



FORT MADISON DAILY DEMOCRAT

Mississippi Valley Publishing • Steve & Bill Helenthal ~ Publishers • dailydem.com

Fort Madison, IA

\$1.00

Woman sentenced for involuntary manslaughter

JOE BENEDICT
editor@dailygate.com

A woman who pleaded guilty to involuntary manslaughter in February will spend up to 5 years in prison after a sentencing hearing was held in Lee County District Court on Friday.

Noelle Cosby, 27, pleaded guilty to the charge on Feb. 1. The charges stem from a Dec. 10, 2017, single vehicle accident on Highway 2, where husband Todd Cosby died.

Cosby also was charged with OWI. She pleaded guilty to that charge on Friday.

Along with the 5 year prison sentence, Cosby was fined \$750, plus a 35 percent surcharge. The court, however, suspended the fine and surcharges.

Cosby

She also was ordered to pay \$150,000 in victims restitu-

tion to the estate of her late husband. She also will submit a DNA sample for the state's criminal database.

Count one in her case, homicide by vehicle, will be dismissed at a future court proceeding, scheduled for May 10.

The accident in December 2017 had Cosby driving a Ford Explorer west on Highway 2 at about 1:30 a.m. While on a curve, the Explorer left the roadway and rolled multiple times, ac-

ording to the report from the Iowa State Patrol at the time.

Todd Cosby was ejected from the vehicle. He was taken to the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, but died from his injuries.

Noelle Cosby also was injured and transported to the hospital.

Involuntary manslaughter is a class D felony and is punishable by 5 years in prison and up to a \$7,500 fine.



LIFE SAVER

Sue Walker credits her dog, which she adopted from the PAW animal shelter in Fort Madison, with detecting her cancer and prompting her to seek treatment.

P4

RAGBRAI

A Keokuk group announces its theme for when RAGBRAI riders arrive in Lee County.

INSIDE TODAY

NOTABLE



CENTRAL LEE will present "Disney's Little Mermaid" this weekend. Details on Page 12.

DEATHS

Julian White, newborn, Fort Madison
Annette Laughary, 55, Fort Madison
Janet Lung, 61, Niota, Ill.

INSIDE

LEE COUNTY	2-3
OPINION	4
CITY & REGION	5
BEE STAR	12
ENTERTAINMENT	14
CLASSIFIEDS	9-11
COMICS	8
CROSSWORD	9
COLORING PAGE	13
OBITUARIES	5
SPORTS	6-7

FIND US!

www.dailydem.com



SEE ROBOT, PAGE 5



ROBIN DELANEY/DAILY DEMOCRAT

The Fort Madison High School Cyberhounds were celebrating Monday evening with a meal at the Elliott Test Kitchen – and they have plenty to cheer about. The team that placed 61st out of 61 teams at the regionals last year just ended its season this year in the playoffs – and narrowly missed competing in the finals.

Cyberhounds turn last-place experience into a playoff, Walk of Fame victory

ROBIN DELANEY
editor@dailydem.com

Imagine finishing 61st out of 61 teams your first year. Some might have been discouraged. Some might have called it quits.

But not Fort Madison High School's Cyberhounds. They went on, taking what they had learned in 2018, and just finished the year in the high school regional orbits playoffs – and just missed being in the finals.

And Kumar Wickramasigna, founder and operator of Elliott Test Kitchen in Fort Madison, wouldn't have it any other way. The ETK has been devoted to STEM programs and heavily involved in robotics in recent years.

"The robotics program just kept going and I need help, and I reached out," says Wickramasigna.

Reaching out made



ROBIN DELANEY/EDITOR@DAILYDEM.COM

Jace Fedler explains some of the parts of Gemini – the robot the FMHS Cyberhounds built this year – to members of the local media Monday.

all the difference. Wickramasigna insisted that the Cyber-

hounds do more than just publicized their need for funds. Last

year, the team received a \$5,000 grant, but this year, support from local industries such as Huffman Welding, Silgan, SDM, Mohrfeld Electric, The Madison, Axalta, Seither & Cherry, Lee County Bank and the ETK armed the team with \$10,000 – and a lot of instruction on building a robot that could master the many tasks that would be put to them at competitions.

"I wanted them to do an awesome Power Point presentation and explain what they are doing," Wickramasigna said, adding that local industries "stepped up" after seeing the amazing challenge the students were taking on. "It really was a community project."

The many teams at the regionals come from 5-6 states in the midwest – some with some impressive, science-linked spon-

sors.

"One team was sponsored by Boeing, and then there's a team sponsored by the Elliott Test Kitchen. That was pretty cool," Wickramasigna added.

MAKING HISTORY

And the Cyberhounds' efforts are not going unnoticed. This week, the team made history.

"We were the first academic team to make the Walk of Fame where they play a song and teams walk through the hall at school. Usually they do that for the athletic teams when they make it to state, but because of our ranking, they did it for us," said Shyanna Hoenig, who is Vice President of the Cyberhounds.

Hoenig explained that the officers each took charge of an area

WOMEN'S HEALTH CONFERENCE

www.fmchosp.com
My Health. My Choice. My FMCH.

Appreciating the Beauty Around Us

SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2019 †
FMCH CONFERENCE ROOMS (LOWER LEVEL, EAST ADDITION)

9:00 a.m. Health Screenings & Breakfast

9:30 a.m. Presentation by Celina Peerman - "SQUIRREL!" A humorous look at distractions in life & the role of focus on achieving our goals.

Health screenings, breakfast, speaker, fun morning with the beautiful women in your life. Free and open to the public. Childcare available (children 6 months to 10 years of age).

Annette Laughary

Annette Laughary, 55, of Fort Madison, passed away at 3:40 p.m. Saturday, April 6, 2019, at the Donnellson Health Care Center.

She was born on Oct. 12, 1963, in Fort Madison, to Ronald and Lucille Hansen Laughary.

Annette loved putting puzzles together and going to McDonald's for happy meals. She attended day services at Hope Haven. She also enjoyed looking at magazines, carrying her purse when she went out and her favorite color was blue.

Survivors include her mom, Lucille Simmons of Mediapolis; sisters Teresa Laughary and Deborah (Joe) Kamp, both of Fort Madison; one brother, Ronald (Dawn) Laughary of Fort Madison; two nieces and two nephews, Melissa, Megan, Matt and Nick Kamp and her friend whom she thought as a sister, Deb Quigley, of West Point.

She was preceded in death by her father and a brother, Jason Cramblit.

The family will meet with friends 10-10:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 10, at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. The funeral service will be held at 10:30 a.m. at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory, with Reverend Dan Baker officiating. Burial will follow in Oakland Cemetery.

A memorial has been established in her memory and online condolences may be left at www.kinglynk.com



Janet Lung

Janet Lung, 61, of rural Niota, Ill., died on April 6, 2019, at Fort Madison Community Hospital.

King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory is assisting the family.

Julian Thomas White

Julian Thomas White was born at 2:08 a.m. Friday, April 5, 2019, to Brett Alan White and Larissa Lenore Eastman. He was 8lbs 1oz, 21.5 inches long with beautiful reddish brown curls, his daddy's big hands and his mommy's toes.

He is survived by his parents, Brett White and Larissa Eastman, both of Fort Madison; maternal grandmother, Debra Eastman of Montrose; maternal grandfather, Dennis Eastman of Port St. Lucie, Fla.; paternal grandparents, Harold and Dawn White of Donnellson; maternal great grandparents, Leon and Frances Wilson of Fort Madison; paternal great grandfather, Harold White Sr. of Keokuk; paternal great grandmother, JoAnne (Merle) Klingele of Liberty, Ill.; his godparents, Auntie Sara and Uncle John Herr of Mishawaka, Ind.; and several great aunts, uncles and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his maternal great grandparents, Merrill and Joy Eastman; paternal great grandparents, Joe Bevenour and Sharon Rae White; and two uncles, Denny Boy Eastman and Thomas Wilson.

The family will receive friends 1-2 p.m., with the funeral service to immediately follow at 2 p.m., on Thursday, April 11, at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory, with Denise Boyer officiating.

Online condolences to Julian's family may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: www.kinglynk.com.

ROBOT: Gemini had to do offensive, defensive tasks

(Continued from Page 1)

involved in the project — such as robotics, business, or programming — and then matched team members to their areas of interest.

"STEM issue much more than a robot. There are so many more aspects," added Hoening.

The team's robot, named Gemini, had to deposit balls into baskets, but also had to prevent another from completing its task. Points are awarded for both offensive and defensive tasks.

"The first year was disappointing, but inspiring. You knew you were kind of on the first step, but with Kumar and public outreach — that made all the difference," said Timothy Watkins.

Team Captain Jace Fedler agreed.

"I went away from the competition last year and didn't feel defeated at all. I learned so much and knew what we were up against," he said.

"Last year we thought we knew what we were doing, but we didn't have a clue how fast things would move," Hoening added.

UNUSUAL SPONSORS

Wickramasingha said many of the teams have sponsors with science, perhaps engineering degrees. Not the Cyberhounds — although plenty of those local experts provided guidance.

"What other team is led by an English teacher and a sub?" Wickramasingha joked.

He was referring to English teacher Shalisse Johnstun and her husband Joseph, who is a substitute teacher.

"She (Shalisse) just didn't want the kids to miss out on this opportunity," Joseph said.

"Advice from others came in handy — no, was essential."

POLICE BRIEFS

ARRESTS & CITATIONS

Brandon Allen Barnett, 25, of Mt. Pleasant, was arrested by Lee County Sheriff deputies Sunday afternoon on a warrant charging him with driving while married. He was taken to the Lee County Jail.

Tierra T. Jones, 20, of Riverdale, Ill., was cited and released for possessing drug paraphernalia by Lee County Sheriff deputies Sunday afternoon.

Dymond Dakar Green, 25, Burlington, was arrested at midnight Sunday by Lee County Sheriff deputies on a warrant charging him with violating probation. He was taken to the Lee County Jail.

Michael David Reiter, 20, of Burlington, was arrested by Lee County Sheriff deputies at the Lee County line at 5 p.m. Saturday on a warrant charging him with violating probation. He was taken to the Lee County Jail.

Jeannie Marie Wade, 43, of West Burlington, was arrested at 4:51 p.m. Saturday by Lee County Sheriff deputies at Wever Junction on warrants charging her with violating probation, and two counts of failing to appear in court. She was released after posting bond.

Charles Jonathan Burgess, 38, of Kahoka, Mo., was arrested in the 3600 block of Argyle Road by Lee County Sheriff deputies at 4:24 p.m. Saturday on a warrant charging him with fifth degree theft. He was also charged with possessing drug paraphernalia. He was taken to the Lee County Jail.

Rhonda Marie Moyers, 40,

Avenue D, Fort Madison, was arrested at 2:39 a.m. Saturday on a temporary hold by Lee County Sheriff deputies at the Cottage Cafe. She was taken to the Lee County Jail, but released at 3:47 a.m. Saturday after posting bond.

Franklin James McCollum, 23, 1404 Ave. F, Fort Madison, was at 7:37 p.m. Friday by Fort Madison police in the 2700 block of Avenue I and charged with interference with official acts and criminal mischief. He was taken to the Lee County Jail.

Larry Leroy Dawson, 25, 921 23rd St., Fort Madison, was arrested by Fort Madison police at 3:07 p.m. Friday at his residence on a warrant charging him with violating probation. He was taken to the Lee County Jail.

ACCIDENT

The Lee County Sheriff's Office reports of an accident at 3:37 p.m. Friday at the junction of 255th Street and U.S. 218 involving a 2013 Chevy pickup, driven by Justice Lee Tibbitts, 22, of Belton, Mo., and a 1998 Ford Taurus, driven by Robert Kenton Summers, 18, of Argyle. According to the accident report, Summers was northbound at the stop sign controlled intersection of 255th Street and Highway 218 preparing to make a right turn onto Highway 218. Tibbitts was southeast on Highway 218 and pulled onto Highway 218 in front of Summers. This caused Summers to strike Tibbitts' vehicle. Summers' vehicle ended up in the ditch open the north

side of the highway. Tibbitts' vehicle spun and came to rest on the roadway just east of the intersection. Tibbitts stated the accident was his fault that his foot had become struck under the accelerator pedal. A passenger in Summers' vehicle was injured and transported by Lee County EMS to Fort Madison Community Hospital. Tibbitts was issued a citation for failing to yield to through traffic.

INCIDENT REPORTS

Police received two reports of stolen vehicle Sunday — one at 7:16 p.m. from the 3900 block of Bluff Road, and the other at 3:32 p.m. from the 1800 block of Avenue J.

A shoplifter in the 2600. Block of Avenue L was reported to police at 9:32 a.m. Sunday.

A burglary in the 1800 block of Avenue G was reported to police at 3:04 a.m. Sunday.

A burglary in the 2600 block of Avenue L was reported to police at 8:46 p.m. Saturday.

Vandalism in the 1300 block of 14th Street was reported to police at 1:56 a.m. Saturday.

A larceny/theft in the 1700 block of Avenue G was reported to police at 9:15 p.m. Friday.

Police received a report of a gas drive-off in the 1700 block of Avenue H at 4:01 p.m. Friday.

Police were called to an accident in the 4600 block of Avenue J at 1:05 p.m. Friday.

A larceny/theft in the 3200 block of Avenue H was reported to police at 12:31 p.m. Friday.

FMCH program postponed

Fort Madison Community Hospital (FMCH) Community Health Education Series, "Does CBD Oil Really Work?" scheduled for today from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at FMCH has been cancelled. Dr. Amy Huber is unavailable due to a family situation.

We will look to reschedule this educational seminar on a future date. Please watch the FMCH website for updates www.fmchosp.com.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

HOT ROAST Beef Sandwich with mashed potatoes, gravy and salad, will be served 5-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 10, at the Fort Madison Eagles Club.

FISH AND shrimp will be served 5-7:30 p.m. Friday, April 12, at the Fort Madison Eagle Club. For carryouts, call 372-6928.

SENSATIONAL CHEF dinner will be Saturday, April 13, at the Kingsley Inn. For tickets, contact Fort Madison Partners at 372-5471.

FORT MADISON United Methodist Church will host their annual Ham Dinner on Palm Sunday, April 14th, serving from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. The menu will include Pit Ham, party potatoes, corn, green beans, a variety of salads, a variety of desserts, rolls, lemonade, ice tea or coffee. A freewill offering will be appreciated. The Ft. Madison United Methodist Church is located at 9th Street and Avenue E. A handicapped accessible elevator is located on 9th Street. There is also a door to the basement located in the alley. The dinner will be held in the church basement. Please join Pastor Lane Van for our traditional service at 10:45am where our Choir and Bell Choir will share special music.

DUTCH DOUBLE Pool Tournament will be held Sunday, April 14, at the Fort Madison Eagles Club. Club opens at noon. Games begin at 1 p.m. Homemade chicken and noodles, mashed potatoes and green beans will be served, starting at noon — while supplies last.

TACOS AND enchiladas will be served 5-7:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 16, at the Fort Madison Eagles Club. For carryouts, call 372-6928.

THE KITCHEN at the Fort Madison Eagles Club will be open 5-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 17. For carryouts, call 372-6928.

FISH AND shrimp will be served 5-7:30 p.m. Friday, April 19, at the Fort Madison Eagles Club. For carryouts, call 372-6928.

HOLY TRINITY Catholic Schools TAPS 8th Annual Bunny Hop is a 5K/10K Run or walk event and will be held Saturday, April 20, in West Point. Registration begins at 8 a.m. and the race begins at 9 a.m.

DUE TO the Easter holiday, the Fort Madison Eagles Club will be closed Sunday, April 21.

COUNTRY FRIED Steak Dinners will be 5-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 24, at the Fort Madison Eagles Club. For carryouts, call 372-6928.

FISH AND shrimp will be served 5-7:30 p.m. Friday, April 26, at the Fort Madison Eagles Club. For carryouts, call 372-6928.

DONNELSON ROADSIDE Cleanup will be held Saturday, April 27. Volunteers will be picking up trash along the four entrances into Donnellson and the overpass. Bags, gloves and safety vests are provided. All volunteers will meet at the Fire Station.

BIRTHDAY

Sheppard to celebrate 80th



Sheppard

Joan Schneider Sheppard will celebrate her 80th birthday on Saturday, April 20.

She married Bill Sheppard in 1957 and they were lifelong Fort Madison residents.

They are the parents of Mike (Ruth) Sheppard of Donnellson, Sandy (Rick) Johnston of Montrose, Brian (Celeste) Sheppard of Tallahassee, Fla., and Amy (Chris Dorsi) Sheppard of Bozeman, Mont.

Joan's children will be hosting an open house at the home of Rick and Sandy Johnston, 2734 255th Ave., Montrose, 2-5 p.m. Saturday, April 20, and invite all friends and relatives to join in the celebration.

RETIREMENT

Stuekerjuergen to retire



Stuekerjuergen

Greg Stuekerjuergen is celebrating his retirement and is wanting friends and family to join him at 6 p.m. Saturday, April 12, at the American Legion hall in West Point.

GOVERNMENT LISTINGS

CONSERVATION BOARD, Lee County, will meet at 4 p.m. Tuesday, April 9, at the Lee County Conservation Center, 2652 Highway 61, Montrose. Agenda items include review of bids for the old LCCB Office. House demolition, and an agreement with the Iowa DNR for the Denning Conservation Area.

LEE COUNTY Supervisors will meet at 9 a.m. Tuesday, April 16, at the Lee County Sheriff's office conference room.

THE FORT MADISON City Council will meet at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 16, at City hall, 811 Ave. E.

FORT MADISON City offices will be closed Friday, April 19, in observance of Good Friday. All departments will reopen Monday, April 22. Friday garbage route pick-up will be on Monday, April 22.

SEND SCHOOL-RELATED news, press releases, honor rolls, photos etc. regarding honors, scholarships, awards to Skyler Holtkamp at the Daily Democrat, sholtkamp@dailydem.com