RiverFest 2018 planning in full swing

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - With the 2017 RiverFest barely in the rearview mirror, organizers Charles and Jenny Craft are already hard at work building the third, what they say will be the biggest, RiverFest to date. This year's festival will run Thursday, August 2 through Sunday, August 5.

The RiverFest Committee, made up of local volunteers, has already begun tailoring the 2018 event to fit new opportunities for local and area businesses and organizations to become more involved and has added another marquee event by bringing in the American Dragon Boat Association to the Mississippi River. Teams of 18 paddlers including a drummer and a flag catcher join an ADRA sternsman on a race down a straight line course set on the Mississippi River in Fort Madison's Riverview Park.

"Dragon boat races could be a very big draw with proceeds from the event going to a charitable organization to be announced later," Craft said.

The event is sure to bring competitive teams and spectators alike on Saturday, August 4, 2018. It makes for fun and exciting team building opportunities for groups, businesses and organizations. For those wanting more information regarding the Dragon Boat Race or wish to register a team should email dragonboats@riverfestfm.com.

Craft said this year's entertainment will be national acts and is something that everyone will be surprised with.

“The national acts we're looking at bringing in this year are really going to surprise people. This will be something you surely won't want to miss,” Craft said.

The RiverFest games will be similar to last year highlighted by the Sand Volleyball tournament, the Bags Tournament and the return of the World Series of Beer Pong with a qualifier taking place at Kinnick South again in 2018.

Craft also said this year’s event will accommodate employee and group picnic options for all size companies and organizations and will feature personalized and customized options for those wanting to hold a company picnic or outing as part of the event.

To accommodate the growth of the festival, the committee is adding a third stage for 2018 and will have a new teen music competition on the third stage. The event will feature bands and musicians 18 and under and a competition will be held with voting determined by applause from the crowd.

“We are looking to showcase the musical talents of our area youth that can often

With 2017 RiverFest and entertainers like Buddy Jewell barely a thing of the past, the 2018 committee is already in full gear and planning for the biggest festival yet, including national entertainers and a dragon boat competition.

See RIVERFEST, page 6
Former legislator to lead state’s Veteran’s Affairs office

Navy veteran served 10 years in state representative

DES MOINES – Gov. Kim Reynolds announced the appointment of Steve Lukan Monday as Iowa Department of Veterans Affairs executive director. Most recently, Lukan served as director of the Governor’s Office of Drug Control Policy. He replaces Jodi Tymeson, who announced her retirement last month.

Lukan is a former state representative, serving Iowa House District 32 from 2003-12. From 2008-12, he assisted in guiding the House Republican Caucus as assistant leader. During Lukan’s time in the Iowa House, he also chaired the House Economic Development Appropriations Committee, championed the creation of the House Veterans Affairs Committee and enacted legislation to help disabled veterans through establishment of the Veterans Trust Fund.

Lukan served four years in the U.S. Navy, earning four promotions and obtaining the rank of Petty Officer 2nd Class. He was awarded the Good Conduct Medal and Navy Achievement Medal.

“I am humbled and honored to serve the brave men and women of our armed forces in this way,” Lukan said. “They have given excellence in their service, and excellence in fulfilling the mission of the Department of Veterans Affairs will be our goal.”

“Steve is a proven champion of Iowa veterans,” Gov. Reynolds said. “He used his time in public office to make veterans’ issues a priority. He showed them they matter to our state and play an important role in our society. I appreciate Steve's passionate advocacy and am confident in his ability to ensure Iowa veterans receive the benefits they deserve.”

“Steve has been successful in uniting diverse interests at the Office of Drug Control Policy,” Lt. Gov. Gregg said. “He’s been able to focus the public’s attention on drug control, and I am confident he will also be able to shine a spotlight on the needs of those who have so bravely served our nation.”

Lukan's appointment is effective immediately. Dale Woodery will serve as interim director of the Office of Drug Control Policy.
For the Record

Fort Madison
Police report
11/15/17 - 11:08 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 2600 block of Avenue H.

11/16/17 - 3:42 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 2000 block of Avenue B.

11/16/17 - 7:39 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 2200 block of Avenue D.

11/16/17 - 11:35 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a property damage accident at the intersection of 53rd Street and Avenue O.

11/16/17 - 11:07 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a hit and run in the 1700 block of Avenue H.

11/16/17 - 3:40 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 900 block of Avenue H.

For the Record

Lee County
Sheriff’s report
11/15/17 - 11:15 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff’s deputies arrested Roy Morrell Stewart, III, 34 of Keokuk, at the Mt. Pleasant jail on warrants for contempt of court. He remained in custody.

11/15/17 - 11:08 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff’s deputies responded to a two-vehicle accident on Hwy 16. According to the report, a vehicle driven by Michael William Sanders, 54 of Donnellson, sideswiped a vehicle driven by William Richard Small, 49, of Milton. Sanders was cited for failure to yield have the roadway. No injuries were reported at the scene.

For the Record

Lee County
Sheriff’s report
11/15/17 - 8:37 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff’s deputies arrested Jeremy Oliver Bums, 24, of Donnellson was arrested at Casey’s in Donnellson on a warrant for contempt of court. He was taken to Lee County Jail and held.

11/16/17 - 12:55 p.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Matthew Rohan Boon, 32, of Fort Madison, in the 2000 block of Avenue L on three counts of forgery. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.

11/16/17 - 7:58 p.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Raymond Lewis Peebler, 67, of West Burlington, in the 2700 block of Avenue K. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.

11/17/17 - 4:13 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a gas drive off in the 2200 block of Avenue L.

11/17/17 - 8:05 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of property damage accident in the 600 block of 9th Street.

11/17/17 - 9:15 p.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of property damage accident in the 1200 block of 37th Street.

11/18/17 - 1:26 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff’s deputies arrested Weston Jaycob Schorr, 21, of Keokuk, at the Lee County Jail and held.

11/18/17 - 7:58 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff’s deputies arrested Paul Michael Auston, 45, of Cherokee, Iowa on a warrant for 4th degree criminal mischief. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.

11/18/17 - 12:32 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff’s deputies arrested Steven Eugene Johnson, 52, of Keokuk, in the 400 block of High Street in Keokuk on a warrant for 5th degree theft less than $200. He was taken to Lee County Jail and released on bond.

11/18/17 - 1:05 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff’s deputies arrested Michael Patrick Overhulser, 25, of Mt. Pleasant, at the Lee County Sheriff’s office on a charge of 4th degree criminal mischief. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.

11/18/17 - 1:26 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff’s deputies arrested Matthew Robert Burns, 24, of Donnellson, on a warrant for a subsequent offense. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.

11/18/17 - 7:58 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff’s deputies arrested Jessica Kimberly Sanders, 54 of Donnellson, at the Mt. Pleasant County Jail and held.

11/18/17 - 7:58 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff’s deputies arrested Jessica Kim Sanders was cited for reckless driving.

11/18/17 - 7:58 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff’s deputies arrested Rahkil James Breuer, 29, of Keokuk, at the Keokuk County Jail and held.

11/18/17 - 1:37 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff’s deputies arrested Steven Burns, 24, of Donnellson, at the Mt. Pleasant County Jail and released.

11/18/17 - 12:55 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff’s deputies arrested Raymond Lewis Peebler, 67, of West Burlington, in the 2700 block of Avenue K. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.

11/19/17 - Fort Madison Fire & Rescue Report
11/17/17 - Fort Madison Firefighters responded to five medical calls and one outlet electrical fire.

11/18/17 - Fort Madison Firefighters responded to one medical call, three lift assists and police department assist.

Pen City Current encourages you to play responsibly.
PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby provided that the City Council of the City of West Point, Iowa, will conduct a public hearing on Monday, December 11, 2017, at 6:30 p.m. in the Public Library Conference Room, 317 Fifth Street, West Point, Iowa 52656 concerning a petition for vacation and sale of a parcel described as: “Auditor’s Parcel “L” in part of Outlot 2, all in the Original Plat, City of West Point, Iowa described as follows:

Commencing at the northeast corner of said Lot 13, Block 33, thence South 88°29’57” West, 96.99 feet to the west corporate line of said Plat; thence, continuing along said line and an extension thereof, a distance of 266.83 feet to the Point of Beginning; thence, along said line and an extension thereof, South 01°11’03” East, 79.65 feet; thence North 88°29’57” West, 79.68 feet to the Point of Beginning; thence, continuing along said line and an extension thereof, South 88°29’57” West, 79.70 feet to the Point of Beginning, containing 0.16 acre.

The above bearings are based on Iowa State Plane South Coordinates and all distances are horizontal ground distances.

A copy of the cited petition and preliminary resolution to dispose of real property are on file at City Hall, 313 Fifth Street, West Point, Iowa 52656, and may be viewed by the public during normal business hours.

Diane E. Smith, City Clerk
City of West Point, Iowa

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Commencing at the northeast corner of said Lot 13, Block 33, thence South 88°29’57” West, 79.68 feet to the Point of Beginning; thence, continuing along said line and an extension thereof, a distance of 266.83 feet to the Point of Beginning; thence, continuing along an extension thereof, a distance of 266.83 feet to the Point of Beginning; thence, continuing along said line, containing 0.18 acre.

The above bearings are based on Iowa State Plane South Coordinates and all distances are horizontal ground distances.

A copy of the cited petition and preliminary resolution to dispose of real property are on file at City Hall, 313 Fifth Street, West Point, Iowa; thence, along said corporate limits, South 01°11’03” East, 79.65 feet; thence North 88°29’57” East, 97.87 feet; thence North 01°14’20” West, 79.68 feet to the Point of Beginning, containing 0.18 acre.

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November 25th, 2017
Pen City Current
Local News/Weather

5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

TUE 21 Nov
Light Rain
High – 37.1º F | Low – 23.7º F

WED 22 Nov
Clear Skies
High – 30.3º F | Low – 27.9º F

THU 23 Nov
Clear Skies
High – 40.4º F | Low – 30.2º F

FRI 24 Nov
Light Rain
High – 48.2º F | Low – 47.6º F

SAT 25 Nov
Clear Skies
High – 39.4º F | Low – 27.7º F

RiverFest has wide range of sponsorship opportunities

RIVERFEST - Continued from Page 1

go unheard by the general public,” said Shawna Ross, marketing director for RiverFest. “With this addition it is our hope to be able to present our young musicians with opportunities they may not get otherwise, such as personal meet-and-greets with some of our bands, a chance to play on a stage to a crowd, win prizes, and more.”

Those interested in learning more information or wish to enter the competition should contact Shawna at sross@riverfestfm.com.

Craft and commercial vendors and food vendors will be back as will the special attractions like the Motorcycle Stunt show and Pickleball court. There is room for more vendors, those interested in becoming a food vendor should contact Lori Illner at food@riverfestfm.com and those interested in becoming a craft or commercial vendor should contact Gina Simmons at vendors@riverfestfm.com.

A wide variety of opportunities are available for local and area businesses and organizations to get involved in RiverFest 2018 through community partnerships, volunteering, event and area specific sponsorship packages, as well as entertainment and stage presenters; just to name a few.

“We are just beginning to connect with area businesses and groups to present the opportunities for involvement. We have something for everyone,” said Ross. Those interested in getting involved can contact Charles Craft at charles@riverfestfm.com or Shawna Ross at sross@riverfestfm.com.

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Dr. Mark C. Pothitakis is now seeing patients on Wednesdays in the downtown Fort Madison office.

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