

PEN CITY CURRENT

It's Black & White and Read all over

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www.pencitycurrent.com

Hounds drop two to BHS



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Fort Madison's Conner Gehling lands in the stretch after tipping away a shot in the 2nd half of the Bloodhounds' 3-1 loss at Burlington Monday night.

BHS DOWNS HOUNDS, LADY HOUNDS: Conference title hopes wane as FM loses two

• Fort Madison girls fall 2-0 at home; complete game story inside

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

BURLINGTON – Fort Madison went into Monday's boys Southeast Conference soccer match a little banged up. They ended a day a little more banged up with their conference title hopes teetering on the brink. Burlington High School handed the Bloodhounds their third

loss in three days 3-1 and dropped Fort Madison to 5-2 in conference play and 6-6 on the season.

The energy of the game belonged to the Hounds in the opening minutes as they took control from the opening kick and pushed the Grayhounds back to the box. Junior Henry Graham was in a one-on-one situation on the Bloodhounds right side, but a push from behind sent Graham to the ground with a bum knee. He would limp off to the sideline, but wouldn't return the rest of the match.

Fort Madison Head Coach Kevin Wellman said that wasn't

See **HOUNDS**, page 4

IOWA NEWS

AG Bird warns Iowans to be on lookout for storm scammers

DES MOINES—Following the severe weather this past weekend, Iowa Attorney General Brenna Bird is warning Iowans of scammers and shady contractors who exploit natural disaster victims. These fraudsters prey on vulnerable Iowans seeking

repairs after a natural disaster, draining their bank accounts while failing to deliver.

Iowans should be on guard for clean-up, home repair, and construction contractors, including those seeking business door-to-door and

asking for advance payment.

"The storms that tore through Iowa over the weekend destroyed homes and livelihoods," said Attorney General Bird. "My heart goes out to every

See **STORM**, page 6

COMMENTARY

EMPTY NEST

By Curt Swarm



Local author pens fictional kids' book

Drawing on her experience as an educator and motivational speaker, and her love of children, animals and the farm, Denise McCormick is about to announce the publication of her second children's book, "Polly the Talking Collie, I am Taking 100% Responsibility!" Here are a few excerpts:

I don't remember the day very well. I was just a puppy when my new parents came to take me to their Iowa farm. We drove along a gravel road to their big, white farmhouse surrounded by corn and bean fields.

I had a game I played when a car or truck came up the road. I ran alongside my invisible fence to see if I could outrun the vehicle. It was so much fun! Also, all my barking let my Mom and Dad know someone was in our area. Barking to protect the farm was one of my responsibilities.

My name is Polly, and everyone calls me Polly the talking Collie. That's because my barking always gets their attention.

As a puppy growing up, I had so many life lessons to learn and so many responsibilities on the farm. At first, I didn't understand what responsibility meant. Responsibility means taking care of my jobs and duties. Taking one hundred percent responsibility means I did what needed to be done, and I took ownership of my actions.

I'm an old doggy now, and I have a new responsibility. I am a service dog. I stay by my farmer's side every day and love him unconditionally.

Denise McCormick's goals with her new book are to (1) Teach children what

See **SWARM**, page 6

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WEATHER

TUE 30 Apr.....Sunny & warm, 79° F/ 57° F
 WED 01 May.....Mostly sunny with chance of showers, 74° F/ 62° F
 THU 02 May.....Showers, 78° F/ 57° F

IOWA LOTTERY

LUCKY FOR LIFE 04/28.....4 25 32 35 40, Lucky Ball: 9
 PICK 3 MIDDAY 04/28.....3 5 8
 PICK 3 EVENING 04/28.....4 0 0
 PICK 4 MIDDAY 04/28.....4 9 0 8
 PICK 4 EVENING 04/28.....0 5 0 1

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Obituaries/News

OBITUARIES

ROBERT J. STEPHENSON

Robert "Bob" J. Stephenson, 48, died suddenly at the S.E. Regional Medical Center in Fort Madison, IA on Thursday, April 25, 2024. He was fondly called "Munchkin Bob" by anyone that knew him.



STEPHENSON

He was born on November 27, 1975 in Keokuk, IA the son of Kurtis and Rebecca Cunningham Stephenson.

On August 17, 2002 he was united in marriage to Shelly Rose in Keokuk. She survives.

Other survivors include three daughters, Angelica Rose (Levi Voss) of Keokuk, Alyssa Rose of Eldora, IA and Anna Stephenson of Keokuk, one grandson, Theo Voss. Three brothers, Charles Stephenson (Loretta) of Clayton, IL, Brian Lewis (Cindy Zancanelli) of Commerce City, CO and Feilding Lewis (Jessica) of Honesdale, PA, nieces and nephews, Adina Lewis, Laken Stephenson, Leaney Stephenson, Sophia Lewis and Brinley Lewis and, of course his dog, Holly.

He had been employed at the Goldie's Saw Mill for several years.

Bob did a lot of wrenchin', he loved to work on anything that had an engine, whether it needed it or not. He loved to talk and take up a conversation with just about anyone.

He really enjoyed going to car races and demo derbys.

Memorial services will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday at the Vigen Memorial Home with Rev. William Mitchell officiating. With burial in the Oakland Sand Cemetery, Vincennes, IA.

Visitation will be held after 2 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home with family meeting with friends from 5-7 p.m.

Memorials may be made to the family.

The Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk is in charge of arrangements.

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

Designate before you Celebrate

Cinco de Mayo is a day to enjoy Mexican culture with themed food and drink. GTSB is partnering with law enforcement to spread the message, "Designate Before You Celebrate".

If you're going to indulge in alcohol on May 5, plan a sober driver or use a ride share service.

Cinco de Mayo is celebrated a number of ways - historical re-enactment of the Battle of Puebla, parades with colorful costumes, mariachi bands and (yummy!) food from the Mexican

culture.

Whether you are just meeting a few friends after work or attending a Cinco de Mayo party, think before you drink and plan a safe ride home.

- Designate a sober driver
- Use a rideshare app or taxi
- Take public transportation
- Stay the night at your location

Remember on Cinco de Mayo, Friends Don't Let Friends Drive Drunk.

May your celebration be a colorful, festive and safe.

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OBITUARIES

JOEL D. AMANDUS

Joel Don Amandus, 63, of Fort Madison, Iowa died Saturday, April 27, 2024 at his home. He was born June 24, 1960 in Clear Lake, Iowa, a son of Don and Virginia (Anderson) Amandus. On July 2, 2005, he married Donna Campbell. They later



AMANDUS

divorced, but remained best friends. Joel worked for years as a service writer for Shottenkirk, Fort Madison until his retirement. He loved fishing, and spending time with his family, especially his Cabaret family. He beamed with pride watching his son, Jack, do all things, but most of all when he played his guitar.

He is survived by his best friend, Donna Amandus; his sons: Jackson Joel Don Amandus, Trent (Char) Justice; and Dylan (Corbyn) Schradler; one daughter, Whittney (Zac) Fuller; one brother, Dave Amandus of Fort Dodge, Iowa; and his grandchildren: Ashton, Greyson, Haizleigh, and baby Harlynn Ann on the way, Brennan and Callan, Birdie and Lyle. He was preceded in death by his parents, one sister, Janice, and one brother, Dan.

A Celebration of Life will be held on May 11, 2024 at 2:00 pm at the Cabaret, 1337 Ave G, Fort Madison. A memorial has been established for Jack's education. Barr Memorial Chapel is honored to serve the Amandus family, and an online guest book can be found at www.barrmemorialchapel.com.

TAMARA S. BEACH

Tamara Sue Beach, 64, of Wapello, IA, passed away on Saturday, April 27, 2024 at 8:37 PM at Wapello Specialty Care after a thirty-year battle with Multiple Sclerosis.



BEACH

She was born on July 4, 1959 in Burlington to Leslie and Victoria Swanson Enke. Tami married Ernie Beach in Ft. Madison and they later divorced. Tami was a bartender and worked at restaurants. She loved playing cards, especially rummy. Most of all she loved and lived for her children.

Survivors include one daughter, Tara (Daniel) Nolan of Donnellson; one son, Kyle (Laura) Beach of Donnellson; nine grandchildren, Jesse (Logan), Joey (Ashley), Clayton, Caleb, Adrienne, Trevor, Gavin, Hunter and Logan; three great grandchildren, Jaxson, Ave and Tate; her mother, Vicki Beach of Denmark; one brother, Kurt (Shannon) Enke of Wever; her sister in law, Kelly Enke of Denmark; three step children, Brian (Ranee) Beach of Dallas City and Scott Beach and Kristi Beach of Denmark; two step brothers, John (Rena) Beach and Jerry Beach of Denmark; nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her father, Les Enke; two brothers, Victor and Gene Enke; her daughter, Tonya Beach; her stepfather, Pork Beach and her stepsister, Julie Bergquist.

A graveside service for Tami will be held on Friday, May 3, 2024 at 11 AM at Augusta Cemetery. There will be no formal visitation.

In lieu of flowers, a memorial has been established in her memory and online condolences may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: 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.

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

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For the Record

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report

04/24/24 - Fort Madison police had no activity to report.

04/25/24 - 2:08 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 5000 block of Avenue O.

04/25/24 - 4:17 p.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Joshua Dean Potter, 37, of Fort Madison, in the 700 block of 23rd Street, on a warrant for failure to appear - driving while barred. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

04/25/24 - 5:40 p.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Matthew Jay Wells, 23, of Fort Madison, in the 2600 block of Avenue L, on charges of public intoxication, 2nd degree harassment, and possession of a controlled substance - marijuana 1st offense. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

04/25/24 - 8:13 p.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Jessica Kim Bower, 33, of Fort Madison, at 15th Street and Avenue F, on charges of eluding - 25 over limit and reckless driving. She was taken to Lee County Jail.

04/26/24 - 4:26 p.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Clinton Allen Keenan, Jr., 18, of Fort Madison in the 1100 block of Avenue H, on a warrant for no valid driver's license. She was taken to Lee County Jail and held.

04/26/24 - 6:02 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a hit and run in the 200 block of 2nd Street.

04/27/24 - 6:24 a.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Jason Theodore Kokjohn, 43, of Fort Madison, in the 3000 block of Avenue O, on a warrant for failure to appear. He was taken to Lee County Jail and held.

04/27/24 - 3:37 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a hit and run in the 1400 block of Avenue H.

04/27/24 - 8:26 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a stolen vehicle reported at

the police station.

Keokuk Police Report

04/24/24 - 8:06 a.m. - Keokuk police responded to a report of a burglary in the 300 block of High Street.

04/24/24 - 8:27 a.m. - Keokuk police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 300 block of High Street.

04/24/24 - 3:41 p.m. - Keokuk police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 1200 block of Main Street.

04/24/24 - 3:53 p.m. - Keokuk police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 1100 block of Orleans Avenue.

04/24/24 - 5:54 p.m. - Keokuk police responded to a report of a stolen vehicle in the 400 block of South 12th Street.

04/25/24 - 6:56 a.m. - Keokuk police arrested Bonnie Sue Land, 49, of Keokuk, in the 1700 block of Timea Street, on two charges of unauthorized credit card use less than \$1500. She was taken to Lee County Jail.

04/25/24 - 7:00 a.m. - Keokuk police arrested Bonnie Sue Land, 49, of Keokuk, in the 1400 block of Fulton Street, on a charge of 1st offense domestic assault - bodily injury. She was taken to Lee County Jail.

04/26/24 - 7:43 p.m. - Keokuk Police responded to a report of a two-vehicle accident in the 1800 block of Main Street. A vehicle driven by Shelby Catherine Labonte, 34 of Keokuk struck the rear of a vehicle driven by Darl William Weisinger, 61, of Mendon, Ill, at a red stop light. Labonte was cited for failure to obey displayed vehicle warnings or instructions. No injuries were reported.

04/26/24 - 8:52 a.m. - Keokuk Police arrested a 14-year-old male juvenile in the 2000 block of Orleans on a charge of simple assault. He was referred to juvenile court.

04/26/24 - 9:31 a.m. - Keokuk

Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 100 block of the Hwy. 61 bypass.

04/27/24 - 6:00 a.m. - Keokuk Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1900 block of Orleans Avenue.

04/27/24 - 11:36 a.m. - Keokuk Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 3100 block of Main Street.

04/26/24 - 7:43 p.m. - Keokuk Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 1800 block of Main Street.

04/27/24 - 7:20 p.m. - Keokuk Police arrested Alexis Nichole Jones, 26, of Keokuk in the 100 block of S. 18th Street, on warrants for failure to appear. She was taken to Lee County Jail and held.

04/27/24 - 8:52 p.m. - Keokuk Police arrested Zander Sean Crank, 19, of Keokuk in the 100 block of Blondeau on warrants for violation of probation and a charge of 2nd-degree criminal mischief. She was taken to Lee County Jail and held.

04/27/24 - 9:19 p.m. - Keokuk Police arrested Zander Sean Crank, 19, of Keokuk, in the 2000 block of Orleans, on a warrant for 2nd-degree robbery and 1st-degree harassment. He was held at Lee County Jail.

04/28/24 - 2:33 a.m. - Keokuk Police arrested Chad Alan Riddle, 41, of Keokuk in the 1300 block of Main Street on a charge of assault with bodily injury. He was taken to Lee County Jail and held.

04/28/24 - 7:50 p.m. - Keokuk Police responded to a report of a property damage accident

04/28/24 - 5:33 p.m. - Keokuk Police arrested Michael James Hubbard, 36, of Keokuk, in the 900 block of Johnson Street Road, on a warrant for failure to appear. He was taken to Lee County Jail and held.

04/28/24 - 6:40 p.m. - Keokuk

Police arrested Desiree Kristina Stinson, 31, of Keokuk in the 1400 block of Palean Street, on a charge of domestic assault with bodily injury. She was taken to Lee County Jail and held.

04/28/24 - 11:42 p.m. - Keokuk Police arrested Candace Yvonne Weddle, 30, of Keokuk, in the 300 block of Main Street, on a charge of trespassing. She was taken to Lee County Jail and held.

Lee County Sheriff Report

04/24/24 - 11:57 a.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies responded to a report of a two-vehicle accident at 303rd and 302nd Avenues. According to the report, a vehicle driven by Ethan David Homet, 27, of Texas, was stopped on 303rd Avenue eastbound, to make a lefthand turn onto Old Denmark Road and was rear-ended by a vehicle driven by Edward Eugene Loring, 71, of Burlington. No injuries were reported. Both vehicles sustained minor damages, but were driven from the scene. Loring was cited for failure to maintain control.

04/25/24 - 2:22 a.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested McKenzie John Paris, 29, of Keokuk, at the sheriff's office, on a charge of violation of a domestic no-contact order. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

04/25/24 - 3:37 p.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies responded to a report of a two-vehicle accident at 290th Street and Hwy. 61. According to the report, a vehicle driven by Shawn Lynn Nelligan, 56, of Montrose, was stopped at a stop sign at 290th Street and Hwy. 61 facing westbound, when a vehicle driven by Kirsten Maxine Hayes, 18, of West Point, that was traveling northbound on Hwy. 61 attempted to turn east onto 290th Street traveling too fast and struck sideswiped Nelligan's vehicle. No injuries, damages, or citations

were reported.

04/25/24 - 5:36 p.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Eric Troy Beckman, 49, of Keosauqua, at the North Lee County Courthouse, on a warrant for failure to appear. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

04/26/24 - 8:59 a.m. - Lee County sheriff's deputies arrested Kenneth Ryan Bouchard, 45, of Waylon, Mo., in the 300th Street of Hwy. 61, on a warrant for a temporary hold and charges of providing proof of financial liability, possession of a controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia. He was taken to Lee County Jail and transferred to another county.

04/26/24 - 3:19 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Jeremy James Davolt, 34, of Keokuk, 34, in the 800 block of Avenue G, in Fort Madison, on a charge of violation of parole. He was taken to Lee County Jail and held.

04/26/24 - 6:44 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Taylor William Scott, 31, of Fort Madison, at the sheriff's office on a judgment hold. He was taken to Lee County Jail and released for time served.

04/26/24 - 10 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Aubrey Lynn Phillips, 32, of Marion at the intersection of 180th Street and Hwy .218, on charges of possession of controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia. She was taken to Lee County Jail and released on her recognizance.

04/27/24 - no time listed - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Jason Theodore Kokjohn, 43, of Fort Madison, at the S. Lee County Courthouse on a warrant for failure to appear. He was taken to Lee County Jail and released on his recognizance.

04/24/27 - 6:02 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested

Kaitlyn Nicole Maulding, 29, of Keokuk, at the N. Lee County Courthouse on a charge of violating a no-contact order. She was taken to Lee County Jail and released on her recognizance.

04/27/24 - 12:48 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested John Dillon Charbonneau, 52, of Fort Madison, on 240th Street, on a charge of possession of a controlled substance. He was taken to Lee County Jail and released on a promise to appear.

04/27/24 - 12:48 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Lori Dawn Grape, 47, of Fort Madison, at the intersection of 240th Street and 263rd Street, on a charge of possession of a controlled substance. She was taken to Lee County Jail and released on a promise to appear.

04/28/24 - 6:35 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies cited Wilbur Edward Dalrymple, 76, of Fort Madison in the 2700 block of Hwy. 103, on a charge of 1st-offense trespass.

04/28/24 - 8:03 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Adeena Marie Thornton, 29, of Highridge, Mo., near 204th Street and Hwy. 2 on charges of possession of marijuana, speeding, and OWI-1st offense. She was taken to Lee County Jail and held.

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

Fort Madison Fire & Rescue

04/26/24 - Fort Madison firefighters responded to one lift assist one false alarm

04/27/24 - Fort Madison firefighters responded to three medical calls

04/28/24 - Fort Madison firefighters responded to five medical calls and one false alarm.



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Sports/From the Front

Lady Hounds fall 2-0 to BHS

BY JOHN BOHNENKAMP
PCC SPORTS

FORT MADISON Fort Madison's offense badgered Burlington for the first half of Monday's girls soccer match, but couldn't get any goals.

Then the Grayhounds' offense struck in the second half, and the frustration for the Bloodhounds grew.

Burlington's 2-0 win put the Grayhounds in control of the Southeast Conference title race and left the Bloodhounds lamenting the missed chances.

"We had some good runs, really good opportunities, and we really couldn't finish," Fort Madison coach Carrie Burken said.

Fort Madison (7-2 overall, 5-2 conference) fell to 2½ games behind the Grayhounds (10-2, 8-0) in the conference standings with three conference matches left for the Bloodhounds.

Fort Madison had five shots on goal in the first half, seven overall, but couldn't get anything into the net. Teagan Snaadt, Natalie Randolph and Hadley Wolfe, the Bloodhounds' three leading scorers this season, each had two shots on goal.

When Burlington's Brooklyn Sparrow scored off a corner kick six minutes into the second half, it only magnified the missed opportunities.

"You could see emotionally, there was a deflation, rather than, 'Let's go, let's get it back,'" Burken said. "I think it's frustrating when you have more shots than they did, and then you give up a goal."

It was the first time all season the

Bloodhounds had been behind in a match. The only goals Fort Madison had allowed to that point were the three surrendered to the Grayhounds in penalty kicks at the end of the April 11 match at Burlington — the Bloodhounds had not given up a goal in regulation time.

And when Burlington's Isabella Ziegler scored with 21:34 to play, the Grayhounds were in command.

"I feel like our communication broke down," Burken said. "We really didn't do a good job of communicating in the first half, but I felt like it got worse somehow. And then I think we got a little disjointed defensively."

Burlington has won four of the last five matches against Fort Madison. But Burken pointed out how the Grayhounds beat the Bloodhounds twice in the regular season last year, with Fort Madison then eliminating Burlington in the postseason.

"If you look at the two games against Burlington, we had our opportunities, we had our chances to win," she said. "We needed to be better in the second half. We needed to connect on passes better, we needed to communicate better, and we need to learn from that."

Fort Madison plays at Mount Pleasant on Tuesday. The Panthers are a game ahead of Fort Madison in second place in the conference after Monday's 10-0 win over Keokuk.

"We have to refocus, because Mount Pleasant is a good team," Burken said. "It's not a given that it's a win. So we have to be ready to play."



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Freshman Bloodhound Connor Horn presses Burlington keeper Benjamin Cone and the Grayhound defense in the first half however Cone couldn't catch up to the pass to get the goal.

FM boys looking for some breaks

HOUNDS - Continued from Page 1

lost on the Hounds who are already playing without three other starters and a reserve.

"We didn't say anything about it and I didn't necessarily see it, but they all felt it without Henry out there," Wellman said. "It's tough. He's moving better off the ball this year and giving midfielders more opportunity with the ball. So when he went out they knew they had more work to do and they were already tired from the weekend."

The Hounds fell 2-1 to Pella on Saturday in Pella, and then dropped a 1-0 match to Class 3A No. 4 ADM.

"We're banged up. We've got a game tomorrow, and we got a game Thursday. We've had some injuries that are ending seasons for players, and we have other injuries that are taking players out of the game, and we have smaller injuries that some guys are playing on," Wellman said.

"We've also been dealing with sickness and a lot of

players missing practices and games — key players. So right now, I don't know what we do to get back."

Senior Leif Boeding had two shots at the 20:53 mark and at 16:27 in the first half but couldn't find the net. Then Burlington got behind Fort Madison's defense and Eddy Valdez fired a shot high into the goal over keeper Conner Gehling's head with 10:20 left in the first half.

They would score again in a scrum when Kamryn Reynolds shot one in past Gehling four minutes later for a 2-0 lead at the half.

They would score on the first possession of the second half when Will Steemer blasted in a carom off a Grayhound free kick from the right side of the offense for a 3-0 lead.

Fort Madison would get the final goal of the night off a penalty kick with Boeding sliding the ball into the left bottom to set the final score at 3-1.

Wellman said the Hounds need to remember to do the

right things on and off the pitch to stay prepared for the rest of the season. He said he didn't know Graham's status for Tuesday's game with Mt. Pleasant at Baxter Sport Complex. The Hounds are also playing without Nathen Bowen, who Wellman said could be back before the end of the season, and Jamarkus Kline who is lost for the season. Graham leads the Hounds with 14 goals on the season. Fort Madison was also without Noah Swigart on Monday night as well as Jake Haessig.

He said that means different players will be relied upon to fill in gaps and preparation will mean everything.

"Maybe we used too much in those two games (last weekend) and just didn't have it tonight," he said. "This is a group of good kids and we forgot about that a little bit tonight."

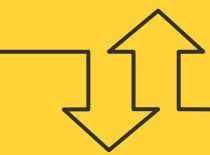
The junior varsity won 4-3. Conner Horn had three goals for the Hounds.

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CITY OF
WEST BURLINGTON
Regular City Council
Meeting
Wednesday, May 1, 2024
6:00 PM
West Burlington
City Hall
122 Broadway Street

TENTATIVE AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER
 PLEDGE OF ALLE-
 GIANCE
 ROLL CALL
 PERFECTING & AP-
 PROVAL OF AGENDA
 CONSENT AGENDA
 All items on the Con-
 sent Agenda are Action
 items that will be con-
 sidered by a single vote.
 Council members may

HELP WANTED

LEE COUNTY
SECONDARY ROADS
ROAD
MAINTENANCE
WORKER II

Lee County is taking applications for a Road Maintenance Worker III to work at the Ambrosia Shop. Duties will include the operation of light and heavy equipment and trucks 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 endorsements. The starting wage range is \$22.57 to \$27.55.

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 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. Applications will be accepted until 4:30 p.m. on Monday, April 29, 2024.

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



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.

- Minutes from the Special City Council meeting on April 24, 2024
- Renewal of Urban Chicken Permit for 410 Ramsey
- Pay Request #4 from Jones Contracting for Phase 2 of the Gear Ave. Trail - \$113,443.14
- Pay Request #5 from Jones Contracting for Phase 2 of the Gear Ave. Trail Project - \$88,468.70
- Liquor License renewal for MK Minimart, 101 E. Mt. Pleasant
- Liquor License amendment for The Broadway Bar and Grill to add an Outdoor Service Area on July 4, 2024.

7. Approve donation of swimming pool daily admission passes for participants in the Burlington Public Library's Summer Reading Program

8. Payment of Claims as listed on the Expense Approval Report - \$260,864.69

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

Burlington Public Library Update
 CITIZEN INQUIRIES
 PUBLIC HEARING
 1. Council will hold a Public Hearing on the Budget Amendment for Fiscal Year 2023-2024
 OLD BUSINESS
 NEW BUSINESS
 1. Consider a Resolution approving a Budget Amendment for Fiscal Year 2023-2024

2. Consider the second reading of an Ordinance repealing Ordinance 541 and granting Interstate Power and Light Company a non-exclusive twenty-five year franchise to supply Electric Energy to West Burlington and require Interstate Power and Light Company to pay a franchise fee to the

City.
 3. Consider the second reading of an Ordinance repealing Ordinance 542 and granting Interstate

Power and Light Company a non-exclusive twenty-five year franchise to supply Natural Gas to West Burlington and

require Interstate Power and Light Company to pay a franchise fee to the City.

4. Consider a quote

from Morning Sun Farm Implement for Hydro Blower Attachment
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From the Front

Homeowners can protect themselves against scammers

STORM - Continued from Page 1

Iowan who was hit. This is when we need to lean on each other more than ever, neighbor-to-neighbor, and keep an eye out for those who seek to take advantage of Iowans' hardships. Iowans are resilient, but they should not need to fight off scammers while rebuilding their lives. Before hiring a contractor, take your time, do your research, and protect yourself from falling victim to a storm-chaser scam. My office is always a resource to those who suspect they are being targeted by scammers."

Top 8 Tips to Avoid Storm-Chaser Scams:

1. Beware of Aggressive Sales Tactics: Do not feel pressured to immediately make repair choices. Get multiple estimates before agreeing to repairs.
2. Check Contractor Reputation: Before signing a contract or paying any money, check a contractor's reputation through government resources and with trusted family, friends, and neighbors. Resources include:

Iowa Workforce Development Contractor Registration: https://laborportal.iwd.iowa.gov/iwd_publicSearch/public.

Better Business Bureau complaint database: www.bbb.org.

To see if a contractor has been part of a lawsuit involving a scam or shady situation, visit Iowa Courts Online: <https://www.iowacourts.state.ia.us/ESAWebApp/DefaultFrame>.

Contact the Iowa Attorney General's at consumer@ag.iowa.gov or (515) 281-5926 to check complaint history.

3. Verify Contractor Identification: Request a contractor's driver's license and take pictures of their vehicles' license plates.
4. Get a Written Contract: Avoid large up-front payments and never sign a contract that allows the contractor to exclusively decide on final price, scope of work, or materials.
5. Work Directly with your Insurance Company: Do not let the contractor negotiate repairs with your insurer or let them act as your adjuster. While contractors can advise you, your insurance company is your primary contact.
6. Avoid Risky Payment Methods: Never pay by bank wire transfer, gift card, cryptocurrency, or cash.
7. Beware of FEMA Scams: Know that FEMA

does not charge application fees. If someone wants money to help you qualify for FEMA funds, it is a scam.

8. Know your Cancellation Rights: In most situations, you have three business days to cancel a home repair contract after signing it.

Governor Kim Reynolds has issued two disaster proclamations in recent weeks related to the severe weather. Those proclamations are in effect for Allamakee, Cass, Des Moines, Fayette, Henry, Lee, and Pottawattamie counties. The proclamations trigger state regulations prohibiting price gouging in the affected counties during the period of the proclamation and up to an additional six months.

Price gouging occurs when an Iowan is charged excessive prices for essential goods or services following disaster. Whether a price is excessive is generally based on pre-disaster prices. The law recognizes a reasonable pricing structure for the recovery period that may allow some increase in prices.

If you are suspicious of a storm-chaser scam or price gouging, contact the Iowa Attorney General's Office at 888-777-4590 or file a complaint online at <https://www.iowaattorneygeneral.gov/for-consumers/file-a-consumer-complaint>.

BACK PAIN?

Do You Have Hip Pain? Are You As Stiff As a Board When You Try to Get Up From a Chair? Have You Run Out of Hope?

How 5 Lies About Low BACK PAIN May Keep You Hurting, Frustrated & Exhausted...Forever!

NEW Scientific Breakthroughs Often Make Short Work of Low Back Pain...Just What Big Medical Centers and High Priced Clinics Are PRAYING You Never Figure Out On Your Own!

Hi, I'm Dr. Jason James, and if you've got any kind of back, hip or leg pain, your worries may be over in just a few minutes. Why? Because I'm the owner of James Healthcare & Assoc. clinic, and I've discovered what may be the best healing secrets for "bad backs" — EVER!



Dr. Jason James, D.C.

I'd be stupid to make such a claim if I couldn't back it up. But I am so confident we can help your back, I insist on giving you a 100% SATISFACTION PLEDGE at James Healthcare. I hate empty promises, and I also hate the lies most folks have been told about their backs. That's why it's important I expose these MYTHS about back pain.

MYTH #1: Sciatica (pain down your leg) is always caused by a herniated disc!

No way...even though most doctors will sell you a \$3,000 MRI at the first sign of leg pain. But they don't tell you about a 5-inch muscle in the hip that can squeeze the sciatic nerve. And it feels EXACTLY like you've got the worst slipped disc on earth. It's a major discovery and...

The good news is that it can be easy and inexpensive to correct! How? Just keep reading! But first, here's a picture to show you where the pain comes from:



MYTH #2: Stiffness from Arthritis means you're getting old...and it must be the reason for all your pain and stiffness!

Not true, because thousands of folks with arthritis in their backs have absolutely NO PAIN! Then why do YOU feel like your back will snap if you bend forward or twist too fast? Because the truth is:

Your stiffness may be caused by a hidden, even more dangerous problem than arthritis, and it can lead to a hip replacement!

You see, most folks believe that something mysterious (like maybe an "arthritis fairy?") waved a wand over them, and they're cursed... doomed to suffer forever.

But did you know that many arthritis problems are CAUSED by a combination of unseen imbalances in the spine and surrounding muscles? It's the most common cause of hip replacements but not that hard to correct if we catch it in time. It's like the tires on your car...

If the alignment is off just a teeny-weeny bit, at first you don't notice, but over a few thousand miles you start to see signs of wear...that is, if you're lucky enough to catch it before a flat on the freeway ruins your day. In your spine, you're lucky if you catch untreated imbalances before they ruin your spine! How to fix them? Just look at Myth #3.

MYTH #3: Your Back is "Out"!

Sure, that's exactly how it feels. But guess what, we found that's usually not the case. It sounds good, but we now know better. You see, there are 7 different reasons for that painful, locked-up and stuck feeling that causes so much misery:

- low-grade spasm
- pelvis torque and tension
- imbalance of hips

- fallen or dropped arches
- stiff vertebra joint
- adhesions in leg muscle
- pinched nerve

It's NOT just your spine, and it's NOT just your muscles. As a matter of fact, if one of the major muscles that stabilize the spine is partly spasmed, a "2nd stringer" will have to carry the load. But this is a serious problem...

It's like having your plumber doing all the dangerous electrical work!

Sure, he may get it done, and it may work at first, but how long until there's a fire? Or your back locks up? Which leads me to our next myth:

MYTH #4: "It's Only a Muscle!"

Boy, it's scary how many people think muscle problems are no big deal. Unfortunately, tight, bound-up, and spasmed or tight muscles can wear out joints faster than you can say, "Charley Horse!"

That's why it's important to examine the spine AT THE SAME TIME as the muscles that control it. It's also why we've had such outrageous success with even the worst backs at James Healthcare. Because we deal with BOTH the spine and muscles at the same time. We have spine doctors (chiropractors), pain doctors (nurse practitioners) and muscle professionals (therapists) and together they deliver an outstanding way to help "bad backs". This ties in to Myth #5 and the diagram:



MYTH #5: "Muscle Relaxants" will help your muscles heal! Good grief, NO!

Your muscles tighten up for a reason, and muscle relaxants are like turning back the clock on a time bomb...you know it's still going to blow up! Sure, you may feel better now, but you'll pay later...and pay "in spades"! So don't fall for these lies about your low back. They'll keep you hurting, frustrated and exhausted forever!

WOULDN'T YOU RATHER:

Turn over in bed without pain waking you up?

Get up in the morning without being as stiff as a board?

Be able to stand for as long as you want without sitting down for relief?

Lean forward over the sink without that "stabbing" in your back or leg?

SCIENTIFIC BREAKTHROUGH:

A hidden muscle may be causing your SCIATICA! Does Your Back Seem "Too Old" for Your Own Body? Not everyone qualifies for treatment, so help us see if you do. If you check off even one box, drop what you're doing and call James Healthcare NOW. And bring this coupon when you come in for your 39-Point "Back-Pain Track-Down Exam". Now check off what describes you:

- Tension...always tight across the beltline
- Bent—crooked off to one side and can't stand up straight if your life depended on it
- Trigger Point...zinging pain to butt-cheek
- Stiff as a board...creak and groan when you first get out of bed in the morning
- Traitor...can't trust your back and what it's going to do—or when!
- Vice-like...constantly locked down tight!
- Shooting...vicious but short-lived
- Lumbago...hard to pin it down—just seems to hurt all the time, but it's hard to say where
- One-sided...right at that "bone" on one side
- Jack hammer...pounding off and on like a heartbeat or a toothache in your back
- Aching from 1-5 years
- Chronic pain for over 5 years

No one will try to sell you anything, and you make no commitment...you just find out what's wrong!

PS. Why You MUST Not Wait! Because of appointment availability, we can only honor this \$27 offer or bringing in a new or gently used winter coat through October 31, 2022. So don't say, "Well, maybe I'll be better tomorrow." Don't put your life on hold. Don't call in sick again. Live your life pain free! Tie your own shoes for a change.

Call NOW! (319) 524-3339
James Healthcare & Associates, Inc.
 612 Main Street

"I broke my back when I was 41 years old and have had problems from then on, until June 2017. Dr. James gave me my life back! I have very few back problems now. It is great to be able to do my everyday duties without back problems."—Roger Kirchner

Author's second kids book features her own collie

SWARM - Continued from Page 1

it means to take 100% responsibility; (2) Highlight a modern Iowa farm with modern machinery; and (3) show how important a dog can be as a farm dog and then as a service dog.

Denise McCormick's first children's book, "Never Mind the Monkey Mind" was an international number one best seller. Look for her second book to be the same, especially since she was recently named to the "Who's Who of Distinguished Leaders: 2024 Honorees." Co-authored and featured in "Women Who Shine," she is a Certified Canfield Trainer in the Success Principles, a Success Mindset Coach, inspirational speaker, and creator of the Facebook group, "The Educator's Edge."

She is about to depart for West Africa where she will be the Marketing and Fundraising Director for the Not-for-Profit, Links Across Borders, an international organization that co-creates libraries, facilitates training programs, supports teacher training and girl empowerment programs, etc., in Ghana. Donations can be made at www.linksacrossborders.org.

Denise was recently notified that she will be on the Cover of "T.I.P. Magazine" which will include a 4 – 6 page feature about Denise. T.I.P. (Top Industry Professionals) Magazine promotes high ranking industry professionals.

Her new book, "Polly the Talking Collie" illustrated by Julie Bousum, will be released sometime this year. Denise will be doing book signings, and is available for public speaking engagements.

BTW: Polly is not fictional. She is a real collie, owned and loved by Denise and John McCormick, on their farm in Canaan Township, north of Mt. Pleasant.

Have a good story? Call or text Curt Swarm in Mt. Pleasant at 319-217-0526, or email him curtswarm@yahoo.com. Curt is available for public speaking.

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