FM library celebrates 10 years at new location

Community room and E-magazines are some of library’s best features

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON -
Yep, it’s been that long.
The Fort Madison
Library celebrated its 10th
anniversary on Thursday
with an open house and
a reflection of how things
used to be, and how they
got to where they are.
The library opened in
April 2008 under the di-
rection of current director
Sarah Clendineng and af-
ter serving 11 years at the
helm she said things have
certainly gone through transitions.
But the biggest tran-
sition and the story that
brings the biggest smile
to her face has nothing
to do with technology or
services or programming.
“My favorite story is Cattermole had a flight
of steps to just get in the
door and then the kids
had to go up another
flight of stairs to the kids
collection. After about
two years I was here and
someone actually came in
in a wheelchair and
got through the doors
and helped themselves
to whatever they need-
ed,” Clendineng said.
“That just made my day.
We were kind of able to
serve them before and the
Rashid library was hand-
icap accessible. But for
someone to come in on
their own and access the
books and other things,
that was just why we did
this.”
The $3 million building
was built where the for-
mer Valley Medical Clinic
was located. Clendineng
was hired about a month
after the library opened.

Area high schoolers win FMAAAA exhibition awards

BY BRIAN RIGGS
Fort Madison Area Artists Association

FMAAA gallery at 825 Avenue G unveils the curtain on one of the favorite area exhibitions, whereby six area high schools compete for ribbon awards per division. A reception for the show occurs April 14th from 2:00-4:00pm with refreshments provided. Pilot Grove Savings Bank is the sponsor for the exhibition. The competition features works that are self-juried by the schools up to 25 limit to include Hamilton, IL; Keokuk, Central Lee, Eldon, Holy Trinity Catholic, and Ft. Madison. Categories of divisions are black and white drawing, color drawing, painting, mixed media, three-dimension-
al, and photography. Ceramics was a new division inducted a few years back along with photography, but due to limited number of pieces, was folded into three-di-
Mensional division this year. Jason Rausch, a long-term FMAAA member, has always had a penchant for this annual. Although he touts the Budding Artist Show as his FMAAA favorite, the high school competition has long sparked his interest as well. Jason surmised, there was some technically advanced black & white renderings that missed ribbons due to not attempting to work the background. “I went through this same progression, my college art professor taught me that background development was as necessary as the main subject matter. I eventually came around to his point.”

“Best of Show” was awarded to Deanna Warner of FMHS with her painting entitled “Sparks.” She will win the $45 monetary stipend that has long been sponsored by art educator Jim Knapp. Another FMAAA member just coming off his impressive March feature, artist Jerry Granaman established a $25 award for first place in photography under his parents names of Ernie and Peggy Dobbs. Justin Walte, 12th grade at Keokuk High School took first with “Bella.” 2nd place went to Nyssa

Prepared & Free Options Available!

FMHS’ Deanna Warner’s “Sparks” won best of show honors at the FMAAAA’s high school exhibition contest. A reception is being held on Saturday from 2 to 4 p.m.

See EXHIBIT, page 6
Next 10 years to focus on technology, schools

LIBRARY - Continued from Page 1

before the groundbreaking.
"The process of this building started about five years before I came here," she said. "That was with the board at that time, and they were very active in fundraising, getting the plans, and getting the community support. Specifically Elaine Gray and Barb Pickard were really active in the fundraising. You look at the donor plates and we have 500 donations under $100. We couldn't have built without them. So that was really exciting."

"I was here about a month after they broke ground on the building and was here working with the board throughout that construction process, dealing with any issues and change orders. The other thing we did at the same time was move to an automated catalog. "Which, if I had to do over again, I don't think I would have, because of so much going on at the same time. But the staff did a great job."

The library currently has a staff of six, four of whom are part-time, two full-time and a page, which's about 1/4 time. The full-time staff includes Chris Cowles and Deb Albee. Clendineng said the community room probably is one of the most often used spaces at the library with residents using it for everything from meetings and demonstrations, to one family even using it for their Thanksgiving dinner.

"The biggest asset we added was this community room and the study rooms," she said. "We did a space study and looked at how we could move some things around. We had people saying they wanted space to work together and we didn't have it. So we added that and also looked at adding the study rooms that we have now."

She said the biggest changes over the past 10 years have been technolo-

When we were building this, everyone we talked to lived within a block... Not really sure how that worked out geographically."

-Sarah Clendineng, FMHS Library Director

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has to be careful of how many books they store over the basement areas because of the weight of the books.

The new location has helped the library provide better programming including the very popular programs like Craft-foons, on early out days and the summer reading program.

"Our summer reading program has blossomed in this location because of the parking. We're within walking distance of so many people who can now just walk over. When we were building this, everyone we talked to lived within a block," Clendineng said with a laugh. "Not really sure how that worked out geographically."

She said the next 10 years is rooted in the technology and services that can be integrated with area schools.

"It's looking more toward technology and how we can work with the school system. That's what's in our 3-to-5-year plan," she said. "We want to look to help people in this world of new technology, while at the same time not leaving behind the people who aren't engaged in all that."

She said she is always looking out for programs of high interest and relevance to the community.

"We need to help people embrace the world's technology while staying relevant to the needs of the communities. Finding programs that have high interest in the community where people would come out and see it," she said.

The Community room is being used very frequently, especially on the weekends. She said the room is booked almost three months in advance. Half of the construction funds were raised through donations and a Community Action and Tourism Grant, and the other was about a $1.5 million grant.

Clendineng said the cooperation between other libraries in the county is good.

"It's kind of like our own little support group," she said. "We meet regularly and talk about issues and we present a united front when it comes to requesting funds from the county."

She said the biggest news program is the E-magazine.

"E-magazines are our best kept secret. People don't realize there is no waiting list. It's yours as long as you want it, you don't have to read it and get it back in two weeks. You can go at your pace. For more information on the library and its products and services, those interested can call 319-372-5721."

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**OBITUARIES**

**MICHAEL STAYLINE**

The graveside service for Michael Stayline will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, May 7, 2018 at Sacred Heart Cemetery with Rev. Roger D. Welty officiating. King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory is assisting the family with the arrangements.

**CURRENT-LEE**

*Lee County Bridges group to hold Keokuk community-wide meeting April 16*

The steering committee is hosting the next community-wide Bridges out of Poverty training in Keokuk on April 16th from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the First Lutheran Church located at 1101 Blonde Street. The Public is invited to attend.

*2nd annual FMHS spring craft/vendor show happening this Saturday*

The Fort Madison High School 2nd Annual Spring Craft/Vendor Show will take place on Saturday, April 14th at the high school from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. More than 70 vendors will be on hand with items such as woodcrafts, toys, soaps, candles, home storage, purses, leather crafts, hair and makeup products, clothing, home decor, personal nutrition and more. Lunch options will be available at the concession stand, and door prizes will be awarded from each vendor. Proceeds will benefit the FMHS Music Dept.

Pen City Current will list your event in this highly visible CURRENT-LEE section in increments of 25 words for $15. Add a photo for $5. Non-profit organizations are eligible for the reduced rate of $10 per 25 words and $3 per photo. To place your listing, click here or call Lee at (319)371.4125.

**Celebations**

**SOPHIA MARIE LEMEK**

FORT MADISON - Madalyn and Christopher Lemek announce the birth of their daughter, Sophia Marie Lemek on April 9, 2017 at the Fort Madison Community Hospital.

Sophia is greeted at home by her sister Audrey. Grandparents of Sophia are Jill and Harley Reynolds of Muscatine, and Jim and Lynn Lemek of Fort Madison.

Great-grandparent of Sophia is Sandra Townsley of Letts.

Pen City Current congratulates the family on this wonderful news.

**IOWA LOTTERY WINNING NUMBERS**

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<th>Game</th>
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<tr>
<td>Lucky for Life®</td>
<td>Mon &amp; Thu</td>
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<td>Mega Millions®</td>
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**LOTTO DRAWINGS**

4/12 Mid-Day
5 20 33 39 48
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- **CUBS VS. DOGERS**
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  - 4/20
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Go to www.ageark.com/careers and click on the link for positions in Fort Madison or send resume to ebrown@kensington-evergreen.com.

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Kensington at 2210 Avenue E.

You can also stop in The Kensington evergreen.com or send resume to ebrown@kensington-evergreen.com

The Kensington is a vibrant, welcoming environment that offers personalized care in an active, supportive community.

HELP WANTED

Volunteer Services Program Director

United Way of the Great River Region which serves Lee, Hancock, and Clark counties is seeking a full-time Volunteer Services Program Director to manage all aspects of a newly formed Volunteer Services Program. Director will oversee a long-standing Retired Senior Volunteer Program. Ideal candidate will have excellent leadership and interpersonal relationship skills; grant management and writing skills; fundraising experience; strong office, computer, and bookkeeping skills; and ability to work with and manage volunteers and the organizations and businesses who utilize volunteers. The ability to multi-task is a must. Some travel required. To be considered, please send cover letter and resume with three references to: director@unitedwaygrr.org or mail to: United Way of the Great River Region, P.O. Box 251, Keokuk, IA 52632 or on or before April 23, 2018.

Kensington is a vibrant, welcoming environment that offers personalized care in an active, supportive community.

HELP WANTED

SUPERHERO WANTED

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. Superior 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!

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We are currently accepting applications for the following positions:

- **RN - AMBULATORY SURGERY:** Hours: Full Time
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- **RN - INPATIENT SERVICES:** Hours: Full Time, Night Shift
  Requirements: RN with a current Iowa license, 1 year experience in acute care setting preferred. BLS/ACLS/PALS/Basic Telemetry monitoring course required but can be offered if hire.

- **CMA/LPN/RN - FMCH CLINIC:** Hours: Full Time
  Requirements: Need someone who is experienced and enjoys working with a diverse patient population from pediatrics to geriatrics.

- **MT/MLT/MLS - FMCH LAB:** Hours: Full Time, 2nd Shift
  Requirements: MT/MLT/MLS, Generalist or Specialist with a minimum of 1 year experience in a medical lab.

For more information on Position Requirements, Benefit Package Offerings, or to Apply - Go to www.fmchosp.com

Off Mail Fort Madison Community Hospital

Attn: Human Resources Director

Resume P.O. Box 174, Ft. Madison, IA 52627

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Now Hiring Line Mechanics in Ft. Madison

Silgan Containers is currently seeking Line Mechanics at our Fort Madison plant. This is a full time position with a very competitive benefits package.

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- **Competitive benefits package includes 401(k) match, multiple healthcare plan options, dental, vision, educational assistance and much more**
- **Rotating 12-hour shift schedule allows for generous days off**
- **High school diploma or equivalency required, trade school preferred**
- **Quality training provided for those willing to learn but must pass a written and practical mechanical aptitude test**

If you are interested in more information about this exciting opportunity visit silgancoertainers.com/careers or contact:

Tim Ewing, Plant Human Resources Manager

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- **Rotating 12-hour shift schedule allows for generous days off**
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FMHS boys down BHS

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - Fort Madison got in their first home meet of the year Thursday night and came away with an 8-1 win over Burlington.

The Bloodhounds’ only loss came at No 2 singles when Austin Krueger lost in a close 10-7 tiebreaker after shutting out the Grayhounds’ John Jarvis 6-0 in the second set. Jarvis took the first set 6-2.

From there on out it was all crimson and black, starting with Sam Avery at No. 1 singles taking an easy 6-2, 6-0 win over Guy Thompson. Freshman Jason Thurman set. Jarvis took the first set 6-2.

The Thurman brothers rolled to an easy 6-0, 6-2 win over Thompson and Gage Hind won by forfeit at No. 6 singles.

"The boys did a good job of using their groundstrokes and service games to-night," Hogan said. "We also saw improvement with our volleys in doubles play and stayed very offensive-minded.”

The Hounds are scheduled to play in the Muscatine Invite on Saturday and then are back at home Monday in a makeup meet with Mt. Pleasant.

Spring Cleaning

Keep it green!

This year, do your part to keep our environment clean, too! Here are just a few of the ways you can help:

- Properly dispose of your household hazardous waste materials, construction debris, & electronic waste
- Use environmentally-safe cleaning products
- Reduce • Reuse • Recycle
- Check our website for proper disposal methods, acceptable materials, & more

HTC golfers fall to NL again

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON - HTC senior Collin Thornton paced the Crusaders with a 44 at a par-36 nine-hole match against New London Thursday night, but the Crusaders fell 169-194 for the second straight loss to the Tigers.


FORT MADISON - HTC travels to Notre Dame on Monday for a girls/boys doubleheader.

Graham takes first in black & white with charcoal sketch

EXHIBIT - Continued from Page 1

Harris of FMHS with "Eyes". Deanna Jones takes her second ribbon with 3rd place in division for "Flour". Gage Hind of FMHS took an honorable mention ribbon with "Fire". The Painting Division was much larger this year. First place was awarded to Sebastion Christy of Eldon with "Hummingbird”. Second place goes to Josie Riesbirds of Central Lee for "Succulent”. Alonna Wilmont of FMHS wins third place with "Jin". And Jil Breshic of Hamilton takes an honorable mention with "Colorful Character".

Black and White drawing division is always a formidable division. Last year’s Best of Show winner Claire Graham, 10th grade at HTC takes 1st place with charcoal of "Infatuation". 2nd place goes to Alyssa Fincher of FMHS with cool scratchboard entitled "I Love NYC". 3rd place was awarded to Cassandra Sparkman of Eldon for "Looking". Honororable mention ribbons went to Tayden Seay of KHS for portrait of Nicki Minaj and Claire Graham of HTC for "Beautiful". Mixed media division includes works done in stained glass, computer graphics, printmaking, and of course anything incorporating multiple mediums. Emily Fuller of Central Lee took 1st with "Two of a Kind". Abigail Rodriguez of KHS scored 2nd place with "Exo". Luke Simmons of Central Lee rounds third with "Moonlit Night". And Abigail Rodriguez of KHS earns an honorable mention award in this division as well for "Demure". Color Drawing division first place went to Vanessa Worrell of Central Lee for "Fall Migration". Lily Scott of FMHS took 2nd place for "The Mountain". Sebastion Christy of Eldon won third place for "Little Brown Church". Jordan Nagel of Central Lee garnered an honorable mention for "Solitude”.

Three-dimensional division was won by Zannah Olsen 11th grade at KHS for "Under the Bridge". Hunter Starres from KHS wins 2nd place for "Ellipse Armor". This piece has a unique assortment of raw materials that make it up its overall countenance. Amanda-Marie Jones of FMHS takes 3rd with "Abandoned Dr. Suey House". Taylor Barnes of FMHS takes an honorable mention award with "Mossy Oak". Thanks to all of the art educators for their efforts: Jamie Jones of Central Lee, Martha Neff of KHS, Linda Hardly of Hamilton, Steve Rung at HTC, Dana Smith at FMHS, and Tina Denly of Eldon. FMAAA Early Out returns this month on April 25th from 2:30-4:30 showcasing the new fad of bubble ceramics where students use their lungs to manipulate the glazes, followed by wooden animal collages that will mold year pond. Great enrichment for ages 6-14 plus the Annual Regional High School competition as a bonus! See you on Avenue G.
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