Editors’ Note: Due to the number of candidates for the upcoming election school board election, Pen City Current will be running platform stories looking at two candidates at a time.

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - The future of education, from teachers to facilities, is the driving force behind the candidates of district residents Renee Ehlers and Gunther Anderson. Both turned in paperwork to seek one of three open positions on the Fort Madison Community School District board at the Sept. 12 election.

Ehlers said the run is something she’s been thinking about for some time. "I’ve been contemplating this for the last year or so. During that time, I’ve also been on the Lincoln Parent Teacher group and there’s a need there. They (teachers) need a rep they can talk to and share opinions with."

Ehlers was also the chairwoman of the KIDS Committee, the group tasked with trying to get the referendum passed to construct a new elementary school and she said for the past year she’s been promoting growth in the district.

"It’s a huge loss with Timm leaving. I can’t fill his shoes, but we need to continue to talk progress and growth and moving forward," she said.

Ehlers has two children in the district and her husband, Mike, is a teacher at Fort Madison High School.

Ehlers said she realizes that could be problematic, but she said her ambitions are to help the district and continue to talk progress and growth and moving forward, "she said.

District board at the Sept. 12 election. Current president Timm Lamb will not be seeking re-election and board members Tim Wondra’s and Gayla Young’s terms are both expiring.

RiverFest Breakfast

Volunteers with the American Legion Post 82 served breakfast Sunday morning as part of a charity fund-raiser to send local veterans on an Honor Flight to Washington D.C. The event raised more than $3,200, which will pay for eight veterans to make the trip. Fareway Grocery, Lee County Bank, Fort Madison Elks Lodge, Kohl Wholesale, and American Legion Post 82 donated the food for the event.

Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Hats off to RiverFest committee

Jenny and Charles Craft have put together a team that rocks.

Sorry to use the generation X slang, but this festival, which just put a wrap around the second year Sunday night, had great music, well-timed events and programming, good security and helped several groups including the Great River Honor Flight program and the Fort Madison Police Reserve make some much needed cash.

I’ve gotten to know the Crafts from this year’s news articles and have found them both to be people who’s top priority is making sure everyone is having a good time. I spoke with Jenny and Charles on several occa-

Good samaritans, CPR save man’s life

CURT SWARM
Empty Nest

The heat and humidity were almost unbearable on Monday, July 17, even at 7:00 a.m. in the morning, when Marilyn and Bill Knox went for their daily walk around East Lake Park in Mt. Pleasant. 87-year-old Bill Knox found it difficult to breathe, but he wasn’t one to complain. Bill doesn’t remember the walk or getting in the car to drive his wife and himself home. Bill Knox, unbeknownst, to his wife, Marilyn, was in the early stages of cardiac arrest. Leaving East Lake Park, the blacktop road passes over Highway 328 and comes to a T inter-

section. Bill continued straight. Marilyn shouted, “Turn, turn, turn!” to no avail.

The Knox car went airborne, coming down hard it flattened a tire on a concrete foundation. Marilyn, even though she had a cracked sternum and compression fracture of the spine from the accident, was able to exit the vehicle, crawl up a steep embankment, and flag down a passing motorist. Dwight Alvine, also of Mt. Pleasant, was on his way to work. Seeing the woman in distress, he pulled over. When he saw the wrecked vehicle and came to a stop, he pulled out his phone and dialed 911 while giving aid to Marilyn. Mike Mathews of Mt. Pleasant was also on his way to work. Seeing the accident, was able to assist.

See SWARM, page 8

User's Avatar

Pen City Current

Monday, August 7, 2017 | 6 pages | Volume 1 • Issue 189
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Capt. and Mrs. Christopher Kirk

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. - Katherine Rump and USAF Captain Christopher Kirk were married on July 2, 2017 at Our Lady of the Skies Catholic Chapel on the base at the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs.

A reception was held following the wedding at the Spruce Mountain Ranch in Larkspur, Colorado.

The bride is a 2008 graduate of Holy Trinity Catholic High School in West Point, and a 2012 graduate of St. Ambrose University with a BA in Marketing and a Minor in Spanish.

She works for the HON Company.

The groom is a 2009 graduate of Burlington Notre Dame and a 2013 graduate of the US Air Force Academy with a BS in Management and a Minor in Spanish.

Co-maids of honor were Kayla Wills and Cassie Pratt, both friends of the bride.

Bridesmaids were Kirstin Kramer, Jordan Chappell, Alyssa Curtis, Sara Feder, Stephanie McWilliams, all friends of the bride; Katy Kirk, sister of the groom; and Kelly Pieper Leffler cousin of the Bride.

Junior Bridesmaids included Abigail Gaughan and Cecilia Wynne, cousins of the Groom; Addison Rump and Avery Rump, cousins of the bride.

The bride’s personal attendant was Taylor Ort, cousin of the bride.

Flower girls were Charlotte Gaughan and Veronica Wynne, cousins of the Groom and Rose Leffler, Cousin of the Bride. Ring Bearers: Colton Leffler, cousin of the bride.

Friends of the couple.

The couple planned a honeymoon traveling London, Spain and Italy.

Mr. David Steine, formerly of Burlington, presided over the ceremony that was attended by more than 370 family members and friends.

Piano, organ and musical direction was performed by Rebecca Gaughan, aunt of the groom.

Additional keyboards were performed by Col. (Ret) James Burling, uncle of the groom.

Cantor/Vocalist was Sadie Wynne, cousin of the groom.

Vocalists the groom.

Additional keyboards were performed by Col. Anthony Navaroli, Tyler Hackenmiller, Capt. Todd Fletcher, Capt. Daniel Katz, Capt. Christopher Nelson, Capt. Taylor Broekhuis, Capt. Brennan Sweeney, Capt. Anson Harvey and Capt. Andrew Hoops (deployed).


Ushers were Luke Schneider, Jarren Dirth and Nathan Gianettino, all friends of the groom, and Luke Burling, cousin of the groom.

Mrs. Kirk’s wedding dress was a bleached ivory lace v-neck sleeveless bodice with a champagne satin sheath skirt and removable white tulle overskirt and satin belt.

She wore a floor length veil. The couple planned a honeymoon traveling London, Spain and Italy.

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Vocalists were Eleanor Burling, Lt. Col John Gaughan II and Jessica Gaughan, cousins of the groom; Col. (Ret) John Gaughan II, uncle of the groom; and Monica Hinkle (Iowa City, formerly of Burlington) and Dr. Timothy Ahern (Burlington), friends of the couple.

Wedding

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its teachers and would approach her work on the board with objectivity.

offlict there,” she said. “I think I can make decisions where I wouldn’t consider our situation, but the situations of the teachers and the district as a whole,” she said. “I have a lot of friends and colleagues I’ve worked with over the years and I would take all that into consideration.”

Ehlers currently works with the Department of Human Services in income maintenance and says she sees first hand income maintenance and programs where maybe that has jobs they want to go to everyday. “I wanted to make sure I understand both sides of it,” she said. “If I get information that’s different from what I think is right, I’m not the type of person to stick my head in the sand. I would listen to both sides of the discussion to make sure I understand both sides of it.”

Holding an executive position with the union at Pinnacle, Anderson said he creates spreadsheets and makes it a priority to make sure all union members are aware of any changes in wages and benefits during negotiations and he would be willing to do that with board issues as well. “I wanted to make sure our union had all the information they needed so I created tables to help them understand the changes that were coming with regard to their wages, health insurance, etc. That’s something I’m experienced with and would not only be willing to do that with the help of the board, but also would be consistent that it be done,” he said.
**PUBLIC NOTICES**

**Lee County, Iowa**

**Board of Supervisors**

**Regular Meeting**

**AGENDA**

**DATE:** Tuesday, August 8, 2017

**MEETING CONVENING TIME:** 9:00 A.M.

**LOCATION:**

Correctional Center, 2530 25th St., Montrose, IA 52639

**AGENDA**

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Approve Agenda
- Consider Approval of Tuesday, August 1, 2017 Board Minutes
- Consider Approval of Claims
- Consider Approval of Public Input
- Consider Approval of Resolution and Application for Traffic Safety Funds for W62 from Highway 272 to 34th Street
- Consider Approval of Resolution and Application for Traffic Safety Funds for W62 from 34th Street to Highway 61
- Safety Update
- Consider Approval of Memorandum of Understanding with Sheriff’s Union
- Changing Time Period for Step Increases
- Consider Approval of Correction to Personnel Policy’s Vacation Accrual Chart
- Consider Approval of Tax Abatement Resolution
- Consider Approval of Class C Liquor License for Boonies Bar & Grill, Fort Madison
- A. Change in Position/Community Services
- B. Step Increase-Health Department
- Reports:
  - A. Treasurer’s Report of Fees Collected
  - Commission or Committee Reports
- Adjourn

**PUBLIC MEETING – CITIZENS WELCOME**

Workshop to follow

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County Website: www.leecounty.org

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Lee County Conservation Board

Meeting Agenda

August 8, 2017

6:00 p.m.

Lee County Conservation Center

2652 Highway 61

Montrose, IA 52639

- Call to order
- Duck hunting rules presentation
- Public input
- This is the time of the meeting that a citizen may address the Board on any matters pertaining to the Lee County Conservation Board. The Board cannot take formal action at the meeting on matters not included on the regular agenda, but may ask the staff to research the matter or have the matter placed on a subsequent agenda.
- Approval of minutes from July 11, 2017
- Approval of August bills
- Approval of financial report
- Consider approval to install a gate or barrier to prevent vehicle access at all times to Indian Path on the southeast side of HWY 61 near the railroad bridge
- Consider approval to install a gate to restrict vehicle access at Indian Path on the northwest side of HWY 61 during high water, wet conditions, etc.
- Staff Reports
- Board comments
- Adjournment

Next meeting will be September 12, 2017

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HTC Early Childhood Center

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woman lying on the side of the road with a backpack on, and a man waving and apparently giving aid to the woman. He was totally confused. He thought Marilyn Knox must have been a walker or jogger along side the road. When he pulled over, he saw the vehicle in the ditch. Dwight Alvine pointed at the car, indicating that Mathews should check on the driver.

As Mathews approached the vehicle he could see the driver collapsed and unconscious behind the wheel. He ran to the driver’s side, but the door was locked. He ran back around to the passenger side and opened the door. Bill Knox looked to be in pretty bad shape, and was gasping for air. Mike Mathews is a dentist and has had CPR training. He felt Bill Knox’s carotid artery digging into his knees, when the Mt. Pleasant Police arrived with an AED (Automated External Defibrillator). He helped the policeman place the patches, stood up to relieve his knees, and watched the AED initiate a shock.

Paramedics arrived and took over. Bill Knox was loaded into the ambulance and transported, first to the Henry County Health Center Emergency Room, then to Mercy Hospital in Iowa City. In route to HCHC, paramedics were able to establish a pulse.

Bill Knox was in the hospital six days, and had a defibrillator installed in his chest. He looks to be in pretty good shape now. You would never know he had a heart attack.

5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

MON 07 Aug

- Few Clouds
  - High – 74.4º F | Low – 59.2º F

TUE 08 Aug

- Clear Skies
  - High – 76.3º F | Low – 57.7º F

WED 09 Aug

- Light Rain
  - High – 75.5º F | Low – 58.2º F

THU 10 Aug

- Light Rain
  - High – 80.9º F | Low – 65.8º F

FRI 11 Aug

- Heavy Intensity Rain
  - High – 68.3º F | Low – 68.3º F

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One provides CPR training could save a life

Thanks to the quick action of Dwight Alvine, and the CPR of Mike Mathews, which maintained circulation while an ambulance was in route, Bill Knox is alive today. The odds of this happening are about one in 100. Are Dwight Alvine and Mike Mathews heroes? Yes, although they are quick to point out that every person involved was critical to the life-saving effort. Marilyn Knox, even with serious injuries, was able to climb a steep embankment to wave down a passing motorist. Mount Pleasant Police were quick to arrive with an automated defibrillator. The Paramedics from HCHC performed advanced life-saving measures. And the doctors and nurses at Mercy Hospital in Iowa City are expert at handling heart patients. It was a total team effort.

Mike Mathews is adamant about the importance of the public taking CPR training. You can take classes through the fire department, the health department, the Red Cross, wherever, but CPR saves lives. It is critical that first-on-the-scene responders be able to maintain circulation of the victim until advanced life support arrives. You may be able to save the life of a loved one or, like Dwight Alvine and Mike Mathews, a total stranger.

Marilyn and Bill Knox will celebrate 66 years of marriage in August, thanks to the quick response of a couple of Good Samaritans.

Have a good story? Call or text Curt Swarm in Mt. Pleasant at 319-217-0526, email him at curtswarm@yahoo.com, or find him on Facebook. Curt’s stories are also read on 107.3 FM in Farmington.

RIVERFEST - Continued from Page 1

sions about the event and we tried to keep the festival in our reader’s minds as the event drew closer. But it’s the looks on their faces that told the story. Speaking with Charles Thursday night and watching his face light up when I asked him how turnout compared to previous year.

Craft said it was 20x bigger than the inaugural year of the event. He had a farmer’s smile on his face as though he was looking out over a fertile field as people filed in to see Captain Geech in the Entertainment tent. “I couldn’t be happier with this turnout,” he said. But something tells me he will be happier next year.

Jenny walked around speaking with guests Saturday night between country artist Buddy Jewell and Fort Madison native Shawn Moss, who, if you didn’t get a chance to hear him, you missed something), spoke for real when he told me it was unfortunate Garth Brooks was Garth Brooks first, because this guy is Garth Brooks.

Walking the grounds, and I’m not exaggerating here, I rarely went 20 minutes without seeing Rusty Andrews mulling about making sure his priorities were being monitored.

I spoke with a lot of parents, aunts and uncles about the event and they all indicated they were happy that it was brought back this year and indicated they would be returning as long as the town kept having it.

Bob Smith, a former Fort Madison resident said he loved coming to the event because it captured small town American with a big venue feel and he would continue to come down to the event, because he loved the “beer tent” mentality mixed in with bigger city acts.

Plans are already underway for the 2018 event and although nothing is set in stone, Craft and Co. are kicking around lots of marketing ideas such as a national rock band, pickleball tournaments and dragon boat racing. They even had one of the boats in the entertainment venue this year. If you haven’t even competed in dragon-boat racing, I would encourage you to start working out now. That’ll work the shoulders but it’s a hell of a lot of fun.

Doug and Shanna Krogmeier put on the RiverFest Games and had people playing intense sand volleyball, throwing bags in holes and running all over the Riverfront area.

The committee is genuinely trying to find something for everyone and is getting pretty close to hitting the nail on the head. Thanks folks for a job well done...again.

Plans already cooking for 2018 RiverFest event