The Water Environment Federation (WEF) announced Wednesday that Maggie Walker has been selected as Iowa’s 2017 state winner of the U.S. Stockholm Junior Water Prize, the nation’s most prestigious youth award for a water-related science project.

Walker, a senior at Holy Trinity Catholic School, is a nature enthusiast, and the interest in nature started from a young age. Her father is a farmer, so she grew up spending a lot of time on farmlands.

“Growing up both with my grandma and grandpa growing up and drive around the countryside and look at wildlife,” she said. “I’d make him go by certain ponds to see what was out there. So that’s where the interest was born. Then... I was kind of a science nerd as a kid so that’s where it all came from.”

Currently in his fourth week on the job, the Iowa State University graduate said he’s spending time getting acquainted with the properties in Lee County and the projects the group is working on.

“Lee County has a lot of great things they’ve been doing over the last couple years and they’ve made lots of improvements to the campgrounds which is great. I’m big in getting people out to those parks and engaging in the outdoors. There are a lot of options out there and then we have the conservation and the projects the group is working on.”

Newly hired Lee County Conservation District Director Nathan Unsworth peers out over the land behind behind the Heron Bend Conservation Center and talks about his first four weeks in the position.

“Growing up both sides of my family had farms,” Unsworth said. “My mom’s farm was on the Mississippi so I would spend summers there mushroom hunting and what not. My dad’s farm was more the real crop, traditional farmland and we did a lot deer hunting in the fall.”

“Probably the biggest impact was my grandpa. I spent a lot of time with my grandma and grandpa growing up and I would go out and chase with him and drive around the countryside and look at wildlife,” he said. “I’d make him go by certain ponds to see what was out there. So that’s where the interest was born. Then... I was kind of a science nerd as a kid so that’s where it all came from.”

Recently, Walker’s project, entitled Sodium Polyacrylate Used for Nitrate Runoff Prevention - Phase 2, will now compete in the national finals June 16-17 at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

This is the second time Walker has received the award. As a junior last year she also advanced to the national competition, but didn’t finish in the top three so she didn’t know where she placed exactly.

“My project last year was the first phase. I didn’t win anything at the national event because they only acknowledge the top 3,” Walker said.

“‘This year I did a Phase 2 and I made the project grow and expanded the size of the testing. Originally I started with lab work and testing in conical tubes. This year I used a larger form and used a gutter system so I could get more accurate results of what the test would be like in the real world.’”

FORT MADISON - The results of the 16th annual Main Street BBQ cookoff held last week at Faeth’s Cigar Store were released Monday.

Up in Smoke I and II dominated the categories with Up in Smoke I winning the chicken contest followed by Wilson Brothers BBQ and Big River Rib Rats.

Up in Smoke II won the Pork division with Big River Rib Rats and Last Minute Contenders taking 2nd and 3rd place in the judging.

Up in Smoke 1 again won in the beef category followed by Smok(En) BBQ and Big River Rib Rats. In the Open competition, Up in Smoke II won and the KCBS Style Rib title went to Griffin Grillers.

The event was held Saturday as part of the Mayhem in Fort Madison events and followed the Mayhem on the Mississippi 5K challenge run at Rodeo Park.

# pen city current

Thursday, May 18, 2017 | 6 pages | Volume 1 • Issue 125

HTC’s Walker wins state Stockholm award

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG

FORT MADISON - The Water Environment Federation (WEF) announced Wednesday that Maggie Walker has been selected as Iowa’s 2017 state winner of the U.S. Stockholm Junior Water Prize, the nation’s most prestigious youth award for a water-related science project.

Walker, a senior at Holy Trinity Catholic School, is the daughter of Steve and Bridget Link of Fort Madison and Jay and Amy Walker of West Point. Walker’s project, entitled Sodium Polyacrylate Used for Nitrate Runoff Prevention - Phase 2, will now compete in the national finals June 16-17 at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

This is the second time Walker has received the award. As a junior last year she also advanced to the national competition, but didn’t finish in the top three so she didn’t know where she placed exactly.

“My project last year was the first phase. I didn’t win anything at the national event because they only acknowledge the top 3,” Walker said.

Main Street BBQ winners announced

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON - Results of the 16th annual Main Street BBQ cookoff held last week at Faeth’s Cigar Store were released Monday.

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The event was held Saturday as part of the Mayhem in Fort Madison events and followed the Mayhem on the Mississippi 5K challenge run at Rodeo Park.

Lamb making splash at Clarke College

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG

DUBUQUE - A lot of people go through phases of career choices, but this kid picked a ball and glove and the die was cast.

On May 8, Fort Madison native Jeff Lamb was named Coach of the Year in NAIA Heart of America Athletic Conference with Clarke College in Dubuque.

Lamb, the son of Timm and Kate Lamb of Fort Madison, played for the the Bloodhound baseball team from 1995-2000 culminated by a state title in 2000.
Next up is North Carolina nationals

AWARD - Continued from Page 1

Walker, who plans on attending Loyola University in Chicago, said her mom will travel to North Carolina with her.

Ernie Schiller, who worked part-time this year helping the students prepare their presentations for local and regional competitions, said Walker worked independently on the project and is very deserving of the recognition.

"Kudos to Maggie and her supportive parents," Schiller said. "Maggie is a wonderful student and a dedicated young lady, involved in HTC life in many aspects. She is a dedicated young scientist working independently, doing her own research and performing above the norm.

The national winner(s) will receive $10,000 and an all-expenses-paid trip to Stockholm, Sweden to represent the United States at the international competition during World Water Week on August 27 to September 1. The international winner(s) will receive $15,000 presented during a royal ceremony by the prize’s Patron HRH Crown Princess Victoria of Sweden.

Maggie Walker presents her project looking at the effect of sodium polyacrylate on nitrate absorption. Walker won the U.S. Stockholm Water Prize for Iowa and now moves to the national competition in North Carolina.

The Stockholm Junior Water Prize aims to increase students' interest in water-related issues and research and to raise awareness about global water challenges.

The competition is open to projects aimed at improving water quality, water resources management, water protection, and drinking water and wastewater treatment.

"WEF is very proud to shine a spotlight on some of our country's brightest high school students, who impress us all with their innovative projects that focus on protecting our precious water resources," said WEF Executive Director Eileen O’Neill. "These students give us great confidence in the future of water science and research."

In the U.S., WEF and its Member Associations organize the regional, state, and national competitions with support from Xylem Inc., who also sponsors the international competition. The Bjorn von Euler Innovation in Water Scholarship Award, a $1,000 scholarship sponsored by Xylem Inc., will also be awarded to the state winner who demonstrates a passion for education, spirit of creativity, and innovation.

For more information on the Stockholm Junior Water Prize and to see the 2017 state winners: www.wef.org/resources/for-the-public/SJWP.

Unsworth got start exploring farms as a youth

NATURE - Continued from Page 1

"Growing up, both sides of my family had farms. My mom's farm was on the Mississippi so I would spend summers there mushroom hunting... "

-Nathan Unsworth, LCCD director

Unsworth started with the Jackson County Conservation District as a naturalist and then moved to Newton as a Parks District coordinator. He said that job didn't offer the same conservation type of work, but did offer him a chance to work with people in an outdoor setting.

Unsworth had done some fundraising work with the district to get a dog park built in the city so he was familiar with the workings of the department.

"The people aspect of that job is what I loved the most, but I missed the naturalist work. When this job opened up, I saw an opportunity to move closer to home and get back into the conservation and naturalist work. And that excited me," he said.

Looking ahead to the future of the program, Unsworth said he's working with Buckley prior to his retirement to create a vision of each segment of the conservation district.

"I think it's just kind of with Tom leaving and me stepping in creating that vision of where we're going and kind of looking at each park to come up with a plan to gauge whether we are doing the best," he said.

"When I took over in Newton there wasn't a plan and I'm a goal-setter so we had to put together a list of goals and then we started working toward that. Now, I'm just developing a vision so we have a road map of sorts of where we want to be in the next few years.

Unsworth said he also wanted to maximize the district's impact on private lands by continuing to keep healthy relationships with landowners and working to keep the Conservation Reserve Program viable as well as continuing to build on relationships with Pheasants Forever, Quails Forever, and other environmental steward programs.

From the Front/Area News

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Click here for more details!
FORT MADISON - FMAAA knows Curt Swarm as a photographer and sculptor. However, Curt’s Empty Nest column runs in 20 Iowa newspapers. Curt has penned domestic abuse assault-sim-
phrenia. He was taken to Lee County Jail and held.
05/17/17 - 11:27 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 3000 block of Avenue O. 05/17/17 - 12:47 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 5200 block of Avenue O on a charge of 

Lee County Sheriff’s report
05/17/17 - 6:29 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff’s arrested Christen Mitchell Stark, 31, of Keokuk at the Lee County Jail on a warrant for violation of probation. He was held at the jail. All persons in these listings are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

For the Record

Swarm book signing Thursday
BY PCC STAFF
FORT MADISON - FMAAA knows Curt Swarm as a photographer and sculptor. However, Curt’s Empty Nest column runs in 20 Iowa newspapers. Curt has penned his first novel and will have a book signing in Ft. Madison at FMAAA gallery at 7 p.m. He will read excerpts and light refreshments will be pro

IOWA LOTTERY WINNING NUMBERS

Lotto Drawings

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<th>Game</th>
<th>Draw Days</th>
<th>Sales CutOff Time</th>
<th>Approx. Drawing Time</th>
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<td>8:30 pm</td>
<td>9:30 pm</td>
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<td>Pick 3 - Midday</td>
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</table>

RECYCLE

* Recycle/convert common waste into reusable material
  Recycling is a series of steps that takes a used material and processes, re-manufactures and sells it as a new product. Begin recycling at home and work.
  • Recycle all acceptable products at our recycling bins, stations & trailers
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  • Check for curbside recycling acceptable items & schedules on your local city websites
  • Purchase and use recycled materials for the home & office
  • Implement a composting process for your lawn & garden

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PUBLIC NOTICES

Lee County Board of Supervisors

DATE: Friday, May 19, 2017

MEETING

CONVENING TIME: 9:00 A.M.

LOCATION:

Lee County Correctional Center, 2530 255th St., Montrose, IA 52639

Approve Agenda

Closed Session Pursuant to Iowa Code Chapter 21.5

(1) (c) Possible Action

Adjourn

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He said his junior and senior years on the baseball team were the formative years in determining what he wanted to do with his life. His coaches at the time were Dick Burch and Stan Schmidt and their impact on his game, coupled with the philosophy of his father, who coached track at FHHS, led him to coaching.

"I’ll tell you, Dick Burch and Stan Schmidt were my coaches, they had a big impact on me. I hung with Brett Burch, his son, and saw how much he enjoyed it and I knew athletics was something I wanted to do. I just didn't know how. But I knew from that time, I wanted to be a coach."

Lamb, in his fourth season at Clarke, guided the Crusaders to a record-setting 41-12 overall record and a 26-8 mark in league play, just missing the NAIA tournament by one school.

"They take 40 teams to that tournament and we were the 41st team," Lamb said. "Hopefully, in our time here, we can get to the World Series. " The NAIA takes 40 schools and narrows the field to 10 teams that compete in a World Series format in Florida.

In 2014, Lamb’s first year at Clarke, the Crusaders racked up 21 wins. A year later, the Crusaders compiled a school-record 31 wins, posted a 15-9 record in Midwest Collegiate Conference play, and qualified for the MCC Final Four. The 2015 team broke 16 team season records and set 13 individual season marks.

Lamb came to Clarke from Marshalltown Community College where he served as the Tigers’ head softball coach for five years. During his tenure there, Lamb’s teams broke over 30 individual and team records. Lamb served as the head softball coach at Marshalltown High School in 2012 and 2013. Lamb guided the 2012 Bobcats to the program’s first all-state appearance and coached the program’s first all-state player in over a decade. Prior to taking the softball reins at Marshalltown, Lamb spent two seasons as the Tigers’ head softball coach.

Lamb received his bachelor of science degree in professional studies from West Chester University, and his master of science degree in education from Iowa State University.

"I heard something this summer, " he said. "Make it big where you’re at...don’t just try to make it big. This community has embraced us, we have some really good kids, we graduated four really good seniors, so we’ve got some work to do. Clarke is a really nice school and I don’t know that I’m going anywhere. But I never planned on coaching softball either."

Lamb received his bachelor of science degree in professional studies from West Chester University, and his master of science degree in education from Iowa State University.