

PEN CITY CURRENT

It's Black & White and Read all over

Tuesday, January 14, 2025 | 7 pages | Volume 9 • Issue 15



www.pencitycurrent.com

Legislator panels start

FRIDAY: LCEDG to host legislator panels beginning this Friday in Montrose

LEE COUNTY - The Lee County Economic Development Group is hosting the first 2025 Legislative Meeting on Friday, February 17th, starting at 11:00 AM at the Career Advantage Center in Montrose (2495 280th Street, Montrose, Iowa 52639). This event provides the public an opportunity to hear from legislators about their work in Des Moines. A Zoom option will be available for those unable to attend in person: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88216694750>.

This meeting is the first of five scheduled for the 2025 legis-

lative session, with the remaining dates as follows:

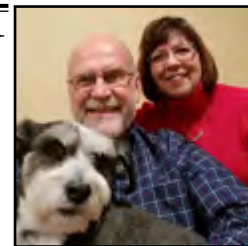
- February 21st
- March 21st
- April 18th
- May 16th

Please note that all events are subject to the availability of legislators, as their attendance may be affected by commitments in Des Moines, and events may be canceled if they are unable to attend.

COMMENTARY

EMPTY NEST

By Curt Swarm



2025's first full moon is a Wolf Moon

The first full moon in 2025 arrived on Monday, January 13th at 6:22 p.m., CST. It is called the Wolf Moon, because wolves were wont to prowl and howl ("ululate,") on cold January nights, searching for prey. If the wolves howled, it was a sign that a long cold winter was ahead. If the wolves didn't howl, the remainder of the winter would be mild. Since the demise or extermination of wolves in Iowa, we have to rely on other signs to determine what the rest of winter will be. (I know, we have an occasional wolf wander through Iowa.)

The Wolf Moon passed in front of Mars in what is called a Lunar Occultation. Occultation is a term that describes when one object passes in front of another, blocking the view of the object behind it, sorta like when I hide the peanut cluster jar behind my back so Ginnie can't see what I'm in to. (Yeah, right.)

If Mars is visible with the naked eye (strange term) before the moon passes in front of it, and again after the moon passes, it's a sign that it's going to be a tough winter—the theory being if you can see Mars, it's obviously a clear night, meaning cold; if you can't see Mars, it's cloudy, meaning warm winter ahead. I could not see Mars, therefore I'm predicting mild temperatures and weather conditions for the remainder of winter. So there you have it—the rest of the winter is going to be mild, per the Wolf Moon. If we can use a groundhog or woolly bear caterpillar (fuzzy-wuzzy) as weather predictors, we can certainly use Mars and the Wolf Moon, more stable entities by far.

I've been concerned about my memory lately—my long-term memory. It's usually the short-term memory that we have issues with like, why did I walk into

See SWARM, page 7



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

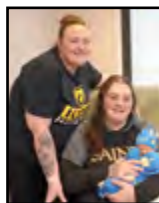
Construction on the Lee County Health Department/EMS facility is fully underway despite the cold temperatures. An update provided Monday said crews plan to keep working on the facility throughout the winter. At right are the concrete walls for the EMS ambulance bays with framing on the main building started to the left.

NEW YEAR'S BABY

GRHS welcomes FM's first baby of the year Jan. 1

FORT MADISON - Great River Health got the New Year off to a great start with the birth of New Year's babies at Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center Women and Family Center in West Burlington, and Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center The BirthPlace in Fort Madison. The families were gifted generous baskets of baby gear from the Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center Auxiliary.

Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center, Fort Madison, welcomed



Jaxtyn, son of Breanna Coppler and Jessica Tzenevrakis from Keokuk, Iowa, as the hospital's first baby born in 2025. Jaxtyn was born at 10:48 p.m. on Wednesday, January 1, 2025. He weighed 6 lbs. 9 oz. and was 19.5" long. The first baby of the new year in Fort Madison was delivered by Dr. Timothy Staudte.

Great River Health has over 800 total deliveries each year in its two

birthing units, Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center Women and Family Center in West Burlington, and Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center The BirthPlace in Fort Madison. They employ five Obstetricians/Gynecologists, four certified nurse midwives, and three advanced practice professionals who provide comprehensive healthcare for women of all ages at Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center and Henry County Health Center.

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WEATHER

TUE 14 Jan.....Cold with slight chance of snow, 18° F/ 5° F
WED 15 Jan.....Sunny and cold, 25° F/ 19° F
THU 16 Jan.....Sunny, 40° F/ 27° F

IOWA LOTTERY

LUCKY FOR LIFE 01/12.....210 22 26 47, Lucky Ball: 8
 PICK 3 MIDDAY 01/12.....578
 PICK 3 EVENING 01/12.....479
 PICK 4 MIDDAY 01/12.....1751
 PICK 4 EVENING 01/12.....8300

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Obituaries/Local News

OBITUARIES

SARAH A. HERRIMAN

Sarah Anne Herriman, 27, of Denmark, Iowa passed away Thursday January 9, 2025 at her home.

She was born November 19, 1997 at Fort Madison, Iowa the daughter of Scott and Marilyn (LaRose) Herriman.



HERRIMAN

Survivors include her mother and step father Marilyn and Daren Siemens of Niota, Illinois; Fiance' Kolton Enke and their son Jaxx of Denmark; son Owen and his father Colton Hurt of West Point; sisters: Natasha Herriman of Denmark, Molly Haynes of Fort Madison; her brother Lane Herriman of Texas; nieces and nephews: Bryce, Parker, Willow, Brylee, Kennedy and Carter; and her grandparents: Sandra Boswell and Joe Arnold. Also surviving is her fiancé Kolton's

parents Kurt and Shannon Enke and her dear friend Mike Jones as well as several aunts, uncles and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her father Scott, grandmothers Andrea Arnold and Rachel Siemens and Kolton's grandfather Elvin "Pork" Beach.

Sarah attended Nauvoo Grade School and graduated from Illini West High School. She was an avid dart player, she enjoyed riding motorcycles and cooking, She loved being an aunt and a mother. Sarah was always smiling and could brighten up any room. She will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

Sarah's family will receive friends from 10:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. Saturday January 18, 2025 at the Schmitz - Banks and Beals Funeral Home in Nauvoo.

A luncheon will be held following the visitation. There will be a Celebration of her Life held this summer.

In lieu of flowers the family requests memorials be made in her memory.

Schmitz - Banks & Beals Funeral Home of Nauvoo is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences for the family may be left at www.sbbfuneral-home.com.

Historic preservation holding seminar Saturday

FORT MADISON - Fort Madison Historic Preservation Commission is presenting on Saturday, January 25, 2025, Preserving a Building and Creating New Spaces

at 906 Avenue G in Fort Madison, Iowa. The building at 906 Avenue G has gone through extensive renovations to create two great spaces for use. Barb Asay will

share the transformation of the building from demolition to a stunning renovation in downtown Fort Madison. Two programs are available at 9:30 am and 11:00 am.

OBITUARIES

ROBERT B. MOELLER

Robert Bernard "Bob" Moeller, 89, of West Point, Iowa died Sunday, January 12, 2025 at the Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center, Fort Madison, Iowa. Bob was born October 10, 1935 in rural Henry County, Iowa, a son of "Stacy" and



MOELLER

Gwendoline (Pauly) Moeller. He attended school in Houghton, Iowa. On June 27, 1959, he married Florence Zelinski in Pleasant Plain, Iowa. She preceded him in death October 23, 2006.

As a young man, Bob worked for local farmers. He retired from Consolidated Packaging after more than 30 years. His hobbies included taking his sons hunting and fishing on the family farm, and he especially loved watching his grandchildren play sports. In his younger years he enjoyed making dandelion wine and having an occasional cold beer with Snappy Tom and peanuts. He also loved collecting pens from local merchants or anyone who would give them to him! He was a member of the Knights of Columbus and the St. James Catholic Church, St. Paul.

Bob is survived by his nine children: Mary (Brian) Burk, of Wever, Iowa; Dianne (Jim) Flaherty, of Fairfax, Iowa; Michael Moeller, of New London, Iowa; Jerome (Connie Taylor) Moeller, of New London, Iowa; Duane (Susan) Moeller, of Bondurant, Iowa; Brian (Barb) Moeller, of Donnellson, Iowa; Paulette (Nathan) Wyrick, of Donnellson, Iowa; Chris (Amber) Moeller, of Luray, Missouri; Stacey Moeller, of Mt. Pleasant, Iowa; three siblings: Ruth Taylor, of Fort Madison, Iowa; Carol Kulpa, of Newton, Iowa; Barb Niehaus, of Sperry, Iowa; three sister-in-laws: Linda Zelinski, Eileen Moeller and Donna Moeller; 20 grandchildren: Collin Burk, Megan Burk, Stephanie VanTrump, Hunter Moeller, Austin Moeller, Seth Moeller, Mara Moeller, Isaac Moeller, Gavin Moeller, Karissa Moeller, Blake Wyrick, Brayden Wyrick, Stephanie Sammons, Miranda Wiseman, Kyle Golbricht, Riley Moeller, Rodney Bagwell, Ed Bagwell, Trent Bagwell and Michal Bagwell, 8 great grandchildren: Addysen Frakes, Behren VanTrump, Cearsen VanTrump, Draven VanTrump, Mackenzie Sammons, Madison Sammons, Conner Moeller and Wyatt Wiseman and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, wife, four siblings: Francine Smith, James Moeller, Bernard Moeller and Leroy Moeller, brother-in-laws: Harold Zelinski, Al Smith, Glenn Taylor, Walt Kulpa and Ron Niehaus, one nephew and one great nephew.

Family will greet friends at the St. James Catholic Church, St. Paul, Iowa, Thursday, January 16th from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm. Mass of Christian Burial will be Friday, January 17th at 10:30 am at the St. James Catholic Church, with Reverend Gary Beckman as Celebrant. Burial will be at the St. James Cemetery, St. Paul, Iowa. A memorial has been established for the St. James Cemetery, contributions may be left at Barr Memorial Chapel or the St. James Catholic Church on the day of the service. Barr Memorial Chapel is honored to serve the Moeller family and an online guest book may be found at www.barrmemorialchapel.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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Obituaries

OBITUARIES

RICHARD G. WYATT

Richard Gail Wyatt, 74, of Fort Madison, Iowa, formerly of Lomax, Illinois, passed away at 10:34 a.m. Saturday, January 11, 2025 at the Southeast Iowa Regional Medical Center in West Burlington, Iowa.



WYATT

Rich was born January 28, 1950 in Fort Madison, Iowa, the son of Chester and Jacqueline (Brown) Wyatt. On April 26, 1970 he married Carla Jean Sparrow. They later divorced. On July 9, 1994 he married Kim Schroeder in Lomax.

Mr. Wyatt was a 1968 graduate of Dallas City High School. Following in his family business, he helped run the family homestead farm, Wyatt's Dairy Farm, for over 40 years. He loved all aspects of farming, but especially loved spending his summers putting up hay. He enjoyed being the "tour guide" when local schools would visit the farm. He also worked for Exide Battery, General Electric, Iowa Army Ammunitions Plant and served as the Lomax Marshall for seven years. Rich served many years as a Lomax Township Trustee, on the West Central FS Board, Henderson County Farm Bureau Board and was active in Henderson County 4-H; as a participant, parent and livestock judge. He was a member of the Lomax Christian Church and Lomax Fire Department. When he wasn't working or serving his community, he enjoyed attending rodeos, deer hunting and especially spending time with his family. He was a proud lifelong Republican.

Besides his wife, Kim, survivors include one daughter: Adonica (Michael) Gould of West Des Moines, Iowa; two stepsons: Jason (Michelle Talley) Webster of Cedar Rapids, Iowa and Jeremy (Beth) Webster of Lomax; nine grandchildren: Ann Gould of San Francisco, California, Thomas Gould of Geneva, Illinois, Helen Gould of West Des Moines, Iowa, Taylor (Christian) Smith of Cedar Rapids, Kelsey (Masin Shaullaw) Webster of Burlington, Gage Webster of Burlington, Brady Webster of Bentley, Illinois, Braxton Webster of Lomax and Bynna Pogge-miller of Burlington; one great-grandson: Hendrix Shaullaw (with one more on the way) and four siblings: Doug (Lois) Wyatt of Dallas City, Don (Pam) Wyatt of Champaign, Illinois, Linda (Kevin) McQuade of Palm Springs, California and Robert Wyatt of Weslaco, Texas.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one brother, Daniel Wyatt.

Cremation has been entrusted to Banks & Beals Funeral Home.

A Celebration of Richard's Life will be held from 2:00 until 6:00 p.m. Tuesday, January 28, 2025 at the Lomax Community Center, Lomax, Illinois.

A memorial fund has been established for Shriners Hospital for Children or St Jude Children's Research Hospital. To leave an online condolence for the family, please visit Mr. Wyatt's obituary at banksandbeals.com.

OBITUARIES

CARLA J. HOWELL

Carla Jo Howell, 68 years, of Fort Madison, Iowa died Thursday, December 19, 2024 at the University of Iowa Healthcare Medical Center, Iowa City, Iowa. She was born May 5, 1956 in Fort Madison, Iowa, the daughter of Ivan D and Mary L (Reeder) Boose. She first married Randy Eid, they had one son, Shawn.



HOWELL

They divorced. Later, she married Charles Howell, they had two sons, Charles "Chuck" and Travis. He preceded her in death.

She was a 1974 graduate of Fort Madison High School. When she was younger, she worked at Bartlett Instruments, and was a bartender. For years, she worked at Gleason Corporation and later for Independent Can Company. She enjoyed crossword puzzles, camping, cooking big meals for her family, and spending time with her family.

She is survived by three sons: Shawn Eid of Fort Madison; Charles "Chuck" (Ashley) Howell of Keokuk, Iowa, and Travis Howell of Fort Madison; three step-children: Hank (Julie) Howell of Keokuk, Rhonda Watson (Kevin Smith) of Illinois, and Darla (Dan) Dunbar of Fort Madison; three siblings: Ron (Yasha) Boose of Arizona, Lurae Knight and Kay Lynn Adams, both of Missouri; 14 grandchildren: Maria, Selena, Sierra, Daunte, Shayna, Bella, Paul, Logan, Riley, Casious, Dillon, Tatum, Colton, and Samantha; numerous great grandchildren, and other family members. She was preceded in death by her parents and husband, Charles.

A Celebration of Life for Carla will be held 3:00 - 5:00 pm Saturday, January 18, 2024 at the Barr Memorial Chapel, Fort Madison, Iowa. Barr Memorial Chapel is honored to serve the Howell family, and an online guest book may be found at www.barrmemorialchapel.com.

RICHARD F. MERSCHBROCK

Richard F. Merschbrock, 74, of Wever, Iowa, passed away at 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, November 27, 2024, at the Southeast Iowa Regional Hospice House in West Burlington, Iowa.



MERSCHBROCK

A celebration of life will be held from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Sunday, January 19, 2025, at the Merschbrock Family Home, 423 4th Street, West Point, Iowa.

Memorials have been established in his memory for Southeast Iowa Regional Hospice House or Wever Fire and Rescue.

Schmitz Funeral Home of West Point is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences may be made to the family www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com.

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For the Record/Classifieds

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report

01/10/25 – 7:10 p.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of vandalism on Richards Drive.

01/10/25 – 7:24 p.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 500 block of Avenue F.

01/11/25 – 11:10 a.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 100 block of 23rd Street.

01/11/25 – 11:17 p.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 500 block of Avenue F.

01/11/25 – 11:38 p.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of stolen vehicle in the 2200 block of Avenue L.

01/11/25 – 2:40 p.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 500 block of 10th Street.

01/11/25 – 8:30 p.m. – Fort Madison police cited Bradley Michael Dettmers, 39, of Fort Madison in the 2100 block of Avenue M, on a charge of possession of a controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia.

01/11/25 – 11:55 p.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of a burglary in the 500 block of 12th Street.

01/12/25 – 8:11 a.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of stolen vehicle in the 3100 block of Avenue P.

01/12/25 – 1 p.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1000 block of Avenue E.

01/12/25 – 1:06 p.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 4900 block of Avenue O.

Keokuk Police Report

01/05/25 – 4:00 a.m. – Keokuk police responded to a report of a two-vehicle accident in the 1300 block of Main Street. According to the report a vehicle driven by James Paul-Dean Burleson, 29, of Keokuk was actively eluding police in the 1300 block of Main Street headed eastbound. Burleson made a left turn onto N. 13th Street and turned around striking a police vehicle driven by Nicholas James Smidt, 32, of Keokuk. Smidt continued to pursue Burleson with both vehicles damaged. Burleson's vehicle was later spotted in the 2200 block of Lincoln Avenue where the driver was identified. Burleson was cited for failure to provide insurance.

01/09/25 – 2:53 p.m. –

Keokuk police arrested Michael Joseph Farrugia, 36, of Keokuk, in the 200 block of N. 5th Street on charge of public intoxication and interference with official acts. He was held in Lee County Jail.

01/09/25 – 3:15 p.m. – Keokuk police arrested Kayleb Kenneth Billington, 26, of Keokuk, in the 1400 block of Main Street on warrants for violation of parole and sex offender registration violation. He was held in Lee County Jail.

01/09/25 – 3:40 p.m. – Keokuk police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 300 block of Main Street.

01/09/25 – 6:08 p.m. – Keokuk police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 2000 block of Main Street.

01/09/25 – 8:57 p.m. – Keokuk police arrested Tristin Dakota Cockrell, 19, of Keokuk in the 200 block of N. 5th Street, on a charge of 2nd-degree robbery. He was held in Lee County Jail.

01/09/25 – 11:21 p.m. – Keokuk police arrested Orion Hunter Glasgow, 20, of Keokuk, in the 200 block of N. 5th Street on a charge of 2nd-degree robbery. He was held in Lee County Jail.

01/09/25 – 11:40 p.m. – Keokuk police arrested a

14-year-old male in the 200 block of N. 5th Street on a charge of 2nd-degree robbery. He was held at juvenile detention.

01/09/25 – 11:58 p.m. – Keokuk police arrested a 15-year-old male in the 200 block of N. 5th Street on a charge of 2nd-degree robbery. He was held at juvenile detention.

Lee County Sheriff's Report

01/12/25 – 2:36 p.m. – Lee County sheriff's deputies arrested Chad William Ackley, 49, Kahoka, at the sheriff's office on a judgment hold. He was held in Lee County Jail.

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

Fort Madison Fire & Rescue Report

01/10/25 – Fort Madison firefighters responded to one vehicle accident and one medical call.

01/11/25 – Fort Madison firefighters responded to three medical calls and one lift assist.

01/12/25 – Fort Madison firefighters responded to three medical calls.

Keokuk chili cook-off to benefit Milestones

KEOKUK – Milestones Area Agency on Aging (Milestones AAA) invites the community to the Keokuk Chili Cook-Off and Live Auction on Thursday, January 30, from 5 PM to 8 PM at the Keokuk Heritage Center, located at 508 Main Street. This evening will feature a chili competition, live music, and exciting auctions, all for a great cause. The event is open to the public, with a suggested donation of \$10, which includes a meal and chili tastings.

The night kicks off with live entertainment by Nathan Gosnell from 5 PM to 6 PM, followed by a live auction at 6 PM and a silent auction running throughout the evening. Attendees can sample chili from local fire departments, businesses, and organizations and vote for their favorite.

Chili entries include:

- Jackson Township Fire Dept.
- Keokuk Fire Dept.
- Keokuk City Hall
- Keokuk Lions Club
- Keokuk Milestones Kitchen
- Keokuk - Southside Boat Club
- Keokuk - The Sneazy Beaver
- Keokuk - Longenecker's Backwoods BBQ
- Montrose - The Sandbar
- Hamilton - Mississippi Nights
- Warsaw - Jennifer's Family Restaurant
- Warsaw - Piney's Pub & Grub

Donations for the auction are still being accepted—contact Milestones AAA to contribute. For more information, contact Devin Hansen at dhansen@milestonesaaa.org or 309-428-3635, or visit milestonesaaa.org.

PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE PROCEEDINGS FORT MADISON CITY COUNCIL 11/19/2024

At 5:30 P.M., Council met in adjourned session on Tuesday, November 19, 2024. Mayor Mohrfeld presided with Council Members Thele, Roller, Sparrow, Gray, Yager, Rink and Andrews present.

On motion, Council approved the Consent Agenda: Minutes of 11/4/2024; and Claims dated 11/13/2024.

On motion, Council approved Special Event Permit: YMCA Turkey Trot and waived the associated fees.

The Thrive Fort Madison and Safe Coalition provided a community update on substance abuse awareness and educational programs. Justin Pieper with Assured Partners reviewed the 2024 healthcare benefit usage and presented the 2025 health insurance rates for city employees. SIRRC representative, Justin Pieper, provided the 2024 financial report.

On motion, Council adopted Resolution No. 2024-69 consenting to the subleasing by the North Lee County Historical Society for the Passenger

Depot and Freight Office to Fort Madison Tourism on an annual basis. On motion, Council adopted Resolution No. 2024-70 approving an application for a Three-Year Urban Revitalization Tax Exemption for Cathy J. Ough, 4307 Avenue L. On motion, Council adopted Resolution No. 2024-71 approving the amended "Parking Restrictions and Restricted Areas" listing by removing signage associated with the vacated school zones at Lincoln and Richardson Elementary Schools. On motion, Council adopted Resolution No. 2024-72 approving the Mayor's reappointment of Justin Pieper to the Fort Madison SIRRC Board of Directors, term ending December 31, 2027.

On motion, Council approved the Mayor's signature on a Letter of Support for Southeast Iowa Regional Planning Commission's grant application for the U.S. EPA – Environmental and Climate Justice – Community Change Grant.

The meeting adjourned at 6:20 P.M.

/s/ Matt J. Mohrfeld, Mayor

ATTEST: /s/ Justina M. Cullen, City Clerk

EXPENDITURES

General	\$29,413.49
Special Rev.	58,769.80
Road Use	11,390.87
Debt	0.00
Capital	7,874.00
Water	85,073.43
Sewer	42,669.54
Sld Waste, IWC	21,266.07
SW Utility	6,383.00
	<u>\$262,840.20</u>

REVENUES

General	\$302,833.42
Special Rev.	410,331.04
Road Use	25.00
Debt	118,803.82
Capital	0.00
Water	0.00
Sewer	9,407.27
Sld Waste, IWC	0.00
SW Utility	0.00
	<u>\$841,400.55</u>

CLAIMS 11/19/2024

ALTORFER INC., SKID-STEER SPIKES	6,384.65
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES, SAFETY HAMMER/BOOTS	158.99
AMSOIL, INC, OIL/FILTER	246.31
ANSER IOWA, WATER DEPT ANSWERING SERVICE	348.60
AT&T MOBILITY, PHONES/HOTSPOTS	1,883.01
AUTOZONE, HOOD LIFT	20.66
B&B PROPANE, HEAT	195.22
BJ 'S PERFORMANCE, REPLACE TIRES	706.32
BUILDING MATERIALS INC, REBAR/BOARDS	141.25
CASEY HUEBNER, CLOTHING ALLOWANCE	38.84

COMPANY NURSE LLC, TRIAGE SERVICES	86.00
CONSOLIDATED ELECTRICAL DIV, 3-PHASE MOTOR	8,765.46
CORE & MAIN LP, EXPANDER GASKET	2,444.98
CULLEN CONSTR. & EXCAVATING, ASBESTOS INSPECTION	1,372.00
CULLEN PEST CONTROL, QUARTERLY PEST CONTROL	120.00
DAILY DEMOCRAT, PUBLICATIONS	406.84
DAKOTA SUPPLY GROUP, ADAPTERS/RINGS/CARTRIDGES	6,299.00
DAVE VRADENBURG,	

INSTALL PRIVACY FENCE	5,600.00
DAVE'S MARINE, FILTER/OIL	72.80
DFI TOTAL BUSINESS SOLUTION, WATER BILLS/PAST DUES	4,272.53
DODD PRINTING & STATIONERY, POSTCARDS-RENTAL/VACANT	861.26
DOUDS STONE, LLC, ROADSTONE	309.58
DUNKIN GARAGE & TOWING, VEHICLE OIL CHANGE	324.63
ENDRESS+HAUSER, INC., FLOW METER	11,498.22
EUROFINS ENVIRONMENT TESTING, WEEK-	

LY SAMPLE	941.60
FARM & HOME SUPPLY, TRIMMER LINE	24.99
FORT MADISON TOURISM BUREAU, 1ST/2ND QTR 2024 SUBSIDY	40,000.00
FRENCH-RENEKER-ASSOC., PROF FEE	3,140.54
GALL'S, AN ARAMARK COMPANY, RETURNED GUN RACK	171.28
GREAT RIVER REGIONAL WASTE, GARBAGE COLLECTION	21,337.10
GREENWOOD CLEANING SYSTEM, TOILET PAPER/CLEANER/DET.	222.13
HACH COMPANY, TESTING SUPPLIES	1,780.58

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Classifieds/Public Notices

PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICES

HOTOP FABRICATION, PUMP REPAIRS 7,172.01
 HUFFMAN WELDING & MACHINE, COUPLING/NIPPLE/GASKETS 531.29
 IA DEPT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, 3RD QTR TERMINAL FEES 1,014.00
 ICONNECTYOU, INTERNET FOR FINGER PRINT..... 5.00
 IDEAL READY MIX CO, CONCRETE 1,597.83
 INDUSTRIAL ELECTRIC MOTORS, REPLACE BEARINGS 650.00
 IOWA LEAGUE OF CITIES, 2024 BUDGET WORKSHOP 50.00
 IOWA MUNICIPAL WORKERS, WORKMAN'S COMP (5) 4,629.00
 IOWA RURAL WATER ASSOC., MEMBERSHIP DUES..... 455.00

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY - TR TRAINING 255.00
 JETCO, RESERVOIR REPAIRS 745.50
 JIM BAIER INC., REPLACED WATER PUMP 270.50
 JL TIME & ATTENDANCE CO, TIMECLOCK SUBSCRIPTION..... 177.75
 KYLE KNEPP, WINTER WEAR ALLOWANCE 224.64
 LAND & WATER VEGETATION CO, VEGETATION CONTROL 2,750.00
 LISCO, PHONE/INTERNET 1,955.29
 LUKE GRUENING, CLOTHING ALLOWANCE..... 13.90
 MASTERCARD, PRINTER PARTS/IPAD/ZOOM 4,042.35
 MCFARLAND, TOWELS/GLOVES 189.99

MENARD - WEST BURLINGTON, HEATER/SUPPLIES 280.57
 MICROBAC LABORATORIES LLC, DAILY SAMPLING..... 800.27
 MOBOTREX, TRAFFIC LIGHT REPAIR..... 840.00
 MOHRFELD ELECTRIC, REPLACED MAIN CONTROL BOARD 14,217.00
 MOWEN CLEANING SERVICE LLC, JANITORIAL SERVICE...1,311.50
 MUNICIPAL SUPPLY INC., HYDRANTS/VALVES 31,434.50
 O'REILLY AUTOMOTIVE, INC., OIL/FILTERS/PARTS..... 3,412.03
 PITNEY BOWES BANK INC., POSTAGE 2,000.00
 POSTMASTER, PO BOX RENTAL..... 266.00
 QUILL LLC, POST-ITS/INK/PENS.....191.11

RAINBO OIL COMPANY, DEF/OIL/HYD FLUID 1,405.60
 RANGEMASTERS UNIFORMS, UNIFORMS 8,516.55
 RED LION RENEWABLES, ELECTRIC 6,456.72
 RHINO INDUSTRIES, INC., HAULING SLUDGE 18,500.00
 ROBERTS TIRE CENTER CORP, TIRE REPAIR 322.50
 S.H. ENTERPRISES LTD., HAULING SLUDGE 3,507.40
 SCHIMBERG CO., PVC PIPE 1,152.18
 SHIELD TECHNOLOGY CORP, SHIELDWARE SOFTWARE 4,762.50
 SINCLAIR TRACTOR, OIL FILTER..... 61.02
 SOUTHEAST IOWA GARAGE DR, ADJUST GARAGE DOOR .. 189.00



SOUTHEASTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE, TRAINING 395.00
 STATE HYGIENIC LABORATORY, FLUORIDE SAMPLING 581.00
 STEWART AUTOMOTIVE, REPLACE HVAC ACTUATOR..... 496.84
 SUPREME RADIO COMMUNICATION, RADIO REPAIR 675.00
 THE SHREDDER, ON-SITE SHREDDING 126.00
 TRUCK REPAIR INC., TRUCK CHECK/ADVICE-MENT 387.03
 UNITY POINT CLINIC, - OCCUP PRE-EMPLOYMENT TESTING 42.00
 UPS, SHIPPING FEE 36.27
 USA BLUE BOOK, TIPS 249.17
 VESSCO INC., TUBING ELEMENT..... 1,973.17
 VESTIS, SHOP SUP-

PLIES/UNIFORM.... 90.86
 WALLJASPER VETERINARY CLINIC, CANINE RUN X2 125.00
 WATER SOLUTIONS UNLIMITED, CHEMICALS 10,764.27
 WINDSTREAM, PHONE/INTERNET..... 367.72
 TOTAL 262,840.20
 GENERAL 29,413.49
 SPECIAL REVENUES 58,108.11
 ROAD USE..... 11,390.87
 CAPITAL PROJECTS 7,874.00
 WATER 85,073.43
 WASTEWATER 42,669.54
 SOLID WASTE 21,266.07
 AIRPORT..... 661.69
 STORM WATER 6,383.00
 TOTAL 262,840.20

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Sports/From the Front

Lady Hounds 3rd, Hounds 5th at Highland

LADIES CUT SHORT: Friday tourney canceled mid-finals due to medical emergency in stands.

BY PCC STAFF

HIGHLAND – The Fort Madison Hounds took 5th place at the Gary Curtis Invitational at Highland on Saturday.

Aaron Warner led the way for the Bloodhounds with a 1st place finish at 285 lbs. The senior took down Alburnett's Sevy Redel 54 seconds into the match for a 3-point maneuver and then secured the point 30 seconds later in the title match. Warner went 4-0 on the day with wins over West Branch's Jericho Hobbs in the first round, Mt. Pleasant's Juan Lopez and then Muscatine's Owen King in the semifinals to secure 30 points.

Fort Madison had a total of 99 points finishing behind West Branch, Riverside/Oakland, Wilton and 1st

place Alburnett.

James Fuller (15-7) finished 3rd at 120 lbs. Fuller lost to eventual champion Liam Adfinger of Wilton (14-0) by pin at :23 to move to the consolation championship where he knocked off Durant's Aiden Alderman by a fall in the first period scoring 18 points for the Hounds.

Gavin Callahan won his first two matches of the day at 175 lbs, but then ran up against eventual champion Shayden Washburn of Alburnett (22-2). Callahan would suffer a pin in the 1st period and then would lose in the third place match but also collect 18 points.

The Hounds got two sixth place finishes one from Cliff Stewart at 215 lbs and the other from Jack Benner at 165.

The Fort Madison girls were currently in 3rd place at the Highland Invitational girls meet, but the event was canceled due to medical emergency in the facility prior to the finals. Mara Smith (130) and Kat Diprima (140) were set to wrestle for titles in their matches before the event ended. The Lady Hounds had 142 points good enough for third place prior to the cancellation.

Holy Trinity boys, girls rebound from Friday losses

WINFIELD – Luke Hellige converted on seven three-point attempts Saturday to lead the Crusaders to a 63-48 win over Winfield-Mt. Union Saturday in an afternoon contest.

Junior Layne Rung had one of his best outings of the year busting out for 23 points adding four 3-pointers to give Holy Trinity 11 on the night.

Koby Jones had eight points for HTC.

Winfield was led by Jake Edwards who had 15.

The Crusaders stand at 8-2 on the year and 6-2 in the SEI Superconference South Division tied for second with Burlington Notre Dame. The Crusaders own the tiebreaker to date with an earlier win over the Nikes.

The two teams were tied most of the way through the first period and then HTC created some separation, outscoring the Wolves 18-14 in the second period for a four-point 26-22 lead at the half.

Rung rang up 13 of his 23 in the second half to give the Crusaders the catalyst they needed to put the game away.

Holy Trinity has three games this week – two in con-

ference and one non-conference. They take on Danville on the road Tuesday and then host West Burlington in a crucial SEISC matchup with the No. 6, Class 2A undefeated Falcons (11-0, 9-0). Fort Madison hosts the Crusaders on Saturday afternoon.

Holy Trinity girls get win

Teagan Snaadt scored 13 to lead the Holy Trinity girls to a 37-22 win over Winfield-Mt. Union in a SEI Superconference matchup Saturday to highlight area girls' basketball action.

The Lady Crusaders are coming off a tough loss at Central Lee Friday night and were looking to get back in the win column after dropping two straight to Mediapolis and the Lady Hawks.

Olivia Bendlage was also in double figures with 10 points. Elizabeth Griffin had eight.

HTC improves to 9-2 on the year and 6-2 in the SEISC. They take on Danville on the road Tuesday night before hosting West Burlington on Friday and then at Fort Madison on Saturday.

Quincy art show open to local high school artists

QUINCY – The Quincy Art Center invites the community to celebrate the artistic talents of area high school students at the 51st Annual High School Art Competition, on display from February 1 to February 27, 2025. This juried exhibition is open to high school students in grades 9-12 from Adams County, IL, and surrounding counties, offering a platform to learn the process of professionally entering and exhibiting artwork.

Students from the following counties are encouraged to submit their original artwork:

Illinois: Adams, McDonough, Brown, Cass, Morgan, Pike, Greene, Hancock, Schuyler, Scott

Missouri: Marion, Audrain, Monroe, Clark, Pike, Ralls, Knox, Lewis, Shelby

Iowa: Lee

The community is also invited to the Teen Takeover and Awards Ceremony on Saturday, February 1, from 1-3 PM, with awards announced at 2:30 PM.

This free and open-to-the-public reception will feature:

For more information, visit www.quincycartcenter.org or call (217) 223-5900.

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SCC's annual audit report released

WEST BURLINGTON, Iowa - Denman CPA LLP has released the audit report on Southeastern Community College in West Burlington, Iowa for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024.

A copy of the audit report is available for review by contacting the College Board Secretary, in the Office of Auditor of State and on the Auditor of State's web site at <https://auditor.iowa.gov/audit-reports>.

For more news or to learn about Southeastern Community College, visit: <https://www.scciaowa.edu/news>

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Is it the Wolf Moon or age that drains our memory

SWARM - Continued from Page 1

this room? And rest assured, I have plenty of problems with short-term memory. But my long-term memory is acting up, too. I became aware of it through reading. I often times read books two and three times—sometimes back-to-back, sometimes years apart. I have been rereading all of Elizabeth Strout's books because she's my favorite female fiction writer. I do the majority of my reading on Kindle (don't hold that against me). If I didn't think I had read a certain book of hers, I would attempt to buy it on Kindle. A message would pop up, like, "Hey stupid, you bought this book back in 2010." Well, duh!

Such was the case with Strout's book, "Amy and Isabelle" her first published book, I believe. I tried to buy the Kindle version and received that snarky message. But I couldn't remember reading "Amy and Isabelle." I thought, "Well, maybe I bought it but didn't read it." I found "Amy and Isabelle" in my Kindle "Library." I started reading it, and was marveling at how well it was written, when I came across passages I had "marked" years ago. Many, many passages, all the way to the end of the book. Hmm. There was the proof. I had already read the book. But, I reread "Amy and Isabelle," and it's maybe my favorite Elizabeth Strout book, and I have absolutely no memory, zero, of reading it before. How can this be? I pride myself in being able to recall passages from books I read in high school. But here I am, not able to remember anything about a book I read in the recent past. As we age, does our brain become so saturated with minutia that it has no room for more memory? Or am I in the early stages of dementia? I recently had a cognitive test by a professional and passed with flying colors. Whew! So, what's going on?

Ginnie and I both read a lot, often times the same books, like two woodchucks chucking wood. We can discuss what we're reading, ask questions and agree or disagree. (I'm usually right.) But why do I have no recall of a book I obviously read in the medium-range past? It must be the gravitational pull of the Wolf Moon, drawing the long-term memory cells away from my consciousness. The Wolf still howls. Owoo!

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

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