

PEN CITY CURRENT

It's Black & White and Read all over

Thursday, November 9, 2023 | 6 pages | Volume 7 • Issue 189



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PD looking for suspect

ROBBERY: Hardees robbery suspect may be same man as Dollar General culprit

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

On Tuesday evening, November 7th, 2023, at approximately 7:45 PM, Fort Madison Officers were summoned to Hardee's at 1431 Avenue H for an armed robbery. The subject was last seen fleeing west out of the building.

It was learned a lone male subject entered the premises displaying a large knife demanding money. His features were disguised by a hooded sweatshirt and face mask. When refused, he punched the manager in the

face, cutting the back of his left hand, and fled when a patron stepped in to confront him.

Fort Madison Fire & Rescue provided first aid to the store manager. She was subsequently transported to the hospital by Lee County EMS. Detectives conducted interviews and collected evidence while officers and a K-9 team searched the area.

It was noted that there existed distinct similarities to

See **ROBBERY**, page 2



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Fort Madison Police and Lee County EMS responded to a robbery at Hardee's in Fort Madison Tuesday night. Police are searching for the suspect and believe he may be the same person that robbed the Dollar General several weeks ago.

UTILITY BILL

Alliant files for customer rate bump

DES MOINES – The Iowa Utilities Board (IUB) issued an order today that sets a scheduling conference to discuss a proposed procedural schedule and public hearing date for Alliant Energy-Interstate Power and Light Company's (Alliant-IPL) proposed application for a revision in customers' electric and natural gas customer rates.

The scheduling conference will be held at 9 a.m. Tuesday, November 21, 2023, in the IUB's Hearing Room at 1375 E. Court Ave., Des Moines.

The scheduling conference will be livestreamed and available via webinar for remote participation. Instructions for viewing will be available on the

See **RATES**, page 3

ILLINOIS NEWS

Nauvoo Wellness Loop this weekend

NAUVOO - The Nauvoo Betterment Association (NBA) is kicking off their health and wellness recreation loop on the first weekend of November.

This is a self-guided attraction that is part of NBA's Natural Nauvoo initiative. The Natural Nauvoo efforts will be ongoing for the next year to create points-of-interest for visitors under the categories of River, Trees, Birds, Wildflowers, and Animals. NBA has embarked upon this project to promote Nauvoo's many natural resources for tourism.

NBA member Karen Ihrig-Gilbert opines, "Nauvoo has long been a destination for their historical attractions; however, many don't realize the amazing Natural attractions that Nauvoo has to offer." The new health and wellness loop is a component of work done by the River

See **LOOP**, page 6

FMAAA

Wayland woman brings art process to November exhibit

BY LORI ILLNER GREENE
FMAAA DIRECTOR

FORT MADISON - The November exhibition at the FMAAA Art Center is focused on artistic process.

A Season of Study by Jane Elizabeth Shank's body of work encompasses the quick capture of plein air painting and the further development of studio pieces from the originals. The pieces

from the field target, define, and hold attention. The studio work involves deep consideration and refinement to achieve the emphasis this artist wants the piece to hold.

The Opening Reception for this exhibition will be held Thursday, November 9 from 5 pm to 7 pm at the FMAAA Art Center located at 825 Avenue G in Fort Madison, IA. The exhibition

will be on display through November 30, 2023 from 10 am to 5 pm Tuesday – Saturday. This month's sponsor is Greene Acres Art, the studio of Lori Illner Greene, Executive Director of FMAAA.

When reflecting back on this year, Jane Elizabeth of Wayland, Iowa says,

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WEATHER

THU 09 Nov Clear & cool, 55° F/ 33° F
FRI 10 Nov Clear & cool, 52° F/ 29° F
SAT 11 Nov Clear & cool, 52° F/ 36° F

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Obituaries/From the Front

Police waiting on surveillance

ROBBERY - Continued from Page 1

an October 7th robbery at Dollar General, giving cause to believe that the same person is responsible for both crimes.

Currently, the suspect remains at large. The Police Department is seeking a white male, short with a stocky build, and brown hair, with a bleeding injury to the back of his left hand. His clothing included a black hooded sweatshirt, black facemask, white shoes, and black sweatpants. He also wore an untucked red undershirt

that was visible below the waistline. Surveillance photos from the store cameras are pending.

Tips can be submitted anonymously to Lee County Crime Stoppers by calling: 319-376-1090, their website at: www.leecountytips.com, or via the P3 Mobile App, and may be eligible for a cash reward. Otherwise, information can be submitted directly to the Fort Madison Police Department via LeeComm (319)372-1310.

OBITUARIES

F.M. ROBEY JR.

F.M. "Buddy" Robey Jr., 68, of Niota, Illinois, passed away at 8:55 a.m. Sunday, November 5, 2023 at OSF Saint Francis Medical Center in Peoria, Illinois.



ROBEY, JR.

Buddy was born April 7, 1955 in Decatur, Illinois, the son of F.M. "Bud" and Audrey (Clough) Robey Sr. On February 2, 1974 he married Sharon Bunch of Decatur, Illinois.

Buddy worked for a short time for the Santa Fe Railroad. He also helped his family, friends, and many local farmers work on their cars, tractors and machinery. He enjoyed hunting fishing, collecting knives, cars and anything for his eagle collection. He especially enjoyed dirt track racing and the memories made with his family.

Survivors include his wife: Sharon of Niota, two children: Dan (Sandra) Robey of Bedford, Texas and Amber (Doug) Davenport of Blue Springs, Missouri; seven grandchildren: Kayla, Zach, Gavin, Elizabeth, Drew, Dede and Delanie; one great-granddaughter: Danielle and four siblings: Karen Browning, Janet Baker, Cheryl South and Nancy McCleary.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

A Celebration of Life will held from 2:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. Saturday, November 11, 2023 at Banks & Beals Funeral Home in Dallas City. The celebration will conclude at 6:00 p.m. with special music and prayers.

A memorial fund has been established in his memory. To leave an online condolence for the family, please visit Buddy's obituary at banksandbeals.com.

Pen City Current obituary policy

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

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Submissions are due by the end of the day Thursday, November 9th.

SAMPLE LISTINGS

(NOT SHOWN ACTUAL SIZE)

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US Army
Korean War

SSGT Ezekiel "Zeke" James Ross
Iowa National Guard
Charlie Company 224th Engineer Battalion,
Operation Iraqi Freedom 2004-2005
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For the Record/From the Front

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report

11/06/23 - 8:37 a.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Raul Garcia, 73, of Fort Madison, in the 2800 block of Avenue K, on a warrant for failure to appear - driving while barred, and a charge of driving while barred. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

11/06/23 - 10:07 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a stolen vehicle in the 800 block of Avenue E.

11/06/23 - 10:57 a.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Bradlee Kenneth Lovell, 26, of Kahoka, in the 4800 block of Avenue O, on charges of possession of drug paraphernalia, enticing under 16 - sex abuse, drug tax stamp violations, MFR/DELV/PWI METH/ FALSE FENTAN, and two charges of possession of a controlled substance - 1,2,3rd. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

11/06/23 - 11:42 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 2600 block of Avenue L.

11/06/23 - 1:50 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 5000 block of Avenue O.

11/06/23 - 3:38 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a stolen vehicle in the 3000 block of Avenue N.

11/06/23 - 7:58 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1900 block of Avenue F.

11/07/23 - 4:38 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a burglary in the 5800 block of Avenue O.

11/07/23 - 5:09 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 800 block of Avenue C.

11/07/23 - 5:27 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a stolen vehicle in the 1000 block of Avenue F.

11/07/23 - 5:32 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 200 block of 1st Street.

Keokuk Police Report

11/06/23 - 12:00 a.m. - Keokuk police arrested a 16-year-old male juvenile, hometown not reported, in the 2200 block of Middle Road, on a charge of minor use of a tobacco/vapor product. No disposition was reported.

11/06/23 - 1:38 p.m. - Keokuk police cited and released Taryn Alexis Mahoney, 21, of Warsaw, in the 300 block of North Park Drive, on a charge of 5th degree theft less than \$300.

11/06/23 - 8:44 p.m. - Keokuk police cited and released Thomas Christopher Dodge, 56, of Keokuk, in the 1200 block of Main Street, on a charge of driving while barred.

11/07/23 - 6:36 a.m. - Keokuk police cited and released Karen Sue Hoadley, 55, of Keokuk, in the 3900 block of Main Street, on a charge of driving under suspension.

11/07/23 - 9:36 a.m. - Keokuk Police responded to a two-vehicle accident at S. 7th Street and US. 61 North. According to reports a vehicle driven by Jeffrey Alan Boyd, 45, of Kahoka collided with a vehicle driven by as Wayne Lee Derry, 71, of Keokuk. Derry was pulling forward from the intersection and was struck from behind by Boyd. No injuries were reported and both vehicles were towed from the scene. Boyd was cited for failure to stop in assured clear distance.

11/07/23 - 4:17 p.m. - Keokuk Police responded to a two-vehicle accident in the 10 block of S. 2nd Street. According to the report, a vehicle driven by Lorri A. Walker 59, of Warsaw struck a bicycle operated by Dennis LeRoy Best, 57, of Keokuk. Best was transported to Fort Madison hospital. Walker was cited for following too closely.

11/08/23 - 11:59 p.m. - Keokuk Police arrested Justin Wayne Barker, 37, of Hamilton, in the 100 block of Timea St., on charges of interference with official acts, possession of burglary tools, possession of drug paraphernalia, and a

warrant for violation of probation.

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

Lee County Sheriff Report

11/06/23 - 8:31 p.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Michael William Blint, 48, of West Point, in the 2800 block of 180th Street, Fort Madison, on charges of no valid driver's license, speeding, and 2nd offense OWI. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

11/07/23 - 8:42 a.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies responded to a two-vehicle accident at 150th Avenue and 140th Street. According to the report, a vehicle driven by Darrell Lee Menke, 59, of Hillsboro, was traveling westbound in the 1400 block of 140th Street, approaching the intersection at 150th Avenue, when he was struck by a vehicle being driven by Michael Bernard Pieper, 53, of Donnellson. Menke complained of possible injuries, but neither party was treated at the scene. Pieper's vehicle sus-

tained disabling damages and was towed from the scene; Menke's vehicle was driven from the scene. Pieper was cited for failure to stop sign and yield right of way.

11/07/23 - 11:50 a.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Anthony Deon Gregory, 48, of Keokuk, at the South Lee County Courthouse, on a warrant for violation of probation and 2 warrants for 3rd degree theft greater than \$750 and less than \$1500. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

Fort Madison Fire & Rescue Report

11/05/23 - Fort Madison firefighters responded to one trash fire, one vapor alarm, six medical calls.

11/06/23 - Fort Madison firefighters responded to six medical calls, one lift assist, one vehicle accident, one smoke investigation, and one fire alarm.

11/07/23 - Fort Madison firefighters responded to six medical calls.

Alliant filed intent Oct. 12

RATES - Continued from Page 1

IUB's Hearing and Meeting Calendar webpage at iub.iowa.gov.

The order also set November 17, 2023, as the deadline for interested parties to file notice in the docket for anyone who intends to participate in the scheduling conference and to indicate whether they will attend in person or remotely via webinar. Parties are also required to file a proposed procedural schedule on or before November 17.

Persons with disabilities who will require assistive services or devices to observe or participate in this scheduling conference should contact the IUB at (515) 725-7300 at least five business days in advance of

the scheduling conference to request arrangements.

Alliant-IPL filed its proposal to increase its Iowa retail natural gas and electric service rates on October 12, 2023, in Docket No. RPU-2023-0002 under Iowa Code 476.6 and chapter 26 of the IUB's administrative rules. Alliant-IPL seeks an increase in natural gas service revenue of approximately \$14 million, or 5 percent above its existing gas revenue requirement, and an increase in electric service revenue of \$284 million, or approximately 16 percent above its existing electric revenue requirement.

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Sports/From the Front

Ford, Brisby, and Schrader (Holtkamp) inducted into CL Hall

DONNELSON, IOWA — The Central Lee Community School District has inducted three new members to its Athletic Hall of Fame as part of the Class of 2023.

This year, the Hall of Fame honors a former coach and two former student-athletes whose impressive legacies have left an enduring mark on the Central Lee community.



FORD



BRISBY



SCHRADER

“We take immense pride in acknowledging the exceptional achievements of these outstanding student-athletes and coaches whose remarkable contributions continue to inspire our athletic community,” said Dr. Andy Crozier, Central Lee Superintendent. “This year, we celebrate two versatile, multisport athletes and an exemplary six-sport coach. We look forward to reuniting with these distinguished individuals and honoring their accomplishments together.”

Inductee Don Ford dedicated over three decades to coaching at Central Lee. Throughout his career, he coached student-athletes in an impressive six sports. Among his notable achievements, he founded the volleyball program at Central Lee and served as the head coach for 31 years. Ford’s guidance led the volleyball team to capture nine conference titles in just a decade, earning him multiple conference coach of the year awards.

Ford’s influence extended to numerous sports, with

11 years as head basketball coach, another 10 years as an assistant, as well as 10 years as head coach of girls’ track and softball. Additionally, he served as an assistant football coach for one year and volunteered as the head girls golf coach for three years.

Beyond his dedication to sports, Ford has demonstrated unwavering support for Central Lee’s extracurricular activities, including school plays, show choir, band, and more. His mentorship has empowered countless young individuals to develop their skills and self-confidence, both on and off the field.

Also inducted this year is Jeff Brisby, one of the most distinguished student-athletes in Central Lee’s history. His exceptional talents transcended multiple sports, earning him first-team all-conference honors in football, basketball, and baseball. Brisby was a standout on the All-Hawkeye Land team in both baseball and basketball and received honorable mention all-state recognition in all three sports.

In basketball, Brisby’s senior year saw him achieve a remarkable average of 22 points and nine rebounds per game. On the football field, he excelled as a quarterback, passing for 1,100 yards and leading the conference in tackles. In baseball, Brisby maintained a .380 batting average and was a dominant pitcher, with a 10-1 record and an ERA under 1.00.

Christy Schrader (Holtkamp) is a Central Lee graduate and accomplished three-sport athlete. Her basketball achievements include scoring 1,311 points and grabbing 733 rebounds. Her defensive talent is evidenced by an astounding 273 blocked shots, placing her

among the top 50 high school girl basketball players in state history.

In 1993, Schrader’s incredible performance included scoring 550 points in a single season, along with 303 rebounds, ranking her in the top 30 in state history. During her senior year, she averaged 5.27 blocks per game, also ranking in the top 30 in state history.

In addition to her contributions to basketball, Schrader showcased her talents in volleyball and golf. Off the fields and courts, Schrader demonstrated leadership by serving as president of the student council.

The Athletic Hall of Fame was established as a platform to honor, preserve, and celebrate Central Lee’s rich history and its tradition of excellence in athletics. It highlights the significance of high-achieving graduates and former staff members who left a lasting impact on the school community during their time at Central Lee.

Community members, families, staff, and alumni are encouraged to nominate individuals for Hall of Fame recognition. To be eligible for nomination, individuals must have graduated from Central Lee schools or have been a staff member and should be at least five years removed from their association with the district. A committee reviews all nominations and determines each year’s inductees. Central Lee also has Academic and Fine Arts Halls of Fame.

The Central Lee Community School District’s Hall of Fame ceremony to honor the 2022 and 2023 inductees will take place on Saturday, April 6, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. at Central Lee High School.

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Lunch ala Art set for Nov. 17th

EXHIBIT - Continued from Page 1

“It’s been a journey that encompasses the entire process from creating art en plein air to using it as an inspiration in the studio. When I came up with the idea for this exhibit, I wanted to explore how my plein air studies could improve my overall style and skill level. This exhibit showcases my learning process.”

Jane Elizabeth will be on hand to discuss her collection during Lunch ala Art on Friday, November 17 at noon. Reservations are recommended for lunch, but everyone is welcome to attend the artist talk that immediately follows at 12:30 pm.

This month’s FINALE, a performance evening in the Main Gallery, features Victor Farias on guitar and piano Saturday, November 18 from 7 pm to 8 pm. This is a free to attend event with the exhibit as the backdrop to the performance.

Another chance to view this exhibition is Saturday, November 25th when the Main Gallery will also hold a book signing event from 10am to 2pm of local authors and illustrators.

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Classifieds/Public Notices

PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICES

**PUBLIC NOTICE
MEETING MINUTES
West Burlington
Planning and Zoning
Commission
Meeting Minutes
Thursday,
January 12, 2023**

The West Burlington Planning and Zoning Commission met on Thursday, January 12, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at West Burlington City Hall, 122 Broadway Street, West Burlington, Iowa, with Chairman Steve Swafford presiding.
MEMBERS PRESENT: Blake Ruther, Karen Dewey, Larisa Conner, and

Gary Deen
MEMBERS ABSENT: Joe Rector and Sandy Lee
ALSO PRESENT: City Clerk Kelly Fry
CALL TO ORDER
ROLL CALL
PERFECTING & APPROVAL OF AGENDA
Moved by Conner, seconded by Deen, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried by the following votes:
Ayes: Swafford, Ruther, Dewey, Conner, and Deen
PERFECTING & APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Consider approval of minutes from the Planning

and Zoning meeting on September 15, 2022
Moved by Ruther, seconded by Dewey, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried by the following votes:
Ayes: Swafford, Ruther, Dewey, Conner, and Deen
NEW BUSINESS
Consider appointing Chairman for 2023
Moved by Deen, seconded by Ruther, to appoint Steve Swafford as Chairman for 2023. Motion carried by the following votes:
Ayes: Swafford, Ruther, Dewey, Conner, and Deen

Consider appointing Vice-Chairman for 2023 to appoint Gary Deen as Vice-Chairman for 2023.
Moved by Dewey, seconded by Ruther, to appoint Gary Deen as Vice-Chairman for 2023. Motion carried by the following votes:
Ayes: Swafford, Ruther, Dewey, Conner, and Deen
Consider appointing P&Z Member to serve on the Board of Adjustment for 2023
Moved by Dewey, seconded by Conner, to appoint Gary Deen as the Planning & Zoning Commission's representative

on the Board of Adjustment for 2023. Motion carried by the following votes:
Ayes: Swafford, Ruther, Dewey, Conner, and Deen
Discuss Community Visioning Project
City Clerk Fry updated the Commission on the 2023 Community Visioning Project and asked Commission members to consider participating in a Focus Group on Feb 18th.
Training opportunities for Planning & Zoning Commission
The Commission agreed to look into train-

ing opportunities and discussed the Iowa League of Cities and Iowa State University resources that are available.
OLD BUSINESS
ADJOURN
Moved by Dewey, seconded by Deen, to adjourn the meeting at 6:35 p.m. Motion carried by the following votes:
Ayes: Swafford, Ruther, Dewey, Conner, and Deen
Kelly D. Fry, City Clerk
Steve Swafford, Chairman

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From the Front

Health & Wellness loop rolls up close to 4-mile walk

LOOP - Continued from Page 1

Committee for Natural Nauvoo.

The Health and Wellness Loop incorporates 1.8 miles of the Nauvoo State Park with 2.1 miles of the Historic District along Riverwalk. This gives participants just shy of a 4-mile loop to enjoy some of the most refreshing landscapes in Nauvoo. It incorporates two bodies of water and ample exposure to Nauvoo's trees, wildflowers, and animals. NBA has been in existence for 16 years meeting monthly to do what their moniker implies....Bettering the Community of Nauvoo. Examples of NBA endeavors include the Annual Memorial Day picnic, fundraising for the newly completed Nauvoo Community Center, and creation of the Annual Scarecrow Event. NBA has been working on substantial improvements lately to enhance the Riverwalk experience. Many may have noticed the 3'x4' River Critter Photo Gallery along the fence of the water treatment plant hung this year. Amazingly the exhibition withstood the derecho in June! They have been stored for the season, but more will be added to adorn the Riverwalk experience next year. Also NBA is a partner with the City of Nauvoo, Community of Christ, and Church of the Latter Day Saints in paying for an ongoing landscaping service that makes sure the view of the Mighty Mississippi reigns supreme.

The loop can be easily accessed from downtown Nauvoo. Take Page Street at Hotel Nauvoo down 2 blocks to Lake Horton. Take a right along the Nauvoo State Park trail

along Lake Horton. The trail will wind around the Lake and take you to the levee. The levee will house a "Pumpkin Gallery" of an assortment of 50 pumpkins repurposed from the Pumpkin Walk last Saturday. NBA thanks Nauvoo Boy Scout Troop 56 for their efforts to transport the pumpkins to their new perch! From the levee the Lakeview Trail opens to the State park where the loop crosses the highway at Munson street. Take the sidewalk to Parley and take a right and walk to the entrance of Riverwalk itself. Riverwalk finalizes at the Community of Christ Visitor's Center. The loop crosses back into Nauvoo State Park at Sidney Street where asphalt pathway winds by the playground and past the shelterhouse back to Lakeview Trail. Take the path back past the pumpkin gallery around to Page street to finalize the loop in uptown Nauvoo.

This writer was able to complete the NBA Health and Wellness Loop in 45 minutes at a brisk walk. Maps of the loop will be forthcoming on the City of Nauvoo website. On opening weekend maps will be available at Page street/ Lake Horton and the Tourism Information kiosk on HWY 96. Keep in mind the loop trail can be utilized for fitness or recreation and can be accessed at any point in the loop. Families could pack a picnic lunch at the playground and take the trail uptown to Page street, then jump off the loop for a Fudge Factory visit! Be aware that the shelterhouse public restrooms are closed November through April. NBA had originally intended to publicize the Health and Wellness loop in July, when we have the most evidence of daily morning joggers in town. The derecho on June 29th upended that cart in unceremonious fashion. NBA thanks the Nauvoo State Park for their extra efforts to clear the Lakeview Trail so that the public still has a few months this year to take in the beauty of Natural Nauvoo along the Health and Wellness Trail. If you have a particular interest in promoting the Trees, Birds, Animals, or River in Nauvoo join the committee group that will focus on developing those avenues. Contact Karen Ihrig-Gilbert at kinauvoo@frontiernet.net or Barb Schafer at barb.schafer@frontier.com or Carol Mcghghy at citygirl1964@hotmail.com for more information regarding Natural Nauvoo committees.

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