PEN CITY CURRENT

It's Black & White and Read all over

Thursday, June 9, 2022 | 13 pages | Volume 6 • Issue 104









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Mitchell, Widbin fall

PRIMARIES: Finkenauer goes down in Democratic primary voting



DES MOINES – Iowa Rep. Joe Mitchell (R-Wayland) was ousted in Tuesday's primary voting for State Rep. District 87.

Mitchell, whose district has changed for the upcoming term due to state redistricting, is serving his second term representing southeast Iowa, including northwest Lee County.

The new 87th district no longer includes Lee County. The only other local race contested was for the new

State Representative for District 99 where TJ Widbin lost in his first ever attempt for elected office. Widbin was defeated by Matthew Rinker 728 to 595. The new district includes northeastern Lee County.

Martin Graber ran unopposed on the Republican ticket and garnered 931 votes with just three write-ins.

At the federal level, Michael Franken ousted Abby Finkenauer for the Democratic challenger to Charles

See **PRIMARIES**, page 5



Randy Winegard, of the Winegard Foundation, and Dr. Michael Ash, President of Southeastern Community College, and the Greater Burlington Area Sports Facilities were part of remarks made Wednesday at the groundbreaking of The Courts in Burlington.

THE COURTS

New sports facility is part of 2023 GRE improvements

BURLINGTON - The Courts, a long-awaited indoor basketball, volleyball and pickleball court facility, celebrated a ground-breaking ceremony on Wednesday morning.

The ceremonial 'first dig' followed brief comments by Dr. Michael Ash, President of Southeastern Community College; Matt Shinn, Director of City Hope of Burlington; and Randy Winegard, on behalf of the Winegard Foundation and Winegard Trust, all individuals and organizations who helped make the project possible.

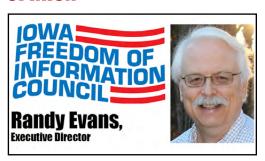
The Courts were first conceived in 2011 after the 'Imagine Campaign' received more than 3,500 ideas on how to improve the Burlington area. In conjunction with the completion of the FunCity Turf in 2019, The Courts will be the second and final phase of the project aimed to increase sports

tourism, health, fitness, and athletic activities in the area.

The Courts will be built in the southeast parking lot of FunCity Resort, between the Winegard building and east wing of the newly renovated FunCity Resort Hotel. Once complete, it will feature three collegiate-sized basketball courts and five pickleball courts, all

See **COURTS**, page 5

OPINION



Complexities of debate shouldn't deter progress

Middle ground seems to have disappeared in the United States, and that's unfortunate.

These days, there's no appetite for the give-and-take that leads to compromise. Regardless of the side you are on, it's pretty much "my way or the highway."

Speaking of highways, in 1973, Congress and President Richard Nixon enacted a nationwide 55 mph speed limit in response to the oil embargo by Middle East petroleum producers. Lead-footed Iowa drivers, frustrated after zooming along at 75 mph on Interstate highways, got nowhere with their objections the new speed limit interfered with their constitutionally articulated right to "secure the blessings of liberty" by driving faster.

A generation before, it was the same following the attack on Pearl Harbor. The federal government instituted a 35 mph "victory speed limit." There were some who disregarded the new limit, of course, but most Americans willingly went along with the inconvenience — because they accepted assurances the lower speed limit was accomplishing a greater good for the American public.

Today, however, anyone making "the greater good" arguments about any limitations on guns is going to get a response similar to what occurs when you knock down a hornets' nest. I know, because I was "stung" several times last week in conversations with some readers around Iowa and from points beyond who see no wiggle room, and no value in compromise, on issues relating to guns and the Second Amendment.

No wiggle room for more comprehensive background checks — to include people who buy guns from private sellers

See **EVANS**, page 8

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WEATHER

<u>OpenWeatherMap</u> THU 09 JunLight Rain, 65° F/ 61° F FRI 10 Jun..... ... Overcast, 77° F/ 56° F SAT 11 Jun

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LUCKY FOR LIFE 06/07	4 10 15 23 47, Lucky Ball: 9
MEGA MILLIONS 06/07	4 34 40 41 53, Mega Ball: 3 Megaplier: 4
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Obituaries

CHARLES R. GAYLORD

Charles Richard Gaylord, 78, of Fort Madison, IA, passed away on Friday, June 3, 2022 at his home. He was born on February 11, 1944 in Fort Madison, IA to Charles & Katherine Cecil Gaylord. He served in the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam War and retired from Crandon's Paper Mill. He enjoyed collecting HO

Train sets, fishing, online gaming, cruising in his Camaro and eating at the Cottage Café

Charles is survived by: 1-daughter: Angela Remley of Mobile, AL; 1-step daughter:

Betti-Jean Victory of Revere, MO; several grandchildren, step grandchildren, nieces, nephews; 2-brothers: Dean Gaylord & Bill (Toni) Gaylord of Fort Madison, IA and 3-sisters: Norma Bohnenkamp of Denmark, IA, Beverly (Larry) Wildrick of Jefferson

City, TN & Barbara Patton of Brunswick, GA. He was preceded in death by: his parents, 1-step son: John Chismark, 1-brother:

Darrol Gaylord, 1-sister: Donetta Gaylord & 1-nephew: William Gaylord. Cremation has been entrusted to the care of King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. A celebration of his life will be held at a later date. Burial will be held at Appanoose Cemetery in rural Niota, IL. Online



condolences to the Gaylord family may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: **AVAILABLE FOR DENTAL EMERGENCIES GET THE BEAUTIFUL** YOU'VE ALWAYS WANTED! Family Dentistry Teeth Whitening Dental Implants Extractions DENTAL GROUP Now accepting new patients Ft. Madison East Ft. Madison West (319) 372-4882 (319) 372-3614

GENEVIVE W. KAMER

Genevive Wollam Kamer, age 80, formerly of Clinton, passed away on Sunday, June 5th, 2022, at Montrose (Iowa) Senior Health Center. Genny was born at home in Danbury, Texas on April 19th, 1942, the daughter of William Russell



Wollam and Louise Johnson Wollam. Genny graduated from Danbury High School in 1960 where she was Class Vice-President and Secretary, voted Most Athletic Girl, and active in her school plays. After graduating from high school, she served her country as a devoted patriot in the United States Air Force, stationed in both Texas and Michigan. Throughout her life she continued to honor fellow veterans and their service. Genny was united in marriage to Bruce Sewell Kamer of Clinton, Iowa, on June 5th, 1965, in Dan-

bury, Texas. They settled in Clinton, and had four beautiful children: Barbra Kamer, Bonita Musal (Michael), Brynjar MacGregor, and Brandi Koering (Jerry). Later in life she loved spending time with her grandchildren: Rebecca, Audrey, Justin, Kian, and Westen.

Genny was devoted and faithful to her Lord and was known for serving others. Her cooking and baking skills were renowned by all, especially her pies, breads, pastries, and brownies. She loved to take long walks, play volleyball, watch her favorite TV shows, and play with the family dogs. She was also a talented gardener, sharing her beautiful flowers with the birds that called her garden "home". She enthusiastically cheered her children and grandchildren on at their swim meets, cross country and track races, and basketball, football, and volleyball games. To the end she was a positive force, generously sharing candy and smiles with all the people around her. Genny will always be loved in our hearts and missed by so many. Genny is preceded in death by her parents, her brother William, her daughter Barbra, nephew Justin, and various aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Cremation has been entrusted to the care of King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory in Fort Madison, IA. Online condolences to the Kamer family may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: www.kinglynk.com.

Interment will be held privately with family at Oakland Cemetery in Clinton, IA. In lieu of flowers donations may be made in Genny's honor to the American Cancer Society.

ALFRED D. COX

Alfred D. Cox, 70, of Fort Madison, IA, passed away on Thursday, June 2, 2022 at 3:36 AM at his home. He was born on March 23, 1952 in Fort Madison, IA to Harold & Mary Bales Cox. Fred was a truck driver for several years and was a policeman in his early years. He enjoyed playing pool, watching NASCAR and was an avid St. Louis Cardinals fan.

Survivors include his companion, Ashlee Estrada of Fort Madison, IA; one sister, Sheila Kendall of Horn Lake, MS and two sons. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Per his wishes, cremation has been entrusted to the care of King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. There will be no formal services at this time. Online condolences may be left at www.kinglynk.com.



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For the Record

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report

06/01/22 – 9:44 a.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of a burglary in the 5800 block of Avenue O.

06/01/22 – 11:25 a.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 900 block of Avenue H.

06/01/22 – 1:37 p.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 200 block of Vica Lane.

06/01/22 – 1:43 p.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft at the intersection of 27th Street and Avenue I.

06/01/22 – 5:11 p.m. – Fort Madison police arrested Nathan Wayne Linder, 44, of Fort Madison, in the 1700 block of Avenue L, on warrants for possession of a controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

06/01/22 – 7:31 p.m. – Fort Madison police arrested Brian Joseph Kempker, 36, of Fort Madison, in the 1700 block of Avenue I, on 2 warrants for failure to appear. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

06/01/22 – 7:43 p.m. – Fort Madison police arrested Shannon Ellis Packard, 42, of Fort Madison, in the 1500 block of 36th Street, on a warrant for failure to appear. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

06/01/22 – 10:37 p.m. – Fort Madison police cited Tasha Marie Carter, 40, of Fort Madison, at the intersection of 23rd Street and Avenue L, on a charge of driving under suspension.

06/01/22 - 10:53 p.m. - Fort Madison police cited Zachary Jay Krueger, 19, of Fort Madison, in the 1100 block of 16th Street, on a charge of possession of a controlled substance.

06/02/22 – 12:00 a.m. – Fort Madison police arrested Crystal Ann Horn, 25, of Fort Madison, in the 1900 block of Avenue F, on a warrant for OWI and 3 warrants for driving offenses (not listed). She was taken to Lee County Jail.

06/02/22 – 9:54 a.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of a burglary in the 5200 block of River Valley Road.

06/02/22 – 6:35 p.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 3100 block of Avenue H.

06/03/22 – No time given – Fort Madison police cited Eric Eugene Fortune, Sr., no age given, of Fort Madison, in the 3200 block of Avenue M, on a charge of driving under

06/03/22 – No time given – Fort Madison police cited David Allen McSparen, no age given, of Salem, in the 2900 block of Avenue N, on a charge of driving under suspension

06/03/22 – 12:52 p.m. – Fort Madison police arrested Jeri Monique Fink, 43, of Fort Madison, in the 1200 block of Avenue G, on a warrant for failure to appear. She was taken to Lee County Jail.

06/03/22 - 10:39 p.m. - Fort Madison police arrested William Leroy Frantz II, 49, of Fort Madison, in the 3000 block of Avenue O, on a warrant for controlled substance violation. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

06/03/22 – 4:07 p.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 700 block of Avenue D.

06/04/22 – No time given – Fort Madison police cited Thomas Jay Ruble, no age given, of Donnellson, in the 4800 block of Avenue O, on a charge of driving under suspension.

06/04/22 – 4:38 a.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1900 block of Avenue M.

06/05/22 - 10:56 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of larceny/theft in the 200 block of Avenue E.

06/05/22 – 11:33 a.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 2900 block of Avenue K.

06/05/22 – 2:30 p.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 2400 block of Avenue I.

06/05/22 – 3:07 p.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of a property damage accident at the intersection of 18th Street and Avenue G

06/05/22 – 6:13 p.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 400 block of Avenue E.

06/05/22 – 6:27 p.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1800 block of 39th Street.

06/06/22 – 12:56 a.m. – Fort Madison police cited Kimberly A. Sandeffer-Boorman, 36, of Fort Madison, in the 2300 block of Avenue F, on a charge of driving under suspension.

06/06/22 – 7:58 p.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of

larceny/theft in the 5100 block of Avenue O.

06/06/22 – 10:08 p.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of a burglary in the 1700 block of Avenue G.

06/07/22 – 8:26 a.m. – Fort Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 5100 block of Avenue O.

Lee County Sheriff Report

06/02/22 – 12:14 a.m. – Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Tricia Theresa Friant, 38, of Fort Madison, at the sheriff's office, on a judgment hold warrant. She was taken to Lee County Jail.

06/02/22 — 7:16 a.m. — Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Cory Jacob Porter, 28, of Fort Madison, in the 1200 block of Avenue E, Fort Madison, on charges of controlled substance schedule IV/V, keeping vehicle or premise for controlled substance, drug tax stamp violations, and possession of drug paraphernalia. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

06/02/22 - 6:44 p.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Justin Matthew Curtis, 26, of Keokuk, at the sheriff's office, on a charge of disorderly conduct - fight/violence. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

06/02/22 – 6:53 p.m. – Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Pele Oscar Wise, 44, of Indiana, at the sheriff's office, on a charge of disorderly conduct – fight/violence. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

06/03/22 – 10:39 p.m. – Lee County sheriff deputies arrested William Elroy Frantz III, 49, of Wever, in the 3000 block of Avenue O, on a warrant for possession of less than 5gm methamphetamine. He was taken to Lee County Jail.

06/04/22 – 1:43 a.m. – Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Jeffrey Steven Hudson, 19, of Oklahoma, in the 6100 block of Reve Court, Fort Madison, on a charge of 1st offense OWI. He was taken to Lee County Jail and later released on his own recognizance.

06/04/22 – 3:17 p.m. – Lee County sheriff deputies cited Jeremy Abraham Atwater, 32, of Wever, in the 1600 block of 303rd Avenue, Fort Madison, on a charge of driving while barred.

06/04/22 – 5:38 p.m. – Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Alicia Christine Behrman, 37, of Burlington, at the North Lee County Courthouse, on a warrant for failure

to appear/contempt of court. She was taken to Lee County Jail and later released on bond.

06/05/22 - 1:13 p.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies responded to a report of a single-vehicle accident in the 1600 block of 160th Street. According to the report, a vehicle driven by Keiarra Kay Ann Peters, 18, of Fort Madison, crossed the center line and went into the north side ditch where it struck a culvert field entrance, went airborne, rolling onto its top when it landed. Peters was extracted from the vehicle and airlifted to the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics. The vehicle was towed from the scene. No citations were reported.

06/05/22 - 6:42 p.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies responded to a two-vehicle accident in the 1900 block of Hwy. 2. According to the report, a vehicle driven by Kennedy Brice Wellman, 15, of Donnellson, was traveling westbound on Hwy. 2 when she slowed to turn into a parking lot and was side swiped by a vehicle driven by Shayden Elliot Waller, 19, of Mt. Pleasant, who was also traveling westbound on Hwy. 2 and did not see Waller's vehicle slow to make the turn and swerved to avoid the accident, but hit the side of Wellman's vehicle. No injuries were reported. Both vehicles sustained

approximately \$1500 in damages. Waller's vehicle had to be towed from the scene; Wellman was able to drive her vehicle from the scene. No citations were reported.

06/06/22 – 1:34 a.m. – Lee County sheriff deputies reported an abandoned vehicle at 13th Street and Blondeau Street, Keokuk, that was involved in a hit & run of 2 parked vehicles. Attempts to contact the owners of the vehicles were unsuccessful. No other information was reported.

06/06/22 – 2:16 p.m. – Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Marc Michael Waldoch, 55, of Burlington, at the North Lee County Courthouse, on a warrant for felony forgery. He was taken to Lee County Jail and later released on bond.

06/07/22 – 12:58 a.m. – Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Seth Alan Troy Malott, 23, of Houghton, at the intersection of 1st Street and Denning Road, Houghton, on a charge of possession of a controlled substance. He was taken to lee County Jail and later released on a promise to appear.

06/07/22 - 12:58 a.m. - Lee County sheriff deputies arrested Dallas Dewayne Chaney, 24, of Houghton, at the intersection of 1st Street and Denning Road, Houghton, on charges of possession of a controlled substance and posses-

sion of drug paraphernalia. He was taken to Lee County Jail and later released on a promise to appear.

Hancock County Sheriff Report

06/01/2022 - FLAHERTY,KARL-TON D (29 of Dallas City, IL) Hancock County Warrant - FTA Disorderly Conduct

06/03/2022 – HOWE,DERRICK R L (37 of Warsaw, IL) Hancock County Warrant – FTA Possession Of Stolen Property, Adams County Warrant – Obstructing Identification, Possession of Methamphetamine

06/03/2022 – HOSKINS,ROB-ERT W (54 of Warsaw, IL) Possession of Methamphetamine

06/03/2022 – HARPER, JER-MAINE Q (42 of Plymouth, IL) Adams County Warrant – FTA Unlawful Restraint, Adams County Warrant – FTA Criminal Trespass to State Supported Land, Possession of Methamphetamine

06/04/2022 – SKEES,WESLEY
J (33 of LaHarpe, IL) Hancock
County Warrant – FTA Driving
While Revoked and Uninsured Vehicle, McDonough County Warrant
– FTA Disorderly Conduct, Warren
County Warrant – FTA Theft

Those listed above are charged with a suspicion of a crime and are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

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Sports

Hounds sweep Demons in extra innings

WILLIAMS: Landes Williams leads Hounds on the mound and at plate

FORT MADISON – The Fort Madison Bloodhounds moved to 7-2 on the year after a Monday sweep of Washington at home in Southeast Conference baseball action.

Landes Williams went 3-for-4 at the plate with an RBI including two doubles, while going eight innings on the mound, fanning nine in the Bloodhounds' 2-1 win in the opener.

Fort Madison trailed 1-0 going into the bottom of the seventh. Van Buren scored in the third when Isaac Vetter scored on a passed ball with two outs. Williams kept things close over the next four innings allowing just two hits through the seventh.

In the bottom half of the seventh, senior Matt Hopper reached on an error. Courtesy runner Brennan Ulik would come around to score when Williams laced an RBI two-out double to center after fouling off six pitches in a 12-pitch at-bat. The RBI tied the game at 1-1.

A ground out would end the seventh. Hopper would get the Demons 3-up, 3-down in the top of the 8th to set up an extra-inning win for the Hounds.

Reiburn Turnbull doubled to lead off the bottom half. Following a Tate Johnson strike out, Tanner Settles ground out moving Turnbull to third. Aidan Pennock would draw a walk and then Hopper would single to center, plating Turnbull with the game winner.

Kane Williams had the other hit for Fort Madison in the win. Williams is now hitting .406 on the year just .15 ahead of his brother Landes.

The Hounds rolled in the night cap behind the pitching of Pennock, Hopper, and freshman Luke Hellige.



Kane Williams went 3 for 5 with 2 RBIs and a run scored. Turnbull went 2 for 4 with 3 RBIs and two runs scored in the onslaught. Tanner Settles was 3 for 4 with 3 RBIs and two runs scored.

Washington jumped out to a 3-0 lead in the top of the first inning, but the Hounds responded with two in the bottom half. The Demons would add a run in the top half of the second to make it 4-2 after two.

Fort Madison would erupt for six runs in the bottom of the third, highlighted by Settles' two-run single. The Hounds would put up four more in the bottom of the fourth as Pennock locked down the Demons to give the Hounds a 12-4 lead after four.

Washington would add two in the top of the fifth to cut the lead to 12-6 on Zeke Slagel's double off Hellige. Hellige would get the next batter and then retire the side in order in the top of the sixth.

Fort Madison would add four in the bottom of the sixth to invoke the 10-run rule. Cayden Barnes, Kane Williams, and Turnbull all had RBI singles in the frame. Tate Johnson would work a walk on four straight pitches to force in Landes Williams from third for the game winner.

Fort Madison (7-2, 4-1) hosts Mediapolis for a non-conference matchup Wednesday night in a single game 7 p.m. start.

Hellige's homer lifts HTC girls

BY PCC STAFF

WEST POINT – A fifth inning home run by Mary Hellige lifted Holy Trinity Catholic to a 4-2 win over Van Buren Monday night at South Park in West Point.

The win lifted the Crusaders to a 3-1 SEI Superconference South division win and leaves them 4-2 on the year.

The Warriors were holding a 2-1 lead going into the bottom half of the fifth inning where Laura Mehmert walked to start the fifth for HTC.

Mehmert would move to second on a sacrifice by Rachel Menke and then Haile Cain's grounder was bobbled at short, allowing Mehmert to move to third. Anna Sobczak, who's opened the season on fire at the plate with a .562 average, grounded out to short, plating Mehmert to tie the game at 2s.

Hellige then came to the plate and blasted the second pitch she saw over the left field fence for what proved to be the game-winner to set the score at 4-2. Brooke Mueller would pop out to end the fifth.

Hellige would then allow just two base runners the rest of the way in sealing the win.

Van Buren opened the scoring in the top of the fourth when Ivy Davison hit a two-run homer to left. Kayla Box pulled the Crusaders within a run when she doubled to left to score Mueller, who had doubled in the previous at bat to center.

Hellige went all seven innings again for the Crusaders striking out four, while allowing four hits, two runs both earned to get her fourth win of the year.

Cain went 2 for 3 at the plate with a run scored. Mueller had a hit and a run scored and Kayla Box had the other hit and an RBI.





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Iowa News/From the Front

GOP turnout heavier in primaries

PRIMARIES - Continued from Page 1

Grassley, who was chosen as the Republican candidate for six more years. Franken won by 20,900. Grassley won his primary by 91,500.

Christina Bohannan, running unopposed to be the Democratic challenger to Marianette Miller-Meeks for the new District 1 U.S. Representative seat in Iowa, garnered 37,267, while Miller-Meeks received 40,833.

Governor Kim Reynolds got 184,866 votes, while Democratic challenger Deirdra DeJear garnered 145,316.

Iowa Secretary of State Paul Pate said more than 356,000 registered Iowans voted in Tuesday's election, or about 16.5% of all registered voters. More

than 73,000 of those votes were cast absentee, the second highest total for a primary election in the state's history.

The unofficial turnout by political party was 195,355 Republicans and 156,589 Democrats.

Secretary Pate extends his thanks to Iowa voters, poll workers, and county election officials for ensuring a clean, smooth primary election process.

"I think it went fantastic," Secretary Pate said.
"I've got to compliment all the voters and our unsung heroes, those poll workers. They came through with flying colors. We saw thousands of Iowans coming out to have their voice heard and democracy in action."

Miller-Meeks bill chases unspent ARPA funds

WASHINGTON, D.C.— On Wednesday, Rep. Mariannette Miller-Meeks (IA-02), a member of the House Education and Labor Committee, introduced the Securing Our Schools Act. This legislation would clarify that states have the flexibility to utilize unused State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds to be made available for school security measures.

"We need to give schools more resources to keep our students safe. There are currently billions of dollars sitting unused in states around the country," said Miller-Meeks. "Clarifying states have the flexibility to use relief money to increase security is a commonsense step that would see immediate results. I hope that Congress can act to keep our students safe and responsibly use taxpayer dollars."

Non-profit has raised \$6.1 million to date

COURTS - Continued from Page 1

indoors. Additionally, this space will be able to host volleyball games, racquet-sports, wrestling, events, and other community activities.

Leading the charge on fundraising and design is a group of community and business leaders from Great River Entertainment, Southeastern Community College, Winegard Company, the Greater Burlington Partnership, Great River Health Systems, and many others. Like the FunCity Turf, The Courts will be managed by the Greater Burlington Area Sports Facilities – a non-profit led by President of the Board Michael Ash, who also serves as the President of Southeastern Community College.

Other companies involved with the project are Studio

483, an architecture and design firm out of Davenport; Conceptual Designs Inc., a commercial interior design firm out of Bettendorf; and Build to Suit Inc., a construction company out of Bettendorf. Once complete, the Courts will be managed by Andrew Ryerson, who is the current general manager of the FunCity Turf.

To date The Courts project has raised \$6.1 million and is tentatively scheduled to be completed May 2023. Prior to the opening of The Courts, FunCity plans to re-open Ballocity, a new indoor water feature, and the new Ninja Extreme course in early 2023.

In addition, a new Court Side activity space, featuring concessions, arcade games, video screens, and more – will also open in 2023.





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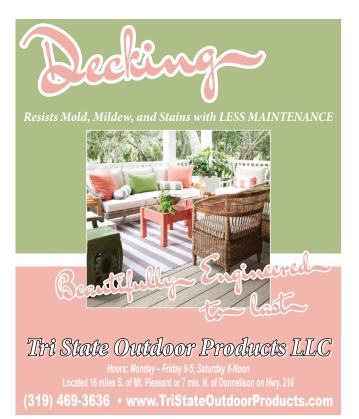
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rob Sand promised to wake up the watchdog. When Sand and the State Auditor's office come on behalf of taxpayers with questions about how the public's business is being conducted, they will not walk away.

Re-elect **Rob Sand as** State Auditor

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JOHN NORWOOD for Secretary of Agriculture

Eighty million people live within a day's drive of lowa and 3.2 million live in our state. John believes through diversification and creativity we can tap into these markets.

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Deidre DeJear for Governor

She has a REAL Agenda. Rural revitalization. Education and Children. Accessible and Affordable Healthcare and Mental Healthcare. Labor Force Empowerment. REAL Leadership. REAL growth. REAL progress.

DeJear for Iowa

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Re-elect Michael Fitzgerald **State Treasurer**

He is honored to have worked for lowans. He has made a difference in the lives of lowans. As state treasurer, he's returned over \$249 million through the Great Iowa Treasure Hunt, helped over 200,000 families save \$6 billion in College Savings Iowa, and introduced the IAble savings plan for persons with disabilities.

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HELP WANTED

YOUTH DIRECTOR Part-time

Union Presbyterian Church in Fort Madison is seeking a Youth Director. This position would be for 10-12 hours a week, starting immediately. If interested, please contact us. 319-372-1424 or unionchurchfm@gmail.com.

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Vice President of Economic Development

Lee County Economic Development group is seeking a Vice President of Economic Development to join our dynamic, award-winning team. This position requires a highly motivated individual with a demonstrated track record of success, proven interpersonal/ relationship-building skills, and excellent communication skills - verbal and written

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Lee County Economic Development Group provides equal employment opportunities to all employees and applicants for employment and prohibits discrimination and harassment of any type without regard to race, color, religion, age, sex, national origin, disability status, genetics, protected veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or any other characteristic protected by federal, state or local laws.



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It's Black & White and Read all

Education News/From the Front

Ames shooter was charged two days before killing two

EVANS - Continued from Page 1

and would-be buyers whose transactions are allowed to go through if the FBI background check is not finished within three days.

No compromise on raising the age for purchasing any firearm to 21, from the current 18. No wiggle room for stopping the sale of large-capacity ammo clips and magazines to private purchasers and limiting those transactions to military and law enforcement buyers. No compromise for ending what is called the "boyfriend loophole" — which allows guns to be taken from people who have been convicted of domestic violence against a spouse or someone they live with or with whom they have a child. But the law does not apply to stalkers, nor does it apply to a current or former dating partner. And no wiggle room for restricting the sale of body armor only to military and law enforcement buyers.

That last no-compromise point came home to Iowa after an 18-year-old gunman, protected by body armor made in our state, killed 10 people with a semi-automatic rifle at a Buffalo, N.Y., supermarket on May 14.

The victims included security guard Aaron Salter, the first armed person to confront the gunman. But Salter's shots were ineffective against the gunman's body armor. The Buffalo News reported the gunman bought two protective plates from RMA Armament, whose offices and factory are in Centerville. The company website shows the retail price for two armor plates like the gunman purchased was \$640. If the 18-year-old had any concerns about the effectiveness of those armor plates, the company's website dispels anxieties. The newspaper reported RMA says the plates can stop bullets fired by M16 automatic rifles used by the military and by AR-15 semi-automatic rifles like one the killer used. Most states allow private citizens to purchase body armor, although some require the purchases to be made in person, rather than online. Following the Buffalo killings, New York state lawmakers began work on legislation to prohibit body armor sales to private buyers.

The "boyfriend loophole" came into the spotlight following the shooting deaths last week of two Iowa State University students, Eden Montang and Vivian Flores, in the parking lot of an Ames church. Their killer, Johnathan Whitlatch of Boone, shot and killed himself seconds later.

Montang and Whitlatch had dated but had recently broken up. But two days before the killings, he was charged with harassment and impersonating a public figure in relation to the breakup.

In 2017, he was accused of domestic abuse by a woman in Wapello County, but that case was settled when a judge ordered him to undergo anger management counseling. Last October, Whitlatch was charged with sexually assaulting a woman at a Cedar Falls bar. His trial was scheduled to begin next month.

Because he had not been convicted of a crime, he was allowed to purchase the 9 mm pistol used in the killings and an AR-15 semi-automatic rifle that was in his apartment.

Lawmakers have resisted pressure to close the boyfriend loophole. The National Rifle Association has objected, arguing that confiscating the guns of these people would be ripe for abuse.

Those same slippery-slope concerns were expressed by one reader who feared what some see as common-sense, middle-ground attempts to reduce gun violence would eventually lead liberals in government to confiscate everyone's firearms.

Be assured the federal government is not going to sweep in and start seizing everyone's firearms. The U.S. Supreme Court has ruled the Second Amendment protects an individual's right to own guns.

But Justice Antonin Scalia, who wrote the landmark "Heller" gun decision in 2008, added an important qualifier that often is overlooked: "Like most rights, the right secured by the Second Amendment is not unlimited. ... The right was not a right to keep and carry any weapon whatsoever in any manner whatsoever and for whatever purpose." The middle ground in reducing the misery from gun deaths will not totally wipe away the problem. But a growing number of people are ready for changes that would, at least, slow the rapidly growing string of unnecessary tragedies with steps like I mentioned above.

Tanner Krause, CEO of the Kum & Go convenience stores, wrote in a recent Des Moines Register column: "We should not let the complexity of a problem get in the way of making progress."

Randy Evans is executive director of the Iowa Freedom of Information Council and can be reached at <u>DMRevans2810@gmail.com</u>.

Biden forgives \$5.8 billion in student debt

DES MOINES — Iowa Attorney General Tom Miller commends the U.S. Department of Education's actions to cancel \$5.8 billion in student loan balances for students who attended Corinthian Colleges, a defunct for-profit college chain.

"This will provide long-needed relief for student loan borrowers in Iowa and across the nation," Miller said. "Our office has been working with other attorneys general to get this relief for more than seven years, and we are proud to see those efforts lead to this outcome."

The Biden administration's announcement last week means more than 560,000 borrowers will have their federal student loan balances discharged. In Iowa, more than 500 students were eligible for debt cancellation when the school closed in 2015.

Miller led a multistate investigation into Corinthian before its collapse. The investigation found that the school lied to students about future job prospects, falsified data on graduate success, and wrongly claimed students could transfer credits to other colleges.

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Lunch Specials JUNE 6 – JUNE 10 11am - 1pm

Monday, June 6

Carved Ham, Loaded Potatoes, Corn

Tuesday, June 7

Tater Tot Casserole, Garlic Bread

Wednesday, June 8

Sloppy Joes, Baked Beans, Potato Salad

Thursday, June 9 Fried Chicken Dinners

Friday, June 10

Grilling on the Sidewalk





10AM-6PM 10AM-6PM 12PM-4PM

Celebrating businesses

1. J & L FARMS - 2270 HWY 16, WEST POINT

Family farm offering premium beef & pork. All cuts of meat available.

2. CHESTNUT HILL POTTERY - 3198 OLD QUARRY RD, WEVER

Art studio making functional and sculptural stoneware for home and garden. Select pottery 50% off.

3. FOUR B TACK & MORE - 3077 170TH ST., FT. MADISON

Full line of boots for men, women & children; clothes & horse tack.

4. ANGELS & OUTLAWS BOUTIQUE - 3079 170TH ST., FT. MADISON

A unique shop that carries something for the entire family, plus, your horse!

5. QUARRY CREEK ELK & BISON CO. - 1866 303RD AVE., FT. MADISON

Elk & buffalo raised right on the farm with the fresh meat sold in store.

Samples will be available all weekend.

6. APPLE TREE ANTIQUES - 1805 180TH ST., DONNELLSON

Huge selection of antiques, primitives, furniture & collectable treasures

7. LEE COUNTY FLORAL LLC - 1738 180TH ST, DONNELLSON

Fresh cut flowers for everyday and special occasions. Pop-up at the flower farm!

8. CHRISTIAN HERSCHLER WINERY & STAGECOACH STOP **503 FRANKLIN 6TH ST., DONNELLSON**

Step back in time & enjoy 100+ year old wine recipes along with a little history.

9. HINTERLAND DAIRY - 2149 FRANKLIN RD., DONNELLSON

Farmstead cheeses. Serving up handmade ice cream by the scoop, cones & sundaes! Grilled cheese Friday 4-6.

10. HARVESTVILLE FARMS - 1977 HWY. 2, DONNELLSON

Agritainment business providing plants, veggies, home & garden décor, flower festivals and family activities!

11. HILLCREST HOSTAS & MORE - 2292 HILLCREST RD., DONNELLSON

A small plant nursery specializing in hostas, daylillies, grasses & perennials.

12. M.B. WEBER MERCANTILE - 2237 234TH ST., DONNELLSON

Small business that specializes in primitives, refurbished and one of a kind pieces.

13. APPLEBERRY ORCHARD - 2469 HWY 2., DONNELLSON

Farm-market store offering gifts, gourmet foods and fresh-baked goods from bakery. Fresh Strawberry Pies, Apple Cider Donuts & Turkey Legs (Sat&Sun).

14. JIM'S GREENHOUSE - 2407 280TH ST., MONTROSE

Largest selection of annuals, perennials, herbs & veggies in the area!

15. GREEN FROG DISTILLERY - 3345 270TH AVE., KEOKUK

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YOUR INPUT IS NEEDED ON CHILD CARE

Child care has been identified as an urgent need in Lee County. We need your feedback to understand the challenges families have around child care.

For Business Owners, Upper Management, or HR https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LeeCoEmployer

For Parents & Caregivers https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LeeCoParent

For Child Care Providers https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LeeCoChildCare

THE SURVEY WILL TAKE 10-15 MINUTES TO COMPLETE. AVAILABLE UNTIL JUNE 15TH.

Questions? Contact: bkramer-riesberg@leecountyhd.org or call Breanna at (319) 372-5225









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FOR THE "ADVANCED" PERFORMER

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FORT MADISON
6:00 PM - 8:30 PM

PERFORMANCE FORT MADISON CENTRAL PARK JUNE 24TH @ 6:30 PM

PAYABLE TO TRI-STATE SHOW CHOIR

- CAMPERS WILL LEARN A
 CHOREOGRAPHED SONG AND BALLAD
- EVERY CAMPER WILL GET A T-SHIRT
- SNACKS PROVIDED DAILY

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Grades
7-12
SHOW CAMP

JUNE 21-24, 2022 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM

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INSTRUCTORS

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- ANNE CHAPMAN
- JASON WOODLEY

GUEST CLINICIAN

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DAILY REHEARSALS AT
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719 AVENUE F
FORT MADISON, IOWA 52627

FINAL PERFORMANCE AT FORT MADISON CENTRAL PARK JUNE 24TH @ 6:30 PM

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- EVERY STUDENT WILL RECEIVE A T-SHIRT
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- PERFORMANCE AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE CAMP
- SNACKS PROVIDED DAILY

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