Some special kids open chute on 72nd Rodeo

Saturday Pancake Breakfast, Special Kids Rodeo open week-long activities at C.E. “Eddie” Richards Arena

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – Pull up your boots, put on your Stetson and strap in, the 72nd Annual Tri-State’s Rodeo kicks off this week with a full week of livestock, cowboys, music, food... and Boyd.

The longtime rodeo announcer, Boyd Polahamus is back again the C.E. "Eddie" Richards Arena beginning Wednesday night with the CINCH Chute-Out, the all-in, on-the-edge-of-year-seat competition, pitting 10 of the top cowboys and cowgirls in the nation in Bull Riding, Saddle Bronc Riding, Bareback Riding, Calf Roping, Steer Wrestling, Team Roping and Women's Barrel Racing.

Rodeo General Chairman Tony Johnson, who’s in his first year in the seat, said the CINCH event now is a Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association sanctioned event with points going toward the PRCA’s National Rodeo Finals point standings.

"It’s still an invitation only and we start at No. 1 and go down. But it used to be eight contestants per event, but this year we’re going ten and then will narrow down to the top 3," Johnson said.

"Thursday night is our military night. Any active or retired member of the military get a free ticket. I think we’ve been doing that for about three years," Johnson said. "This is a great thing, we get a lot of people that are able to take advantage of that."

Johnson said he took a bit more conservative approach this year as far as infrastructure improvement because of last year’s rain soaked events. One blessing was the introduction of additional shuttling.

“We are going to do a lot of shuttling this year. Last year was the introduction of additional shuttling. Due to the restrictions bus service was relegated to students that due to a shortage of bus drivers, Fort Madison Community School District’s after-school programs in the wake of the Fort Madison Family YMCA has formalized plans for it’s two-mile limit. Cost of the YMCA program is $7 a day and 20-day punch cards can be obtained at the YMCA for $140, with payments made at the Fort Madison Family YMCA.

The program lasts from after school until 5:30 p.m. and parents can pick up students using door 1 along the east side of the building at Lincoln and on the north parking lot off Bluff Road at the middle school. Parents should come into the building to pick up children.

At Richardson students will get on bus #39 to ride to Lincoln and will be dropped off at Richardson.

YMCA, school district formalize plans for after-school programs

Parents appealing district’s decision to not provide bus service to their home

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – The Fort Madison YMCA has formalized plans for it’s after-school programs in the wake of the Fort Madison Community School District’s change to its busing program.

The district announced last month that due to a shortage of bus drivers, bus services will be relegated to students K-8 living outside two miles from either elementary school or the middle school and high school students living more than three miles from FMHS.

Due to the restrictions bus service wasn’t allowed from the junior high or elementary schools to the YMCA because the facility was within two miles of the schools.

YMCA Executive Director Ryan Wilson and Kim Harmon, the district’s Director of Curriculum and Student Services, worked out a 28-E agreement to allow the YMCA to provide services within the schools.

However students will be bused from Richardson to Lincoln where, in addition to the middle school, the YMCA programs will be held.

The distance from the intersection of Avenue E and 14th Street down to Old Hwy. 61 and west to Richardson is exactly two miles to the turn on the 34th Street to the bus stop, by vehicle odometer.

HTC students enrolled in the program will be picked up at Roling Hall on Bus #6 and taken to Lincoln, which is within the two-mile limit.

Cost of the YMCA program is $7 a day and 20-day punch cards can be obtained at the YMCA for $140, with payments made at the Fort Madison Family YMCA. The program lasts from after school until 5:30 p.m. and parents can pick up students using door 1 along the east side of the building at Lincoln and on the north parking lot off Bluff Road at the middle school.
Sports complex extends flag football deadline

FORT MADISON – Baxter Sports Complex, in conjunction with Fort Madison Football, Inc., has extended the registration for this fall’s flag football program.

The program is coordinated with the football coaching staff at Fort Madison High School to help pave the way for area youth to participate in middle school and high school football programs.

As an alternative to full contact football, the youth flag football program is designed to introduce boys and girls grades 1st through 6th to the game of football.

Focus is given to teaching fundamentals of the game, helping develop and maintain each player’s football skills, and providing a solid athletic foundation in a fun, confidence building environment.

Registration is currently open for a brief extended time only and forms are available online at www.baxtersportscomplex.com. Forms must be completed and returned to the complex.

Obituaries

CHARLES LESTER COOVERT

Charles Lester Coovert, 98, of Keokuk, IA died Thursday, August 29, 2019 at the Illinois Veterans Home in Quincy, IL.

He was born December 9, 1920 in Alexandria, MO the son of Charles and Ival Richardson Coovert. On September 4, 1939 he was united in marriage to Edith Davis in Keokuk.

He preceded him in death on August 14, 2011.

Charles graduated from Keokuk High School with the Class of 1938.

He was a veteran of the United States Army and proudly served his country.

He was a member of the Church of the Nazarene in Keokuk.

Charles had been employed by Union Electric as an operator in the power house for thirty-five years.

He also farmed and grew several different varieties of crops.

Charles loved raising minks and chinchillas through the years and enjoyed archery.

He is survived by two sons, Keith Coovert (Shelda Wrieden) of Keokuk and Bob Coovert (Judy) of Warsaw, MO, two daughters, Carol Duncan and Patty Jo Reiss (Randy) both of Keokuk, nine grandchildren, many great-grandchildren and several great-great-grandchildren.

Besides his wife, he was also preceded in death by his parents and two grandchildren, Jeff Coovert and Dillon Summers.

A funeral service will be held at 1 p.m., Tuesday, at the Keokuk Church of the Nazarene in Keokuk with Pastors Paul Miller and Bill Coovert officiating. Burial with military rites will be held in the Keokuk National Cemetery.

Visitation for family and friends will be held prior to the service from 11-1 p.m., Tuesday at the church.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Keokuk Animal Services.

Online condolences may be left for the family at www.vigenmemorialhome.com.

Police chief warns of rampant phone scam

FORT MADISON – Fort Madison Police Chief Mark Rohloff issued a statement today warning residents of a number of reports of residents receiving calls automated calls indicating their social security accounts have been frozen.

Callers instruct the listener to call a number provided where they try to solicit information to defraud the victims. He said scammers can often ghost caller IDs to lend credibility to the call.

Rohloff wrote the best way to defend yourself is to refuse such calls and hang up. You can contact a published number for the institution, not the number given in the automated message. The public can also visit the Social Security Administration website to check on similar illegal activity.

He encouraged residents to check on neighbors and family who are susceptible to telephone scams and make sure they are aware of the activity.
Tri-State Rodeo/Lottery Numbers

2019 Tri-State Rodeo schedule

Sunday September 1
• Fareway sponsored – Chili Supper 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the Coors Party Pavilion.

Monday September 2
• Li’l Spurs Rodeo registration at 8:30 a.m. Event kicks off at 10 a.m. in the rodeo arena.
• Hy-Vee sponsored – Pulled Pork dinner from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the Coors Party Pavilion.
• Li’l Miss Rodeo and All-Around Cowboy contest begins at 6:30 p.m. in the rodeo arena.

Wednesday September 4
• CINCH Chute-Out performance begins at 7 p.m.
• Pre-rodeo events begin at 6:30 p.m. in the Tri-State Rodeo arena.
• The NATU Band follows the CINCH Chute-Out with contestant autograph session in the Coors Party Pavilion.

Thursday September 5
• Military Night – active duty and retired military with an ID card get in free.
• PRCA rodeo performance at 7 p.m.
• National Entertainer Michael Ray follows the performance.
• The NATU Band follows Michael Ray in the Coors Party Pavilion.

Friday September 6
• Tough Enough to Wear Pink Night – Wear pink to support Breast Cancer Awareness
• Rodeo performance at 7:30 p.m.
• National Entertainer Tracy Lawrence follows the performance.
• Stumptown follows Tracy Lawrence in the Coors Party Pavilion.

Saturday September 7
• Tri State Rodeo Parade begins at 9:30 a.m. on Avenue G. This year’s theme is “Country Boots – Midwest Roots”.
• Rodeo performance at 7:30 p.m.
• National Entertainer Justin Moore follows the performance.
• Stumptown follows Justin Moore in the Coors Party Pavilion.

IOWA LOTTERY WINNING NUMBERS

Lotto Drawings

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<tr>
<th>Game</th>
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<th>Approx. Drawing Time</th>
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<td>Mega Millions®</td>
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<td>Daily</td>
<td>8/30 EVENING</td>
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</table>

Chairman still has a few surprises for fans in 2019

RODEO - Continued from Page 1

year really wasn’t a choice and poeple took advantage of that mainly because they had to, but we’ve had a lot of requests this year. THis will be the first year we’ve done it every night.
Wednesday and Thursday on the west end Quality Inn and Eagles Parking lot and on the east end the former CarSmart lot and Connection Bank. Friday and Saturday, the Baxter Sports Complex and the North Lee County Office lot will be added.
Wednesday and Thursday shuttles will run 5 p.m. to midnight and then until 2 a.m. on Friday and Saturday. SEIBUS, Central Lee schools and Fort Madison schools have partnered with the Rodeo to provide the services. Shuttle buses will drop off at the ticket office again this year.
The entertainment lineup I’ve been really happy with. We’ve had a lot of great feedback on social media. We have a really good line up with Michael Ray, Tracey Lawrence has been around and then Justin Moore,” he said.
The committee also moved to two bands in the Party Pavilion with NATU Band Wednesday and Thursday, and then StumpTown on Friday and Saturday.
NATU will also be featured at Kinnick South, kicking off the week on Saturday night at a Pre-Rodeo kick off.
Pre-Rodeo priced tickets are still on sale at the ticket office. Prices will jump $5 beginning Sunday morning.
Johnson said there are a few other special things planned but wanted to keep those under his hat for now.

2019 TRI-STATE RODEO September 4-7, 2019

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Michael Ray,
Tracy Lawrence,
& Justin Moore!

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BY CHUCK VANDEMBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – After shaking off the typical first game jitters, the 6th-ranked Holy Trinity Catholic Crusaders glided to a sweep of visiting Danville in the season opening volleyball action at Shottenkirk Gym.

Coming off a dazzling Class 1A tournament run in 2018 that ended with a state-runner trophy making the trip back to Holy Trinity High School, Head Coach Melissa Freesmeier’s troops now look for their own identity.

After missing four of their first five serves, the Crusaders seemed to hunt for their own confidence and stride, but rebounded quickly sending Danville home 25-14, 25-18, 25-6.

“I got a little bit out-of-sorts there,” Freesmeier said. “We just started working on the lineup yesterday. They’re getting used to it and will get comfortable with it.”

After falling behind 4-1 and having trouble finding the groove from the service line, junior Claire Pothitakis got things going with a couple kills at 2-4 and 3-5, but it was an ace from Maria Rauenbuehler that kicked off a 11-0 run, that put HTC out comfortably 17-9.

Most of the points came from Danville errors on attacks that went long, but senior Avery Hopper, sophomore Kassi Randolph and Pothitakis all recorded kills in the run.

Freesmeier said despite not having 1st team All-State Emily Box anchoring the front line, this year’s squad has more height. Randolph and Hopper are 5’9” and 5’10” respectively. She can also put Katie Denning and Brooke Mueller, both listed at 5’8”, and Pothitakis at 5’7” on the front line as well.

“We got some big blocks today and with Kassi, Avery, Katie, Bailey Hellweg, we’re bigger than we’ve been in the past and it’s nice to see that,” she said. “Our back row kids are going to pick up those balls and they’re just getting better and better.”

Danville would cut the lead to six when Isabel Smith dumped one over the net that found some floor, but the Bears wouldn’t get any closer.

“Anytime you get a sweep in conference play that’s a good thing. I’m not surprised where we’re at. Our hitters have developed into some really good hitters. We took some big swings tonight. We’re gettin’ there,” Pothitakis led the team at the net going 22-26 with eight kills. She also had three aces from the service line.

Mueller, just a freshman was 18-21 attacking with five kills. Rauenbuehler had 11 digs to lead the Crusaders, who traveled to Bondurant on Saturday for a full day at the Bondurant-Farrar Invitation- al. Those results will be posted on our website at pencitycurrent.com when available.

The story of the third set was Pothitakis’ 13-point run that started at 3-2. Before Mueller would have an attack go wide right, HTC was way out in front 16-3. Hellweg and Denning both teamed for several blocks and each had a kill in the run.

Danville would only salvage three more points as HTC quickly put the third set in the books.

Freesmeier said she was happy with where the kids were after a summer of camps, and workouts and several scrimmages last week.

“I saw a lot of good things and if we can build on the good and work on those things we struggle with, just get better and that’s our goal to get better every day,” she said.

“It’s nice to see that,” she said. “Our back row kids are going to pick up those balls and they’re just getting better and better.”

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Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

No. 6 Crusaders sweep Danville in opener
PUBLIC NOTICE
MEETING NOTICE
LEE COUNTY CONFERENCE BOARD

Please be advised the Lee County Conference Board Chairman, Gary Felluo, has scheduled a Conference Board meeting at the South Lee County Courthouse Board Room, 25 No 7th, Keokuk on Wednesday, September 11th, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. Enter the building through the handicap ramp in the back parking lot.

The purpose of the meeting is to appoint a new Lee County Assessor.

The agenda will include:
- Approve agenda
- Approval of the minutes from August 27th, 2019 meeting.
- Appoint a new Lee County Assessor Adjourn

Your ad here

HELP WANTED

NOTICE OF JOB OPENING
Collections Clerk
Lee County Attorney’s Office
Keokuk, Iowa

Lee County Attorney’s Office has an immediate opening for a part-time collections clerk position (20 hours per week).

The position’s successful applicant is preferred (but not required) to have the following:

1. Completion of some college level administrative support courses or any equivalent combination of training and experience.
2. Knowledge of legal terminology, legal format, and legal forms.
3. Knowledge of modern office practices, procedures, and equipment.
5. Knowledge of Iowa Courts Online.
6. Knowledge of Iowa Department of Transportation transcripts.
7. Ability to prepare accurate and timely documents, correspondence, and reports.
8. Ability to learn and/or operate the county Attorney’s Office computer programs.
9. Ability to understand and follow written and oral instructions.
10. Ability to use Microsoft Outlook, Word, and Excel.
11. Ability to work in a fast-paced environment
12. Ability to multi-task.
13. Ability to communicate with others using tact and diplomacy.
14. Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with supervisors, attorneys, co-workers, and the public, as well as law enforcement personnel, Clerk of Court, Treasurer and Iowa Department of Transportation.
15. Ability to maintain a large filing system of current and closed files.

The starting wage is $14.96 per hour.

The deadline for submitting a resume is September 6, at 4:30 p.m.

Please send resume to Ross Braden, Lee County Attorney at P. O. Box 824, Keokuk, Ia 52632 or e-mail to rbraden@leecounty.org

PRIVATE FOR SALE

27, 2019 Board Minutes
September 5th, 2019 at the
Board meeting at the South
County Conference Board
Chairman, Gary Folluo,
County Conference Board
Secretary

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PUBLIC NOTICES

Lee County Examin-
ing Board is meeting on
September 5th, 2019 at
the South Lee County Court-
house Boardroom, 25 No.
7th, Keokuk, IA.

Agenda:
- Interviews for the Lee
County Assessor position.

PUBLIC NOTICE
MEETING NOTICE
LEE COUNTY EXAMINING BOARD

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September 5th, 2019 at
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house Boardroom, 25 No.
7th, Keokuk, IA.

Agenda:
- Interviews for the Lee
County Assessor position.
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**BY ETHAN LILLARD**

**PCC SPORTS**

**Football**

**Hounds open 3rd straight year with win**

FORT MADISON – Had it not been for an untimely fumble out of the back of the end zone in the third quarter, the Fort Madison Bloodhound’s season opener would have mirrored last year’s 24-0 win in Donnellson.

But the Hounds did usher in the Doherty era with a win against 17-0 shutout of the Hawks Friday night to highlight local high school football action.

“I guess it’s kind of spooky,” first-year Head Coach Derek Doherty said of the back-to-back shutouts and nearly identical scores.

“At the end of it, it’s about (the kids). They don’t see these kids at weights at 6:45 a.m. every day. They don’t see these kids and the investment that they make and the sacrifices that they make to be high school athletes and we’re super proud of that. Winning feels great, but seeing their investment pay off and them being proud of the work they put in is what it’s about.”

Fort Madison scored on its first offensive drive of the game. Junior Diego Lozano marched the Hounds down the field breaking off big chunks of yardage each time he was fed the ball, ultimately capping off the 13-play drive with a 39-yard touchdown. Quarterback Will Larson and Lozano put Fort Madison in field goal territory where Williams sent the ball through the uprights for a 10-0 lead with 8:51 to play.

Keaton Poe came up with an interception on Central Lee’s next offensive series, leaving the Bloodhounds just 11 yards shy of another touchdown. Two plays later Larson hooked up with Parker Denning in the left corner of the end zone for Fort Madison’s second score and a 17-0 lead.

Central Lee’s quarterback Evan Pohren on the Hawks very next offensive play and two plays later Denning came up with an interception, sealing the game for the Hounds as they ran the clock and held the Hawks one final drive for the 17-0 victory.

“I think coach Crooks had those guys ready to go,” Doherty said of his defensive coordinator Jason Crooks.

“We stayed in our base defense pretty much all night. We just have fire breathers. We had guys wanting to go,” Doherty said of his defensive coordinator Jason Crooks.

“We stayed in our base defense pretty much all night. We just have fire breathers. We had guys wanting to play the game of football on the defensive side and it was a lot of fun to watch to be honest.”

Lozano paced Fort Madison with 19 rushing attempts for 140 yards. Larson was 19 of 41 passing for 107 yards and a touchdown. Quentin Schneider had four tackles and nine assists, while Larson had five solo tackles and a touchdown. Denning had five catches for 26 yards and a score on the night.

Central Lee 39-yard line. A Hawks penalty combined with runs from quarterback Will Larson and Lozano put Fort Madison in field goal territory where Williams sent the ball through the uprights for a 10-0 lead with

Fort Madison’s Parker Denning and Central Lee’s TJ Stutes go high for a ball in the early going of Friday’s 17-0 Fort Madison win. Denning had 26 yards and a score on the night.

and a touchdown Denning had five catches for 26 yards and the touchdown. Quentin Schneider had four tackles and nine assists, while Larson had five solo tackles to lead Fort Madison on defense.

Fort Madison senior Diego Lozano (7) bulls into the Central Lee secondary as four Hawks give chase. Lozano finished with 140 yards on 19 carries and a touchdown in the Bloodhounds’ season opener win over Central Lee 17-0 Friday night in Fort Madison.

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Parents appeal to ISBE

PROGRAM - Continued from Page 1

off at the 14th Street bus stop where YMCA staff will greet the students.

In case of early release due to heat, Richardson students will ride bus #35 to FMMS where they will be dropped off on the north side of the building for the program in the FMMS cafeteria. All other students will follow the same procedures as regular school days.

The change in bus routes prompted an appeal from several parents in the district who disagreed with the schools mapping system and said Google maps and MapQuest both showed their home outside the two-mile barrier.

Shanna Krogmeier spoke to the board at it’s last meeting and appealed to the board to take a closer look at the district’s mapping software.

In an email last week to the Pen City Current, Krogmeier wrote that her home, according to two mapping systems and her vehicle’s odometer, is outside the two-mile limit.

“According to Beacon it is 2.187 miles, according to Google it is 2.4, according to my car it is 2.2. I sent an email to the school board and (Superintendent) Dr. Erin Slater and received a response from (Board President) Dr. Tim Wondra and another school board member,” Krogmeier wrote.

Krogmeier said Wondra replied that this policy has been in place for a number of years, but the district has been able to extend service, but with the reduced number of drivers, the district had to begin following the policy.

Krogmeier said she was appealing the board’s decision to the Iowa State Board of Education.

United Way brings back Restaurant Days

LEE COUNTY - United Way of the Great River Region is excited to announce the return of Restaurant Days! During the month of September, a variety of area restaurants have graciously agreed to donate a portion of their day’s receipts to United Way of the Great River Region to go directly to our Fall 2019 Campaign.

How can you help? Support the restaurant of the day by choosing to dine in. Check the most updated calendar on the United Way of the Great River Region’s Facebook page. Check back often as more restaurants are joining the cause.

“We are so blessed to have so many generous establishments in our 3 county service area.” Says Karen Siefken, Executive Director. “What a great way to raise money for a great cause. Get together with your family and friends to enjoy a meal and help others at the same time! Be sure to keep an eye on our Facebook page for updates and reminders.”

Twelve Lee County restaurants and one Food Truck are participating: Hawkeye Restaurant, Beef, Bread & Brew, Java River Coffee House and Bakery, Dr. Getwell’s, Hy-Vee, McDonald’s and Happy Joe’s in Keokuk; Fat Jimmy’s in Montrose; Chuong Garden, River Rocks, Vel’s Amigos, Palms Restaurant and Sub Arena in Fort Madison and Twisted River 61 Food Truck. They are joined by Hotel Nauvoo and The Red Front in Nauvoo, El Camino Real and Dairy Queen in Hamilton representing Hancock County and Steve’s Family Dining in Kahoka representing Clark County.

But there is room for more!

If you are interested in having your restaurant participate and it’s located in Clark, Hancock or Lee county please contact Karen Siefken at United Way of the Great River Region at 319-524-4504 or by email at director@unitedwaygrr.org.

5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

SUN 01 Sep

Overcast

High – 73.5º F | Low – 65.8º F

MON 02 Sep

Scattered Clouds

High – 82.1º F | Low – 69.2º F

TUE 03 Sep

Clear Skies

High – 87.6º F | Low – 60.4º F

WED 04 Sep

Clear Skies

High – 69.2º F | Low – 54.1º F

THU 05 Sep

Scattered Clouds

High – 72.8º F | Low – 64.4º F

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