

PEN CITY CURRENT

It's Black & White and Read all over

Friday, February 26, 2021 | 8 pages | Volume 5 • Issue 49



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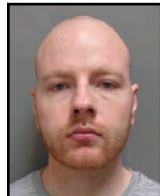
“Poorly drafted email”

FAULKNER DEATHS: Plea deal error lets Boyd avoid prison for role in 2019 deaths

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

LEE COUNTY – A Kahoka man is now serving one year in Lee County Jail with work release for his role in the deaths of Laverne and Michael Faulkner, two Farmington farmers who were killed as a result of a two-vehicle fatality in 2019.

Robert LeRoy Boyd, 29, was originally charged by the Lee County Attorney's office with two counts of vehicular homicide and one count of OWI as a result of the collision that occurred just after 1 a.m. on the morning of June 9.



BOYD

According to reports, a 2000 Ford pickup driven by Boyd allegedly failed to negotiate a curve in the road on Highway 2 at 140th Avenue.

Investigators believe that Boyd was intoxicated and lost control of his vehicle and overcorrected crossing the center line where he struck a 2005 GMC Yukon driven by Laverne, 63 at the time, nearly head-on. Michael was a passenger in Laverne's vehicle. Both were transported to area hospitals and pronounced dead.

Boyd was taken to University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics where he recovered from injuries. He was charged on Aug. 30, 2019 by Assistant Lee County Attorney Kym Auge with the three counts.

Boyd, through his attorney Curt Dial of Keokuk, waived his right to a speedy



PCC File image

LaVerne Faulkner, left, and Michael Faulkner, right, were killed in a June 2019 crash, and the Kahoka man charged with two counts of vehicular homicide will only serve time for OWI due to a flawed plea agreement.

trial in September. Additional motions and continuances pushed the case through the end of 2020. A trial date had been set for April 6.

On Jan. 25 of this year, at 2:20 p.m. Auge sent Dial an email that indicated the state was willing to plead the case down.

In a court document obtained by Pen City Current, Auge wrote: "In an effort to resolve this matter short of trial, the State would be willing to allow (Boyd) to plead open to one count of the trial information. Please let me know if this

is agreeable with your client. Thank You. Very truly yours, Kym."

Auge's letter didn't specify on which of the three counts prosecutors were willing to accept a plea, an omission that ultimately allowed Boyd to escape prosecution for the fatalities.

An hour and fifteen minutes later Dial directed his staff to print off the email and "get it to me", according to court documents.

At 3:48 p.m. the same day, Dial filed

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SENATE FILE 413

Auditor says new election bill will cost taxpayers

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

LEE COUNTY – Lee County Auditor Denise Fraise said if the governor passes a new election law, it could cost taxpayers an estimated additional \$12,000 per general election.

The bill, Senate File 413, is an election bill proposing to cut early voting from 29 days to 18 days which will increase the workload of Fraise's election staff. The bill also provides for criminal penalties against county auditors who are proven to have violated the new laws.

Lee County Auditor Denise Fraise said the new election is a reaction to three county auditors who sent out absentee ballots with prefilled personal information.

Some Democrats are calling the bill the "voter suppression law".

"It's a punishment for the three auditors in Linn, Johnson, and Woodbury counties that sent out prefilled ballots. They got sued, went to court, but nothing happened to them."

At last week's Legislative Luncheon sponsored by the Keokuk and Fort Madison Chambers of Commerce, State Sen. Jeff Reichman (R-Montrose) and State Rep. Joe Mitchell (R-Wayland) said there has to be teeth to violations of law.

"If I speed or don't stop at a stop sign I get a ticket. That's one aspect of it," Reichman said.

But he said it's also important that people have a sense of urgency in casting ballots.

"Turnaround time needs to be expedited," Reichman said. "But there are still a lot of people, not in Iowa, but across the nation who had doubts with the votes. This is just one more thing to secure the vote and make sure it's being

See VOTES, page 5

UNEMPLOYMENT

New state jobless claims drop for second week in a row

DES MOINES - The number of initial unemployment claims in Iowa, filed between Sunday, Feb. 14, and Saturday, Feb. 20, was 5,457, a decrease of 531 from last week's adjusted numbers. There were 4,932 initial claims by individuals who work and live in Iowa, and 525 claims by individuals who work in Iowa and live in another state. The number of continuing weekly

unemployment claims was 49,597, an increase of 2,634 from the previous week. November through February are typically the months IWD sees the most unemployment claims, driven by increased claims in construction, agriculture, landscaping and manufacturing due to seasonal layoffs. For the week ending Feb. 20, 2021, nearly 64.5% of claimants indicated their claims were

not COVID-19 related, which is a decrease from 68.8% the previous week.

The U.S. Department of Labor adjusted last week's initial claim number to 5,988 (a decrease of 332) and continuing claims to 46,963 (a decrease of 651 for a total decrease of 983 overall). Iowa Workforce Development relies

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WEATHER

FRI 26 Feb.....Rainy, 48° F/ 30° F
SAT 27 Feb.....Sunny and Warmer, 56° F/ 34° F
SUN 28 Feb.....Overcast, 46° F/ 40° F

OpenWeatherMap

IOWA LOTTERY

LOTTO AMERICA 02/24.....5 7 24 39 50, Star Ball: 10, All Star Bonus: 2
PICK 3 02/24 MIDDAY.....3 0 5
PICK 3 02/24 EVENING.....2 9 8
PICK 4 02/24 MIDDAY.....0 0 5 3
PICK 4 02/24 EVENING.....5 2 7 9
POWERBALL 02/24.....4 33 43 53 65, Powerball: 21, Power Play: 3

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Obituaries

OBITUARIES

ELDON E. SNYDER

Mr. Eldon Edward Snyder, 74, of Wever, IA. passed away at 7:20 p.m. Monday, February 22, 2021 at the Great River Hospice House in West Burlington, Iowa.

He was born October 17, 1946 in LaHarpe, Illinois, the son of Eldon Emerson and Audrey Cludray Snyder. On May 9, 2003 he married Sandra Fullhart in Wever. She preceded him death on December 27, 2018.

Mr. Snyder was a diesel mechanic and truck driver. He most recently drove for Richers Trucking. He retired in October 2020. He was a Green Bay Packers fan, enjoyed fishing and spending time with his family and friends.

He is survived by one daughter, Kammera K. (John) Wooff of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, one son Scott Snyder of Dallas City, Illinois, three sisters, Sharon Granneman, Lynda Zeh and Ruth (Duane) Harms, one brother, Kenneth Snyder and several grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his wife, parents, brother, George Snyder and sister Marie Snyder.

Cremation has been entrusted to Banks & Beals Funeral Home in Dallas City. A Celebration of Life will be held later this year. Memorial contributions in his memory may be made to the PAWS Animal Shelter or the American Cancer society.

Donations may be mailed to; Eldon Snyder Memorial Fund, c/o Banks & Beals Funeral Home, Dallas City, IL 62330. To leave a condolence, please visit Eldon's obituary at banksandbeals.com.

OBITUARIES

MARK L. PETERSON

Mark Lewis Peterson, 75, of Keokuk, passed away on Sunday, February 21, 2021, at the University of Iowa Hospital in Iowa City, Iowa.

Mark was born on June 15, 1945, in Keokuk, Iowa, the son of Frank L. and Mary M. (Colvin) Peterson and graduated from Keokuk High School in 1963. On July 13, 1968, he was united in marriage to Mary McKay in Keokuk. She survives.



PETERSON

Mark was a lifelong resident of Keokuk and a member of All Saints Catholic Church. He was employed as a foreman at Roquette for over twenty-five years, retiring in 2003. He proudly served his country in the United States Navy during the Vietnam War, and was honorably discharged after receiving several honors, including the Vietnam Service Medal with two Bronze Stars.

In his free time, Mark enjoyed reading, golfing, league bowling, playing cards with friends, and cheering on the Iowa Hawkeyes and the St. Louis Cardinals. Most of all, he enjoyed spending time with his family, whom he loved dearly.

Mark is survived by his wife Mary Peterson of Keokuk; three daughters: Amy (Dr. Joshua) Urban of Omaha, Nebraska, Debbie (Eddie) Gredell of West Des Moines, Iowa, and Beth (Jason) Wulf of West Des Moines, Iowa; three grandchildren: Nate Urban, Abbie Urban and Ian Gredell; two nephews: Greg and Chris Donahue; and several cousins.



Mark is preceded in death by his parents.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:30 am on Monday, March 1, 2021, at All Saints Catholic Church in Keokuk, with a private burial to follow at Keokuk National Cemetery in Keokuk. For those unable to attend, the Mass will be livestreamed at allsaintskeokuk.org/live. Military honors will be rendered at the church directly following the Mass by the American Legion Post #41. Visitation will be held on Sunday, February 28, from 2 to 6 pm, with family meeting friends from 4 to 6 pm at DeJong-Greaves-Printy Funeral Home in Keokuk. A Christian Vigil Service will be held at 6 pm on Sunday directly following the visitation. For the safety of those attending, masks are requested for both the visitation and services.

Memorials may be directed to All Saints Catholic Church or the American Legion Post #41.

Friends and family may leave condolences and memories at www.dejongsfuneralhome.com.

DeJong-Greaves-Printy Funeral Home of Keokuk is in charge of arrangements.

Pen City Current obituary policy

The Current runs obituaries one time at no charge to funeral homes and they run the day they are submitted in most cases. They are also run as submitted by the funeral homes.

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

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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.

For the Record/Iowa News

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report

02/23/21 – 1:23 p.m.
 – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1100 block of Avenue E.
 02/24/21 – 11:11 a.m.
 – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a hit and run in the 1100 block of Avenue D.
 02/24/21 – 4:16 p.m.
 – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 2600 block of Avenue L.
 02/24/21 – 11:04 p.m.
 – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 25600 block of Avenue O.
 02/25/21 – 2:08 a.m.
 – Fort Madison Police arrested Ryne Steven Sackman, 28, of Fort Madison, in the 2800 block of Avenue O on a warrant for posses-

sion of drug paraphernalia. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

Lee County Sheriff's Report

02/23/21 – 4:32 p.m.
 – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Michael David Strom, 57, of Wever, in the 3500 block of Willard Street in Wever, warrants for leaving the scene of a serious injury accident, failure to maintain control, and an ATV highway violation. He was taken to Lee County Jail.
 02/24/21 – 11:14 a.m.
 – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Brenna Kathryn Chaknine, 24, of Hamilton, Ill., at the sheriff's department on a charge of being a fugitive from justice. She was taken to Lee County Jail.
 02/24/21 – 9:29 p.m.
 – Lee County Sheriff's deputies cited Maryah Mickelle Bender, 18,

of Fort Madison, in the 2600 block of 240th Street in Fort Madison, on a charge of possession of a marijuana.
 02/24/21 – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested a 15-year-old male juvenile in the 2600 block of 240th Street on a charge of possession of marijuana. He was released to a parent.
Those listed above are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Fort Madison Fire & Rescue Report

02/23/21 – Fort Madison firefighters responded to one medical call
 02/24/21 – Fort Madison firefighters responded to one medical call, two lift assists, one search for someone walking on ice, one false alarm, and one fire alarm where no fire was discovered.

\$1.7B in FPUC benefits paid since April

UNEMPLOYMENT - Continued from Page 1

upon the weekly data released by the U.S. Department of Labor to report its numbers and as such, adopts the revisions to the previously published data.

The new Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) and Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) extended benefit programs have been implemented and payments are being issued. IWD will automatically enroll all Iowans who are in current reporting status. If you were unemployed or working reduced hours as of December 27, 2020, or after and you have not been filing a weekly continued claim, you will need to reactivate your claim. You may do so online at <https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/file-claim-unemployment-insurance-benefits>. If you are unable to file a claim online, you may contact Iowa Workforce Development Customer Service at 1-866-239-0843 and a representative will assist you. We appreciate your patience as we worked to implement the new programs created under the second stimulus bill.

Beginning March 8, 2021, IowaWORKS cen-

ters and satellite offices will be providing limited in-person services to assist customers with work search activities and basic employment assistance. Services will include assistance with job searches, applications, resume preparation, and other services to help Iowans with their employment needs. Individuals should telephone their local office first to schedule an appointment as walk-in services may be limited in order to follow social distancing recommendations. Workshops and classes will not be offered at this time. Customers with questions regarding unemployment insurance benefits should continue to contact the IWD call center at 1-866-239-0843 or email uiclaimshelp@iwd.iowa.gov to obtain information about their claims.

For the week ending Feb. 20, 2021, unemployment insurance benefit payments totaled \$16,612,317.55. The following industries had the most

- Construction (1,125)
- Manufacturing (1,120)
- Industry Not Available - Self-employed, Independent Contractors, etc (747)
- Retail Trade (343)

Health Care & Social Assistance (298)

A total of \$31,129,500 in FPUC benefits was paid, which include retroactive payments and reauthorized payments that went into effect on Dec. 27, 2020. Since April 4, 2020, a total of \$1,737,837,133 in FPUC benefits has been paid.

A total of \$4,653,555 was paid in PUA benefits. Since April 13, 2020, a total of \$206,835,605.54 in PUA benefits has been paid.

A total of \$14,589,166.63 in benefits has been paid in PEUC benefits this week. Since May 27, 2020, a total of \$223,730,209.37 in PEUC benefits have been paid. The increase in PEUC and FPUC benefits paid this week reflects the number of Iowans who have been paid under the second PEUC program created by Congress in the second stimulus act, that was implemented on February 16, 2021.

Claimants receiving unemployment are required to perform weekly work searches. Those who will be required to begin work searches will be notified by IWD. We have also posted updates on our website regarding this requirement.

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Sports

Boudreau brings rural culture to WIU basketball team

BY JOHN BOHNENKAMP
PCC SPORTS

MACOMB – The lure, Chad Boudreau said, was to work with Rob Jeter again.

Boudreau, a Farmington native, was on the staff from 2005-16 when Jeter was the head men's basketball coach at Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

When Jeter was going through the process of being hired as Western Illinois' head coach in March, he called Boudreau and offered him a job as associate head coach.

Boudreau was the head coach at Highland (Ill.) Community College, but had always thought about coaching again at the NCAA Division I level. Boudreau thought that Western Illinois was a program, "where you could win at," he said.

But there was another lure to the job.

It was close to where he grew up.

"If (the job) had been in Arizona, or Florida, or New York, I wouldn't have gone with Rob," Boudreau said.

The Leathernecks head into their final weekend of the regular season with two Summit League games at Oral Roberts this weekend. In a season filled with the twists that have come with the COVID-19 pandemic, it's a schedule that has gone too fast, Boudreau said.

"The basketball stuff has been hard, because you feel like you're constantly behind," he said. "Now feels like December. Our team is coming together, they're starting to understand their roles and they're grasping what Rob is trying to do. But it feels like December, and all of the sudden it's February and you've got two more games in the conference. It feels like you're behind, and I know everybody feels that way.

Western Illinois, which started the season with 14

new players on the roster, is 7-12 overall, but 5-7 in the Summit League. The Leathernecks are on a five-game winning streak.

It's a roster that was built on relationships that Jeter and Boudreau had with players and the schools where they were recruited.

"It was like cramming for a test, and I love it," Boudreau said. "There were a lot of things going on. A lot of these guys, we already knew. All of these guys that look like a bunch of new guys, we knew them. Just bringing them all together, that was the biggest thing."



BOUDREAU

It is those relationships that Boudreau has built over his career that he appreciates. After graduating from Harmony High School in 1991, Boudreau played two seasons at Southeastern Community College and then closed his career at Hannibal-LaGrange College. He was an assistant coach at Indian Hills Community College from 1999-2005 before going to Milwaukee.

"You take a little piece of everything — a brush stroke here, a brush stroke there," Boudreau said. "At Harmony, I was fortunate to have great coaches. Then at Southeastern, Jim Wyatt is a Hall of Fame coach. I love him. At Hannibal-LaGrange, Kent Thomas was a great coach.

"Life is about relationships. And I've been fortunate to have great relationships with my coaches. When we're all 85 and sitting on a farm in Farmington, Iowa, you want to be able to look back and know you treated people right and you did everything you could to help the people around you."

Boudreau was part of the 1991 boys basketball team at Harmony that qualified for the state tournament.

"We had a bunch of guys who grew up together," Boudreau said. "And then bringing Jermain (Will-

form, a transfer from Burlington, who went on to be an all-state selection) in. The thing I liked the most about that was the positive attention it brought to Harmony. It was a great school, and I enjoyed it. At that time in my life, it was really important to me ... we really wanted to put Harmony on the map, let people know Harmony was good in sports.

"It's so true with all of these small towns. You see it with Melissa Freesmeier and the volleyball program she's built at Holy Trinity. Marquette basketball back in the day was like that. The whole community gets behind it, and it's such a good thing for the community and the school. That's what I liked. Fortunately, as a 17-year-old, I realized that. This is a cool thing for home. I just appreciated we could do that for our home."

Boudreau said growing up in Farmington was "amazing."

"I'm so thankful of where I grew up, where I went to school," he said. "I wouldn't change that for a second. I had great coaches, great teachers. Farmington is an awesome town. My wife (Stacy, the head volleyball coach at Wisconsin-Whitewater) even says that all of the time, that it's a beautiful and underrated place. People don't realize it. You have the river there. You have the state park. So I was outside all of the time. If I wasn't playing basketball, I was fishing, I was hunting, constantly doing something outside."

It all goes back to location for Boudreau, who is helping rebuild the Leathernecks.

"People from the outside don't realize this is a big basketball area," he said. "They love their basketball. Macomb High School loves their basketball. Quincy High School loves their basketball. Galesburg loves their basketball. Quad Cities loves their basketball. Burlington ... there's just a lot of good basketball around. And I think that's something people don't realize — it's a basketball area."



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From the Front

Local legislators back new election law on way to Governor

VOTES - Continued from Page 1

conducted properly.”

Mitchell agreed saying the new law would provide actionable penalties for auditors violating the law.



REICHMAN

“Three county auditors broke the law and there was no teeth in it,” Mitchell said.

“But that’s not how we do things here. Our county auditors have done a great job.”



MITCHELL

He said other statistics get glossed over in the debate. Mitchell said the average time across the nation for early voting is 17 days so this puts Iowa on par with other states.

He said the state has had election bills proposed every year and people call it voter suppression, yet voter turnout continues to climb every year.



GRABER

This year Secretary of State Paul Pate had counties send an absentee ballot to every Iowan as the pandemic kept elderly and disabled at home due to the dangers of the coronavirus.

Fraise said she usually adds one temporary staffer during election cycles and then runs

into overtime, especially with the mandated recount this year.

“We spent \$12,376.26 and will probably will have to double that for a General Election,” she said.

“It’s gonna put a burden on the taxpayers. We will have to hire staff. We sent out 10,000 ballots last time. Can we do that in 20 days? – I doubt it. And then you look at larger counties with more than 50,000 early votes. They’re gonna have to put on staff, too.”

Fraise said the only good thing in the new bill is closing polls at 8 p.m., which is an hour sooner than current law for general elections.

“We’ll continue to follow the law here. I don’t want to go to jail or face a \$10,000 fine, we’ll just have to make the adjustments.”

One of those adjustments is whether or not Lee County, the only county in the state with two county seats and courthouses, will get one or two ballot drop boxes.

“Right now the bill says only one. So who gets it? I asked Sen. Reichman to look into our unique situa-

tion, but I don’t think anything got in the bill.”

Fraise said at this point, she’s only skimmed the bill, but said she was surprised it was 32 pages.

State Rep. Martin Graber (R-Ft. Madison) said Iowans should feel good about the election process and what happened in Iowa. Yet Graber and Mitchell both said they will be supporting the bill in the House. Reichman voted for the bill in the Senate.

“We know how to do it right,” Graber said Friday. “But we don’t want to be like Wisconsin or Pennsylvania or other states that take weeks and weeks to find out who won – and then have it challenged down the road.”

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Classifieds/Public Notices

PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

HELP WANTED

Iowa State Penitentiary is accepting applications for the following positions:

Correctional Officer Location: Fort Madison Iowa

JOB DESCRIPTION: Correctional officers serve as the backbone to the correctional system. Their careers are both challenging and rewarding as they balance their security mission with the mission of helping those incarcerated reform themselves into a successful, law-abiding citizen upon their reentry. Once fully trained, Correctional Officers can make a lasting impact on an incarcerated person's life while also helping maintain safe and secure correctional facilities. New Correctional Officers earn a full time salary as they go through their training, and the State offers one of the most competitive benefits packages in the private or public sector.

Starting Salary:
(\$20.34/\$30.14 (Max))

Correctional Food Service Coordinator

Supervise incarcerated dietary workers in the performance of all assigned duties and responsibilities relating to food preparation, tray assembly, meal delivery and dietary sanitation. Teach food service techniques and procedures to incarcerated individuals. Demonstrate ability to prepare food items by frying, baking, roasting, etc as appropriate. Monitor food temperatures, ensure foods are served and stored at a safe temperature. Supervise tray line/main line; ensure proper assembly and portions of meals. Demonstrate ability in performing stock inventories and purchasing requirements. Demonstrate knowledge of weights and measures used in determining proper amounts of food ingredients for mass food production.

Starting Salary:
(\$21.46 - \$31.56 (Max))

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Lee County Bank, a progressive, locally owned bank, is seeking a qualified individual for a Real Estate Loan and Compliance Officer. This person should possess strong computer and customer relations skills, the ability to work in a team environment, and a commitment to community involvement. Job responsibilities include loan origination and overseeing compliance aspects in the Loan Department.

Competitive compensation with excellent benefits package. Lee County Bank is an equal opportunity employer. Please submit resume to:

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Fort Madison, IA 52627
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cward@leecountybank.com



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

\$70,000 selling outright

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE Notice to Bidders Iowa Department of Natural Resources

Sealed bids will be received by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources by email, at procurement@dnr.iowa.gov until 11:00 am, March 18, 2021 for the public improvement projects listed below. In an effort to mitigate the spread and effects of the COVID-19, the Department of Natural Resources will ONLY be accepting proposals submitted via email for these projects. The subject line of the email containing the proposal, with the proposal guarantee, must include the Project Number, Project Title, and the Bid Date and Time. No bids shall be accepted by FAX, mail or hand-delivery. After the bid opening, information concerning bid results may be obtained by visiting the Department's website at www.iowadnr.gov.

Note: The bid opening for this project will be held by conference call only. No facilities will be available for an in-person meeting. Interested parties may call in to the following number to listen to the bid opening:

Conference call number: +1 (505) 738-1452
PIN: 886 923 111#
In order to improve

sound quality, please mute your phone by pressing *6. If you have questions, you can unmute your phone by pressing *6.

While bids are due by 11:00 am CST, the bid opening teleconference will not begin until 11:30 am to allow staff ample time to print bids before reading them aloud.

Project documents, including drawings, specifications, proposal forms, and addenda items for the project are available at Beeline and Blue, at 2507 Ingersoll Ave, Des Moines IA 50312. Please visit www.beelineandblue.com or contact (515) 244-1611 for more information.

Alternatively, Bid Documents can be viewed or printed online at <https://programs.iowadnr.gov/engreal/projectlist.asp>

The Department shall comply with all public improvement procurement laws, as outlined in the plans and specifications and including but not limited to: Iowa Code chapter 26 related to public construction bidding; Iowa Code chapter 73 related to preferences; Iowa Code chapter 573 related to labor and materials on public improvements; rules promulgated by the Department of Administrative Services – General Services Enterprise as they may apply; rules

promulgated by the Department of Natural Resources and the Natural Resources Commission, as they may apply; and any federal statutes, rules and/or executive orders that may be associated depending on funding sources. Bidders shall comply with these laws to be considered and are encouraged to be familiar with public improvement procurement requirements and the bidding documents before submitting a bid.

Each bidder shall accompany the bid with a scanned copy of the bid security as defined in Iowa code section 26.8. Additionally, bid securities in the form of a certified check, cashier's check, or money order must also be mailed to the Department at the Wallace State Office Building, 502 East 9th Street, Des Moines, IA 50319. The bid security must be in an amount set forth in the bidding documents and made payable to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. Failure to execute a contract for the proposed work and file an acceptable Performance Bond in an amount equal to 100% of the contract price and a certificate of liability insurance within thirty (30) days of the date of the award of the contract will be just and sufficient cause for the rescinding of the award and the forfeiture of the

bid security.

KEOKUK COUNTY PROJECT

NO. 21-05-54-01
Sugema Wildlife Unit
Hayesville Bend & Hwy 21 Access Flood Damage Repairs

Proposal Guarantee: \$25,000.00

Completion Date: 08/31/2021

Bid Letting Date: 03/18/2021

Project Description:
This project involves removal of silt, placement of fill, placement of revetment and construction of a new spillway at Hayesville Bend & Hwy 21 Access in the Sugema Wildlife Unit in Keokuk County.

WOODBURY COUNTY PROJECT

NO. 20-01-97-01
Stone State Park
Road and Slide Repair
Proposal Guarantee: \$25,000.00

Completion Date: 08/31/2021

Bid Letting Date: 03/18/2021

Project Description:
This project at Stone State Park in Woodbury County, Iowa, involves miscellaneous grading, HMA paving, storm sewer pipe and structures. The adjacent ditch embankment will need clearing, grubbing, and finished graded. An existing ditch storm sewer apron shall be removed and the pipe extended.

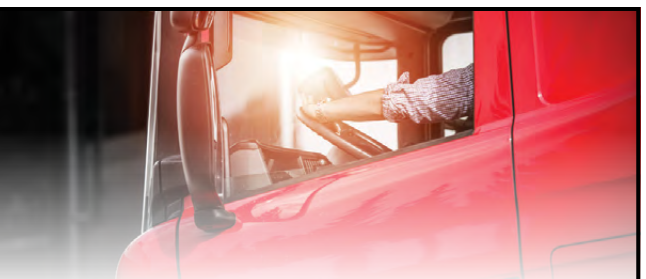
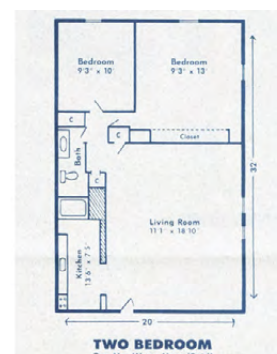
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QUALITY PLUS FEEDS

Iowa News/From the Front

Food pantries may face challenges even post COVID-19

By Nicole Grundmeier

IowaWatch January 14, 2021

In March, Kelli Greenland faced a devil of a choice – should she accept a retail job as an essential worker, or should she remain home to keep her medically fragile son safe from exposure to the novel coronavirus?

The West Des Moines mother of two decided to stay home initially. Greenland relied heavily on food pantries to feed her family, which includes son Ethan, 7, who has asthma, and daughter Skylynn, 4, who is lactose intolerant.

The family had used food pantries previously, but “not like we’ve had to this year,” Greenland, 30, said.

“Definitely, 2020 has been a ride, from not being able to get food in-stock in the beginning in the grocery stores to not being able to go to the stores because my son has severe asthma, and the possibility of exposing him,” Greenland said.

Iowa food pantries have tried to fill the gap for families like Greenland’s, but the pantries themselves

have faced unprecedented challenges as the COVID-19 pandemic lingers and food insecurity increases in the state and nationwide.

Feeding America, the largest domestic hunger-relief organization in the country, estimates that 12.8% of Iowans were living with food insecurity as of October, up from 9.7% in 2018, which is the most recent data available.

Food insecurity experts interviewed by IowaWatch are concerned the situation in Iowa could get substantially worse this winter, and they’re calling on state and federal lawmakers to rush additional aid to families in need of food.

“When we look at a deficit of food going forward, the state has to get into the game,” said Michelle Book, president and CEO of the Food Bank of Iowa, which serves 634 partners in a 55-county region in central, southern and southeastern Iowa.

The organization’s five regional food banks — the River Bend Foodbank in Davenport, the Food Bank of

Iowa in Des Moines, HACAP Food Reservoir in Hiawatha, the Northeast Iowa Food Bank in Waterloo, and the Food Bank for the Heartland in Omaha — distributed 33 million meals in all of 2019; that number was 41 million through the first 11 months of 2020.

The Institute for Policy Research at Northwestern University, using census survey data, said the state’s estimated rate of food insecurity rose from 7% in February to 19.2% for April and May – about 2.7 times as many Iowans. Only three states had a higher ratio between the two dates, although 35 states and the District of Columbia had estimated April-May rates higher than Iowa’s.

The estimates from the weekly census data have mostly tracked a few percentage points below the national average throughout the pandemic.

Anti-hunger advocates fretted for weeks about a Dec. 31 deadline for state and local governments to spend federal aid provided in the spring through the CARES Act and the prospect for supplemental aid to individuals and social services agencies to vanish.

Auge placed on administrative leave by county attorney

OWI - Continued from Page 1

a waiver of rights and a guilty plea to count three, of OWI-1st offense, ultimately releasing Boyd from the homicide by vehicle charges, which are considered vehicular manslaughter, a Class B felony in Iowa punishable by a mandatory prison sentence up to 25 years per count. Boyd was facing two counts.

Auge never signed the plea agreement Dial submitted, but he included her email as part of the filing and wrote “see attached email” in the line where her signature was required.

The next day, Jan. 26, at 10:31 a.m. Auge emailed Dial after becoming aware of the guilty plea to OWI and tried to clarify the state’s position – that she was willing

to accept a plea to Counts 1 or 2 which were the vehicular homicide charges, apologized for the confusion, and said the state fully intends to pursue the other charges.

An hour later, District Judge John Wright entered an order accepting the plea and setting a sentencing hearing.

Lee County Attorney Ross Braden, on Jan. 27, after learning of the plea down to OWI from Auge, filed an amended motion regarding the plea arrangement, calling Auge’s communication, “a poorly drafted email in this matter to Defense Counsel”.

Braden described in his argument how Dial hastily printed off the email and got a signature from his client, attached the email and filed the guilty plea in an attempt to avoid prosecution for manslaughter, knowing that the state was intent on pursuing charges relating to the fatalities.

Braden, who placed Auge on administrative leave last week, said Judge Wright had no choice but to accept the plea agreement.

“Those agreements are basically contracts between the state and the defendant and the Supreme Court has

essentially ruled that way,” Braden said.

He declined to comment further on Auge’s position citing personnel issues.

In his argument to the court on Jan. 27, Braden asked the court to keep the trial date set and allow the state to prosecute Boyd under the first two counts.

On Feb. 19, Wright overruled Braden’s request and sentenced Boyd to the maximum allowable jail term for OWI-1st offense, a serious misdemeanor. Wright sentenced Boyd to one year in the Lee County Jail with credit for time served. One year is the maximum allowed under Iowa law for a serious misdemeanor.

Boyd was taken into custody on Feb. 22 and is being housed in the Lee County Jail with work release privileges. He was also fined \$1,250, a 15% crime services surcharge and court costs.

Boyd’s driver’s license was also revoked for six years and he was ordered to complete a substance abuse evaluation, a course for drinking drivers and a substance abuse prevention program.

The Faulkner family declined to comment for this article.

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