Board to hire Carl A. Nelson for school project

Superintendent cites visibility of board in hiring process

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - Carl A. Nelson & Co., of Burlington will be helping the Fort Madison Community School District with its next shot at building a new PreK-3rd grade elementary school.

Nelson was selected over Baxter Construction of Fort Madison on a tight 4-3 vote by the district’s board of directors at Monday’s regular meeting.

After a brief discussion on hiring the construction management agency, a motion was made to hire Nelson to lead the next effort to get a bond approved and oversee the construction of the facility if and when it’s approved.

Directors Tim Wondra, Carol Ross, Lois DiPrima, and Gayla Young voted in favor of hiring Nelson & Co., while Dianne Hope, Jared Hotop and Brian Steffensmeier voted against the motion.

Officials from both Baxter and Carl A. Nelson made pitches to the school board at its previous meeting on Oct. 1. Both companies agreed to waive any fees associated with helping promote the bond referendum to district tax payers in the event the bond failed.

The two companies were asked to speak to the board after the board’s bond subcommittee made up of Wondra, Ross, and Hope had interviewed the two companies and a third out of Des Moines. The committee also interviewed three architectural firms to help determine if hiring another architectural firm or a construction manager was the best way to proceed.

Feedback on previous failed bond attempts pointed the board in the direction of hiring a construction management firm, as well as a lack of local participation.

Following the presentations two weeks ago, the board

See SCHOOL, page 5

Monday fire destroys three city houses

Houses were unoccupied with no utilities hooked up

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - An early Monday morning fire sent one person to the hospital and has resulted in the ad hoc demolition of three houses in the middle of Avenue M.

Fort Madison firefighters were called to the scene at about 3:40 a.m. Monday morning to a house fire at 1519 Avenue M that was fully engulfed. The fire spread to the two structures adjacent to the building and all three of the buildings were considered a total loss and were demolished Monday.

According to a release from the Fort Madison Fire Department, firefighters were on the scene in less than four minutes and found one house fully engulfed with fire spreading to the adjacent houses on each side.

The buildings were vacant and had no utilities hooked up, however, it was learned at the scene that squatters had been staying in the homes.

Firefighters were unable to gain entry to any of the structures due to the dilapidated conditions of the

See FIRE, page 5

Pen City Current
Tuesday, October 16, 2018 | 9 pages | Volume 2 • Issue 234
Lee County Health Department

2018 Flu Clinic Schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>10/15</td>
<td>Montrose Public Library</td>
<td>8:00am-11:00am</td>
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<td>10/16</td>
<td>Hoerner YMCA Keokuk</td>
<td>8:30am-10:00am</td>
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<td>10/17</td>
<td>Donnellson Public Library</td>
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<td>Hotel Iowa Keokuk</td>
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<td>Eagle Bluff Apts. Ft. Madison</td>
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<td>10/23</td>
<td>Rose Michael Gardens Ft. Madison</td>
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<td>10/23</td>
<td>Parkview Apts. West Point</td>
<td>10:30am-Noon</td>
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<td>10/25</td>
<td>LCHD (#3 John Bennett Drive)</td>
<td>Ft. Madison Noon-5:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/1</td>
<td>McAleer Hall Fort Madison</td>
<td>10:00am-2:00pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please bring Medicare card to clinic
Private Pay cost $25
Any questions please call (319)372-5225
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Students looking for financial, educational support

We learned how much of a level playing field we weren’t on...

It’s an international competition and these are the best and brightest minds in the world and we want to showcase southeast Iowa.

-Jace Fedler, FMHS Cyberhound

ROBOT - Continued from Page 1

ship of Wickramasingha. Jace Fedler, a senior at FMHS, said the night was built to create awareness for the project to possibly generate some sponsorships for the group, which is now at 23 students. The group is a diverse group consisting of nine girls and 14 boys.

“We invited all these companies and businesses to talk to them about high school robotics. What we’d like to do for them and what we’d like them to do for us.” He said the Cyberhounds are the only robotics team in a 50 mile radius and their mission is to create awareness for what STEM is doing locally.

The Cyberhounds travel to a FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Robotics Competition each year. Last year the competition was in Cedar Falls and Fedler said it was an eye-opening experience.

“We learned how much of a level playing field we weren’t on. Other teams have warehouses with all this machinery and tools. Some teams are sponsored by NASA and Boeing. It’s an international competition and these are the best and brightest minds in the world and we want to showcase southeast Iowa.”

In addition to the team’s robotics minds, part of the group is charged with the business side of the club and is responsible for outreach, a website featuring the Cyberhounds at https://cyberhounds. org, social media management, and accounting. Shyannah Hoening, a sophomore vice president of the group, is helping with the business side of the club.

“This is where we host the classes for the younger generations so we thought it would be a good place to invite people down for some food and to hear what we’re doing,” she said.

“We’re thankful to have these companies come here. We invite them with the hope that they could either help mentor us or sponsor us because we need both knowledge and funds to be able to run the team and we want to be successful,” Hoening said the FIRST competition costs $5,000 to qualify for the FIRST competition, but other costs include transportation and accommodations, supplies, and storage.

“It’s recommended that you buy the basic robot kit, but then you have to buy additional parts. It’s thousands and thousands of dollars that are needed to get this off the ground.”

Nathaniel Harter, who was part of the club last year, said this year should be a better experience.

“Last year was our first year and we really didn’t know what to expect,” he said. “We think we’ll do better with what we learned last year and what we’ve learned since then, and hopefully with more support.”

Some of the industries represented at the meeting included Silgan Containers, Seither and Cherry, Mohrfeld Electric, Steffensmeier Welding & Mfg., Iowa Fertilizer Co., Matt’s Greenhouse, Fort Madison and Holy Trinity schools, and others. Sponsorships are available at varied increments from as low as $100 to as high as $5,000. People can also help by becoming mentors for the program to provide information and training, or supply access to facilities for storage and work, or by providing equipment and software.

More information is available at the club’s website or Facebook page at https://www. facebook.com/Cyber- hounds141/?ref=br_tr.
**Sheriff’s office looking for escapee**

MONTROSE - The Lee County Sheriff’s office is looking for an escapee and is asking the public for help in locating the individual.

Shawn DeHaven left the Lee County Jail this morning for a court-ordered work release and removed his GPS ankle monitor and is being sought for escape.

If you have any information about where he might be at, please contact your local Law Enforcement Agency or 911.

DeHaven has a dangerous history of skipping court as an A CFC participant.

**For the Record**

Fort Madison Police Report

10/12/18 - 5:31 p.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Misty Dawn Guzman, 31, of Fort Madison, in the 4500 block of Avenue D, on a charge of 5th degree theft. She was released on her own recognizance with a court date.

10/13/18 - 12:31 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a properly damage accident in the 1000 block of Avenue G. In Fort Madison on a warrant for Failure to appear and 4th degree theft. She was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.

10/13/18 - 3:24 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft on Iris Lane.

10/14/18 - 2:15 a.m. - Fort Madison Police cited Kyle Forrest Nelsen, 35, of Fort Madison, in the 3400 block of Avenue L, in Fort Madison on a charge of driving while suspended. He was released on citation.

10/14/18 - 12:57 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a stolen vehicle in the 1800 block of Avenue F. Fort Madison Police arrested Scott Allen Gillman, 50, of Farmington in the 1000 block of 30th Street on a warrant for false reporting of indictable offense to a public entity. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.

10/14/18 - 10:31 a.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Matthew Leroy Stice, 44, of Keokuk, at the sheriff’s office on a warrant for probation violation. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.

10/12/18 - 2:46 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff’s deputies arrested Matthew Leroy Stice, 44, of Keokuk, at the sheriff’s office on a warrant for probation violation. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.

10/12/18 - 8:08 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 4400 block of Avenue D. Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 2900 block of Avenue N.

Lee County Sheriff’s Report

10/12/18 - 9:18 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff’s deputies arrested David Michael Long, 59, of Madison, in the 4800 block of Avenue H. Long was released upon citation.

10/13/18 - 7:37 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff’s deputies arrested Joseph Allen Long, 53, of Fort Madison, at the sheriff’s office on a warrant for a court-ordered hold. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.

10/12/18 - 5:17 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff’s deputies responded to a two-vehicle accident on 235th Avenue southbound. A vehicle driven by Mark Eugene Foster, 58, of Keokuk had slowed to make a turn and was struck from behind by a vehicle driven by Hannah Renee Long, 18, of Keokuk. Long was cited for failure to maintain control. No injuries were reported at the scene.

10/13/18 - 10:20 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff’s deputies arrested Travis Cody Nabor, 35, of Fort Madison, at the sheriff’s office on a charge of simple assault. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.

10/13/18 - 6:00 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff’s deputies arrested Angela Nicole Nelson, 40, of Keokuk, as the sheriff’s office on a charge of failure to appear. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and release for time served.

10/13/18 - 8:27 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff’s deputies responded to a two-vehicle accident on Hwy. 61 at 175th Street. A vehicle driven by Debra Lynn Anderson, 64, of Fort Madison struck a vehicle driven by John Charles Edmondson that was traveling southbound on Hwy. 61. Anderson was turning onto 61 from 175th Street. No citations or injuries were reported at the scene.

10/14/18 - 1:00 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff’s deputies arrested Becca Raye Ann Henderson, 21, of Salem, on a warrant for OWI-1st offense. She was taken to the Lee County Jail and released on her own recognizance.

10/14/18 - 12:56 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff’s deputies arrested Jeremy Joseph Penrose, 34, of Keokuk, at the sheriff’s office on a warrant for violation of probation. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.

The above information is taken directly from daily law enforcement activity logs. Those listed above are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Fort Madison Fire & Rescue Report

10/14/18 - Fort Madison firefighters responded to one power line fire and a blaze that engulfed three abandoned homes.
No date set on next bond referendum attempt

School - Continued from Page 1

One squatter taken to the hospital for possible injuries

Fire - Continued from Page 1

FIRE - Continued from Page 1

From the Front/Local News

FM Firefighters part of national campaign to “Close before you doze”

SUBMITTED ARTICLE

FORT MADISON – The Fort Madison Fire Department is promoting the “Close Before You Doze” fire safety campaign, an ongoing public outreach initiative aimed at spreading this potentially life-saving message and helping keep family members safe in the event of a fire.

In partnership with UL Firefighter Safety Research Institute (FSRI), the fire safety campaign, which is based on research that shows fires are spreading faster than ever before, is designed to raise awareness and ensure that residents are as prepared as possible.

“Here at the fire department, we understand that closed doors significantly slow the spread of a fire,” said Lt. Chad Hannum, “As public safety professionals, it’s our job to deliver the ‘Close Before You Doze’ message and make sure our residents adopt this potentially life-saving behavior.”

“The Close Before You Doze campaign features a website that includes safety tips and resources, fire facts and other campaign related news and information. Our research clearly shows that closed doors dramatically decrease heat and CO levels, which provide trapped occupants more time for help to arrive,” said Steve Kerber, UL Director of Firefighter Safety Research. “Closing your doors is especially important at night when people are vulnerable and disoriented, with little time to react. It’s such a simple thing to do, and the result can be life versus death.”

FMCH to host CPE/AED Heartsaver training course

By PCC Staff

FORT MADISON – Fort Madison Community Hospital (FMCH) Education Department is offering the American Heart Sav er CPR/AED Course on Thursday, October 25, 2018. The class will take place from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the FMCH Business Center Conference Rooms.

There is a $50 charge for the class, which includes a provider card. Card size is limited and reservations are required. You can register your spot by calling 319-376-2223.

Heartsaver courses are designed for anyone with little or no medical training who needs a course completion card for their job or other requirements. These courses are also valuable for anyone wanting to be prepared for an emergency in any setting. CPR- or Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation- is an emergency lifesaving procedure performed when the heart stops beating. Immediate CPR can double or triple a person’s chances of survival after cardiac arrest. You will also learn how to properly use an AED, Automatic External Defibrillators. An AED is a portable automatic device used to restore normal heart rhythm to someone experiencing a cardiac episode.

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PUBLIC NOTICE
Fort Madison Community School District
1930 Avenue M
Minutes of the October 1, 2018 Work Session
I. The meeting was called to order by President Wondra at 6:00 p.m. Directors Hope, DiPrima, Ross, Steffensmeier and Hotop were present. Also present were Superintendent Slater, Director of Curriculum and Student Services Kim Harmon and Secretary Elmore. Director Young was absent.
II. Recognition of guests. President Wondra welcomed members of the audience in attendance.
III. Approve the agenda. It was moved by DiPrima and seconded by Steffensmeier to approve the agenda as amended. Item VI. Closed Session was deleted. Item VII Action on proposed contracts from Bond Subcommittee and Item VIII Action to terminate contract with architect were tabled for a future meeting. The motion passed on a 6-0 vote. IV. Monthly Communication. Curriculum Corner. Introduction to K-8 Math Materials. The Board received information regarding the implementation and use of new K-8 Math Materials. Enter Young: 6:31 p.m. V. Update from Bond Subcommittee. The Board received presentations regarding Construction Management options. Break: 7:30 p.m. End Break: 7:38 p.m. VI. Closed Session. This item was deleted.
VII. Action on proposed contracts from Bond Subcommittee. This item was tabled for a future meeting.
VIII. Action to terminate contract with architect. This item was tabled for a future meeting.
IX. Adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 p.m. Tim Wondra, Board President October 1, 2018 Sandra Elmore, Board Secretary

PUBLIC NOTICE
Lee County, Iowa Board of Supervisors
Regular Meeting
Agenda
DATE: TUESDAY, October 16, 2018
MEETING
CONVENING TIME: 9:00 A.M.
LOCATION: Correctional Center 2536 255th Street, Montrose, IA

Pledge of Allegiance
Approve Agenda
Consider Approval of October 9, 2018 Board Minutes
Consider Approval of Claims
Consider Approval of Tax Abatement Resolutions (2)
Consider Approval of Budget Amendment and Set Public Hearing Personnel Actions:
A. Step Increase-Attorney’s Office
B. Step Increase-Health Department Reports:
A. Auditors Report of Fees Collected Commission or Committee Reports
Adjourn

PUBLIC MEETING - CITIZENS WELCOME
Workshop to follow
Vision and hearing assistance available upon request
Contact Title VI Administrator 319-372-3705
County Website: www.leecountyorg

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SHOPKO PHARMACY PATIENTS
Get an instant charge account, $100 limit with no credit check when you transfer your prescription files to us. We can fill all your medicines together once a month, then mail or deliver them to you, or have them ready for pick up. Get billed the following month & pay over time.

RASHID PHARMACY WELCOMES JULIE GERDES
Rashid Pharmacy knows how important relationships are between the Pharmacy and the patient. Knowing your patients is one of the most important parts of the medical profession so that’s why we are excited to bring on Shopko’s #1 technician. Julie has been taking care of Shopko patients for 20 years and we want her to continue that here at Rashid Pharmacy.

Rashid Pharmacy would love to be your pharmacy and show you why we have been the #1 pharmacy in all southeast Iowa newspaper polls since the beginning.
Get Your Vehicle Ready For Winter With Griffin’s Fall Car Care Specials!

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Any Repair or Maintenance
Order $500 or More
$75 OFF
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Order $750 or More

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√ All Fluid Levels √ Radiator & Coolant
√ Tires Lights √ PLUS Road Test

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• FREE Brake Inspection

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LCHD offering October flu clinics

Lee County Health Department will be holding Flu Clinics throughout the month of October at various locations throughout Lee County. Flu clinics are open to the public, and offered to anyone ages 6 months or older. Medicare Part B, except Humana Gold choice, will be accepted for billing Medicare. Bring your Medicare card to the clinic. Flu vaccines for people without Medicare Part B will be $25.

Complete Flu Clinic Schedule: Oct. 15, 8:00 am – 11:00 am – Montrose Public Library, 200 Main St., Montrose, IA; Oct. 16, 8:30 am – 10:00 am – Hoerner YMCA, 2126 Plank Rd., Keokuk, IA; Oct. 17, 11:30 am – 1:30 pm – Donnellson Public Library, 411 S. Main St., Donnellson, IA; Oct. 18, 8:30 am – 9:30 am – Hotel Iowa, 401 Main St., Keokuk, IA; Oct. 18, 10:00 am – noon – Heritage Center, 508 Main St., Keokuk, IA; Oct. 18, 9:00 am – 10:00 am – Eagle Bluff Apartments, 2803 Ave. A, Fort Madison, IA; Oct. 23, 8:30 am – 10:00 am – Rose Michael Gardens, 4516 Ave. L, Fort Madison, IA; Oct. 23, 10:30 am – noon – Parkview Apartments, 507 Iowa Joe St, West Point, IA; Oct. 25, noon – 3:50 pm – Lee County Health Department, #3 John Bennett Dr., Fort Madison, IA. Visit Lee County Health Department’s website here to learn more: http://www.leecountyhd.org/index.php/flu-schedule/.

Veteran’s Breakfast at Sunnybrook

Each month on the third Tuesday of the month, Sunnybrook Assisted Living hosts a Veteran's Breakfast from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. at 5025 River Valley Road in Fort Madison.

Heels & Wheels Car Care Clinic

Griffin Muffler & Brake Center invites you to their Women – Heels & Wheels free car care clinic, Saturday, October 20, 10am-1pm, 535 Avenue G, Fort Madison. Come learn about many topics including:

What’s under the hood: How to check your oil – How your brakes work – Fuel saving tips – Shock absorbers and struts – Check engine lights – What regular maintenance is really necessary for your car

Learn about tires: How to check tire pressure – How to measure tread depth – How to find the tire size for your car.

Boost your car care confidence with this free clinic and enter for door prizes and other gifts! Refreshments will be served. Seating is limited, so call 319-372-2478 to reserve your seat today!

Choczilla & Treasure Sale

First Christian Church is holding a Choczilla (everything chocolate) & Treasure sale, Saturday, October 20, 10am-1pm, 608 10th Street, Fort Madison.

YMCA’s Trunk or Treat

This event had more than 600 children through the parking lot of the YMCA in October at various locations throughout Lee County. Flu clinics are open to the public, and offered to anyone ages 6 months or older. Medicare Part B, except Humana Gold choice, will be accepted for billing Medicare. Bring your Medicare card to the clinic. Flu vaccines for people without Medicare Part B will be $25.

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5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

TUE 16 Oct

Clear Skies

High– 49.0º F | Low – 41.4º F

WED 17 Oct

Clear Skies

High– 50.4º F | Low – 32.0º F

THU 18 Oct

Clear Skies

High– 48.2º F | Low – 35.1º F

FRI 19 Oct

Light Rain

High– 55.9º F | Low – 47.9º F

SAT 20 Oct

Clear Skies

High– 62.4º F | Low – 42.6º F

Witches Walk

Fort Madison’s Main Street will be hosting a Witches Walk October 26th from 5 to 7 p.m. in downtown Fort Madison. For more information contact the Partner’s offices at 319-372-5471. Wear your witches costume and shop downtown.

Ghost Hunt

The Fort Madison Partners are sponsoring a Ghost Hunt on Oct. 26-27 with Iowa Paranormal conducting investigations at some of the most haunted homes west of the Mississippi. For more information or tickets contact the Partners office at 319-372-5471.

Key Club Halloween Carnival

The annual Fort Madison High School Key Club and Fort Madison Kiwanis Halloween Carnival will be held on Oct. 27 from noon to 2 p.m. at the high school with games, costume contests and prizes.

PORT Boo-Athlon

The Fort Madison PORT Trail committee will be hosting it’s annual Boo-Athlon on Saturday, Oct. 27 at the Baxter Sports Complex. A 5K Walk/Run, a 10-mile bike ride and Duathlon will start at 9 a.m. Registration forms can be found online at www.fortmadison-ia.com under the Community tab/PORT; on the PORT of Fort Madison Facebook page or by calling Kathy Benda at 319-470-7848. and are due by Oct. 13 to guarantee a t-shirt.

Fort Madison Beggar’s Night

The citywide beggar’s night begins at 5 p.m. throughout the city of Fort Madison.

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.