



Pen City Current

Thursday, March 14, 2019 | 6 pages | Volume 3 • Issue 71

State now shopping for ISP developer

Prepared study of former prison is 1,200 pages long

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON – State officials are now shopping the former Iowa State Penitentiary property to developers across the country.

Last summer, meetings were conducted by Mead & Hunt, Inc., out of Madison, Wis. with community members consisting of business, government and economic development officials to get a picture of what the former prison could look like.

After those meetings, representatives of Mead &



FRAISE

Hunt, who were contracted by the State of Iowa, helped prepare a comprehensive historical study of the retired facility and submitted it to the state.

Lee County Economic Development Group's Dennis Fraise said the resulting study is more than 1,200 pages long. But with the study in hand, state officials are now looking for requests of interest from potential developers nationwide who have ideas in what can be done with the property.

"The biggest thing is that now the Department of Corrections and the Department of Administrative Services are working together to craft a Request for Interest to developers," Fraise said Wednesday.

Fraise has attended several meetings with state

officials in Des Moines about how the facility can be repurposed. He said the prison is spending more than \$1,000 per day on the facility in its current state.

"This is exciting," Fraise said. "The local warden (Patti Wachtendorf) is involved and a lot of people were involved in those meetings. I'm very pleased with how rapidly this has progressed to this point. The state is fully engaged with looking at an adaptive repurpose, but they're being careful, too, which we appreciate."

Ideas that came out of the community meetings in the summer focused on retail and housing that could take advantage of the location and history of the property. Fraise said he didn't think that a the property would be suitable for a large scale manufacturer.

He said he's encouraged by the progress, but the process will not be a quick one.

Students get career peeks at SCC

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

WEST BURLINGTON – Holy Trinity eight graders were part of a Lee County career exploration day at SCC on Wednesday morning.



MILLARD

As part of a three-day Career Exploration sponsored by Greater Burlington Partnership and Lee County Economic Development Group, more than 1,000 students in fifth and eighth grades attended the three-day fair, running Monday through Wednesday.

On Wednesday, eighth graders from Lee County moved around to six different 20-minute sessions starting at 9 a.m., hearing about career tracks and a variety of fields including manufacturing, health, marketing, graphic design, social services, communications, and business.

Linn Lilly, director of surgical services at Fort Madison Community Hospital, hosted one of the sessions and said the conversations with the students is important because people too often look at compensation and don't know enough about the field of work.

"I believe that they are starting to

See **STUDENTS**, page 6

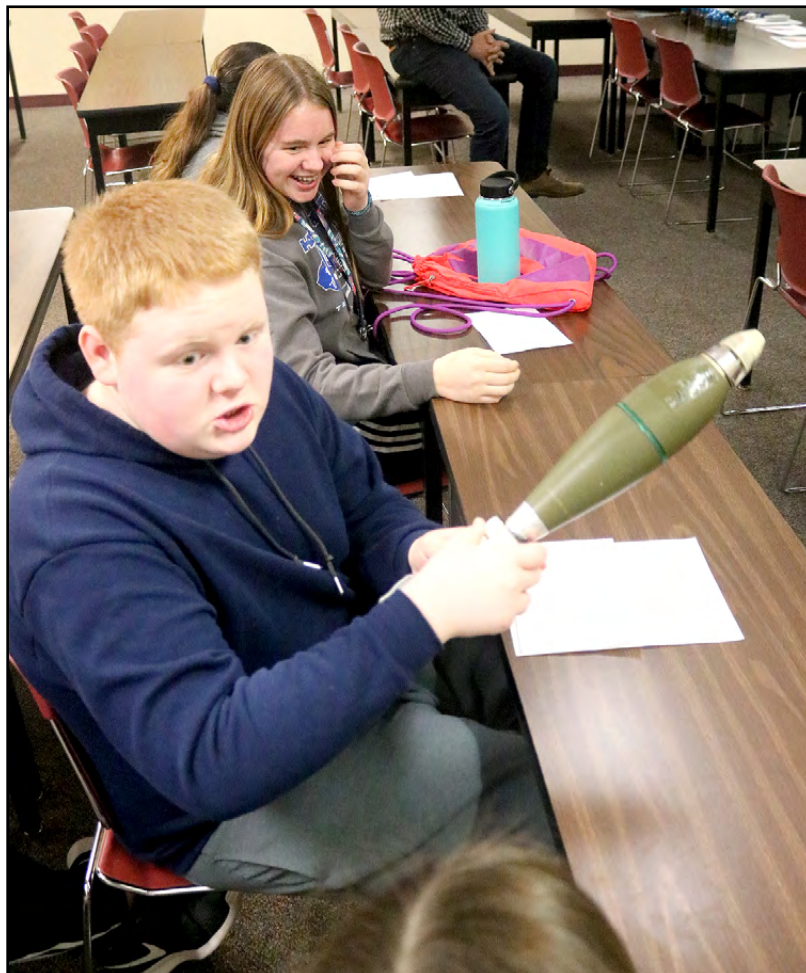


Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Riley Timmerman, an 8th grader at Holy Trinity Catholic in Fort Madison, hands an RPG shell made at the Iowa Army Ammunition Plant in Middletown to another classmate at Thursday's Career Exploration Day at Southeastern Community College.

LEOs want safe, fun St. Patty's holiday

PCC STAFF

LEE COUNTY – Law Enforcement Officers from the Lee County Sheriff's Department and the Fort Madison Police Department, and the Governor's Traffic Safety Bureau are encouraging motorists to drive safe and sober for the St. Patrick's Day holiday this weekend.

Americans have celebrated their Irish heritage on St. Patrick's Day for decades. Sadly, too much green beer can lead to dangerous driving after the celebrating. Over the last few years there has been a dramatic spike in alcohol and drug impaired driving. Over the 2017 (the last year in which statistics are available) St.

Patrick's Day holiday there were 59 fatalities nationwide with 37 percent involving drunk drivers. The most dangerous time to be on the road was the early hours of March 18, when 75% of all crash fatalities involved drunk drivers.

To combat the increased impaired driving around the holiday, local law agencies will be stepping up traffic enforcement March 12-21, 2019.

"St. Patrick's Day should be a fun holiday, but we expect everyone to take responsibility for their actions," stated Patrick Hoyer, Bureau Chief of the Iowa Governor's Traffic Safety Bureau. "Whether you're driving yourself or your friends, make sure you stay sober or plan for a safe ride home. It's not just about you."



SITTIG



WEBER

See **HOLIDAY**, page 2

Advertiser Index

Classifieds	P.4
Dr. Mark C. Pothitakis Family Dentistry	P.5
Fort Madison Community Hospital	P.2
Great River Regional Waste Authority	P.6
Harvestville Farm Mercantile	P.3
Pen City Current	Ps.4-5
Professional Services	P.4
The Kensington	P.3

News Index

Ag News	P.3
Celebrations	P.3
-Keelyn Rose Marie Calhoun	
Current-Lee	P.5
For the Record	P.2
Obituaries	Ps.2-3
-Harlan "John" Boyer	
-Beverly Jean Mertens	
-Alberta Rosina Smith	
Weather	P.6

Scan the code to
Subscribe today

Paid & Free Options Available!



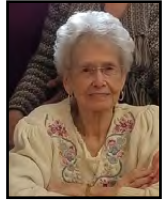
Obituaries/For the Record

OBITUARIES

ALBERTA ROSINA SMITH

Alberta Rosina Smith, of Fort Madison, Iowa, beloved mother and grandmother, left this physical world to meet the Lord Jesus on Wednesday, March 13, 2019.

Alberta was 89 years old and was born in Sharon, Oklahoma, the daughter of Fred and Mamie (Sryie) McMullen. She married Carroll W. Smith in 1947 in Woodward, Oklahoma. Soon after they moved to Fort Madison. Alberta and Carroll owned and operated Tax Smiths for 27 years. She also worked at Sheaffer Pen for 30 years before retiring. Alberta loved her family and enjoyed life.



SMITH

She is survived by three daughters: Carol Ann (Mike) Mercer of Wever, Iowa; Sheri (Lloyd) Glasgow of Fort Madison, Iowa; and Toni (Bob) Gregory of Phillipsburg, New Jersey; eight grandchildren: Tracey, Mike Jr., Wade, Rick, Chris, Bambi, Ian and Zena; 15 great grandchildren; one sister Tressie Kimball of Nebraska; numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, son Ronnie, and one brother Fred.

Visitation will be held from 9:30 – 10:30 am Saturday, March 16, 2019 at the Barr Memorial Chapel, Fort Madison. A Funeral Service will follow and begin at 10:30 am at the funeral home, with Pastor Cheryl Simpson officiating. Burial will be at Soldiers Circle, Oakland Cemetery, Fort Madison. A memorial has been established, contributions may be made at the Barr Memorial Chapel. Online condolences to the Smith Family may be made at www.barrmemorialchapel.com.

**BE COLORECTAL
CANCER AWARE
IT COULD SAVE YOUR LIFE!**

Thanks to improvements in prevention, early detection and treatment, more than a million people in the US count themselves as survivors of colorectal cancer.

Colorectal cancer always starts with a small growth polyp, which if found early, can be removed – stopping colorectal cancer before it starts.

A colonoscopy done by FMCH General Surgeon Dr. Riggs Bagan or Dr. Rachel Knudson, is one option to find the polyps and remove them at the same time.

So if you are a person over the age of 50 talk to your health care provider about getting screened and become Colorectal Cancer Aware.



Dr. Rachel Knudson



Dr. W. Riggs Bagan



GENERAL SURGERY

319-376-2756 ♦ www.fmchosp.com

OBITUARIES

BEVERLY JEAN MERTENS

Beverly Jean Mertens, 74 years, of Fort Madison, Iowa died Friday, March 8, 2019 at the Comfort House in McAllen, Texas. She was born December 8, 1944 at East Moline, Illinois, a daughter of C. Keith and Betty L. (Walker) Ahlstrand. On January 7, 1967, she married Paul W. Mertens at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Fort Madison.



MERTENS

She was a 1965 graduate of Burlington Hospital School of Nursing and she earned her BSN degree from Iowa Wesleyan College in 1985. She worked various nursing positions in Fort Madison, Burlington and Pella. She retired from the Community Action of Southeast Iowa's WIC program. Bev enjoyed tractor rides with her husband, Paul, and was a member of the Three Rivers Tractor Club. She was also a member of Holy Family Parish and of the Altar and Rosary Society. She loved to sew, quilt and cook. She enjoyed wintering in Texas, and spending time with family and friends.

She is survived by her husband Paul, of Fort Madison, Iowa; two sons: Bradley (Benita) Mertens, of Walker, Iowa; Terry (Cindy Larson) Mertens, of Nauvoo, Illinois; one daughter, Andrea (Dan) Puck, of DeWitt, Iowa; one sister, Sharri (Ike) Mertens, of Fort Madison, seven grandchildren: Sydney, Alyssa, Noah, Landon, Samantha, Carter and Ashlyn; their foreign exchange student, Stephano Schiavone; nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents.

Per her wishes, her body has been cremated. A Rosary will be recited at 2:30 pm Sunday, March 17, 2019 at the Barr Memorial Chapel, Fort Madison. Her family will greet friends until the Christian Wake Service which will begin at 5:00 pm Sunday at the funeral home. Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:00 am Monday, March 18, 2019 at Ss. Mary and Joseph Catholic Church, Holy Family Parish, Fort Madison with Reverend Joseph Phung as Celebrant. Burial will be at the Gethsemane Cemetery, Fort Madison, Iowa. A memorial has been established for Holy Family Parish, contributions may be made at the church or the funeral home. Online condolences to the Mertens Family may be made from the Barr Memorial Chapel website, www.barrmemorialchapel.com.

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report

03/11/19 – 6:29 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 4000 block of Avenue O.
03/11/19 – 4:21 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a stolen bicycle in the 2200 block of Avenue D.
03/11/19 – 10:00 p.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 400 block of Avenue H.
03/12/19 – 3:18 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny

theft in the 2500 block of Henry Ladyn Drive.

03/12/19 – 5:19 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 1500 block of Avenue M.
03/12/19 – 7:44 a.m. – Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1200 block of 36th Street.

Lee County Sheriff's Report

03/11/19 – 2:58 p.m. – Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Christina Inez Adams, 30, of Wayland, Mo., at the sheriff's office

on a warrant for a judgment hold. She was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
03/12/19 – no news to report
Those listed above are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Fort Madison Fire & Rescue Report

03/11/19 – Fort Madison firefighters responded to one medical call and report of smoke.
03/12/19 – Fort Madison firefighters responded to two medical calls and a shed fire at Aztec Trailer Court.

Plan ahead for St. Patty's Day fun

HOLIDAY - Continued from Page 1

There are others on the roads who want to get where they are going safely."

Fort Madison Police are encouraging motorists to plan a safe way home before the festivities begin including; designating a driver, calling a taxi or public transportation or a sober friend, and report any erratic driving observed to local law enforcement.

The Iowa Department of Public Safety and the Governor's Traffic Safety Bureau reminds you, driving while impaired is illegal!

If you feel a buzz, you are in no shape to drive.

The Fort Madison Police Department and Lee County Sheriff's department wish everyone a safe and happy holiday weekend.

Charles Vandenberg, Editor
(319).371.1670
editor@pencitycurrent.com

Lee K. Vandenberg, Sales Manager
(319).371.4125
sales@pencitycurrent.com

Copyright © 2016 by Pen City Current
All published materials are property of Pen City Current and cannot be used without express written permission.

Pen City Current

Founded in 2016



P.O. Box 366 | Fort Madison, IA

Member LION Publishers
www.lionpublishers.com



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

Obituaries/Ag News

OBITUARIES

HARLEY "JOHN" BOYER

Harley "John" Boyer, 70, of Farmington, Iowa, passed away at 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 12, 2019, at Lexington Square in Keokuk, Iowa.

Born on July 22, 1948, in Keokuk, Iowa, the son of Harley and Ellen (Vance) Boyer. On August 7, 1976, he married Judith Stine, she preceded him in death on August 30, 1994.

Survivors include his two sons: Kevin (Jordan) Boyer of Farmington and John (Kim) Boyer of Farmington; two daughters: Kathy (Chad) Otto of Centerpoint, Iowa and Carrie (Rich) Miller of Bonaparte; fourteen grandchildren; three great grandchildren; two brothers: James Boyer of Farmington and Dennis Boyer of Farmington. He was preceded in death by his parents; wife: Judith, one son: Jason and one brother: Charles.

John served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War where he was a MP, mechanic and worked demolitions. After the service, he farmed, worked for Gleason in Fort Madison and Heatilator in Mt. Pleasant. John enjoyed farming and animals (especially his sheep). Most of all John enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren.

Friends may call after 1:00 p.m., Friday, March 15, 2019, at Schmitz Funeral Home in Farmington where the family will receive friends from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. that evening. A funeral service will be held at 10:00 a.m. Saturday, March 16, 2019, at Schmitz Funeral Home with Graham Scharadt officiating.

Burial will be held at Greenglade Cemetery in Farmington, with full military rites presented by the Farmington American Legion Richardson-Anthony Post #231.

Memorials have been established in his memory to the Farmington First Baptist Church or the VA Medical Center in Iowa City.

Schmitz Funeral Home of Farmington is assisting the family with arrangements. On-line condolences to the family may be made at www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com.



Farms using SCO need to report coverage intentions by Friday

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Risk Management Agency (RMA) announced this week that producers who purchased or plan to purchase the 2019 Supplemental Coverage Option (SCO) policy should report Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) or Price Loss Coverage (PLC) election intentions to their crop insurance agent by March 15, 2019, or the acreage reporting date, whichever is later.

Producers have the option to elect either ARC or PLC through the Farm Service Agency (FSA) to receive benefits. The 2018 Farm Bill allows producers to make an election in 2019, which covers the 2019 and 2020 crop years.

The Federal Crop Insurance Act prohibits producers from having SCO on farms where they elect ARC. Because of the timing of the Farm Bill, FSA's ARC/PLC election period will not occur until after the SCO sales closing dates and acreage reporting dates.

Producers who purchased SCO policies with sales closing dates of Feb. 28, 2019, or earlier may cancel their SCO policy by March 15, 2019. This allows producers, particularly those who intend to elect ARC for all their acres, to no longer incur crop insurance costs for coverage for which they will not be eligible.

Producers with SCO coverage now have the option to file an ARC/PLC acreage intention report with their crop insurance agent by the later of the acreage reporting date or March 15, 2019. This report will adjust the acreage report by specifying the intended ARC or PLC election by FSA Farm Number. The number of eligible acres on farms with an intention of PLC will be the number of acres insured for SCO regardless of any actual elections made with FSA. If a producer does not file an ARC/PLC acreage intention report, SCO will cover all acres as though the producer elected PLC.

The existing penalties for misreporting eligible acreage on the SCO endorsement will not apply in 2019.

Additional details about SCO can be found at www.rma.usda.gov.

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.



IOWA LOTTERY WINNING NUMBERS

Lotto Drawings

Game	Draw Days	Sales Cutoff Time	Approx. Drawing Time
Lucky for Life®	Mon & Thu	8:30 pm	9:38 pm
Mega Millions®	Tues & Fri	8:59 pm	10:00 pm
Powerball®	Wed & Sat	8:59 pm	9:59 pm
Lotto America™	Wed & Sat	8:59 pm	10:00 pm
Pick 3 - Midday	Daily	Noon	12:20 pm
Pick 3 - Evening	Daily	9:40 pm	10:00 pm
Pick 4 - Midday	Daily	Noon	12:20 pm
Pick 4 - Evening	Daily	9:40 pm	10:00 pm



3/12
10 12 16 49 57
Mega Ball: 18
Megaplier: 4



3/12 MID-DAY
2 7 6
3/12 EVENING
1 1 5



3/12 MID-DAY
7 2 7 7
3/12 EVENING
3 4 9 8

Pen City Current encourages you to play responsibly.

Celebrations

KEELYN ROSE MARIE CALHOUN

KEOKUK – Zachary Kite and Taylor Calhoun, of Keokuk, are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Keelyn Rose Marie Calhoun on March 4, 2019 at Fort Madison Community Hospital.

Keelyn is joined at home by Kayson Lee Calhoun.

Grandparents are Jami and Joshua Young of Keokuk; Scott Calhoun of Keokuk; and Joni and Terry Kite of Keokuk.

Great-grandparents are Bobette and John Burgess of Keokuk; and Jerry and Jeanen Kite of Keokuk.

Pen City Current congratulates the family on this wonderful news.

CAREGIVERS CONNECTION

Dedicated to learning about all dementia types



Held at noon the 4th Tuesday of each month in our private dining room.

Call 319-372-4233 to RSVP or for more information.

Click this ad to visit our website.



2210 Avenue H • Fort Madison • 319.372.2243



Spring Open House March 14-16

Spring silks, home decor, house plants, soaps, lotions, gift items, Jams/Salsas/Relishes, Fancy Favor Cookies, and Swed Coffee

HARVESTVILLE FARM MERCANTILE



@harvestvillefarmmercantile

Open Tu-F 10am-5pm & Saturdays 10am-2pm | 618 7th Street | Fort Madison, Iowa | 319-470-7375 Visit us online www.harvestvillefarm.com/mercantile

Classifieds

the classifieds

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

The O'Hill Siders
 Sunday, March 17th
St. Patrick's Day
 We will be open from noon to 5
 Music starts at about 2pm



Hill Side Inn
 1135 Ave. E
 Wednesday-Saturday
 5:00pm

Unlock more savings — with [auto + renters]



Contact me to schedule a SuperCheck® and see how simple combining your auto and renters insurance can be!



Larry Holtkamp
 1301 37th St
 Fort Madison
 (319) 372-9145
 (319) 470-1927 Cell
 LARRYHOLTkamp.COM

FARM BUREAU FINANCIAL SERVICES
 Auto | Home | Life | Annuities | Business | Farm & Ranch

SAVE on your next OIL CHANGE at Griffin's

GET UP TO \$15



TECHNET PROFESSIONAL VISA® PREPAID CARD BY MAIL WITH PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF QUALIFYING FILTERS WITH OIL CHANGE SERVICE.

MARCH 1 - APRIL 30, 2019
 Visit technetprofessional.com for promotion details.
Card issued by TechNet®. Member FDIC. See card terms, card terms and conditions apply.



Help GRRWA Keep Your Community Hazard-Free!



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

800-216-2370
 Call for an appointment



Fl. Madison Main Office: 2002 303rd Ave Fort Madison, IA 1-519-372-9140
 Keokuk Transfer Station: 111 Carbine Lane Keokuk, IA 1-519-524-6175
 Visit Us Online! www.grrwa.com facebook.com/grrwa

5 Generations of Printing

Posters Business Cards Photo Correction Wedding Invitations

DODD PRINTING & STATIONERY
 Est. 1877

Supplies Custom Design Office Furniture Online Ordering

319-372-2721 • doddprinting.com

Shopping for a mortgage?




Thomas Klann RICP LTCP LUTCF, Agent
 State Farm Agent
 2623 Avenue L
 Fort Madison, IA 52627
 Bus: 319-372-5982
 NMLS #139716, NMLS MLO #1359992
 MLO License #24290

We have a great selection.
 As life changes, so do your needs. Let State Farm Bank® help with a mortgage that fits your life and your budget. Let us help you make the right move. Bank with a Good Neighbor®. **CALL ME TODAY FOR MORE INFORMATION.**



Some products and services not available in all areas.
 1001306.1 State Farm Bank, F.S.B., Bloomington, IL

Intimate and Meaningful



**Bridal & Baby Showers
 Anniversary & Birthday Parties
 Receptions & Retreats**

Unforgettable Celebrations

BOULDERS INN & SUITES

4901 AVE O FT MADISON IOWA 319-246-1401
 EVENTS@BOULDERSINNFORTMADISON

REHABILITATION & SKILLED NURSING WHEN GOING HOME AFTER A HOSPITAL STAY ISN'T AN OPTION.



YOUR LOVED ONES DESERVE THE BEST

Call to schedule your personal tour
319-372-8021



1701 41st Street Fort Madison, IA 52627

Medicare, Medicaid, Private Insurance, and Private Pay Accepted

Short-term Rehabilitation - Long-term Care
 Memory Care - Ventilator Support

Like us on Facebook

HELP WANTED



Lee County Conservation Part-Time Beach Concessionaire (Temporary)

Pollmiller Park Beach, West Point

Hourly Starting Pay: \$10.00

Visit www.leecounty.org for a job description and qualifications.

All applications should be directed to Lee County Conservation, 2652 HWY 61 Montrose, IA 52639. Deadline to apply is 4:30 p.m. Friday, March 29, 2019. Applications are available online at www.leecounty.org.

Lee County is an equal opportunity employer.



Lee County Conservation Part-Time Conservation Aide (Temporary)

Lee County Conservation Center, Montrose, IA


Hourly Starting Pay: \$10.00

Visit www.leecounty.org for a job description and qualifications.


Applications: All applications should be directed to Lee County Conservation, 2652 HWY 61, Montrose, IA 52639. Deadline to apply is 4:30 p.m. Friday, March 29, 2019. Applications are available online at www.leecounty.org.

Lee County is an equal opportunity employer.

Subscribe to #PCC today Free and Paid Options Available.



Pen City current




Part-Time Laborer Parks and Cemetery

Will perform manual work in the grounds and building maintenance within the park and cemetery department, under direct supervision.

DESIRED MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

- Some experience in building and grounds maintenance.
- Must have a current Iowa driver's license.
- Skill in operating some of the listed tools and equipment; power and tractor mowers, backhoe, carpentry and plumbing tools, etc.

Applications can be picked up and submitted at Fort Madison City Hall 811 Ave. E Fort Madison, Iowa



Fuel Dock Attendant Public Works Parks and Marina

Will provide retail service to customers at the fuel dock and handle the day-to-day dock store responsibilities. Carry out the day-to-day maintenance of the marina facility and grounds using discretion and independent judgment. Provide information and assistance to the boating public as needed.

DESIRED MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

- Must have a current Iowa driver's license.
- 6 months Customer Service/Cashier Experience (Marina/Fuel Dock Preferred).
- Perform physical labor.
- Stand for long periods of time.
- Able to lift at least 50 lbs.

Position is seasonal. 28 hours a week Monday through Sunday.

Applications can be picked up and submitted at Fort Madison City Hall 811 Ave. E Fort Madison, Iowa

Classifieds/Current-Lee

the classifieds

Tired of getting the same old results from your advertising?

Give us a call!
Lee
(319)371.4125



HELP WANTED

COMMUNITY GARDEN COORDINATOR NEEDED

RSVP/United Way of the Great River Region is seeking a Community Garden Coordinator

Do you like to garden and work outdoors?
Do you like to plan, plant and harvest food?

We are seeking an individual this Spring who will plan, plant, cultivate, harvest and lead other volunteers in our Community Garden (garden is located at 2606 Avenue L, Fort Madison, Iowa behind Hy-Vee).

Must enjoy working outside, gardening and harvesting. Will direct garden activities with other volunteers and may require some bending, stooping and lifting of 10 lbs. or less...Times: 1 hour, 2 times per week.

If interested and for more information, please call – Tammy at 319-372-8043.

United Way of the Great River Region supports non-profit organizations and agencies that provide programs addressing needs in health, education and financial stability to residents in Clark, Hancock, and Lee Counties.

United Way of the Great River Region serves all of Lee, Hancock, and Clark Counties. All donations are tax-deductible.



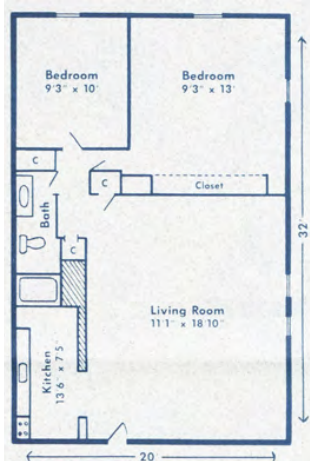
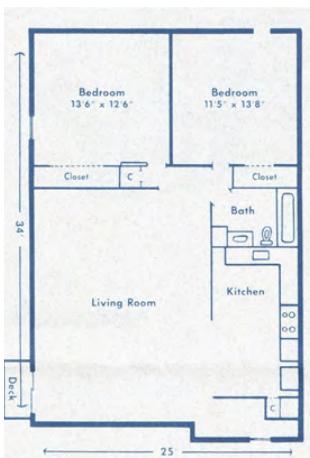
United Way of the Great River Region

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Chateau Apartments Extra Clean & Quiet Apartments for Rent



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



Follow Us

@pencitycurrent



CURRENT-LEE

FORT MADISON – The following is a list of events and happenings going on in Fort Madison as submitted to the Pen City Current.

Legislative Luncheon

The monthly legislative luncheon with State Sen. Rich Taylor, Rep. Jeff Kurtz and State Rep. Joe Mitchell scheduled to attend will be held at noon Friday, March 15, at the Palms Restaurant. The public is invited.

Community Blood Drives

A blood drive will be held at Lincoln Elementary on Thursday, March 21, from 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. in the gymnasium. Call the blood center at 800-747-5401 ext. 1281 to donate.

YMCA Little Tykes Spring Soccer

Registration is currently underway for the 2019 season, which runs March 26 – May 2. Registration deadline is March 10 for regular fees of \$20 for members, \$40 for non-members. From March 11-17th participants can register but fees are \$10 higher. Volunteer coaches are needed. Call the YMCA at 319-372-2403 for more information.

St. Patrick's Day celebration

The Fort Madison Chamber of Commerce will be holding a St. Patrick's Day celebration on March 16 including a parade, games, music and fun. Parade entry forms are available by contact the Chamber at 319-372-5471.

YMCA's Shamrocked 2019

The 2nd annual Shamrocked will be held on March 16 starting at 8 a.m. with a free-will donation pancake breakfast, followed by a Bike & Brew after the St. Patrick's Holiday Parade. For more information, contact the YMCA at 372-2403.

ISU Extension Estate Planning

Iowa State University Outreach and Extension will hold an estate planning session on March 19th at 6 p.m. at the extension office in Donnellson. The session is \$20

per person and registration can be done by contact Whitney Weisinger at 319-835-5116. Deadline is March 15.

Murder Mystery Dinner Theater

The Fort Madison High School Music Department will be presenting its annual Dinner Theater on March 22-23. Doors open at 6 p.m with the show beginning at 7 p.m. Tickets available at Dana Bushong's at 805 Avenue G.

Caregivers Connection

The Kensington hosts this monthly gathering to help educate attendees about all dementia types. Held at noon the 4th Tuesday of every month in The Kensington's private dining room, 2210 Avenue H in Fort Madison. Call 319-372-4233 to RSVP or for more information.

Step into Iowa History

A presentation on prisoner of war camps in Iowa during World War 11 will be held on Tuesday, March 26, from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the Fort Madison Public Library. Linda McCann will be presenting.

Senior Community BINGO

Each month on the second Wednesday of the month, The Kensington hosts Senior Community BINGO at 2 p.m. in their dining room at 2210 Avenue H in Fort Madison. All seniors are welcome and cash prizes are awarded.

Pen City Current will list your event in this highly visible CURRENT-LEE section in increments of 25 words for \$15. Add a photo for \$5. Non-profit organizations are eligible for the reduced rate of \$10 per 25 words and \$3 per photo. To place your listing, click here or call Lee at (319)371.4125.

Got a news tip?
Call Chuck (319)371.1670

FIRST IMPRESSIONS LAST

*A beautiful smile helps make a great first impression.
Make sure yours does.*

Now accepting new patients.



Call Dr. Mark C. Pothitakis Family Dentistry now to schedule your 6-month checkup or click anywhere on this ad.



Dr. Mark C. Pothitakis Family Dentistry

www.drmarkdds.com

Fort Madison Family Dentistry East
319-372-3614

Fort Madison Family Dentistry West
319-372-4882

Burlington Family Dentistry
319-752-7993

Burlington Dental Associates
319-753.2515

Mediapolis Dental Care
319-394-3255

New London Dental Care
319-367-2311

From the Front/Weather

Students get look at multiple career paths

STUDENTS - Continued from Page 1

think – at least they should be starting to think – on what they want to do in life,” Lilly said. “That’s why I love these career fairs. A classic example is that none of these people in my classes could tell you want a surgical technologist did. They heard technologist and they think computers. It’s a very important part of an operating room, yet no one knows it and I think that’s why people don’t go into those programs.”

A surgical technologist is the person assisting in a surgery that hands the surgeon’s the medical equipment needed in the procedure.

She said the health care field does carry a good compensation, but the students need to hear about the professions and what it takes to be successful instead of just running for the money.

“No one’s going to go hungry in any health care program, but I think part of this is compensation. I think if we get out there and mentor and talk up the positives and not the negatives that’s key for these people to see all these things out here,” she said.

Dana Millard, of Lee County Economic Development Group, said this is the third year for the program and it plays well into the state’s STEM (Science Technology, Engineering, and Math) efforts as it allows students to see careers that require a college path, while at the same time see vocational options.

“We have a variety of career paths they explore. Some of these require a 4-year degree and some of them don’t, and that’s what we want them to be aware of,” Millard said.

Only 5th grade and 8th grade students participate because that’s when most are transitioning into new school environments, Millard said. She also pointed to research done by the Governor’s STEM Advisory Council, that shows in sixth grade, girls tend to lose interest in math and science due to peer pressure and social issues.

“So we took a step back and started them in fifth grade before they get to middle school where they are still more inquisitive. This way we don’t have the drop-off when they get to middle school,” she said. “Also fifth graders start exploring different careers in different areas and get more interested in the hands-on stuff.”

Students also heard about engineering and other tracks that require a college degree and heard about positions that are open to young adults out of high school in the production areas.

One of the sessions was put on by American Ordnance at the Iowa Army Ammunition Plant.

None of the students, when polled at the end of the session, said they were interested in those lines of work, however Jenna DiPrima of Holy Trinity Catholic who attended, said she enjoyed the presentation.

“The shooting and watching people blow things up, I don’t know why, but I think I’d just like doing that,” DiPrima said.

She said holding the ‘bombs’ or shells made at IAAP was a neat experience.

“At first I thought they were real, but then I thought there was no way they were real if they were letting us hold it.”

She said she was interested in veterinarian and then was considering the Navy.

“All those seem like they take up a lot of time. I’m still an eighth grader, so I don’t know what’s going to happen,” she said.

James Scheetz was another student who attended the sessions and said he hasn’t made up his mind what he wants to do, but knows he wants to work.

“I just wanna get a job. I did like the DNR presentation. You have to know a lot of stuff, more than, like, the regular person,” Scheetz said.

Timmerman said he’s planning on being a veterinarian and didn’t really experience anything that changed his mind, but said he did enjoy hearing about other jobs.

“I liked seeing all the cool other jobs that are out there,” Timmerman said.



New Year. Fresh Start.

Thank you to all our customers who worked to reduce their environmental footprint last year.

We’re looking forward to helping you continue your efforts and to educating our communities on more ways to help this year.

Here are just a few ways you can help:

- Don’t put plastic bags in recycling bins
- Rinse & clean all food jars & cans before recycling
- Flatten empty boxes for better storage & volume reduction
- Place all recyclables loose in bins
- Don’t recycle wrapping paper
- Properly dispose of all electronics and household hazardous waste



Ft. Madison Main Office:
2092 303rd Ave
Fort Madison, IA
1-319-372-6140

Keokuk Transfer Station:
111 Carbide Lane
Keokuk, IA
1-319-524-6175

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

5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

SUN 10 Mar		Light Rain High– 50.4° F Low – 38.1° F
MON 11 Mar		Light Snow High– 35.3° F Low – 31.5° F
TUE 12 Mar		Light Snow High– 34.4° F Low – 24.4° F
WED 13 Mar		Light Snow High– 36.3° F Low – 22.5° F
THU 14 Mar		Light Snow High– 41.1° F Low – 28.4° F

[OpenWeatherMap](#)