City, FMHS talking rehab partnership

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - A partnership could be in the works that could result in some properties in Fort Madison getting a rehab.

Fort Madison Mayor Brad Randolph and Fort Madison High School Principal Greg Smith have had conversations about a program that could lead to students in the building trades classes and the agriculture classes helping rehab dilapidated homes.

When Fort Madison High School dedicated the new Richmond Stadium press box, Smith said the project was a result of partnerships that are key to the school and the community.

"This is what high school should be. It’s a community partnership with our kids and with them and they learn from one another and that’s what it’s all about. Partnerships with the community is what we’re after. We’re trying to do more and more and more," Smith said.

Smith also revealed that he’s had internal conversations at the school about the possibility of partnering the trades program and the agriculture program to get some properties in the city back in shape and usable.

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“We had a conference over the summer, Clint (Kobeit, the building trades instructor) and Bonnie Slet our ag teacher, said you know we could do the landscaping, you do the construction and we could just rehab the property. I called our mayor and Brad said, well let’s do it."

Members exhibit at FMAAAA this month

BY BRIAN RIGGS
Fort Madison Area Arts Association

FORT MADISON - The stockings are most definitely hung with glee at the Member Artists’ Annual Exhibition. The best artists in the Tri-state area have brought their best for the annual festive. Reception for this exhibit is December 14th from 5-7pm. Many of your favorite artists will be in attendance, as they enjoy the chance to catch up with one another while bearing the winners of the Best of Show, Best Photograph, Best Two-Dimensional, and Best Three-Dimensional. The winners receive monetary stipends from the FMAAAA Board of Directors without loss of piece. Besides the allure of the competition, the show provides an exceptional buying opportunity for that special someone, which may be yourself! Lee County Bank is the sponsor for the scintillating stylization.

TRICKSTER

Trickster, a ceramic sculpture by Kristine Souder of Ft. Madison, is part of the December Member Artists’ art exhibit at the Fort Madison Area Arts Association. A reception for the artists is planned for Friday from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the FMAAAA in downtown Fort Madison.

Prostitution case in jury’s hands

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - A north Lee County jury is now deciding whether to charge a Utah man with pandering for prostitution after a business he operated in Fort Madison was rousted in 2017.

Douglas Wayne Fenlaw, 52, of Saratoga Springs, Utah, is being charged with pandering for prostitution out of the former Avenue L Day Spa in Fort Madison.

He’s represented by Curt Dial of Keokuk.

Fenlaw testified on Wednesday on his own behalf as to the financial structure of the Day Spa and his role in the operations.

Fenlaw told the jury that he and Yu Hong, who ran the spa on a daily basis under the name “Lisa,” had a business and personal relationship and called each other husband and wife.

Under questioning from Dial, Fenlaw testified that he maintained the business functions of the spa in exchange for $1,500 a month to be used for the expenses such as the lease, utilities, supplies, and advertising for the establishment. However, Fenlaw said he was unaware of any pay-for-sex activities going on at the spa.

Fenlaw said he was specific that no prostitution or sexual activity was to take place at the spa when he set up the business for Hong. The two met when Fenlaw got a massage from Hong in Waterloo while with a friend. Hong was also charged with prostitution in Mason City where a parlor called Asian Tuina was raided in February of this year. He also testified that he
For the Record

**Fort Madison Police report**
12/10/18 - 5:41 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 300 block of Avenue E. 12/11/18 - 6:30 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 2300 block of Avenue E. 12/11/18 - 7:36 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 300 block of Avenue E. 12/11/18 - 8:30 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 2300 block of Avenue E.

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- Fort Madison Police arrested Matthew Lee Zimmerman, 31, no address given, at the intersection of 27th Street and Avenue O, on a charge of public intoxication. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held. 12/11/18 - 9:12 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 300 block of 1st Street on a charge of public intoxication and possession of a controlled substance (marijuana). He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.

- Lee County Sheriff report 12/10/18 - 9:34 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 2300 block of Avenue E.
- Lee County Sheriff’s deputies arrested Kory Lee Wade, 38, no address given, in the 100 block of South 2nd, Keokuk, on a warrant for violation of probation. He was taken to the Lee County Correctional Center and jailed.

- Lee County Sheriff’s deputies arrested Dakota Lee Kay, 27, of Keokuk, at the Sheriff’s office, on a charge of violation of a no contact order - domestic. He was taken to the Lee County Correctional Center and jailed. 12/11/18 - 7:19 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff’s deputies responded to a two-vehicle accident on Hwy. 61 where a vehicle driven by Haley LaShea Jones, 26, of Montrose, struck a vehicle driven by Joshua Jedidia Jones, 26, of Hamilton, Ill. According to the report, Haley Jones was passing in the left lane and struck Joshua Jones vehicle when she re-entered the right lane without allowing enough room during the pass causing damage to both vehicles. Haley Jones was cited for unsafe passing. No injuries were reported at the scene. 12/11/18 - 8:19 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff’s deputies arrested Daniel Wayne Summers, 53, of Keokuk, at the sheriff’s office on a warrant for parole violation. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.

- Fort Madison Fire & Rescue report 12/11/18 - 9:19 a.m. - Fort Madison firefighters responded to a two-vehicle accident on Hwy. 61 where a vehicle driven by Haley LaShea Jones, 26, of Montrose, struck a vehicle driven by Joshua Jedidia Jones, 26, of Hamilton, Ill. According to the report, Haley Jones was passing in the left lane and struck Joshua Jones vehicle when she re-entered the right lane without allowing enough room during the pass causing damage to both vehicles. Haley Jones was cited for unsafe passing. No injuries were reported at the scene.

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Homes: Continued from Page 1

Mayor says plan may need a non-profit piece

that,” Smith said. Randolph said he sees the project as a win-win for everyone.

“It sounded like a great idea when Greg pitched it to me. They’ve got a well-run program there and everyone needs that hands-on experience. Taking a property that is subject to standard and recreating something out of that, builds confidence with the students and helps the community,” the mayor said.

But tight city budgets could put a hamper on the project unless a component could be found that would help with material costs, Randolph said that might require a third, non-profit partnership to help bring things along.

The city doesn’t want to be in the real estate business. You’d have to have some kind of non-profit arm,” he said. “Say the city got deeded with the property and worked it out with small school programs to rehab the property. You get it up to code, list it standard and then that property was put on the market, you’d probably have to deed it over to a non-profit and sell it.”

Only a few conversations have taken place regarding the project and Randolph said he wished they were a little further along in hashing out the details.

“Boy that sounds like a win for the community and the district,” he said. “When you’re able to use the horsepower of the trades program and get that group learning experience in working on a property that might not otherwise see that benefit, the community could recognize a saved building or future use and you can’t help but think that wouldn’t be a great idea.”

One group that could possibly help with the non-profit piece could be the local Habitat for Humanity chapter. Local chapter president Tony Wolfe said it could be a consideration but it’s outside of the scope of what Habitat projects usually entail.

“While our chapter does not mandate ground up construction, my understanding is that our focus has locally been on new construction in Fort Madison,” Wolfe said. “That said, with the continued rise in costs to complete a project, rebaths might be a future consideration. Funding and labor to build are current challenges in completing projects more frequently.”

Randolph said out of the gate the city would need to identify one or two properties that would fit the project and were readily available.

He said part of a bigger problem is for the city to take possession of properties that could be rehabbled. Randolph said a lot of times, the properties fall into serious disrepair from neglect before the city has the resources or the authority to take ownership.

The city’s dilemma is acquiring a property at a time that it still has the ability to be fixed. A lot of those properties are entirely dilapidated - we don’t have ownership of them and we can’t just go out and get ownership,” he said. “It sits there for too long and we can’t get access. We can’t get a hold of the owner and there’s a legal process for us to be able to take it over.”

Randolph said he’s hoping to have more conversations about the project in the spring and at that time ask if there are any properties that could fit a test project.

FMAAAA Members’ exhibit reception Friday

ARTS: Continued from Page 1

tion combinations. FMAAA is so pleased to showcase works from the following area artists: Rebecca Butler, Kelly Peters, Dr. Marie Brady-Whitacack, Ray McAllister, Karla Mundt, Lois McPhee, Serena Stevens, Jim Van Ginkel, Kristine Souder, Anna Snowy days are right around the corner

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**Lotto Drawings**

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<thead>
<tr>
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**PCC STAFF**

**Lady Hounds can’t find win at West Hancock**

**Rashid goes for 11 at FMHS falls to 0-6**

HAMLTON - The Fort Madison Bloodhound girls basketball team is still searching for its first win of the year after dropping a 51-27 loss on the road to West Hancock on Tuesday night.

Sophomore Maddie Rashid led Fort Madison with 11 points. FMHS got behind early when West Hancock put up 17 points in the first quarter while the Hounds got buckets from junior Anna Kester and senior Elesha Estrada.

West Hancock’s Myah Gray scored seven in the period including a 3-pointer quick off the tip.

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West Hancock is a very experienced team. They have multiple schemes and they execute them pretty well, head coach Todd McGhghy said.

“We are getting decent looks, we just aren’t knocking them down. Just gotta keep working. We don’t have an effort issue. We don’t have an attitude issue. We just gotta keep plugging away and get better.”

West Hancock came out of the locker room and put up another 17 in the third quarter again led by Gray’s five points and Josi Radel’s five. With Fort Madison only putting up seven in the period, West Hancock had the game well in hand going into the final period 44-19.

West Hancock won five points each from Boeding and Estrada. Kester finished with three points, Jassmine Buss had two, and Dezire Kline added one point.

**Little Hounds go 18-4 at own meet**

FORT MADISON - FMMS hosted a triangular meet on Tuesday with Keokuk and Ottumwa.

Fort Madison won 18 matches and lost only four. Joe Hartman, Hayden Woolever, Tanner Settles, Christian Vincent, Teague Smith, and Aiden Pennock were all 2-0 with two pins.

Emmett Kruse and Daniel Sokolik were 1-0 each pinning their opponents. Brandt Booten went 2-0 with a fall and a 6-4 decision. Landon Rudd and Ike Thatcher were both 1-1. Taylor High also competed. Brandt Booten was the wrestler of the meet.

The Little Hounds next competition is a make-up meet at home on Monday at 4:30 p.m.

**Pen City Current encourages you to play responsibly.**