

PEN CITY CURRENT

It's **Black & White** and **Read** all over

Monday, February 15, 2021 | 8 pages | Volume 5 • Issue 40



www.pencitycurrent.com

Reynolds visits FMHS



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg

Governor Kim Reynolds and Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg visit with freshmen from Fort Madison High School Friday afternoon to talk about the school's growing Career Educational Training.

C.E.T. PROGRAMS: Governor impressed with freshmen passion for career classes

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – Governor Kim Reynolds said Fort Madison High School's recent growth in Career Technical Education programs fit snugly into her Future Ready Iowa program.

Reynolds met with Fort Madison High School administrators, CTE instructors, the district's Board of Education, and a group of about 20 freshmen Friday afternoon in the high school media center,

"I'm pretty darned excited," Reynolds said after the meeting.

"Our greatest asset is our young people and this is all about providing them an opportunity to find a passion, something they like, and something they are good at."

The school's CTE programs have seen programming and enrollment advance substantially under the leadership of Principal Greg Smith. The programs including agricultural sciences, welding, family & consumer sciences, business, and industrial technology.

Building trades instructor Clint Kobelt said that program

See **FRIDAY**, page 8



Oh, say can those Central Lee ladies sing the anthem

Trying to get into the Central Lee gym in time for the girls Class 3A Region 8 quarterfinal game was a chore.

I didn't want to leave the balmy interior of the Beast, our Toyota FJ Cruiser. Inside it was a balmy 72, and I just spent the day watching Fort Madison qualify Gavin Wiseman and Owen Kruse for the state wrestling tournament in Des Moines starting Thursday.

There was a chill in my bones for sure, and I was just a bit tired.

The unions certainly don't give credence to the new world of online digital news outlets, because February can be a mindscramble for small market sports reporters.

Anyway, two hours from Iowa City West High School and I was still warming up after walking across that school's parking lot with wind chills that had to be -136 degrees. They say you can feel your skin start to crystallize in those temps. I pictured myself as Edward Cullen from Twilight with shiny diamonds on my face. Then I laughed... and coughed.

So sitting in the Central Lee parking lot after racing south on 218 to try and make the game, I realized I had about 20 minutes to kill. I left the heat up and put my seat back... and set my phone alarm. A couple of deep Headspace cleansing breaths and I was out.

The alarm woke me up just in time. 10-minute power naps RULE.

I looked out the window to the entry way under construction at Central Lee and thought, "Man that's a long ways away." But I got out, put my gloves and hat on and went inside. Frozen again by the

See **SING**, page 3

OPINION

Faith in God built on saga of injured kitten

I've always believed in God. It's the way I was raised. Oh, there have been times, like when I was a teenager and questioning everything, that I had some doubts. What puzzled me, and still does, actually, is the phenomenon that the Hubble Telescope can view the expanding (and contracting) outer edge of the universe. This blows my mind. My question

EMPTY NEST

By Curt Swarm

is: if there is an outer edge to the universe, what's on the other side?

Anywho, back to the God question:



my first proof of the existence of God came at the tender age of eight. We lived in Prairie City in a huge old two-and-a-half-story house on the highway. The yard was infested with moles. My mother was determined to get rid of the critters that made tunnels all through the yard. She had

See **SWARM**, page 5

INDEX

Business Directory.....P.7
CLASSIFIEDS.....Ps.6-7
Complete Rental.....P.3
EDUCATION NEWS.....P.8
FROM THE FRONT.....Ps.3,5,8
Great River Regional Waste Authority....P.8

Lee County Health Department.....P.2
LOCAL NEWS.....P.8
OBITUARIES.....P.3
• Dianne C. Huddleson, 63
OPINION.....Ps.3,5
Pen City Current.....Ps.6-7

Pilot Grove Savings Bank.....P.5
Pothitakis Dentistry.....P.3
Public Notices.....Ps.6-7
Rashid Pharmacy & Wellness.....P.4
SPORTS.....Ps.4-5
Welch's Insurance.....P.4

WEATHER

MON 15 Feb.....Frigid with Light Snow, 0° F/ -9° F
TUE 16 Feb.....Cold and Cloudy, 10° F/ -8° F
WED 17 Feb.....Cold with Light Snow, 19° F/ -1° F

IOWA LOTTERY

LOTTO AMERICA 02/13.....36 40 44 46 50, Star Ball: 6, All Star Bonus: 2
LUCKY FOR LIFE 02/11.....7 9 15 31 39, Lucky Ball: 1
MEGA MILLIONS 02/12.....5 14 24 25 27, Mega Ball: 14 Megaplier: 3
PICK 3 02/11, 02/12, 02/13 MIDDAY.....357, 520, 656
PICK 3 02/11, 02/12, 02/13 EVENING.....701, 900, 908
PICK 4 02/11, 02/12, 02/13 MIDDAY.....6 0 4 0, 3 2 5 8, 4 7 0 6
PICK 4 02/11, 02/12, 02/13 EVENING.....4771, 3283, 4406
POWERBALL 02/13.....20 28 33 66 68, Powerball: 20, Power Play: 2

SUBSCRIBE

Scan the code to subscribe today
Paid & Free Options Available!



Touching the Community with Care



Lee County Health Department Hospice

Your Choice for Compassionate Hospice Care

in Lee, Des Moines, Henry, and Van Buren counties in Iowa
& Hancock and Henderson counties in Illinois

Hospice Services include

*24/7 on-call nursing staff • Skilled nursing services
Social worker visits • Music & massage therapy
Homecare aide assistance • Volunteer services
Spiritual & grief support*

Providing comforting end-of-life care since 1989



LEE
CHD

#3 John Bennett Drive, Fort Madison
(319) 372-5225 or (800) 458-6672
Medicare Certified

www.LeeCountyHD.org

Obituaries/From the Front

OBITUARIES

DIANNE C. HUDDLESON

Dianne Claire (Delaney) Huddleson passed away due to covid complications at the University of Iowa Hospital ICU on Thursday February 11, 2021. Dianne stayed strong against insurmountable odds, until her husband Bruce could be at her bedside.

A lifetime resident of Fort Madison, Dianne was born March 5, 1957 to Don and Dorothy (Leveling) Delaney. She graduated from Aquinas High School (Fort Madison, IA) in 1975. While in high school she learned about sales and customer service at Kessler's Dress shop in Fort Madison. 1975-1977 she studied to be a teacher at Quincy College. She returned to Kessler's. In 1978 she started 38 years of service in the accounting department at Dial Corporation. In late 2006 she joined the Fort Madison branch of Pilot Grove Savings Bank, becoming branch manager. On June 25, 1983 Dianne made Bruce her lifelong love. For some Dianne answered to Aunt Di or Favorite Aunt Di. Others referred to her as Mrs. Huddleson, Mrs. Hud, Mrs. H. To many Dianne was known as "the caramel brownie lady". To all she was known as caring and empathetic. For 27 years Dianne served her hometown as the "concession workers organizer" for Aquinas Schools at the Tri-state Rodeo.

Dianne loved to travel; believed in Hilton Magic; was curious about those guys in kilts; rodeoed at the STAMPEDE; fawned over her nieces and nephews ("the kids"); considered Bruce's students and athletes as "our kids"; religiously followed her nieces' and nephews' activities; could be sassy; recalled everyone's birthday with a card and cherished all your cards; and focused on the needs of family and others above self. Forever Irish, a Don and a Cyclone.

Dianne is survived by her husband Bruce, sister Beth (Rich) Rump, brothers Jim (Patricia), John (Julie), and Patrick (Terri) Delaney. She was preceded in death by both maternal and paternal grandparents, father Don Delaney, mother Dorothy Leveling Delaney, mother-in-law Elaine Huddleson, father-in-law Elba Huddleson, and brother-in-law Rich (Beth) Rump.

Friends may call after 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 16, 2021 with the family to receive friends from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday evening at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. A funeral mass will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 17, 2021 at Ss. Mary & Joseph Church with Rev. Joseph Phung officiating. Masks will be required for both the visitation and the funeral mass. Burial will be held at Gethsemane Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, a memorial has been established for Holy Trinity Catholic Schools. Online condolences to Dianne's family may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: www.kinglynk.com. The funeral mass will be recorded and will appear on Dianne's obituary page at www.kinglynk.com after the mass has ended.

To my lil Wahine, luv you forever, your Big Kahuna...Be sassy

NEEDING A TENT
for your event?



Reserve your tent now
and get **25% off**
your next tent rental
if paid in full during
the month of February!

CR Complete Rental

www.CompleteRentalFM.com
5636 Avenue O, Fort Madison, IA
(319) 372-8105

Trump trial was a waste of all our time

SING - Continued from Page 1

time I got to the door, I slipped in and set up to cover the girls game.

Starting lineups were introduced and then this lady – Kathy Dye I found out after bugging the concession people to cough it up while handing out their popcorn with “cheese salt”??? – grabbed the microphone and with no band, or piped in background music – I don't even think she had an earpiece in – ripped off a national anthem that warmed me up on the spot.

Now I enjoy a Matt Morris rendition at the rodeo, or the Craft girl at Riverfest, as much as anybody, or that dude that blew one out at a Chicago Blackhawks hockey game a couple years back. You can still find it on YouTube. Whitney Houston at the SuperBowl.... whoa.

But this is a local woman and she didn't miss a note, tempo, octave, shrill.... nothin'. Completely nailed it. And I loved it. So did everyone at that game.

And she's not the only one there that can nail it. So can Elementary School principal Heather Fuger. I was at a game a couple weeks ago when she grabbed the mic, and by God, and I think that to be true, blew me away.

I mentioned it to AD Jerry Ireland and Superintendent Dr. Andy Crozier, because I think people should mention it.

I can't sing anymore than I can dance, but I can compliment. And these ladies need complimented.

They don't schedule those things, somebody just asks so you just have to be there on the right night. But it makes me wonder, just how many ladies in that district can do that?

We all quietly pray for a great rendition of one of the hardest songs to sing. It doesn't always happen. But these girls deliver the goods. If you get a chance – it's something to see, it really is.

Good on ya, girls. I look forward to more.

And along the lines of patriotic, the Impeachment hearings were a tremendous waste of time. I don't have a dog in the fight, but the number of times things were taken out of context on both sides of the aisle, just made me more entrenched that it's just time to move on. But that's Beside the Point.

Chuck Vandenberg is editor/co-owner of Pen City Current and can be reached by email at editor@pencitycurrent.com.



Now Accepting New Patients.

6 Convenient Locations to Serve You

Fort Madison Family Dentistry 319-372-3614	Fort Madison Family Dentistry West 319-372-4882	Mediapolis Dental Care 319-394-3255
Burlington Dental Associates 319-753-2515	Burlington Family Dentistry 319-752-7993	New London Dental Care 319-367-2311

 www.DrMarkDDS.com 

Charles Vandenberg, Editor

(319).371.1670
editor@pencitycurrent.com

Lee K. Vandenberg, Sales Manager

(319).371.4125
sales@pencitycurrent.com

Copyright © 2016 by Pen City Current

All published materials are property of Pen City Current and cannot be used without express written permission.

PEN CITY CURRENT
It's Black & White and Read all over

Member LION Publishers

www.lionpublishers.com



Pen City Current and www.pencitycurrent.com are products of Market Street Publishing, LLC. Pen City Current is published Sunday through Friday mornings by 6AM.

Founded in 2016
P.O. Box 366 | Fort Madison, IA

State Wrestling Qualifier

Kruse, Wiseman punch tickets for Wells Fargo

Ensminger just misses state entry with 3rd place finish in wrestle back

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

IOWA CITY – Fort Madison senior Owen Kruse said getting back to Des Moines means everything to him.

Kruse was pinned by Class 3A No. 3 Grant O'Dell from Iowa City West in the title match at 126 lbs at Saturday's Class 3A District 5 wrestling state qualifier at Iowa City West's gym.

But Kruse wasn't too bummed – this season had been about getting back to Wells Fargo Arena in February. He'll join Gavin Wiseman who will be making his first trip after winning a wrestle back to take second place at 138 lbs.

Kruse said the title match was more than he expected.

"He came out really aggressive and I got a little deer-in-the-headlight going on, and then I just didn't wrestle very well after that," Kruse said of the loss.

But Kruse battled through a tough semifinal match to get the championship. Taking on Pella's Ryan Hancock, Kruse would score first with an escape for a 1-0 lead in the first period, The lead would hold through the second period, despite a very close take down where Kruse took Hancock to the mat outside the circle. The Hound seemed to have his toes on the circle, but was ruled out with the coaching staff yelling for two.

Kruse would then get a takedown with :13 left for the win.

"That was a tough semifinals match, but I had good



Fort Madison junior Gavin Wiseman gets a hug from Head Coach Ryan Smith after winning his wrestle back match for 2nd place at 138 lbs. and his first trip to the state wrestling tournament starting Thursday in Des Moines.

pressure and was happy with the way that turned out," Kruse said.

Now he said needs to go back to the practice room and fine tune some things. But the trip to Des Moines has been on his mind all year.

"It means everything to me to try and get back on

the podium. I have a few liabilities on the bottom, but I need to go hard, keep up pressure and move my feet," he said.

Wiseman made it to the championship at 138 where he squared off against top-ranked Hunter Garvin of Iowa City West. Garvin scored a couple takedowns in the first period to hold a 4-1 lead. Wiseman had a position to start the second, but Garvin worked a reversal and then scored a two-point nearfall before getting the pin at 3:11.

That pushed Wiseman into a wrestleback for second place with Daltin Doud of Ottumwa for the right to go to state as the runner-up in the division.

Wiseman didn't waste much time getting to work on the freshman, getting a take down 10 seconds in the match and turning it to a near fall at 1:14 and then secured the win with a fall at 1:52 of the first period.

Wiseman said he wasn't trying to do anything crazy, just get on and off the mat.

"I was just trying to get the job done and stay in good position. I didn't want to get risky with anything," he said.

"I'm really happy about this. All the work I've put in this year, it feels good to know that it paid off.

The junior said now he wants to sharpen up a few things in the four days before going to Wells Fargo on Thursday. Class 3A first rounds start at 1:30 p.m.

Head Coach Ryan Smith said he was confident Wiseman was going to put the wrestle back away quickly.

"Gavin's been close a couple times and being in that wrestleback I was confident he was going to take care of business. Sometimes you get leery of those matches, but I knew he would bring it in. I'm very happy for those two," Smith said.

"Owen's been in that position before and he had a really tough semifinal and wrestled a very solid fundamental match and did a good job of getting that victory."

Smith said the hard-luck award probably goes to junior Austin Ensminger.

Ensminger won the 3rd place match at 182 with a last second take down of Iowa City Liberty's Darius Willis Newell.

"That last match for third was pretty amazing. For Austin to avoid that takedown and convert it into his own was one of the most impressive things I've seen in a while," Smith said. "He'll have one more year to try and get there."

Ensminger jumped on Newell early with a couple take downs in the first period that Newell escaped from. In the second Newell caught Ensminger out of position and scored a 3-point nearfall, but the Hounds wrestled out of it scoring a reversal and held a slim 6-5 lead going into the fourth.

Newell was warned for stalling, but then got a take-down, which Ensminger reversed again. Newell would escape to tie things at eight with 32 seconds left and the two would lock up for about 25 seconds before Ensminger was able to outmuscle Newell to the mat for a takedown just before time ran out.

Henry Wiseman (106) and Aiden Pennock (145) both made it to the semifinals after first round wins, but they both fell in their next two matches to take 4th place.

"They were right there and just came up a little short," Smith said. "I told everybody, they've got to reflect and evaluate and think of things we can do so we can be on the other side of those match next year. It was a heck of a learning experience."

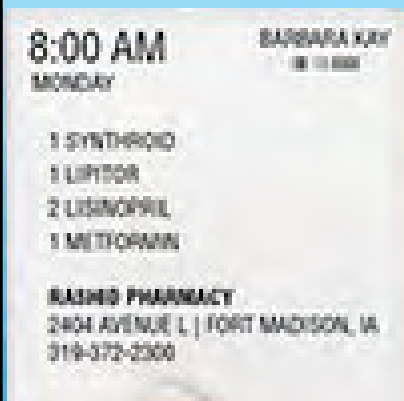
Resolve to make healthcare easier in the new year!

onePAC your medication made easy



RASHID
PHARMACY & WELLNESS

free delivery or mailing



rashidrug.com

It's Time to Review Your Crop Insurance Coverage

There are lots of changes this year to crop insurance policies. Make sure you're covered.

Contact us today for a no-obligation review of your coverage.

Welch's Insurance • 319-835-5000

AUTO • HOME • LIFE • BUSINESS

www.WelchsIns.com



From the Front/Sports

Childhood memories help keep faith

SWARM - Continued from Page 1

Dad back the Ford onto the lawn and run a vacuum cleaner hose from the tail pipe down into one of the mole holes. They plugged all the other holes, except for one. Mom sat at the one hole that was open with a meat fork in her hand. When a mole poked its head up, gasping for air, she ran it through. Three or four moles met their demise in this manner, and the mole problem was solved.

We had a calico mama cat named Patches, with kittens. Mother would flip the skewered moles to Patches, and Patches would haul the catch away to her litter. The kittens loved it and made quite a sport of it. My mother skewering moles made a huge impression on me. If she believed in God, you better believe, I believed.

I loved Patches' kittens. One of them, my kitten—that was its name, "My Kitten"—looked just like Patches. While I was playing in the yard, and my mother was skewering moles, I jumped over a log and came right down on My Kitten with full weight. It let out a screech and then collapsed, obviously hurt. I picked up My Kitten and tried to comfort it. My Kitten was gasping for air and blood was coming from its nose. One eye swelled shut almost immediately. I was mortified and terribly sorry for my clumsiness. I carried My Kitten to my mother, and she inspected it. "This doesn't look good," she told me. "Better put it with Patches and see what happens. If God wants My Kitten to live, it will live. We can pray."

I placed My Kitten next to Patches, and tucked it in with the other kittens. It had no interest in nursing. It was too badly hurt. Patches licked it, and let out some soft mewing sounds, and nuzzled it.

My mother told me to get ready for bed, that I could check on My Kitten in the morning. If it was God's will, My Kitten would live, but to keep praying.

Lying in bed I tried to cry myself to sleep. It

didn't work. In desperation, I sneaked out of bed, down two flights of stairs, to the garage where Patches and her kittens were. I picked up My Kitten and took it back to bed with me. It was almost lifeless and barely breathing. It was starting to get stiff. I held it to my chest and cried. "I'm sorry, My Kitten. Please, God, save it. I will do anything if You save My Kitten." I fell asleep with My Kitten clutched to my chest.

In the morning I awoke to movement. My Kitten was playing with a button on my night shirt. It was alive and well. It was a miracle! "Thank you, God! You saved My Kitten!" I was so happy. I ran downstairs with My Kitten to show Mom and

my sister. "God saved My Kitten," I shouted.

"For land sake," my mother said. "He sure did. Prayers answered." My sister rolled her eyes.

There was no doubt in my mind that God had healed My Kitten. Sure, I know that cats have nine lives, and all that claptrap, but there is nothing more powerful than prayer and the faith of a child. The universe may be expanding or contracting. I dunno. But I do know what's on the other side now. God.

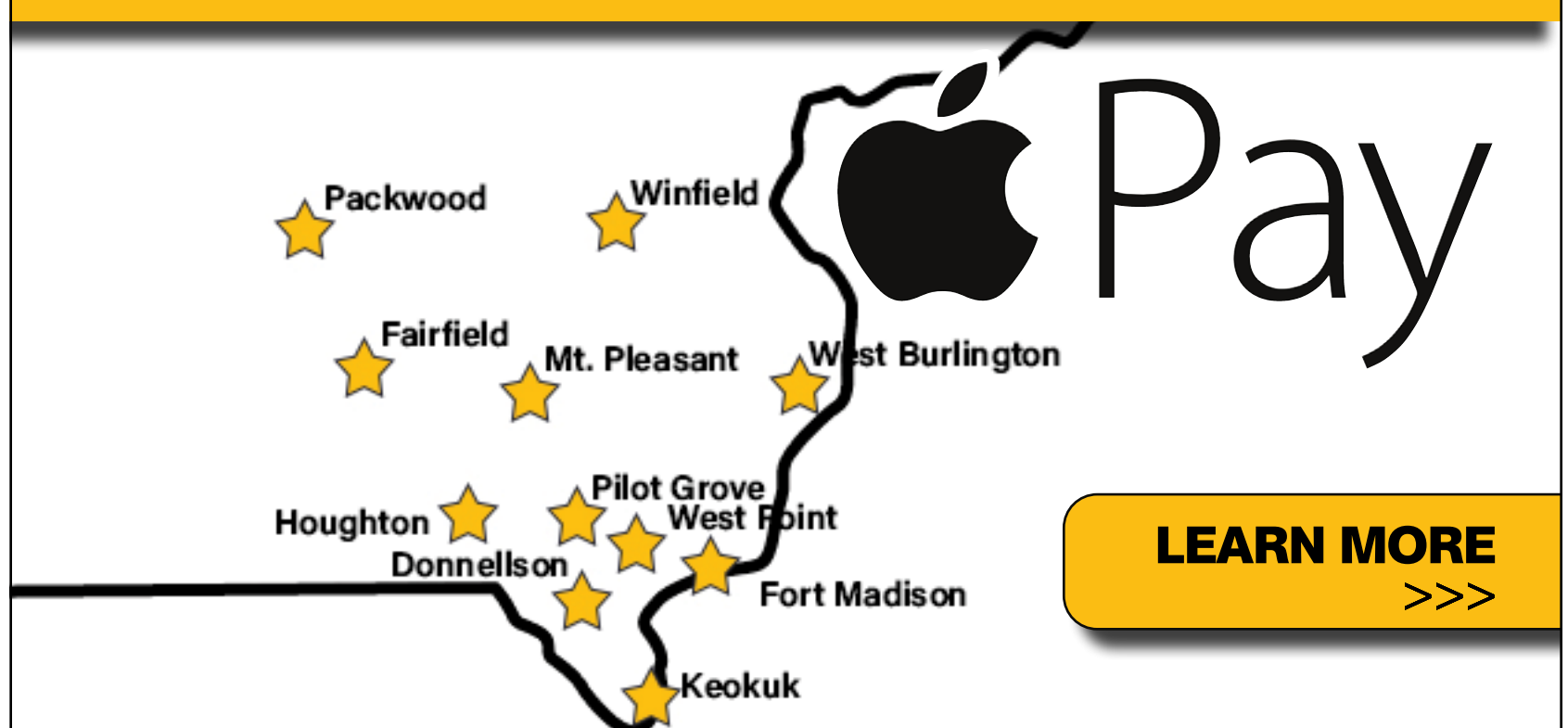
Have a good story? Call or text Curt Swarm in Mt. Pleasant at 319-217-0526, email him at curtswarm@yahoo.com or visit his website at www.empty-nest-words-photos-and-frames.com

DISTRICT WRESTLING RESULTS - Continued from Page 4

106: Henry Wiseman (Fort Madison) - 4th Varsity - Quarterfinals - Henry Wiseman (Fort Madison) over Jacob Widmer (Burlington) (Fall 1:58); Varsity - Semifinals - Jasmine Luedtke (Ottumwa) over Henry Wiseman (Fort Madison) (Dec 6-4); Varsity - 3rd Place Match - Braden Doyle (Iowa City, West) over Henry Wiseman (Fort Madison) (Fall 1:29 113: Emmett Kruse (Fort Madison) - 4th Varsity - Quarterfinals - Emmett Kruse (Fort Madison) over Matthew Rehman (Burlington) (Fall 1:33); Varsity - Semifinals - Cale Seaton (Iowa City, City High) over Emmett Kruse (Fort Madison) (Fall 4:57); Varsity - 3rd Place Match - Damion Clark (Pella) over Emmett Kruse (Fort Madison) (Fall 3:11) 120: Matthew Steffensmeier (Fort Madison) - 6th Varsity - Quarterfinals - Dawson Goodwin (Ottumwa) over Matthew Steffensmeier (Fort Madison) (Fall 3:04); Varsity - Cons. Semis - Matthew Steffensmeier (Fort Madison) over Garrett Roethler (Oskaloosa) (Dec 4-0); Varsity - 5th Place Match - Logan Schroeder (Pella) over Matthew Steffensmeier (Fort Madison) (Fall 1:21) 126: Owen Kruse (Fort Madison) - 2nd Varsity - Quarterfinals - Owen Kruse (Fort Madison) over Brian Velazquez (Burlington) (Fall 0:54); Varsity - Semifinals - Owen Kruse (Fort Madison) over Ryan Hancock (Pella) (Dec 3-1); Varsity - 1st Place Match - Grant O'Dell (Iowa City, West) over Owen Kruse (Fort Madison) (Fall 1:21); Varsity - 2nd Place Match - Owen Kruse (Fort Madison) over Ryan Hancock (Pella) (NC) 132: Brock Califf (Fort Madison) - 6th Varsity - Quarterfinals - T.R. Putz (Pella) over Brock Califf (Fort Madison) (Fall 3:38); Varsity - Cons. Semis - Brock Califf (Fort Madison) over Phillip Abrahamson (Oskaloosa) (Fall 1:04); Varsity - 5th Place Match - Gavin Benton (Iowa City, Liberty) over Brock Califf (Fort Madison) (Fall 3:48) 138: Gavin Wiseman (Fort Madison) - 2nd Varsity - Quarterfinals - Gavin Wiseman (Fort Madison) over Zack Beebe (Oskaloosa) (Fall 0:55); Varsity - Semifinals - Gavin Wiseman (Fort Madison) over Peyton Ritzert (Pella) (Dec 4-3); Varsity - 1st Place Match - Hunter Garvin (Iowa City, West) over Gavin Wiseman (Fort Madison) (Fall 3:11); Varsity - 2nd Place Match - Gavin Wiseman (Fort Madison) over Daltin Doud (Ottumwa) (Fall 1:52) 145: Aidan Pennock (Fort Madison) - 4th Varsity - Quarterfinals - Aidan Pennock (Fort Madison) over

Landon Whiting (Burlington) (Fall 0:53); Varsity - Semifinals - Ryan Ott (Iowa City, City High) over Aidan Pennock (Fort Madison) (Fall 2:58); Varsity - 3rd Place Match - Jackson Van Kley (Pella) over Aidan Pennock (Fort Madison) (Fall 3:26) 152: Teague Smith (Fort Madison) - 5th Varsity - Quarterfinals - Garisin Hynick (Oskaloosa) over Teague Smith (Fort Madison) (Fall 1:36); Varsity - Cons. Semis - Teague Smith (Fort Madison) over Diego Salinas (Iowa City, City High) (Fall 0:57); Varsity - 5th Place Match - Teague Smith (Fort Madison) over Elijah Terwilliger (Iowa City, Liberty) (Dec 7-5) 160: Brandt Booten (Fort Madison) - 6th Varsity - Quarterfinals - Ryan Van Donselaar (Pella) over Brandt Booten (Fort Madison) (Fall 3:24); Varsity - Cons. Semis - Brandt Booten (Fort Madison) over Andy Palma (Ottumwa) (Fall 4:41); Varsity - 5th Place Match - Lucas Phillips (Oskaloosa) over Brandt Booten (Fort Madison) (Fall 1:48) 170: Isaac Thacher (Fort Madison) - DNP Varsity - Quarterfinals - Drew Snyder (Iowa City, Liberty) over Isaac Thacher (Fort Madison) (Fall 5:42); Varsity - Cons. Semis - Blake Westercamp (Oskaloosa) over Isaac Thacher (Fort Madison) (Fall 2:41) 182: Austin Ensminger (Fort Madison) - 3rd Varsity - Quarterfinals - Austin Ensminger (Fort Madison) over Eli Stater (Ottumwa) (Fall 0:53); Varsity - Semifinals - Nolan Simpson (Burlington) over Austin Ensminger (Fort Madison) (Dec 14-10); Varsity - 2nd Place Match - Nolan Simpson (Burlington) over Austin Ensminger (Fort Madison) (Dec 10-8) 195: Levi Lowney (Fort Madison) - 5th Varsity - Quarterfinals - Christian Lubben (Pella) over Levi Lowney (Fort Madison) (SV-1 3-1); Varsity - Cons. Semis - Levi Lowney (Fort Madison) over Junior Ramirez (Oskaloosa) (Dec 8-3); Varsity - 5th Place Match - Levi Lowney (Fort Madison) over Brandon McKeag (Ottumwa) (Dec 9-4) 220: Daniel Sokolik (Fort Madison) - 5th Varsity - Quarterfinals - Fritz Spencer (Iowa City, City High) over Daniel Sokolik (Fort Madison) (Fall 3:34); Varsity - Cons. Semis - Daniel Sokolik (Fort Madison) over Travis Thomsen (Burlington) (MD 14-2); Varsity - 5th Place Match - Daniel Sokolik (Fort Madison) over John Hardin (Ottumwa) (TF 21-6 5:1

We are where you are.



LEARN MORE
>>>

319-469-3951

Pilot Grove Savings Bank

Member FDIC Equal Housing Lender

www.pilotgrovesavingsbank.com

Classifieds/Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE
Lee County Board of Supervisors Meeting
Tue, Feb 16, 2021
9:00 AM – 11:00 AM
(CST)
AGENDA

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.
<https://global.gotomeet-ing.com/join/916730029>
 You can also dial in using your phone.
 United States: +1 (646) 749-3122
 Access Code: 916-730-029
 If you would like to pose a question to the Board, please use the Chat feature and wait for the Chairman to address you. If you are participating by phone, please wait until everyone is done speaking before addressing the Board. Please keep your microphone muted to cut down on background noise. If you are participating by phone, press #6, this will mute your phone.

Pledge of Allegiance
 Approve Agenda
 Consider Approval of February 8, 2021 Board Minutes
 Consider Approval of Claims
 Public Input
 Discuss and Consider Offer to Purchase Buildings, Contents, Durable and Disposable Medical Equipment and One Ambulance from Lee County EMS
 Consider Approval of 28E Agreement with Jefferson County for Environmental Health Services Coverage
 Consider Approval To Purchase Motor Grader
 Consider Approval of Setting Public Hearing for Maximum Tax Levy
 Consider Approval of Resolution to Set Public Hearing to Obtain Grant Funds for Ambulances
 Consider Approval of Third Reading and Publication of Pioneer Cemetery Ordinance Discuss and
 Consider Approval for Board to Purchase Furniture for Breakroom in Keokuk
 Consider Approval of

Ownership Change for Dollar General, Montrose
 Consider Approval of Class B Beer Permit for Tri State Gun Club, Montrose
 Consider Approval of Tax Abatement Resolution Reports:
 A. Sheriffs Monthly Report
 B. Manure Management Annual Update for Pomberg Farms in Pleasant Ridge Township
 Commission or Committee Reports
 Adjourn
 11: 00 a.m. Exchange of Initial Offer with Administrative Union
 11:15 a.m. Closed Session for Bargaining-Chapter 20.17 (3)

Workshop to Follow
PUBLIC MEETING
CITIZENS WELCOME
 Vision and hearing assistance available upon request
 Contact Title VI Administrator
 319-372-3705 County Website:
www.leecounty.org

PUBLIC NOTICE
FORT MADISON COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING
February 16, 2021
6:05 P.M.

Note: To view this meeting please see the link on the FMCS D Website Calendar or click on the link below
<https://zoom.us/j/96307922739?pwd=M-0RvMm1sQil4d0ZoTzc-2cjlXN0hXZz09>
 Public Comments are welcome. They are limited to 3 minutes. Any member of the public who wishes to participate in public comments must be physically present at the meeting and follow the appropriate sign in procedures.

Finance: Ross/Wykert
AGENDA
 I. Call meeting to order

and determination of a quorum
 II. Recognition of guests
 III. Reading of Foundation documents
 IV. Monthly communications
 A. Student Rep Report - Tyler Horn and Kylee Cashman
 B. Curriculum Corner - SEL Family Night Series
 C. "Did You Know?"
 D. Superintendent Goal Report
 E. District Presentations
 • Instructional Tour: Lincoln Elementary School
 V. Approve the agenda
 VI. Consent Agenda
 A. Minutes
 1. January 18, 2021 Regular Meeting
 2. February 1, 2021 Work Session
 B. Financial reports
 1. January Balance Sheet
 2. Revenue Summary Report
 3. Expenditure Report
 4. Student Activity Report
 C. Accounts payable
 1. January General Account Board Bills for Approval A MEX
 2. February General Account Board Bills for Approval
 3. Student Activity Account Board Bills for Approval AMEX
 4. Nutrition Fund Board Bills for Approval
 D. Consider personnel resignations
 1. Christopher Perez, bus associate
 2. Suzanne Peak-Ross, teacher
 3. Cindy Schmitz, food service
 4. Sebastian Seifert, Director of Technology
 5. Donna McVeigh, teacher
 6. Brenda Sporkman, teacher
 7. Sabrina Snaadt, on-line support, IT secretary
 8. Debra Moeller, teacher
 9. Ashley Gelsthorpe, secretary
 10. Mandi Eid, food service
 11. John Hager, IT
 12. Karen Jones, HS student gov't sponsor - 1/2 time
 E. Consider employment of personnel
 1. Stephanie Brownlee - HS Student Gov't Spon-

sor - Full Time
 1. Ashley Gelsthorpe - Clerical Associate Class A - Richardson
 2. John Hager - Director of Technology
 3. Kayla Horner, General Ed. Associate – Class C at Lincoln Elementary
 4. Jennifer Nye, Receptionist/Clerical Associate – High School
 5. Marilyn Shipman, Special Ed. Associate – Class E at the High School
 6. Isaac Steffensmeier, Asst. Boys Track coach
 7. Tonya Todd, Special Ed. Associate – Class E at the Middle School
 F. Consider contract modifications
 1.
 G. Consider leave of absence
 H. Consider open enrollment requests
 I. Other reports
 1. Activity and athletic fundraisers
 Director (blank) moved and director (blank) seconded the documents submitted in the consent section of the agenda be approved and/or filed as submitted.
 VII. Action Items
 A. Director of Curriculum and Student Services – Kim Harmon
 B. Superintendent – Erin Slater
 1. Consider a request to purchase new risers for use by the band.
 2. Consider approval of 2021-2022 calendar
 3. Policy changes:
 403.2 Employee Injury on the Job - **minor changes: recommend to move to IASB model**
 403.3 Communicable Diseases - Employees - **minor changes: recommend to move to IASB model**
 403.3-R-1 Universal Precautions - **minor changes: recommend to move to IASB model**
 403.3-E-1 Hepatitis B Vaccine Information and Record - **same as IASB**
 403.4 Hazardous Chemical Disclosure - **minor changes: recommend to move to IASB model**
 403.5 Substance-Free Workplace - **minor changes: recommend to move to IASB model**
 403.5-R-1 Substance-Free Workplace Regulation - **minor changes: recommend to move to IASB model**
 403.6 Drug and Alcohol Testing Program - **changes: recommend to move to IASB model**
 403.6-E-1 Drug and Alcohol Testing Program Notice to Employees - **changes: recommend to move to IASB model**
 403.6-E-2 Drug and Alcohol Program and Pre-Employment Testing

Acknowledgement form - **minor changes: recommend to move to IASB model**
 403.6-E-3 Consent for Request of Information - **recommend to move to IASB model**
 403.6-R-1 Drug and Alcohol Testing Program Regulation - **ours only: recommend to delete**
 403.6-R-2 Drug and Alcohol Testing Program Definitions - **ours only: recommend to delete**
 403.6-E-2 Drug and Alcohol Reasonable Suspicion Observation - **ours only: recommend to delete**
 C. Board Secretary/ Business Manager – Sandy Elmore
 1.
 VIII. Discussion Items
 A. Director of Curriculum and Student Services – Kim Harmon
 1. Curriculum Report
 B. Superintendent – Erin Slater
 1. FMCS D AD HOC Committee recommendation
 2. Consider Policy

Changes
 403.8 Bloodborne Pathogens - **ours only; recommend to delete**
 403.9 Student/Staff Relations - **ours only**
 404 Employee Conduct and Appearance - **changes; recommend move to IASB model**
 404-R-1 Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics Regulation - **changes; recommend move to IASB model**

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

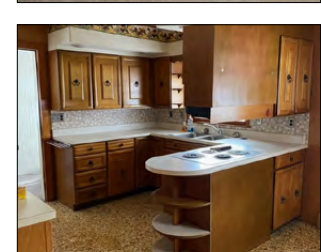
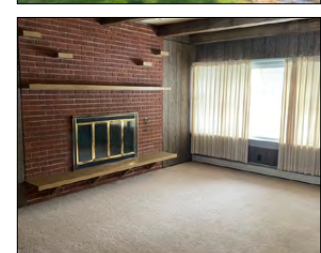
Chateau Apartments Extra Clean & Quiet Apartments for Rent



Extra clean & quiet with free YMCA membership included. 2 bedrooms, some with decks/patio. Stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, built-in microwave. Non-smoking, no pets. Very affordable security deposit \$300. Must pass background & credit checks (no felonies). Large backyard with picnic tables & glider swing in very nice, quiet neighborhood. Rents range from \$585-\$635. Lease required. 850 sq. ft. units. All electric. Water, sewer, trash furnished. 650 sq. ft. units. Water, heat, sewer, gas, trash furnished. Laundry rooms have new coin-operated washers & dryers (located in all buildings). On-site manager. Call 319-372-9409 or 319-750-3115 for appointment to view. Owned by Alliance Realty Co.

HOMES FOR SALE

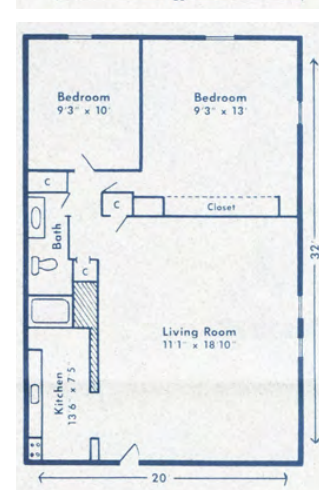
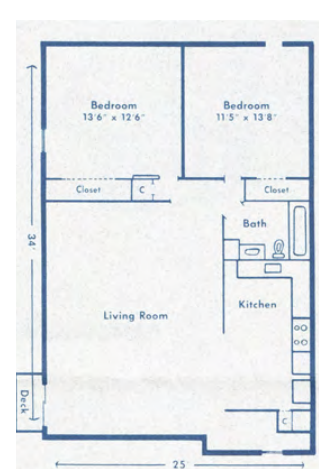
3 BR Home For Sale By Owner



This beautiful three bedroom home sits on 4 lots, has a huge beautiful front deck, with a 2 car garage and 4 outer buildings that sit on the lots, great solid starter home for any family. The home has an open concept kitchen with dining area, beautiful family room with fireplace with beams in the ceiling, huge living room, one bath, full basement. This is a must-see piece of property and is located on the edge of Colusa, IL.

To set up a time for a showing please contact Dixie Lung, at 319-316-3467 after 4pm on weekdays.

\$70,000 selling outright



The average person is on their device 3+ hours per day.

Reach your customers wherever they are with digital ads.

Call Lee (319)371.4125

PEN CITY CURRENT
 It's Black & White and Red all over

Classifieds/Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICES

404-R-2 Code of Rights and Responsibilities Regulation - **minor changes; recommend move to IASB model**

405.1 Licensed Employee Defined - **minor changes; recommend move to IASB model**

405.2 Licensed Employee Qualifications,

Recruitment, Selection - **changes; recommend move to IASB model**

405.2a Appointment of Professional Personnel - **ours only; recommend to delete**

405.2b Selection of Department Head(s), Department Chair(s), Vocation Chair - **ours only;**

recommend to delete
405.2c Qualifications for School Nurses - **ours only; recommend to delete**

405.3 Licensed Employee Individual Contracts - **minor changes; recommend move to IASB model**

405.4 Licensed Employee

ee Continuing Contracts - **changes; recommend move to IASB model**

405.5 Licensed Employee Work Day - **minor changes; recommend move to IASB model**

3. Certified Staff Attendance

4. Board Member Attendance

C. Board Secretary/ Business Manager – Sandy Elmore

1. Certified Budget for FY2021-2022 discussion

IX. Comments from the audience

X. Legislative update
March 1, 2021 - 6:00 p.m. Work Session, Board

Room, Central Office
March 15, 2021 - 6:00 p.m. Regular Meeting, Board Room, Central Office

XII. Adjourn
Exempt session pursuant to Iowa Code Section 20.17(3) for the purposes of a negotiation session

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Call Lee at 319.371.4125 today to advertise!

DODD
Est. 1877
PRINTING & STATIONERY


Business Cards
Photo Correction
Flyers

Business Forms
Posters
Art Supplies

Printing
Office Supplies
Vinyl Banners
T-Shirt Printing
Trifold Brochures
Office Furniture

621 Avenue G
Fort Madison, IA
319.372.2721
doddprinting.com

ENJOY FREE DELIVERY TO FORT MADISON, KEOKUK, BURLINGTON & THE SURROUNDING AREAS!




Protect your bottom line with The Power of AgMax®

Large commercial and diversified operations have distinctly different exposures than traditional farms and ranches. That's why we created AgMax specifically to serve the unique needs of commercial agriculture operations and related businesses, including:

- Producers who process, retail or direct market
- Equine and kennel operations, including boarding, breeding and training
- Agritainment and agritourism
- Hunting and other farm-based recreation

Contact me today to learn how I can help you maximize your insurance protection.

Larry Holtkamp
1301 37th St
Fort Madison
(319) 372-9145
larryholtkamp.com



FARM BUREAU FINANCIAL SERVICES

Western Agricultural Insurance Company* West Des Moines, IA. *Company provider of Farm Bureau Financial Services CA010 (12-14)

Complete Comfort. Affordable Price.

YORK®



Full Service HVAC Company
Serving Fort Madison, Burlington, and surrounding areas with over 30 Years Experience!

Heat & Air Guy

Ft. Madison: 319-372-4328
Burlington: 319-752-4328
All Areas: 877-380-4328

24 Hour Service • Never An Overtime Charge
FREE Estimates • Servicing All Makes

www.YourHeatAndAirGuy.com

General Insects
Termites

Cullen

PEST CONTROL

(319) 372-1060

Toll Free 1-888-818-7378
Email: cullenpest@hotmail.com
www.cullenpest.com

Mice
Bed Bugs

"Cause who needs bugs?"

Residential
Commercial

KEMPKER'S

True Value



RENTAL

Treating our customers like family since 1970

Fort Madison • Burlington • Mount Pleasant

www.kempkerstruevalue.com

Help GRRWA Keep Your Community Hazard-Free!



Household Hazardous Waste Unit is open Monday through Friday 8am - 4pm

800-216-2370

Call for an appointment

GRRWA
Great River Regional Waste Authority

Fl. Madison Main Office: 2092 303rd Ave Fort Madison, IA 53519-372-6140

Keokuk Transfer Station: 111 Carlsle Lane Keokuk, IA 53502-6175

Visit Us Online! www.grrwa.com facebook.com/grrwa

Eternelle Beauté

FULL SERVICE SALON & SPA
1302 Avenue G
Fort Madison, Iowa
319-246-1018



Dirty Dog Detailing & Boarding

Grooming by appointment
Monday, Wednesday, Friday & Saturday
319-371-9044

2090 250th St
Donnellson, IA 52625

Owners Barb Ball & Natalie Dauma
Family owned & operated

Over 51 Years
Combined Professional
Animal Experience

How can chiropractic therapy help you?

BENEFITS OF CHIROPRACTIC

- Improved joint mobility, function, and health
- Decreased degeneration of joints and connective tissues
- Improved circulation
- Increased energy, vitality, and improved sleep
- and many, many more

DR. ROBERT BROCKMAN

Brockman Chiropractic

2311 Avenue L, Suite 3, Fort Madison • 319-372-3800
<http://brockmanchiropracticdrbob.com/>

Extremity Adjustment
Myofascial Relaxation

Cranial Adjustment
Muscle Facilitation

WEDDING & EVENT CENTER



Grand Things Happen Here

Danielle Neaves & Ann Newton Neaves

319.837.8132

1903 West Point Rd Facebook/Instagram/Pinterest West Point, IA 52656 smallgrandthings.com

YOUR AD HERE

for as little as \$50 per month

Call Lee at 319.371.4125
or email classifieds@pencitycurrent.com



Patrick Profeta
General Manager

Keokuk Auto Credit

We Tote the Note

No Credit Check Low Weekly Payments

www.keokukautocredit.com

1728 Main
Keokuk, IA 52632

Office: 319-524-2334
Fax: 319-524-2373

From the Front

CET programs fit Governor's Future Ready Iowa program

FRIDAY - Continued from Page 1

started with seven students when he joined the district and now has 150 students in all classes and a waiting list to get in.

He cited financial backing and support from businesses like Mohrfeld Electric and Mohrfeld Solar, and Carl A. Nelson Co.

"I'm in awe that seven years ago we had a few chairs in an empty warehouse. That is the power of Fort Madison. If that template could be replicated in other communities, the need is undeniable," Kobelt said.

Reynolds just announced a Manufacturing 4.0 Initiative which is described as a roadmap that outlines strategies to help Iowa industries adapt to the global technology revolution.

"It's taking our existing manufacturers and companies and helps them get ready for the technology they need to be competitive. And so not only are we working with manufacturers to help them get brought up to speed and ready for the Internet of Things and the technology that they need to be successful but we're making sure we have a workforce to meet those needs," Reynolds said.

"So it's very tied together and that's what they're doing here. And just the connections with the businesses... and the kids getting in there and seeing the technical and what that looks like is exciting and good for the kids."

Lee County Economic Development Group President Dennis Fraise talked about the future of a joint career training center and asked the governor to look into work being done by State Rep. Joe Mitchell (R-Wayland) to address some of the hurdles in the way of completing the center.

LCEDG was months

away from purchasing the KL Megla building in Montrose to house a Joint Education Center, but Central Lee School District stopped the effort because it was in their school district and current law requires their approval to offer educational instruction in their district.

Reynolds said she would have to dig more into that issue.

"I have to learn more about that. We're changing what education looks like. It's evolving every year and it should," she said.

"Sometimes we have old statutes that don't reflect what's actually happening in today's environment."

Reynolds said she was most impressed with a brief conversation she had with the freshmen in attendance.

"My favorite part was talking to the kids. These were a bunch of freshmen and they were animated and talked about how much they liked it and they loved participating and learning and that made it very real," Reynolds said.

"That's not what you hear sometimes from freshmen. Their engagement and excitement says a lot about the program, the leadership, the school board, and the administration."

She attributed the success to the aggressiveness of the district leadership in building the program and said the state was trying to support it through Future Ready Iowa, STEM grants, and the recent SAVE funding extension.

Smith said the partners in the community weren't that tough of a sell.

"We really didn't have to do a lot of arm twisting," Smith said. "We just reached out and talked about what we needed and they were there."

District Superinten-

dent Dr. Erin Slater said these types of programs are "no-brainers" for the district to offer.

"She was excited about our growth in the program and our kids. It's a no-brainer to give kids opportunities to get out in the workforce and figure out what they want to do," Slater said.

"We have to make sure kids can set their path and even change their path, so we give them the skills and an exploratory model where they can pick a path and change it."

Reynolds answered a question on Senate file 159 and said the education saving accounts would be capped at \$3 million per year and would only apply at this point to 34 failing school buildings.

The proposed legislation, which made it out of the House and was supported by State Sen. Jeff Reichman (R-Montrose), would amount to just .0007% of the entire state education budget. The bill would allow money to follow students in those 34 schools to independent charter schools or private schools.

"This is a very narrow focus and only applies to schools that are failing. That's about 34 school buildings out of 1,300 so it's a very narrow definition," Reynolds said.

"They'll have the same metrics, the Board of Education will oversee them, they'll have to be accredited and have a list of criteria that they have to meet."

But Reynolds wasn't sure if the influx of public money would subject those schools and additional schools in the future to open meetings laws and chapters 21 and 22 of the Iowa Code.

"I think so, but I don't know for sure, I have to check that out."

IT'S ILLEGAL!



Great River Regional Waste Authority reminds you that not all lightbulbs can go into your household trash.

It's illegal and against DNR regulations.

Click the ad to learn more or visit www.GRRWA.com.