## PEN CITY CURRE lt's Black & White and Read all over

Tuesday, October 24, 2023  $\mid$  8 pages  $\mid$  Volume 7 • Issue 177











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# Crusaders advance



The Holy Trinity Crusaders celebrate after a four-set win over Burlington Notre Dame Tuesday night in Fort Madison. The Crusaders advance to the Class 1A Region 8 finals Wednesday night in West Liberty.

#### **EDGEWOOD-COLESBURG NEXT:** Crusaders travel to West Liberty Wednesday night

BY JOHN BOHNENKAMP

FORT MADISON - Forget that the margin for error on the shot was essentially nothing.

Taegan Denning knew her biggest hit of the night was perfect.

Denning's crucial save in the fourth set helped spark Holy Trinity's final run in a 25-19, 15-25, 25-12, 25-22 win over Notre Dame in Monday's Class 1A Region 8 semifinal at Shottenkirk Gym.

The third-ranked Crusaders (30-10) advanced to Wednes-

day's regional final against No. 12 Edgewood-Colesburg (29-13) at West Liberty High School.

To get there, though, the Crusaders had to beat a familiar rival that they've been running into a lot in the postseason over the last few seasons. And they had to survive a clunker of a second set that gave the Nikes (26-15) momentum after they were challenged by Holy Trinity's opening-set run.

"This rivalry is definitely for real. Notre Dame never gave up a point to us," said Holy Trinity senior Mary Kate Bendlage. "They fought for every single point. They showed us,

See **FINALS**, page 7

#### **EMPTY NEST**

### Second Ukranian family moves into Mt. Pleasant

 $m{1}$ t's a difficult story to understand, both from the language standpoint and the war-torn aspect. Most of us here in America have never had to flee in the middle of the night from foreign invaders. The Bayevs, from Kalanchak in the Kherson region of Ukraine, have an app on their smart phones to help with difficult translations from Ukrainian to English. They are fluent or have been exposed to four languages in their flight, starting with their native Ukrainian, then Russian, then Czech and now English.





On February 24, 2022, the day Russia invaded Ukraine, their pastor called and said, "Go, now! To the

north." Like 8,000,000 other Ukrainians, they fled their

See **FAMILY**, page 7

#### **SUPERVISORS**

## County firms up panel to handle opioid settlement

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG

LEE COUNTY - Lee County officials have named the group that will make recommendations on how to use the multi-million dollar opioid settlement fund pool expected in the county.

Supervisor Tom Schulz pulled the commission together over the past week and announced the commission members at Monday's regular meeting of the Lee County Board of Supervisors.

Schulz said commitments had been secured from District B Judge John Wright, a member of Harmony Bible Church as the faith-based representative,

Michele Ross from Lee County Health Department, Dustin Yager from Fort Madison City Council, Brian DePriest Keokuk PD, Darrin Roth from unincorporated areas, and SCHULZ Lee County Sheriff Stacy Weber.



Lee County Grant Writer Chuck Vandenberg will serve as a secretary to the

Lee County Auditor Denise Fraise said the group will need to be approved at the next regular board meeting on Oct. 30. Supervisors will meet on that Monday, despite it being the 5th Monday of the month which is normally skipped for meetings.

The board will investigate where the county will allocate what could be close to \$3 million in settlement funds over the next 15 years.

The county joined the class action suit brought by a group of law firms, including Crueger-Dickinson out of Wisconsin, in 2021. Since that time several settlements have been reached that have resulted in one lump-sum payment and now recurring payments based on

See **COUNTY**, page 2

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#### WEATHER

...... Warm & breezy, chance of showers, 75° F/ 61° F **WED 24 Oct.....** Warm & breezy, showers likely,  $77^{\circ}$  F/  $61^{\circ}$  F Warm & breezy, showers likely, 74° F/ 61° F

#### NUL LOTTEDY

IUWA LUTTEKY	
LUCKY FOR LIFE 10/22	24 30 41 46 47, Lucky Ball: 6
PICK 3 MIDDAY 10/22	
PICK 3 EVENING 10/22	856
PICK 4 MIDDAY 10/22	4213
DICK 4 EVENUNC 10/22	2770

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#### Obituaries/From the Front

## Supervisor hits up RAGBRAI

**COUNTY** - Continued from Page 1

settlements with multiple distributors and manufacturers.

The lawsuits allege the manufacturers and distributors contributed to the opioid crisis in the country. Several other lawsuits are currently pending, including bankruptcy claims of several manufacturers, distributors, and retail pharmacies. They are also accused of downplaying the addictive properties of opioid painkillers.

A settlement with

Walgreens, Walmart, CVS, and Teva has been reached and local governments are now signing agreements to be part of those settlement funds, as well.

A strategy to use the funds was part of all active settlement agreements that outlines how the funds can be used including purchasing opioid overdose medications, treating opioid addiction, education and therapy programs, pregnancy education, and others.

Seventy-five percent of a local government's settlement funds are to be used in those core strategies, while 25% can be used in more widespread functions such as employee training and more peripheral strategies.

Lee County has used about \$250,000 for Lee County EMS payroll that included training for nine new employees hired when Blessing Keokuk Hospital closed its doors.

In an unrelated issue, Schulz also told the board that he had submitted a letter of support for Lee County to have the final stop for the next RAGBRAI event. He said there was a deadline quickly approaching for communication with the event staff. He said the county would stand to benefit from the tourism dollars associated with being the final stop of the event.

#### **OBITUARIES**

#### MARILYN K. HOLMES

Marilyn Kay Holmes, 70, of Fort Madison, died Saturday, October 21, 2023, at the Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center in West Burlington. Born August 18, 1953, in Macomb, IL, she was the daughter of James and

> Goldie Benzinger Mixer. On June 10, 1978, she married Warren Dee Holmes Jr. at the First Christian Church in Ft. Madison. Marilyn worked as a cook for head start. Prior to that, she had worked for River City Counseling and long before that at

Cassano's Pizza in Fort Madison. She enjoyed canning and gardening, bird watching, especially Hummingbirds, as well as feeding them. Marilyn also enjoyed

genealogy, ancestry and was always telling her grandchildren

stories.

Survivors include her mother, Goldie Pruett of Montrose; her husband of 45 years, Warren Dee Holmes Jr. of Fort Madison; three children, Brian (Diane) Moeller of Keokuk, Christina St. Clair of Montrose, Andrew Holmes of Fort Madison; five grandchildren, Amanda Gilpin, Olivia, Orion and Christopher St. Clair, Charlianne (Jesse) Blaise; three great-grandchildren, Theron Blaise, Alexis VanTiger and Dean Blaise; brother, Larry Mixer of Montrose; and long time friend, Kay Merten of Donnellson.

She was preceded in death by her father, step-father, Richard Pruett, two grandchildren, and step-sister, Roxanne Pruett.

Cremation has been entrusted to the care of Prugh Crematory.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

Prugh Funeral Service is in care of the arrangements.

Condolences can be sent to the family by visiting Marilyn's obituary at www.prughfuneral.com.

Pen City Current obituary policy
Pen City Current runs obituaries one time at no charge to funeral homes and they run the day they are submitted in most cases. They are also run as submitted by the funeral homes. Reposting of obituaries due to changes can only be requested by the submitting funeral home and will be assessed a \$15 reposting



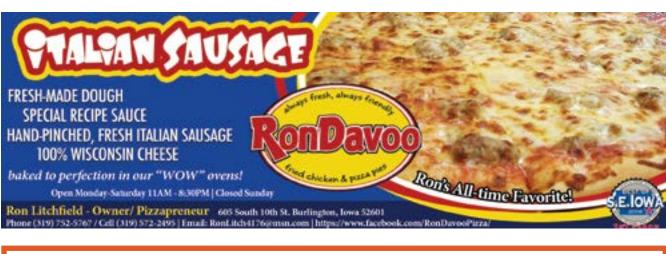




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#### **Obituaries**

#### **OBITUARIES**

#### BARBARA A. EASLEY

The Reverend Barbara Ann (Bagley) Easley died on October 20, 2023, in Iowa City. Barbara was born on November 4, 1934 to Marjorie Jane (Roloff) Bagley and Eugene Franklin Bagley, in Brookfield, Missouri. At the age of 15, she moved with her family to Fort Madison, Iowa,



**EASLEY** 

where she thrived at Fort Madison High School, excelling in vocal music, academics, and Junior Achievement; after high school she was a highly sought after wedding soloist. She completed her freshman year at Iowa State Teachers' College in Cedar Falls. In 1953 she became an executive secretary in the personnel department at Sheaffer Pen Company. She married Norris Keith Easley on November 30, 1953. Together they raised three children, Lisa Easley D'Aunno and Julia Easley of Iowa City, and John Easley of Newton.

Barbara was active in a number of Fort Madison community organizations. She directed the North Lee County Red Cross chapter from 1967 until her retirement in 1979, including providing direct service to Vietnam War service members and their families. After retiring from the Red Cross, Barbara typed transcripts for her best friend, court reporter Cheryl Newman Liles. She and Cheryl travelled often, including their annual week-long stay at the Chautauqua Institution in New York, where they attended lectures and church services. She was a long-time member and held frequent leadership roles in the Monday Afternoon Study Club, Potowonoc and PEO Chapter BS-KB. She researched and gave regular talks on the lives of Fort Madison's historical figures, homes and buildings. She served on the Cattermole Public Library Board for twelve years, including serving as Board President during which she cochaired the planning and construction of the Idol Rashid Memorial Library branch. She taught her children the value of public service. She loved politics and was a skilled bridge player who played in a Monday Night Ladies' Bridge Club for over 50 years. She was a generous and frequent hostess and offered hospitality to many visitors, including Democratic Party campaign workers and visiting clergy.

After her divorce at the age of 58, Barbara resumed her sophomore year at the University of Iowa, developing an interest in scriptural scholarship. Barbara began a second career when she and five members of St. Luke's Episcopal Church Ministry Development Team in Fort Madison began their studies to be ordained. Barbara was ordained as an Episcopal priest in 2010, at the age of 75. She was a beloved member of the St. Luke's community. For years, she organized Marshall Field Lunches, cooked the funeral lunches, and served on the Vestry; later she presided at eucharists and funerals. She served on the Diocese of Iowa Commission on Ministry and in Fort Madison Parish Partners. Barbara was known for her preaching, sharing engaging, well-researched historical perspectives on scriptural texts. She especially loved preaching on the Fourth of July and on All Saints Day, where she remembered the many saints of St. Luke's over its 150-year history. She played an active role in training the second round of St. Luke's Ministry Team members. She retired from the active ministry in 2018.

Barbara taught her children to dream big and provided a soft landing spot when needed. She supported her children's careers, often travelling to care for or root for grandchildren, help with a church dinner, or make treats before the soccer game. She travelled to Paris, France seven times and loved beach vacations with her grandchildren. She cared for her parents into old age and their deaths in 2008. In 2012, Barbara moved to Iowa City to make a family home with her daughters. Their house became the setting for many happy extended family gatherings, including an exciting two years during which her grandson Nick Easley played wide receiver for the Hawkeyes. Grandma Sam was a steady presence and inspiration to her grandchildren. She continued to travel to attend her grandchildren's college graduations and weddings, co-officiating at two weddings, until her health began to deteriorate due to dementia. In her last years, she showered her grand-dogs and cats with love, treats and furry blankets. Barbara lived at the Bickford assisted living and memory care facility until shortly before her death.

Barbara was preceded in death by her parents and her siblings Shirley Stevenson and Richard Bagley, and her son in law, John Robertson. In addition to her children, Barbara is survived by daughter-in-law Alison Lemke of Newton; 6 grandchildren, Elizabeth D'Aunno (Ben Janczyk) of Washington, DC, Peter (Caitlyn) D'Aunno and Katherine (Evan Goran-Dry) D'Aunno of Chicago; Matthew Easley (Sidney Burds) of Des Moines; Nicholas Easley of Ankeny; and Lavinia Easley Robertson of Iowa City; one great-grandson, Nathan Janczyk of Washington, DC; and long-time friends Cheryl and Gordon Liles.

A memorial service will be held at St. Luke's Fort Madison at later date. King-Lynk Funeral Home in Fort Madison is handling the arrangements. Burial will be at Elmwood Cemetery in Fort Madison. Online condolences may be left at www.kinglynk.com.



#### **OBITUARIES**

#### NORMA J. **GREGORY**

Norma Jean Gregory, 93, of Fort Madison, IA, passed away at 11:50 p.m. on Friday, October 20, 2023 at Southeast Iowa Regional Hospice House in West Burlington, IA. She was born on October 8, 1930 in Farmington, IA to Herbert & Aileen Zane Haffner. She married

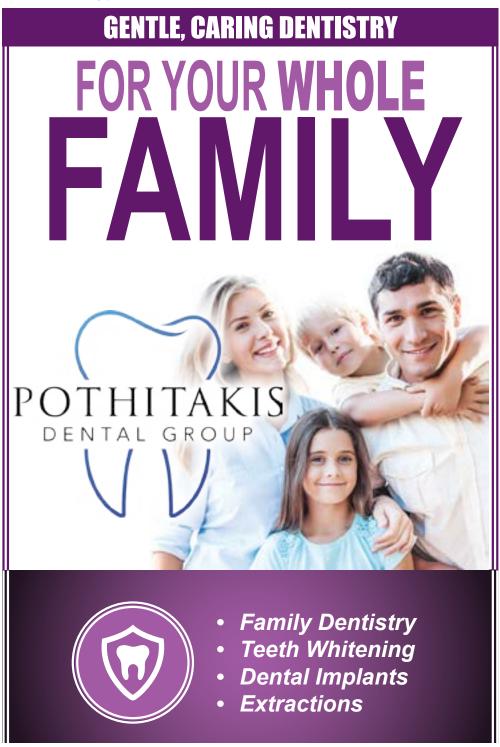


**GREGORY** 

James T. Gregory on August 30, 1953 in Des Moines, IA. He preceded her in death on May 31, 2003. She was a member of Union Presbyterian Church, the Circle of the Church, Monday Afternoon Club, Fort Madison Community Hospital Auxiliary, and the Fort Madison Art Center. She volunteered at the Fort Madison Library, Fort Madison Community Hospital and Lee County Health Department. Norma enjoyed many hobbies; painting, reading, volunteering and gardening. She had many fond memories of growing up on a farm and was always a farm-girl at heart. She loved her family and spending time with them.

Norma is survived by: 2-sons: Michael Gregory of Fort Madison, IA & Thomas (Maria) Gregory of Fort Madison, IA; 2-daughters: Katherine Gregory of Cedar Rapids, IA & Julie Gregory of Cedar Rapids, IA; 5-grandchildren: Michelle Flannery, Benjamin Minniear, Paul Gregory, Elizabeth Blind-Ngoy & Gregory Blind; 4-great grandchildren: Josh, Maddox, Maura & Hester; 1-brother: David (Janet) Haffner of Marshfield, MO; 1-sister: Virginia (Verne) Juegensen of Ottumwa, IA and several nieces & nephews. She was preceded in death by: her parents, husband, 1-infant brother, 1-granddaughter: Sarah Gregory and 1-sister: Marjorie.

Cremation has been entrusted to the care of King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. A visitation will be held from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, October 25, 2023 at Union Presbyterian Church in Fort Madison. A memorial service will immediately follow at 10:30 a.m. with Rev. Rev. Dean Graber officiating. Burial will be held at Soldiers' Circle in Oakland Cemetery. A memorial has been established for Union Presbyterian Church. Online condolences to the Gregory family may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: www.kinglynk.com.



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## PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

#### **PUBLIC NOTICES**

PUBLIC NOTICE
Meeting Notice
City of Fort Madison
PLANNING & ZONING
COMMISSION
Tuesday,
October 24, 2023
6:00pm
Council Chambers
City Hall, 811 Avenue E,
Fort Madison, IA 52627

- Roll Call
   Approval of Minutes
   June 27, 2023 Meeting
   Zoning Code Updates:
- Definition List Update: Staff recommends CHAP-TER 165 ZONING REGU-LATIONS (amlegal.com) as a starting point. Modify as needed (removing Dutch and Architectural requirements).
- Downtown District Code and Size Changes:
- "Central" vs "Downtown" Business District
- 1. Uses allowed within said District.
- 2. Perimeter of said District.
- Create Downtown Zoning District separate from District surrounding Downtown.
- 4. With adoption of Property Maintenance Code, remove fence requirement around pools from Zoning Code.
  - 5. Adjournment

#### PUBLIC NOTICE PROCEEDINGS FORT MADISON CITY COUNCIL 10/17/2023

At 5:30 P.M., Council met in adjourned session on Tuesday, October 17, 2023. Mayor Mohrfeld presided with Council Members Gray, Yager, Amandus, Roller, Rink, Andrews and Bowker present.

On motion, Council approved the Consent Agenda: Minutes of 10/3/2023; Liquor License Renewal: Quicker Liquor Store, 1414 – 48th Street; Resolution No. 2023-69, approving the Fiscal Year Ending 2023 Annual Urban Renewal Report; Claims dated 10/12/2023, September Financial Report & Payroll of 10/6/2023.

On motion, Council approved the first reading of an ordinance replacing Title 3, Chapter 7, with a new Dangerous Buildings Chapter and adding Title 3, Chapter 10, International Property Maintenance Code. On motion, Council approved the second reading of an ordinance to rezone

property north of 2205 – 48th Street from R-1, One Family Dwelling District, to I-2, General Industrial District. On motion, Council approved Ordinance D-106, enacting a Code of Ordinances and compiling certain existing general ordinances of the City of Fort Madison dealing with subjects embraced in such Code of Ordinances.

On motion, Council adopted Resolution No. 2023-70, approving the Mayor's signature on Change Order #3 for PIP 2020-07, Hwy. 61 Reconstruction – 10th-18th Street. On motion, Council adopted Resolution No. 2023-71, approving the Mayor's signature on an amended Procurement Policy for Federal

EXPENDITURES	
General	\$28,412.77
Special Rev.	19,133.86
Road Use	13,571.60
Capital	685,559.37
Water	35,705.76
Sewer	32,248.24
Sld Waste, IWC	27,447.35
SW Utility	177.88
	\$842,256.83
REVENUES	

REVENUES	
General	\$941,057.19
Special Rev.	591,929.38
Road Use	296.63
Debt	458,818.72
Capital	481,503.01
Water	284,910.57
Sewer	226,218.65
Sld Wst & IWC	79,500.37
Sewer	15,738.63
	\$3,079,973.15

Program Funding. On motion, Council adopted Resolution No. 2023-72, setting public hearing for 11/6/2023 at 5:30 P.M. on the sale of 1730 Avenue H. On motion, Council adopted Resolution No. 2023-73, accepting the revision of the 2017 STBG Application changing the scope of the surfacing and committing the additional funds for completion of the project.

On motion, Council approved the hiring of Justina Cullen as the Transitional Assistant to the City Clerk.

The meeting adjourned at 6:23 P.M.

/s/ Matt J. Mohrfeld, Mayor

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

<b>PAYROLL</b>	10/6/2023
General	\$ 205,524.46
Old Fort	985.83
Emp Benefits	501.43
Road Use	23,326.37
Water	33,484.49
Sewer	32,133.78
Solid Waste	16,707.83
Airport	486.54
Storm Water	3,066.74
	\$316,217.47

#### CLAIMS - 10/17/2023

ABC FIRE EXTINGUISH- ER, ANNUAL FIRE EXT. INSPECT198.85
ALL AMERICAN SANITA-
TION, PORTA-POTTIE
RENTAL680.00 ARAMARK UNIFORM
SERVICES, UNIFORM
1,363.76
ARNOLD REFRIGER-
ATION, INC., POWER
OUTAGE REPAIR
5,188.00 AT&T MOBILITY,
PHONE/HOT SPOTS
1,786.25
AUTOZONE, WASHER
FLUID 12.98 BEN CORY BROWN,
CLOTHING ALLOW
160.48
BOUND TREE MEDICAL
LLC, SENT SEALS
BUILDING MATERIALS
INC, KNIVES/TAPE
71.28
CESSFORD CON-
STRUCTION CO., WASHED CHIPS 718.98
COMPANY NURSE LLC,
ON-JOB INJURY 86.00
CONVERGINT TECH-
NOLOGIES, SECURITY
SOFTWARE 741.00 CORE & MAIN LP, HY-
DRANT SUPPLIES

..... 2,312.77

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SERVICE, AIR FILTER ......1,923.63 DAILY DEMOCRAT, PUB-LICATIONS...... 503.58 **DETROIT INDUSTRI-**AL TOOL, DIAMOND BLADES ..... 830.31 **DODD PRINTING &** STATIONERY, OFFICE SUPPLIES ..... 507.18 **DUNKIN GARAGE &** TOWING, VEHICLE FULL SERVICE...... 690.26 **ELECTRONIC ENGI-**NEERING, REPLACED CONTROLLER ..... 407.50 EMD MILLIPORE CORP, **TESTING SUPPLIES** ......1,056.93 **EUROFINS ENVIRON-**MENT TESTING, LAND-FILL SAMPLES .... 559.00 FARM & HOME SUPPLY, FUEL ..... 632.87 FRENCH-RENEKER-AS-SOC., PROF FEE .....10,231.11 FULLSOURCE, UNI-FORM......5,314.88 GALL'S, AN ARAMARK COMPANY, UNIFORM ..... 83.99 GRAINGER TESTING, SUPPLIES ...... 1,444.90 **GREAT RIVER REGION-**AL WASTE, LANDFILL FEES ...... 30,669.58 **GULLETT FENCE CO,** KEYPAD ..... 299.50 HACH COMPANY, TEST-ING SUPPLIES..... 813.03

INC, TREE REMOVAL HOTOP FABRICATION, REPLACE GEARBOX/ SEALS...... 5,949.70 **HUFFMAN WELDING &** MACHINE, BOLTS **HUMBURD AUTO SER-**VICE, TIRE REPAIR ..... 57.50 HYDROTEX, LUBE .....230.15 ICONNECTYOU, INTER-NET FOR FINGERPRINT MACH...... 5.00 IDEAL READY MIX COM-PANY, CONCRETE @ 6TH & F ...... 1,714.25 IOWA DEPT OF NAT-**URAL RES., YEARLY** PERMIT (POLLUTANT DISCH ..... 85.00 IOWA LEAGUE OF CIT-IES, TRAINING...... 75.00 IOWA MUNICIPAL WORKERS, WORK-MAN'S COMP #4 ..... 9,232.00 IOWA ONE CALL, LO-CATES...... 121.70 IOWA PRISON INDUS-TRIES, SIGNS..... 531.19 JETCO, VDC INPUT ..... 579.00 JL TIME & ATTENDANCE CO, MONTHLY FEE ......180.95 JONES CONTRACTING CORP, PAY EST #14 ..... 37,086.56 KEMPKERS TRUE VALUE, PARTS/RENTAL/ POSTAGE ...... 1,697.09 KEN'S HEATING, COOL-ING & PLUMBING, HIGH C SEWER PROJECT ..... 1,633.63 KIESLER'S POLICE SUPPLY, AMMO

HOENIG TREE SERVICE

TERS/CONNECTOR

MCFARLAND, TOWELS

MUNICIPAL EMERGEN-CY SERVICE, 13MM CLUTCHES ...... 5,259.76 MICROBAC LABORA-TORIES LLC, SLUDGE SAMPLING ........ 439.50 MID-AMERICAN RE- SEARCH, TAR REMOV-ER......514.04 MID-IOWA SOLID WASTE EQUIP, MAINT. TOOLS ......110.65 MISSISSIPPI VALLEY EMB, UNIFORM ... 673.00 MOHRFELD ELECTRIC, REPLACE CORD

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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 Clendineng at (319) 372-5721 if you have any questions.



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LEE COUNTY SECONDARY ROADS HELP WANTED

#### ENGINEERING RECORDS MANAGER

Lee County is taking applications for an Engineering Records Manager, to work at the Lee County Engineer's Office in Fort Madison. Duties will include secretarial tasks and general office support skills, including computer database, record keeping, and software skills. The position requires attention to payroll, benefits, and personnel matters. Requires a High School graduate or G.E.D. equivalent and an Associate of Arts Degree, preferably in Business and/or High School diploma (GED) with 5 years of experience in accounting/ general clerical and personal computer knowledge of Microsoft Office, Word, Excel, and accounting software. The wage range is \$21.74 to \$24.60.

Lee County provides equal opportunity in employment to all persons regardless of age, race, creed, color, sex, national origin, religion, or disability.

For job descriptions and to apply, download an application from our county website, www.leecounty.org/employment.aspx, or you can pick an application up at the Engineer's office and return your completed application along with a resume to Lee County Engineer, P.O. Box 158, Fort Madison, lowa 52627, or email it to engineer@leecounty.org Applications will be accepted until 4 p.m. on Thursday, November 2, 2023.

If you have any questions, please contact Lee County Engineer Office at (319) 372-2541 or email them at <a href="mailto:engineer@leecounty.org">engineer@leecounty.org</a>.



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#### From the Front

## Community rallies to get family home ready

**FAMILY** - Continued from Page 1

country. Nastasiia, age 29 and now seven months pregnant with their third child, doesn't remember the sound of bombs so much as she does the sight and smell of smoke from explosions.

They went to the Czech Republic where they spent a year. Nastasiia and her husband Ivan, also 29, helped to found an Assembly of God Church for Ukrainians. They both taught in the church and Nastasiia played the piano. They would like to do that again for Ukrainians here in the United States, as Nastasiia's missionary grandparents did in Russia 10 years ago. Kalanchak is about the size of Mt. Pleasant, that has 15 churches. Kalanchak had five.

They made their way to Canada where they intended to make their home. They were there for six months and were planning a trip to Norway to see Nastasiia's mother and brother (where they had fled), and had the tickets bought. However, they found out they had received a sponsor in Mt. Pleasant, Lea Bradley. The Bayevs canceled their tickets and headed for the US of A!

There was a major problem at the border with passports and documents. Pastor Trey Hegar of the First Presbyterian Church in Mt. Pleasant, Tammy Shull of the Iowa WINS program, and Lea Bradley worked furiously with government officials to get the problem resolved. After two weeks of waiting at the border, Nastasiia and Ivan Bayev and their two boys, Natan and Tikhon, ages two and four, were allowed to enter the country. There was car trouble. Tammy Shull and Lea Bradley met the Bayevs in Cedar Rapids and brought them to the home Lea Bradley had arranged for them in Mt. Pleasant. Many people from the Presbyterian Church and community donated furniture and dishes, and labor to prepare the house, for which the Bayevs are thankful.

In Ukraine, Ivan farmed wheat and barley with his father-in-law. Ivan tells of Russians living in his house and sleeping in his bed. Every month, Russians went into his father-in-law's house and tried to change his thinking about territorial occupation.

Nastasiia is very creative. She has a degree in agronomy and was a baker in Ukraine. She is from a large family of three sisters and three brothers, with loving parents, and hopes that Ivan and she can have four boys, because there is so much love in a large family. Because of the war, her mother and father are separated, with her mother and youngest brother living in one room in Norway, and her father trying to save their home in Ukraine from the Russians. Nastasiia hopes she can bring her mother to live with them, but she needs a sponsor. Anyone interested in being a sponsor go to <a href="https://welcomeus.ser-vice-now.com">https://welcomeus.ser-vice-now.com</a> > ukraine.

Ivan is in the process of obtaining a Social Security number and work permit. They try not to hope. They had hope in Ukraine and it was dashed. They just want to have a normal life, with a job, raise their family in a good Christian home, and pray that someday the world will be at peace.

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## Denning shines in 4th set for HTC

FINALS - Continued from Page 1

if we played the way we did in the second set, they were going to take it from us. When we came back, it really showed us a lot."

The Crusaders got contributions from all seven players who played, but no shot was as big as the one from Denning late in the fourth set.

Holy Trinity had an 18-15 lead when, after a long rally, an errant hit by the Crusaders sent the ball to the left side of the net, near the sideline. Denning raced to get into position, but with her angle, it didn't look like she would have a good shot.

But Denning fit the ball into a gap that was as wide as the volleyball. An inch to the left, and it would have clipped the antenna. An inch to the right, and it doesn't get over the net.

Instead, it fell to the court just out of reach of the Notre Dame defense.

"I knew that no one was across, and I could get the shot there," Denning said. "I just placed it where it needed to go."

"It was awesome," Holy Trinity coach Melissa Freesmeier said. "She just stayed with it. She's a kid who doesn't get recognition because she's a silent player. But we know she can do some big things. That was amazing. She kept the ball in play, and I think that stunned them.

"A lot of people give up on that ball, and she did

It touched off a wild celebration among the Crusaders.

"I thought, literally, 'Oh, my God," I don't know how she managed to do that," Bendlage said. "She made it look picture perfect. It was like ... oh, my God, it was so good."

"That was definitely big," senior Natalie Randolph said. "Everybody got so hyped."

It even impressed the one who hit it.

"I was like, 'Whoa, that was good," Denning said, laughing. "But I knew we still had to keep going."

She was right.

Holy Trinity led 22-16 and seemed in control, before the Nikes would score the next six points. But the Crusaders would get the ball back on a hitting error, and then scored the final two points on back-to-back kills by Presley Myers.

Holy Trinity opened with a strong first set. Myers got the first two points off a kill and a block, and a five-point run by the Crusaders left the Nikes chasing points the rest of the set.

But whatever momentum Holy Trinity had disappeared in the second set. Notre Dame scored the first four points, and a six-point run that had Freesmeier calling two timeouts shook the Crusaders.

"We quit being aggressive," Freesmeier said.
"We were just playing defense, we weren't putting the ball over the net. And that's not our style. We've got to stay on the offense."

"In the locker room, we said, 'Hey, that's not us. We made way too many errors," Bendlage said. "We couldn't get any flow in the second set."

"You've got to stay up," libero Teagan Snaadt said. "Losing a set doesn't mean you've lost the whole game. We just had to come out with the same energy that we had in the first set."

And so the Crusaders did behind the defense



Photos by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Holy Trinity Catholic senior Natalie Randolph works a set in front of the Nikes' defense in the third set of the Crusaders' 3-1 win over Notre Dame Tuesday night.

of Snaadt and the rest of the Crusaders. Snaadt had 24 digs, Bendlage had 23, Randolph had 18 and Denning had 15. Myers added six digs and five blocks.

"We have so many players who are so athletic, so quick, that when we're not in the right spot at the moment, we can read hitters and get to the ball," Bendlage said.

"We had to just be fundamental, do the little things that we needed," Randolph said.

"The coaches tell us there is no better-trained team than us," Denning said. "And I think we just embrace that."

Snaadt, who was also 12-of-12 serving with an ace, has been especially impressive on defense during the season and into the postseason.

"I think it's just reading the ball, just knowing that I can get to any ball I set my mind to," she said. "Just staying in my position, and knowing wherever it's hit on the floor I can get it."

"I'm proud of how far she's come from last year to this year," Freesmeier said. "She proved it tonight. As the games get bigger, she gets better."

Bendlage led the Crusaders with 15 kills. Myers had 10, Randolph had nine, and Denning and Adalyn Kruse had seven. Anna Bendlage had three kills, all at crucial times.

Randolph had 20 assists, while Anna Bendlage had 17 to go with her eight digs and two blocks. Denning was 17-of-18 serving with two aces. Myers was 14-of-15 serving with an ace. Randolph was 13-of-13 serving with an ace. Mary Kate Bendlage was 12-of-12 serving with an ace.

The Crusaders are now a step away from the state tournament with a postseason run in which they have dropped just one set.

"We've just been playing the way we're capable of playing," Denning said. "And we want to keep that going."s







# SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28 HTC HIGH SCHOOL 2600 AVE A FORT MADISON, IOWA

#### An Evening of Fellowship and Fundraising

4:00 p.m.

Happy Hour (Sponsored by Josh Denning & Associates) Live Auction beginning with Grow-An-Acre grain sale Dinner by Sonny's On The Sidewalk (4-7)

<u>6:00 p.m.</u>

Student class projects sold throughout the auction

<u>7:00 p.m.</u>

FFA serving walking tacos (7-9)

9:00 p.m.

\$10,000 Cash Raffle drawing (Sponsored by TJ Excavating, Keokuk Family Dentistry, Edward Jones - Corey Kelch, and Randolph Dental)

10:00 p.m.

Pizza Oven Raffle drawing (Sponsored by Keokuk Family Dentistry)

LIVE AUCTION ITEMS INCLUDING TOOLS, HOME DECOR, TOYS, GIFT CERTIFICATES AND PARTIES! ALSO, TASTY DRINKS AND APPETIZERS COMING OUT OF OUR HORS D'OEUVRE ROOM (SPONSORED BY CONNECTION BANK) ALL EVENING!

Throughout the evening will be the opportunity to Fund A Need! This year's goal: \$17,000 to carpet four high school classrooms. (Labor donated by Holtkamp's Floors, Decor & Furniture)