FM school board has 22 days to appoint director

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - The tragic passing of Fort Madison school board member Gayla Young on Dec. 31, the Fort Madison school district is under a pretty tight timeline to appoint her replacement, and is actively seeking members of the district to step into the vacancy.

At Monday's Fort Madison Community School District Board of Directors workshop held at the Fort Madison Middle School, the board gave Superintendent Dr. Erin Slater a consensus to put a notice out that the district is actively looking for someone to fill Young's position.

According to state code, the district has 30 days from Young's vacancy to appoint someone to fill the position, otherwise the vacancy must be filled with a special election at a cost to the taxpayers.

Iowa code 279.6, also states that eligible voters in the district can call for a special election with 14 days of the publishing of the notice to fill the vacancy by appointment. Anyone wanting the position to be filled by a special election would have to petition the district and the petition would have to include either 100 eligible signatures or 30% of the voters in the last general school board election. In Sept. 2017, 1,762 ballots were cast which would indicate unofficially that 529 signatures would be required to call for a special election.

If no one steps forward and the district can't find someone to appoint to the board by Jan. 30, District Secretary Sandy Elmore would be required to call for a special election no earlier than March 2 and no later than March 12, according to current code.

See VACANCY, page 8

Folluo to chair county board

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - For the first time in seven years, a supervisor from the southern part of the county will chair the Lee County Board of Supervisors.

Supervisor Don Hunold stepped down as chairman Wednesday at the board’s first meeting of the new year. Hunold didn’t seek re-election to the board and was replaced by Rich Harlow who won the spot in the general election.

After Hunold excused himself, Supervisor Rick Larkin, as vice chair, took over the meeting and asked for nominations for the 2019 chair. Supervisor Matt Pflug nominated Folluo as the 2019 chairman and Folluo seconded the motion. Both supervisors’ districts are in the southern part of Lee County.

During a very brief discussion on the motion, both Larkin and Supervisor Ron Fedler spoke against the nomination.

“Well, for obvious reasons, I won’t support that resolution,” Larkin said.

“I agree with Rick,” Fedler said.

The two didn’t elaborate on their opposition and, with no additional discussion, the motion was voted on with Pflug, Harlow, and Folluo voting for the motion, and Fedler and Larkin voting against the motion.

Folluo, who was vocal about the chairmanship not going to someone from the south part of the county last year, said he was surprised by the vote.

“I’m completely surprised - but pleasantly surprised, and I accept that responsibility and the duty and look forward to the next year,” Folluo said.

He said he doesn’t have any set plans to change the
**For the Record**

**Fort Madison Police Report**
01/02/19 - 10:57 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 1400 block of 34th Street.
01/02/19 - 12:50 p.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Edward Charles Guzman, 42, of Fort Madison in the 4700 block of Avenue L, for a charge of driving under suspension. She was released upon citation.
01/03/19 - 10:20 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a shoplifter in the 1600 block of Avenue A.
01/03/19 - 11:49 p.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Jodie Diane Belknap, 28, of Burlington, in the 900 block of Avenue E.
01/04/19 - 4:46 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Cheyenne John Stone, 37, of Woodhill, N.Y., at the county line in Wever, on a warrant for failure to appear. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and released the next day on his own recognizance.
01/05/18 - 6:43 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Kenna Michelle Bloomberg, 22, of Keokuk, in the 500 block of N. 3rd Street, for a charge of driving while barred, possession of alcohol under the legal age, failure to provide proof of insurance, tinted windows, operating without registration/plates, and manner of conveyance. She was released upon her own recognizance. She was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
01/05/19 - 4:59 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Gary Lynn Mason, 51, of Argyle, in the 2000 block of Belfast Road in Argyle, on a warrant for failure to appear. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and released the next day on her own recognizance.
01/06/19 - Fort Madison Fire & Rescue Service responded to one medical call.
01/07/19 - Fort Madison firefighters responded to one medical call.
01/08/19 - Fort Madison firefighters responded to a two-vehicle accident on Hwy. 61 near the exit 18 ramp when a vehicle driven by Rebecca L. Kovar, 26, of Keokuk, reportedly struck the rear of a vehicle driven by Janel Renee Harms, 35, of Burlington. Both vehicles were headed southbound on Hwy. 61. Kovar was cited for failure to stop in an assured clear distance and failure to provide proof of insurance. No injuries were reported in the accident.
01/09/19 - 10:43 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Debra Jean Dolden, 20, of Fort Madison in the 700 block of Acad-emy Avenue in Denmark, on charges of driving while barred, possession of alcohol under the legal age, failure to provide proof of insurance, tinted windows, operating without registration/plates, and manner of conveyance. She was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
01/10/19 - 12:02 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 4800 block of Avenue O.
01/08/19 - 6:50 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 1400 block of Avenue B.
01/07/19 - 1:50 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 4600 block of Avenue J.
01/06/19 - 11:49 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 900 block of Avenue E.
01/05/19 - 2:15 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 600 block of Avenue D.
01/04/19 - 2:16 a.m. - Fort Madison Police cited Edward Charles Guzman, 42, of Fort Madison in the 4700 block of Avenue L, for a charge of driving under suspension. She was released upon citation.
01/04/19 - 4:06 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Jodie Diane Belknap, 28, of Burlington, at the sheriff's office on a warrant for contempt of court. She was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
01/03/19 - 4:13 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested David Bruce Gray, 64, of Keokuk, at the sher-iff's office on a judgment hold. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
01/03/19 - 9:45 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Christopher Drew Holmes, 32, of Wever, at the sheriff's office on charges of operating while intoxicated and carrying weapons. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and released on a promise to appear.
01/04/19 - 10:54 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested John Gabriel Anderson, 55, of Argyle, at the sheriff's office on a judgment hold. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and released on Jan. 5 for time served. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and released the next day on his own recognizance.
01/09/19 - 12:02 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 4800 block of Avenue O.
01/04/19 - 1:39 p.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Derek James Dolden, 20, of Fort Madison in the 700 block of Acad-emy Avenue in Denmark, on charges of driving while barred, possession of alcohol under the legal age, failure to provide proof of insurance, tinted windows, operating without registration/plates, and manner of conveyance. She was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
01/08/19 - 6:50 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 4800 block of Avenue O.
01/04/19 - 12:02 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 4800 block of Avenue O. She was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
01/04/19 - 7:16 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Erica Nicole Belknap, 28, of Burlington, at the sheriff's office on a warrant for contempt of court. She was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
01/03/19 - 4:13 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested David Bruce Gray, 64, of Keokuk, at the sher-iff's office on a judgment hold. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
01/03/19 - 9:45 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Christopher Drew Holmes, 32, of Wever, at the sheriff's office on charges of operating while intoxicated and carrying weapons. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and released on a promise to appear. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and released the next day on his own recognizance.
01/05/18 - 6:43 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Jodie Diane Belknap, 28, of Burlington, at the sheriff's office on a warrant for contempt of court. She was taken to the Lee County Jail and released the next day on her own recognizance.
01/06/19 - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 1900 block of Avenue M.
01/05/19 - 3:11 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 1900 block of Avenue M.
01/07/19 - 2:40 a.m. - Fort Madison Police cited Ashley Renee Elka, 28, of Fort Madison in the 900 block of Avenue H, on a charge of driving under suspension. She was released upon citation.
01/07/19 - 8:45 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 300 block of 3rd Street.
01/06/19 - 12:35 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 900 block of Avenue E.
01/05/18 - 2:15 a.m. - Fort Madison Police cited Clinton Jacob Knustrom, 26, of Fort Madison, in the 1200 block of Avenue H, on a charge of driving under suspension. He was released upon citation.
01/06/19 - 12:35 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 900 block of Avenue G.
01/10/19 - midnight - Lee County Sheriff's depu-ties arrested Jodie Diane Johnson, 40, of Fort Madison, on a warrant provided, on warrants for failure to appear, controlled substance possession and possession of drug paraphernalia. Those listed above are pre-sented innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.
OBITUARIES

LISA K. BOHNENKAMP

Lisa K. Bohnenkamp, 55, of Montrose, IA, passed away at 8:45 p.m. on Friday, January 4, 2019 at the University of Iowa Hospitals in Iowa City. She was born on October 3, 1963 in Fort Madison, IA to James & Linda Boe Yaley. She graduated from Fort Madison High School in 1982 and attended Grace College in Winona Lake, IN. She married Joey T. Bohnenkamp on April 19, 1986 in Fort Madison, IA. She worked as an administrative assistant and in accounting for many years. She loved spending time with her children, grandchildren and her family and enjoyed being outside, especially at the beach.

BOHNENKAMP Lisa is survived by: her husband; Joe Bohnenkamp of Montrose, IA; 1-daughter: Kayla Bohnenkamp of Donnellson, IA; 2-sons: Cory (Jessica) Bohnenkamp of Fort Madison, IA & Jason (Jami) Bohnenkamp of Denmark, IA; 4-grandchildren: Jace Hogan, Braxton Bohnenkamp, Kiley Bohnenkamp & Kasey Bohnenkamp; 1-sister: Cheri (David) Yaley-Mayfield of New York, NY; 2-brothers: David Yaley of Denmark, IA & Larry Yaley of Burlington, IA; her parents: Jim & Linda Yaley of Fort Madison, IA & her parents & mother in law: James & Kay Bohnenkamp of Denmark, IA. She was preceded in death by her grandparents. Cremation has been entrusted to the care of King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. Friends may call after 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 8, 2019 with the family to receive friends from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday evening at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. A memorial service will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, January 9, 2019 at Denmark Congregational United Church of Christ with Rev. Chad Savage officiating. Burial will be held in Denmark Cemetery at a later date. A memorial has been established for Lisa’s grandchildren’s education. Online condolences & a video tribute of Lisa’s life may be viewed at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: www.kinglynk.com.

DOROTHY LANGE-VANCE

Dorothy Lange-Vance, 92, of Nauvoo, passed away at 12:45 A.M. Sunday January 6, 2019 at the St Vincent Nursing Home in Quincy. Funeral services are pending at the Schmitz · Banks and Beals Funeral Home in Nauvoo.

Pen City Current obituary policy
The Current runs obituaries at no charge to funeral homes and they run the day they are submitted in most cases. They are also run as submitted by the funeral homes.

OBITUARIES

CHARLES “CHOD” COPPAGE

Charles “Chod” Coppage, age 91 of Ft. Madison passed away at 7:15 PM on Wednesday, January 2, 2019 at his home. He was born on June 8, 1927 in Niota, IL to Percy and Ruth Heryford Coppage. On March 26, 1949 he married Mary “Jean” Davis in Ft. Madison and she passed away on March 9, 2012. Chod was a Union Electrician and worked for several businesses and companies. He was a member of the First Christian Church and the Claypool Masonic Lodge #13 A.F. & A.M. Chod served in the US Marines during WWII. He and Jean raised Brittany Spaniels and loved to travel together. He enjoyed his cars, trap shooting, golfing and having coffee with his friends. Survivors include two brothers, Jerry (Skip) Coppage of Denmark and Greg (Diana) Coppage of Claremore, OK; several nieces, nephews, great nieces and nephews and great-great nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife and two brothers, Percy and William, a sister, Doris and a sister, Blanche in infancy. The funeral service will be held on Monday, January 7, 2019 at 11 AM at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory with Rev. Dann Masden officiating. ‘The family will meet with friends from 10 AM until the time of the service. Burial will follow in Soldiers’ Circle, Oakland Cemetery with military rites conducted by the Ft. Madison Veterans Honor Guard. A memorial has been established for Claypool Masonic Lodge #13 or PAW Animal Shelter and online condolences may be left at www.kinglynk.com. Chod’s family would like to thank all of his nurses who have been with and helped him throughout the years especially Nikki, Hannah, Genesa and Holly.

IOWA LOTTERY WINNING NUMBERS

Lotto Drawings

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Follow Us

Pen City Current encourages you to play responsibly.

Pen City Current · Wednesday, January 9, 2019 · 3
Lady Hounds get first win of season

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - Fort Madison’s Anna Kester scored a season-high 18 points as Fort Madison got their first win of the season Saturday at home against Albia.

The junior went 4-of-13 on the night and hit on a couple three-balls to lead Fort Madison (1-11). But it may have been the defensive pressure of the second half that secured the win. Fort Madison allowed the Lady Dees just 12 points in the second half, six in each of the last two quarters to pull away for the win.

The Hounds have struggled shooting from the field most of the year and also struggled on the offensive board. But on Saturday, senior Jasmine Bass wrangled 17 rebounds including 12 on the offense end to allow her to finish with 10 points on the night. Bass was 4-of-18 from the field and 2-of-8 from the free throw line with two blocks on the night.

Fort Madison jumped out to a tight 16-15 lead at the end of the first quarter after trailing 2-7 with five minutes left. The two teams went back and forth in the second period, but Fort Madison went on a 8-0 run in the final two minutes to take a 35-27 lead into the break. Kester and sophomore Nadia Boeding led the Lady Hounds with eight points each.

The Hounds put up an stilling second half defense and kept all Albia scorers under three points each. Boeding was led by senior Taylor Colwell who had three in the second half.

“It’s great the girls can get a win. They have had a ton thrown at ‘em in a very short time,” said head coach Todd McGhghy. “I’ve also demanded of them and held them accountable in a very intense and unwavering way. It’s been quite the cultural shock. In fact, we had a very intense halftime discussion after allowing 27 points.”

McGhghy said the girls responded to the talk and held Albia to 12 points in the second half. He said Albia changed some things over the break that disrupted the Lady Hounds game plan.

“They didn’t look like a 1-7 team. A win is a win and we’ll take it.”

Kester led Fort Madison with 10 points in the second half including going 5-of-6 from the free throw line.

On Friday the Hounds spotted Fairfield a 22-6 first quarter advantage and couldn’t get a player in double figures as sophomore Maddie Rashid led Fort Madison with nine points.

Fort Madison scored in double figures in the second quarter outscoring Fairfield 12 to 5. The Lady Hounds held Fairfield to just eight points in the third quarter, nine points.

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But Boeding would hit from the left baseline. After Mt. Pleasant nailed three and Pothitakis fired in two for HTC the Lady Hounds have struggled shooting from the field most of the year and also struggled on the offensive board. But on Saturday, senior Jasmine Bass wrangled 17 rebounds including 12 on the offense end to allow her to finish with 10 points on the night. Bass was 4-of-18 from the field and 2-of-8 from the free throw line with two blocks on the night.

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FORT MADISON - A string of three falls in a row and a dramatic pin by Chance Hocker at 170 lbs were enough to give the Bloodhound wrestlers a big come-from-behind conference win over Washington Thursday night. Fort Madison was wrestling in their first home conference meet in over a decade, outside of the Invitational Tournament last month, sweeping Washington, and Mid-Prairie's Pleasant Valley 39-36 and 51-24 at the HoundDome. The win over Washington put the Hounds in the driver's seat for the Southeast Conference. The conference title over the Hounds down took Matt. Pleasant back on Dec. 13 39-31.

Fort Madison held a 33-16 lead going into the final five matches. Junior Danen Settles started the rally for the Hounds in the heavyweight class against Washington's Tristen Allender. With the Hounds down 12-6, Settles held a 2-0 advantage at the fall, but got an escape and a takedown in the second period and then scored a near fall to take a 13-0 lead. Settles, who was ranked as high as 7th in the state earlier in the season, was able to roll Allender on his back again at the edge of the circle for the pin at the 4:57 mark.

One point later, Elton Kruse, wrestling at 106 lbs and 113 lbs scored back-to- back pins with Owen Wiseman's coming just 46 seconds into the match with the Demon's Caden Evans. Elton Kruse needed a bit more time, but scored a fall after leading 5-4 at the end of the second period, over Matt Collett. The two pins gave Fort Madison a 24-12 lead. Senior Tristan Allender couldn't get anything going against Walter Ikerd at 120 lbs losing a 14-0 major decision to allow Washington to cut the gap to 24-16, but freshman Gavin Wiseman fought off the Demons' Brandon Dickel at 126 lbs after trailing 3-4 at the end of the first period. Wiseman was able to get Dicke1d in the air in the second period and spun him to the ground where he worked a fall with 33 seconds left in the second period to give Fort Madison a 30-16 lead.

Wiseman would snap Washington's Justin Simmering to the mat early in the first period at 132 lbs, and almost get a fall off the takedown, but Simmering was able to pull out of the hold. Neither wrestler would score another point of the way through the three periods and Larson would hold on for the decision 5-0 for a 33-16 Hound lead.

Washington would then score four straight wins over the Hounds to take the lead at 33-36. Garrett Walker would score a technical fall over the Hounds' Nathan Steffensteiner 16-1 at 138 lbs and Dalton Woolever, couldn't catch Dallas Sanders in the third period losing just 3-1 and 13 lbs. Sanders would score an escape with 1:03 left in the second period for the 3-1 lead and Woolever couldn't score in the match in the third period. Both Jakob McGowan and Keaton Poe lost by pins to set up the final match between the Bloodhound's Hunter Garvin and Washington's Keaton Murphy.

Despite needing only three points, Hocker refused to have a whistle and scored a quick take down just .11 seconds into the match. Hocker worked Murphy in front of Head Coach Ryan Smith and scored a near fall with .57 left in the first period and then got the pin just six seconds later and was mobbed by teammates after the handshake.

"That's a great example of a kid that has a lot of highlight moments in his career. He's only a sophomore and he's given himself credit for, but it's nice when he gets the opportunity to be the hero and get the job done," Smith said.

Smith also pointed to the wins by Elton and Owen Kruse, and freshman Gavin Wiseman as turning points in the match. "Elton against Washington that was a big win. That was solid opponent for him and for not just to get a win, but a pin, is huge. That was probably one of the key wins. Him and Gavin Wiseman both had big pins tonight."

The win gives the Hounds victories over Mt. Pleasant and Washington, with Fairfield coming up on Thursday on the road and Keokuk the following Thursday at home to wrap up conference action.

"Washington's held the conference title for a few years now, so it's been on our checklist to get it back where it belongs," Smith said.

The Demons' Tristen Westphal-Edwards scored a pin over Fort Madison's Diego Lozano to start the match. The pin was Washington's 150th career win.

In the night cap, the Hounds won five matches by forfeit over Mid-Prairie. Danen Settles and Wiseman each had pins for Fort Madison. Woolever, McGowan and Lozone each scored decisions for the Bloodhounds.

Hound wrestlers go 3-2 at Iowa West Lepic Duals

The Bloodhounds beat Pleasant Valley 40-33 and Quincy 64-10 and Mediapolis 48-33, but fell to host Iowa City West 46-27 and Lewis Central 40-30.

Senior Elton Kruse recorded four pins on the day wrestling at 132 lbs and almost get a fall off of the takedown, but Simmering was able to pull out of the hold. Neither wrestler would score another point of the way through the three periods and Larson would hold on for the decision 5-0 for a 33-16 Hound lead.

Washington would then score four straight wins over the Hounds to take the lead at 33-36. Garrett Walker would score a technical fall over the Hounds' Nathan Steffensteiner 16-1 at 138 lbs and Dalton Woolever, couldn't catch Dallas Sanders in the third period losing just 3-1 and 13 lbs. Sanders would score an escape with 1:03 left in the second period for the 3-1 lead and Woolever couldn't score in the match in the third period. Both Jakob McGowan and Keaton Poe lost by pins to set up the final match between the Bloodhound's Hunter Garvin and Washington's Keaton Murphy.

Despite needing only three points, Hocker refused to have a whistle and scored a quick take down just .11 seconds into the match. Hocker worked Murphy in front of Head Coach Ryan Smith and scored a near fall with .57 left in the first period and then got the pin just six seconds later and was mobbed by teammates after the handshake.

"That's a great example of a kid that has a lot of highlight moments in his career. He's only a sophomore and he's given himself credit for, but it's nice when he gets the opportunity to be the hero and get the job done," Smith said.

Smith also pointed to the wins by Elton and Owen Kruse, and freshman Gavin Wiseman as turning points in the match. "Elton against Washington that was a big win. That was solid opponent for him and for not just to get a win, but a pin, is huge. That was probably one of the key wins. Him and Gavin Wiseman both had big pins tonight."

The win gives the Hounds victories over Mt. Pleasant and Washington, with Fairfield coming up on Thursday on the road and Keokuk the following Thursday at home to wrap up conference action.

"Washington's held the conference title for a few years now, so it's been on our checklist to get it back where it belongs," Smith said.

The Demons' Tristen Westphal-Edwards scored a pin over Fort Madison's Diego Lozano to start the match. The pin was Washington's 150th career win.

In the night cap, the Hounds won five matches by forfeit over Mid-Prairie. Danen Settles and Wiseman each had pins for Fort Madison. Woolever, McGowan and Lozone each scored decisions for the Bloodhounds.
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School board reacts to Young’s death

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - Fort Madison School District Superintendent Dr. Erin Slater has confirmed this morning that current school board member Gayla Young died this morning at University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics.

“She always had the district’s best interests at heart,” he said.

Fellow board member Carol Ross said Young gave education everything she had.

“Gayla was a great person. She was passionate about education and gave 110% in everything she did,” Ross said. “I enjoyed getting to know her and she will be missed. My condolences to her family.”

Young was also a member of the Denmark Volunteer Fire Department.

Young, who passed away on behalf of the district at around 4 p.m. Monday night. District staff was notified via email this morning.

“The Fort Madison Community School District is deeply saddened by the loss of school board Vice-President Gayla Young, who passed away earlier today. Gayla was a strong advocate and supporter of the students and staff of the Fort Madison Community School District. Her passion for education, her countless volunteering efforts, and her love of learning will be deeply missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family at this time,” Slater wrote in an email Monday.

Fort Madison School Board President Dr. Tim Wondra said Young’s impact will be missed throughout southeast Iowa.

“It’s a great loss for Fort Madison and everything she was a part of on the board, but it’s also a loss for Danville where she taught, and it’s a tremendous loss for Denmark with all that she was involved in that community,” Wondra said.

“Gayla was a great person, quick to help, would also be there for anyone anytime and she was so smart. I am truly a better person for having known and served with her,” Young, a teacher in the Danville school system, was re-elected to the Fort Madison board in September 2017 after serving her first four-year term winning her seat in 2013. She was the current vice-president of the school board.

Other school board members also shared in the grief of Young’s passing.

Lois DiPrima worked at Denmark Elementary School during the 1980s with Young, when Young was a cook with the district and decided she wanted to do more.

“She wanted to be more of a part of her children’s education and other people’s education. The day she went back to school, she was so excited. She wanted to make a difference in people’s lives and teaching was the way to do it. I remember her saying those exact words to me,” DiPrima said.

“In the last four years on the board I have seen a family grow. This is losing a part of that family,” Board member Danne Hope said didn’t know Young before serving on the board with her, but said she didn’t just lose a fellow board member, but a friend. “Gayla was a dedicated board member and brought a classroom educator’s view to the table. She also followed legislative issues and what was going on in Des Moines. She will be missed as a board member and as a friend.”

Jared Hotop said Young was a big advocate for education and the students of Fort Madison.

“She always had the district’s best interests at heart,” he said.

Iowa part of AMES – Finding a spot for your big rig is getting a little easier. The Iowa Department of Transportation, in coordination with seven other states, has launched a new data-driven system to help commercial drivers easily locate available truck parking at both state-run rest areas and select private truck stops around the Midwest.

Iowa’s system called “Trucks Park Here” will make commercial drivers aware of available parking along Interstate 80, 35, 380, 390, 400, 410, 430 and 440. The system will also collect truck parking availability data using information layers on Iowa’s DOT’s Office of Systems, which will show truck parking availability data using a variety of in-pavement and parking lot entrance/exit sensors.

Phil Mescher of the Iowa DOT’s Office of Systems Planning led this effort for the state and said, “All eight states have worked to make the data showing available truck parking consistent; however, each is taking a little different approach on where the data is displayed."

“The Trucks Park Here” network and portions of I-380, I-35, I-235, and I-29. The data is currently accessible through public data feeds that can be utilized by application developers, in-cab navigation system makers, and others wishing to utilize the parking information. Access to the data feeds can be found in the parking information link on www.trucksparkhere.com. Later this month, available parking locations will be added to the rest area layer on Iowa’s traveler information sites and mobile apps at www.511ia.org.

“Trucks Park Here” will provide information to make commercial drivers aware of available truck parking at both state-run rest areas and select private truck stops along Interstate 80 and portions of I-380, I-35, I-235, and I-29. The data is currently accessible through public data feeds that can be utilized by application developers, in-cab navigation system makers, and others wishing to utilize the parking information. Access to the data feeds can be found in the parking information link on www.trucksparkhere.com. Later this month, available parking locations will be added to the rest area layer on Iowa’s traveler information sites and mobile apps at www.511ia.org.

Steffensmeier, appointee will be on next ballot

VACANCY - Continued from Page 1

However, Slater said the state has changed the specifics of special elections recently and she is checking with the Iowa Association of School Boards for guidance on any special election language.

Current board member Brian Steffensmeier was also appointed to the board in August when Jillian Troxel had to step down due to relocating to Wisconsin. According to a spokesperson with the Iowa Secretary of State’s office, both Steffensmeier and any new appointee would be also be up for election on any ballot for a referendum to build a new elementary school, which may be in front of voters in the spring.

Those interested in serving on the school board can either pick up an application at the district’s central office or fill out an application at the following link: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1BDW4s6V9emLubZ7e9x9Q2gD8x8F1HwI5O/view. Applications are due at the Central Office by Jan. 21 at 4 p.m.

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Now accepting new patients.
Special “elf” brings gifts to Richardson students

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - Students are Richardson elementary got a special visit on the last day of school before the holiday break.

A parent, and book consultant from Fort Madison, played elf to Santa on Friday morning at the Fort Madison school, giving gifts of books and plush toys to students throughout the school.

Harley Hoenig, who has an autistic child at the school, had an idea to provide some Christmas spirit for the kids in the autistic program, but quickly realized that many of the students could benefit from a little extra holiday cheer and expanded her program to all the students at the school.

As a consultant for Usborne Books & More, Hoenig thought it would be a great gift idea to give a book and one of the toys to each student in the autism and behavioral classes. She said the school has done so much for her 3-year-old son Max, that she wanted to give back. The company she sells books for, Usborne Books & More, has a matching program that enables consultants to do book drives.

“A big part of who I am is to give back when I have a chance to. When I joined Usborne I had an amazing opportunity to give back with the company’s 50% match grant,” she said. “At first I was just going to do a book and a plush toy for the autism and behavioral classes, and the more I thought about it, I thought it would be super neat to donate a book for every child. But I still wanted to do something special for those behavior classes, so that’s why I decided to do the plush toys for them.”

Hoenig said she hopes to continue giving to the community and would like to expand the program to Lincoln Elementary and some other facilities, such as libraries and day care centers, because she said education is the key to children’s futures.

“I plan to keep giving to the community through Usborne. At some point I plan on doing something with the other elementary and some other facilities, such as libraries and day care centers, because she said education is the key to children’s futures.”

Santa Claus made a special stop to some special kids at Richardson Elementary School on Dec. 21 just before the students went on break as part of a book donation from Harley Hoenig, a parent of an autistic child at the school.
Folluo doesn’t have an agenda for board of supervisors

We do have special meetings up here and I’m not opposed to that by any means. But we need to utilize our county seats.”

Larkin was elected as the board’s vice chairman for 2019.

The last time someone from a district in the southern half of the county chaired the board was in 2012 when Janet Fife-Lafrenz had the post. For the past six years, Fedler, Larkin, Ernie Schiller, of rural Donnellson, and Hunold, have all taken turns chairing the board.

County leadership team looking for non-profit projects

KEOKUK - The Lee County Leadership Program is requesting applications from nonprofit organizations throughout Lee County for community projects. The eleven participants of this year's Lee County Leadership Program will use their new skills and expanded network in leading three community projects proposed by Lee County community organizations. Applications for community projects are due Friday, January 18.

Past successful projects include a fundraiser kickball tournament, introduction of healthy smoothies for concession stands, and a family-friendly event to promote a community library.

Organizations will work with three to four leadership participants for an estimated 60 total man hours dedicated to completing the project. The project timeline will run from the beginning of February to mid-April. Leadership teams will then present on their project and experience at Lee County Leadership graduation on May 7th.

Contact the Keokuk Area Chamber of Commerce’s Shelley Olmans at 319-524-5055, or director@keokukchamber.com or Fort Madison Area Chamber of Commerce Coordinator Savanna Collier at 319-372-5471 or scollier@fortmadison.com to learn more and receive a project application. Chosen projects will be announced January 23rd.

Birth Announcement

BRIAN MARCUS HULL

BURLINGTON - Kristie Bornsheuer and Mark Hull are proud to announce the birth of their son Brian Marcus Hull, on Dec. 12, 2018 at Fort Madison Community Hospital.

Mark is joined at home by Brianna, Sydney and Danika.

Grandparents are Jack and Jeanine Whisenand of Fort Madison; and Richard and Donna Hull of Burlington.

Pen City Current congratulates the family on this wonderful news.

5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

WED 09 Jan
Partly Cloudy
High– 23.9º F | Low – 19.0º F

THU 10 Jan
Sunny
High– 26.2º F | Low – 23.8º F

FRI 11 Jan
Light Snow
High– 30.9º F | Low – 29.8º F

MON 12 Jan
Sunny
High– 35.3º F | Low – 24.2º F

TUE 13 Jan
Sunny
High– 35.3º F | Low – 24.1º F