



Pen City Current

Tuesday, March 27, 2018 | 8 pages | Volume 2 • Issue 87

Steffen says economy, divide hinder county

Military vet running for Dist. 3 supervisor

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

KEOKUK - Putting the county back on solid economic footing and overcoming the delineation of county are top priorities for an ISP correctional officer cur-

rently seeking a seat on the Lee County Board of Supervisors.

James Steffen, a retired veteran of the United States Marine Corps, the United States Army, and the Iowa Army National Guard, is running for the District 3 seat being vacated by current supervisor Don Hunold, who said earlier this year that he would not be seeking re-election to the seat. Steffen said he's disheartened with economic conditions in the county, although he doesn't lay all the blame at the



STEFFEN

feet of county elected and economic development officials.

"I don't know that we're effective there at all," Steffen said. "They're going to tout the fertilizer plant as a success, but we got stuck with that. I was against that facility just for the amount of money the state put in down here, which I think was close to \$1.5 billion, for 163 jobs? That is

having a huge effect on the state budget right now."

Steffen said Lee County was not the first choice of Orascom, but the other larger communities in Iowa, such as Davenport had enough money to drive them out.

He said the divide between Keokuk and Fort Madison also must be dealt with and remains one of the biggest hurdles to

See **CANDIDATE**, page 8



Photo by Ava Peitz/PCC HTC Intern

The Holy Trinity Catholic High School's presentation of the Wizard of Oz wrapped up on Sunday afternoon. High School cast members took the iconic characters Scarecrow, Tin Man, The Cowardly Lion, and Dorothy and Toto through a musical version of the American classic.



Beside The Point

Chuck Vandenberg,
Pen City Current - Editor

Get out and vote for school referendums

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG

Well, the letters have been printed, and we'll print any more up until Sunday at midnight, on the upcoming school referendums.

I'm in the bag and always have been on these new schools. I've said all of this stuff before and there's little chance of changing people's minds so the best way to get these referendums passed is to motivate people to get out and vote. Vote early at the Auditor's office if you choose, I just like the idea of going on election day and getting my opinion registered with the others that have a commitment to our communities.

But I do have to offer some corrections...or clarifications, if you will, to the newest threads of misinformation I've been reading in our social media blogs.

You can talk about where it's built. That doesn't matter to me, and it shouldn't matter to anyone else. I have very good friends who say it's built in a swamp and they get my standard response. Walt Disney built an empire in a swamp. There are amusement parks built in water, hotels built in ice. We're the greatest minds in history...yeah...we can do that.

I can see they built it on the side of bluff, but technology and great minds and contracts prevailed. I've been in that school 100 times and I never seen one leak, one foundation issue, nothing. If there was an issue, and I

See **REFERENDUMS**, page 8

FM Chamber wants small business nods

SUBMITTED ARTICLE

FORT MADISON - Each May during National Small Business Week the Fort Madison Area Chamber of Commerce honors the greater Fort Madison small business community for their efforts and achievements during the previous calendar year. The Small Business of the Year and the Micro Business of the Year awards are presented and all nominees are acknowledged during the Annual Salute to Small Business Breakfast.

Eligible businesses will be based on the following criteria:

- Is organized for profit
- Has a place of business in Fort Madison

- Is independently owned and operated
- Is not dominant in its field on a national basis
- Made an impact on the community or economy over the past year (2017)

Has changed and/or grown in the past year (2017)

To nominate a business, please contact the chamber at chamber@fortmadison.com or 319-372-5471. A committee of former award winners and Chamber Event Committee members will review the nominations, and make a decision based on the above criteria. Nominations will be accepted through Friday, April 20th at the chamber office.

See **NOMINATIONS**, page 3

Advertiser Index

ClassifiedsPs.5-7	Public Notices.....Ps.5-7
Dave's Old Fashion Meats P.2	Silgan Containers P.5
Fort Madison Family YMCA..... P.2	Steffes Group P.7
Great River Regional Waste Authority..... P.4	Test Kitchen Education Foundation..... P.2
Holy Trinity Catholic Elementary School Project P.2	The Kensington P.2
Pen City Current.....Ps.2,4-7	Trailways Travel..... P.3
Professional Services..... P.6	Your Heat & Air guy P.8

News Index

Birth Announcements . P.4
-Autumn Kay Roan
Current-Lee P.3
For the Record..... P.2
From the front.....Ps.3,8
Local News P.3
Lottery Numbers P.3
Opinion P.4
Weather P.5

Scan the code to
Subscribe today

Paid & Free Options Available!



Local News/For the Record

City offices closed Friday

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON - Fort Madison city offices will be closed on Friday in observance of Good Friday. City Hall and the Fort Madison Public Library will be closed on Friday and will reopen on Monday, April 2.

Trash service will also be suspended on Friday and Friday routes will be picked up on Monday.

ADVERTISE in a brand new way.

Nissa (319)520.8953
Shawna (319)470.0622
Lee (319)371.4125



For the Record

Fort Madison Police report

03/23/18 - 1:27 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 2700 block of Avenue K.
03/24/18 - 5:16 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in progress in the 2100 block of Avenue C.
03/24/18 - 3:07 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 400 block of Avenue H.
03/24/18 - 3:36 p.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Jason Thomas Woolever, 45, of Fort Madison in the 2700 block of Avenue L, on charges of trespassing, harassment, and 2nd-degree attempted burglary. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
03/24/18 - 5:57 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 1100 block of 24th Street.
03/24/18 - 6:08 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 100

block of 24th Street.
03/24/18 - 8:37 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a vandalism in the 800 block of Avenue F.
03/25/18 - 3:14 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident on Hwy. 61.
03/25/18 - 7:25 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 1800 block of Avenue A.
03/25/18 - 12:52 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 2700 block of Avenue K.
03/25/18 - 5:41 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 300 block of Hwy. 61 bypass.

Lee County Sheriff's report

03/23/18 - 8:05 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a two vehicle accident at Central Lee Schools in Donnellson. A vehicle driven by Scott Wesley Joseph Lynch, 38 of Fort Madison allegedly made a left turn and collided with a vehicle driven by Ella Grace Sanders, 15, of West Point in the parking lot of Central

Lee School. No injuries were reported. No citations were listed on the report.
03/23/18 - 10:34 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Scott Wesley Joseph Lynch, 38, of Donnellson, in the 2600 block of Hwy. 218 on charges of OWI-1st offense, driving while barred, possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of controlled substance and child endangerment. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
03/23/18 - 1:41 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies cited Ryan Lee Stinson, 23, of Argyle, at the sheriff's office on a warrant for failure to appear. He was released on bond.
03/23/18 - 2:43 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested a 14-year-old female from Burlington at the Southeast Iowa Juvenile Detention Center, on a charge of assault. She was held in custody pending a court appearance.
03/23/18 - 3 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Jeannie Sue Breashears, 33, of Fort Madison at the Lee County Jail

on a charge of possession of a controlled substance. She was held in custody.
03/23/18 - 5:05 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Vito Martinez Winters, 29, of Keokuk at the sheriff's office on a court-ordered hold. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
03/24/18 - 9:53 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Benjamin Joseph Wilson, 24, of Burlington, at the sheriff's office on charges of disorderly conduct. He was taken to the Lee County Jail.
03/24/18 - 9:56 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Matthew Lawrence Spring, 22, of Keokuk, at the sheriff's office, on a charge of domestic assault. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
03/25/18 - 12:30 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a one-vehicle accident north bound on 360th Avenue. A vehicle driven by Donzavian Maurice Turner, 27, of Quincy allegedly failed to come to a stop at the intersection of 180th Street and entered a ditch on the north side striking a metal culvert. Turner

said a deer ran out in front of him prior of the intersection. He was transported to Fort Madison Community Hospital and was released.
03/25/18 - 11:54 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a one-vehicle accident on 270th Avenue. A vehicle driven by Dylan Scott Lefler, 19, of Keokuk was traveling southbound and made a left onto Belmont Road when the vehicle lost control and slid into a ditch striking a speed limit sign and a cable junction box. Lefler was cited for failure to maintain control. No injuries were reported. *Those listed above are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.*

Fort Madison Fire & Rescue report

03/23/18 - Fort Madison Firefighters responded to five medical calls
03/24/18 - Fort Madison Firefighters responded to three medical calls, one electrical breaker incident, and one car fire
03/25/18 - Fort Madison Firefighters responded to three medical calls.

We're not just building a school...
...we're building futures!

HOLY TRINITY CATHOLIC
Ready to Build
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PROJECT
Click here to donate now.

Our first Math Class was a GREAT SUCCESS!
Get extra math help Wednesdays 3:45-5:45pm
Call us at (319) 250-2952 or click this ad to visit us online to learn more now!
Elliott Test Kitchen
807 Avenue G, Fort Madison
www.tkef.org

Are you ready?
Call us at 319-372-2403 or click here today & jumpstart your health!
the Y

Lunch & Learn

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 to visit our website.



RESURRECTION DAY SPECIALS

Dave's Hickory Smoked **HAMS \$2.48** lb.

HALF HAMS \$2.68 lb.

Whole Lamb Legs \$5.99 lb.

Aged Whole Boneless Prime Rib \$9.98 lb.

Fresh Ground Pork \$1.99 lb. (Limit 10 lbs. Please)

Fresh Unbreaded Pork Tenderloins..10/\$10

Fresh Homemade Amish Rope Sausage or Brats First of the Season! \$3.99 lb.	Fresh Pork Steaks 5 lbs./\$10	Dave's Homemade Ham Loaf \$3.99 lb.
Ribeye Steaks 8 oz. E.A. \$6.99	New York Strip Steaks 2/\$11	Filet Mignon 5 oz. E.A. \$7.97
	Homemade Wieners Reg. or All Beef \$5.98 lb.	80% Lean Fresh Ground Beef 10 lb. Roll \$2.89

DAVE'S OLD FASHION MEATS
Better Meats - Better Prices - It's My Job!

Ad Effective: 3-13-18 thru 3-31-18
We Accept IA, IL & MO EBT Cards
111 North 1st St. Montrose, IA
1-319-463-7150
HOURS: Monday-Friday 9:00am-6:00pm, Sat. 9:00am-5:00pm, Closed Sunday
We're Located Only 10 Minutes From Wal-Mart or Shopko.

From the Front/Current-Lee

CURRENT-LEE

HTC TAPS 8th Annual Bunny Hop Event – March 31st, 2018



WEST POINT - HTC Bunny Hop 5K Run/Walk or 10K Run event. Saturday, March 31st beginning at the West Point Library. Registration begins at 8:00a.m. The race begins at 9 a.m. Pre-registration before March 23rd is \$20 & includes t-shirt. Registration on or after March 23rd is \$25. Drinks and light snacks will be provided for participants. Medals will be awarded to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place finishers in each age group. Registration forms can be found here or www.holytrinintyschools.org. [Click here](#) to download & print your registration form.

Glo Crazy for Education run set for April 7



FORT MADISON - A 5K run/walk will be held on April 7 at Baxter Sports Complex beginning at 8 p.m. Proceeds from the event will go to the Elliott Test Kitchen in Fort Madison. The event is being put on by Fort Madison service clubs including Fort Madison Kiwanis, Lions and Rotary clubs as well as the Fort Madison High School key club. Registration can be done at www.pencitycurrent.com/glo-crazy/.

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.

Chamber sets May 10 for small business salute

NOMINATIONS - Continued from Page 1

Past Small Business of the Year Recipients	2011: Mohrfeld Electric	This event is sponsored by Huffman Welding & Machine and Huffman Farm & Home. The Salute to Small Business Breakfast will be held on Thursday, May 10th; doors open at 7:00am to browse the expo displays, and a buffet breakfast will be available starting at 7:30am (\$10/ per person Fort Madison Area Chamber member employees, \$15/per person non-members).
2003: Matt's Green-house	2012: Sheaffer Pen Museum	
2004: Floors, Décor, and More	2013: The Flower Cottage	
2005: Industrial Tooling and Fabrication	2014: Bix Basement Systems	
2006: Heartland Harvest Winery	2015: Sub Arena Sandwich Shop	
2007: Fit 24/7	2016: Group Benefit Partners	
2008: Independent Can Company	Past Micro Business of the Year Recipients	
2009: Pendemonium	2014: Fork-It	
2010: Your Heat and Air Guy	2015: KLM Realty	
	2016: Rev Fitness	

Pen City Current obituary policy

The Current runs obituaries 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.



Spring Travel Show

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4, 2018
RIVERVIEW PARK PAVILLION // FT. MADISON, IA

DOORS OPEN: 4:30PM // PRESENTATION: 5PM

Join us the evening of Wednesday, April 4 for our Spring Travel Show! We've been diligently working on putting some new and exciting tours together for all of our travelers and we're eager to share them with you!

Featured Tours:

- THE ROAD TO THE GREAT PACIFIC NORTHWEST
July 10-29 // 10 states
- "NOTHING RUNS LIKE A DEERE"
July 10-11 // Waterloo, IA
- OHIO'S AMISH COUNTRY
June 4-9 // Holmes County, OH
- GALENA SPRINGTIME GETAWAY
May 31-June 1 // Galena, IL
- WONDERS OF WILDLIFE
July 27-29 // Springfield, IL
- HENRY FORD & ROUGE FACTORY TOUR
August 21-23 // Dearborn, MI

RSVP TO 319-753-2864 x162



(319) 753-2864 Ext. 162
3211 Divison St • Burlington, IA 52601
www.TrailwaysTravel.com

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 SM	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



3/26
3 4 15 23 40
Lucky Ball: 6



3/26 MID-DAY
1 4 9
3/26 EVENING
5 6 2



3/26 MID-DAY
2 3 6 5
3/26 EVENING
6 8 0 8

Pen City Current encourages you to play responsibly.

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

Nissa Rung, Advertising
(319).520.8953
n.rung@pencitycurrent.com

Shawna Ross, Advertising
(319).470.0622
sross@pencitycurrent.com

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

Celebrations/Opinion



Birth Announcement

AUTUMN KAY ROAN

KEOKUK - Donna and Adam Roan announce the birth of their daughter Autumn Kay Roan on March 23, 2018 at Fort Madsion Community Hospital.

Autumn is joined at home by brother Jacob Roan.

Grandparents of the child are Tom and Judy Burner of Burlington, Mike and Bev Bliven of Keokuk and Merle Roan of Carthage, Ill. Great-grandparent is Doris Foley of Warsaw, Ill.

The Pen City Current congratulates the family on this wonderful news.

You can't beat FREE!
Subscribe to #PCC today
Paid options also available.



Follow Us
 @pencitycurrent



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

FM Partners supports Central Lee school bond

Letter to the Editor:

Fort Madison Partner Affiliates: Fort Madison Area Chamber of Commerce; Main Street; Fort Madison Economic Development; and Fort Madison-Southeast Iowa Regional Riverboat Commission, recognize the value that quality educational opportunities bring to our area and offer our support for the passing of the \$13.3 million Central Lee Community School District Bond Referendum.

Primarily, it is important to be able to offer our youth a strong educational foundation to compete in our global economy. We have a unique opportunity in our area to be able to offer choices when it comes to quality education and we use it as a selling point for the community every chance we get. This selling point will become even stronger with new/updated facilities at both the high school as well as elementary building.

The proposed upgrades will have an everlasting impact on our children and future generations. It will take all of us, whether you are a parent, grandparent or just care about the future of our county, showing your support for a safe, accessible learning environment to make the new additions and renovations become a reality. The proposed development not only affords our children the opportunity to attend an improved facility but also provides new space for high school athletics,

fine art programs, culinary art space, new Early Childhood Center at the Elementary building, as well as safe and secure entrances for both buildings.

Safety is a key factor in these building initiatives. As times change, what was adequate for one generation is no longer adequate now. It is our responsibility to ensure everyone at school feels safe- teachers, students and administrative staff. While basic security measures are in place, the current layout of the main entrances present challenges when it comes to safety.

In summation, our support for the Central Lee Community School District Bond Referendum addresses these key points: economic development and recruitment of professionals and businesses; investing in the future success of our youth; the recruitment of quality educators; and the safety of our children.

We hope citizens will vote in favor of the Central Lee Community School District Bond Referendum. With your support, we can create new learning environments to accommodate advanced programs and provide quality educational opportunities- preparing our youth for their future tomorrow!

Sincerely,

Tim Gobble,
 Executive Director,
 Fort Madison Partners

#HyperLocalSuperFresh

Spring Cleaning

Keep it green!

This year, do your part to keep our environment clean, too! Here are just a few of the ways you can help:

- Properly dispose of your household hazardous waste materials, construction debris, & electronic waste
- Use environmentally-safe cleaning products
- Reduce • Reuse • Recycle
- Check our website for proper disposal methods, acceptable materials, & more



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

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

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



Classifieds/Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Great River Regional Waste Authority is accepting bids for the mowing of its properties located at 2092 303rd ave in Fort Madison and 111 Carbide lane in Keokuk.

Bids must be received by April 2nd by 4:00 p.m.

It is recommended that all bidders look at the properties before submitting their bids.

Bids shall be for mowing services, weed eating every week (Unless not recommended by GRRWA) and also spraying weeds if needed.

Bids need to be sent to: Great River Regional Waste Authority, 2092 303rd Ave. Fort Madison Iowa 52627 and to the Attention of: Wade Hamm.

PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Fort Madison City Council at 5:30 P.M. on Tuesday, April 3, 2018, at the Council Chambers of Fort Madison City Hall at 811 Avenue E, Fort Madison concerning Public Improvement Project 2018-03, Water

Storage Facilities Rehabilitation. The purpose of the hearing will consist of approving plans, specifications, contract documents and awarding construction contract for the project.

You may obtain further information or express your views concerning this issue either in person or through an authorized representative at the public hearing, or prior to the meeting by fax at (319) 372-8661, by telephone at (319) 372-7700 ext. 206, by E-mail at mblind@fortmadison-ia.com or in writing to the Fort Madison City Clerk, P.O. Box 240, 811 Avenue E, Fort Madison, Iowa, 52627 no later than 4:30 PM on April 3, 2018.

Melinda L. Blind
City Clerk

PUBLIC NOTICE Lee County, Iowa Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting Agenda

**DATE: TUESDAY,
March 27, 2018**
**MEETING
CONVENING TIME:
9:00 A.M.**
**LOCATION:
Correctional Center
2530 255th Street,
Montrose, IA**

AGENDA

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Approve Agenda
- Public Hearing to Enter into Non Current Debt to Purchase Pictometry GIS Photography, Software and Services
- Consider Approval of Resolution to Enter into Non Current Debt to Purchase Pictometry GIS Photography, Software and Services
- Consider Approval of Tuesday, March 20, 2018 Board Minutes
- Consider Approval of Claims
- Public Input
- Consider Approval to Replace Full-time Correctional Officer
- Consider Approval of Resolution Naming Road as Woodland Heights Court
- Consider Approval of Tax Suspension Notice
- Consider Approval of Class C Liquor License for Fat Jimmy's Smoke House, Montrose
- Consider Approval of Tax Abatement Resolution
- Personnel Actions:
 - A. Step Increase-Conservation
- Commission or Committee Reports
- Adjourn

PUBLIC MEETING -

CITIZENS WELCOME

Workshop to follow
Vision and hearing assistance available upon request

Contact Title VI Administrator
319-372-3705

County Website:
www.leecounty.org

PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Fort Madison City Council at 5:30 P.M. on Tuesday, April 3, 2018, at the Council Chambers of Fort Madison City Hall at 811 Avenue E, Fort Madison concerning Public Improvement Project 2018-03, Water Storage Facilities Rehabilitation. The purpose of the hearing will consist of approving plans, specifications, contract documents and awarding construction contract for the project.

You may obtain further information or express your views concerning this issue either in person or through an authorized representa-

tive at the public hearing, or prior to the meeting by fax at (319) 372-8661, by telephone at (319) 372-

7700 ext. 206, by E-mail at mblind@fortmadison-ia.com or in writing to the Fort Madison City Clerk, P.O.

5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

TUE 27 Mar



Light Rain
High - 44.2° F | Low - 36.5° F

WED 28 Mar



Scattered Clouds
High - 53.4° F | Low - 36.4° F

THU 29 Mar



Light Rain
High - 52.4° F | Low - 42.0° F

FRI 30 Mar



Light Snow
High - 35.3° F | Low - 23.6° F

SAT 31 Mar



Light Rain
High - 43.3° F | Low - 41.6° F

OpenWeatherMap

HELP WANTED

FULL-TIME DAYCARE ASSOCIATE

Holy Trinity Early Childhood Center has a full-time daycare associate position available immediately. This is a year round, benefits eligible position. Candidates must be able to complete DHS required trainings and pass a background check.

Please contact Stefanie Drollinger at stefanie.drollinger@holymadison.org or 319-372-6428 for application information.



ADVERTISE in a brand new way.

Nissa (319)520.8953
Shawna (319)470.0622
Lee (319)371.4125



DRIVERS WANTED!!!

We are looking for safe, dependable drivers to join our fleet of regional freight haulers.

We Require: A Class A CDL and a minimum age of 23 years.

We Offer: A \$1500 sign on bonus, bi-annual safety bonuses, health insurance, vacation time (up to 4 weeks), a Christmas Club, a Simple IRA retirement plan with company match and very competitive wages.

We Operate: Late model equipment. 100% dry van freight. 99% no touch freight. Upper Midwest Lanes. No East or West Coast!

We value home time as well! Our drivers are through Fort Madison a couple times per week and off on weekends! Call or E-Mail us today!

See our website for additional details.

brad@johnsontruckline.com
Toll Free: 800-548-3705
Phone: 319-372-2099
Fax: 319-372-1795
www.johnsontruckline.com
www.facebook.com/johnsontruckline



Installation & Service Technician

Looking for highly motivated individual to join our team to provide installation and maintenance on plumbing, heating and air conditioning systems. Full-time opening with benefits.

- Skills and Qualifications:
- Great customer service with high integrity
 - Valid driver's license with clear driving record and criminal history
 - Experience working in HVAC or plumbing field a plus
 - Apprenticeship program available
 - Necessary tools provided
 - Weekends, Overtime & Evenings as needed

- Benefits:
- Competitive pay with year round full-time employment
 - Paid holidays and vacation
 - Health insurance
 - Retirement plan with company match

Please call or stop by our office for additional information.
410 Avenue E, PO Box 8
West Point, IA 52656
319-837-6411
paulsphc@gmail.com



Now Hiring Line Mechanics in Ft. Madison

Silgan Containers is currently seeking Line Mechanics at our Fort Madison plant. This is a full time position with a very competitive benefits package.

As the largest provider of metal packaging in the United States, Silgan Containers is trusted by America's most respected brands. If you have mechanical experience and a willingness to learn, Silgan might be the perfect fit for your new career. Must be able to work rotating 12 hour shifts and mechanical experience in a manufacturing environment is a plus.

- Starting pay over \$21/hr with the possibility of over \$25/hr within the first two years plus quarterly bonus opportunities
- Competitive benefits package includes 401(k) match, multiple healthcare plan options, dental, vision, educational assistance and much more
 - Rotating 12-hour shift schedule allows for generous days off
- High school diploma or equivalency required, trade school preferred
 - Quality training provided for those willing to learn but must pass a written and practical mechanical aptitude test



If you are interested in more information about this exciting opportunity visit silgancontainers.com/careers or contact:

Tim Ewing, Plant Human Resources Manager
319-372-8491 x4760 or
tewing@silgancontainers.com

Silgan Containers is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Classifieds/Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICES

Box 240, 811 Avenue E,
Fort Madison, Iowa, 52627
no later than 4:30 PM on
April 3, 2018.
Melinda L. Blind
City Clerk

work to complete in the next
month.
6. Old Business: None.
7. Other/New Business
8. Adjournment

**PUBLIC NOTICE
PROCEEDINGS
FORT MADISON
CITY COUNCIL
3/20/2018**

The Fort Madison City Council met in adjourned session at 5:30 P.M. on Tuesday, March 20, 2018, at City Hall, 811 Avenue E. Mayor Randolph presided with Council Members Greenwald, Morawitz, Rink, Andrews, Seidel and Lair present. Council Member Cangas was absent.

On motion, Council approved the agenda as written. On motion, Council approved the Consent Agenda: Minutes of 3/6/2018; Liquor License Renewal: MOD Convenience Store, 1531 Avenue H, effective 4/25/2018; February Financial Report and Payment of Claims.

On motion, Council adopted Resolution No. 2018-23, approving and authorizing a form of loan agreement and authorizing and providing for the issuance and securing the

payment of \$1,700,000 Water Revenue Capital Loan Notes, Series 2018, of the City of Fort Madison, State of Iowa, under the provisions of the City Code of Iowa, and providing for a method of payment of the notes and approving tax exemption certificate. On motion, Council adopted Resolution No.2018-24, ratifying a settlement agreement with the Teamster Local 238, Water Department.

On motion, Council received and filed the City's audit for Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2017. On motion, Council approved the proposal of Rehrig Pacific Company and Municipal Connection, not to exceed \$267,000 for the implementation of roll away garbage containers.

At 6:45 P.M. on motion, Council adjourned until April 3, 2018 at 5:30 P.M.

/s/ Bradley A. Randolph, Mayor
ATTEST: /s/ Melinda L. Blind, City Clerk

EXPENDITURES		REVENUES	3/1-3/15/2018
General	\$72,781.31	General	\$597,087.65
Sp. Rev. Funds	7,574.82	Special Rev.	175,484.67
Road Use	17,702.74	Road Use	26,730.05
Capital	79,733.35	Debt	19,258.64
Water	103,745.65	Capital	0
Sewer	366,891.91	Water	990.55
Solid Waste	9,362.68	Sewer	1,073,995.48
SW Utility	701.93	Solid Waste/IW	1,088.75
	\$658,494.39	Storm Water Ut.	285.97
			\$1,894,921.76

PAYROLL	3/16/2018
General	\$178,939.09
Spec. Revenues	3,745.75
Road Use	25,207.04
Water	26,608.60
Sewer	43,063.40
Solid Waste	10,897.66
Storm Water	3,303.32
	\$291,764.86

**CLAIMS
MARCH 20, 2018**
AIRGAS USA, LLC,
ACETYLENE 141.76
ALLIANT ENERGY,
ELECTRIC 2,999.93
ALTORFER MACHINERY
CO., MOTOR..... 558.25
ARAMARK UNIFORM
SERVICES, SHOP TOW-
ELS 402.51
ASPEN MILLS, UNI-
FORMS 113.88

B&B PROPANE, PRO-
PANE 320.28
BATES SANITATION &
ASPHALT, PORTA A POT-
TIE 150
BUILDING MATERIALS
INC, BUILDING SUP-
PLIES & ITEMS..... 573.17
BURLINGTON MUNI
WATER, SAMPLES 74
C.U.R.E. SOLUTIONS,
LAPTOP..... 1,034.99
CARLE, JAMIE, TRAIN-

**PUBLIC NOTICE
Meeting Notice
CITY OF FORT
MADISON
Planning and Zoning
Commission
Organization
WILL MEET ON
Tuesday, March 27, 2018
6:00 PM
AT THE Council
Chambers, City Hall,
811 Ave E
TO DISCUSS THE
FOLLOWING:
AGENDA**

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of minutes
2/27/18 meeting
3. Non-agenda item com-
ments
4. Review of a plat of sur-
vey for Virginia Walker.
5. Code Review: Land
Uses: Review and update
Commission Members notes
to the matrix of land uses.
Determine as a commission
what can be combined and
deleted and what further

**Place your ad
online 24/7**

**COMMERCIAL
SPACE
FOR RENT**

**SALON SPACE
FOR RENT**



Ready to open! Nice, friendly atmosphere, all utilities included. New paint & flooring. \$325 per month. Located at the corner of 15th street and Avenue E. 319-470-8711.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

The Ripp O'Liks Saturday, March 31st
1135 Ave. E • Wednesday-Saturday 5:00pm
Hill Side Inn

5 Generations of Printing
DODD PRINTING & STATIONERY
Posters, Business Cards, Photo Correction, Wedding Invitations, Supplies, Custom Design, Office & Invitations, 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.
State Farm Bank®
Some products and services not available in all areas.
1001306.1 State Farm Bank, F.S.B., Bloomington, IL

Because your wedding gown is Precious
WEDDING GOWN PRESERVATION
IRIS CITY CLEANERS
319 385 9707 . 888 485 9707
www.IrisCityCleaners.com

SMITH ELECTRIC
- Master Electrician -
Residential | Agricultural | Commercial | Industrial
* Licensed & Insured *
* Doing business for 13 years *
* References available *
641-814-3249

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
LARRYHOLTAMP.COM
FARM BUREAU FINANCIAL SERVICES
Auto | Home | Life | Annuities | Business | Farm & Ranch
Farm Bureau Property & Casualty Insurance Company, Western Agricultural Insurance Company, Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company, West Des Moines, IA. *Company providers of Farm Bureau Financial Services FC114 (9-17)

RODEO PARK REHAB
Short-term rehabilitation
Fully equipped state-of-the-art therapy gym
Occupational, physical, and speech therapy
Personalized therapy plan
Private rooms
Compassionate nursing staff
We'll get you ready to:
"Giddy Up & Go Home!"
THE MADISON
EXPERIENCE SIGNIFICANCE
319-372-8021 | 1702 41st Street, Fort Madison, IA

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 @ BOULDERSINNFTMADISON

Classifieds/Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICES

ING REIMB..... 38.93
 CENTRAL PETOLEUM
 EQUIPMENT, ALARM ON
 TANK MONITOR..... 361.5
 CESSFORD CONSTRU-
 CTION CO., COLD PATCH.
 1,816.85
 CINTAS CORP, 1ST AID
 SUPPLIES..... 98.23
 CORE & MAIN LP, PHIL-
 MAC 1,333.10
 CULLEN PEST CON-
 TROL, RODENT CON-
 TROL..... 189
 DAILY DEMOCRAT, ADS
 386.27
 DAKOTA WORLEY,
 TRAINING REIMB
 108.32
 DATA SUPPORT COMPA-
 NY, LAB SUPPLIES
 701.4
 DJ'S PUBLISHING, EN-
 VELOPES 2.79
 DODD PRINTING &
 STATIONERY, INK CAR-
 TRIDGES..... 395.31
 DOUDS STONE, LLC,
 ROAD STONE 908.37
 ELECTRONIC APPLI-
 CATIONS, REMOVED
 EQUIPMENT FROM UNIT
 240
 FASTENAL COMPANY,
 SHOP VAC FILTERS
 291.33
 FLOYD'S E-Z WAY, RUB-
 BISH REMOVAL 346.1
 FORT MADISON CITY
 TREAS., LEACHATE
 TREATMENT..... 1,944.97
 GALL'S, AN ARAMARK
 COMPANY, UNIFORMS
 264.91
 GEM ELECTRONICS,
 MIC CORD..... 477.85
 GREAT RIVER REGION-
 AL WASTE, LANDFILL
 FEES 5,753.16
 GREENWOOD CLEAN
 ING SYSTEM, LINERS
 409.75
 GRIFFON 108, ADS
 2,115.00
 GUSTAFSON, BRUCE,
 TRAINING REIMB... 16.41
 HACH CHEMICAL CO.,
 CHEMICALS 396.37
 HAWK-EYE, SUBSCRIP-
 TION..... 213.79
 HEIMAN FIRE EQUIP
 INC., BATTERY 291.8
 HENDERSON PROD-
 UCTS, INC, TARP &
 TUBES & MISC.
 1,750.92
 HOENIG TREE SERVICE
 INC, CLEARED TREES
 HANGING ON FENCE
 1,800.00
 HUFFMAN WELDING &
 MACHINE PARTS; AN-
 GLE & MISC..... 865.01
 HUTCHESON ENGI-
 NEERING PRO, MOTOR
 2,608.04
 ICAP, TORT LIABILITY
 INS 99,513.58
 IDEAL READY MIX, FILL
 SAND..... 382.39
 IDEXX LABORATORIES,
 COLILERT COMBO PACK
 1,580.46
 IOWA DEPT OF TRANS-
 PORTATION, BALL
 VALVE..... 25
 IOWA HISTORY JOUR-
 NAL, HALF PAGE AD
 350
 IOWA LAW ENFORCE-
 MENT ACADEMY, SHIRT
 FOR FIREARMS IN-
 STRUCTOR..... 37.1
 IOWA WATER ENVIRON-
 MENT ASSN, REGISTRA-
 TION..... 110
 J&S ELECTRONIC BUSI-
 NESS, COPIER USAGES
 38.66
 JL TIME & ATTENDANCE
 CO, MONTHLY FEES
 146.25
 K & A EXCAVATING LLC,
 PAY APP #1 - 7TH STR
 CSO PROJ 79,395.11
 KELTEK INCORP, VEHI-
 CLE EQUIPMENT 205.2
 KEMPKERS TRUE VAL-
 UE HARDWARE; RE-
 PAIRS; RENTALS
 1,616.57
 LEANDER CONSTRUC-
 TION INC., PAY EST #18
 - WWTP PHASE II
 327,311.33
 LISCO PHONE; INTER-
 NET; LONG DIST
 1,971.91
 MAINSTREET FORT
 MADISON, MAYHEM ON
 MISS. & QUILT WALK
 38.46
 MCFARLAND JANITORI-
 AL, SUPPLIES 65.96
 MENARD - WEST BURL-
 INGTON, FLEX TAPE
 2,438.96
 MENKE PROFESSIONAL
 AUTO PARTS, OIL
 25.98
 MES-MUNICIPAL EMER-
 GENCY SERV, GLOBE
 REPAIR..... 893.87
 MIDAMERICAN ENER-

GY, HEATING..... 152.66
 MIDLAND SCIENTIFIC
 INC., BUFFER SOLUTION
 104.97
 MIDWEST SAFETY
 COUNSELORS, CALI-
 BRATION GAS 1,608.08
 MOHRFELD ELECTRIC,
 WOODLAND HEIGHTS
 BOOSTER STATION
 53,015.00
 MOTION INDUSTRIES
 INC, V BELT 227.01
 MUNICIPAL SUPPLY
 COMPANY, METERS
 8,839.90
 O'REILLY AUTO PARTS,
 PARTS..... 1,375.58
 PARKVIEW VETERI-
 NARY CLINIC, RENTAL
 FEE 1,350.00
 PHONE BOOTH, TRAN-
 SCRIPTIION HEADSET
 45
 QUALITY FLOW SYS-
 TEMS, INC, UNPLUGGED
 INFLUENT PUMP 300
 RAINBO OIL COMPANY,
 OIL..... 251.81
 REXCO EQUIPMENT INC,
 VALVES..... 64.93
 S.H. ENTERPRISES LTD.,
 SLUDGE HAULING
 7,451.70
 SE COMMUNITY COL-
 LEGE, TRAINING 10
 SE IA REGIONAL PLAN-
 NING COMM SRF LOAN
 - PROF FEES..... 10,000.00
 SERVICE MASTER, JANI-
 TORIAL SERVICE
 1,311.50
 SHOPKO, CLOTHING
 ALLOWANCE..... 59.97
 SHOTTENKIRK SU-
 PERSTORE, GENERAL
 MAINT..... 1,022.95
 STATE HYGIENIC LABO-
 RATORY, TESTING
 274.5
 STEFFENSMEIER WELD-
 ING & MFG, TUBE &
 CHANNEL..... 2,254.10
 TESTAMERICA INC.,
 NITROGEN 24.15
 TIM'S REPAIR SHOP,
 REPAIR ENGINE..... 86
 TRAVIS SCHROEDER,
 CLOTHING ALLOWANCE
 71.69
 TREAT AMERICA,
 MEALS TRAINING
 11.14
 TRUCK REPAIR, RE-
 TURNS - 134.02
 ULTRAMAX, AMMUNA-
 TION 387.2

UPS, SHIPPING 12.99
 USA BLUE BOOK, SUP-
 PLIES 238.48
 WIGEN TECHNOLO-
 GIES, MAINTENANCE &
 CLEAN DRUM
 11,210.65
 WINDSTREAM PHONE;
 INTERNET & LONG DIST
 236.4
 WINTER EQUIPMENT
 COMPANY, CURB
 GAUGE..... 724.58
 TOTAL..... 651,229.96
 GENERAL..... 65526.86
 SPECIAL REVENUES
 7564.84
 ROAD USE..... 17702.74
 CAPITAL PROJECTS
 79733.35
 WATER 103745.65
 WASTEWATER
 366891.91
 SOLID WASTE..... 9362.68
 STORM WATER..... 701.93
 TOTAL..... 651229.96

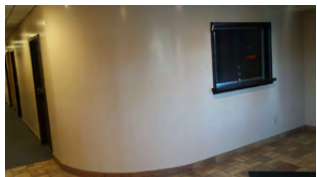
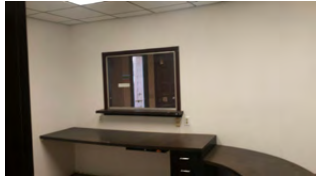
DEMCO, CHILD SUP-
 PLIES..... 730.92
 DODD PRINTING & STA-
 TIONERY, WET FLOOR
 SIGNS..... 47.48
 J&S ELECTRONIC BUSI-
 NESS, CLOUD BACKUP
 10.78
 KEMPKERS TRUE
 VALUE, FLUORESCENT
 BULBS..... 273.14
 MEDIACOM PHONE;
 INTERNET; 213.49
 MID AMERICAN ENER-
 GY CO., HEATING
 393.17
 NAVIANT, TONER
 98.44
 ORIENTAL TRADING
 COMPANY, CHILDREN'S
 ITEMS..... 49.94
 PENGUIN RANDOM
 HOUSE, LIBRARY MATE-
 RIALS 90.00
 PETTY CASH - SARAH
 CLENDINENG, CHIPS
 9.98

**LIBRARY CLAIMS -
 MARCH 2018**
[AMAZON.COM](http://amazon.com), LI-
 BRARY MATERIALS
 294.46
 AMERICAN LIBRARY
 ASSN, DUES..... 274.00
 BAKER & TAYLOR, LI-
 BRARY MATERIALS
 1,537.62
 CENGAGE LEARNING,
 LIBRARY MATERIALS
 50.68
 DAILY DEMOCRAT, ADS
 103.52

QUILL CORPORATION,
 OFFICE SUPPLIES
 1,119.14
 RECORDED BOOKS LLC,
 CD..... 157.47
 SERVICE MASTER, JANI-
 TORIAL SERVICE
 1,810.20
 TOTAL..... 7,264.43
 GENERAL..... 7,254.45
 SPECIAL REVENUES
 9.98
 TOTAL..... 7,264.43

FOR RENT COMMERCIAL SPACE

OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT



Nice, friendly atmosphere, all utilities included. Three offices to pick from. Rent ranges from \$300 to \$500, depending on the size. New paint and carpet. Located at the corner of 15th street and Ave E (large white building - the old St Clair Chiropractic office). Call 319-470-8711.

#ShopLocal
 Support your local
 business community!

Real Estate & Personal Property

AUCTION

Dallas City, Illinois

Auction held on site:
 192 West 4th St.

Home
 Sells at
 12PM

FRIDAY, APRIL 6, 2018 AT 10AM

Open House on Friday, March 23rd, 10-11am

TWO STORY HOME ON CORNER LOT

Take a look at this spacious two story home built in 1890 with 1,888 sq.ft. on two levels. The main level features a kitchen with refrigerator & electric stove, spacious living room and an adjoining bedroom with washer/dryer hookups and updated carpet. Also on the main level is a handicap accessible bathroom. The open stairway leads to two bedrooms and a bath. The attached breezeway has a workshop area which attaches to the single car garage. The garage also has a storage room. All situated on a 75'x123' corner lot.

VEHICLE: 2011 Chevrolet Impala LT, 106,305 miles, 4dr, V6 Flexfuel, automatic

ANTIQU FURNITURE: Secretary with glass front bookcase; Glass front pie safe; Kitchen cabinet w/ flour bin; (4)Glass front sectional bookcase; 4 drawer dresser w/ mirror; 3 drawer dresser w/ mirror; Vanity w/ mirror; Accent table; 6 gal. crock; Antique pictures; Antique wall phones; Stamp collection

TV, APPLIANCES & MODERN FURNITURE: Samsung 55" UHD TV, 4K; GE electric dryer; Maytag washer; Entertainment center; (2) Lazy Boy recliners; Electric lift chair; End tables; Dining room table & 4 chairs; Corner cabinet; Couches; Recliners; Full bed w/ night stand; Chest of drawers; Dressers; Antique dishes; Hall's kitchenware; Glassware; Kitchen utensils; Lamps; Christmas decorations; Bookshelves; Book collection including Western's & others; Kirby vacuum; Alum ext. ladder; Bench grinder; Vice; Bolt bin; Lawn & garden tools.

HOMER LEON IKERD ESTATE & DARIN LYNN GENTRY

Darin Gentry & Jaime Shultz - Co-Executors

William A. Rasmussen-Attorney

217-357-2107

Capps, Ancelet, Rasmussen & Icenogle,
 55 S. Adams St., P.O. Box 250, Carthage, IL

319.385.2000 | SteffesGroup.com | Mt Pleasant, IA

Illinois Auctioneer License #441001748 - Broker License #471006809

Car
 Sells at
 12PM



(319) 372-4040

Click here for our listings.



Turning Hope into Reality

From the Front

Steffen says county's economic progress is sluggish

CANDIDATE - Continued from Page 1

overall growth in the county.

"Whatever it is behind the scenes that is keeping us from getting industry and technological jobs has to be dealt with," he said. "There's that friction between Fort Madison and Keokuk that hasn't been resolved and we've lost numerous companies from coming. I think it's got to be settled one way or another. I hear the state's looking at it, too, and at some point, it may be that no one gets to decide because they may not get a chance."

A Keokuk High School graduate, Steffen pointed to the lost effort with Winnebago after Fruehauf left the area and before Siemens came into the area.

He said with the county putting \$200,000 annually into the Lee County Economic Development Group budget, we should be attracting more businesses.

"We have to attract manufacturing and newer technology," he said. "Our employment rate is 5.4% and it wasn't that long ago that we had the highest un-

employment rate in the state. It's getting better, but it can get a lot better. We've got to get better paying jobs in the area. Most of the people here are underemployed and they just aren't making enough money. We've got people off the rolls that don't count in that unemployment percent, and then we've got people that are never going to work but you'll have that problem everywhere."

Steffen ran for the Iowa House of Representatives in 2012, which was his first attempt at running for office, but said he took a break after that run, and this is the first time since then that he's put his name on a ballot.

He's a firm believer that education should be out of federal hands, although he admits he won't have a lot of pull there as a supervisor.

"I've always advocated that education control should be local," he said. "I don't think the federal government should be involved in curriculum. What they are teaching in other areas of the country

may not be the best thing to teach here. Right now they have these standardized tests and we're teaching to pass those tests at the expense of other curriculum and that isn't right."

He said education should be an endeavor where parents and teachers get together and have a say in how things should be taught.

"They don't have a say now. We need to get the federal government out of it and give control back to local communities and the state."

Steffen and his wife Diana have four children James, Darian, Jared, and Tamsen and are lifelong residents of Lee County. After graduating from Keokuk High School in 1983, he went straight into the U.S. Marine Corp and Active Army before going back to school at Southeastern Community College and completing his degree at SCC in 2008. He shared his graduation party with his oldest son, James, who graduated from Central Lee the same year. He's also a veteran of the United States Army and the Iowa National Guard.

Steffen has always taken his oath to his

country and state as one of his highest responsibilities and is one of his proudest accomplishments. He's also been actively involved with the Salvation Army and is a founding member of the committee to bring RiverFest back to Fort Madison and has worked at the festival since its return.

He's a member of the Republican Party and is a member of the Des Moines Township Fire Department and the Cowboy Country Church in Wayland, Missouri. Steffen, his daughter Darian, and grandchildren enjoy riding, showing, and working their American Quarter Horses.

Steffen said in a press release for his candidacy, he's always maintained duty to his country and state, but now, his county is of the highest importance and he will bring that conviction to the office of County Supervisor. He believes that the government should be more limited in scope, transparent, and more responsive to the people and that Lee County can become a better place to raise our children and grandchildren by improving employment opportunities and bettering our education system.

Voters approved funding stream that built middle school

REFERENDUMS - Continued from Page 1

don't know that there wasn't one, great minds and contracts prevailed and it's fixed. Someone told me the foundations weren't anchored correctly. What construction goes off without a hitch? We paid a firm to build us a great school and they did that... even if they had to come back and fix some things, which honestly I don't know they did or didn't. I just don't care. They built what they said they were going to build.

It makes no sense to me

that some are advocating spending \$40 million to rehab two schools that will still need to be heated and maintained, when we can do one for \$10 million less, (\$13 million less if we'd have done it a year ago) that will be cheaper to heat, and now cool for the first time ever. Which also just about ends the weather-related early outs. And those that say we should have been doing it all along. Add that up. Maintenance was being done on those buildings. But this isn't

even really about that either.

It's about a new generation of learning that's needed to prepare our current youngest students for jobs that don't exist. You just can't do it there. An enterprising reader pointed out our middle school was listed as "Needs Improvement" and the elementaries were rated as "Commendable". He speaks the truth, that's what they're listed at for 2017 on the Iowa School Report Card website. Here's what wasn't in

that analysis. The Middle School has improved in points used to establish the rating each year since its construction, while the elementary schools have both gone down. And a quick look at the other junior highs in southeast Iowa will show all but two are listed at Needs improvement or worse, and all but one elementary school was listed as adequate or commendable. You can check for yourself by going to the following link: <http://reports.educateiowa.gov/>

schoolreportcard just type in Fort Madison or any other school in southeast Iowa.

The other emotional aspect of a lot of "No" votes is rooted in the fact that the Middle School was built without the approval of the voters. I would submit that, too, is misinformation. It was built with funds from a funding mechanism that Lee County voters approved in 1999. It was called at that point LOST or Local Option Sales Tax, which approved 1% of a statewide sales tax pool to be used by the district for, according to the Iowa Department of Education, "school infrastructure needs or school district property tax relief". "School infrastructure" means those activities for which a school district is authorized to contract indebtedness and issue general obligation bonds under Iowa Code section 296.1, except those activities related to a teacher's or superintendent's home or homes. You can fact check that at <https://www.educateiowa.gov/pk-12/school-facilities/funding/secure-advanced-vision-education-save>.

While you're there, click on the History of Local Option Elections link, you'll see that Lee County passed that referendum 54.5 to 45.5 in September 1999. No supermajority needed there, and that was a vote to allow districts to

bond against tax dollars. Talk about fickle. So, in a technicality, Lee County voters voted to allow the district to use tax dollars to build a new school. You just cannot say voters didn't approve funding the construction of that school.

So just get out and vote to build the school and let's move on. I've gotten to know this Kids Committee, the school board, and Superintendent Erin Slater pretty well. I've rubbed them the wrong way on several occasions, but I know this. They won't quit until these kids have the facility they deserve to learn in this ever-shrinking world. If you don't pass it this year, they'll keep going it at...and the cost continues to go up. Pay now...or more later.

With regard to Central Lee. Give them the money, too. Why?

Because I've walked into that school about four times without being let in. I could've gone wherever I wanted. That's pretty scary. Safety and security are paramount to their needs. No, it won't take \$13 million to put a security system in place, but they too want to move into the generation of 'we can', instead of 'how can we'.

We've got people that are doing great things with our students, in our schools. Let's put them in a building to get the job done and then watch what happens.

YOUR Heat & Air guy

Ft. Madison: 319-372-4328
Burlington: 319-752-4328
Nauvoo, IL: 217-453-4328
All Areas: 877-380-4328

MIDAMERICAN ENERGY ADVANTAGE
TRADE ALLY PARTNER



YORK
CERTIFIED COMFORT EXPERT

Install confidence and guaranteed comfort with a YORK® HVAC System.
Energy Efficiency Ratings Over 18!



Generations of Great Service!

- 24 Hour Service
- Never An Overtime Charge
- Best Price & Quality Guaranteed!

Please Review Us 

As a family owned business our reputation is just as important to us as making sure our customers are satisfied with our service!
Leave a trusted local review on our website or on Google! Click this ad or Google "Your Heat and Air Guy"!

Visit us Online: www.yourheatandairguy.com
Like us on [Facebook!](https://www.facebook.com/yourheatandairguy)