



Pen City Current

Wednesday, March 14, 2018 | 8 pages | Volume 2 • Issue 76



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Truck dump

Clean up crews and local police respond to the scene of a trailer that tipped over on 15th Street at about 11:20 Tuesday morning.

Mishap dumps scrap metal on Rodeo Hill

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON - Local police and clean-up crews are on the scene of a truck accident that happened at about 11:20 a.m. Tuesday on 15th Street in Fort Madison.

A truck hauling scrap metal lost fluid and began to roll back down the hill before jack-knifing and dumping the load and trailer across 15th Street about 1/2 way up the hill.

The trailer was being hauled by TB Transportation out of Fort Madison. Another TB truck brought a trailer to the location as police had both the north and southbound entrances blocked as the the metal was being cleaned up. The trailer tipped over blocking the east bound sidewalk and part of the easement, as well as about half of the roadway on the east side.

Local police said the Iowa Department of Transportation had been called to the scene.

Conservation board close to adopting bylaws

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

MONTROSE - The Lee County Conservation Board took another step toward finalizing its revamped by-laws Tuesday night.

At the board's regular meeting, the board reviewed the bylaws and approved some amendments that were recommended by county officials.

The board debated briefly on when to elect new officers. New board member Liza Alton thought that naming new officers in January would be a more common approach to changing leadership. Board vice chairman Harry Sylvester said the bylaws as written provided some flexibility to set officers either in December or January and also gives some time for the board to consider the positions.

After the conversation, the board decided to leave that language as it was.

Unsworth said the biggest change in the bylaws is probably the language governing expenditures. Any expenses over \$5,000 would now require a bidding process.

"The big change is just simplifying the expenditures," Unsworth said. "After \$5,000 we just follow the bid procedures set forth by the (Lee County Board of) supervisors. It would give the board a bit more buying power than other department heads, but we also have equipment and some things we need to get so that gives us a bit more flexibility."

"The bid procedures the supervisors have set follow Iowa code so that takes care of all that language in there as well."

Board member Bill Mullan asked Unsworth how the duck blind committee work is going. Unsworth said some of the new recommendations that have been coming from the meetings were forwarded to

See LCCB, page 8

"The big change is just simplifying the expenditures. After \$5,000 we just follow the bid procedures set forth by the supervisors."

-Nathan Unsworth,
Director LCCB

Counties take backfill issue to capitol

Wednesday marks annual County Day on the hill

BY PCC STAFF

DES MOINES - County officials and employees from across the state will travel to Des Moines on Wednesday, March 14, for the 10th Annual County Day at the Capitol hosted by the Iowa State Associ-

ation of Counties (ISAC). The event will give county officials and employees the opportunity to be involved in the legislative process by promoting legislation that is of importance to counties.

Among other issues, county officials will be ad-

vocating for full funding of the commercial and industrial property tax backfill.

In 2013 state law was changed to reduce the amount of taxes that local governments get from commercial and industrial properties. The backfill is the reimbursement from the state to local governments for this loss. Reducing or eliminating the

backfill would likely force property tax increases, predominately on homes and farms, or reductions in local services that residents rely on, according to ISAC officials. This reimbursement is part of the state's buy in on the property tax reductions they granted, and ISAC and its members are urg-

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Obituaries/For the Record

OBITUARIES

MARJORIE RIPPENKROEGER

Marjorie Rippenkroeger, age 97, passed away on January 16, 2018. Her Memorial service will be held on Monday, March 19, 2018 at 11:30 a.m. at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory and the family will meet with friends from 10-11:30 a.m. at the funeral home.

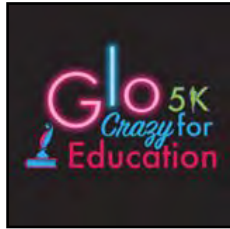
CURRENT-LEE

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.holytrinitieschools.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/.

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report

03/12/18 - 9:27 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft on the 500 block of Avenue G. 03/12/18 - 11:52 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 2600 block of Avenue J. 03/12/18 - 5:16 p.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Robert Alan Ulik, 37, of Fort Madison, in the 3000 block of Avenue E on warrants for reckless driving, two counts of 5th degree criminal mischief, disorderly conduct, driving while barred and stalking. He was taken to Lee County Jail and held. 03/12/18 - 5:28 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a stolen bicycle in the 1400 block of Avenue E. 03/12/18 - 8:29 p.m. - Fort

Madison Police responded to a burglary in progress in the 1600 block of Avenue G. 03/12/18 - 8:55 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 800 block of Avenue G. 03/12/18 - 10:17 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 1600 block of Avenue G.

218, on charges of OWI-1st offense,, speeding, driving while suspended, transporting an open container. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held. Those listed above are presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty in a court of law.

Lee County Sheriff's Report

03/12/18 - 4:12 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Michael David Reiter, 19, of Burlington, at the sheriff's office on a warrant for failure to appear. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held. 03/12/18 - 11:13 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested David Duane Burdette, 53, of Donnellson, in the 2600 block of Hwy

Fort Madison Fire & Rescue Report

03/09/18 - Fort Madison firefighters responded to four medical calls, 03/11/18 - Fort Madison firefighters responded to one medical call. 03/11/18 - Fort Madison firefighters responded to three medical calls, one grass fire, one structure fire, and one accident. 03/12/18 - Fort Madison firefighters responded to six medical calls.

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5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

WED 14 Mar



Clear Skies
High – 42.3° F | Low – 35.8° F

THU 15 Mar



Clear Skies
High– 45.5° F | Low – 32.5° F

FRI 16 Mar



Light Snow
High– 34.4° F | Low – 27.1° F

SAT 17 Mar



Clear Skies
High – 39.2° F | Low – 30.0° F

SUN 18 Mar



Light Rain
High– 40.6° F | Low – 34.0° F

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Founded in 2016



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Education News/Area News

Gus Macker tournament comes to Burlington in August

BURLINGTON – Gus Macker, the world's Largest 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament will make its first trip to Burlington, Iowa on August 4 – 5, 2018.

The "Woodstock of Basketball" started in the drive way of Gus Macker himself, Scott McNeal, in Lowell, Michigan in 1974. It turned into a touring charity event in 1987 with five cities greeting the All-World Tour. Through the years there have been 1,421 sanctioned Gus Macker Tournaments presented for over 670,800 teams or almost 2.7 million players and played in front of over 27.5 million spectators.

Burlington will be hosting the only Gus Macker 3-on-3 tournament in Iowa this year. The tournament will be played between the Burlington Memorial Auditorium and Port of Burlington in front of the picturesque Mississippi River.

Four-person teams may sign up at www.macker.com and entry forms must be filled out completely for all members of the team. Entry fee is \$144 per team. The Macker computer matches teams by age, height and playing experience to ensure fun for all. There are male and female divisions for kids ages 10 and under, 11-12, 13-14, 15-16 & 17-18. Gus Macker also has an adult division for 19+ and special divisions for the 30 and over players.

There will be a variety of entertainment options offered during the two day tournament for those not participating. Front Street will be closed to create a family fun area for youth and adults alike. Bounce houses, games and activities for younger kids will be available. Food trucks and vendors will be on hand serving your favorite dishes.

Whether you're just a beginner, a seasoned pro, a weekend warrior or an ageless amateur at the game of basketball, the MACKER is for you!

HTC rolls out Wizard of Oz

\$5 Tickets for March 23-25 show now available by calling HTC office.

BY AVA PEITZ
PCC HTC INTERN

FORT MADISON - Follow the Yellow Brick Road on down to the Shottenkirk Gymnasium next weekend to see Holy Trinity Catholic High School's musical production of The Wizard of Oz!

Holy Trinity's musical production will be in full swing on March 23, 24, and 25, after rehearsing for around eight weeks. Showtimes will be at 6 p.m. on the 23rd and 24th, and 3 pm. on the 25th.

The show is directed by Stewart Beyer, who's in his fourth year of choral directing at Holy Trinity Catholic High School. In the Spring of 2016, students performed The Sound of Music. In the Spring of 2017, they put on Grease.

"Last year, I think the theme hit home really well for the students. It was about high school kids going through high school problems. This one is a lot more abstract, in the sense that kids can relate to it, but they're not going through the exact same struggle."

Beyer believes that this production is a bit different than the first two, in several ways.

"Compared to the last two years, I have kind of loosened up the reigns for the kids to explore different acting ideas for themselves."

Instead of telling them where to stand and the gestures to use, he let the students build up their characters themselves.

"Last year a lot, I said that the kids are turning this into their own musical. However, from the very start, this has been their musical."

Students from all grades at the Holy Trinity Catholic High School were welcome to participate in the musical. Sabrina Fullhart, a senior, is participating in the spring musical for her third year in a row. This year, she scored the lead role of Dorothy.

"It's something that I've wanted since I was a little



Ava PEITZ

Pen City Current Intern,
Freshman - Holy Trinity

girl. When I heard we were doing The Wizard of Oz, I knew that that's the part I needed."

Sabrina plans on continuing on with musical productions in her future, and hopes to be a part of one in college.

"I know the college that I'm attending is offering some sort of production, and I plan on joining that."

The second senior in the musical, Conrad Hellman, is playing the role of the Scarecrow.

"I enjoy acting. I didn't really know what part I was aiming for, but this one really fit."

Along with seniors, plenty of underclassmen are involved in The Wizard of Oz.

Alison Robu, a freshman, is excited to participate in her first musical production as a high schooler.

"I was in the Sound of Music a few years back, and I really enjoyed it. I plan on continuing to participate in musicals in the future."

The upperclassmen are an inspiration to Alison, and she hopes to follow in their footsteps as lead roles.

"The leads this year are really great. They're definitely a reason to come see the show," Robu said.

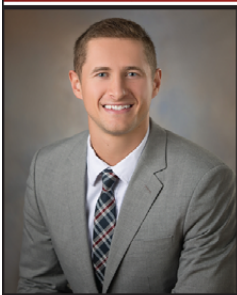
Sara Roth, another freshman in the show, is proud to have secured a large role, as the Wicked Witch of the West.

"I got a bigger part than I thought I was going to get, and it's a lot of fun," she said. However, a big role comes with big responsibilities.

"Of course, I am nervous about memorizing my lines, but I'm very excited that they gave me the part."

Take your drip on down to see the Wizard next weekend! Dates are March 23, 24, and 25. The entry fee is \$5 for adults, and children 10 and under are free. Tickets are also available at the Holy Trinity High School in the main office.

Two heads are better than one.



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House passes Future Iowa bill

BY PCC STAFF

DES MOINES – The Iowa House approved the "Future Ready Iowa Act" on Tuesday in a unanimous vote of 98-0, advancing Gov. Kim Reynolds' plan to train Iowans for the jobs of today and tomorrow. The goal of the Future Ready Iowa Act is for 70 percent of Iowa workers to have education or training beyond high school by the year 2025.

"Future Ready Iowa is my number one priority because it gives Iowans the opportunity to learn a high-demand skill and then not only get a job to pay the bills, but also a rewarding career," Gov. Reynolds said. "That's life-changing."

"This act creates opportunities for Iowans of all ages and experiences," she continued. "It will have a real impact on real Iowans, and I'm grateful to the Iowa House for recognizing that in this vote."

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Education News

FMHS band ready for Chicago St. Pat's parade

Bloodhounds will get to see Green Chicago River and play in historical parade

BY ANIAH ROSS
PCC FMHS INTERN

FORT MADISON - Fort Madison's very own Marching Bloodhounds have the privilege of marching in a national parade once again this coming weekend. 90 students will be marching in the 2018 Chicago St. Patrick's Day Parade. Monday night band director Tracy Madsen hosted an informational meeting in the Fort Madison High School band room to inform chaperones, students attending the trip and their parents, of the itinerary, expectations and to ensure students marching in the parade were well prepared for the trip.

The band departs Friday afternoon and will be released for their fifth period class. The parade is Saturday and the Marching Bloodhounds are expected to step off at noon.

The Marching Bloodhounds along with teachers and chaperones are especially excited to attend this historical parade. The Chicago St. Patrick's Day Parade stems from the mid 1800s when there was a large number of Irish citizens living in Chicago, but it wasn't until a century later that the parades started happening. The first official parade was held in 1956, five years later is when they started dyeing the Chicago River green. To dye the river they dump in a chemical which is used to detect leaks and pollu-



Photo by Aniah Ross/PCC Intern

FMHS Band director Tracy Madsen leads a discussion Monday night about the band's trip to the Chicago St. Patrick's Day Parade.

tion in the water, the best part is it doesn't harm the water. It just turned out that the chemical dyed the river a perfect green color.

So, in 1962, they poured a hundred pounds of dye into the river and it stayed green for a whole week. After many tests, they dimmed it down to 40 pounds of dye making it last up to five hours.

Not going to Chicago to watch the parade, but still want to support your Hounds? Don't worry because you can watch it live on WLS-TV channel 7 or at

<http://abc7chicago.com/> and after the parade you can still view it from that same website.

The parade isn't the only thing these students have to look forward to. They will also have the opportunities to walk and shop the Magnificent Mile, go to a Blue Man Group concert, visit Willis Tower, and explore Millenium Park. These students are in for a great trip.

The Marching Bloodhounds are scheduled to return to Fort Madison on Sunday around 8:30 pm.

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
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- Check our website for proper disposal methods, acceptable materials, & more



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Classifieds

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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.

HELP WANTED

Marketing Director

We are in search of a candidate for a possible opening as Marketing Director for Holy Trinity Catholic Schools. This is a part-time position with full benefits, which may become full-time. Duties include all marketing for the school system including advertising, press releases, public relations, etc. Successful candidate will be responsible for social media, event planning, and helping with recruitment and retention. Facilitating the current International Student program is also part of the position.

Marketing Degree or several years of marketing experience is a plus. Necessary qualifications include excellent written, verbal, social media and interpersonal communication skills.

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ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Holy Trinity Catholic Early Childhood Center is seeking an Assistant Director for their Ft. Madison Center.

This is a year round clerical and administrative role - full time during the school year, part time during the summer. Benefits eligible.

The position requires strong organizational and interpersonal skills. A college degree is preferred.

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From the Front/Lottery Numbers



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

The Lee County Conservation Board moved their setup to the north side of the center and have all staff at the table and are in a position now where the public has better access to the conversations of the board.

Next trout release set for March 23 at Wilson Lake

LCCB - Continued from Page 1

the personnel at the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, that govern the grant money that was used to purchase property.

"We're still waiting to hear back from them on the recommendations we made. We sent those to them, but haven't heard back from them yet," Unsworth said.

The board also heard from naturalist Clay Steele who said more than 1,000 youth had been through the Heron Bend Conservation facility in March. He said more than 50 class programs were held

at the center in just 28 days in March. Steele also updated the board on upcoming events including the Prairie Easter Egg Hunt on March 24. DNR officials will also be dumping 1,000 trout in Wilson Lake at noon on March 23. Those under 16 may fish and possess trout if they are with an adult who is licensed and possesses a trout fee, however the combined limit will be five trout. If those under 16 purchase their own trout fee, they can then possess their own five trout limit.

ISAC director asks state to fully fund 2019 budgets

COUNTY - Continued from Page 1

ing the Iowa Legislature to keep that promise and back the backfill.

"There are currently House and Senate proposals that make rapid reductions to the backfill. Neither proposal is acceptable to our members because they both start reductions in FY 2019. Counties have already had to certify their budgets and have no ability to adjust their revenue sources after certification. Their only option will be to reduce services or in some cases, use reserves set aside for other projects. We strongly

“

Counties have already had to certify their budgets and have no ability to adjust their revenue sources after certification.”

-Bill Peterson
ISAC Director

suggest that the backfill be fully funded in FY 2019 and a plan established in conjunction with county officials for any future phaseout of funding.” said Bill Peterson, ISAC Executive Director.

“Our members will be explaining to their legislators the cuts that would be made to local services and the expected future hikes in property taxes if the backfill is not fully funded.”



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



3/13
6 30 58 60 61
Lucky Ball: 17
Megaplier: 5



3/13 MID-DAY
2 5 9
3/13 EVENING
6 8 1



3/13 MID-DAY
3 6 9 6
3/13 EVENING
6 8 2 0



TOUR OHIO'S AMISH COUNTRY JUNE 4-9, 2018

This tour is filled full of Amish delights and the opportunity to "Make, Bake, and Take" items home with you! Spend time in Sugarcreek, and enjoy lunch and learn how the Amish make Peanut Butter Whip! There's also a visit to Behalt and the 10'x265' cyclorama where we learn the history of the Amish and Mennonite people from their early Anabaptist beginnings in Zurich, Switzerland. Carlisle Inn Walnut Creek will be our "home away from home" as we explore, relax, or shop at some local stores. Have the opportunity to explore the world's largest Amish Community with a local guide. Some stops will include the Coblentz Leather shop, the Wendell August Forge, Warther's Carvings and Cutlery, the Hershberger Farm & Amish Bakery, Heini's Cheese Chalet, Lehman's General Store, Walnut Creek Cheese and more! Enjoy several meals with a cooking demonstration, a wedding feast and "Bet the Farm," a musical comedy show at the Amish Country Theatre. Of course along the way you'll get to "make, bake, and take" items home with you as mementos of your time in Ohio's Amish Country! Don't miss out...those who traveled with us on our Amish tour last year still rave about what a good time they had! Call now or visit us online to make your reservations!

Single: \$1,250 // Double \$925 per person
\$25 membership discount available



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