



The Alchemists, the PCM Robotics team, practices with their robot on the field of play. The team is preparing for world competition in Houston, one of four teams to make it from the region. Jamee A. Pierson/PCM Explorer

## Robotics

CONTINUED FROM 2

team is working to raise \$10,000 for registration, travel and accommodations.

The team will be at fundraisers in the coming weeks showing what their robot can do and raising money to fund the trip. Check out the Alchemists at the Kiwanis pancake breakfast from 7 a.m. to noon April 1 at the high school, then at an Ice Cream Social from 2 to 4 p.m. the same day at The Gathering Place in Monroe. That event is sponsored by Jersey Freeze, All About Pies and Max's Coffee.

April 8, the team will be at the April

Pop Up Market from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Prairie Escape Wellness Center in Prairie City. Everyone is invited to come see the team and their robot and help them raise funds for World competition.

The team also has T-shirts available for sale at [stores.inksoft.com/pcm\\_alchemist/shop/home](https://stores.inksoft.com/pcm_alchemist/shop/home).

"World competition will be exciting," Hall said. "Since we have been performing well we have a chance to do really well."

"Honestly, even past this competition, one of the things I'm most excited for is just applying the skills I've learned here elsewhere. There is so much you learn doing this program."

## Coffee

CONTINUED FROM 1

for running my business, but traveling each day and doing events has different challenges than a brick and mortar does," Schreiber-Bierbaum said. "From having to attempt to park the trailer in weird spots, to calling my husband to troubleshoot generator problems over the phone, there were many things I had to learn that had nothing to do with coffee that I hadn't really thought of."

When you love what you do, the challenges aren't quite a bad. They also are overshadowed by the amazing experiences that come from serving customers, many who return each week or follow her from community to community.

"Some of the biggest highlights have been seeing the response from people who are excited that it's the day we're in their town," Schreiber-Bierbaum said. "Each day is a day of people who are so happy it's the day Max's is there. That energy really helps carry me through the day. It makes me so happy that people are excited to see us and we're making their day just a little bit better."

"That goes into probably the best highlight of the year and just all the fantastic people (and dogs) we've met throughout the year. There are quite a few people that stop and chat for a while because it's become routine that we discuss what is going on in life and it's great to have that connection with people."

People and dogs? Max's Coffee is named after Schreiber-Bierbaum's dog, Max, a rescue who inspired Schreiber-Bierbaum to not only give back but it invites customers' favorite four-legged friends to stop by.

"I wanted a purpose behind the coffee and my mind kept going to animals. I've always been a big softy when it comes to animals and if I could have 100 dogs I probably would, much to my husband's dismay," Schreiber-Bierbaum said. "I wanted to give back to rescues that are helping animals like Max have a second chance. They do so much with what little they have, so I wanted to do whatever little bit I can to help."

Along with coffees, teas and lotus drinks, she has added lemonade, smoothies and cold brew during the summer months. She is also incorporating more sugar-free options and seasonal items.

Schreiber-Bierbaum's current schedule has her in Monroe, Prairie City, Colfax, and Runnells. Her daily stops are posted at the start of each week on Max's Facebook page.

"The public response has been really great. My first few weeks back everyone has been so excited that we are back up and running, especially since it means warmer weather is on its way now that we are open again," Schreiber-Bierbaum said. "I really appreciate the support I get in each community, it's truly humbling to have people that have supported and continue to support us!"

## Nolin

CONTINUED FROM 1

across the United States including at the National Western Stock Show, Tulsa State Fair, Iowa State Fair, Minnesota State Fair and the Jasper County Fair."

"Our greatest accomplishments have been Grand Champion Bull at the Iowa State Fair and having the No. 1 semen sales in North America with our bull Mission Nexus," Nolin said.

Nolin Red Angus isn't just Mike and his wife Diana holding down the farm. Both of their children along with their families do their part to keep the herd thriving.

"It takes the entire family

to keep the farm going," Nolin said. "My wife Dianna and I live on the farmstead. The cattle are primarily cared for by our daughter Jessica Barnett and her family, her husband Wyatt, son Brock and daughter Sasha; as well as our son James Nolin and his wife Cassia, son Allias and daughters Seriah and Asaiya."

Working with family can have its pros and cons, with many differing opinions and ideas. But Nolin said in the end everyone comes together with a final goal in mind to keep the farm going.

"I understand that the farm must progress to the next generation if we plan to keep the operation going," Nolin said. "My family is what keeps it going and I

am hopeful that will continue down the line with my grandchildren. I am planning for the future and the legacy of my ancestors."

On the farm there is typically about 35 cattle in the purebred Red Angus operation. Each calving season they evaluate the cattle and determine which would be quality calves to keep back with the herd and which they want to take to the sales.

"Once the sale cattle are determined, the fun part begins," Nolin said. "We start by breaking the cattle to lead which includes training them for several weeks. Once they will lead back and forth to water and feed, we begin tying them up in the barn for extended periods. After the cattle are comfortable with this process we begin combing and brushing their hair and giv-

ing them an occasional bath to keep them clean."

Closer to the shows or sales they intensify the process and start to rinse, walk, train and condition the hair daily. In the warmer months, the cattle are rinsed daily and get to hang out under fans to keep them cool, which also promotes hair growth.

"Several weeks before a show or sale the animals are clipped which basically means we give them a haircut to enhance their features, and they're walked around the yard to train them for the show ring," Nolin said. "Our top sales for the year include the Iowa Beef Expo and annual Plad-sen sale in Waukon as well as selling cattle off the farm."

Farming and raising cattle is a 24/7 job, often involving a lot of physical labor, early mornings and late nights.

Iowa winters and summers don't always make for the best assistant, either.

"Raising cattle and farming is not glamorous or easy. Work begins early in the morning with chores and doesn't quit 'til the sun goes down. We hit the repeat button the next day and do it all over again," Nolin said. "We work in all weather conditions: rain or shine, hot or cold. The two toughest jobs I would pick would be calving in the winter and building fence. Both typically take place in the extreme temperature fluctuations of winter and summer."

"Farming isn't glorious, but it's a way of life and I wouldn't want it any other way."

As time has marched on, changes to the farm have been made to keep it modern and to account for Mike

and Dianna nearing retirement age.

"We have significantly modified our cattle herd over the last 20 years. We have also contracted out the planting and harvest of our row crop operation and downsized our cattle herd," Mike said. "My wife and I are getting older and our kids work full time off the farm. We have modified the farm to fit our needs."

Even with all of the relentless hard work, there are many achievements on the farm that help push the operation to keep going each season.

"My favorite part of the business is raising a high percentage calf crop successfully," Nolin said. "The work is hard but the feeling of effectively selling and presenting top quality cattle to my customers makes it worth the work."

## NEW LISTING - ACREAGE



### 113 ROSE LANE, MONROE

Super nice one owner home nestled on 1.39 acres on the South side of Monroe. Abundance of kitchen cabinets with pantry, main floor laundry (washer/dryer new in 2021), primary en-suite with large walk-in closet and walk-in tile shower (2018). Tile floors (2017) throughout the main floor. Two additional bedrooms and a full bath complete the main floor. Finished walkout basement offers a HUGE family room plus a bonus space large enough to accommodate a pool table, ¾ bath, non-conforming bedrooms with great storage space. Enjoy the spacious yard with the firepit, maintenance free deck and hot tub! Wonderful three car attached garage too!

**Jill Veenstra** 641-780-4883  
jveenstrare@gmail.com

**HOME REALTY**  
Historic Pella, Iowa  
1212 Washington, Pella, IA • 641.628.4282 • pellaohomerealty.com

You don't know what  
**YOU DON'T KNOW...**

WITHOUT PUBLIC NOTICES,  
YOU ARE LEFT GUESSING.

Since knowing is so important, we joined other newspapers in Iowa and also publish our public notices online.

FIND IOWA NOTICES ONLINE AT  
[www.iowanotices.org](http://www.iowanotices.org)

Spring into **SAVINGS**  
EVENT!

**\$1,500 OFF**  
a houseful  
of new windows!

**48 MONTHS**  
**0% INTEREST!**  
Senior & Military Discounts!

**Bonus!**  
50 homeowners will receive a  
**Vacation Voucher**  
with purchase of new windows!  
Use for a condo/hotel stay or a cruise!

**CALL TODAY!**  
**877-990-0707**  
[www.MadCityPro.com](http://www.MadCityPro.com)

**mad city**  
WINDOWS & BATHS  
a division of renuity

Minimum purchase required. Financing available with minimum purchase and approved credit. Mad City Windows & Baths, LLC is neither a broker nor a lender. Financing is provided by third-party lenders, unaffiliated with Mad City Windows & Baths, Inc., under terms and conditions arranged directly between the customer and such lender, all subject to credit requirements and satisfactory completion of finance documents. Any finance terms advertised are estimates only. Ask for details. Not valid with any other offer, or previous job. Offer good with supplies, less. Payment in full required. Offer valid at original initial consultation only. Rules subject to change. Taxes, port charges and process fees not included. Must provide own transportation to and from departure ports or vessel. New orders only for appointments completed by 3/31/2023. Offer expires 3/31/2023.

## ATTENTION

County Treasurer Doug Bishop would like to remind Jasper County residents that the second half property tax and mobile home taxes are due and need to be paid on or before Friday March 31st 2023. Payments can be made at the office from 8:00 until 4:30 daily. Credit card and E-check payments can also be made online at [www.iowatreasurers.org](http://www.iowatreasurers.org). Payments mailed and postmarked before April 1st will be accepted without penalty. There is also a convenient drop box on the East side of our new office building at 315 W 3rd St N. If you have any questions, please call the Treasurer's office at 641-792-7731.

how are your  
**LOCAL TAXES**  
spent?

Since knowing is so important, we joined other newspapers in Iowa and publish our public notices online.

FIND IOWA NOTICES ONLINE AT  
[www.iowanotices.org](http://www.iowanotices.org)

We can stop HIV, Iowa.

It all starts with health equity—meaning everyone has a fair & just opportunity to be healthy.

To achieve this, we need to remove obstacles to good health, such as poverty, discrimination, and racism, which support an environment in which HIV thrives.

We must work together so that all Iowans have access to the resources they need to  
**Prevent Diagnose and Treat HIV.**

**STOP HIV IOWA**

Learn more at [stophiviowa.org](http://stophiviowa.org)