Mayor favors appointment for 3rd Ward

July 3rd meeting will have discussion on filling seat

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - The city's currently vacant third ward council seat may be filled by an appointment that could last until the next city election in Nov. 2019. Travis Seidel resigned from his City Council seat on June 15 after a felony drug sentencing, triggering a 60-day window for the Fort Madison City Council to appoint his replacement. According to Dawn Williams, state election director, the city could also schedule a special election that would have to take place no sooner than 32 days from the day Lee County Auditor Denise Fraise would be notified of an intent on the city's part to hold a special election.

However, Mayor Brad Randolph indicated that due to a poor voter turnout for the third ward election during the last regular city election for the seat, he thinks an appointment to serve out Seidel's tenure is in the city's best interest. Seidel was elected in November of 2015 with 110 votes. "I would prefer to go to the ballot, but the dilemma is that the special election costs us close to $4,000," Ran-dolph said.

"For the 110 votes that were cast in 2015, that makes it a fairly expensive election. Financially that's not a wise move with taxpayer dollars. If we take the other route, we would look into an appointment until the next Novem-

Major flooding should spare county

Cirinna says Mississippi set to crest on Monday at 16’- 9’’

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - With southeast Iowa quickly recovering from moderate to severe drought conditions, all eyes are now turning to possible flooding due to the amount of rain that has occurred in the late spring in the northern part of the country. According to Lee County Emergency Management Services Coordinator Steve Cirinna, the area should be out of the way of any heavy flooding if weather patterns hold current.

"Right now, based on National Weather Service predic-tions on their website, which is a 24-hour forecast, we're in a watch-and-see mode at this point," Cirinna said. "We shouldn't have any trouble based on where they are expected to crest."

He said Keokuk is predicted to crest at 16’-3” sometime Monday, July 2 in the afternoon and Burlington is predicted to crest at 17’-9” which he said were all safe river stage levels. Obviously, Burlington would crest before Keokuk.

"If things start changing and we see numbers pushing 21 feet or higher, that will cause us to look at trigger points and then I start talking to the National Weather Service to see what's going on," Cirinna said. "Other gauges up and down the river are also monitored by Cirinna so he can see who's cresting and who's not. He said areas north that feed into the Mississippi and other Iowa rivers are actually starting

Auditor says bid policy didn’t require a bid on project

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

MONTROSE - After a quote to install emergency generators at the North Lee County office building and South Lee County Courthouse was published last week, supervisors now will have to rebid the project to all bidders for the work. At a workshop follow-ing a regular supervisors’ meeting two weeks ago, Lee County Auditor Denise Fraise requested the county look into installing back-up generators to run the phone lines at the administration building.

The request came on the heels of a power glitch that resulted in power being shut down to the phones at the administration.

See BIDS, page 8

New tech

Dennis Cosby, left, and Bill Young, seated, show the Lee County Supervisors the new tech the Lee County EMS Ambulance, Inc., has invested in to help first responders better diagnose and treat patients in cardiac trauma. Each ambulance in the EMS fleet is outfitted with the new devices.

County supervisors want to rebid back-up generators

See RIVER, page 4

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Holy Trinity loses 11-7 on road to Van Buren.

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Don't forget Social Media!
Check us out on the following sites
@penicitycurrent:
Leslie “Les” Norton Cramer, 75, of Euless, TX., formerly of Fort Madison, passed away peacefully at a hospice care facility in Fort Worth, TX., on Monday, June 11, 2018. He was born on November 8, 1942, in Fort Madison, to Wilford and Lillian (Cramer) Dick. He graduated from Fort Madison High School in 1960, and began an apprenticeship with Sheaffer's in drafting. He worked for Gardner-Denver in Quincy for a number of years and then in their Dallas Texas branch. He went on to create his own business as a patent draftsman.

He married Shirley Ann Holland, of Farmington, IA., on April 29, 1961 in Fort Madison. They had three children during their 57 years of marriage. Les was a devoted father and husband, who was always there to lend a helping hand, whether it was for family, friends, and neighbors. He enjoyed fishing, watching his grandchildren play soccer, and loved music, especially bluegrass.

He is survived by his wife Shirley of Euless, TX.; brother Gene Cramer and wife Ruth Ann of Stevens Point, WI.; sister Lin Cramer of Fort Madison; daughter Lana Cramer of Henderson, TX.; and two sons Greg Cramer (Yo landa) of Watauga, TX and Mike Cramer of Gunter, TX.; three grandchildren, Tara, Whitney, and Michael, Jr.; two great-grandchildren, Brooklynne, and Harper; cousins; and nieces. He was preceeded in death by his parents Wilford Cramer and Lillian (Cramer) Dick, step-father Rex Dick, and great-grandson Jaxon Johnson. Cremation services were provided by Brown Owens & Brumley Funeral Home in Fort Worth, TX.

Flowers will be accepted at the funeral home. A memorial guestbook may be signed online at www.bluebonnethills.com.

Connie Kay Jobe
Connie Kay Jobe, 71, of Keokuk, IA died Saturday, June 23, 2018 at her home. She was born February 26, 1947 in Mt. Pleasant, IA the daughter of Vernon and Evelyn Allender Conrad. On August 12, 1966 she was united in marriage to Ron ald Jobe. They later divorced, and eventually reunited and were partners for life. He preceded her in death on April 23, 2006. Connie graduated from Mt. Pleasant High School in Mt. Pleasant, IA with the Class of 1965. She then attended cosmetology school for one year.

Connie has been employed at Keokuk Motor Lodge and Fair field Inn, both in Keokuk.

She was a member of Emmanuel United Methodist Church in Keokuk.

Connie enjoyed reading mystery books, listening to pop, rock and country music and talking on the phone to her friends. She loved her cats and enjoyed caring for them. Connie liked to spend time outdoors taking walks, tending to her flower garden and watching the birds eat from the bird feeder.

She is survived by three sons, Brian Jobe (Michele) of Keokuk, Jeff Jobe (Sandra) of Keokuk and Jason Jobe (Amanda) of Quincy, IL, seven grandchildren, Brianna Jobe, Jared Jobe, Robert (Karaline) Eckhoff, Scot Jobe, Kennady Jobe, Celeste Fleming and Timothy McFarland, one great-granddaughter, Sophia Eckhoff, one brother, Merle Conrad (Jane) of Chariton, IA, one sister, Linda Harrison (Russell) of Mt. Pleasant, IA and many nieces and nephews. She was also preceded in death by her parents and one grandson, Jaxon Jobe.

A memorial service will be held at 2:00 p.m., Saturday, at the Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk, IA with Pastor Jason Mott officiating.

A visitation will be held one hour prior to the service from 1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m., Saturday, at the funeral home with family meeting with friends at that time. Memorials may be made to family. Online condolences may be left for the family at www.vigennemortalmallhome.com.

Council could seek 3rd ward candidates for appointment

The regular city council meeting following that would be on Aug. 20, 2019. The council would then go on that ballot.

The one wrinkle would be if someone in the third ward were to be unhappy with the appointee and file a petition for a special election. In that case, Williams said citizens who've already expressed an interest and that's promising. I hope we get a slough of people would need to send in declaring their intent to be appointed to that seat, " expressed Randolph. "It was important to me to continue to give back to my community after retiring. This seemed like a perfect opportunity to stay involved and make a difference," expressed Dodd. Dodd is a Fort Madison native who owned and operated Dodd Printing & Stationary for forty years in downtown Fort Madison. Dodd recently retired and sold the business. He and his wife Lynn have two grown sons.

The remaining community members on the FMCH Board of Directors include Ann Menke, President; Dave Poland, Vice-President; Vicki Ste- phen; Deanna Barr; and John McKillip and Joann Lampe.

FORT MADISON - The Fort Madison Community Hospital Board of Directors consists of seven community members who volunteer their time to guide FMCH in fulfilling their mission and vision. Neal Dodd was approved by the FMCH Board of Directors at their regular meeting on Monday, June 25th to fill the position vacated by the late Bob Bonta.

"It was important to me to continue to give back to my community after retiring. This seemed like a perfect opportunity to stay involved and make a difference," expressed Dodd. Dodd is a Fort Madison native who owned and operated Dodd Printing & Stationary for forty years in downtown Fort Madison. Dodd recently retired and sold the business. He and his wife Lynn have two grown sons.

The remaining community members on the
Task force raids Keokuk drug house

BY PCC STAFF

KEOKUK - The Lee County Narcotics Task Force conducted a search warrant resulting in the arrest of a Keokuk, Iowa couple.

Kenneth Louis Howell, 36, and Sylvia Mary Bittner, 34, of Keokuk were both arrested on Wednesday, June 20th, 2018 at their residence on felony and misdemeanor drug charges. Howell is charged with delivery of more than five grams of methamphetamine second or subsequent offense, a class B felony with enhancements, and maintaining a drug house, an aggravated misdemeanor. If convicted, Howell faces up to 107 years in a state correctional facility.

Bittner is charged with maintaining a drug house and possession of methamphetamine, an aggravated and serious misdemeanor. If convicted, Bittner faces up to 3 years in a state correctional facility.

The arrests of Howell and Bittner stems from an investigation by the Lee County Narcotics Task Force into allegations that they were involved in the distribution of illegal drugs in the Lee County area. A search warrant was served in connection to this investigation and items that supported the charges were discovered.

The Lee County Attorney’s Office, Keokuk Police Department, Iowa Division of Narcotics Enforcement, Lee County Sheriff’s Office, and the 8th Judicial District of Probation and Parole assisted the Lee County Narcotics Task Force in this investigation.

The defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

The Lee County Narcotics Task Force is funded in part by the U.S. Department of Justice and the funds administered by the Iowa Governor’s Office of Drug Control Policy.

Great River Regional Waste Authority now has a new sharps disposal bin at the Fort Madison facility. Making disposal easy for our customers and allowing safer handling for our employees, a similar sharps disposal bin will soon be available at our Keokuk Transfer Station.

The health and safety of our staff and our community members is of the utmost importance and we urge our residents to use regulated containers specifically made for sharps. Empty Sharps containers can be obtained in the at both the Fort Madison and Keokuk facilities.

For the safety of everyone involved, please do not place plastic jugs or bottles containing sharps in your recycling tote or in any non-designated bin at our drop off sites.

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report
6/25/18 - 10:15 p.m - Fort Madison Police cited Jacob L. Danker-Cashman, 24, of Fort Madison on a charge of driving under suspension in the 4000 block of Buff Road. He was released upon citation.

6/26/18 - 6:05 a.m - Fort Madison Police arrested Paul Donald Cavitt, 68, of Fort Madison on a charge of public intoxication in the 4000 block of Ave D. He was taken to Lee County Jail and held.

6/26/18 - 7:12 a.m - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 4000 block of Avenue J.

Lee County Sheriff’s Report
6/25/18 - 3:08 p.m - Lee County Sheriff’s deputies arrested Dustin Bradley Anderson, 35, of Keokuk, at the Iowa/Missouri border at St. Francisville, Mo. on Hwy. 27 on a warrant for driving while barred and driving under suspension. He was taken to Lee County Jail and released on bond.

6/25/18 - 3:58 p.m - Lee County Sheriff’s deputies arrested Lisa Marie Johnson, 30, of Fort Madison, at the ADDS facility in Burlington on a warrant for violation of probation. She was taken to Lee County Jail and held. Those listed above are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Keokuk men face meth charges

KEOKUK - The Lee County Narcotics Task Force reports the arrest of two Keokuk, Iowa men on a separate unrelated felony drug charges.

Joseph Dunne, 32, of Keokuk was arrested on Friday on felony drug charges. Dunne is charged with two counts of delivery of less than five grams of methamphetamine, second or subsequent offense, a class C felony with enhancements. If convicted, Dunne faces up to 60 years in a state correctional facility.

Dunne also had a warrant for probation violation.

The arrest of Dunne stems from an investigation by the Lee County Narcotics Task Force into allegations that he was involved in the distribution of illegal drugs in the Lee County area.

The Lee County Attorney’s Office, Iowa Division of Narcotics Enforcement, and the Keokuk Police Department assisted the Lee County Narcotics Task Force in this investigation.

The defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

The Lee County Narcotics Task Force is funded in part by the U.S. Department of Justice and the funds administered by the Iowa Governor’s Office of Drug Control Policy.

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The health and safety of our staff and our community members is of the utmost importance and we urge our residents to use regulated containers specifically made for sharps. Empty Sharps containers can be obtained in the at both the Fort Madison and Keokuk facilities.

For the safety of everyone involved, please do not place plastic jugs or bottles containing sharps in your recycling tote or in any non-designated bin at our drop off sites.
Team shaken by loss of classmate in ATV accident

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG

KEOSAUQUA - Van Buren's Jacob Plecker went 4-for 4 with three doubles and two RBIs to lead Van Buren to a 11-7 win over a heartbroken Holy Trinity boys baseball team.

The team was reeling from the death of an HTC classmate in an ATV accident Sunday morning near Pilot Grove.

"Unfortunately we came out tonight cold and we really didn't get into the game until the 4th inning," said head Coach Albert Schinstock.

“The team, as well as our community, suffered a great loss in the passing of a classmate/friend on Sunday. Understandably, we were a little distracted. I'm proud of the team for coming out and not giving up tonight and pushing through in spite of all the mixed emotions they are currently facing.”

Jason Thurman would score in the top half of the first for HTC when Collin Thornton hit into a fielder's choice at third. Thurman had advanced to third after being hit by a pitch and advancing on a Reed Fehseke walk and a wild pitch. Fehseke would be doubled off at third when Kyle Bredemeyer lined out.

Van Buren jumped all over starter Kadin Medland in the bottom of the first inning scoring four runs before the Crusaders could get the first out. The Warriors worked through the lineup and the Medland got Jaxon Thomas on fan to end the inning. Plecker hit a two-RBI double to get the scoring started.

With HTC down 5-1, both teams were scoreless until the bottom of the third when the Warriors chased Medland after racking up four more hits and another run capitalizing on two HTC fielding errors. Cole Thornton came on with two outs and gave up three consecutive singles before Schinstock brought in Vason Thurman to try and stop the rally. Thurman gave up two more runs before getting Tony Davison to fly out to Schneider in center with Van Buren up 11-1.

The bats would come alive in the top of the fourth for HTC. After Bredemeyer led off with groundout to short, Adam Rauenbuehler drew a walk and Vason Thurman singled to right scoring Rauenbuehler. Medland drew a walk and Zander Schweiss singled to left moving Thurman and Medland up a base.

Quentin Schneider then doubled to right center scoring Thurman and Medland and leaving Schweiss at third who then came around to score on Jason Thurman's single to left. Fehseke got plunked by a pitch and then Collin Thornton hit a single to the opposite field in right to score Schneider from third. Bredemeyer then grounded out again to short, but scored Thurman. Rauenbuehler followed with a strike out to end the rally with two men on and the Crusaders down 11-7.

Neither team would score again the rest of the way out. Van Buren's Davison would get the win going 3 1/3 allowing four runs all earned on one hit and struck out three. Mason McDonough came on in relief in the fourth and surrendered three runs on five hits and also struck out three.

For HTC, Medland gave up four runs, two earned on six hits and fanned one. Vason Thurman allowed two runs, both unearned on six hits and no strikeouts. Cole Thornton took the loss for HTC finishing the game allowing three runs, one earned on one hit and a walk. The Crusaders who had one three of the last four, fall to 7-12 on the night and played host to West Burling-ton tonight, and then host Fort Madison on Wednes-day night and Highland at South Park on Thursday to wrap up the regular season.

Current forecasts show Fort Madison should be safe from flooding

RIVER - Continued from Page 1

to recede. "For instance, the Mississippi River in Wa-basha, Minn., has crested and was headed downhill. Right around LaCrosse, Wisconsin is where the crest is now. But again, we’re still looking at a crest next Monday, about two weeks out, " he said. "But the issue becomes how things are evolving the next week. Right now, the river stage is now. But again, we’re not supposed to get any rain for the next few days and allow water to get down and out of the system. Any rain down south would slow it down a little bit, but we’re kind of paying closer attention to it because we’re on the rise, here."

"We’re kind of looking at the time frame shifting to more of a heavy repeated rain cycle that causes flooding more than the heavy snow melt. Not that that couldn’t happen again, but it just seems to be how things are evolving right now."

With the ground still having some storage capacity, Cirinna said the area can absorb some more rain, but anything that comes down heavy could cause quick runoff which leads to flash flooding. He said as of June 19th the area was still in a moderate-to-severe drought condition. But the recent rains have been good but not enough to get out of the drought condition so there is capacity for ground storage of water.

"But if that ground were to get saturated any time soon we would then turn our attentions to flash flooding, especially if we get hard rain."

IOWA LOTTERY WINNING NUMBERS

Lotto Drawings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<td>Wed &amp; Sat</td>
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The Board entered into the closed session at 7:54 p.m. The Board returned to open session at 8:40 p.m. XIII. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m. Tim Woodruff, President June 18, 2018 Sandra Elmore, Secretary

PUBLIC NOTICE
Fort Madison Community School District
1930 Avenue M
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
June 4, 2018
I. The meeting was called to order by President Wondra at 6:04 p.m. Directors Troxel, Richardson, Young, and Ross were present. Young was present. Also present were Superintendent Slater, Director of Curriculum and Student Services Harmon and Secretary Elmore. Directors Hotop and DiPrima were absent.
II. Recognition of guests. President Wondra welcomed members of the audience in attendance to discuss the procedures for the meeting.
III. Reading of Foundation documents. The Board read and reviewed the Foundation documents consisting of the Vision, Mission and Belief statements and the Goals for the Fort Madison Community School District.
IV. Monthly communication:
A. Superintendent Goal Report. Superintendent Slater summarized the progress on the indicators of progress towards the Board’s established goals.
B. District Presentations. There were none.
V. Approve the agenda. It was moved by Hope and seconded by Ross to approve the agenda as presented. The motion passed on a 6-0 voice vote.
VI. Consent agenda. It was moved by Young and seconded by Troxel to approve the consent agenda as presented. The consent agenda consisted of the minutes from the May 21, 2018 regular meeting, June 4, 2018 work session; financial reports for the monthly balance sheet, revenue summary sheet, expenditure report and activity report, accounts payable Board Bills for approval for May general fund, June General Fund, Student activity fund and Nutrition fund; resignations from Sue McHugh, associate at Lincoln Elementary, Kim Herbst, special education teacher at Lincoln Elementary, Frederick White, food service teacher at the High School, Rob Radovick, baseball coach, Chバレサ Alec, girls varsity basketball coach, Shalisse Johnstun, key club advisor, Justin (Charlie) Edgerton, Industrial Arts teacher at the High School, Amy Doherty, 7th/8th Social Studies teacher at the High School, Amy Doherty, Industrial Arts teacher at the High School, Amy Doherty, Industrial Arts teacher at Celebration Stadium, and Resumes can also be available. The Board entered into the closed session at 7:54 p.m. The Board returned to open session at 8:40 p.m. XIII. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m. Tim Woodruff, President June 18, 2018 Sandra Elmore, Secretary

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classified at Section 21.5(1) of the Code of Iowa to evaluate the professional competency of an individual whose appointment, hiring, performance or discharge is being considered because it is necessary to prevent needless and irreparable injury to that individual’s reputation and that individual has requested a closed session. A Ruml call vote was administered with Directors Hope, Wondra, Troxel, Young and Ross all responding yes.

The Board entered into the closed session at 7:54 p.m. The Board returned to open session at 8:40 p.m.
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Auditor says bids weren’t required under policy

BIDS - Continued from Page 1

office, which now also shuts down the power to the sheriff’s department in Montrose. The sheriff’s department lines were connected with the administration office in Fort Madison to eliminate long distance charges from Montrose for 21 years.

The outage did not effect LeeCom’s 9-1-1 service as those are dedicated emergency lines with back-up power at the sheriff’s building in Montrose.

However, other emergency calls such as LifeAlert and other security and private monitoring services come in on the regular sheriff’s line and access to those calls was unavailable for the time the power was down.

Lee County Auditor Denise Fraise said Mohrfeld Electric in Fort Madison was contacted for a cost to install a back-up generator to alleviate the issue under an emergency repair protocol of the county’s bid policy, which allows the county to do the work without bidding. Fraise said she thought it was appropriate to go ahead with the work under the emergency services protocol. However, at the workshop, supervisor Gary Folluo said the work should go out to bid.

Folluo said the county then went back and put out bids and Millard came in lower so he motioned to approve Millard’s bid. After a brief discussion, Supervisor Matt Pflug seconded the motion.

"Mohrfeld didn’t rebid it when we went out for bids, so I’d move we take it."

Folluo and Nafziger both stated that it still wasn’t a fair bid because Millard had the opportunity to see a competitor’s bid.

"All I would like to say is that I don’t think this was handled very well and it was very unfair to Mohrfeld," Fedler said. "I can’t support this motion."

Folluo said they could go back and bid it again and the board agreed to have them rebid the work.

"I think that’s crazy," Fedler said. "Kirk did exactly what the board asked him to do and that was to go out and get bids and let the chips fall where they may. It was unfortunate circumstances that happened, but this was a formal bid process when the board said go out for bids."

Fedler and Supervisor Rick Larkin voted against the motion leaving it up to Chairman Don Hunold who voted against the motion saying, "I would rather give these folks another opportunity to bid, but I will say when they made that original bid, I hope that was their best bid. But it doesn’t happen that way," Hunold said. The measure failed 2-3.

Fraise said the county needs to take another look at the bidding policy because county staff thought they were doing the right thing. She said her main concern is that now if the power goes down again before the work is done, those services are in jeopardy again.

"My main concern is that the people of this county are safe," Fraise said after the meeting. "This is on the supervisors’ shoulders not ours. They need to start trusting the department heads to do what’s best for the county."

County bidding policy on emergency services follows Iowa code and reads: "EMERGENCY REPAIRS. When emergency repair or replacement is necessary and the delay of advertising and a public letting might cause serious loss or injury to the public or property, the County shall by resolution make a finding of the necessity to institute emergency proceedings under Iowa Code §38.1.03. The Board of Supervisors will determine if outside professional services are required for the emergency repairs."