

PEN CITY CURRENT

It's Black & White and Read all over

Thursday, November 19, 2020 | 8 pages | Volume 4 • Issue 210



www.pencitycurrent.com

Mayor upset with project engineers -again

P.O.R.T. TRAIL: Mohrfeld says plans failed “miserably” on Avenue B trail work

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – A city-hired engineering firm took another scolding Tuesday night from Fort Madison Mayor Matt Mohrfeld.

This time the issue was the PORT trail extension that runs along Avenue B east from Fort Madison High School property to 15th Street and then up to Rodeo Park.

Mohrfeld was upset with HR Green Inc, which engineered the project, after fielding complaints from neighborhood residents. Mohrfeld said there was a lack of a clean flow of the project along Avenue B.

“From the day I met with the team on this project. I said avenue B is an opportunity that we have to be careful with because we’re going through people’s front yards. And we are failing miserably,” Mohrfeld said.

Mohrfeld cited a failure to do grades or utilities correctly and said he didn’t blame residents in the area for being upset.

“Before anybody jumps on and tells me it’s somebody else’s surveying, I’m pretty sure its HR Green stamps on the prints that we are guided by,” Mohrfeld said.

Tim Cutsforth, a project engineer with HR Green, was on the call and asked Mohrfeld what he meant by clean flow of

See TRAIL, page 6

CO-FOUNDER

Kowzan steps off North Lee foundation

Submitted article

FORT MADISON – Joe Kowzan, a long-time board member and co-founder of the North Lee Community Foundation is stepping down from this organization’s board of directors. “I applaud the leadership efforts of our board throughout the years but after 16 years it is time for someone else to take over” said Kowzan.

Founded in 2004 by then Fort Madison Mayor Kowzan and Steve Koellner, this group has been focused on providing an opportunity for local citizens to establish their own legacy through permanent charitable endowments. “I especially want to thank all of our fund holders who trusted in our board, this organization, and all that we stood for”, said Kowzan. “I believe we have accomplished what we set out to do and I am so proud of this group. These endowments are permanent, benefitting our local charities forever”, he added.

When established in 2004, this organization was known as the Fort Madison Community Foundation. In 2005, the board decided to represent a much larger area, and changed its name to The Community Foundation of North Lee County. This included all the smaller towns in the area, such as West Point, Wever, Denmark, and Houghton. That same year, North Lee affiliated with The Quad Cities Community Foundation, one of only 11 Foundations in Iowa that meet standards set forth by the National Council of Foundations based in Washington, D.C. An Iowa community foundation has the choice to meet such national standards and stand alone, or must affiliate with a Foundation that has such credentials.

In 2019, the Foundation changed its name to North Lee Community Foundation, disbanded from The Quad Cities, and re-affiliated with the Keokuk Area Community Foundation. “The move to Keokuk gives our organization a more local feel, and should be nothing but beneficial for years to come”, said Kowzan. Recently the Keokuk Area Foundation has accepted both North Lee and the Burlington based Des Moines

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See BOARD, page 6



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg

Crews with Meller Excavating work on the city parking lot at the corner of Avenue F and 8th Street. The city is using a DNR reimbursement of waste water treatment plant loan interest to put in a new permeable pavement that will absorb rain water into the gravel subsurface being rolled.

CARES FUNDING

Reynolds allocates funds to Iowa renters, homeowners

DES MOINES – Governor Reynolds today announced an additional allocation of CARES Act funds to support Iowa renters and homeowners at-risk of eviction or foreclosure due to a COVID-19-related loss of income. The Iowa Eviction and Foreclosure

Prevention program has now been allocated a total of \$37.4 million, with approximately \$8 million remaining available. The deadline to apply for rent and mortgage assistance as well as utility assistance through the Iowa Residential Utility Disruption Preven-

tion program is Dec. 4, 2020.

“At no fault of their own, many Iowans are struggling to pay their bills as a result of lost income due to the COVID-19 pandemic,” said Gov.

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WEATHER

THU 19 Nov.....	Broken Clouds, 67° F/ 52° F
FRI 20 Nov.....	Scattered Clouds, 59° F/ 50° F
SAT 21 Nov.....	Rain and Chilly, 48° F/ 40° F

IOWA LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS 11/17.....	8 13 35 46 68, Mega Ball: 16 Megaplier: 3
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Obituaries

WILLIAM F. WOLF

William (Bill) Francis Wolf, 74, of Riverside, IA, formerly of Keokuk, died Friday, November 13, 2020 at his home in Riverside.

He was born February 21, 1946 in Carrollton, MO, the son of George H. and Nigel Parker Wolf. While on a trip in Rome, Italy with the love of his life, he proposed to Kathleen (Kathy). On November 20, 1970, Bill and Kathy were united in marriage in Chillicothe, IL. She survives.

Bill is also survived by a sister, Beverly A. Ryan of Indianapolis, IN, three nephews George M. Ryan III, William J. Ryan and David W. Winkleblack five nieces, Terri C. Nissley, Rita R. Trimble, Thais E. Priest, Katherine A. Winkleblack, and Claire E. Winkleblack, and a sister in law, Carole Winkleblack of Riverside, IA.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Bill attended Illinois Valley Central High School in Chillicothe, IL, and graduated in 1964. After high school, Bill joined the Navy. Upon his return from the Navy, he attended Canton Junior College in Canton, IL, graduating with an Associates of Arts Degree.

Bill worked for the Santa Fe Railroad as a conductor for over forty years. He retired in February of 2006. Bill was a member of the Keokuk Yacht Club and the Keokuk American Legion. Bill enjoyed fishing and traveling the world with Kathy.

A graveside service will be held at a later date.

The Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk is assisting the family with arrangements.

Online condolences may be made to the family at vigenmemorialhome.com.

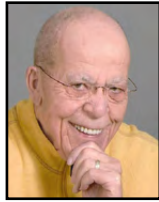
Pen City Current obituary policy

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.

JAMES L. DOORE

James L. Doore, 79, of Burlington and formerly of Ft. Madison passed away on Tuesday, November 17, 2020 at the Great River Medical Center.

He was born on October 6, 1941 in Monmouth, IL to Grover and Winnie Cole Doore. On June 13, 1964 he married Linda K. Cashman at Sacred Heart Church in Ft. Madison. Jim was a graduate of Ft. Madison High School, Burlington Junior College and Western Illinois University. He taught Industrial education, owned and operated Doore Dodge and was in electrical sales retiring from VanMeter, Inc in 1999. After his retirement he worked part time at Huffman Farm and Home and Standard of Beaverdale.



DOORE

He was a member of Holy Family Parish and was a past member of Kiwanis in Ft. Madison. He volunteered for various organizations including Great River Hospice, Habitat for Humanity and Ss. Mary and Joseph Church in Ft. Madison.

Survivors include his wife, Linda Doore of Burlington; one son, Jeff (Dawn) Doore of Keokuk; two grandsons, Matt (Diana) Doore of Dubuque and Keith (Liz) Doore of Fayetteville, AR; sisters in law, Judy (Ralph) Burgin of West Point, Connie Hendricks of Jacksonville, FL; brother in law, Dan Cashman of San Francisco and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents; a son, Randy and two sisters, Frances and Betty.

Per his wishes, cremation has been entrusted to King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory and there will be no formal services at this time.

A memorial has been established for Great River Hospice House and on-line condolences may be left at www.kinglynk.com.

BILLY J. CARROLL

Billy Joe Carroll, 58, of Donnellson, Iowa, passed away at 2:30 a.m. Monday, November 16, 2020, at the Iowa Methodist Hospital in Des Moines, Iowa.

He was born on July 14, 1962, in Kirksville, Missouri, the son of Billy Hubert and Wilma (Krouse) Carroll. On October 16, 1982 he married Nancy Walker in Kahoka, Missouri. They later divorced.

Survivors include his son: Brias (Regina) Carroll of West Point, Iowa; one brother: Arney (Susan) Carroll of Medill, Missouri; one sister: Brenda (Mike) Long of Bloomington, Illinois; nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents and sisters: Linda Hoyt and Barb Pentzel.

Billy worked as a logger with his father, Fruehauf until they closed and then Hawkeye Steel up until last year due to health issues. He enjoyed working on cars and motorcycles and most of all, spending time with family and friends.

Billy's body has been entrusted to Schmitz Funeral Home for cremation.

A private family graveside service will be held at a later date at Kahoka Cemetery in Kahoka, Missouri.

A memorial has been established in his memory. The Schmitz Funeral Home of Donnellson is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com.

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THANKSGIVING

In observance of the Thanksgiving holiday, we will not publish an e-Edition Thursday, November 26 through Sunday, November 29. We'll resume publication on Monday, November 30. Breaking news will continue to be published on our website 24/7.

We wish you a very warm & wonderful Thanksgiving.

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Obituaries

RICHARD E. NEWBERRY

Richard E. Newberry, 77 years, of Wever, Iowa died at 12:50 am Wednesday November 18, 2020 at the Henry County Health Center, Mt. Pleasant, Iowa. He was born September 6, 1943 in Plymouth, Illinois, a son of Daniel Mer-ton and Marjorie Rose (Dhondt) Newberry.



NEWBERRY

On January 7, 1962, he married Lyn Wayland in Mexico. They were married 58 years and had four children: Jamie, Ed, Tresh and Andy.

Richard grew up working on their family farm. He graduated high school and completed a TV Repair program at Devry Technical College in Chicago.

He worked 38 years for Xerox. He had a CDL and drove a truck for Richers Trucking for 15 years, including over the road and locally for Agrineed.

He was a member of First Christian Church and he renewed his faith the past few years. He enjoyed deer hunting, fishing, camping, and traveling. Richard and his family traveled camping all over the United States. He and Lyn continued traveling until they had visited all 50 states and they took a Caribbean Cruise for their 50 Wedding Anniversary. His wife, Lyn, was the center of his world. He loved his family and was a true giver helping anyone who needed it.

He is survived by his wife, Lyn Newberry of Wever; three children: Jamie (Tammy) Newberry of Kansas City, Kansas; Tresh (Gerald) Smith of LaBelle, Missouri; and Andy (Aimee) Newberry of Dallas City, Illinois; one daughter-in-law Tonya Newberry of Maryland; one brother, Dan (Donna) Newberry of Michigan; two sisters, Jeanette (Dick) Young of DeKalb, Illinois and Donna K (Mike) Jarvis of Niota, Illinois; 15 grandchildren, 17 great grandchildren, numerous other family members, and lifelong friends, Mike & Carol Mercer and family of Wever.

He was preceded in death by his parents, one son Ed Newberry, one great grandson Dadn Smith, and one sister Margie Ann Whitson.

Visitation will be 9:00 - 10:30 am Saturday, November 21, 2020 at the Barr Memorial Chapel, Fort Madison. A private funeral service will follow with Jamie Newberry, his son, officiating.

Burial will be at Claypoole Cemetery, rural Wever. A memorial has been established for First Christian Church, contributions may be made at the funeral home.

Barr Memorial Chapel is honored to serve the Newberry family and an online guest book may be found at www.barrmemorialchapel.com.

MARC R. JOHNSON

Marc Raymond Johnson, 70 of Keokuk, IA died Tuesday, November 17, 2020 at Blessing Hospital in Quincy, IL.

He was born February 28, 1950 in Keokuk, IA, the son of James and Marjorie Maxine Hayden Johnson. Marc graduated from Keokuk High School with the Class of 1968. On May 26, 2000, he was united in marriage to Carolyn Hanan in Keokuk, IA. She survives.



JOHNSON

Other survivors include two sons, Ian Johnson (Kris) and Justin Johnson (Tricia Merydith), one step-son, David Hanan (Tami Elder) all of Keokuk, grandchildren, Kennedy Johnson, Maddie Johnson, Emily Seidel, Shelby Hanan, Katy Hanan, Tucker Hanan, Connor Heinz, Carlee Heinz, Merydith Marshall, McKenzie Marshall and a daughter-in-law, Susan Hanan of Keokuk.

He was preceded in death by his parents, one step son, Jeff Hanan, one sister, Mar-Scine Morgan, and a brother at birth, James Johnson, Jr.

Marc had been employed at Pinnacle Foods in Montrose, IA for twenty-five years until his retirement. He was a member of Trinity United Methodist Church and the Keokuk Yacht Club.

Marc loved the outdoors and especially enjoyed hunting and fishing. Marc and Carolyn enjoyed many years of traveling, visiting people and places and making wonderful memories.

Celebration of life will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to New Testament Christian Church or St. Jude Children's Hospital and may be mailed to the Vigen Memorial Home 1328 Concert, Keokuk, Iowa 52632.

The Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk, IA is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.vigenmemorialhome.com.

DOUGLAS GATES

Douglas Gates, 55 of Alexandria died Tuesday, November 17, 2020 died at his home in Alexandria.

He was born March 16, 1965, the son of Ronald Earl "Duck" and Joyce Hamelton Gates in Keokuk, Iowa.

He is survived by his dad, Ronald "Duck" Gates (Diana) of Alexandria, three sisters, Lora Trone of Kahoka, Michelle Bennett and Ashley Arthur of Keokuk, a stepsister, Michelle Lee, a stepbrother, Jamie Lee, both of Keokuk, a significant other, Vanetta Booth of Alexandria, several aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. He was preceded in death by his mom and his daughter, Sandra Burgess.

Doug enjoyed working on cars. He got a great thrill participating in demolition derbies. Doug loved his pit bull dogs and considered them as part of his family.

A graveside service will be held Friday, 1 p.m. at the Oakland Cemetery in Keokuk.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the family.

On-line condolences may be made to the family online at www.vigenmemorialhome.com.

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For the Record/From the Front

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report

11/16/20 – 10:07 a.m.
 – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 400 block of Avenue H.
 11/16/20 – 11:05 a.m.
 – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of property damage accident in the 4800 block of Avenue O.
 11/16/20 – 12:51 p.m.
 – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of property damage accident in the 900 block of Avenue G.
 11/17/20 – 1:40 a.m.
 – Fort Madison Police cited Jonathon Michael Juhl, 32, of Fort Madison in the 2700 block of Avenue K on a charge of driving under suspension.
 11/17/20 – 7:35 p.m.
 – Fort Madison Police cited Sherri Beames, 36, of Fort Madison, in the 3200 block of Avenue L, on a charge of driving while suspended.
 11/17/20 – 8:15 a.m.
 – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 2700 block of Avenue A.
 11/17/20 – 3:37 p.m.
 – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 1200 block of 17th Street.
 11/18/20 – 5:21 p.m.
 – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 1100 block of 26th Street.
 11/18/20 – 7:45 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded

to a report of a burglary in the 700 block of Avenue G.
 11/18/20 – 7:52 a.m.
 – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 1900 block of Avenue H.

Lee County Sheriff's Office

11/16/20 – 8:35 p.m.
 – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Michael Anthony Weldon, 30, of Fort Madison, at the Fort Madison Police Department on a warrant for failure to appear and a judgment hold. He was taken to Lee County Jail.
 11/16/20 – 11:55 p.m.
 – Lee County Sheriff's deputies cited Michael Stephen Clark, 54, of Cedar Rapids, on N. Main Street in Donnellson on a charge of driving while barred.
 11/17/20 – 4:00 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Sandra Jo Hobb, 61, of Keokuk, in the 200 block of Washington St. in Keokuk in a charge of being a fugitive from justice. She was taken to Lee County Jail.
 11/17/20 – 10:55 p.m.
 – Lee County Sheriff's deputies cited Reno Donovan Steele, 32, of Warsaw at the intersection of Hwy. 218 and 243rd Avenue, on charges of possession of drug paraphernalia, and possession of a controlled substance. Those listed on above are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Iowans can find aid for mortgage, rent in housing recovery fund

AID - Continued from Page 1

Reynolds. "Today's announcement bolsters the Iowa Eviction and Foreclosure Prevention program, which is helping Iowa homeowners and renters make their rent or mortgage payments. Our team will continue to assist Iowans in accessing this critical assistance as the Dec. 4th deadline approaches."

"Nearly 11,000 renters and 500 homeowners have received assistance with their rent or mortgage payments and another 2,800 have applied for utility assistance to date," said IEDA and IFA Executive Director Debi Durham. "Our goal is to assist as many Iowans that have been impacted by COVID-19 and are at-risk of eviction, foreclosure or utility disruption as possible."

The programs are funded through federal CARES Act funds, which requires that all funds be expended by Dec. 30, 2020.

To be eligible for either program:
 Must have a documented COVID-19-related loss of income on or after March 17, 2020.

Household income at the time of application may not exceed 80% median family income, which varies by county and household size and is included in the applications.

Eviction and Foreclosure Prevention Program
 The program provides current renters and home-

owners who are at-risk of eviction or foreclosure due to a COVID-19 loss of income with rent or mortgage assistance for up to four months. The total maximum in assistance per household is the lesser of \$3,200 for rental assistance and \$3,600 for mortgage assistance or four months actual rent/mortgage payment amounts. Payments are made directly to landlords and mortgage servicers and applied to the applicant's account.

The state has allocated \$37.4 million of federal CARES Act funds to the Iowa Eviction and Foreclosure Prevention program to date.

Residential Utility Disruption Prevention Program

The program provides eligible households with up to \$2,000 towards electric, natural gas and water bills if they are at risk of disconnection due to an inability to pay due to a COVID-19 related loss of income. Payments are made directly to utility providers and applied to the applicant's account.

The state allocated approximately \$14.5 million of federal CARES Act funds for utility assistance programs.

For a full list of eligibility requirements and to apply for either program, visit iowahousingrecovery.com through Dec. 4, 2020.

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From the Front/Classifieds

Foundation has given more than \$20M in 16 years

BOARD - Continued from Page 1

County Community Foundation as affiliates.

Since its founding, North Lee has endowed \$20 Million, represented by 90 named funds. These endowments distribute approximately \$950,000 annually to local non-profits and also provide scholarships to students throughout the region.

It is estimated that Lee County, Iowa alone will have a wealth transfer of \$872 Million over the next decade. It is North Lee's goal to capture a fraction of that wealth and endow it.

"Our organization offers our citizens a choice to create their own legacy and improve the lives of all of our residents. We represent something very positive," said Kowzan.

The current board members are: Steve Koellner, Chuck Holmes, Jan Woodroffe, Dianne Hope, Dick Fehseke, Tim Gobble, Jared Reed, Matt Hayes, Chad Ward, Linda Larkin, Jane Krebill, and Laurie Breen.j

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PEN CITY CURRENT
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Council gives second approval to Avenue E parking restriction

TRAIL - Continued from Page 1

the trail.

Mohrfeld told Cutsforth that when they originally met on the project the mayor outlined concerns for property owners, including inclines in driveways and possible other options to reduce the impact on the neighborhood.

"I'm not 100% deniable, but I'm still frustrated," Mohrfeld said. "I just don't think our reservations about the clean flow of that trail through people's front yards was taken to heart when we did the planning on this.

"I think we dropped the ball and I hope this doesn't continue as we go up the hill on this project because I love this project."

Cutsforth said he wasn't going to blame other company's surveying work and would be willing to meet with the city again to walk the project. But he said all options were considered and discussed before moving forward with plans.

"What I am going to tell you is that we did look at the south side. We looked at eliminating both sides of parking and putting the trail in the middle of the street. They were discussed and the decision was made to put it on the north side," Cutsforth said.

"The trail is going in and it has to fit existing ground as best as possible and has to meet ADA standards. I guess I understand some of what your saying and would be happy to talk with you more about it anytime."

Councilwoman Rebecca Bowker, who has advocated for the city to take more accountability in the plans the city approves, again said the city needs to be more responsible for what they approve.

"Well, I sure hope, now that you have so many frustrations with the engineering firms, that we are now taking the plans and walking them ourselves so we have some personal accountability," Bowker said.

Last month Mohrfeld took another local engineer to task for change orders on the Amtrak Depot passenger platform project and Bowker said the city had some responsibility in those errors as well.

Along with several other projects in and around Fort Madison, including Burlington, have met with frustration over engineering estimates versus actual bid costs.

The freshly finished 2nd to 6th street Hwy. 61 project had to be rebid due to discrepancies in the estimate vs. bid costs. A project to overhaul curbs and sidewalks along Avenue G was abandoned because bids weren't in line with engineering estimates.

The Amtrak passenger platform project also met with a change order Tuesday, but those changes resulted in a \$112,153 savings on the project.

The change order on the PORT project amounted to an increase of \$4,372 bringing the total cost of the new phase to \$1,211,149. The trail is being paid for by a \$1.5 million donation from the Great River Health System/Fort Madison Community Hospital Community Health Fund.

A third change order was also approved by the council on the upcoming 6th to 10th Street Hwy. 61 reconstruction project. HR Engineer submitted an increase request for \$165,260 for design of a new sanitary sewer along the highway, bringing to the total engineering costs for the project to \$617,060.

All the change orders were approved with a 7-0 vote. In other action, the council:

- approved a second reading of an ordinance that would eliminate parking on the south side of Avenue E from 2nd to 24th streets in Fort Madison. Newly appointed Councilman Tom Schulz said he would like some clarification on road standards prior to the third reading. The ordinance requires three readings before becoming official.

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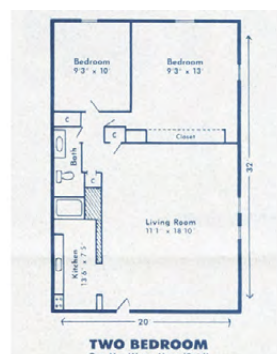
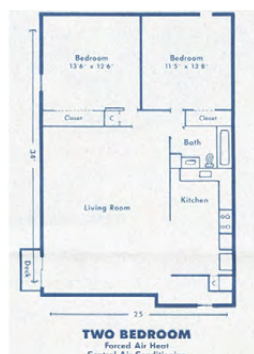
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Celebrations/Iowa News

Birth Announcements

COSGROVE

KEOKUK – Jelly and Stephen Cosgrove, of Keokuk, are proud to announce the birth of their son Noah Lapinig Cosgrove, on Oct. 31, 2020 at Fort Madison Community Hospital.

Noah is joined at home by Narrion Snow Lapinig.

Grandparents are June Stepp of Keokuk; Stephen Emmet Cosgrove (deceased) of Hamilton, Ill.; and Leonardo and Julina Lapinig of Davao City, Phillipines.

Great-grandparents are Benard and Mildred Benjamin (deceased) of Keokuk; Josie and Anathalia Tandayag (deceased) of Shrigao, Phillipines; Juan and Conrada Lapinig (deceased) of Barubo, Phillipines; and Hubbard and Enid Cosgrove (deceased) of Hamilton, Ill.

MENKE

SALEM – Jessica and Alan Menke of Salem, are proud to announce the birth of their son Nolan Deitrich Joseph Menke, on Oct. 31, 2020 at Fort Madison Community Hospital.

Nolan joins Emma, Nicholas, Addison, Jillian, and Madeline at home.

Grandparents are Albert and Mary Menke of Salem; and Dorn and Sally (deceased) Luder of Dallas City, Ill.

MELLER

WEVER – Sara and Craig Meller of Wever, are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Sylvia Marie Meller, on Oct. 24, 2020 at Fort Madison Community Hospital.

Sylvia is joined at home by Stella and Sophia Meller.

Grandparents are Richard and Diane Jennings of West Point; Lee Meller of Fort Madison; and Glen and Sue Meller of Fort Madison.

Great-grandparent is Mert Peitz of West Point.

COURCHENE

FORT MADISON – Justice Durden of Fort Madison and Pierre Courchene, of Willison, N.D., are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Royal Violet Courchene on Nov. 2, 2020 at Fort Madison Community Hospital.

Grandparents are Ronnie Leonard of Fort Madison, and Jerry Durden of Williston, N.D.

Great-grandparents are Billie Harris of Leander, Texas; Rhonda Leonard (deceased); and Doug Durden, Sr. of Mena, Texas.

LUKE-WAGNER

FORT MADISON – Julia Honadel and Branden Luke-Wagner of Fort Madison, are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Aniyah Lynn Luke-Wagner on Nov. 14, 2020 at Fort Madison Community Hospital.

Grandparents are Bryan Wagner of Fort Madison; Shannon Buechel of Montrose; Tammy Bottoms of Fort Madison, and Kenneth Honadel of Fort Madison.

Great-grandparents are Richard (Dick) Wagner of Montrose; and Sue Moffot of Montrose.

MEYERS

KEOKUK – Shannon Watts and Travis Meyers of Keokuk, are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Leah Corbin Meyers on Nov. 2, 2020 at Fort Madison Community Hospital.

Grandparents are Susan and Tony Palmer of Keokuk; and Diana Meyers of Keokuk.

Great-grandparents are Gloria and Frank McCarl of Fort Madison; and Norma and Clair Palmer of Stronghurst, Ill.

Pen City Current congratulates the above families on these wonderful additions.

Apple settles on iPhone speed claim suits

DES MOINES — Attorney General Tom Miller, along with a coalition of more than 30 other attorneys general, announced a \$113 million settlement with Apple, Inc. regarding its 2016 decision to throttle consumers' iPhone speeds to address unexpected shutdowns in some iPhones.

Based on the multistate investigation, the attorneys general allege that Apple discovered that battery issues were leading to unexpected shutdowns in iPhones. Rather than disclosing these issues or replacing batteries, however, Apple concealed the issues from consumers, according to the complaint. Apple's concealment ultimately led to a software update in December 2016 that reduced iPhone performance in an effort to keep the phones from unexpectedly shutting down.

The attorneys general allege that Apple's concealment of the battery issues and decision to throttle the performance of consumers' iPhones led to Apple profiting from selling additional iPhones to affected consumers.

"Apple never acknowledged a problem until iPhone customers discovered it and complained," Miller said. "This settlement ensures the company provides clear and useful information to consumers going forward."

Under the settlement, Apple will pay \$1,517,959 to Iowa. In addition to the monetary payment, Apple also must provide truthful information to consumers about iPhone battery health, performance, and power management. Apple must provide this important information in various forms on its website, in update installation notes, and in the iPhone user interface itself.

Apple recently also entered into a proposed settlement of class action litigation related to the same conduct. Under that proposed settlement Apple will pay out up to \$500 million in consumer restitution to eligible iPhone users. For more information, go to <https://www.smart-phoneperformancesettlement.com/>.

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