

# PEN CITY CURRENT

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

Friday, February 23, 2024 | 8 pages | Volume 8 • Issue 34



[www.pencitycurrent.com](http://www.pencitycurrent.com)

## PAW shelter is Top Dog



PCC file photo

Last fall, the new \$6.5 million PAW Shelter was in full build mode. This Sunday the shelter will kick off a \$1.5 million capital campaign with a Jordan's Way announcement.

### JORDAN'S WAY: Kris Rotunda will be awarding FM shelter \$25,000 Sunday

**BY CHUCK VANDENBERG**  
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – The PAW Animal Shelter is the top dog in the Jordan's Way cross-country animal welfare effort.

The Lee County shelter was recognized last week as the top fundraiser in the country when they had animal welfare advocate Kris Rotunda on site in August of 2022 and raised close to \$140,000.

That figure was the best in the nation and triggered another \$25,000 donation from Jordan's Way foundation. That check will be presented at a Facebook live

event on Sunday beginning at 2 p.m.

The event will also serve as a kick-off for the shelter's capital campaign to raise the final \$1.5 million needed to finish the new shelter currently under construction.

PAW Director Sandy Brown said the shelter had enough money for the shelter prior to the pandemic, but the logistical effects of the pandemic on the construction industry has pushed the cost to \$6.5 million and the shelter is now short on funds.

The Facebook live event Sunday will include Rotunda and the presentation of a championship belt.

See SHELTER, page 5

### FORT MADISON EVENT

## FMAAA has full spring lineup including Plein Air event

FORT MADISON - The FMAAA Art Center has an amazing April lined up for the Fort Madison area commencing with the area's Annual High School Art Show kicking off on Thursday, April 4. The annual Expressions Art Auction is Saturday, April 13 featuring fine art and

excellent experiences for bid along with a full range of food and beverage tastings on offer that evening. The month culminates with a full day of activities planned for Friday, April 26 including the Winter and Spring plein air competition and exhibition going on through

the day. A Lunch ala Art gallery talk with guest artists from area High Schools. The SOUP SUPPER fundraiser will have locally made pottery and hand carved wood bowls available for pur-

See FMAAA, page 8

### AREA NEWS

## DNR officials looking into Sunday fire at Geode

PCC STAFF

DANVILLE, Iowa – The Iowa Department of Natural Resources is asking the public for any information as to the cause of a suspicious fire at Geode State Park on Sunday, Feb. 18.

According to Park Ranger Andrew Kuckler, a visitor alerted staff that a tree in the park was burning. While the fire was extinguished, the tree was severely damaged and its survival is uncertain. The cause of the fire is unknown.

The tree has been certified as the largest sycamore in Iowa. While the exact age is unknown, the sycamore is estimated to be around 350 years old, based on circumference and other measurements.

"We are encouraging anyone who may have information about the fire to contact us," said Kuckler. Callers can remain anonymous.



The state's largest Sycamore caught fire at Geode State Park Sunday night. DNR officials are investigating the fire.

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### WEATHER

FRI 23 Feb .....Sunny then cloudy & breezy, 53° F/ 26° F  
SAT 24 Feb.....Sunny & chilly, 43° F/ 35° F  
SUN 25 Feb .....Sunny, 61° F/ 37° F

### IOWA LOTTERY

DOUBLE PLAY 02/21 ..... 23 49 51 54 58, Powerball: 11  
LOTTO AMERICA 02/21 ..... 2 6 26 40 43, Star Ball: 1 All Star Bonus: 4  
LUCKY FOR LIFE 02/21 .....20 21 29 43 45, Lucky Ball: 13  
PICK 3 MIDDAY 02/21 ..... 3 0 1  
PICK 3 EVENING 02/21 ..... 1 6 5  
PICK 4 MIDDAY 02/21 ..... 8 3 6 8  
PICK 4 EVENING 02/21 ..... 8 1 5 6  
POWERBALL 02/21 .....4 27 33 41 42, Powerball: 14 Power Play: 2

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# Obituaries/Iowa News

## OBITUARIES

### LARRY ADAMSON

Larry Adamson, 80, of Kahoka, passed away Monday, February 19, 2024 at his home in Kahoka.

He was born August 19, 1943 in Luray, MO, the son of James Franklin and Neva Lucille McCarty Adamson. He attended Kahoka High School.



ADAMSON

Larry was a veteran of the United States Army and proudly served his country.

Larry was united in marriage to Paula Hale and to this union two children were born, a stillborn daughter, Dawn and Dani. They later divorced. He then married Nancy Stott Bunker on November 23, 1979.

To this union is where the five D's became one. Dennis, Daryl, Denise, Dawn and Dani.

He is survived by his wife of forty-four years, Nancy Adamson of Kahoka, a daughter Dawn Uhlmeier (Darian) of Troy, MO, son, Dani Adamson (Marianne) of Raymore, MO, three stepchildren, Dennis Bunker, Daryl Bunker and Denise Munguia (Oscar), grandchildren, Brett Uhlmeier, Brianne (Brandon) Wielms, Dalen (Alyssa) Adamson, Tristen Uhlmeier, Kayden Uhlmeier, Colton Adamson, Amy Bunker, April Dean (Daniel), Amanda Young, Danielle Bunker, Devin Bunker, Daryl Bunker "DJ" (Brooke), Alicia Munguia, Dammon Bunker and Victoria Munguia and great-grandchildren, Alexia Goemaat, Kidn Dean, Ridge Steele, Cloie Young, Natalee Ball, Dantae Dean, Ethan Banes, Jacob Ball, Tanner O'Shea, Zeona Dean, Easton Bunker, Jaxx Hodson, Dontea Bunker, Alaina Bunker, Hennessey Bunker, Isaiah Bunker, Hazley Wielms, Katalina Allsup, Westley Bunker, Sailor Munguia, Willow Bunker, Guinevere Wielms, Oliver Bunker, Mason Bunker, Anastasia Bunker, Ainsley Bunker, Baby Wielms in March and baby Bunker in May. He is also survived by his sister, Jeanie Ray of Luray, sisters-in-law, Janet Adamson of Doubs, IA, Rozella Younker (Gary) of Denver, CO and Judy Stott of Keokuk along with numerous nieces and nephews.



He was preceded in death by his parents, a brother, Carl Adamson, a sister, Mary Dieterich and her husband Norman, brothers-in-law, Larry Ray, Ramo Stott, Danny Stott, and Clarence Stott, sister-in-law, Louise Rockhold and a nephew, Rusty Ray.

Larry worked with his dad in construction. He was known as a truck driver most of his life, working at the sandpit in Wayland, MO for the Kahoka Rock Quarry. He later drove over the road for Holland Trucking in Keokuk and Bud Campbell in Wayland.

He loved his coffee at Ma and Pa's, Cookies, Steve's or Ayerco, wherever the gossip took him. He loved to talk politics. He was one of the founding members to start the Clark County Rescue Squad. He was involved with his daughter's Girl Scout Troops and a big help to his wife, especially all the camping with his big blue Suburban and many adventures over the years. He loved hunting and fishing with his sons.

Most of all he loved spending time with his family and was lovingly known as "Tickle Papa" by his great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held 6:30 p.m. Friday, February 26, 2024 at the Vigen Memorial Home in Kahoka.

Visitation will be held from 5 - 6:30 p.m. Friday at the funeral home with the family meeting with friends at that time.

Memorials may be made to the Clark County Rescue Squad.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at [www.vigenmemorialhome.com](http://www.vigenmemorialhome.com).

## Judicial commission has vacancies

DES MOINES - Notice is hereby given of vacancies in the office of Elective Judicial Nominating Commissioner for Judicial Election Districts 4, 5B, 8A and 8B. This is to notify the public that special elections will be held from April 1, 2024, until and including April 26, 2024, to elect a woman in Districts 4, 5B and 8B,

and a man in District 8A, to fill these vacancies and serve the remainder of the terms for these positions. See Iowa Code § 46.4. The terms for these positions expire January 31, 2030.

Individuals who wish to serve on a District Judicial Nominating Commission are not required to be attorneys but must meet certain legal requirements. In addition, to have their name placed on the election ballot, individuals must file their completed nominating petition with State Court Administration no later than Thursday, March 25, 2024. The nominating petition must be signed by at least ten eligible electors of the candidate's judicial district.

Click here if you wish to obtain a nominating petition, and then follow the instructions included with the

petition regarding how to complete the petition and submit it.

The State Court Administrator will conduct this election, and eligible attorneys shall have the ability to vote. See Iowa Code Chapter 46 for specific information about voting eligibility.

Voting by eligible attorneys will begin April 1, 2024.

Election winners shall be notified, and the election results shall be reported to the Governor and the General Assembly and published on the judicial branch website.

The above is a summary of the nomination and selection process. If you wish to learn more, or if you are interested in becoming a member of a District Judicial Nominating Commission, you should carefully read Article V, sections 15 and 16 of the Iowa Constitution and Iowa Code Chapter 46 so you fully understand all the details of the nomination and selection process, and the requirements for running for, or voting for, the position of commissioner. You may also find additional information on the Iowa Judicial Nominating Commissions website at <https://www.iowajnc.gov/>.

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**Lee County Soccer**  
Lee County Youth Soccer League is open to 1st - 6th grade boys and girls.

**Spring Soccer Registration Fees:**  
\$30/members \$50/non-members  
Registration Deadline: March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024

FORT MADISON FAMILY YMCA

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**PEN CITY CURRENT**  
It's Black & White and Read all over

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P.O. Box 366 | Fort Madison, IA

## Education News/Sports

# GRHS offers scholarships for 2024-25

WEST BURLINGTON – Applications for the Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center Auxiliary and Great River Health Foundation scholarships for the 2024-2025 school year are available. Applications for all scholarships are due April 1.

The types of scholarships are below.

- Auxiliary High School Scholarship – The Auxiliary High School Scholarship, offered by Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center Auxiliary, is for students pursuing healthcare careers. It is open to high school seniors and nontraditional students in the hospital's service area. Although scholarships are offered on both Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center campuses, applicants may receive only one scholarship.

- Auxiliary Continuing Education Scholarship – The Auxiliary Continuing Education Scholarship, offered by the Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center Auxiliary, is for students who are studying for healthcare careers and have completed their freshman year of college. It is open to students in the hospital's service area.

- Kathleen Canella Family Scholarship – The Kathleen Canella Family Scholarship, offered by the Great River Health Foundation, is for students who are pursuing healthcare education, excluding medical school. This scholarship is open to seniors or recent graduates from Fort Madison High School, Central Lee High School, Holy Trinity High School, or Keokuk High School. Non-traditional students will also be considered.

- Tracey Howe Scholarship – The Tracey Howe Scholarship, offered by the Great River Health Foundation, is for students pursuing certain healthcare careers at Southeastern Community College and Iowa Wesleyan University. Multiple scholarships are to be awarded and are available to public and private high school graduates from Des Moines and Lee County schools. Nontraditional students living in Des Moines and Lee Counties are also eligible. Eligible career paths are listed in the application.

More information and scholarship applications are available at <https://www.greatriverhealth.org/about-us/scholarships/>.

# Bendlage names SEISC South POY

**1st TEAM:** HTC's Randolph joins Bendlage as All-conference

PCC Staff

FORT MADISON – Mary Kate Bendlage continues to pile on honors for athletic career at Holy Trinity Catholic.

Bendlage was named Player of the Year for the SEI Superconference South division.

The senior Lady Crusader shot 52.3% from the field for the season and scored 481 points, which was 3rd in the state in Class 1A. Her 191 field goals were second-best in 1A. Bendlage led the Crusaders to the Region 8 semifinals where they lost to Montezuma 60-44.

She is joined on the first team by HTC senior Natalie Randolph. Randolph shot 30.5% on 3-point attempts and scored 326 points on the season, second behind Bendlage.

She also shot 62% from the freethrow line which was best of all starters for Holy Trinity Catholic who finished the season 20-3.

Teagan Snaadt was named second team along with Central Lee's Lizzy Mason and Ken-na Sandoval. Snaadt led the Crusaders with 106 assists on the season, while Mason led the Lady Hawks (6-16) in scoring with 276 points. Sandoval led the Hawks in rebounding with 187 and was second in points with 194.

Sophomores Taylor Jones and Jayden Mueller were named honorable mention for Central Lee, while Holy Trinity junior Anna Bendlage and senior Reagan Holvoet received honorable mention.

Holy Trinity's Head Coach Tony Johnson and Mediapolis' Todd Borrison were named co-coaches of the year. The 20-win season put Johnson at 133 wins for the Crusaders.

# DIAGNOSED WITH NEUROPATHY?

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## For the Record/From the Front

# Capital campaign for new shelter kicks off Sunday

**SHELTER** - Continued from Page 1

“We have the championship belt and a \$25,000 check. On Sunday Feb. 25 we are going to do a live video with Kris celebrating the fact we are the winners,” Brown said.

“We’re going to do it at the facility and you’ll get a sneak peek inside the facility. This is a really, really big deal.”

Rotunda’s Jordan’s Way program is a 4-hour live video blog in a zany format that has no agenda but to raise funds for animal shelters across the country. The event will be back in October with a challenge this year of \$200,000, Brown said.

“We will have three months to raise that money. But last year we did just one month because it’s hard to sustain something for three months.”

Brown said since the pandemic occurred, dogs are being turned over to shelters at a pace unseen before.

“Right now every shelter in the US is full of dogs. People are dumping dogs like crazy. We just took in 37 dogs from a breeder this week and there were well over 100 in that facility,” she said.

“If people put breeders out of business, where do these animals go? There’s 1000s and 1000s of breeders throughout the U.S. When they either choose to retire or are shut down, those animals have to have a place to go and there’s no space anywhere. Everybody is full. The best thing you can do for an animal shelter is keep your animals. The world is disposable and we’re raising a generation of ‘I’ll just get a new one.’”

Brown said she really doesn’t know what the Sunday event will be like, but Rotunda will be part of the event as will Mark Schickedanz, the construction manager of the new shelter, and staff to talk about the new building.

“Really we just want to recognize this win. We blew away 300 shelters and most of them are a whole lot bigger than we are. It shows what people who are dedicated to a cause can do. There will be a donation portal on the site, but we also take Venmo, Paypal, or people can just stop by the shelter to donate, or maybe adopt an animal,” Brown said.

“And \$1 is just as important at \$10 or \$50 or \$100. No donation is too small to help get this building done.”

Brown said not only are they working to finish funding the new facility, they also have to keep up with the costs of the current facility.

“That’s all on top of the fundraising, current vet bills, utilities, staff,” she said.

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## For the Record

### Fort Madison Police Report

02/20/24 – 3:57 p.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 3900 block of Bluff Road.

02/21/24 – 1:45 a.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of a burglary in the 1400 block of Avenue H.

02/21/24 – 9:23 a.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 6000 block of Avenue O.

02/21/24 – 9:29 a.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 200 block of 26th Street.

02/21/24 – 11:25 a.m. – Fort Madison police arrested Jeffery Dean Baldwin, 46, of Fort Madison, in the 500 block of 48th

Street, on a charge of 1st degree harassment. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

02/21/24 – 12:18 p.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 6100 block of Reve Court.

### Keokuk Police Report

02/21/24 – 7:46 a.m. – Keokuk police arrested a 16-year-old male juvenile, no hometown reported, in the 2200 block of Middle Road, on a charge of 5th degree criminal mischief. He was released to a parent.

02/21/24 – 2:08 p.m. – Keokuk police cited and released Scott Frank Calhoun, 50, of Keokuk, in the 300 block of North Park Drive, on a charge of 5th degree theft less than \$300.

02/21/24 – 2:23 p.m. – Ke-

okuk police cited and released Loretta Jeanette Calhoun, 42, of Keokuk, in the 300 block of North Park Drive, on a charge of 5th degree theft less than \$300.

02/21/24 – 10:38 p.m. – Keokuk police arrested a 16-year-old female juvenile, no hometown reported, in the 500 block of North 10th Street, on a charge of assault w/bodily injury. She was released to a parent.

### Lee County Sheriff Report

02/20/24 – Lee County sheriff deputies had no activity to report.

02/21/24 – Lee County sheriff deputies had no activity to report.

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

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## Classifieds/Public Notices

# PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

### PUBLIC NOTICES

**PUBLIC NOTICE  
TENTATIVE AGENDA  
FORT MADISON  
CITY COUNCIL  
SPECIAL MEETING**  
Tuesday,  
February 27, 2024  
4:00 P.M.  
City Council Chambers,  
City Hall

ROLL CALL  
AGENDA  
1. (Blank) MOVED and  
(blank) SECONDED to  
approve the agenda, as  
written.  
OTHER  
2. 2024-2025 Budget  
Review  
ADJOURNMENT  
3. (Blank) MOVED and  
(blank) SECONDED to  
adjourn until Tuesday,  
March 5, 2024 at 5:30

P.M.  
**PUBLIC NOTICE  
MEETING NOTICE**  
The Green Bay Levee &  
Drainage District will hold  
a regular meeting at 7:00  
p.m., Thursday, February  
29, 2024, at Heartland  
Co-op, east of Wever.

**PUBLIC NOTICE  
REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE  
WEST POINT  
CITY COUNCIL  
WEST POINT, IOWA  
52656  
JANUARY 8, 2024**  
Mayor Joseph Lov-  
ing called the properly  
noticed regular meeting

of the City Council of  
the City of West Point to  
order in the West Point  
Library, 309 Fifth Street,  
West Point, Iowa 52656  
on December 11, 2023,  
at 6:30 p.m. In addition to  
Mayor Gary Peitz indicat-  
ed the following Council  
Members were present:  
Wendy Vonderhaar, Larry  
Buchholz, Bruce Well-  
man, Brian Meierotto and  
Will Stuekerjuergen.  
Mayor reported the  
following: Municipal Utility  
Board Meeting Tuesday,  
February 13, 2024, at  
5:00 p.m. at City Hall,  
Library Board Meeting,  
Tuesday, February 13,  
2024, at 6:00 p.m.; Next  
regular City Council Meet-  
ing is Monday, February  
12, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.

at the West Point Public  
Library.  
Randy Welding present-  
ed the City Administra-  
tor's report.

**CLAIMS REPORT  
FOR DECEMBER 2023**  
3rd Generation Electric  
..... 308.94  
Access System Leasing  
..... 164.60  
Amazon Capital Services  
..... 777.87  
Aspelmeier & Fisch  
..... 122.50  
Baker & Taylor ..... 870.80  
Daily Democrat ..... 73.35  
Delta Dental of Iowa  
..... 124.40  
Floyd's E-Z Way ... 105.00  
Globe Life Liberty Nation-  
al..... 39.08

Great Western Supply Co  
..... 231.00  
Pilot Grove Savings Bank  
..... 19,105.23  
Gregory Concrete Con-  
struction ..... 1,821.00  
GRRWA ..... 992.00  
Hoenig Tree Service Inc  
..... 1,875.00  
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..... 3,391.40  
ION Environmental Ser-  
vices ..... 484.00  
Iowa Finance Authority  
..... 13,480.00  
Magazone Subscription  
Service..... 440.62  
Mastercard..... 1,032.77  
McFarland-Swan .... 49.99  
Micromarketing LLC  
..... 34.31  
MidAmerican Energy  
..... 11.44  
Paul's Plumbing & Heat-  
ing..... 717.00  
Petty Cash ..... 23.02  
Pranger, Mary Jane

Robins Sales & Service  
LLC ..... 63.75  
Sonny's Supermarket  
..... 8.23  
Sun Life Financial  
..... 202.39  
Treasurer-State of IA  
..... 215.47  
US Cellular ..... 76.56  
USPS ..... 212.68  
Verizon Wireless..... 40.01  
Welding McKenzie  
..... 125.00  
West Point Professional  
Group..... 1500.00  
West Point Utilities  
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Wex Bank ..... 489.26  
Windstream ..... 300.35

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# Classifieds/Public Notices

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## PUBLIC NOTICES

FUND: PREV BAL, RCPTS, DSBSD, CUR BAL: Gen.Govt.: 508,775.35; 32,152.11; 61,237.58; 476,614.56 Grants: 3,440.82;--;--; 3,440.82; Cap Equip: 4127.06, ---, ---, 4127.06;

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**BURLINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS  
Deadline- March 29, 2024

- Why should I apply?**
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  - \$4,550 annual Paramedic cert pay
  - Pension with retirement at age 55
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  - 15 days (7 weeks) paid time off
  - Newer apparatus and equipment
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- Application Process**
- Applications open January 1, 2024
  - Applications close March 29, 2024
  - Written exam April 4-5, 2024 (online)
  - Interviews April 11-12, 2024
  - High School Diploma or GED
  - Driver's License

Scan the QR code, click here, or go to <https://www.burlingtoniowa.org/2634/Recruitment> to apply online.



Lib County/St: 6,291.47; 1,982.73, 1,390.10; 6,884.10; Lib Mem & Gift: 14,151.62; 91.93; 820.54; 13,423.01; Hoening Estate: 522,258.25; 5,000.97; --; 527,259.22 Road Use Tax: 51,150.78; 11,092.83;5,644.20 55,004.45; LOST: 10,217.72; 10,933.35;10,933.35;

**HELP WANTED**

**LEE COUNTY SECONDARY ROADS ROAD MAINTENANCE WORKER II**

Lee County is taking applications for a South Road Maintenance Worker II. Duties will include the operation of light and heavy equipment and trucks used to perform road maintenance and construction projects, occasionally plowing snow, and the performance of manual labor as required. Requires a high school graduate or G.E.D. equivalent and must possess a valid Class A commercial driver's license with air brake and tanker endorsements. The starting wage range is \$23.47 to \$28.65.

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

For a job description and to apply, download an application from our county website, [www.leecounty.org/employment.aspx](http://www.leecounty.org/employment.aspx), or you can pick an application up at the Engineer's office and return your completed application along with a resume to Lee County Engineer, P.O. Box 158, Fort Madison, Iowa 52627, or email it to [engineer@leecounty.org](mailto:engineer@leecounty.org). Applications will be accepted until 4 p.m. on Friday, March 8, 2024.

If you have any questions, please contact Lee County Engineer Office at (319) 372-2541 or email them at [engineer@leecounty.org](mailto:engineer@leecounty.org).



10,217.72; Restricted Gifts: 6,335.67;--; 1,524.40; 4,811.27 East Sewer; --; ; 16,678.00; -16,678.00; Walk Path; 6,079.40;--; --; 6,079.40; American Rescue:57,581.48; 17.09;--;--; 57,598.57; Sewer: 32,562.79 ;19,066.35 ; 28,941.72 ;21,889.94; Sewer Sinking: 45,309.02; 8,413.33; 13,480.00; 40,242.35; Landfill: -11,013.56, ---, --; -11,013.56

/s/ Gary B. Peitz, Mayor  
Attest: Randy Welding,  
City Administrator  
Denise R. McGowan /  
City Clerk

**PUBLIC NOTICE CITY OF WEST POINT & WEST POINT UTILITY SYSTEM GROSS ANNUAL SALARIES PAID FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2023**

In compliance with provisions of Code of Iowa 372.13, following are the gross annual wages and salaries paid during calendar year 2023:

- Jeffrey Abbey..... 9,246.70
- Spencer Barnes ..... 3,515.50
- Flavian Boeding ..... 55,823.97
- Mark Camby .. 100,420.57
- Jason Dinwiddie ... 263.20
- Dustin Fullhart ... 6,910.13
- Dawn Holtkamp ..... 46,934.56
- Philip Kruse ..... 630.00
- Noah Lange ..... 3,995.50
- Mark Long..... 509.95
- Joseph Loving ... 1,914.00
- Denise McGowan ..... 43,650.72
- Bryor McMillen..... 279.65
- Brian Meierotto ..... 630.00
- Courtney Milks..... 487.55
- Ronda O'Keefe .. 5,608.28
- Nathan Parcell... 9,272.69
- Bradley Roberts ..... 75,042.08
- Becky Sanders .. 8,403.66
- Dara Sanders .. 36,161.17
- Judith Steffensmeier ..... 731.46
- William Stuekerjuergen ..... 630.00
- Ethan Unzicker .. 3,265.03

- Daniel Waters ..... 630.00
- Randy Welding ..... 41,052.91
- Bruce Wellman ..... 550.00

- Kirk Wellman ... 41,621.37
- Jackson Worster .....3,117.60
- Randy Young

- ..... 87,881.47
- Total Employee Wages ..... 589,179.72

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## From the Front

# FMAAA Expression Auction set for Sunday, April 13

**FMAAA** - Continued from Page 1

chase along with a variety of soups. The FINALE performance that evening features FMHS jazz musicians. The Soup Supper and FINALE will be held across the street from the Art Center in the 800 block of Avenue G in the retail space formerly occupied by Shug's Tiny Town toy store, while High School and plein air work will be on display at the Art Center. The doors will be open until 9pm that evening for visitors who would like to take in all of the activities and view the exhibitions. See the table below for dates and times.

"Much of the success of April rests with a good launch of all of these events in March and then the domino effect will hopefully keep momentum building," said FMAAA Director, Lori Illner Greene. "The Expressions Art Auction in April takes months to plan with tickets going on sale in March the week before Brews and Brushes, a fun painting experience held in several downtown locations on March 16. We are excited to have a train and depot scene by Jim Knapp for everyone to paint that night. Then the plein air event registration begins March 22nd and continues until the day of that event on April 26th. "We really appreciate the efforts of our volunteers to help us put on these events that both benefit the Art Center and are fun for our artists and the community to participate in," Greene said. "For example, to get ready for the SOUP Supper, FMAAA member, Glen Hamman, is already throwing bowls on the wheels he has lent to the pottery studio. Soup bowls to choose from will include wooden ones from area wood carvers, Paul Simpson and Doug Gatton, who are hand-carving bowls and soup spoons for the fundraiser. Even Fort Madison resident and beekeeper, Neal Dodd, is donating honey to go along with the corn-bread planned as part of the menu."

Plein Air painting brings in artists and visitors from around the region. These events are great opportunities for artists who like to work onsite outdoors to create work and then get together with other artists for a friendly competition. The quickly rendered work captures what the artist is experiencing at that moment: a particular way the light hits a winding path, a spectacular sunset, or the moody atmosphere of early mornings. Many collectors are enchanted with the immediacy of this genre of painting. Even casual viewers admire and are taken in by the energetic strokes and vivid colors. The FMAAA plein air event will be a competition with prizes for first place through honorable mention along with overall Best of Show. Artists are invited to leave their work on display and for sale during a two-week exhibition during which a People's Choice winner will be determined.

This plein air event is designed with open registration for a month culminating with the judging and additional two-week exhibition. The longer "open" time frame

provides maximum flexibility to accommodate artists getting out in a variety of weather and atmospheric conditions to capture scenes from a 30-mile radius around Fort Madison. While artists can have several painting surfaces stamped, they will be limited in the number of submissions to the Plein Air competition. All artwork is due in by 3 p.m. on Friday, April 26 framed and wired for hanging. Judging commences promptly at 4 p.m. with winners announced at 6 p.m. People's Choice award announced on Saturday, May 11 at 3 p.m. For specific details and rules, or to pre-register, please go to the EVENTS tab on the FMAAA Art Center website [fortmadisonart.com](http://fortmadisonart.com)

March and April FMAAA Art Center Events Details

Thursday, March 7: 5-7pm Opening reception Landscapes and Farmscapes water-colors by Rebecca Williamson

Saturday, March 16: 4-8pm Brews and Brushes

Friday, March 22: 8am Winter and Spring plein air registration opens (continues to 4/26 10am), noon -Lunch ala Art luncheon and gallery talk by Rebecca Williamson; 7-9pm FINALE featuring new material by Brad Kurz

Thursday, April 4: 5-7pm Opening reception Annual High School Art Exhibition

Saturday, April 13: 6pm Expressions Art Auction

Friday, April 26: 8am to 10 a.m. - Last chance for artists to register; 3 pm Art-work submission deadline, framed and wired; 4 pm Judging; 5- 7 pm Soup Supper Spoonfest Fundraiser; 6 pm Plein Air Winners announced; 7 - 9 pm FINALE performance evening featuring FMHS Jazz Band members

April 26 - May 11, 2024 Plein Air exhibition and People's Choice Award voting. Plein Air artwork on display and for sale at FMAAA Art Center until May 11th at 5pm. People's Choice award will be announced by 3pm on May 11, 2024.



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