School district taking hard look at student safety

P3 Campus already helping with anonymous tips

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - As part of the superintendent’s report at Monday’s school board meeting, Superintendent Erin Slater and several district administrators updated the board on security plans in the works in the district. Slater, Assistant High School principal Patrick Lamb and Assistant middle school principal Brent Zirkel, along with the Fort Madison Police Department’s school resource officer all attended a national convention on school safety and security in July.

She said the conference gave the group an opportunity to review the emergency response plans and look at some research based changes, some of which are already under way.

“We want to make sure that we’re not just not doing something because it sounds good or it’s the flavor of the month,” Slater said. “But we wanted you to know the reasons why we attended. We know that learning is best achieved in a safe and nurturing environment. It’s our job and our responsibility to make sure we are doing the very best we can.”

Zirkel said most strategies of school safety will fall under four Ds, - Deter, Detect, Delay, and Defend.

He said strategies going forward will focus on deterring any threats, detecting when something may be happening, trying to delay any threat to allow first responders time to react, and then in the worst scenarios take a defensive posture to the threat.

“All the things we talk about in school safety will fall under one of those Ds,” Zirkel said.

As a result of the learnings of the convention, the district has already developed a threat assessment team, which includes board director Dianne Hope. A public relations team has also been formed and has held meetings including various stakeholders including the district, the Area Education Association, the transportation and facilities departments, counselors and social workers to start doing planning that will help make sure...
2 - Pen City Current - Tuesday, September 26, 2017

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report

09/22/17 - 8:39 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 300 block of Avenue F.
09/22/17 - 10:20 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 2000 block of Avenue A.
09/22/17 - 10:44 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 2400 block of Avenue A.
09/22/17 - 8:40 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a stolen vehicle in the 300 block of Avenue D.
09/23/17 - 4:23 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 400 block of Avenue G.
09/23/17 - 2:04 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 3000 block of Avenue D.
09/24/17 - 2:09 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a stolen vehicle in the 4200 block of Avenue B.
09/24/17 - 2:58 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1700 block of Avenue D.
09/24/17 - 7:51 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 600 block of 22nd Street.
09/24/17 - 11:16 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a stolen vehicle in the 1400 block of Avenue I.
09/24/17 - 7:38 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 3000 block of Avenue E.
09/24/17 - 9:16 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 3100 block of Avenue D.
09/24/17 - 8:30 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a personal injury accident at the intersection of 180th Street and Hwy. 218.
09/24/17 - 2:58 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 4200 block of Avenue B.
09/24/17 - 7:14 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 2100 block of Avenue J.
09/25/17 - 8:10 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 1700 block of Avenue D.

For the Record/Area News

GRHS named to 150 workplace

WEST BURLINGTON - Great River Health Systems is one of the best places to work in Iowa, according to Des Moines Register’s 2017 Top Workplaces survey. The survey ranked 150 employers in small, mid-sized and large categories. The only hospital or health system named in the large-company category was Great River Health Systems ranked 31st.

This is the fifth consecutive year that Great River Health Systems has been ranked on the list.

“Being named one of Iowa’s top large employers five years in a row is a great honor, and it certainly speaks to the culture of Great River Health Systems,” said Mark Richardson, president and CEO. “Our people take pride in work, and we view our organization as a team to provide outstanding care to patients and families in the southeast Iowa region.”

The Des Moines Register recognized companies and organizations in Iowa as top workplaces based solely on surveys about the workplace completed by their employees.

The anonymous survey focused on six aspects of the workplace environment including:
· Career – training opportunities and progression
· Conditions – assessment of the working atmosphere and environment
· Direction – assessment of the company’s values, leaders and strategy
· Innovation – assessment of how the company communicates and gets work done
· Management – quality and managerial skills
· Pay and benefits – assessment of associate compensation

Those interested in a career with Great River Health Systems can visit www.GreatRiverMedical.org.
Gov. Reynolds urges students to file FAFSAs early

(DES MOINES) – Gov. Kim Reynolds and Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg urged high school seniors to file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) during their weekly press conference Monday at Saydel High School in Des Moines.

“I just graduated from Iowa State University last December, so it wasn’t that long ago that I was in college,” Gov. Reynolds said. “Plus, I remember how hard my husband, Kevin, and I worked to help our three daughters through school. I know that every dollar counts. That’s why making sure high school seniors complete their FAFSA is critical. This form opens doors to most financial aid.”

“Filing the FAFSA to determine eligibility for financial aid may seem like a simple step, but it can transform students’ lives through the opportunities it opens up,” Lt. Gov. Gregg said.

The FAFSA is required to qualify for federal Pell grants, federal student loans, federal work-study programs and most forms of state financial aid. About two-thirds of Iowa’s high school seniors with low-income students among the least likely to file.

This also will help meet the Future Ready Iowa goal of 70 percent of the state’s workforce having education or training beyond high school by the year 2025.

“That is critical so employers can hire the skilled workers they need to innovate and grow. The window to file the FAFSA for the 2018-19 school year opens Sunday, October 1, 2017.”
School officials say collaboration is key to security progress

SECURITY - Continued from Page 1

everyone is safe.

“We need to discuss policies and practices that are always evolving,” Zirkel said. “One of the things I’ve seen now and my eyes are very open to, is your plan goes right out the door the moment something happens because nothing can ever be perfectly planned for. We have to be conceptual. We want to plan for the process leading up to the threat.”

Lamb thanked the board for approving the trip saying that training and education of that type isn’t frequent locally.

He said one of the most eye opening things to him was in regard to drug and alcohol activity.

“One of the most eye opening to me was an expert who was speaking on gangs and drugs and he said as kids walk through the door you can see things from the clothing the kids are wearing and how they’re wearing it,” he said. “I haven’t been looking at that at all, but it kind of opens your eyes as the kids walk through the door. A year ago, I wouldn’t even have known that some of the stuff they are wearing is actually references to drugs and alcohol. That’s pretty sneaky stuff.”

He asked the board to be advocates for the safety measures in the district or to be involved in the discussions and asked the district to commit to sending at least two representatives to the national safety conferences every year going forward.

He also talked about the P3 Campus program recently launched in the district. The program is an anonymous tip reporting app and is also web based and allows reporting on just about anything from pet abuse to sex abuse to bullying in a completely anonymous format.

“I’ve been the point person in the district and the lady we’ve been working with is a parent in the Sandy Hook district who’s children weren’t hurt in that shooting fortunately, but she has moved and become the point person for this company,” Lamb said.

“IThink it will be a tool for us that we can start to determine trends. People will be comfortable in reporting those things to us and we can further investigate and hopefully do something about it.”

Lamb also said the district needs to change the way they do lockdowns and schedule them for more random times.

“We have been doing lockdown drills the same way for the past 20 years and we talked about it in the administrative council to switch that up and do it at inappropriate times. Shooters would come in not when everyone is safe in the classrooms, they would do it when students are up and moving around. So we need to make these more spontaneous as to when we have them.”

Board member Jared Hotop asked what kind of products the school had for securing doors.

Lamb said the the district has several types of locks on doors and numerous devices but not all rooms have them.

Slater said the P3 campus was the best tool they could bring in for the money, but the threat assessment team would look at all the options to see what makes the most sense for them.

In other action, the board

• heard from district business manager Sandy Elmore on FY 2017 final reports and approved the reports.
• approved Tim Wondra as the new board president. Timm Lamb didn’t seek re-election. Jillian Troxel was elected to the board and Wondra and Gayla Young were re-elected to their position. Young was approved as the new vice president. Both are two year terms.  
Consider Approval of Tax of Ordinances and Possible Tourist Oriented Signs for the Treasurer’s Office

Agreement with Iowa Department of Claims

2017 Board Minutes

Tuesday, September 19, 2017

We are expanding! 78 Rooms with choices to fit all your needs!

Ft. Madison Depot
Every Monday

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Consider Approval of Agenda

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8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Saturday:

8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

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B. Step Increase-Conservation

Public Notice:  None

Motion to approve Resolution #171, Use of Collection Bank for depositing public funds. Motion made by Lindene, seconded by Adam. Motion to approve Resolution #171, Use of Collection Bank for depositing public funds. Motion made by Lindene, seconded by Adam.

Motion to approve the General Manager’s report made by Randolph, seconded by Lindene.

Motion to approve the Business Manager’s report made by Randolph, seconded by Adam.

Motion to approve the Expenditure report made by Lindene, seconded by Adam.

Elevated Comfort.

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Mark M.

B. Step Increase-Conservation

Public Notice:

Meeting Notice

City of Fort Madison

Planning and Zoning Commission

WILL MEET ON

Tuesday, Sept. 26, 2017

6:00 PM AT THE

Council Chambers,

City Hall- 811 Ave E

TO DISCUSS THE

FOLLOWING:

AGENDA:

1. Roll Call

2. Approval of minutes 8/29/17 meeting

3. Non-agenda item comments


5. Old Business:

None.

6. Other/New Business

7. Adjourn

PUBLIC NOTICE MEETING MINUTES

September 15, 2017

The Great River Regional Waste Authority met on September 15, 2017 at Connection Bank (Conference room) in Fort Madison, Iowa at 6:30 A.M. to conduct a regular monthly meeting.

ALL VOTES UNANIMOUS UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED.

The meeting was called to order at 6:45 A.M.

Present: Brad Randolph, Marc Lindene and Gary Adam. Roger Bryant and Rick Larkin were absent.

Motion to approve the August 18, 2017 meeting minutes was made by Lindene, seconded by Randolph.

Public Comments: None

Motion to approve the General Manager’s report made by Randolph, seconded by Lindene.

Motion to approve the Business Manager’s report made by Randolph, seconded by Adam.

Motion to approve the Expenditure report made by Lindene, seconded by Adam.

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Open Houses

Wednesday, September 27

4:30pm-5:45pm

111 Lakeshore Road, West Point
Listing #20166751
Hosted by Jill Knouse

508 2nd Street, West Point
Listing #20166834
Hosted by Lorri Nunn

2732 Avenue N
Listing #20166857
Hosted by Judy Hottenhaus

2723 Avenue C
Listing #20166819
Hosted by Lori Sproul

2628 Avenue H
Listing #20166858
Hosted by Judy Hottenhaus

2116 Avenue E
Listing #20166854
Hosted by Judy Hottenhaus

2818 Avenue I
Listing #20166854
Hosted by Kara Morrow

38 Oak Drive
Listing #20166502
Hosted by Nicole Panther

4944 Grandview Lane
Listing #20167146
Hosted by Kara Morrow

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Packer – All Shifts Available. Keokuk, IA. $10.00/hr. - $10.50/hr.

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Team Staffing is hosting a job fair at Bagcraft Papercon. Multiple placement opportunities are available.

On-Site Interviews

Refreshments

Giveaways

Plant Tours

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Executive Director

LIVE UNITED

United Way of the Great River Region which serves Lee County in Iowa, Hancock County in Illinois and Clark County in Missouri is seeking an Executive Director to manage all aspects of a non-profit organization dedicated to improving lives in the area of health, education and financial stability.

Under the direction of the Board of Directors, the Executive Director is responsible for all administrative, fundraising, fund distribution, operations, donor and community relations of the organization. The Executive Director also provides development services to the UWGRR strategic plan. College degree with major in business, management or marketing is encouraged. Under the direction of the Board of Directors, the Executive Director is responsible for developing key external and internal collaborations, partnerships, relationships and grant writing which include the Board of Directors, community partners, leaders and staff. The Executive Director will manage full-time and part-time staff as well as multiple volunteers with various responsibilities as aligned with the UWGRR strategic plan. College degree with major in business, management or marketing is encouraged. Non-profit experience, particularly with United Way is a plus.

This is a full-time salaried position. Salary is negotiable. Benefits include vacation and sick pay. United Way of the Great River Region is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Send letters of application and resumes to: Pam Bierwirth, UWGRR President pam-bierwirth@hotmail.com or PO Box 251, Keokuk, IA 52632 Deadline for application is September 30, 2017.
Home OF THE WEEK

530 Avenue C
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3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage

Want a room with a view? Well this house provides that from 6 of the 8 rooms in the house!! A beautiful RIVERVIEW...AND a completely updated 3 bedroom, 2 LARGE bath home. From the amazing living room & dining room to the new kitchen...from the stunning walnut hardwood floors to the beautiful new interior doors...this house offers it all! New kitchen with Amish made cabinets & countertops, lighting, stair treads, rail & banister, hardwood, quartz countertops in up bath, walk-in closet (that has been fully customized) off dressing room, air tub in master bath and so much more!!!! New retaining walls were put in 2013. This is a definite MUST see home!!! And by the way...536 Ave. C can be purchased with this as a package deal!!!!

Click here to see all the pictures & to learn more.

$134,900
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(319) 372-4040 • 903 Avenue G • Fort Madison • www.seia.rapmls.com
Alexis Sperber has launched a competitive dance studio in downtown Fort Madison. The studio opened Aug. 23 and is now taking students.

“I picked up the yoga to keep busy and I became really passionate about it and it’s been getting a lot of attention recently from the adult crowd, which I really appreciate,” Sperber said the best way to get more information or to contact the studio is via its website at www.velocitydanceandtumbling.com or on their Facebook page at https://https://www.facebook.com/velocitydanceandtumbling/.

Memberships are paid on a monthly basis and adults have the option for punch cards which can be used to try different classes and styles to find their favorites.

**Lee County Health Department - 2017 FLU CLINIC SCHEDULE**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>10/2</td>
<td>Newberry Center</td>
<td>8:30am-10:00am</td>
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<td>10/3</td>
<td>Twin Oaks Apts. Denmark</td>
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<td>10/5</td>
<td>Deer Meadow Keokuk</td>
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<td>10/10</td>
<td>Hotel Iowa Keokuk</td>
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<td>Hillview Village Ft. Madison</td>
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<td>10/10</td>
<td>West Point Public Library</td>
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<td>Mississippi Terrace Keokuk</td>
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<td>River Terrace Keokuk</td>
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<td>10/10</td>
<td>Trinity United Methodist Keokuk</td>
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<td>Montrose Public Library</td>
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<td>Donnellson Public Library</td>
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<td>Eagle Bluff Apts. Ft. Madison</td>
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<td>Heritage Center Keokuk</td>
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<td>Rose Michael Gardens</td>
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<td>10/24</td>
<td>Parkview Apts. West Point</td>
<td>10:00am-Noon</td>
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<td>10/26</td>
<td>LCHD</td>
<td>10:00am-Noon</td>
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Please bring your Medicare card with you to the clinic.

Private Pay cost $25

Any questions please call (319)372-5252

www.leecountyhd.org