

INSIDE: Change order could save city \$500K on latest Hwy. 61 work • See page 7

PEN CITY CURRENT

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

Monday, November 6, 2023 | 7 pages | Volume 7 • Issue 186



www.pencitycurrent.com

Nothing left behind

EDITORIAL



Becker the champion in a runner-up season

I like to surround myself with positive people.

Following our local sports lends itself to few and far between championships, so you know we have to be getting thick-skinned about losing along the way. Don't get me going on the economic impact of high school football in Iowa.

Photographing Holy Trinity's run through another state volleyball tournament opened my eyes to many things this year. Yeah, we've all been there and done that, but these people in cobalt blue t-shirts are some of the most positive people I've met.

I hung around with many of them prior to Tuesday's, Wednesday's, and Thursday's matches and the mood was always one of excitement. They've been here before and done that, too. But the pitch of energy is high every night.

Despite getting swept in the finals by Ankeny Christian and the tears that come with it, there was a very positive message – from a lady who's almost camouflaged on the sideline.

Karen Becker has been on the sidelines for HTC volleyball for more than two decades, and her husband Darrell was always tucked away about four rows up in the home stands.

Darrell died unexpectedly on Sept. 13 from a massive heart attack. Karen was returning from work and found him on the floor unresponsive.

One might think the last place in the world she would want to be is in the one

Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC



Mary Kate Bendlage goes for a kill against the Eagles' front line defense in the third set Thursday night at Xtream Arena in Coralville. See page 8 for more action photos from the Holy Trinity Crusaders' run at the state tournament last week.

The tears and hugs were for the cruelty of the finality. Holy Trinity's three-set loss to Ankeny Christian in Thursday's Class 1A state volleyball championship match set off sadness for the Crusaders.

Not because of a lack of effort or a failure of execution, but more from the reality of the postseason.

Forty teams in five classes showed up at Xtream Arena for the state tournament. Thirty-five of them left with a loss.

Those are never good odds in the crucible of the post-season, but hopes grow with each step, and the Crusaders took every step but the last one.

That, junior libero Teagan Snaadt said, was something to appreciate.

"It hurts," Snaadt said. "But we worked hard all year, and we can't dwell on what we didn't do great today, but what we did (all season)."

The Crusaders won 33 matches overall. They did not lose a match in the SEI Superconference South Division, an impressive zero in a division loaded with talent.

Their postseason run was almost perfect until the



championship match — only one set lost in the four regional matchups and in the first two rounds at the state tournament.

It was an efficient, surgical stretch — some of the wins were dominant, others were by a strategy of steadiness, keeping pace with an opponent until a weakness could be found to exploit.

And then the final round came against an opponent that had lost only three times this season and was looking to repeat as champion.

Ankeny Christian's defense was a blanket that seemed to get to every Crusader shot. Holy Trinity had just 29 kills in the three sets, unable to cut the lines of power to the Eagles' hitters, who produced 45 kills.

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See BECKER, page 4

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WEATHER

MON 06 Nov.....Partly sunny and cool, 69° F/ 44° F ☁
TUE 07 Nov.....Mostly sunny and cool, 65° F/ 52° F ☁
WED 08 Nov.....Partly sunny and cool, 66° F/ 43° F ☁

IOWA LOTTERY

LOTTO AMERICA 11/04.....81123 47 48, Star Ball: 4 All Star Bonus: 2
LUCKY FOR LIFE 11/04.....10 12 20 28 48, Lucky Ball: 11
MEGA MILLIONS 11/03.....15 32 38 47 65, Mega Ball: 12 Megaplier: 4
PICK 3 MIDDAY 11/02, 11/03, 11/04.....5 8 0, 18 0, 112
PICK 3 EVENING 11/02, 11/03, 11/04.....2 2 5, 7 1 0, 3 3 5
PICK 4 MIDDAY 11/02, 11/03, 11/04.....6 4 6 6, 9 4 8 4, 7 3 6 1
PICK 4 EVENING 11/02, 11/03, 11/04.....7 7 9 7, 9 4 4 7, 1 9 2 5
POWERBALL 11/04.....1 28 30 34 52, Powerball: 6 Power Play: 2

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Obituaries

OBITUARIES

JOSEPH B. STUKERJURGEN

Joseph Bernard Stukerjurgan, 68, of Salem, Iowa, passed away at 1:19 p.m. Thursday, November 2, 2023 at his home.

He was born on April 27, 1955, the son of Omer M. and Agnes Catherine (Kruse) Stukerjurgan.



STUKERJURGEN

Survivors include his mother Agnes; six sisters: Jane Nelson of Salem, Rita Pollmeier of Mount Pleasant, Rose Reitz of Wayland, Teresa Hymes of Salem, Mary Schnicker of Wayland, and Monica Szalma of Salem; three brothers: Jim Stukerjurgan of New London, Ben Stukerjurgan of St. Paul, and John Stukerjurgan of Salem. Also surviving are several nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his father, brother-in-law Jeff Szalma, nephew Louis Pollmeier, and great nephew Jacob Pollmeier.

Joe was a member of St. James the Less Catholic Church. He enjoyed bailing hay and collecting old machinery.

A visitation will be held from 12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m. Sunday, November 5, 2023 at St. James Catholic Church in St. Paul, where the family will receive friends from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

A Parish Rosary will be recited at 1:30 p.m. Sunday, November 5, 2023 at the church.

A Mass of Christian burial will be held at 10:00 a.m. Monday, November 6, 2023 at St. James Catholic Church in St. Paul with Father Dan Dorau as celebrant.

Burial will be at St. James Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorials have been established in his memory to Houghton Fire & Rescue.

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

OBITUARIES

PATRICE JORDAN

Patrice Jordan, 70, of Ft. Madison, IA, passed away on Thursday, November 2, 2023 at 7:46 AM at River Valley Place in Ft. Madison.

She was born on December 12, 1952 in Ft. Madison to James and Ruth Nelson Jordan. Patrice was a graduate of Aquinas High School, received a bachelor's degree in speech and arts from the University of Iowa and her master's from Iowa State University in Broadcast Management. She was a producer, writer and newscaster for several television networks throughout the United States. In 1999 she was awarded a Los Angeles Area Emmy by The Academy of Arts and Sciences when she was working at KCAL News. She married Gary Holte and he preceded her in death. Patrice was a gourmet cook and loved to travel throughout the world. She especially enjoyed visiting Ireland several times. After her retirement she studied Culinary Arts at John Wood Community College. When Patrice moved back to her hometown, she enjoyed attending Cook the Book meetings at the Fort Madison Public Library. She had a lifelong love of animals and was very instrumental in bringing the Canine Corral dog park to Ft. Madison.



JORDAN

Survivors include her daughter, Jessica Holte of Lexington, KY; one sister, Shelly (Lon) Spurgin of Ft. Madison; one brother, Jerry (Anne) Jordan of Hudson, FL; nieces and nephews, Matt (Stacy) Spurgin, Megan (Darin) Andresen, Michael (Maggie) Spurgin, Karie (Greg) Arand and Kelly (David) Deiler. She was preceded in death by her parents and husband.

The memorial mass will be held on Friday, November 10, 2023 at 11 AM at St. Mary and Joseph's church with Rev. Gary Beckman officiating. The family will meet with friends from 10 AM until the time of the service at the church. Burial will be in Sacred Heart Cemetery.

A memorial has been established for PAW Animal Shelter or River Valley Place Activity fund and online condolences may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: www.kinglynk.com.

JEB T. PARRISH

Jeb Thomas Parrish, 59 years, of Fort Madison, Iowa died Wednesday, November 1, 2023 at his sister's home near Fort Madison, Iowa. He was born May 13, 1964, a son of Archie and Louise (Kelley) Parrish. He grew up in the Nauvoo, Illinois area and later moved to Fort Madison. He worked construction. He also worked at Scotts and later at Silgan Container, where he drove a fork truck until his health changed.



PARRISH

He is survived by his daughter, Kayla Parrish of Dubuque, Iowa; six sisters: Mary Ellen Malone of New London, Iowa; Jane (Robin) Cantrell of Longmont, Colorado; Kitty (Henry) Polhans of Las Vegas, Nevada; Kim (Mark) Vice of Fort Madison; Valorie (Tim) Reed of Waverly, Iowa; and Judy Parrish of Loveland, Colorado; numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins. He was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers, Randy and Greg.

Per his wishes, no formal services are planned. His family will have a private celebration of his life at a later date. Barr Memorial Chapel is honored to serve the Parrish family and an online guest book may be found at www.barrmemorialchapel.com.



Lunch Specials
Nov 6 - 10
11am - 1pm

Monday, November 6
Minit Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Beans

Tuesday, November 7
Pork Loin, Loaded Potatoes, Corn

Wednesday, November 8
Beef Enchiladas, Spanish Rice

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Founded in 2016
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Obituaries/Local News

OBITUARIES

MARGARET Y. LEFFLER

Margaret Yvonne Leffler, 73, of Keokuk, passed away on Thursday, November 2, 2023, at Blessing Hospital in Quincy, Illinois.

Margaret was born on January 15, 1950, in Keokuk, Iowa, the daughter of Charles and Sarah (Gittings) Stevens. She graduated from Clark County High School in 1968 and went on to receive her Associates in Accounting from Carl Sandburg College. On August 3, 1971, Margaret was united in marriage to Ronald "Ron" Leffler in Sutter, Illinois. He survives.



LEFFLER

Margaret was a homemaker while her children were growing. She then worked in the Accounting Department at Steel Castings in Keokuk and ended her working career at First State Bank in Hamilton, Illinois.

Margaret thoroughly enjoyed painting ceramics and canvas. She also enjoyed crafting and was an excellent cook. Margaret loved to garden, tend to her flowers and feed and watch the hummingbirds. Most important to her was her family – especially the grandkids. Margaret was extremely tough, tenacious, strong and determined, battling illness for 15 years. She was a member of the Church of New Beginnings in Keokuk.

Margaret is survived by her husband Ron; three daughters: Chris (Andrew) Leffler, Jennifer (Michael) Bell and Lucy (David Bell) Leffler all of Keokuk; grandchildren: Michael Davis, Dalton Bell, Allison Bell, Alexis Bell, Felicity Bell, Chloe Bell and Brianna Bell, all of Keokuk; two brothers: Charlie Stevens of Cummings, Georgia and Mark (Linda) Stevens of St. Patrick, Missouri; and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Margaret is preceded in death by her parents.

Funeral services will be held at 11 am on Wednesday, November 8, 2023, at the Church of New Beginnings, 2244 McKinley Avenue, Keokuk, Iowa, with Pastor Donnie Skinner officiating. A private family burial will be held at Oakland Cemetery in Warsaw, Illinois at a later date.

Memorials may be directed to the family.

Tributes and condolences may be left at www.dejongsfuneralhome.com.

DeJong-Greaves-Printy Funeral Home of Keokuk is in-charge of arrangements.

Pen City Current obituary policy

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

OBITUARIES

LEONA A. WEBER

Leona A. Weber, 99, of Ft. Madison, passed away on Friday, October 27, 2023 at 11:50 PM at Birkwood Village in Ft. Madison.

She was born on May 26, 1924 in Charleston, IA to Henry and Virgie Derr Kirchner. On April 18, 1941 she married Walter "Bud" Weber in New London, MO. They were married sixty two years until Bud's death on May 20, 2003. Leona worked at Sheaffer Pen Co for twenty two years and was a longtime member of St. John's United Church of Christ in Ft. Madison. Leona loved fishing, taking rides, was a fantastic pie baker and loved spending time with her family.



WEBER

Survivors include her daughter, Julie Cale of Burlington, IA; one granddaughter, Shelly (Jeff) Paul of Ft. Myers, FL; two great grandsons, Beau Szczerbinski who is stationed in the Army in Vilseck, Germany and Nick Szczerbinski of Saukville, WI; one sister, Vera (Robert) Baxter of Highland, IN and numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband; three brothers, Wilbert, Elmer and John Kirchner and her son in law, George Cale.

Per her wishes, cremation has been entrusted to King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. A celebration of life will be held at a later date and burial will be in Montrose Cemetery. Online condolences may be left at www.kinglynk.com.

FM sewer project in appropriation

MILLER-MEEKS: 1st-District gets three projects included in funding earmark

WASHINGTON, D.C. — U.S. Representative Mariannette Miller-Meeks (IA-01) released the following statement about the three community projects included in the Interior and Environment Appropriations Act of 2024:

"The Interior and Environment Appropriations Act of 2024 contains three community projects that greatly impact the quality of water in Iowa's First Congressional District. The proposed funding would be used to upgrade wastewater treatment facilities and

reduce contaminants. Thank you to the countless local leaders for advocating for improvements to water conditions and compliance."



MILLER-MEEKS

The Interior and Environment Appropriations Act of 2024 includes the following three community projects submitted by Rep. Miller-Meeks:

- \$1.75 million for Fort Madison, IA, for the Combined Sewer Separation Project.
- \$1 million for Winfield, IA, for the Wastewater Treatment Plant project.
- \$1 million for Morning Sun, IA, for the Wastewater Treatment Project.

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- Stuffed Pepper Dinner
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- Liver & Onions Dinner
- Tenderloin Dinner or Sandwich
- Chicken Fried Steak

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From the Front

Becker a star as her husband looks down from above

BECKER - Continued from Page 1

place that reminds her so much of her husband.

But she wouldn't be anywhere else. "He loved these girls and he loved



BECKER

ultimate fan as far as any team here. If a team was having a rough season, he was there to cheer them up. He would say 'I don't have any kids involved,

this program," Becker said of her husband.

"My husband was the

but I'm at these games for the kids whose parents couldn't make it. If parents had to work late or were called away, he made it a point to talk to those kids."

That sentiment wasn't lost on the Crusaders, especially the seniors, who throughout the playoffs, huddled with Karen Becker on the sidelines following each win. It was an opportunity to honor her husband's memory, one that was most likely shared in the moments following the win.

After Thursday's loss, it was no different. A group huddle and blessing for things to come.

Becker helps track stats and scoring at all the HTC volleyball games. She's also a teacher's associate in the school's system. This is a senior class she's known since they were in kindergarten.

Throughout the IG-HSAU tournament this year, Karen sat on the sidelines with a smile on her face. Celebrating the wins... and then framing the loss to the Eagles with a look to the future.

"These kids have their

whole lives in front of them. This loss is a lesson for sure but it's part of life's journey for all of them. I wanted them to know that. Darrell would want them to know that. They are all wonderful girls and students and now they need to look ahead," she said.

Becker walked through the girls with smiles and hugs following the loss in the IGHSAU Class 1A championship. If tears came from Becker, they were hidden well behind the distinctive white hair that surrounds her face.

Becker said after the



Crusaders' loss Thursday that this year has been as tough a year as one would imagine after losing a

husband. They had plans after the volleyball season.

"We've been planning on me retiring in May and then traveling together. He loved to travel. Then that day I just came home and he was gone. Nothing anybody could do or could have done," she said.

After a very long season and her tragedy, this woman still hollers encouragement to her Crusaders - a sentiment not lost on head coach Melissa Freesmeier.

"She's our star, our superstar," Freesmeier said wiping tears from her cheeks. "She knows these girls better than anyone and has been there for them for a long time. It's been a very hard year for her and a difficult year for the girls. But she's a star. And we're not who we are without her."

Sitting with Becker following Thursday's loss. She carried the same sweet smile and a twinkle in her eye that clearly was where she carried Darrell.

"There were 122 teams in the state that started this at regionals. That's about 1,850 girls. To end up being in the final 30 girls. That's a huge accomplishment and they need to know that," Becker said.

Next year Becker will be back sitting at the scorer's table or on the bench again recording every assist, or dig, or kill, or attack. But that's her job, not her passion. Her passion always comes at the end of the match.

The Crusaders may not have come back as champions, but they certainly brought back a champion, 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.

DIAGNOSED WITH NEUROPATHY?

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- NUMBNESS & TINGLING
- COLD OR BURNING FEET?
- LOSS OF SENSATION?
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From the Front

Richter honored before championship match

XTREAM - Continued from Page 1

“At the end of the day,” Holy Trinity coach Melissa Freesmeier said, “they were just better than us tonight.”

The finish did not diminish what Holy Trinity accomplished, and the week was a celebration of that and the history of the program. Assistant coach Mikaela (Foecke) Richter went into the IGHSAU’s Hall of Fame before the championship match, and the Crusaders stayed behind after pre-game warmups to watch the ceremony.

“It was well-deserved,” Freesmeier said. “She’s a great person, she was a great player, it’s great to have her with us as she teaches younger kids how to be present in a game.”

“She’s one of a kind.”

One of more poignant post-game moments came when senior hitter Mary Kate Bendlage hugged her sister, Anna, a junior starter who will be a key part of next year’s run. The two cried as they embraced, and then a few minutes later they hugged again.

“After the game, we just kind of had a little chat of like, hey, it won’t be the same next year, but you’re going to do great at what you’re doing and I’m going to be doing great at what I’m doing,” said Mary Kate, who will play volleyball at Mount Mercy University next season. “We’ll still be there to support each other.”

“Anna and I are really, really close. We don’t argue much, we get along super well on the court and we lean on each other a lot after one of us makes a mistake. There’s a lot of chit-chat that goes on between us that I don’t think people realize that bond that no one else has on the team because they don’t have siblings who are out there on the floor. So that’s something special.”

The Crusaders waited to receive their state runner-up trophy, holding it up high because they knew what it meant. Second isn’t first, but it’s still a heck of a run.

And then they walked off the court, leaving the Eagles to their celebration.

No one, it seemed, looked back, because they didn’t leave anything behind.

John Bohnenkamp is an award-winning reporter and editor and regular contributor to Pen City Current.

Holy Trinity Alum Mikaela (Foecke) Richter gets the IGHSAU Volleyball Hall of Fame plaque from Director Jean Berger Thursday night at the Xtream Arena prior to the Crusaders’ championship match. Richter was a member of the HTC 2014 State Championship team.



Photos by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Above, Holy Trinity’s Anna Bendlage tries to get her hands on an Ankeny Christian kill Thursday night during the Crusaders’ championship match Thursday at Xtream Arena in Coralville. Below HTC’s Teagan Snaadt receives her medal as a member of the Class 1A All-Tournament team.



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Classifieds/Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE
Lee County, Iowa
Board of Supervisors
Agenda

DATE: Monday,
November 6, 2023
MEETING
CONVENING TIME:
10:00 A.M. (CDT)
LOCATION:
933 Avenue H
Fort Madison, IA

---AGENDA---

Lee County Board of Supervisors
 Nov 6, 2023, 10:00 -11:30 AM (America/Chicago)
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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 Notice to Bidders and Final Plans for Project No. L-04-L-6-73-56 on 160th Ave

Consider Approval of Updated Contracts for New Ambulances with

North Central Emergency Vehicles For 2024 and 2025

Consider Approval of MEI Liaison Contracts with Brad Roberts and Mike Hellige

Consider Approval of Contract with Sidwell Mapping Company for Training Services, Soils Layer Development and GIS Support

Consider Approval of Updated Personnel Policy Consent Agenda

• Monday, October 30, 2023 Board Minutes

• Claims for Payment Personnel Actions:
 A. Step Increases(3) -

EMS

B. Step Increase - Treasurer's Office

C. New Hire (Replacement) - JT

D. New Hire (Replacement) - Health Department

Reports:

A. Commission of Veteran Affairs Minutes of Meeting

Commission or Committee Reports

Adjourn

Possible Workshop to Follow

PUBLIC MEETING
 CITIZENS WELCOME

Vision and hearing assistance available upon request

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

Ryan Wilson, YMCA
PUBLIC HEARING:
 Concerning the Sale of 1730 Avenue H has been rescheduled for December 19, 2023

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

2. (Blank) MOVED and (blank) SECONDED to approve the second reading of an ordinance amending the City Code replacing Title 3, Chapter 7, with a new Dangerous Buildings Chapter and adding Title 3, Chapter 10, International Property Maintenance Code.

3. (Blank) MOVED and (blank) SECONDED to approve the third reading of an ordinance rezoning property north of 2205 - 48th Street (PAW Animal Shelter). From R-1, One Family Dwelling District, to I-2, General Industrial District.

4. (Blank) MOVED and (blank) SECONDED to adopt a resolution approving reasonable competitive bidding procedures for disposition of certain property located within the Business US Highway 61 Corridor Urban Renewal Area; directing publication of related notices; and declaring the intent of the City to accept the offer submitted by Kapo Realty, Ltd. In the event that no qualified competing proposals are submitted.

5. (Blank) MOVED and (blank) SECONDED to adopt a resolution approving the Mayor's signature on Change Order #4 for Public Improvement Project 2020-07, Reconstruction of Old Highway 61 - 10th to 18th Streets, decreasing the amount of the contract by \$492,721.76. (SEE COUNCIL REPORT NO. 2023-38)

6. (Blank) MOVED and (blank) SECONDED to adopt a resolution approving the Mayor's signature on an easement with Interstate Power and Light (Alliant Energy). (SEE COUNCIL REPORT NO. 2023-39)

7. (Blank) MOVED and (blank) SECONDED to adopt a resolution approving the Mayor's signature on Change Order #1 for the Marina Asphalt Project.

8. (Blank) MOVED and (blank) SECONDED to adopt a resolution accepting Public Improvement Project 2022-02, Marina Improvements - Floating Docks as complete,

9. (Blank) MOVED and (blank) SECONDED to adopt a resolution approving the following applications for a Three-Year Urban Revitalization Tax Exemption:

PUBLIC NOTICE
TENTATIVE AGENDA
FORT MADISON
CITY COUNCIL
Monday, November 6,
2023, 5:30 P.M.
City Council Chambers,
City Hall

INVOCATION
 ROLL CALL
 VISITORS AND APPEARANCE REQUESTS:

At this time persons may address Council on any matters not on the Council agenda. After identifying yourself by name and address, please briefly state your issue.

PLEASE NOTE: This is not an opportunity to discuss issues with Council or to get information. In accordance with Open Meetings law, Council may not deliberate upon, nor take action on any complaint or suggestion or respond to any allegations which are not part of the published agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA
 1. (Blank) MOVED and (blank) SECONDED to approve the consent agenda:

- Minutes of October 17, 2023;
 - Liquor License Renewal: Fort Madison Tobacco and Liquor Outlet Plus, 1735 Avenue H, effective January 1, 2024 - Class E Retail;
 - Liquor License Renewal: ALDI, Inc., 927 Avenue G, effective October 25, 2023 - Class B Retail;
 - The Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023;
 - Claims dated November 2, 2023, October Manual and Library Claims; and
 - Payroll of October 20 & November 3, 2023.
- COMMUNITY REPORTS: Pool Update -

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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Classifieds/Local News

City could save \$500K on latest portion of Hwy. 61 project

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – The Fort Madison City Council will hold its regular meeting Monday night so as not to interfere with the city’s School/City general election on Tuesday.

The Council will consider a change order to the Hwy. 61 reconstruction project from 10th to 18th Streets. But the change order will actually reduce the contract by close to half a million dollars.

Fort Madison Public Works Director Mark Boussetot teased the council two weeks ago about a change order that could reduce the overall project cost.

According to a report filed with the council on Friday, the fourth change order on the project will reduce the overall cost of the project by \$492,722, a rare occurrence in city projects over the past six years.

The original cost of the project, which was awarded to Jones Contracting of West Point, was just under \$8 million at \$7,956,777. Previous change orders bumped the contract up slightly to \$7,962,267, or about \$5,500.

The new total contract amount will be for \$7,469,545. A report from HR Green Inc., the city’s engineer on the Hwy. 61 project, a quantity reconciliation that balances the amount of quantities actually used on the project resulted in the adjustment.

The council will also be considering a change order on a separate project. The Fort Madison Marina’s asphalt paving. The council originally approved a contract in the amount of \$525,216 with Norris Asphalt Paving Co, on June 6. Due to a change in the projected square footage of asphalt to be put down, a change order in the amount of \$227,712 will be considered for approval, increasing the cost of the project to \$752,928.

The city has a 25-year lease with the non-profit Southeast Iowa Aquatic Restoration Group, Inc. As part of the lease agreement, the non-profit reimburses the city for the cost of the asphalt paving.

In other action, the council:

- will consider a second reading of an ordinance amending the city’s code with new language implementing the International Property Maintenance Code as part of a new Dangerous Buildings Chapter.

- will consider the final reading of an ordinance rezoning property north of 2205 48th Street from R-1 to I-2 General Industrial District to accommodate the new PAW Animal Shelter.

- will consider a resolution to accept a bid for city property at 1730 Avenue H, (the former Jiffy Lube) from Kapo Realty, Ltd., in the amount of \$155,000 in the event that no other acceptable bids are received. Bids should be submitted to the city by Dec. 8 at 1 p.m. Bids will be presented to the City Council on Dec. 19.

FM YMCA honored for support of employees with disabilities

FORT MADISON - The Fort Madison YMCA was recently recognized for their support of workers with disabilities.

“We, here at The Fort Madison Family YMCA, cannot be more proud of Ms. Emily and Ms. Terri, but more so, we could not be more happy to be a part of such an incredible program such as the Fort Madison High School TAP, which has allowed not only our Preschool Staff, but all of here at the YMCA to form such rewarding bonds with Miss Anna Nicol (pictured) and Miss Hope Ridgeway. Both young ladies are well on their way to becoming valuable members of the workforce and we are so very thankful they chose us to aid them on their ventures,” wrote YMCA marketing Director Shawna Ross.

The Fort Madison

Family YMCA Preschool received the 2023 National Disability Employment Awareness Month Certificate of Recognition by the Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services and IowaWorks of Mississippi Valley for exemplary services promoting inclusive practices which support individuals with disabilities in employment.

The Fort Madison Family YMCA Preschool has been an amazing partnership with the Fort Madison High School TAP. Last year when the FMHS TAP Coordinator Heather Harter reached out to them about having a student come and do a work experience with them for a trimester they were excited about it. They not only graciously opened their doors for that student, but accepted another student the following trimester.

Each Trimester the student had a job coach or Heather Supporting them for the first week and then the preschool staff took over to be those natural supports at the job. At the end of the school year one of the students filled out an application to work for them during the summer camp program. When the application was handed in Ms. Hymes made the comment that she had the perfect spot for her to work this summer. The student did her interview and was hired. Moving into this school year the YMCA asked to have students once again come to do some work experience with them. The Fort Madison Family YMCA Preschool offers wonderful work experiences for our students and provides patient mentorship.

PUBLIC NOTICES

A. Justin C Munford, 3726 Avenue L (new garage and home remodel)
B. Alfonso Arevalo, 1323 Avenue G (remodel)
OTHER
10. (Blank) MOVED and (blank) SECONDED to accept the Civil Service Commission’s Sergeant Promotional list.
UPDATES: City Manag-

er Search Process
DEPARTMENT REPORTS
COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS/MAYOR ANNOUNCEMENTS
ADJOURNMENT - The next City Council meeting will be at 5:30 P.M. on Tuesday, November 21, 2023.

PUBLIC NOTICE FORT MADISON AIRPORT COMMISSION

MONDAY, November 6, 2023
6:00 P.M.
Municipal Airport
50 Airport Road, Fort Madison, IA 52627

AGENDA

ROLL CALL
APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING
BUSINESS:
1. Runway Rehab Grant
2. AWOS Replacement Time Table
3. FY2024-25 Budget
AIRPORT MANAGER REPORT
ADJOURNMENT

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