

PEN CITY CURRENT

It's Black & White and Read all over

Monday, February 5, 2024 | 8 pages | Volume 8 • Issue 22



www.pencitycurrent.com

Reichman reacts to Sand

OCI DEAL: State Sen. says Auditor, Dems out of touch on Iowa Fertilizer deal

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

DES MOINES – Local State Sen. Jeff Reichman responded to comments made by Iowa State Auditor Rob Sand, a Democrat, about the pending sale of the Iowa Fertilizer Co. to Koch Industries earlier this week.

Sand said there wasn't anything political in his stance against the sale citing his role as the state's taxpayer watchdog. But Reichman said it's entirely political.

Koch has offered OCI Global \$3.6 billion for the facility and the deal is making its way through government regulations pertaining to the sale.

OCI received more than half a billion dollars in state, local, and federal tax incentives about 10 years ago when the facility was constructed. It's been fully operational for the past seven years. Lee County agreed to a 20-year PILOT program, (Payment In Lieu of Taxes) where the fertilizer company makes an annual payment to the county instead of being on the property tax rolls.

That agreement started with \$370,000 payments for the first five years starting in 2015. It increases in five-year increments to \$600,000, \$1,000,000, and \$1.3 million for the final five years ending in 2035. That totals \$16.35 million over the

See **SALE**, page 4

SUNDAY EDITORIAL



And now we have Lululemon in the closet

I bought my first pair of Lululemon pants this week.

I had a lot of trouble going online to shop for them because I just had a feeling at some point someone's gonna ask for my man card.

Guys, shopping for clothes from a company called Lululemon, seems at first blush to be, well, girlish.

It's not that I'm not in touch with my feminine side. I think a fully-rounded male should have a certain respect for that, but I gotta say these are the most comfortable pants I think I've ever put on.

The brand was created by the enigmatic Chip Wilson who took a yoga clothing brand worldwide in less than a decade. I think he got a start selling skateboards or something in Japan and has somewhat of a checkered past.

My wardrobe is boring. It always has been. I think it has something to do with not wanting to stand out in a crowd. If you see me at an event, I'm usually trying to find a corner or the back of the room. I'm too tall and journalists usually get the stink eye anyway. Unless you're Chris Duerr. People gravitate to that man with celebrity fame. But he's a friend and is one of the greatest sports voices in southeast Iowa. If I sit next to him at just the right time, I win by osmosis.

But fleece pullovers, and jeans of different colors have always been my go to out of the closet. But then with family in town over the past two weeks, I noticed a lot wearing these stretchy lycra things that are suppose to "wick" moisture.

I don't know. I kept asking, but gingerly. I mean, do I really want pants that taper to the ankles. I mean, I'm on the hill as far as age. Take grammatical notice I didn't

See **WARDROBE**, page 8



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Retiring Fort Madison coach Ryan Smith acknowledges the crowd during Fort Madison's wrestling meet against Burlington High School, Thursday, February 1, 2024 at Burlington's Clark Field House. After 26 years leading the program to 17 Southeast Conference champions, Smith decided this will be his last season with the team. See inside for the match recap.

AREA NEWS

Ollie man charged in murder of missing man near Ottumwa

KEOKUK COUNTY - On February 1, 2024, investigators with the Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI), Ottumwa Police Department, and Keokuk County Sheriff's Office served a search warrant at 21891 Highway 78 near Ollie. The search warrant was part of an effort

to locate 40-year-old Craig Smith, who was reported missing on January 20, 2024.

During the search, investigators found the remains of an adult. The condition of the remains is preventing law enforcement from making a positive identification.

Evidence and statements collected during the investigation have led investigators to tentatively identify the remains as those of Craig Smith. The State Anthropologist, the Office of the State Medical Examiner, and the DCI Crime Lab are working to make a positive identification.

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WEATHER

MON 05 Feb.....Partly sunny and chilly, 47° F/29° F
TUE 06 Feb.....Areas of fog then sunny and chilly, 49° F/35° F
WED 07 Feb.....Mostly cloudy, breezy, and cool, 53° F/45° F

IOWA LOTTERY

DOUBLE PLAY 02/03.....23 26 30 35 39, Powerball: 13
LOTTO AMERICA 02/03.....10 34 40 47 48, Star Ball: 1 All Star Bonus: 3
LUCKY FOR LIFE 02/03.....8 9 18 31 38, Lucky Ball: 9
MEGA MILLIONS 02/02.....11 22 42 64 69, Mega Ball: 18 Megaplier: 3
PICK 3 MIDDAY 02/01, 02/02, 02/03.....4 5 6, 8 3 9, 5 4 4
PICK 3 EVENING 02/01, 02/02, 02/03.....6 9 3, 1 9 6, 4 7 3
PICK 4 MIDDAY 02/01, 02/02, 02/03.....6 2 2 4, 7 6 2 0, 5 9 8 6
PICK 4 EVENING 02/01, 02/02, 02/03.....0 1 8 2, 0 3 3 4, 9 2 8 2
POWERBALL 02/03.....9 11 27 59 66, Powerball: 19 Power Play: 3

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Obituaries/For the Record

OBITUARIES

HENRY D. MILLER

Henry Dale "Hank" Miller, 88, of Warsaw, passed away peacefully, surrounded by his loved ones at his home on Thursday, February 1, 2024.

Hank was born on May 15, 1935, at the family home in Sutter, Illinois. On April 13, 1958, he was united in marriage to Gloria Bowles in Keokuk, Iowa. She survives.



MILLER

Hank held several jobs throughout the years, working as a mechanic/shop foreman at the Mac Rambler, AMC and GMC Truck dealership in Keokuk Iowa; as shop foreman at John Deere Valley Supply Construction Equipment in Keokuk Iowa and driving for St. Louis Gear Company, Keokuk Iowa. However, his joy was found in farming, working as a farmer for his entire life even while working full time at other jobs.

Hank proudly served his country in the United States Army during the Korean Conflict and was a member of the Hamilton VFW. He enjoyed deer hunting, reading, listening to country music and square dancing, where he met his wife of sixty-five years. He was known as "Hammering Hank" or "Handy Hank" for his ability to fix, repair or weld anything. But to his grandchildren he was simply known as "Poppy". Poppy was the go-to person for his grandchildren for tractor rides around the farm or help when a vehicle broke down. Hank was a very pri-

vate person, but he could always be found enjoying his favorite meal, Chicken Night at DJs in Warsaw.

Hank is survived by his wife Gloria of Warsaw; his son Michael Miller of Hamilton; his daughter Carla McClain of Nauvoo, Illinois; five grandchildren: Jonathan Miller of Hamilton, Justin Miller of Hamilton, Amy (Luke) Newlan of New London, Iowa, Adam Miller of Keokuk, Iowa and Alexis (Justin) Woolverton of Niota, Illinois; five great-grandchildren: Alex and Aaron Brotherton, Abigail Newlan, and Briley and Natalie Miller; and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Hank is preceded in death by his parents, his granddaughter Danielle McClain; and seven siblings: Nancy Hitz, Vera Bright, Andy Miller, John Miller, Walter "Popeye" Miller, Jerry Miller, August "Butch" Miller.

Funeral services will be held at 10:30 am on Saturday, February 10, 2024, at Printy Funeral Home in Warsaw, with burial to follow at Oakland Cemetery in Warsaw. Military honors will be rendered by the United States Army and the Hancock County Honor Guard. Visitation will be held on Friday, February 9, 2024, from 3 to 7 pm, with family meeting friends from 5 to 7 pm.

Memorials may be directed to the family for expenses.

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

DIAGNOSED WITH NEUROPATHY?

GABAPENTIN OR LYRICA NOT WORKING? TOLD NOTHING COULD BE DONE?



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- LOSS OF SENSATION?
- BALANCE PROBLEMS?

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For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report

02/01/24 - 4:41 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 1200 block of 36th Street.

02/01/24 - 4:57 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a personal injury accident in the 2600 block of Avenue L.

02/01/24 - 8:08 p.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Levi Leonard Thomas Lowney, 20, of Fort Madison, in the 1200 block of Avenue D, on a charge of 3rd degree harassment. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

02/01/24 - 8:17 p.m. - Fort Madison police cited Lacey Marie Davis, 42, of Fort Madison, at 14th Street and Avenue F, on charges of possession of a controlled substance - 1,2,3rd and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Keokuk Police Report

02/01/24 - 9:36 a.m. - Keokuk Police arrested a 12-year-old female juvenile in the 1600 block of Des Moines Street on a charge of simple assault. She was released to a parent.

02/01/24 - 7:22 p.m. - Keokuk Police arrested a 17-year-old female in the 300 block of N. Park Drive, on a charge of trespassing. There was no disposition listed.

02/01/24 - 8:23 p.m. - Keokuk Police arrested Tomas Eugene Hall, 47, of Hamilton, in the 1800 block of Exchange St., on a charges of OWI, driving with a revoked license, tampering with an ignition locking device and having an open container. He was taken to Lee County Jail and held.

02/02/24 - 3:51 a.m. - Keokuk Police cited William Joseph Thurbur, in the 100 block of S. 18th St., on a charge of driving under suspension.

Lee County Sheriff Report

02/01/24 - 10:04 p.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies responded to a possible single-vehicle accident in the 1900 block of 315th Avenue. According to the report, deputies received an automated crash report, went to the scene and found a vehicle on its top, submerged in water on the road and in a creek. Emergency responders searched and were able to locate the driver at his home later. The driver was identified as Maxwell Hunter Brunswig, no age given, of Fort Madison. Brunswig was suspected to have received minor injuries. No citations were reported. The vehicle sustained disabling damages and was towed from the scene.

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

Obituaries

OBITUARIES

JAMES J. MEIEROTTO

James J. "Jim" Meierotto, 97, of West Point, Iowa, passed away at 7:35 a.m. Wednesday, January 31, 2024, at the West Point Care Center in West Point.

He was born on November 3, 1926, in rural West Point, Iowa, the son of John Christ, Jr. and Gertrude (Stuekerjurgan) Meierotto. On August 8, 1953, he married Elizabeth Bernadine "Betty" Mansheim at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Fort Madison. She preceded him in death on January 18, 1967. He later married Wilma Pauline (Winke) Boeding. She preceded him in death on January 10, 1998.



MEIEROTTO

Survivors include his four daughters: Vera Hoppe of Wahoo, Nebraska, Carol (Chris) Sanders of Morton, Illinois, Teresa (Mark) Panther of West Point, Iowa, Paula (Ron) Mallicoat of North Brook, Illinois; two sons: William (Joyce) Meierotto of West Point, Iowa, Jerry Meier of Lisle, Illinois; step-son: Robert (Patricia) Boeding of Fort Madison, Iowa; eighteen grandchildren; thirteen great grandchildren and sister-in-law Dixie Meierotto of West Point, Iowa. Also surviving are several nieces, nephews and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his parents; two wives: Betty and Wilma; sister: Helen Baxter and brother: Carl Meierotto.

Jim was a 1944 graduate of St. Mary's High School. He was a lifelong farmer, working hard first on his family farm then his own. He was a member of St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church, the West Point Knights of Columbus, he served on the Calvary Cemetery Board and was a past township trustee. Jim was a proud American Red Cross blood donor. He enjoyed arrowhead hunting after Spring plowing and driving country roads to see how tall the corn was growing. He also enjoyed friendly card games with refreshments and he especially appreciated a cup of coffee and conversation with his many friends at various coffee clubs. The grandkids loved his two different colored eyes and being treated to ice cream cones. His family was of utmost importance to him.

A visitation will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Saturday, February 3, 2024, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in West Point.

A Mass of Christian burial will be held at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, February 3, 2024, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in West Point with Father Dan Dorau as celebrant.

Burial will be at Calvary Cemetery in West Point.

A memorial has been established in his memory for Calvary Cemetery or West Point Fire and Rescue.

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

GERALD W. PRICE

Gerald "Jerry" Wayne Price, 82, of Fort Madison, IA formerly of Keokuk, IA died Saturday, January 27, 2024 at The Kensington in Fort Madison, IA.

He was born on February 23, 1941 in Eolia, MO the son of Daniel W. and Maizie May Sharp Price. Gerald proudly served his country in the U. S. Navy on the USS Ranger during the Vietnam War.



PRICE

On April 28, 1978 he was united in marriage to Donna Louise Wyrick Kay in Hamilton, IL. She preceded him in death on January 26, 2016.

Gerald was a machine operator for Gregory Manufacturing in Ft. Madison. He had also worked various other jobs. He was a jack of all trades and could do about anything.

He was a very talented guitarist and led several bands throughout his life. He was an outdoorsman at heart and spent as much time as he could hunting and fishing. Gerald had a very humorous side of his personality. Even though he seemed to be a crusty old person he was very loving and generous.

He is survived by two sisters, Mildred Frederick and Juanita Axtell, a special nephew, Jeff Frederick, and a special niece, Terry Howell and other nieces and nephews. Gerald was also preceded in death by his parents, four brothers, Charles, Daniel Jr., William and Robert Price.

According to Gerald's wishes, there will be no services.

The Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk is assisting the family with arrangements.

Online condolences may be made to the family at www.vigenmemorialhome.com.



GARY L. ROCKENBACH

Gary L. Rockenbach, 84, of Keokuk passed away Thursday, February 1, 2024 at the University of Iowa Hospital in Iowa City, IA.

He was born November 25, 1939 the son of Melvin and Doris Swan Rockenbach. Gary graduated from Keokuk High School with the Class of 1958. After high school he attended Keokuk Community College for a year.

He was inducted into the United States Army on December 18, 1962. He graduated on June 7, 1963 with a certificate from US Army Southeastern Signal School for the Lineman's Course.



ROCKENBACH

Gary was employed at Sheller Globe for forty-three before his retirement.

On December 17, 1961, Gary was united in marriage to Linda Thoeny in Keokuk. They recently celebrated sixty-two years of marriage together. She survives. He is also survived by his daughter, Holly Roth (Jay) of Keokuk, IA, one son, Craig Rockenbach of Keokuk, IA, five grandchildren, Sean Burke, Connor Roth, Spencer Roth, Owen Rockenbach and Isis Claiborne.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a daughter in infancy, Kimberly Rockenbach.

Gary enjoyed watching FOX News and playing the stock market. He also enjoyed selling on E-Bay where he was a top seller. He collected robots, tin toys and several other items. He loved watching "Lost in Space", "The X-Files", old movies and science fiction shows. He also enjoyed tending to his flower gardens and going on vacation with his children.

Per Gary's request, military rites will be held at a later date.

The Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.vigenmemorialhome.com.

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SEISC Shootout/From the Front

Reichman: Ivory tower liberals object to OCI sale to Koch

SALE - Continued from Page 1

20-year agreement, or about \$817,500 per year.

Sand characterized the proposed sale a “terrible thing” for Iowa and he was “up in arms” about the deal. He penned a letter to the Federal Trade Commission and the U.S. Attorney General’s office in opposition to proposed sale.

But Reichman said Democrats have lost touch with southeast Iowa.

“Des Moines Democrats again prove they’ve lost touch with southeast Iowa. Rob Sand is so beholden to the crazy coastal liberals obsessed with Koch Industries, he had to pander to them by opposing the sale of the Fertilizer plant from OCI to Koch Industries,” Reichman said.

“In the process he showed he’s just another run-of-the-mill liberal despite his attempts to cast himself as something different. Only ivory tower liberals would object to an American company purchasing a plant from an Egyptian company. I know he’s looking for something to do since he legally cannot perform his job.”

Reichman said Dems have always opposed the fertilizer plant because they want to put government first no matter how many jobs the project created.

“It has generated massive amounts of jobs in southeast Iowa and has been a huge success. I think their opposition to the construction and permanent jobs created by the plant has contributed to them losing every legislative seat in southeast Iowa since construction started.”

Reichman said OCI has been an “amazing and generous partner” in the community and southeast Iowa “will recognize the full benefits in the near future”.

“I am personally excited about the sale and I share the excitement with Southeast Iowa Regional Planning, Greater Burlington Partnership, and Lee County Economic Development about the possibilities of expansion and investment. Koch Industries has a history of growth and investment that should be cause for excitement in southeast Iowa, not a grandstanding event for the auditor and an attempted slap in the face to southeast Iowa by Sand.”

Gehling gets game-winner

BY JOHN BOHNENKAMP
PCC SPORTS

WEST BURLINGTON — Holy Trinity’s boys basketball team was built for the closing moments of Saturday’s SEI Superconference Shootout game against WACO at Loren Walker Arena.

Down by six points with 3 ½ minutes to go, the Crusaders scored seven, the last coming on Conner Gehling’s layup with two seconds left, to take a 54-53 win.

Holy Trinity (15-4) extended its winning streak to seven games by making one final run against the Warriors (14-5).

“This year, we’ve battle-tested, and I think it showed there at the end of the game,” Holy Trinity coach John Hellige said. “Huge win for us.”

WACO led 53-47 after Reece Oswald’s 3-pointer, but wouldn’t get another point against the Crusaders. And when Holy Trinity forced a shot-clock violation with 15

seconds left, there was one last opportunity.

After a timeout, the Crusaders worked the ball inside, testing the defense against Luke Hellige, who was double-teamed. Hellige passed the ball out front, and Maddox Rung was able to deliver the perfect bounce pass to Gehling along the baseline.

Gehling sped right past WACO’s Connor Leichty for the layup he called “the biggest shot of my life.”

“Once I caught it baseline, I knew I had an opening to go right, and I just took it,” Gehling said. “Great bounce pass from Maddox there, all credit to him. And then I just got up and scored.”

“I saw some bodies go up with me, so I tried to elevate over them and finish, and I did.”

“We were trying to get something down low to Luke or Conner there, and the ball found Conner’s hands, and he made a great shot to win it,” John Hellige said.

WACO led by seven points midway through the second quarter, by four at the end

of the third quarter, and seemed to be in control after a 3-pointer from Clayton Miller with 4:10 to play, followed by the Oswald three.

“Basketball is a game of runs,” Gehling said. “They’re going to make runs, so we’ve got to get our own runs too. We’ve got to get some stops, too, and I think that’s what we did there at the end.”

“Sometimes this team forgets that it’s 14-4, 15-4,” Hellige said. “I’m like, ‘Guys, we have to play with poise and confidence out there.’ I think we showed at the end of this game that we’ve become a veteran team, a poised and confident team.”

Gehling led the Crusaders with 24 points. Luke Hellige had 16 points, and Rung had nine.

WACO’s defense was concentrating on Hellige, who averages 23.4 points.

“Luke’s an amazing player, an all-star type player,” Gehling said. “Once Luke is double-teamed or whatever, all of us have to step up as a team, and we did that tonight.”

Lady Crusaders roll Lone Tree

BY JOHN BOHNENKAMP
PCC SPORTS

WEST BURLINGTON — The blueprint was designed on Monday, but Holy Trinity’s girls basketball team tore it up on Saturday.

And the Crusaders left Loren Walker Arena with the SEI Superconference Shootout championship because of it.

The 50-26 win over Lone Tree in the title game matchup of the top seeds from the North and South divisions was actually built a few days earlier, when the Crusaders (17-2) were beaten at Danville. The Bears’ pressure defense made Holy Trinity’s offense unsafe at high speed, and Lone Tree (18-3) tried to copy that.

And it worked — for a while.

Then the Crusaders, who have been built on defense all season, held the Lions to just nine second-half points and pulled away for their first championship in this event.

“There was a good 2-3 minute time span there where we were playing at their pace,” said senior Mary Kate Bendlage, who led Holy Trinity with 24 points. “They wanted to speed us up and get the shots they wanted. But at halftime that’s what we talked about, slowing down and going our speed, because we play ours, we’re a better team.”

“We really wanted to focus on staying calm and playing our game in the second half,” said senior Natalie Randolph, who

See HTC, page 8

CAREER Exploration & Hiring EXPO

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8:30AM - 2PM

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Sports

Bloodhounds secure the 6th straight conference title

PCC STAFF

BURLINGTON – The Fort Madison Bloodhounds gave boys’ wrestling coach Ryan Smith a final dual meet to be remembered with a 51-24 win over the Grayhounds at Clark Field House Thursday night.

Smith captured his 16th conference championship and 267th overall win in front of a crowd of Burlington and Fort Madison fans who gave the coach of almost three decades a standing ovation.

Smith will usher the Bloodhounds now through the district state qualifier at Bettendorf High School on Saturday starting at 10 a.m. Competing with the Hounds at the qualifier will be Bettendorf, Burlington, Clear-Creek Amana, Davenport Central, Davenport West, Iowa City High, and Muscatine.

The IHSAA State Wrestling tournament starts Valentine’s Day Feb. 14 with Class 3A wrestling at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday through Friday with all classes starting at 9 a.m. on the Saturday’s championship sessions.

On Thursday, the Hounds won six matches in a row in the middle of the dual meet to ice the win. The string was highlighted by four straight pins from Gavin Callahan (175), Ike Thacher (190), Aaron Warner (215), and Cory Arnett to give the Bloodhounds some breathing room at 45-9.

Burlington responded with a couple of pins at 106 and 113 to make it 45-21. Luke Vanderpool recorded a pin over Joe Ebert at 120 lbs in just :27 to get Fort Madison back on the board. Burlington’s Buxton Carlson scored a 9-6 decision over Noah Swigart in the final match to set the final.

Thacher, who’s currently ranked 7th in the state at 190 lbs. according to Iowa Wrestling scored a fall over Burlington’s Salomon Gordero in 1:12. Nolan Riddle, who’s also ranked at No. 9 at 157 lbs scored a first period fall over the Hounds Owen Diferedico.

Complete results from the match are below

132: Tate Green (FOMA) over (BURL) (For.) 138: Jacob Widmer (BURL) over Tateum Schelich (FOMA) (Fall 5:21) 144: Cade Goodrich (FOMA) over Mateo Weir (BURL) (Fall 4:49) 150: Adrian Perez-Hall (BURL) over Rainer Johnson (FOMA) (Dec 16-9) 157: Nolan Riddle (FOMA) over Owen Diferedico (BURL) (Fall 1:59) 165: Joe Hartman (FOMA) over Tanner Burchett (BURL) (Dec 7-2) 175: Gavin Callahan (FOMA) over Micah Zaugg (BURL) (Fall 4:23) 190: Isaac Thacher (FOMA) over Salomon Cordero (BURL) (Fall 1:12) 215: Aaron Warner (FOMA) over Caden Huff (BURL) (Fall 2:54) 285: Cory Arnett (FOMA) over Preston Thornton (BURL) (Fall 0:58) 106: Braxton Hutchinson (BURL) over Cole Quittem (FOMA) (Fall 1:29) 113: Lathan Hand (BURL) over Brody Bolander (FOMA) (Fall 1:25) 120: Luke Vanderpool (FOMA) over Joe Ebert (BURL) (Fall 0:27) 126: Buxton Carlson (BURL) over Noah Swigart (FOMA) (Dec 9-6)



Dan Booten, a Fort Madison wrestling fan, wears a t-shirt with Fort Madison High School’s wrestling coaches from left Mick Bickford, Mike Riley, and Ryan Smith during Fort Madison’s wrestling meet against Burlington. After 26 years leading the program to 17 Southeast Conference championships, Smith decided this will be his last season with the team. Booten wrestled for Fort Madison under coach Bickford.



Photos by John Lovretta/Special to Pen City Current

Fort Madison High School’s Joe Hartman wrestles Burlington High School’s Tanner Burchett during their 165 lb. match, Thursday, February 1, 2024 at Burlington’s Clark Field House. Fort Madison won 51-24. Below, Burlington High School’s Adrien Perez-Hall wrestles Fort Madison’s Rainer Johnson during their 150 lb. match.



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PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE
Lee County, Iowa
Board of Supervisors
Agenda
DATE: Monday,
February 5, 2024
MEETING
CONVENING TIME:
10:00 A.M. (CDT)
LOCATION:
933 Avenue H
Fort Madison, IA

---AGENDA---

Lee County Board of Supervisors
 Feb 5, 2024, 10:00-11:30 AM (America/Chicago)
 Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.
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021
 United States: +1 (224) 501-3412
 Pledge of Allegiance
 Approve Agenda
 Public Input
 Discussion and Possible Action on Financing of Keokuk Ambulance Building
 Consider Approval of Publication of 2023 Wages
 Consent Agenda
 • Monday, January 29, 2024 Board Minutes
 • Claims for Payment
 • Tax Abatement Resolutions (6)
 • Class E Retail Alcohol License for Denmark Jet Stop
 • Class C Retail Alcohol License for The Hitching Post
 Reports:
 A. Commission of Veteran Affairs Quarterly

Report
 B. Commission of Veteran Affairs Minutes of Meeting
 C. Recorder's Report of Fees Collected
 Commission or Committee Reports
 Adjourn

PUBLIC MEETING
CITIZENS WELCOME

Vision and hearing assistance available upon request

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

PUBLIC NOTICE
FORT MADISON
AIRPORT COMMISSION
MONDAY,
February 5, 2024

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

AGENDA

ROLL CALL
 APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING
 BUSINESS
 1. Hanger Rentals
 a. Application & Lease Review
 2. Grant & Project Updates
 a. Pavement Rehabilitation Project
 b. AWOS Replacement Project
 AIRPORT MANAGER REPORT
 ADJOURNMENT

PUBLIC NOTICE
TENTATIVE AGENDA
FORT MADISON

CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday,
February 6, 2024
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 January 16, 2024;
 • Liquor License Renewal: Buffalo61 Bar & Grille, 6111 Reve Court, effective February 25, 2024 – Class C Retail
 • Liquor License Renewal: Under the Sun, 733 Avenue G, effective March 1, 2024 – Class B Retail Native Wine;
 • Liquor License Renewal: Dollar General #2194, 4809 Avenue O, effective March 1, 2024 – Class B Retail
 • Resolution naming financial institutions as depositories for the City of Fort Madison;

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PUBLIC NOTICES

- Resolution designating authorized signatories on the City's bank accounts;
- Claims dated January 31, 2024, January Manuals, Library Claims; and
- Payroll of January 26, 2024.

COMMUNITY REPORTS:

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

2.(Blank) **MOVED** and (blank) **SECONDED** to adopt a resolution setting bid letting and public hearing dates for the Fort Madison Municipal Airport Pavement Rehabilitation Project.

3. (Blank) **MOVED** and (blank) **SECONDED** to adopt a resolution approving the Mayor's signature on a Federal Recreational Trails Fund Grant Agreement through the Iowa Department of Transportation for the PORT Phase IV Trail Project.

4. (Blank) **MOVED** and (blank) **SECONDED** to adopt a resolution approving the Mayor's signature on the Contract Firm Demand Agreement with Interstate Power and Light Company (Alliant Energy) for the Electric Interruptible Service Agreement at the Water Treatment Plant.

5. (Blank) **MOVED** and (blank) **SECONDED** to adopt a resolution setting Special Event Permit fees per City Code Title 7, Chapter 13, Section 7(A).

6. (Blank) **MOVED** and (blank) **SECONDED** to adopt a resolution ratifying a Settlement Agreement with the Fort Madison Fire Fighters Association, Local 607.

7. (Blank) **MOVED** and (blank) **SECONDED** to adopt a resolution ratifying a Settlement Agreement with the Public Professional and Maintenance Employees, Local 2003, Police Department.

8. (Blank) **MOVED** and (blank) **SECONDED** to adopt a resolution approving the following applications for a Three-

Year Urban Revitalization Tax Exemption:

a. Nick Merschman, 1433 Avenue D (General Improvement)

b. Jason Kramer, 3009 Avenue L (General Improvement)

c. B. Marie Brady-Whitcanack, 422 Avenue F (General Improvement)

d. Larry Wright, 1734 Avenue F (General Improvement)

e. Abby Menke, 3117 Avenue J (General Improvement)

f. Cazi Forbes, 1704 Avenue I (Addition)

OTHER

9. (Blank) **MOVED** and (blank) **SECONDED** to approve the Mayor's signature on a Contract with Lynch Dallas, P.C. to provide legal services for the City of Fort Madison.

10. (Blank) **MOVED** and (blank) **SECONDED** to approve the Mayor's appointment of Melinda Blind to the Housing Authority, filling an unexpired term, expiring June 3, 2024.

11. (Blank) **MOVED** and (blank) **SECONDED** to approve the Mayor's appointment of Adriene Jenkins to the Library Board, filling an unexpired term, expiring June 30, 2028.

12. (Blank) **MOVED** and (blank) **SECONDED** to approve the Mayor's appointment of Savanna Collier to the Planning and Zoning Commission, filling an unexpired term, expiring March 31, 2025.

UPDATES

CITY MANAGER/DEPARTMENT REPORTS

COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS/MAYOR ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT - The next City Council meeting will be at 5:30 P.M. on Tuesday, February 20, 2024.

PUBLIC NOTICE
CITY OF WEST BURLINGTON
Regular City Council Meeting
Wednesday, February 7,

2024 - 6:00 PM
West Burlington City Hall
122 Broadway Street

TENTATIVE AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

PERFECTING & APPROVAL OF AGENDA

CONSENT AGENDA

All items on the Consent Agenda are Action items that will be considered by a single vote. Council members may request that an item be pulled for discussion and held for a separate vote. Items on the Consent Agenda may include claims over the City Administrator's authorized spending limit, payments related to previously approved contracts, and non-controversial or routine expenses as defined by the City's Purchasing Policy.

1. Minutes from the Regular City Council meeting on January 17, 2024

2. Minutes from the Special City Council meeting on January 23, 2024

3. Payment to Four Seasons Excavation, Inc. - \$6,025

4. Payment to Snyder & Associates for engineering services related to the Gear Ave. Trail Extension Project - \$4,763.25

5. Payment of Claims as listed on the Expense Approval Report - \$279,810.35

COUNCIL & STAFF REPORTS

- ADMINISTRATOR:
- PUBLIC WORKS:
- POLICE DEPARTMENT:
- FIRE/BUILDING DEPARTMENT:
- CLERK/FINANCE/IT:
- OTHER STAFF REPORTS:
- COUNCIL REPORTS:
- COMMUNITY REPORTS:

CITIZEN INQUIRIES

PUBLIC HEARING

1. Public Hearing on Proposed Development Agreement with JNB West Burlington, LP

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

1. Consider the second reading and waiving the final reading of an Ordinance Providing for the Division of Taxes Levied on Taxable Property in the West Burlington Urban Renewal Area, Pursuant to Section 403.19 of the Code of Iowa

2. Consider a Resolution Approving Development Agreement with JNB West Burlington, LP, Authorizing Annual Appropriation Tax Increment Payments and Pledging Certain Tax Increment Revenues to the Payment of the Agreement

3. Consider approval of Tentative Agreement with the Public Works Department Bargaining Unit

4. Consider entering into a Contract for Legal Services with Lynch Dallas, P.C.

CITIZEN INQUIRIES

CLOSED SESSION

1. Council will hold a Closed Session in accordance with Iowa Code Section 21.5.1.(j) to discuss the purchase of particular real estate only where premature disclosure could be reasonably expected to increase the

price the governmental body would have to pay for that property.

2. Consider action following the Closed Session concerning a particular piece of real estate

ADJOURN

WORK SESSION

Council will resume the Budget Work Session following the Regular Meeting to continue.

YOUR AD HERE
 Call Lee
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PUBLIC NOTICE
CITY OF WEST BURLINGTON
Work Session
Wednesday, February 7,
2024 - 5:00 PM
West Burlington City Hall
122 Broadway Street

TENTATIVE AGENDA

WORK SESSION

City Council will hold a Work Session before the Regular City Council meeting to discuss the City's proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2024-2025. If necessary, the

Work Session will continue following the City Council meeting. Work Sessions are open to the public.

DISCUSSION ITEM

1. Review of proposed budgets for the following departments:

- Building Inspection
- Misc.
- Police
- Fire
- IT
- Capital Projects
- Transfers

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HTC - Continued from Page 4

added 15 points. "We really tried to work on our defense in the second half, stay calm, and try not to let them take too many shots."

Holy Trinity opened the game with an 18-4 run, then Lone Tree closed the first half with a 13-4 run.

"We had that stretch there when they were pressing and we decided to lose our minds again, kind of like we did at Danville," Holy Trinity coach Tony Johnson said. "The biggest thing was most of their first-half points were second-chance shots. They probably scored eight or 10. You take away the second-chance points..."

That was a point of emphasis during halftime, and the Crusaders listened. They outscored Lone Tree 15-7 in the third quarter, then held the Lions to just two points in the fourth quarter.

"We cleaned our defense up and rebounded, slowed down on offense when they tried to speed us up," Johnson said. "I thought our defense was great in the second half."

"I think the first half, we came out with a big run, and then we let them back in," Bendlage said. "And in the second half, we showed the defense we've been pounding on all year. We figured out who their main shooters were, who was hot tonight. Our defense came in really key there in the second half."

And with that, the Crusaders secured the title they had been wanting.

"It's huge," Johnson said. "It's the first time since (2008) we've been here, and then to win it? Super proud of these girls, they work hard."

Writing, not wardrobe, is the real daily change

WARDROBE - Continued from Page 1

say "over the hill", just on it.

I broke down and ordered a couple pair on holiday clearance. I could feel Kelsey jumping up and down in Heaven when I made the purchase. She and I loved a good clearance rack.

And you know what, I think there are a lot of men out there wearing Lululemon. I'm notoriously about five years behind in any fad. I just now started collecting Pokemon at Central Park (that's a bit of an exaggeration. I almost got run over on a Kansas City highway walking back to our hotel from a Royals' game several years ago trying to catch a Charizard).

But fashion has always been a wardrobe faux pas for me. I looked in my winter clothes closet the other day. It was almost all dark gray, charcoal with a little purple mixed in. And yes, I have a winter closet now. Bachelor feng shui.

I was getting a little depressed putting on the same outfit with brown outdoor boots on. The baseball cap is usually part of the ensemble, but I needed a break from the mundane.

So I went online and looked up the link my nephew sent me. He's fanatical about these pants. You can golf in them, work out in them, wear them to a morning meeting and still look like you have some freakin' clue about wardrobe.

I miss the days of Lee putting on her glasses in the morning and looking to make sure my clothes matched. Most of the time it was a no go, but every now and then you'd get the, "You look nice today."

She took me through a Joseph A. Bank about eight years ago and made me get a bit more contemporary. I'm glad she did that, but I was never comfortable in them. Jackets and ties and slacks is not me. But Lululemon may just be me.

Of course they are going to have to pass the golf test. Everything has to pass that test, even though I fail it 15 out of 18 holes a round. But now I might just look a little better doing it. And let's face it, that's part of the foursome. The best dressed gets the tee box first. That's not really a rule, and would probably result in more fights on the first tee box.

So, hey. Life's a little rough out there. We have good days and bad days. We have days where we impact others' lives and days where we just want to hide at home and watch movies all day, have McDonalds deliver a McFlurry and some fries, and wrap it up with a Jameson.

Knowing this day we didn't offend anyone, but we didn't herald anyone either. I'm just a dude who's become more angry as the years pass, but never try to cook in others' kitchens. I write for everyone and try to offend no one. I don't mind ruffling feathers and holding public officials accountable, while at the same time trying to hold those very people in the best light possible (talk about your balancing acts), but at the very moment I ruin a friends' family breakfast, it's time to rethink the whole damn thing.

Aside from all of that, my closet will still have Lululemon - 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.

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