days for members of Congress to agree when to go to lunch. Or whether to have coffee.

Randy Evans can be reached at DMRevans2810@gmail.com.

Making Dreams Come True Since 1911

Owning your own home
doesn't have to be
just an American Dream.

It can be **YOUR**
dream come true!

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



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.

FULLENKAMP INSURANCE

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

www.FullenkampIns.com

