HTC students spend evening talking science

More than 45 projects displayed Monday night

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - The HTC newly renovated hallways were packed Monday night with a wide range of studentsped-dling some very interesting science projects. The annual science fair at the school is typically a junior high and high school fair, but, this year, even some fourth and fifth graders got into the act. Close to 45 students had exhibits that included such dynamic investigations as what impacts freckle presence and eye color, to erosion of streams, to which potato chips are the greasiest.

More than 20 judges from all walks of life including the Lee County Conservation District, local farmers, teachers, agriculture professionals, and others worked the hallway talking with students about their projects. Three of the youngest scientists in the room were Addie Lynk and Emma Mohrfeld, 4th graders, and Teagan Snadaet, a 5th grader at Holy Trinity Elementary School, who wanted to see which potato chips had the most grease in them. A binder full of graph paper shows the results of the girls spreading an equal amount chips and crushing them consistently with a rolling pin. Then allowing the chips to rest on the paper as the grease permeates the paper and leaves a visible line defining an area on the paper with the grease.

Locals will be happy to know that out of four chips tested, Sterzings brand had the third least amount of grease according to the test. Mohrfeld said her mother helped them come up with the idea, but the girls thought it was a fun and interesting project.

“It’s something interesting to show people how much grease is in their favorite chips,” she said. “We got to eat some of them while we did it, too.” Event organizer and science teacher, Ernie Schiller, said this is just a school science fair and the conference fair will be held Thursday at Westland Mall in West Burlington.

“We have two $100 savings bonds from Pilot Grove Savings Bank and that’s new,” Schiller said Monday. “We’ve got some really great projects out there and this is a good opportunity for them to practice for the upcoming fair.”

“All students exhibiting were recognized for their time and talent for going above and beyond to delve into their project and received a participa-tion award. Thanks to the parents, the staff, the community for helping these young students in succeeding at completing their science project.” Conner Gunnison received the judges’ award.

Iowa rated top state by national magazine

DES MOINES — According to an article in U.S. News & World Report, Iowa has been rated as the top state in the union, per a ranking system the publication uses. Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds was on CBS This Morning to tout the announcement Tuesday morning.

“Our Best States ranking is a humbling tribute to our people who have proven time and again that in Iowa, if you’re willing to work hard, you can accomplish anything,” Gov. Reynolds said. “My top priority as governor is to build on our current success by bringing new resources and opportunities to every corner of our state. Every Iowan contributes to the success of their community and our state, and we celebrate this honor knowing that our work to build a better Iowa will never be finished.”

U.S. News & World Report is the global authority in rankings and evaluated all 50 states across 77 metrics with thousands of data points in eight categories: health care, education, economy, opportunity, infrastructure, crime & corrections, fiscal stability and quality of life. Health care and education are the most highly weighted factors in the methodology, followed closely by the economy.

Health care: Iowa ranks #3 in healthcare, up two spots from 2017 #2 for health care affordability

#1 for child wellness visits #2 for low infant mortality rate

See IOWA page 6

City finds no fault in harassment claim

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - A city employee has been cleared of any wrongdoing as part of a two-month investiga-tion into a harassment claim.

With city officials remaining tight-lipped about the incident, an unsigned letter received by Pen City Current about a week ago, alluded to a harassment claim filed Thursday at Westland Mall in West Burlington.

“All students exhibiting were recognized for their time and talent for going above and beyond to delve into their project and received a participa-tion award. Thanks to the parents, the staff, the community for helping these young students in succeeding at completing their science project.” Conner Gunnison received the judges’ award.

See SCIENCE page 6

Sports:

Area youth wrestlers qualify for state, take home medals.

See page 4

HTC 6th grader Juniper Strickland talks with Judge Dave Vandenberg Monday about her science project at the HTC science fair. See more photos on page 6.

Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Get our free app in the Android & iOS stores today!
**KENNETH L. BOEDING**

Kenneth L. Boeding, 85, of Fort Madison, IA, passed away on Tuesday, February 27, 2018 at The Kensington. He was born on March 30, 1932 in Fort Madison, IA to Aloys B. & Anna E. Bartlett Boeding. He worked for the U.S. Post Office with 30 years of service and was a member of Sacred Heart Church & the Knights of Columbus. He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War.

He liked to fish, hunt, build clocks and was an avid St. Louis Cardinals fan.

He is survived by several nieces & nephews. He was preceded in death by: his parents, 2-sisters, 1-niece: LaVonne Krogmeier & 1-nephew: Jerome Kuhlmeier.

Friends may call after 2:00 p.m. on Friday, March 2, 2018 with the family to receive friends from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. with a rosary to be held at 6:30 p.m. and a wake service to immediately follow all at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. The Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 3, 2018 at Sacred Heart Church with Rev. Joseph Phung officiating.

Burial will be held in Sacred Heart Cemetery. A memorial has been established in Kenny’s memory. Online condolences to Kenny’s family may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: www.kinglynk.com.

**GRHS Hospice training classes set**

WEST BURLINGTON – Great River Health System-Hospice is looking for additional volunteers to help meet the needs of people at end of life and their families in Des Moines, Henry, Lee and Louisa counties.

A four-part training is scheduled from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. Wednesdays, April 4, 11, 18 and 25 at Great River Health System-Hospice House, 1306 S. Washington Road, West Burlington. Hospice volunteers primarily are needed to visit patients in facilities and in their homes. Volunteers may provide companionship, provide respite care for caregivers, perform household tasks or run errands.

People interested in volunteering must pass a criminal background check and be at least 18 years old. Registration and completion of application materials is required before the training begins.

To receive more information or register for training, please call Great River Health System-Hospice at 319-768-3350 or toll-free 877-404-4766.

**MARCELLA ELIZABETH MOORE**

Marcella Elizabeth Moore, 85 years, of Fort Madison, Iowa died at 8:55 pm Monday, February 26, 2018 at the Fort Madison Community Hospital, Fort Madison. She was born December 6, 1932 at St. Paul, Iowa, a daughter of Edward and Ida (Holtkamp) Kruse. She first married Anthony Krogmeier. They later divorced. She later married Joseph J. Moore on December 17, 1971 at Carthage, Illinois. He preceded her in death February 10, 1993.

She was a lifelong resident of the Fort Madison area. Beside her taking care of her family at home, she also worked at Sheaffer Pen and later at various restaurants some of which she owned and operated. She drove a motor route for the Daily Democrat for years and had an upholstery shop for years. She was of the Christian Faith. She enjoyed playing bingo, cards, doing puzzles, reading, and crocheting. She was the Wii bowling champion at The Kensington.

She is survived by her two sons: Keith (Lollie) Krogmeier of Fort Madison, Adam Eugene “Gene” (Pat) Moore of Fort Madison; four daughters: Carol (Paul) Brown of Nauvoo, Illinois, Judy Krogmeier of Fort Madison, Marie Wilson (Rick Grisham) of Keokuk, Iowa, Marci (Dave) Adams of Mt. Pleasant, Iowa; one step-son, Joseph (Rose) Moore of Donnellson, Iowa; two step-daughters; Barbara Jean (Mike) Thompson of Argyle, Iowa and Pam Flores of Washington; one sister: Agnes Stuker-juergen of Salem, Iowa; one brother, Sylvia (Thelma) Kruse of Hillsboro, Iowa; 15 grandchildren, 29 great grandchildren, one great great granddaughter, numerous nieces, nephews and cousins. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband Joseph, one son William Moore, four brothers; Laurence Kruse, Albert Kruse, Joseph Kruse and Wilfred Kruse; five sisters: Helen Schinstock, Gertrude Kruse, Edna Kruse, Clotilda “Tillie” Steffenseimer, and Celia Klessner; and one granddaughter Kristin Smith.

Her family will greet friends from 5:00 - 7:00 pm Thursday, March 1, 2018 at the Barr Memorial Chapel, Fort Madison. Funeral services will be held at 10:30 am Friday, March 2, 1018 at the Barr Memorial Chapel, with Pastor Lane Van officiating. Burial will be at the Claypoole Cemetery, rural Wever, Iowa. A memorial has been established, contributions may be made at the Barr Memorial Chapel, Fort Madison. Online condolences to the Krogmeier/Moore Family may be made at www.barrmemorialchapel.com.
Outside investigator finds no merit to claim

CLAIM - Continued from Page 1

Police Chief Tim Sittig said city officials had an independent party investigate the issue and have cleared any employee of any wrongdoing and the department and the city consider the matter closed. Sittig said the issue was brought to the attention of City Manager David Varley in late October.

"The issues were brought to the attention of David and he moved very quickly with it. The investigation turned up nothing to substantiate any of the claims," he said.

The City Council entered into closed sessions to discuss issues related to personnel matters on several occasions in December - on one occasion to evaluate an employee and on another occasion for personnel issues.

Since discussions on closed sessions are not disclosed to the general public, it is unknown if either of those issues related to the harassment complaint.

Rainbolt family holding benefit to offset son’s final expenses

FORT MADISON - A benefit is being planned for expenses related to the death of Dakota Rainbolt on March 3, 2018 at the Fort Madison Eagles, 4822 Avenue O, from 2 p.m. to 11 p.m.

As part of the benefit a $10 raffle is being held for a quarter side of beef from Dave’s Old Fashioned Meats. Contact Gary’s Trading Post at 319-561-1132 for more information or tickets.

Glo Crazy for Education run set for April 7

FORT MADISON – A 5K run/walk will be held on April 7 at Baxter Sports Complex beginning at 8 p.m. Proceeds from the event will go to the Elliott Test Kitchen in Fort Madison. The event is being put on by Fort Madison service clubs including Fort Madison Kiwanis, Lions and Rotary clubs as well as the Fort Madison High School key club. Registration can be done at www.pencitycurrent.com/glo-crazy/.

IOWA LOTTERY WINNING NUMBERS

Lotto Drawings

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Yes! Join the fun! It’s a Crapshoot.

Current-Lee

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It's Time To Celebrate New Beginnings
Twenty 8Teen

Thank you to all of our customers who helped us reduce our environmental footprint in 2017!

Great River Regional Waste Authority is looking forward to continuing our efforts to manage our environmental footprint and help educate our communities on ways to help in 2018!

Things to remember in 2018 when recycling:

- Please do not place plastic bags in recycling bins.
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- Place all recyclable products loose in bins.
- Do not recycle wrapping paper.

Properly dispose of all electronics and household hazardous waste. Click Here for more guidance!

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Sports/Business News

PeeWees reach state meet in Waterloo

6th graders medal at AAU meet

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON - Two Fort Madison sixth grade wrestlers earned medals at the AAU Iowa grade school championships in Des Moines last weekend and three elementary school wrestlers from Fort Madison will compete in the PeeWee State meet Sunday. Teague Smith and Henry Wiseman both made the podium at the AAU meet with Wiseman finishing in fourth place, while Smith took an 8th place finish. James Fuller, Tristan Robins, and Ren Watson will be representing Fort Madison at the PeeWee meet which will take place Sunday March 4th at Young Arena in Waterloo.

At left, James Fuller, Tristan Robins, and Ren Watson all advanced to the PeeWee State meet on March 4 in Waterloo. Above left, Henry Wiseman showcases the 4th place medal he earned last weekend at the state AAU meet. Above right, Teague Smith dons an 8th place medal he earned at the AAU meet.

Denning earns Forbes designation

FORT MADISON – Joshua Denning, CRPC®, CLTC®, a Private Wealth Advisor with Ameriprise Financial in Fort Madison, IA was named to the list of “Best-in-State Wealth Advisors” published by Forbes Magazine. The list recognizes financial advisors who have demonstrated high levels of ethical standards, professionalism and success in the business.

The rankings are based on data provided by over 11,000 of the nation’s most productive advisors. Denning was chosen based on assets under management, industry experience, regulatory and compliance record and revenue produced over a three-year period. Denning is part of Joshua Denning & Associates, a private wealth advisory practice of Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc. Denning graduated from St. Ambrose University with a degree in Finance/Economics.

As a Private Wealth Advisor Denning provides financial advice that is anchored in a solid understanding of client needs and expectations and provided in one-on-one relationships with his clients. Denning has 20 years of experience with Ameriprise Financial. For more information, please contact Joshua Denning at 319-372-8923 or visit the Ameriprise office at 701 Avenue G, Fort Madison, IA.

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HELP WANTED

HTC FOUNDATION
DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR
The Holy Trinity Catholic Schools Foundation Board is looking to hire a Development Director. This individual will work with the Board to grow the assets managed by the Foundation. Email resumes to Brian Foecke at bfoecke@ft-psd.com. Resumes are due by March 15th.

Pen City Current has an exciting opportunity in media sales available for a customer service maniac who is goal-oriented and creative, with a strong drive to succeed. Prior sales and media experience is a plus, but not necessary. Must be Internet and social media savvy, as well as highly computer literate. If you love working with people and thinking outside the box, this opportunity could be perfect for you!

Pen City Current offers a fun, rewarding, and family-like work environment with lots of flexibility. Our mission is to help our customers succeed while providing #HyperLocalSuperFresh content for our readers 24/7. If you’re interested in learning more, shoot us an email, message us on Facebook, or DM us on Twitter.

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Office space available
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Contact us for more information. (319)371.4125
Conference science meet
Thursday at Westland Mall

From the Front/Scene Around the Area

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Lee County Health Department - Hospice

Hospice Volunteer Training
Providing Comfort on the Journey Home

March 6 - March 27, 2018
4 Tuesday Evenings
6:00-9:00pm
Lee County Health Department office

No fee to the general public. To register, call Lee County Health Dept.-Hospice at (319)372-5225 or (800)458-6672 by March 2nd.

Volunteers are needed in Iowa counties of Lee, Henry, Van Buren, Des Moines and in Illinois counties of Hancock & Henderson.

Lee County Health Department - Hospice

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IOWA - Continued from Page 1

#3 for Medicare quality
#5 for insurance enrollment
#9 for health care access
#9 for health care quality

Education: Iowa ranks #5 in education, up three spots from 2017
#1 public high school graduation rate
#3 for four-year graduation rates for four-year public colleges

Economy: Iowa ranks No. 17 in economy, up 13 spots from 2017
#10 for labor force participation
#6 for low unemployment & GDP

growth

Opportunity: Iowa ranks No. 4 in opportunity, up two spots from 2017
#3 in affordability
#2 in housing

Infrastructure: Iowa ranks No. 1 in infrastructure, up 15 spots from 2017
#1 for ultra-fast internet access

Quality of life (new category for 2018)
#10 in social environment
#18 in natural environment

Iowa ranked #6 in the 2017 Best States ranking.

IOWA - Continued from Page 1

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#2 in housing

Infrastructure: Iowa ranks No. 1 in infrastructure, up 15 spots from 2017
#1 for ultra-fast internet access

Quality of life (new category for 2018)
#10 in social environment
#18 in natural environment

Iowa ranked #6 in the 2017 Best States ranking.

At top, Teagan Snaadt, fifth grade, Addie Lynk and Emma Mohrfeld, both fourth graders, stand in front of their project that evaluated the grease levels of potato chips. Above, HTC 6th grader Michael Chapman discusses his project on greenhouse effects with judge Larry Kruse.

Photos by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

IOWA - Continued from Page 1

#5 for insurance enrollment
#9 for health care access

Education: Iowa ranks #5 in education, up three spots from 2017
#1 public high school graduation rate
#3 for four-year graduation rates for four-year public colleges

Economy: Iowa ranks No. 17 in economy, up 13 spots from 2017
#10 for labor force participation
#6 for low unemployment & GDP

growth

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