

# PEN CITY CURRENT

It's Black & White and Read all over

Friday, February 2, 2024 | 8 pages | Volume 8 • Issue 21



www.pencitycurrent.com

## 2024 IGHS AU GIRLS STATE WRESTLING TOURNAMENT

# Smith goes 3-1 on Day 1



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Fort Madison sophomore Mara Smith dumps Clear Lakes' Pieper Lester in the first period of her 2nd round consolation match Thursday at the Xstream Arena in Coralville. Smith won the match 10-1 and is one win from the 125 lbs. podium at the IGHS AU Girls State Wrestling Tournament.

## STOMACH BUG: Kemper battles through stomach ailment but ends tourney 1-2

BY CHARLES VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

CORALVILLE – Fort Madison sophomore Mara Smith wrestled her last match of the day at the Iowa Girls High School Athletic Union State Girls Wrestling tournament Thursday with a mission to get to Friday's wrestling.

After three other matches, two in the day session and one in the night, Smith fired up an engine that Clear Lake's Pieper Lester couldn't quiet as the Lady Hound rolled to a 10-1 major decision.

The win puts Smith into Friday wrestling and she is now one win from the podium at the Xstream Arena in Coralville.

Hound junior Hailey Kemper, seeded 11th coming into the tourney, went 2-1 on the day and was eliminated in Thursday night action.

Smith almost ended her last match of the day in the first period after a takedown where she pulled Lester's head almost to the mat then spun to her right to slide in for the 2-pointer. Then Smith almost locked up a cradle and a 3-point nearfall, but Lester was able to fight

through it. Smith took a 5-0 lead into the second period.

She overpowered Lester, seeded 18th, again in the second period for two points and then caught a takedown and was awarded a penalty point at the end for a Lester stall to win the match.

Smith will now face Waverly-Shell Rock junior Lilly Stough, the sixth seed at 125 lbs. and 31-4 on the year.

Smith stands at 33-6 with the win. The match with Stough on Friday morning will send the winner to the podium and a minimum 8th place finish in the 125 lb. bracket.

Smith said she's been calmer this year than when she wrestled in the tournament last year.

"Last year was really new for me. This year I came in and it was like I was more calm coming into it today than I was last year. I came in in a way better mindset that I could win," Smith said.

"I feel like coming back from a loss last year, that was my main struggle, but coming into the match with an open mindset is what helped me more tonight."

See STATE, page 8

## CITY NEWS

# Eastin touts railcam on east coast trip

PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON - The Railroad Hobby Show is the largest railroad-themed trade show in America. The event occupies 350,000 square feet in four buildings on the Eastern States Exposition fairgrounds in West Springfield, Massachusetts. The show covers all facets of the railroad hobbies - model railroads, railroad art and photography, railroad history and preservation, tourist railroads, railroad artifacts, and railroad books and videos. The 2024 record breaking show saw 22,657 attendees plus 3,500 exhibitors during the two-day show held on January 27 & 28.

Chi Eastin, Director of the Fort Madison Iowa Tourism office, attended the 56th annual show along with Virtual Rail Fan staff from Tennessee, New Jersey and Virginia. Virtual Railfan installed a camera on the Kingsley Inn building along with Eastin in June of 2020 and has enjoyed over 37 million views since going live on YouTube. Fort Madison is one of their most popular cams on their site due to many factors.

"Fort Madison railfans enjoy our beautiful riverfront scenery along with 80 trains a day. It's wonderful to hear that we are a part of their daily lives and reach so many people across the country and the world." "Virtual Railfan was happy to be accompanied by Chi Eastin, Fort Madison Tourism Director, at the 2024 Amherst Railroad Hobby Show.

Eastin had the opportunity to represent one of our most popular railfan

sites and to meet personally with show attendees and familiarize them with Fort Madison. She is intimately familiar with the entire Lake Cooper Loop region and her contagious enthusiasm created excitement among many as she explained what the area has to offer," said Bruce Williams, Virtual Railfan Community Manager.

The VR booth is one of the most popular areas at the show and highlighted two large screens showing views of the event and other railcam sites and one screen

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## WEATHER

FRI 02 Feb.....Patchy fog, then partly sunny, cool, 45° F/ 32° F  
SAT 03 Feb.....Clear and cool, 47° F/ 31° F  
SUN 04 Feb.....Partly sunny and cool, 48° F/ 30° F

## IOWA LOTTERY

LOTTO AMERICA 01/31.....3 30 38 39 48, Star Ball: 8 All Star Bonus: 2  
LUCKY FOR LIFE 01/31.....2 28 38 43 46, Lucky Ball: 1  
PICK 3 MIDDAY 01/31.....3 7 1  
PICK 3 EVENING 01/31.....4 3 5  
PICK 4 MIDDAY 01/31.....4 9 2 1  
PICK 4 EVENING 01/31.....5 0 3 2  
POWERBALL 01/31.....15 18 19 41 43, Powerball: 14 Power Play: 2

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# Obituaries

## OBITUARIES

### ELIZABETH A. HARRIS

Elizabeth A. "Betty" Harris, 77, of Fort Madison, IA, passed away at 5:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 23, 2024 at her home. She was born on December 1, 1946 in Fort Madison, IA, to Rosemary Bunker. She married Donald W. Harris on October 26, 1963 in Fort Madison, IA. She was a homemaker and baby sat for children for 20+ years in her home. She enjoyed quilting, sewing, crafting, spending time on her cell phone and tablet and especially spending time with her grandchildren.



Betty is survived by: her husband: Donald Harris of Fort Madison, IA; 1-daughter: Kristine Parsons of Fort Madison, IA; 1-son: Ronald (Sandra) Harris of Mt. Pleasant, IA; 5-grandchildren: Aaron (Jess Danes) Harris, Sam Harris, Elissa (Austin) Menke, Sarah Harris & Teryn Parsons; 2-great grandchildren: Hudson & Logan Menke; 1-on the way: Hadlee Harris and 1-niece: Terry (Steve) Ruble of Fort Madison, IA. She was preceded in death by: her parents, 1-great grandson: Joseph Harris, 1-brother & sister-in-law: Robert (Connie) Bunker & 1-brother in infancy: Ron Bunker.

A visitation was held Friday, January 26, 2024 at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. A memorial has been established in her memory. Online condolences to Betty's family may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: [www.kinglynk.com](http://www.kinglynk.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.

## OBITUARIES

### IRENE V. FRASER

Irene V. Fraser, 87, of Augusta, IA, passed away at 9:09 p.m. on Tuesday, January 23, 2024 at Southeast Iowa Regional Hospice House in West Burlington, IA. She was born on February 8, 1936 to Frank & Frances Dowell Farris. She married Robert R. Fraser on August 24, 1957 in Burlington, IA. He preceded her in death on March 22, 2015. She retired from the Sheaffer Pen Company when the Fort Madison plant closed. She enjoyed playing euchre, gardening and spending time with her family and friends. She was well known for making food for others and she always enjoyed having her family over for Sunday dinner.



Irene is survived by: 1-son: Allen (Pearl Mueller) Fraser of Burlington, IA; 1-daughter: Kathy (Mike) Johnson of Fort Madison, IA; 4-grandchildren: Trisha Fraser, Bradley (Jessica) Fraser, Hannah Hobbs & Doug Bergquist; 4-great grandchildren: Braydyn, Ashlynn, Ava & Wells; 1-sister: Lucille (Art) Miller of Wever, IA; 1-brother: Kim (Theresa) Farris of Wever, IA & 1-ex daughter in law: Carlene Fraser of Wever, IA. She was preceded in death by: her parents, husband, 1-brother: Jack Farris & 1-sister: Mary Malcom.

A visitation will be held from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 28, 2024 at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. The funeral service will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, January 29, 2024 at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory with Rev. Chad Savage officiating. Burial will be held at Augusta Cemetery. Online condolences to the Fraser family may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: [www.kinglynk.com](http://www.kinglynk.com).

### PRISCILLA E. BEALL

Priscilla Elaine Beall, 78 years, of Fort Madison, Iowa died Tuesday, January 23, 2024 at the Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center, West Burlington, Iowa. She was born September 25, 1945, Osceola, Iowa, a daughter of Garold and Clara



Etta (Pittman) Hileman. On December 20, 2002, she married Marion "Mike" Beall at Fort Madison, Iowa. She lived in the area most of her life. She worked as a certified nurses aid for area nursing homes. For 10 years, she worked as a home health aid for Lee County Health Department. She enjoys fishing and camping. She was of Christian Faith. She is survived by her husband, Marion "Mike" Beall of Fort Madison, Iowa; one daughter, Traci (Donald) Wright of Fort Madison, Iowa; one step-son, Aaron Beall of Keokuk, Iowa; one brother, Jerry (Linda) Hileman of Penrose, Colorado; and two grandchildren, River and Quinn. She was preceded in death by her parents, one sister Nancy Polhans, and one step-son Micheal Beall.

Priscilla's family will greet friends from 3:00 - 4:00 pm Friday, January 26, 2024 at the Barr Memorial Chapel, Fort Madison. A memorial has been established, contributions may be made at the Barr Memorial Chapel, Fort Madison. Barr Memorial Chapel is honored to serve Priscilla's family, and an on line guest book can be found at [www.barrmemorialchapel.com](http://www.barrmemorialchapel.com).

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# Obituaries

## OBITUARIES

### JUDITH A. LOTER

Judith Ann Loter, 86, of Hamilton, passed away on Saturday, January 27, 2024, at her home in Hamilton.

Judith was born on February 12, 1937, in Keokuk, Iowa, the daughter of Laurance K. and Edith J. (Alberts) Frakes. She was a lifelong resident of the tri-state area, attending Keokuk schools and graduating from Keokuk High School and Carl Sandburg College in Galesburg, Illinois. On December 25, 1954, she married Charles O. Laisle, of this union a daughter was born. They later divorced. On September 15, 1957, she married Charles L. Davis, they later divorced. On November 4, 1960, she was united in marriage to Robert M. Loter, and together they raised three children, daughters Jackie and Leisa and a son Todd.

Judith began her lifetime career as a caregiver at St. Joseph Hospital as a volunteer candy-striper. At the age of sixteen she was employed by the hospital. Over the years she had been employed by St. Joseph and Graham Hospitals, Keokuk Area Hospital Support Services, Kast Metals, Keokuk Steel Castings and as a working manager of Our Home until its closing, an assisted living facility in Hamilton. Judith then tried retirement, but soon became bored and returned to the workforce, becoming self-employed as a personal assistant providing care for those in need. She retired at the age of eighty, and that summer she painted the exterior of her home. She was a good friend and neighbor to many. Judith enjoyed working in her many beautiful flower gardens. She and her husband Bob kept their lawn well-manicured, and even during the winter the sidewalks were clean, and all sticks and branches were picked up. Judith was an excellent seamstress, giving credit to her mother for teaching her at the age of nine, and assisting in making dresses for her sisters and herself. She altered many wedding gowns and formal wear, sometimes the day of the event. Her family was the most important thing to her, and she enjoyed having them all over for meals, and celebrating birthdays and holidays. Judith was an active member of the Catholic Church of All Saints in Keokuk, serving for many years on the committees for the fall festival and funeral dinners.

Judith is survived by her daughters Jackie Householder of Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, and Leisa (Jerry) McCredie of Eutis, Florida; her son Todd Loter of Hamilton, Illinois; nine grandchildren; twenty-two great-grandchildren; four great-great-grandchildren; two sisters, one sister-in-law; her beloved best friend Wilma Emmerson; and many nieces and nephews.

Judith is preceded in death by her parents, her husband Robert Loter, two brothers and one sister.

A graveside service will be held at a later date.

Memorials may be directed to Habitat for Humanity.



LOTER

## OBITUARIES

### LESTER W. STRUNK

Lester Walter Strunk, 75, of rural Donnellsen, Iowa, passed away at 12:39 p.m. Tuesday, January 30, 2024, at the Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center in Fort Madison.



STRUNK

He was born on November 24, 1948, in Fort Madison, Iowa, the son of Frank Adam and Laverne (Nolte) Strunk. On May 21, 2005, he married Christine Jeffers on their farm near Donnellsen.

He is survived by his wife: Christine; children: Stacey (Jeremy) Good of Burlington, Elizabeth (Gabe) Orth of Burlington, Sara Mills of Mt. Pleasant, Jenel Wesselink of Burlington; John Robert (Sarah) Howell of Mt. Pleasant; daughter-in-law: Kimberly Strunk of Dallas City, Illinois; twenty-two grandchildren; ten great grandchildren; siblings: Melvin (Jo) Strunk of Donnellsen, Dorothy (Dennis) Copeland of Copperas Cove, Texas, Willis (Sheila) Strunk of Rockford, Ohio, Alice (Ben) Milander of Reno, Nevada, Louise Ballard of Fort Madison and Dennis Strunk of Fort Madison. Also surviving are many nieces, nephews and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents; son: Brian; brother: Marvin and brother-in-law: Ronnie Ballard.

Lester was a 1968 graduate of Fort Madison High School. He served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. He farmed all his life and worked at J.I. Case Company for thirty years. Lester was a member of the Donnellsen American Legion Gillaspay - Moodie Post #474, the Southeast Iowa Beekeepers Association and he volunteered at the Donnellsen Library and Lee County Speedway. He enjoyed gardening, being around his hound dogs and his beloved cat "Tipper". Most of all, Lester enjoyed spending time with family and friends at everyone's happy place "the farm".

A visitation will be held from 12:00 noon to 1:30 p.m. Sunday, February 4, 2024, at Schmitz Funeral Home in Donnellsen.

A memorial service will be held at 1:30 p.m. Sunday, February 4, 2024, at Schmitz Funeral Home in Donnellsen with Pastor Mary Hart officiating.

Burial will be at Oakland Sand Cemetery in Vincennes, Iowa, with full military rites presented by the Donnellsen American Legion.

Memorials have been established in his memory for the Donnellsen American Legion or PAW Animal Shelter.

Schmitz Funeral Home of Donnellsen is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences may be made to the family at [www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com](http://www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com).



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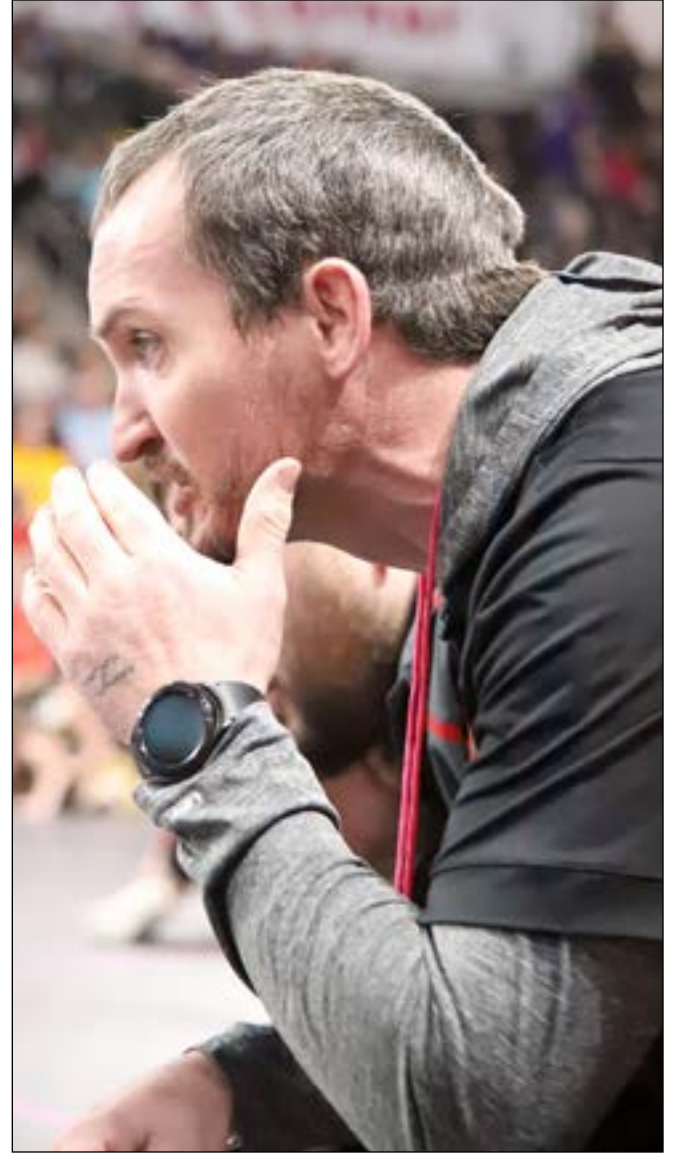
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# Girls' State Wrestling



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Above, FMHS sophomore Mara Smith gets Pieper Lester of Clear Lake almost locked up in a cradle in the first period. Lester would escape, but Smith would get the win Thursday night at Xtream Arena in Coralville. Bottom right, FMHS Junior Hailey Kemper gets the upper hand on West Delaware's Addison Schulte in first round wrestlebacks Thursday afternoon in Coralville, Iowa. Kemper would go 1-2 on the day and exit the tournament with a loss in the 2nd round consolation bracket at 100 lbs. At right, Head Coach Kyle Doherty gives instruction to Mara Smith in a morning match.



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## Opinion/From the Front

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

# Former FM teacher, administrator speaks up for AEA

Dear Editor:

I am very concerned about the Iowa State Legislature dismantling the Area Educational Agencies. I am currently a member of the Board of Directors for Great Prairie AEA, and I am a retired educator who worked for the Fort Madison Schools for 38 years as a teacher and administrator. I wrote to Iowa legislators to encourage them to NOT change the Area Education Agency, its structure or its funding. Educators across Iowa need more support rather than less. We are experiencing some of the most challenging times to be in the teaching profession. If changes are needed, the Iowa Department of Education should work with the Agency to make those changes.

I started teaching fourth grade at Denmark Elementary School in the fall of 1978 when the Area Education Agencies were fairly new. I certainly didn't know that they were created to solely provide special education support and services (this is what the governor stated in her Condition of the State report), because the agency provided a number of supports for me as a young teacher. Those supports were focused on library / media and professional learning even in the early years of the AEA. I took my first computer workshop in March of 1981 on a Radio Shack computer at the AEA. The media van dropped off films to enhance science and social studies and I could borrow stacks of books on any topic in the curric-



ulum. It was like Christmas when that AEA order arrived! They "published" our classroom-written books and made professional looking publications for me.

The governor appears to believe that the AEAs have expanded their services too broadly; however, the AEA simply responds to the needs of the districts (both public and non public) for which they serve. Accountability and oversight are in place for the Agencies. They go through the same rigorous accreditation/ audit procedures that the local districts go through with the Department of Education. Prior to my retirement, I completed many of the state reports for the district, and it was very difficult to call the Department of Education to ask questions. Leaving a message and waiting for a response was challenging because it took days and weeks. So I called Anne at the AEA and she answered my questions. The DOE

also depended on the AEA staff to train local teachers on newly required assessments and state sponsored initiatives. Every Child Reads, Every Child Counts and the FAST testing are examples. It seems like the Department of Education's right arm will be cut off if this legislation goes through.

In regard to the poor performance of our special needs students on state tests, I wonder if you realize that students are released from special education every year. That is a statistic that is not publicized, and I'm not sure that other states do this. When a student has developed and improved their learning skill, they no longer need an IEP; thus they exit special education. This is not a rare occasion. It happens regularly.

Finally, I wanted to encourage our state senators and representatives to consider if the legislation will improve the condition of schools and education in our state or make public education more challenging for teachers and for the students they serve. If we want to attract and keep young families in our state, we need a strong public education system. AEA is an integral part of that strength. Please encourage the House of Representatives and Senators to think carefully about these proposed changes and vote to maintain the Area Education Agencies as they are.

Janice Burch  
Fort Madison

## River & Rail weekend set for Sept. 27-28

EASTIN - Continued from Page 1

dedicated to Fort Madison views. Eastin presented in front of the live Fort Madison screen to show off the depot, Old Fort Madison, the Mississippi Riverfront, the new Fort Madison Marina and the Santa Fe swing span bridge.

"Many people approached the booth and said that Fort Madison is always on their screens and tvs at home and work and is on their bucket list to visit," said Eastin. She also said that many east coast railfans are ready to take a plane or train to Chicago and ride Amtrak's Southwest Chief to Fort Madison within the year especially for River & Rail Weekend.

The 4th Annual River & Rail Weekend will be held September 27 & 28 and not only offers fantastic views of the passing trains but a 1960's beach-themed event with music, food, and activities trackside on Friday night. The North Lee County Historical Society will offer a train mini meet at the Kingsley Inn, along with speakers at the CB&Q Depot, and tours of Steam Engine #2913 and the caboose all on Saturday. The event will also offer live music trackside at the depot, Mississippi River tours with Cut Bank Adventures at the marina, downtown and riverfront trolley tours with the Fort Madison Chamber and more.

"We want this to be a community event and not just an event for railfans from across the country. Come out for a great time with your friends and neighbors, meet with the staff of Virtual Railfan and other fans from across the country."

**Got a news tip?**  
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## CAREER Exploration & Hiring EXPO

THURSDAY,  
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8:30AM - 2PM

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You are welcome to conduct **on-the-spot interviews**, if you would like, or simply educate students about opportunities and encourage them to apply accordingly.

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February 5, 2024



Click here to register or go to <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=261eqkLVyk-mETbsSxes-fzT7by3gP55PnzRqKy0c6KJURE8xUzRHMExIWlo2SkpSUFVXQzhGS1RLTS4u>

# Classifieds/Public Notices

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### PUBLIC NOTICE LEE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING MINUTES November 14, 2023

The Board of Supervisors of Lee County, Iowa, met on Tuesday, November 14, 2023, at 10:00 a.m., at the County Administration Building, 933 Avenue H, Fort Madison, Iowa.

Present: Garry Seyb, Ron Fedler, Chuck Holmes, Matt Pflug and Tom Schulz.

All votes are unanimous unless indicated otherwise.

The Board opened the meeting by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moved by Holmes, seconded by Pflug, to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

There was no Public Input.

Moved by Holmes, seconded by Fedler, to approve a notice to bidders and final plans for FY24 Countywide Pavement Markings. Motion carried.

Moved by Pflug, seconded by Fedler, to approve the Consent Agenda that included the November 6, 2023 Board minutes, the claims for

payment and a Class B Retail Alcohol License for Garner Food Mart, Montrose, for the period December 15, 2023 through December 14, 2024. Motion carried.

Moved by Pflug, seconded by Holmes, to approve a reclassification for Blake Johnson, from Deputy to temporary Correctional Office, from \$26.39/hr. to \$21.77/hr., effective 11/8/23; a step increase for Lia Risser, EO Educational Specialist 1, from \$23.03/hr. to \$23.71/hr., effective 11/15/23; a merit increase for Malinda Davis, Assis-

tant to County Engineer, from \$85,178.91/annually to \$91,993.22/annually, effective 11/18/23 and a new hire for EMS, Anthony Foley, Paramedic, \$22.96/hr., effective 11/14/23. Motion carried.

The Board canvassed the November 7, 2023 City/School Election. For the City of Donnellson City Council  
Jeremy Marshall ..... 42  
Erin Wagner.....11  
Write-ins ..... 7  
For the City of Fort Madison  
Mayor  
Jerry Reuther..... 293  
Matt Mohrfeld..... 568

Rodney Hoskins II ..... 83  
Write-ins ..... 3  
Council at Large  
Jerry Hamelton ..... 330  
Kevin Rink ..... 587  
Write-ins ..... 6  
Council Ward 1  
Richard Thele ..... 140  
Write-ins ..... 9  
Council Ward 2  
Angela Roller ..... 146  
Write-ins ..... 4  
Council Ward 3  
Donna Amandus ..... 143  
Write-ins ..... 3  
Council Ward ..... 5  
Dustin Yager ..... 189  
Write-ins ..... 3  
For the City of Franklin  
Mayor  
Trenton Burgess ..... 14  
Stan Thomas ..... 10  
Write-ins ..... 9  
City Council  
Delbert Kramer ..... 24  
Jesse Day ..... 17  
Melanie Kramer ..... 15  
Angela Bell ..... 14  
Alex Meierotto ..... 13  
Jerry Sanders ..... 13  
Write-ins ..... 63  
For the City of Houghton  
Mayor  
Gale Thompson ..... 25  
Write-ins ..... 5  
City Council  
Jay Henrich..... 31  
Terrell Wilson ..... 15  
Marty Bentler ..... 29  
Kurt Lowenberg ..... 31  
Cheryl Brock ..... 24  
Andy Wilson..... 10  
Art Kruse..... 12  
Write-ins ..... 2  
For the City of Keokuk  
Mayor  
Kathie Mahoney..... 737  
Xai Coffman..... 209  
Write-ins ..... 24  
Council at Large  
Devon Dade..... 657  
Christopher Dailey ..... 241  
Write-ins ..... 51  
Council at Large-Vacancy  
Shelley Oltmans ..... 532  
Dorothy Cackley ..... 355  
Write-ins ..... 16  
Council Ward 2  
Tyler Walker..... 53  
Write-ins ..... 2  
Council Ward ..... 4  
Steve Andrews..... 22  
Write-ins ..... 12  
Council Ward ..... 5  
Dan Tillman..... 189  
Write-ins ..... 5  
Council Ward 6  
Roger Bryant ..... 106  
Write-ins ..... 6  
Public Measure  
Yes..... 374  
No ..... 605  
For the City of Montrose  
Mayor  
Matthew Mullins..... 47  
Write-ins ..... 2  
City Council  
Jeff Junkins..... 44  
Darcie Ulmeyer..... 39  
Write-ins ..... 3  
For the City of St Paul  
Mayor  
John Dingman ..... 19  
Write-ins ..... 0  
City Council  
Rod Cox..... 16  
Marty Bentler ..... 19  
Ted Moeller..... 19  
Paul Kenel ..... 19  
Brent Pieper..... 19  
Write-ins ..... 1

For the City of West Point  
Mayor  
Gary Peitz..... 152  
Philip Kruse ..... 43  
Write-ins ..... 2  
City Council  
Bruce Wellman ..... 179  
Raymond Krogmeier... 111  
Brian Meierotto ..... 161  
Wendy Vonderhaar .... 166  
William Stuekerjuergen  
..... 157  
Larry Buchholz..... 145  
Write-ins ..... 2  
For Central Lee School  
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Director District 1  
Matthew Doty..... 192  
Write-ins ..... 3  
Director District 2  
Bill Young..... 190  
Write-ins ..... 2  
Director District 3  
Mark Hulsebus..... 186  
Write-ins ..... 2  
For Keokuk School District  
School Board  
Seth Anderson ..... 774  
Laurie Mendenhall ..... 797  
Kim Wyatt..... 798  
Dave Barrett ..... 184  
Gary DeGala..... 114  
Write-ins ..... 134  
For Van Buren School  
District  
Director District 1  
Colby Kreiss ..... 1  
Write-ins ..... 0  
Director District 2  
Dan Smith..... 1  
Write-ins ..... 0  
Director District 3  
Erica Lydolph..... 0  
Alisha Duehn ..... 1  
Write-ins ..... 0  
Director District..... 5  
Write-ins ..... 0  
Director At-Large  
Richard Breckenridge .... 1  
Write-ins ..... 0  
For Mt Pleasant School  
District  
Director At-Large-4 year  
term  
Angela Blint ..... 0  
Michael Hampton..... 0  
Dana Millard ..... 0  
Write-ins ..... 0  
Director At-Large-2 year  
term  
Josh Maher..... 0  
Kevin Schrader ..... 0  
Write-ins ..... 0  
Director District 1-4year  
term  
Aaron Williamson..... 0  
Write-ins ..... 0  
Director District 1-2 year  
term  
Melinda Huisinga ..... 0  
Write-ins ..... 0  
Director District 2-4 year  
term  
Danny Graber ..... 0  
Sarah Donnolly ..... 0  
Kevin Sandersfeld ..... 0  
Write-ins ..... 0  
Director District 2-2 year  
term  
Derek Mullin..... 0  
Write-ins ..... 0  
For Indian Hills Community  
College  
Director District..... 9  
Katie Nichols..... 1  
Write-ins ..... 0  
For Southeastern Community  
College  
Director District 1  
Mark Hempen..... 0

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# Classifieds/Public Notices

## PUBLIC NOTICES

Jesse Howard..... 0  
 Ryan Coop..... 0  
 Write-ins ..... 0  
 Director District 4  
 Moudy Nabulsi..... 1083  
 Write-ins ..... 14  
 Director District 5  
 Janet Fife-LaFrenz ...1151  
 Write-ins ..... 24  
 Moved by Pflug, seconded by Fedler, to approve the canvass as presented. Motion carried.  
 Committee Reports:  
 Pflug reported on a 911 Board meeting. Fedler reported on a RUSS Board meeting. Holmes reported on a Conservation Board meeting and a Pioneer Cemetery Commission meeting.  
 At 11:20 a.m. it was moved by Schulz, seconded by Fedler, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The next meeting will be held on Monday, November 20, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. at the Administration Building in Fort Madison.  
 Garry Seyb, Chairman  
 Attest: Denise Fraise,  
 Lee County Auditor

**Claims paid  
 November 14, 2023**

Ace Hardware, splys ..... 28.75  
 Agrineed, splys ..... 331.25  
 Airgas, splys ..... 248.61  
 All Amer Snttn, svcs ..... 240.00  
 All Season Music, svcs ..... 110.48  
 Alliant Enrgy, svcs ..... 11259.62  
 E Andries, exps..... 11.00  
 Ape & Sons, svcs .. 1100.00  
 B&B Propane, fuel ..... 799.98  
 Ball Volvo, splys.... 267.30  
 Barr Mem Chpl, svcs ..... 1200.00  
 E Biddenstadt, exps ..... 21.00  
 Blades/Green, svcs ..... 1060.00  
 J Booth, exps..... 429.00  
 Bound Tree, splys ..... 556.52  
 A Cook, exps ..... 126.50  
 M Cook, exps..... 165.50  
 Cullen Pest, svcs.... 205.00  
 Culligan, water..... 72.95  
 H Curtis, svcs ..... 123.50  
 Democrat Co, publ ..... 480.00  
 Darkside Tint, splys ..... 50.00  
 L DeFord, exps ..... 151.50  
 L Dettmers, exps .... 55.00  
 M Dodson, exps..... 36.00  
 Douds Stone, mtrl ..... 25997.35  
 ES&S, svcs..... 9925.47  
 B Fader, exps ..... 142.50  
 T Forseen, svcs..... 146.50  
 B Gaylord, exps..... 40.00  
 J Giebelhausen, exps ..... 29.00  
 N Granaman, svcs ..... 1464.99  
 GRRWA, svcs.....85.11  
 Grt Wstrn Sply, splys ..... 300.46  
 J Hall, svcs ..... 401.50  
 Health Sol, svcs.... 3051.20  
 R Heidbreder, exps

..... 46.50  
 Hill Prtg, svcs..... 691.89  
 Home Thrpy Sol, svcs ..... 2081.69  
 J Hudson, exps..... 26.50  
 IMWCA, ins..... 35036.00  
 IA DOT, svcs..... 382.02  
 Jackson Kayak, equip ..... 2174.00  
 Jet Gas, fuel ..... 2599.81  
 Jireh Inc, fuel ..... 1535.41  
 C Johnson, exps... 245.00  
 J Johnson, exps..... 45.50  
 P Knustrom, exps ..... 281.00  
 BKrmrRiesberg, exps ..... 106.50  
 Lee Co Ext Svcs, cntrb ..... 45.00  
 LeeCo Treas, costs ..... 12189.15  
 LJ Insurance, ins ..... 2359.00  
 Lynch Dallas, svcs.. 566.00  
 Martin Equip, equip ..... 1169.28  
 McFarlands, splys... 72.97  
 Mediacom, svcs..... 245.56  
 MidAmer Enrgy, gas ..... 439.41  
 O Miller, exps..... 473.50  
 MMIC Ins, ins.....2119.00  
 Mutual Whl, parts.. 515.39  
 NAPA Auto, parts.. 264.37  
 JJ Nichting, parts ..... 1580.80  
 Nrth Cntrl Ambl, svcs ..... 530.13  
 OMG MW, svcs ..... 568.72  
 M Park, exps..... 130.00  
 RPTrsnRahn, exps ..... 17.50  
 Per Mar Sec, svcs .. 434.94  
 Pilot Grove Bnk, splys ..... 208.00  
 Quality Inn, lodg.... 350.00  
 A Schiller, svcs ..... 500.00  
 T Schroeder, exps .. 70.50  
 SIADSA, svcs..... 5510.00  
 Sidwell, svcs..... 320.00  
 SE IA Aquatic, svcs ..... 20000.00  
 St Hygnc Lab, svcs... 27.00  
 Stericycle, svcs..... 220.14  
 R Swainey, exps... 108.50  
 T-Mobile, svcs ..... 706.13  
 M Terhune, exps... 537.00  
 P Tripp, exps..... 365.50  
 Truck Repair, parts ..... 1461.12  
 US Cell, svcs..... 806.49  
 Vertical Comm, svcs ..... 109.75  
 A Wagenhauser, exps ..... 107.80  
 L Wessel, svcs..... 610.00  
 West Pt Utility, svcs ..... 1287.33  
 Wex Bank, svcs.... 8283.97  
 Wilhite Auto, svcs ..... 5985.52  
 Xiphos Tech, svcs ..... 23505.00  
 B Zinnert, exps ..... 268.50

**PUBLIC NOTICE  
 MINUTES  
 KEOKUK CITY  
 COUNCIL MEETING  
 December 7, 2023  
 501 Main Street  
 5:30 P.M.**

The City Council of the City of Keokuk met in regular session on December 7, 2023, at 501 Main Street. Mayor Kathie Mahoney called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. There were seven council

members present, two absent. Carissa Crenshaw, Shelley Oltmans (entered meeting at 5:43 p.m.), John Helenthal, Steve Andrews, Dan Tillman, Roger Bryant, and Michael Greenwald were present. Tyler Walker and Roslyn Garcia were absent. Staff in attendance: City Administrator Cole O'Donnell, City Clerk Celeste El Anfaoui, Public Works Director Brian Carroll, Community Development Director Pam Broomhall, Water Pollution Control Manager Tom Wills, and Police Chief Zeth Baum.  
**MAYOR'S CORRESPONDENCE:** Informed of upcoming local events.  
**CITIZEN'S REQUEST:** Jim Rauner expressed concerns over fenced off city sidewalk, Joe Shuman gave thanks to all who assisted with the City of Christmas.  
 Motion made by Greenwald, second by Bryant to approve the following agenda, including the consent agenda. (6) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

- Minutes of Infrastructure/Sanitation/Waste Treatment Committee of November 15, 2023;
- Minutes of the Regular City Council meeting & Council Workshop of November 16, 2023;
- RESOLUTION NO. 341-2023: Approving a Liquor License for West K Mart, 707 Palean Street, Class B Retail Alcohol License – effective December 8, 2023;
- RESOLUTION NO. 342-2023: Approving an Urban Revitalization Tax Exemption for the following:

- Alex Derr, 1956 Hilton Rd., single family dwelling;
  - John & Janet Boyle, 434 Belknap Place, single family dwelling;
  - Sheila Sapp, 808 Johnson St. Rd., garage;
  - Motion to pay bills and transfers listed in Register No.'s 5376-5378;
- Mayor Mahoney opened the public hearing at 5:36 p.m. on amendment to the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 annual budget. A public hearing notice was published in the Daily Gate City on November 21, 2023.

**COMMENTS:** O'Donnell gave overview of budget amendment. No further comments were received, Mayor Mahoney closed the public hearing at 5:36 p.m.

Motion made by Greenwald, second by Andrews to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 343-2023: "A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL

YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2024." (6) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Crenshaw, second by Helenthal to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 344-2023: "A RESOLUTION APPROVING AQUATIC CENTER MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT WITH HOERNER YMCA." (7) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Mark Smidt, CEO of the Hoerner YMCA, answered questions regarding pool operations.

Motion made by Greenwald, second by Oltmans to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 345-2023: "A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT AND FINANCIAL COMMITMENT FOR THE MAIN STREET PROGRAM IN KEOKUK, IOWA." (7) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Oltmans, second by Crenshaw to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 346-2023: "A RESOLUTION SETTING SNOW EMERGENCY ROUTES." (7) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Helenthal, second by Greenwald to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 347-2023: "A RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING THE CANVAS OF VOTES FOR THE 2023 MUNICIPAL ELECTION HELD NOVEMBER 7, 2023." (7)

AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Oltmans, second by Greenwald to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 348-2023: "A RESOLUTION APPROVING A LEASE AGREEMENT WITH ROQUETTE AMERICA AT THE SIDC." (5) AYES, (2) ABSTAIN – Crenshaw & Helenthal, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Greenwald, second by Oltmans to approve the following proposed RESOLUTION NO. 349-2023: "A RESOLUTION FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AMENDMENT NO. 1 SOUTH 18TH STREET RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT." (7) AYES, (0) AYES. Motion carried.

Motion made by Greenwald, second by Helenthal to approve Union Depot change order #3. (7) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Greenwald, second by Oltmans to approve Union Depot change order #4. (7) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

Motion made by Oltmans, second by Bryant to approve amendment 1 final payment to be divided into four equal payments. (7) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

**BOARDS & COMMISSIONS:** First notification for Rena Mackie to the Rand Park Pavilion Commission, 5-year term to expire 10/22/2029.

Second notification for Lawrence Barrett to the Grand Theatre Commission, 3-year term to expire 11/5/2026.

Motion made by Helenthal to approve Final notification for Philip Caropreso to the Veterans Memorial Commission, 5-year term to expire 6/1/2027. Mayoral Appointments: Kimber Tinder to Keokuk Civil Service Commission, fulfilling a 6-year term to expire 4/1/2024. Reappointment of Judy McDonald to the Keokuk Convention & Tourism, 3-year term to expire 12/31/2026. (7) AYES, (0) NAYS. Motion carried.

**COUNCIL LIAISON REPORTS:** Bryant updated on Great River Regional Waste Authority.

**STAFF REPORTS:** Wills reported on WWTP; Broomhall informed of resignation of Devon Dade from the City Planning Commission, and expressed well wishes to O'Donnell and family; Carroll updated on SIDC and echo in Council Chambers; Baum reported on Keokuk Police Department taking part in Shop with a Cop this past Saturday.

Motion made by Oltmans, second by Crenshaw to adjourn the meeting at 6:06 p.m.

K. A. Mahoney, Mayor  
 Attest: Celeste El Anfaoui, City Clerk

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## From the Front

# Smith just misses perfect Thursday by 2 points

**STATE** - Continued from Page 1

Smith got through the first match with BCLUW-SH's (Beaman, Conrad, Liscomb, Union, and Whitten located between Des Moines and Cedar Falls) Leila Wedgwood. It took Smith half a round to get a feel for the Comet sophomore but then recorded eight points including a near fall as the horn sounded on the first period for an 8-2 lead. The two girls started neutral in the second period and Smith executed a lift and toss 15 seconds in and was able to finagle the pin 45 seconds later.

The Lady Hound sophomore found herself up against 7th-seeded Destiny Brown of Ridge View in the second round of the championship bracket. Brown executed several rolling takedowns where she got Smith on her shoulder and rolled her to the mat. The last came with just 27 seconds left in a match for an 8-6 win. Smith had the lead at the end of one after getting an escape and takedown in the final 30 seconds.

Brown rolled up two more takedowns in the second period and was hit with a caution, but Smith managed to escape both times, being able to get to her feet and spin free, and trailed by just one point going into the final two minutes.

Smith and Head Coach Kyle Doherty decided to start the 3rd standing instead of down to try to get a point back on an escape and tie the match at 6 all.

"I was confident I would win that match, but in the 3rd period I knew I had to do something. Things don't always go the way we want," Smith said.

"Honestly, I didn't even know the score. I wasn't paying attention to that. But looking back, both ways, she still ended up shooting on me, so either way, I would have had to do something."

Doherty said he was expecting some controversy on that, but said he's seen Smith wrestle well on her feet all year, and wrestling for a tie isn't what was on their minds.

"So I know there's a little controversy around that. It's pretty simple - I get the extra point to tie it, but to me, I feel like Mara's best on her feet in those situations. We're not up here to go into overtime. We want to trust and believe in the work we put in that we can execute from all angles," Doherty said.

"I felt (Brown) was broke and Mara's fantastic with her gas tank and was going to be able to keep pushing and she did. But that girl just fought it off. Mara had taken her down once already close to her back. Later in the period if she takes a shot, a high-cross, double leg and takes her to her back - she seals the deal."

Kemper expended a lot of energy in her first-round match trying to get Charles City's Sophia Calpito to the mat in the first period and was finally awarded 2 points on a takedown a minute into wrestling. She would hold that 2-0 lead almost to the horn, but Calpito managed an escape with four seconds left.

Kemper would get warned for stalling six seconds into period 2, which caused her to shift and allowed Calpito to escape to tie things at 2. A Calpito toss scored two more points

for the Charles City freshman. Kemper would score a 2-point reversal when Calpito couldn't execute a cradle, allowing Kemper to slide out and roll Calpito over. Kemper would give up the escape again with just seconds left in the period.

The Bloodhound would choose to start on top during the 3rd period and quickly gave up an escape point before Calpito took a shot and tossed Kemper back to the mat for a 3-point nearfall before getting the pin.

In the first wrestleback in the consolation bracket, Kemper scored a 7-2 win over Addison Schulte of West Delaware (Manchester). The two squared off in the center measuring each other up until Kemper scored a takedown with 12 seconds left in the first period. Schulte would escape for a point right at the horn. Kemper started round two on top and rode Schulte for close to a minute before the Hawk scored another escape to tie things at 2. Kemper would then gain another takedown while battling some nausea for a 4-2 lead going into the final period.

Schulte started on top in the third and Kemper quickly worked an escape scrambling to her feet on the whistle and spinning out of Schulte's grasp. The Lady Hound would execute another takedown with about 20 seconds left that she was able to maintain until the final horn.

She lost in her second-round consolation match to No. 5 Kara Vedepo of Solon.

Vedepo held a 2-1 lead halfway through the second period with Kemper's point coming on an escape after finally getting to her feet and shaking off Vedepo's hold. But the Solon junior grabbed onto Kemper after the escape, swung her back to the center of the mat, and scored 4 points on the takedown and near fall for an 8-1 lead.

Kemper started on top in the 3rd period but gave up a reversal on the ride about 45 seconds in. She would score her own reversal, but right at the end of the period to make it a 10-3 loss.

Kemper said she didn't feel well to start the day.

"After my first match I didn't feel good and, after the second match, I threw up. My stomach did hurt in the first match, but it wasn't until the second match that it really got to me," she said.

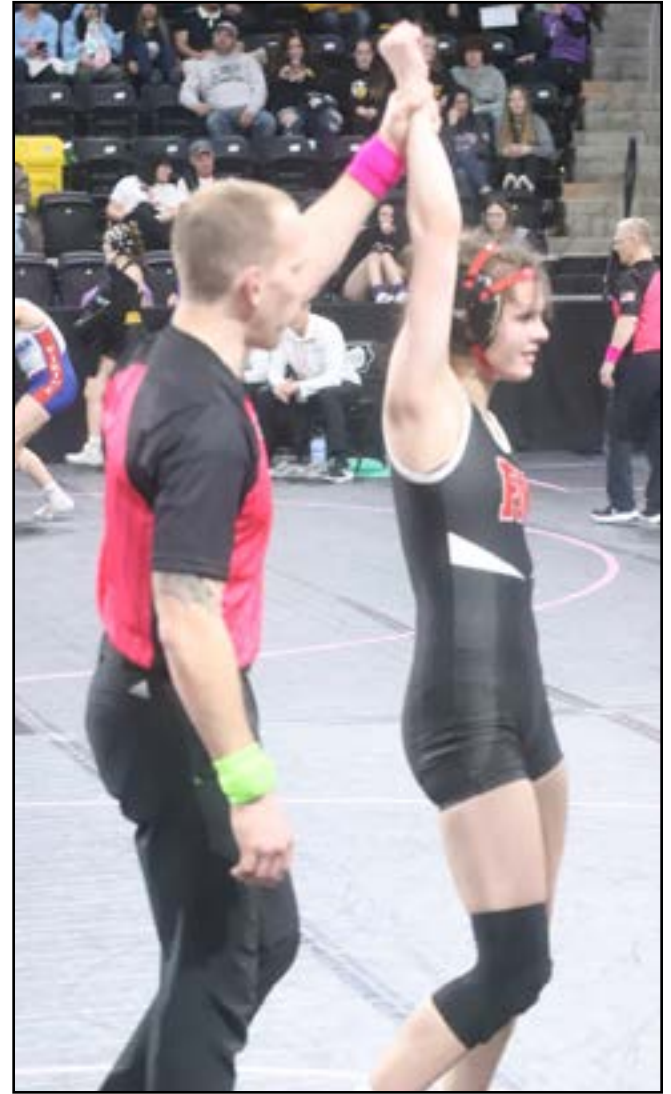
She said the day didn't start right when Calpito wanted to stay upright in the beginning.

"It's happened before, and I hate it when we're on our feet for the whole period, but it happens. I'm disappointed, but I'm not gonna dwell on it. I still have next year."

Doherty said Kemper still has a bright senior year ahead of her.

"Hailey may have wrestled a little cautious and I know she's not feeling the best right now," he said.

"You didn't get a chance to really see her wrestle, but the great thing about it is no matter what happened today, she'll be back up here next year, hopefully on the podium."



Photos by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Fort Madison sophomore Mara Smith gets her hand raised after winning her final match Thursday at the Xstream Arena in Coralville. Below, Head Coach Kyle Doherty and assistant Janelle Cresswell shout out instructions to junior Hailey Kemper Thursday night.



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