Trades students off to nationals

Kobelt’s kids go head-to-head with nation’s best this week in Louisville

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITION

LOUISVILLE, Ken. – Four of Fort Madison High School’s finest are in Louisville right now getting ready to represent Fort Madison and the state of Iowa in US Skills competition against 51 other teams from around the country.

It’s the first time a team from Fort Madison has qualified for the national competition. The Bloodhounds qualified after winning the state competition back in April. That team consisted of seniors Elton Kruse and AJ Nolt ing, and juniors Parker Denning and Brandon Reichelt. Reichelt was unable to make the trip to Louisville, so junior Danen Settles, who will go to Fort Madison High School in the 4-day event. At far right is Brandon Reichelt, who will be replaced by Danen Settles as Reichelt was unable to make the trip.

Three of the four Bloodhounds pictured here are in Louisville competing at the national Skills USA competition. The Hounds qualified for the competition after winning the Iowa competition in April. From left, Parker Denning, Elton Kruse, and AJ Nolting will be representing Iowa and Fort Madison High School in the 4-day event. At far right is Brandon Reichelt, who will be replaced by Danen Settles as Reichelt was unable to make the trip.

“Simply from the size of the venue, this is nationals and it’s a lot bigger than other venues we’ve competed at. It’s the real deal and I’m excited to see what we can do.”

-Elton Kruse, FMHS senior

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County board to move on solar project

Supervisor chair to ink deals for interconnectivity to start county’s solar project

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITION

MONTROSE – The Lee County Board of Supervisors will be authorizing electronic signatures on various agreements Tuesday, to start the process of installing solar panels on county buildings.

Supervisors approved the contract with Mohrfeld Electric in May, after about eight weeks of debating the proposal and allowing another company to come and pitch an offer for the same services.

Mohrfeld Electric of Fort Madison and Precision Energy Services out of Burlington were the two that offered to provide the services, which include a no costs out of pocket for the county. Precision Energy withdrew their proposal earlier this month and Mohrfeld was awarded the work.

Mohrfeld originally pitched the idea to supervisors back in April. Mohrfeld has done similar projects in the county with Southeastern Community College’s Keokuk campus and Holy Trinity Catholic High School among others.

Under the proposal, Mohrfeld would essentially pay for the installation of the panels and hooking up the power and then the county would pay reduced electric rates per a purchase power agreement back to Mohrfeld’s.

Precision, then came into the picture last month and made a pitch to the supervisors as well touting similar savings and union laborers. At the final meeting where the two companies were present, Mohrfeld President Michael Mohrfeld questioned Precision officials muth on include the Lee County Jail for solar. Precision said it could be worked into the proposal, but Mohrfeld said the amount of power utilized at the jail wouldn’t make the project workable.

Under the terms of the Power Purchase agreement.
CECILIA ROSE CATHERINE STOTTS

Cecelia Rose Catherine Stotts, 90, passed away on Saturday, June 15, 2019, at her home at Bloom, in Blufton, SC. Her funeral service will be held in Iowa where she lived for most of her life.

Cecelia was born in Primrose, Iowa on January 13, 1929. She was the daughter of John and Catherine Groene. Cecelia graduated High School at St. John's in Hough- ton, Iowa in 1946.

Cecelia is survived by children and her children’s spouses: Christine Stotts, Jenni- fer (Rick) Boudrie, Julia Powell, Susan (David) Haverkamp, Bill (Darlene) Stotts, Marilyn (Pete Pietrolunge) Stotts, and Sarah Larkby. Cecelia's grandchildren are Matt and Mark Stotts, Chad and Chelsea Powell, Kayla and Quinn Haverkamp, Zachary and Max Larkby. She is also survived by siblings: Virginia Schulte, Mary Joan Beery, Lester Groene (Barb) and Delbert Groene (Marge); and sister in law: Alice Groene. Cecelia was preceded in death by her husband: Wallace Dean Stotts; brothers: Robert Groene and Johnny (Betty) Groene; and in-laws: William Schulte and Keith Beery.

Cecelia was raised on a farm near Primrose, Iowa, of seven children. She was a hard worker, could drive a team of horses and a tractor and enjoyed working outside with her “Pop”. She went on to run a farm and household raising seven chil- dren. Cecelia gardened, canned and froze a lot of vegetables and fruits.

Cecelia enjoyed playing cards, reading, playing board games and watching Jeopar- dy. She also enjoyed talking on the phone to siblings and friends, checking her mail, reading books and the Van Buren County Newspapers. She loved geography and traveling with her children and grandchildren including cruises to Alaska and the Baltic Sea. Cecelia especially enjoyed gatherings with her siblings on Hilton Head Island, SC.

Family will meet with friends from 10:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Saturday, June 29, 2019 at Schmitz Funeral Home in Farmington, Iowa.

A Funeral Service will be held Saturday at 10:30 a.m. at Schmitz Funeral Home in Farmington, Iowa with Father Dennis Hoffman officiating.

Burial will be at Maple Hill Cemetery in Birmingham, Iowa. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Center Village in Keosauqua, Iowa where Christine resided for many years.

The majority of the country's electric bill would be paid to Mohrfield under a 15-year agreement. Mohr- feld would also warranty the new equipment at a substantial savings to the county annually.

The proposal would put solar panels on top of Keokuk's Department of Human Services building, the North Lee County Office Building, and a battery of panels at the Lee County Conservation

EDWARDS - Continued from Page 1

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OpenWeatherMap

5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

TUE 25 June _________ Light Rain
High– 78.7º F | Low – 71.0º F

WED 26 June _________ Light Rain
High– 83.8º F | Low – 71.6º F

THU 27 June _________ Moderate Rain
High– 86.2º F | Low – 74.9º F

FRI 28 June _________ Heavy Intensity Rain
High– 83.0º F | Low – 74.0º F

SAT 29 June _________ Clear Skies
High– 88.3º F | Low – 74.6º F

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www.lionpublishers.com

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For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report
06/21/19 – 9:00 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a hit and run in the 2500 block of Hwy. 61.
06/22/19 – 10:26 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a vandalism in the 2000 block of Avenue E.
06/21/19 – 11:04 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a hit and run in the 1400 block of Avenue G.
06/21/19 – 6:54 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff’s deputies responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 1200 block of Avenue C.

Lee County Sheriff’s Report
06/21/19 – 11:09 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 1700 block of Avenue H.
06/21/19 – 10:08 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a stolen vehicle in the Fort Madison area.
06/22/19 – 1:10 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a gas drive off in the 5000 block of Avenue O.
06/22/19 – 11:03 p.m. – Fort Madison Police arrested Kevin Drew Washburne, 49, of Fort Madison in the 3000 block of Avenue H, on a warrant for failure to appear. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
06/23/19 – 3:15 a.m. – Fort Madison Police arrested Rebecca Kay Hart, 52, of Fort Madison in the 2800 block of Avenue L, on a charge of public intoxication. She was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
06/23/19 – 4:18 a.m. – Fort Madison Police arrested Katelyn Junie Leith Brogden, 26, of Fort Madison, in the 400 block of 22nd Street on a warrant for failure to appear. She was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
06/23/19 – 9:49 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in progress in the 1400 block of Avenue I.
06/23/19 – 10:56 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 1400 block of Avenue C.

On the first day, students will learn about Old Fort Madison, its life as a frontier soldiers during the War of 1812, and the battles that took place there. They will also learn about the weapons used there, and to get the taste of food they would have eaten. Costumed guides and Dr. Eugene Watkins, the director of Old Fort Madison, will be presenting much of the information.

On the second day, students will learn about the Sauk and Fox (also known as Meskwaki) Tribes who lived here, including chiefs Blackhawk, Keokuk, and Quashquema. They will also learn about their daily lives, customs, and food.

These events were originally planned to happen at Old Fort Madison, but due to this spring’s flooding, events will take place on the battle site (400 block of Ave H), Old Settlers Park (400 block of Ave E), and the Elliott Test Kitchen (807 Ave G, Fort Madison).

In preservation efforts.

Test Kitchen to sponsor camp at city’s historical sites

FORT MADISON - The Elliott Test Kitchen in Fort Madison is sponsoring a two day History Camp for 4th, 5th, and 6th graders this Tuesday and Wednesday from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

The Elliott Test Kitchen will also be presenting a donation to the Old Fort Foundation that will help go toward the flood clean up of Old Fort. This will be a wonderful opportunity for students to learn more about the history of their community and help in preservation efforts.

Local News/For the Record

WINNING NUMBERS

IOWA LOTTERY

Wednesday “All You Can Eat” CHICKEN DINNERS
Served Every Wednesday 5:00-8:00pm

Adults includes 2 sides & a roll ....................... $8.00
Kids (ages 5-12) includes 2 sides & a roll ............ $5.00
Kids under 5 eat .............................................. FREE

Carryout 4 pcs. chicken
2 sides & a roll .............................................. $10.00
Kids (ages 5-12) 2 pcs. chicken, 1 side & a roll $5.50
Children also available by the piece (carryout only)

FRIDAY NIGHT DINNERS
Served Every Friday 5:00-8:00pm

Dinner includes 2 sides and a roll

9 oz. Boneless Catfish Fillet $9.00
8 oz. Steak $10.00
Pork Chop $10.00
Marinated Chicken Breast $9.00
Chicken Strips $10.00
Jumbo Shrimp $20.00
Tenderloins $20.00
Burgers $10.00

APPETIZERS

Columbus Club Combo (Caulliflower, Mushrooms & Onion Rings)
Brew House Combo (Cream Cheese Jalapeno Poppers, Chicken Strips, Mushrooms, Shrimp, Mozzarella Sticks & Onion Rings)
Reuben Bites $8.50
Macaroni & Cheese Bites $6.50

Open to the Public for Wednesday & Friday Dinners

Pen City Current encourages you to play responsibly.
West Point – The Holy Trinity girls junior high softball team went 1-1 last week highlighted by a 13-0 win over New London at South Park Tuesday.

Mary Hellige was the winning pitcher going four innings with eight strikeouts. Hellige also went 2 for 2 with a double and three runs scored. Halie Cain pitched an inning striking out two. Cain also singled and scored twice. Teagan Snaadt went 2 for 2 with two steals, and a run scored. Jenna Hellman, Rachel Menke, Jenna DiPrima, Kayla Box, & Brooke Mueller all had one hit each.

The girls lost 5-6 to Central Lee Monday at home. Menke was the losing pitcher going six innings striking out two batters. Box had a single, double, run scored and an RBI. Hellige had two hits, 2 RBI, and two runs scored. Paige Wasielewski had two singles. Laura Mehmart had a double, stolen base and run scored. Mueller, DiPrima, Breanna Peterson, Menke and Snaadt all had a hit.

The Crusaders junior high team is now 10-5 on the year.

HTC junior varsity team lost 3-8 to Central Lee. Hellige was the losing pitcher going six innings striking out two batters. Anna Sobczak had a double and two runs scored. Kayla Box had two singles. Brooke Mueller had a single and RBI. Hannah Torgler had a single.

The junior varsity squad is now 10-2 on the year.

By PCC Staff

Fairfield’s Simpson homers twice in 7-1 Game 1 win; Hounds drop nightcap 4-0

Fairfield’s Danielle Breen would open the bottom of the second with a single and would swipe second before moving to third on a Drish one-bagger. Breen would score on another Fort Madison error to put the Demons up 4-0, a score that would hold up. The Lady Hounds had five hits in the second game led by Williams who had a single and double, but never could put any offense together being relegated to just one base runner in five different innings.

Dennis won the distance in the circle for Fort Madison giving up seven hits and four runs, none earned, while striking out one and not allowing a walk. The Lady Hounds fall to 8-14 on the year and have lost their last eight games.
Downtown Summer Market
Farm.com/farmtotable.

Immunization Clinic
Lee County Health Department will hold a Children's Immunization Clinic on Thursday, June 27, at 6 John Bennett Drive in Fort Madison from noon to 5:30 p.m. The clinic is open to children with no insurance, insured by Iowa Medicaid/MCO or those who have private health insurance that does not cover the cost of vaccination when in the care of another adult. Lead testing is also available. Call 1-319-372-5225 for more information.

Special Needs Prom
A Special Needs Prom has been set for June 28th from 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at First Christian Church 3476 Main Street in Keokuk. The evening will include a promenade, dinner and dancing with events sponsored by area businesses. Prom attendees must be at least 17 years of age.

Harvestville Farm-to-Table Dinners
The next Harvestville Farm's Farm-to-Table dinner is set for June 29 at 6 p.m. at the farm. "Downtown Dinner on 7th Street" is set for July 13th at 6 p.m. Seating is still available for the farms July 27th and Aug. 10 dinners. Visit the Harvestville website at https://www.harvestville-farm.com/farmitable.

Downtown Summer Market
Fort Madison businesses will be hosting a Downtown Summer Market from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. July 11, and Aug. 15 along Avenue G. For more information contact Darla at 319-371-8385 or by email at darlarae71@yahoo.com.

SCC Alumni golf outing
The annual fundraiser outing is set for July 19th begging at 11 a.m. with a box lunch and 12:30 shotgun start at Sheaffer Memorial Golf Course. Rates are $90 per person and $600 for a team. Sponsorships are available Contact Val Giannettino for more information at 319-208-5056 or vgiannettino@scciowa.edu.

Farmer's Market
Farmer's Markets at the Fort Madison Depot will start Monday June 3 and run every Monday through Sept. 30 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Old Santa Fe Depot. Every second Monday is Kid's Day at the Market.

Party on the Patio
Dr. Mark Pothitakis Family Dentistry is the premiere sponsor the Friday, June 28th, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Baxter Sports Complex with free live music provided by Power-Cords sponsored by ConAgra Foods. Food and drink specials, and all proceeds go to community beautification efforts.

Picnic in the Park
The Fort Madison Rotary Club has rescheduled their annual Picnic in the Park, as well as the final day of their 100K capital campaign until Sunday July 7 from 5 to 7 p.m. in Central Park. Food, local entertainment and a raffle are all on tap.

Kensington events
The Kensington is offering Senior's Only Community Bingo on the second Wednesday of every month at 2 p.m. The event is free for seniors and cash prizes are awarded. Caregivers Connection is held the 4th Tuesday of every month at noon. Call 319-372-4233 to reserve your seat.

KEOKUK – Could you volunteer a couple hours a week this fall to help make the difference in the life of a young boy? The Hoerner YMCA is looking for three coaches for its new STRIDE program, which combines life lessons with physical activity to promote healthy living and bolster youth development in boys in grades 3-5.

The program is similar to the Girls on the Run program, which will enter its third season at the Hoerner YMCA this fall. STRIDE is a nationwide YMCA program for boys that promotes character building along with training for the successful completion of a 5k run. The YMCA provides a fully developed curriculum for the program.

The program runs from Aug. 27 until the 5k run on Nov. 2. The three coaches will work with 10-15 boys for a little over an hour, twice a week during that 10-week time period.

If you have more questions or could volunteer your time to make a difference in the life of a group of boys, contact Mark Smidt, Hoerner YMCA CEO, at 524-6724, or email him at hoernerymcaacco@gmail.com.

Registration is now being taken for this fall's Girls on the Run program for third through fifth grade girls. Registration will soon open for boys in the STRIDE program. Stop by the Hoerner YMCA for more information on either program.

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Clean Home. Clean Planet.
Do your part during this year's Spring Cleaning activities by making sure you're choosing products safe for our planet.

Here are just a few of the ways you can help:

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

This year, do your part to keep our environment clean, too!

Current-Lee/Lee County News

FREE Movie
The Fox Theater in Fort Madison will host a free showing of North by Northwest Monday June 24th at 1 p.m. sponsored by Kensington-Evergreen.

Immunization Clinic
Lee County Health Department will hold a Children's Immunization Clinic on Thursday, June 27, at 6 John Bennett Drive in Fort Madison from noon to 5:30 p.m. The clinic is open to children with no insurance, insured by Iowa Medicaid/MCO or those who have private health insurance that does not cover the cost of vaccination when in the care of another adult. Lead testing is also available. Call 1-319-372-5225 for more information.

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- Reduce • Reuse • Recycle
- Check our website for proper disposal methods, acceptable materials, & more

This year, do your part to keep our environment clean, too!

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Keokuk Transfer Station: 111 Carbide Lane
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1-319-524-6175

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wondrachiropractic@gmail.com

Applications available onsite

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Pen City Current will not publish an e-Edition Wed., July 3rd through Sat., July 6th in observation of the Fourth of July

News will continue to be published to pencitycurrent.com as it happens and the e-Edition will return Sun., July 7th

We wish you all a very happy holiday and remind you to celebrate safely and responsibly!

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No smoking in company equipment
Skills USA Team Leadership and Skills Conference takes place at the Kentucky Exposition Center in downtown Louisville.

Kobelt said, “Everything from welding to collision repair, to electrical to HVAC. Everything you can imagine on the skills side all the way to forensics, crime scene investigation…firefighting.

This is a huge event!”

The Hounds qualified by beating 11 other Iowa high school teams at the state qualifier at Des Moines Area Community College in April. The state competition and nationals are different formats, according to Kobelt.

“This is a 3-day build and tomorrow morning they will receive their blueprints. There’s a lot more layers at the national level than at state,” he said. "They are required to take those blueprints and they’re given a limited amount of time to come up with action plans and then are required to give a presentation on how they intend to execute and complete that build over the allotted time.”

Kobelt said at the state level the students got their information, huddled up, and picked a foreman on the team that sort of ran in a supervisor capacity. He said this competition requires all four team members to participate in the presentation and show how they individually will be an asset and what their contribution is.

“One guy is more comfortable with public speaking, but now everybody is accountable in a team setting. So everybody is under the microscope,” Kobelt said. He said his focus was for the students to represent the state and Fort Madison well and in a positive fashion.

“I want the guys to come out of this with a true understanding, no matter how it falls, that they are one of the top 50 teams in the nation. I understand the nerves and the trepidation about where you fall. But as far as them wondering if they really belong here… they’ve already punched that ticket.”

“I think it’s kind of like the testing year and then we'll see what we do next year. We've got two juniors on the team so it's good for them to be here,” Kruse said.

Nothing said the pressure will seem greater than the state competition, but he said the state competition was greater than regional competitions.

“I'm a little nervous because the pressure’s going to be on a little more than state. We haven't been here yet and it's really new to us and if we got in the top 15 I would think that would be a win for us,” he said. Denning said the presentation is a different facet than the squad is used to.

"I can see it being different because we have to create a PowerPoint presentation on how we're going to tackle everything and not just keep to ourselves and go about the work,” he said. "But I just think it's something that we have to map out. We can handle it.”

Settles, who wrestled at the Iowa State Wrestling Tournament this winter as a heavyweight, said he didn’t understand the true scope of this competition.

"I'm just ready to go. I don't really get nervous. I kinda don't really think much about that kind of thing. I'm not really sure how to explain it, I just don’t," he said.

"But it's been awesome being down here so far. Everyone we've talked to and encountered have asked where we're from and most people have heard of us.”

The contest features more than 6,400 students in 130 events including 103 hands-on skills competitions. The event has a $36 million budget annually. The Bloodhounds will have orientation sessions on Tuesday with an opening ceremony set for 7 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday are the Skills USA Championship competitions running from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and an award ceremony is Friday beginning at 5 p.m.