Lee County Fair brings in new events

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

DONELSON - Starting Wednesday, the 176th Lee County Fair will take life at the Lee County Fairgrounds in Donnellson.

The smell of fair grub and the calliope music has been historically enticing to people at one of southeast Iowa's annual traditions. And, although you’ll have the traditional fair barn activities and events, Lee County Fair Board Chairman Brock Westfall said there's something for everyone this year.

"We’re becoming a younger board and we're coming up with some new and exciting ideas and trying to reach out to different crowds of people," Westfall said Tuesday.

"One of the biggest comments we got last year was on the harness racing. We put together our own races last year and the crowds loved it so much we've expanded on that this year and will be bringing the Iowa Harness Racing Association in from Des Moines. We must have had 300 or 400 people ask us to bring back that event. I would think must have had 300 or 400 people ask us to bring back that event. I would think we'd have some pretty good attendance on that."

The 176th Lee County Fair kicks off on Wednesday and new events this year include Human Foosball, yeah that’s right, BINGO, and the Iowa Harness Racing Association will be in town, to go along with all the usual favorites.

Lee County Fair since 1841
IOWA’S OLDEST COUNTY FAIR

Artist Trax hosts grand opening

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - The walls are home to some very eye-catching art and sculpturing and the space is conducive to area artists who are looking for motivation and a place to call their own.

On Saturday, co-owners Rebecca Bowker and Ian Hauck celebrated the grand opening of their artists studio, Artist Trax Studio, at 827 Avenue H in Fort Madison.

Close to 50 people toured the new gallery Saturday and spent time with the co-owners talking about the format and listening to local music and a live remote from The New Mix out of Burlington.

The couple opened the event to family, friends, and members of the Fort Madison business community to showcase the art on display as well as inform them of the studio, Artist Trax Studio, at 827 Avenue H in Fort Madison.

The studio with art spaces and a place to call their own.

See ARTISTS, page 6

General admission to the races will be $5 and enthusiasts can also buy a pit pass for just $5 more.

Also new to the fair this year will be a foodball tournament. Westfall said the fair board has actually built a 14 foot by 40 foot six-on-six table out of plywood to be used for the tournament. The tournament will be held with games on Thursday and Friday at 6 p.m. with the championship starting on Saturday at 6 p.m.

"The fair board members actually built this and it’s portable. We’re actually going to try to keep this portable and rent it out to groups for area events," Westfall said. "Something different. Every year we try to add something different. When I go to fair conferences in Des Moines every year they have vendors who share these ideas with us."

The fair has also added nightly BINGO starting on Thursday and a fish fry to kick off the fair on July 5 starting at 5 p.m. in the FFA Building on the fairgrounds.

Improvements fans will see this year include new roofing, lots of LED lighting, and a new public address system for better sound and visuals at the fair.

See FAIR, page 6

Fireworks recall announced

BY PCC STAFF

KEOKUK - The Keokuk Fire Department is warning residents of some faulty fireworks sold in Illinois and other states. The information on the products is listed below.

Name of Product: TNT Red, White, & Blue Smoke fireworks. Hazard: The fireworks can explode unexpectedly after being lit, posing burn and injury hazards to consumers. Remedy: Refund

Consumers should immediately stop using the recalled fireworks and contact America Promotional Events for a full refund.

Consumer Contact: American Promotional Events at 800-243-1189 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. CT Monday through Friday; email at info@tntfireworks.com or online at www.tntfireworks.com and click on Product Recall at the bottom right-hand corner of the page.

See FIREWORKS, page 6
Fort Madison boys break losing skid with win over HTC

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - The Fort Madison baseball team got their first win of the season in an exciting matchup with crosstown rival Holy Trinity Catholic 4-2 Tuesday night.

The game really came down to two innings of unfortunate circumstances for the Crusaders. The bottom of the first and the top of the fifth.

Holy Trinity jumped out to a two nothing lead in the bottom of the first. Reed Fehseke led off the inning with a triple to right field. The Hounds' Carlos Reed Fehseke then hit a double to left to score Medland.

Kyle Bredemeyer then lined out to first and Thornton got caught leaning at second and was the victim of a double play. Cameron Bahl grounded out to second to end the inning with the Crusaders up 2-0.

The bottom half of the inning started out harmless enough when Ryan Steffensmeier flew out to left and Aaron Steffensmeier grounded into an unassisted out at first.

Then things took a wild turn for the 0-26 Hounds. Gerdes started with a double to left and advanced to third when Fehseke's throw to home was off target. Tyler O'Tool was issued a walk and O'Tool reached on a禹 error on throw in from left that missed Thornton on the cutoff. Tyler O’Tool then singled to left driving in Gerdes' courtesy runner. O’Tool swiped second.

Logan Allen then came to the plate and struck out, which should have ended the inning there, but Allen raced to first on the dropped strike. Bredemeyer threw down to first to get Allen on the play but the ball sailed over Vasin Thurman into the right field corner. The Crusaders couldn't track the ball down before the speedy Allen raced all the way around and scored.

On the following play Jacob Bahl got Lennon Barker to strike, which was the third hitter in a row to strike out, but this time the ball hit Bredemeyer's mitt and O'Tool raced to end the inning with the Hounds up 3-2.

The next three innings went very quickly. Gerdes gave up a walk to HTC's Ben Tinguely in the second, and a bang-bang play at third when Brady Reynolds didn't see a hold sign from Head Coach Ken Steeples and tried to stretch a double into a triple in the bottom half of the inning and was caught at third. The third inning had two base runners. HTC's Thornton was issued a walk and was left stranded at first and O'Tool reached on a Thornton error in the bottom half, but was stranded, as well.

HTC started the fifth with a Quentin Schneider ground out to Dayne Corr, but a bang-bang play at third when Brady Reynolds didn't see a hold sign from Head Coach Ken Steeples and tried to stretch a double into a triple in the bottom half of the inning and was caught at third. The third inning had two base runners. HTC's Thornton was issued a walk and was left stranded at first and O'Tool reached on a Thornton error in the bottom half, but was stranded, as well.

HTC's Reed Fehseke puts a tag on Brady Reynolds at third base in the bottom of the 2nd inning Tuesday. The Hounds downed Holy Trinity 4-2 in the first time the two local teams have met in almost 15 years.

Rival Holy Trinity Catholic and Fort Madison baseball team got their first win of the season in an exciting matchup with crosstown rival Holy Trinity Catholic 4-2 Tuesday night.

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Little Miss Rodeo, All-Around Cowboy Contest contestants sought

It’s that time of year!! Contestants are being sought for the annual Little Miss Rodeo & All-Around Cowboy Contest! This year’s event is to be held on Monday, September 4 at 6:30 p.m. at the Tri-State Rodeo Arena. Contestants must be ages 5-7 and must be age 5 by August 10.

An entry form is available on the Tri-State Rodeo website at www.tristaterodeo.org under the "Ready to Rodeo Week Events" tab. Entry forms must be postmarked by August 1st and can be mailed to Trish Eaves-Fedler, 1930 303rd Avenue Fort Madison, IA 52627. For more information, contact Trish at (319) 470-8030.

Canisters, with each child’s photo and name, will once again be placed in area businesses for family and friends to cast a vote by dropping their “spare change” into the canister. The night of the event, contestants will be interviewed and have a chance to showcase their talent. Judges will score the children on personality, attire, interview and talent. A portion of the money collected in the canisters goes to Miss Rodeo Iowa to help defray the travel expenses as she competes for the coveted title of Miss Rodeo America in Las Vegas this coming December.

Judges have no knowledge of how much money each contestant has collected in their canister. In the event of a tie, the amount in the canister will help determine the winner. Each contestant will receive a goodie bag for participating, however only one girl and one boy can win the title of Little Miss Rodeo & All-Around Cowboy.

Iowa Lottery WINNING NUMBERS

Lotto Drawings

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<th>Approx. Drawing Time</th>
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<td>Mega Millions®</td>
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<td>Noon</td>
<td>8:00 pm</td>
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*Annual Percentage Yield is effective 4/4/2017 and is subject to change without notice. Minimum deposit is $5,000 to earn promotional APY. A penalty may be imposed for early withdrawal and may reduce earnings.
HELP WANTED

ROLL OFF DRIVERS
Kempker’s True Value Rental is currently seeking a self-motivated individual to lead our Event Team. Duties consist of setting up tents, tables and chairs at customer’s requested locations throughout the Tri-State area. Starting wage for this position is $14.00 per hour. Must have a valid CDL and a valid airbrakes license. Apply in person at Floyd’s EZ Way Container Service 2133 Summer St. Burlington, IA (319)752-5394

EVENT TEAM LEADER
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Crazy half inning sees five outs

BASEBALL - Continued from Page 2

walked Felbcke and Medland. Thornton reached on an infield single that held everyone on the base paths. Bredemeyer then grounded to third where Lennon Barker threw to Allen at home and he re- layed to O’Tool at first for a 6-2-3 double play that ended the inning.

“That was the key play of the game,” said Steeples. “We were just doing everything we could to get an out there.”

Indeed it was the play of the game as Fort Madison would score what amount- ed to the winning run in the bottom half. Ryan Steffensmeier fanned to start the inning. Aaron Steffensmeier singled to deep short. The Crusaders got Gerdes to hit into a fielder’s choice at second and was thrown out while Steffensmeier ad- vanced. HTC Head Coach Albert Schin- stock then put O’Tool on intentionally to create a force on the bases, but Allen came through with a single to left to score Steffensmeier. Jace Burgher then flew out to center to end the inning.

Bahl started the sixth with a double to right-center but was thrown out on a fielder’s choice on a grounder back to the fielder by Aiden Alfred. The next two hitters flew out to right and left field to end the top half of the sixth. HTC senior Ben Tingacky made a diving catch of a Barker fly to right and the Crusaders went unscathed the rest of the sixth.

The Hounds got a little more defense going in the top of the 7th. Schneider grounded out to the pitcher, but Felbcke walked. Medland then grounded to the left of second base but Cordray scooped it up, stepped on second, and fired over to first to first to end the game.

“Aside from the first inning, I thought we played very well defensively,” Schin- stock said after the game. “We also proba- bly had our best hitting game of the year.”

Schinstock said the intensity was a little higher in the crosstown game and he hopes the scheduling continues to include the Hounds.

“We haven’t played them, I think, since 2001 and they were just coming off their state championship. We had a good team, they had a good team, and I think they brought their jay-vee,” he said.

“So yeah, it was a little more intense. And obviously both teams played very well.”

Schinstock also said Bahl, who went the distance for the Crusaders, pitched well and kept their runners under control.

Steeples also only used one pitcher for the whole game.

“I’m really happy statistically that he got the win. He really did a good job with his command.”

Steeples said the game was more en- ergized because of the crosstown atmos- phere.

“I really hope they continue to schedule them. It was good for our team to get the win, but they played very well and it was a good game,” he said.

Defensively, the Hounds turned three double plays.

“We haven’t had three double plays all year,” Steeples said. “I told them to make the routine plays and the special plays will come and we saw some of that tonight.”

The Hounds improve to 1-26 on the season and HTC falls to 3-15 on the season. Holy Trinity travels to West Burlington on Friday and the Hounds play at Centerville on the same day.

Girls split with No. 2 Fairfield

BY PCC STAFF

FAIRFIELD - The record may not indicate it, but the FMHS softball team can be pretty good. For the third time this season, the Lady Hounds have knocked off a Class 4A ranked team.

On Monday, the girls downed No. 2 ranked Fairfield, a team that was No. 1 in the state two weeks ago, on some timely hitting in the second game of the doubleheader. Lexi Schmidt gave up sev- en runs in the seventh inning, but did not allow a single run the rest of the game.

Meanwhile the Hounds went on a slugfest in the last three innings high- lighted by a two-out, two-strike single to center by the top of the seventh by Dayln Wondra that plated the two go ahead runs for Fort Madison.

Schmidt then slammed the door in the bottom half for the win. Chayse Lowney led Fort Madison at the plate going 3-4 with a double and a triple and two rbi. Kamryn Bailey hit a two-run homer which ties her for second in the confere- nce with six on the year. Schneider grounded out to the pitcher, but Felbcke walked. Medland then grounded to the left of second base but Cordray scooped it up, stepped on second, and fired over to first to first to end the game.

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FMHS boys drop two to Muscatine

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON - The Fort Madi- son Bloodhounds dropped two games at home Tuesday night in high school baseball action.

The Hounds mustered two hits in an 11-1 loss to Muscatine in the first game of a double header and then were shut out 12-0 in the five-inning night cap.

Allen Logan and Aaron Steffensmeier got the only hits for the Hounds in the first game. Logan’s was a double that drove in Jordyn Gerdes in the bottom of the first inning. Gerdes leads the Hounds in hitting among players with more than 30 at bats hitting .318 on the season. He also leads the team in dou- bles with four, and runs scored tied at eight with Allen.

In the second game Ryan Steffensmeier, Lennon Barker and Allen all had hits for the Hounds in the loss.

The Hounds (0-26) host Holy Trinity tonight in a cross-town match up with the varsity playing first at 5:30 p.m. in hopes of avoiding pending bad weather.

Great River Regional Waste Authority reminds you to use the 3 R’s!

Here are some helpful tips:

REDUCE

• Reduce the amount of waste produced in society
  The best way to manage waste is to not produce it. This can be done by shopping carefully and being aware of a few guidelines.
  • Buy durable goods and products in bulk
  • Avoid over-packaged & disposable goods
  • Use cloth napkins/towels instead of paper napkins/towels
  • Make 2-sided copies whenever possible
  • Maintain central files for multiple individuals
  • Use electronic mail/communications or a central bulletin board

REUSE

• Reuse products for the same purpose or for a different purpose
  It makes economic & environmental sense to reuse products. Sometimes it takes a creative mind to do so.
  • Sell or Donate old clothes, appliances, toys & furniture
  • Use resealable containers rather than plastic wrap
  • Recycle or bring your own cloth bags to the store

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
  (see www.grrwa.com for a complete list of locations)
  • 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

Household Hazardous Waste

We accept household hazardous waste and electronic waste at the Fort Madison location. Appointments are encouraged to ensure a proper procedures are in place for disposal. Please call 319-372-6140 to schedule your appointment. For a full list of acceptable items please call or visit us online.

Electronic Waste

Please place all electronic waste in their appropriate bins, some elec- tronic items are free to dispose. Please call for fees on TV’s, Monitors, Laptops & Tablets.
Lee County Fair looking to add board members to team

**FAIR - Continued from Page 1**

Westfall, who’s in his second year as presi-
dent, said the fair is also looking for new members to serve on the board. He said serving on the board is a very rewarding ex-
perience and you get out of it what you put into it.
The board meets monthly to coordinate and plan the upcoming fair and is comprised of 18 members.

“We have seven members that could rotate out of the board this year, so we’re gonna need probably four or five, possibly more, people to step in and fill those roles. Our attendance has been increasing each year and this work couldn’t be done without those people. We’re becoming a younger board. I’m 30, there are several people I went to high school with on this board. It can be hard work and it can also be rewarding work. Again, it’s like anything else – you get out of it, what you put into it.”

Westfall also said the contributions of the spon-
sors are absolutely invaluable as the fair continues to grow.

“Our sponsors have allowed us to put a lot of money into making this a great event,” he said.

The 13th Annual Kevin Young Memorial Run and 10th Annual Kay Junkins Memorial Walk are back and will be held on Saturday at 8 a.m. The Queen crowning will be held Wednesday night beginning at 6 p.m.

Westfall said it’s the carnival that really brings people in.

“This is the fourth year having a carnival. We brought it back my first year as chairman,” Westfall said.

“It’s getting bigger and bigger each year. This year we pushed this year having a carnival. We’ll have a great midway with lots of LED lights to attract people.”

Friday, July 7th will feature the annual Kid’s Day from 1 p.m to 5 p.m. with special games and activities for children including Southeast Iowa STEM Coding activities and $25 armbands for an all-you-can-ride carnival experience.

Captain Greech and the Shrimp Shack Shooters hit the Entertainment Pavilion at 9 p.m. for a 21-and-over show.

Saturday’s check full of events highlighted by the ever popular Demolition Derby at 7:30 p.m. with a Power Wheel derby for kids at 7 p.m.

A kid’s Pedal Pull will take place beginning at 5 p.m. Throughout the day, breakfast, lunch, and dinner will be served including a wine tasting and expo beginning at 2 p.m.

Madd-Hoss Jackson will be the pavilion entertain-
ment on Saturday night.

Sunday is highlighted by the free Classic Farm and Tractor Show on the grandstand. The livestock auction wraps up the event on Monday. The fair is also bringing back the annual chess tournament and senior day.

The Fair Board is also holding a Night of May-
hem race on Aug. 5. A complete list of events can be found by clicking the links for the Lee County Fair brochure below.

Residents should check fireworks

**FIREWORKS - Cont’d. from Page 1**

Pictures available here: [https://www.cpsc.gov/Re-
calls/2017/Fireworks-Recalled-By-American-Pro-
motional-Events Recall Details]

Units: 36,100

This recall involves TNT Red, White, & Blue Smoke fireworks. The recalled fireworks are pyrotechnic devices that make smoke when lit. They were sold in a bag containing three canisters: one red, one blue and one white. Each colored smoke firework is a cardboard cyl-
der tube that measures about 1 inch in diameter and 5 inches long. The TNT logo, “Red, White and Blue Smoke” and UPC number 027736036561 appear on the packaging.

Incidents/Injuries: American Promotional Events has received three incident reports, resulting in three people suffering burns injuries. No property damage has been reported.

Sold at: Albertsons, Kro-
ger, Meijer, Target, Wal-
Mart and other retailers in Illinois, Ohio, Vermont and Wisconsin from May 2017 through June 2017 about $5.

The Demolition Derby is back at the Lee County Fair this year and is a usual crowd favorite. The event follows the kids’ version with the Power

Wheel Derby at 7 p.m. Saturday night.

spaces that are still available for rent.

“We’ve still got about seven spaces left and they range in rent from $50 to $125 depending on the size of the space.”

“IT’s still got about seven spaces left and they range in rent from $50 to $125 depending on the size of the space you’re looking for.

Work areas are located down the east and west walls of the first floor of the building with spaces with a little more privacy located in the back. The gallery also has an outdoor area on the west side of the building where artists can sit outside and get inspiration looking out over the Mississippi River and the newly

remodeled railroad depot right across the highway.

Bowker said the day went very well.

“We had a lot of friends and family there. The radio did a nice job interview-
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