



Pen City Current

Friday, February 23, 2018 | 8 pages | Volume 2 • Issue 60

City, DNR hope Iowan work to restart soon

Officials say asbestos was just over acceptable limits; Meller has equipment back on lot

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - It seems that work may soon start again on pulling down the remainder of the former Iowan Motor Lodge in Fort Madison.

Officials with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources were on the property again last week and said

they spoke with city officials and owner Glen Meller and said he had indicated he wanted to get back on the property and start cleaning it up.

Nathan Steuve, with the DNR's Environmental Division, overseeing asbestos abatement, said there is still levels of asbestos on the west surface of the building that are just outside accepted levels, but said Meller said he was going to clean it up.

"We talked with city officials a week or two ago. We came up with a plan and Mr. Meller is going to start clean up on the piles and start demolition of the hotel," Steuve said.

Steuve said he's been down to the Iowan site on several occasions since the summer, when Meller

said he would have to wait until the fall or winter to finish cleanup because of the workload he had with his excavation company. The discovery of asbestos came from ceiling tiles on the west side of the building that showed a 1.5% factor which was rounded up to 2% which exceeds acceptable limits.

Steuve said Meller had been doing everything correctly in the demolition and had asbestos contractors on site. He said the DNR will show up at demolitions and review documents and possibly take samples, which they did and found the asbestos, which in turn slowed the demolition down. He said Meller can do

See **DEMOLITION**, page 8

Grassley talks taxes, guns at Steffensmeier

Senator says hi-tech jobs, new tax laws will help land jobs for Iowans

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

PILOT GROVE - As part of his annual 99-county tour, U.S. Sen. Charles Grassley (R-Iowa) stopped in Pilot Grove at Steffensmeier Welding & Manufacturing Thursday afternoon to meet with about 20 locals and talk shop.

Grassley, who had penciled in time to tour the facility and look at Steffensmeier's solar field, spent about 30 minutes speaking with local educators, farmers, and business people about a wide range of topics facing Iowans.

One of the first topics Grassley encountered was a section of the new tax code that allows a 20% a deduction

of grain sales to co-ops which could hurt smaller independent dealers. Grassley said he would favor that specific portion of the tax code being reverted to back to the code of 2005 to 2017.

"I hope this was an oversight by those who wrote the code. This is going to put independent grain dealers out of business," he said.

West Point farmer Brad Freesmeier said the code needs to be addressed before March and said it would be tough for the Senate to get 60% to fix it.

Grassley said he thought the new tax code would be corrected in the March omnibus appropriation bill.

"There's so much confusion out there.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC



People think there's one way and people out there starting to set up co-ops and by the time they get them set up it will get turned around

and they will have lost that money. Something needs to be done quick," Freesmeier said.

A Steffensmeier employee asked what

U.S. Sen. Charles Grassley (R-Iowa) speaks with about 20 Lee County residents on Thursday at Steffensmeier Welding & Mfg., including owner Jenny Steffensmeier at left.

was happening to bring more business to Iowa.

See **GRASSLEY**, page 8

New bill could spare courthouse

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

DES MOINES - With a new budget de-appropriation bill passed out of the senate, a threat to Lee County's courthouses has been drastically reduced.

The Iowa Senate passed Senate File 2117 on Feb. 8, which reduced state de-appropriations by close to \$19 million and now lists cuts of just under \$32 million in the current fiscal year.

As part of the revised Senate bill, cuts to the Judicial branch have been trimmed to \$1.6 million from \$4.8 million in the original de-appropriation bill.

According to a memo from State Court Administrator Todd Nuccio

See **FUNDING**, page 6

Advertiser Index

CBIZ Center for Business..... P.7	Lee County Health Department..... P.8
Classifieds Ps.6-7	Pen City Current..... Ps.2-3,5-7
Fort Madison Community Hospital P.2	Professional Services P.6
Great River Regional Waste Authority P.5	Test Kitchen Education Foundation P.4
Griffin Muffler & Brake Center P.3	The Kensington P.4
Hope Associates Real Estate P.7	Trailways Travel..... P.8
KLM Realty P.7	WebeSalsa P.4

News Index

Current-Lee P.2
Education News..... P.6
For the Record..... P.3
From the front..... Ps.6,8
Lottery Numbers P.2
Obituaries P.3
-Johnny Kline
Scene Around Town.... P.3
Sports Ps.4-5
Weather P.3

Scan the code to
Subscribe today

Paid & Free Options Available!



Download the free PCC app today for Android & iOS!

Obituaries/Lottery Numbers

CURRENT-LEE

Pheasants Forever raffle tickets on sale

LEE COUNTY – Raffle tickets for Lee County Pheasants Forever 25 Gun Raffle are available from any club member or at the banquet. Tickets are \$10 each and are limited to 3,000. The raffle will be held during the chapter's annual banquet on February 24, 2018. Proceeds from the raffle are used to support the Tri-State Young Guns and Fort Madison Clay Crushers High School Trap Shooting Teams. For more information about the raffle, go to <http://www.leecountypf.org/raffles/>.



Rainbolt family holding benefit for son

FORT MADISON - A benefit is being planned for expenses related to the death of Dakotah Rainbolt on March 3, 2018 at the Fort Madison Eagles, 4822 Avenue O. from 2 p.m. to 11 p.m.

As part of the benefit a \$10 raffle is being held for a quarter side of beef from Dave's Old Fashioned Meats. Contact Gary's Trading Post at 319-561-1132 for more information or tickets.

OBITUARIES

JOHNNY KLINE

Johnny Kline, 42 years, of Fort Madison, Iowa died at 7:16 a.m. Wednesday, February 21, 2018 at the Fort Madison Community Hospital, Fort Madison. He was born May 23, 1975 in Vicksburg, Mississippi, a son of Johnnie and Virgie (Lyles) Kline. On July 18, 1998 he married Theresa Clark in Fort Madison.



KLINE

Johnny was a 1994 graduate of Vicksburg High School. He earned a bachelors degree at Iowa Wesleyan in Mt. Pleasant, Iowa and a Masters of Theology at Life Christian University, Quincy, Illinois. He was a former Pastor of Second Baptist Church, Fort Madison. He was a member of Cathedral of Worship in Quincy. He worked at First Resources in Burlington for years and was currently working for Insight in Mt. Pleasant. He loved football and coached High School / Middle School levels for years. He enjoyed fishing, grilling, and researching family genealogy. He loved God and his family. He was known for his sense of humor.

He is survived by his wife, Theresa Kline of Fort Madison; his father, Johnnie (Yvette) Kline of Oneonta, Alabama; mother, Virgie Kline of Vicksburg; two sons, Jamari Kline and Jamarkus Kline both of Fort Madison; one daughter, Dezire Kline of Fort Madison; one brother Ray (Liz) Kline of Little Elm, Texas; three sisters: Donna (Detriche) Walker, Angela Smith, and DeeAnna Kline all of Vicksburg; God brothers, Derrick (Lisa) Rainey of Vicksburg and Fred (Christina) Sanders of Memphis, Tennessee; numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and cousins.

His family will greet friends at visitation 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, February 27, 2018 at the Barr Memorial Chapel, Fort Madison. Funeral services will be held at 11:00 am Wednesday, February 28, 2018 at the Barr Memorial Chapel, with Bishop E.L. Warren officiating. Burial will be at Oakland Cemetery, Fort Madison. In lieu of flowers a memorial has been established and contributions may be left at the Barr Memorial Chapel. Online condolences to the Kline family may be made at www.barrmemorialchapel.com.

Stay Active, Stay Healthy

Is pain or injury causing you to sit on the sidelines? Let the experts in the FMCH Orthopedic clinic get you back in the game and back to living an active, healthy life.



Derek Breder, M.D.



Brent Woodbury, M.D.

Dr. Brent Woodbury ♦ Dr. Derek Breder ♦ Paul Ostby, P.A.-C ♦ Kyle Gibson, P.A.-C



ORTHOPEDICS & SPORTS MEDICINE
319-376-1135 ♦ www.fmchosp.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™	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

2/22
6 23 32 35 42
Lucky Ball: 8

2/22 MID-DAY
3 8 6
2/22 EVENING
9 7 5

2/22 MID-DAY
1 8 8 7
2/22 EVENING
2 6 2 3

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
ssross@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.

Scene Around Town/For the Record

For the Record

Fort Madison Police report

02/21/18 - 6:49 a.m.
 - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a gas drive off in the 1700 block of Avenue H.
 02/21/18 - 7:58 a.m.
 - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a gas drive off in the 1500 block of Avenue H.
 02/21/18 - 5:30 p.m.
 - Fort Madison Police cited Brenden Malachi Chismark, 18, of Fort Madison at the intersection of 35th Street and Avenue L. He was released upon citation.
 02/21/18 - 8:03 p.m.
 - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a hit and run in the 1300 block of Avenue G.
 02/21/18 - 10:10 p.m.
 - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in progress in the 1300 block of Avenue G.
 02/22/18 - 12:06 a.m.

- Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in progress in the 1100 block of 48th Street.
 02/22/18 - 6:31 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 3500 block of Avenue L.

Lee County Sheriff's report

02/21/18 - 3:31 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Roy Morrell Stewart, III at the sheriff's office on a warrant for parole violation. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
 02/21/18 - 5:54 p.m.
 - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Jacob Dustin Mills, 31, of Montrose at the sheriff's office on a charge of 3rd degree harassment. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
Those listed above are innocent until proven guilty.



Vicki Kokjohn, Vice-President Employee Operations, and Amanda Alexander, Reward & Recognition Team Member, present Donna Gangenbacher (middle), Food Pantry Volunteer, with a check for \$1,000 from the sale of raffle baskets at the hospital.

Place your ad online 24/7

YOUR AD HERE

(319)371.4125

5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

FRI 23 Feb

Light Rain
 High- 35.4° F | Low - 21.4° F

SAT 24 Feb

Moderate Rain
 High- 35.9° F | Low - 35.0° F

SUN 25 Feb

Light Snow
 High- 29.6° F | Low - 19.2° F

MON 26 Feb

Clear Skies
 High - 42.0° F | Low - 25.1° F

TUE 27 Feb

Clear Skies
 High- 47.8° F | Low - 33.9° F

[OpenWeatherMap](#)



\$10 OFF
Any oil change
 *For faster service, please call ahead for an appointment. Cannot combine with any other offer. Limited time only.

Alignment Special
\$99⁹⁵
Service includes:
 Computerized Alignment
 Tire Rotation
 Brake Inspection
 Most cars/light trucks. See store for details. Cannot be combined with any other offers. Limited time only.

Get Acquainted Offer
 Any repair or maintenance service \$250 or more **\$25 OFF**
 Any repair or maintenance service \$500 or more **\$50 OFF**
 Any repair or maintenance service \$750 or more **\$75 OFF**
 Cannot combine with any other offers. Excludes tires and batteries. One time use only. Limited time only.

ASE Certified Technicians • 24 Month, 24k Mile Warranty • Free Customer Shuttle
 Same Day Service on Most Repairs • Waiting Area with Free WiFi
 Family Owned & Operated • Financing Available

Your one-stop shop for Full Service Auto Repair

You're grateful for a great running vehicle, and Griffin's is grateful for you! Ask about our Griffin Gratitude Card!
 535 Avenue G • Fort Madison
 (319) 372-2478 • www.griffinmuffler.com
 M-TH 7:30am - 5:30pm; F 7:30am - 5:00pm



Like us on Facebook

Sports

MP puts stamp on Hounds season

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - Aside from a 3-3 tie in the first quarter, the Mt. Pleasant Panthers showed Fort Madison why they're one of the best, if not the best, Class 3A team in the state.

The two clubs met in the second round of the Substate District 5 bracket on Thursday in Mt. Pleasant with the Panthers coming out with a 67-25 win and ending Fort Madison's season with a thud.

At the 5:49 mark, senior Treavor James-Kokjohn stepped out just off the left side and buried a 3-pointer to tie the game at 3s. Senior Colin Mulford, one of five starting seniors for Mt. Pleasant, countered with his own 3-ball on the next trip down the floor. The Hounds' Logan Rashid scored off the dribble in the lane on the Hounds' next possession to make it 5-6 Panthers, but any idea that the Hounds were going to hang with the No. 1 team in the state, was quickly washed away.

In the final AP rankings on Feb. 12, the 19-3 Panthers were tied with Cedar Rapids Xavier for the top spot in Class 3A. Xavier beat the Panthers in the first game of the

season 68-62.

The Panthers went on a 14-2 run to end the first quarter as Fort Madison repeatedly missed interior shots, although they were able to get open looks.

The second quarter was very much the same as the first with the Hounds' only points coming on back-to-back buckets by Jayden Fedler at around the five minute mark.

Jonathon Ita countered after Fedler's four points to make it 11-32. Sheymouhr Redd-Donald scored on a drive through the Panther press and it looked like the Hounds had something cooking, but that would be the final points for the Hounds until

Brandon Keester hit a trey from the right side with 1:36 left in the third quarter with the running clock already in play at 16-57.

That stretch amounted to one of the coldest stretches of the season for the Hounds as Mt. Pleasant outscored Fort Madison 20-0 during the run.

The Hounds, who

didn't have a single player in double figures, got another 3-pointer by James-Kokjohn at the end of the third for a 19-60 deficit. Redd-Donald converted a three-point play after being fouled by the Panthers' Jordan Magnani and Keester hit his second three-pointer of the night to set the final 25-67 score.

Senior Kaleb Cresswell, who only scored two points in his last game as a Bloodhound said he didn't hang his head after the loss.

"Played the number one team in the state. They're tough. We got down early and everyone panicked. But like I told the kids in the locker-room - this is nothing to hang your head about. That team is going to finish in the top four in the state, from one to 12 they're just hard to beat," Cresswell said.

"My four years at FM have been a blessing honestly. Right now I'm looking at it like, 'Dang, I don't get to lace up tomorrow and I don't get to put on the Bloodhound's jersey anymore, but it's something we all go through.'"

Head coach Ryan Wilson said the early misses set the tone for the lopsided loss.

"In the first half when you miss 11 shots in the lane and you have



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Treavor James-Kokjohn (31) gets whistled for a charge on the Panthers' Jonathon Ita (20) on this 12-foot jumper in the first half of Monday's loss. James-Kokjohn finished the season as the top rebounder in Class 3A.

11 turnovers that's about 30 points," he said. "We missed 11 shots, maybe one or two of those were contested. And then they

go and score 10 of 11 in transition, there's 30 points at halftime. We go into the lockerroom to talk about those things and then you come out and your shot chart is nothing but 3 pointers. We just got beat in the first half."

He said the Panthers like to control the pace and direction of the game, and can force that on teams.

"Mt. Pleasant makes teams play in a way they are not comfortable. They want you to catch the ball in the corner and play 95

feet. They'll make you go fast and make mistakes. We did a good job breaking the press, but then we were going so fast we just missed the shots."

Rashid finished with two points, Redd-Donald had five, Keester and James-Kokjohn each had six. Fedler finished with four to go with Cresswell's bucket.

Wilson said the seniors worked hard all year and the squad will miss the leadership next year.

See HOUNDS, page 5



LASAGNA DINNER

Thursday, March 1 • 5:30 to 6:30
Includes salad, lasagna, garlic bread, dessert and drink

Free will donation
Benefit for the Alzheimer's Association



2210 Avenue H • Fort Madison

Click here to order now!

WebeSalsa

Fresh, Homemade Texas Salsa

www.webesalsa.com

They told us.....

....family & friends have told us for years to bottle and sell this stuff. Now is your chance to purchase. Please let us know what you think.

Chuck & Kayla

We Celebrate Education!

We're proud of our Star Students
Kaydey & Karley Plate!
A Honor Roll

807 Avenue G • Fort Madison
www.tkef.org

Sports



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

FMHS junior Logan Rashid (right, in black) and Lorenzo Riles, left, create a passing lane Thursday night in the Hounds' final game of the season as the Mt. Pleasant Panthers downed FMHS 67-25.

Hounds drop ninth straight game to MP

HOUNDS - Continued from Page 4

"Not many kids work harder than Cresswell. There's a lot of individual work that he did that other kids need to see and do," Wilson said. "Kokjohn became a lot better this year and was the number 1 rebounder in 3A and was averaging 16 points a game before post season. Lorenzo played three years and came out late this year. He worked hard in practice and is one of those kids who worked and played hard, and all three of those kids are going to be missed."

Magnani led Mt. Pleasant with 26 points including six from three-point land. Senior Brady Sartorius finished with 16 for Mt. Pleasant and Ita had 11 to highlight the scoring for Mt. Pleasant. The Panthers will face Solon in Muscatine on Monday. Solon beat Fairfield 57-48 on the other side of the bracket on Thursday night.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Senior Kaleb Cresswell tries to move inside on the Panthers' defense on Thursday night in Mt. Pleasant while Kieren Kohorst (24) and Jordan Magnani (right) try to slow him down.

Follow Us @pencitycurrent



It's Time To Celebrate New Beginnings! Twenty8Teen

Thank you to all of our customers who helped us reduce our environmental footprint in 2017!

Great River Regional Waste Authority is looking forward to continuing our efforts to manage our environmental footprint and help educate our communities on ways to help in 2018!

Things to remember in 2018 when recycling:
Please do not place plastic bags in recycling bins.

Rinse & Clean all food jars and cans before placing in recycling bins.

Flatten boxes for better storage and volume reduction. *Empty all boxes before recycling.

Place all recyclable products loose in bins.

Do not recycle wrapping paper.

Properly dispose of all electronics and household hazardous waste. [Click Here](#) for more guidance!

For your convenience:

- Convenient Drop-Off Locations in 10 cities
- Curbside Recycling Bins are available at our Ft. Madison and Keokuk locations
- HHW Collection Available by appointment during regular business hours at our Ft. Madison and Keokuk locations



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

Education News/Classifieds

Elementaries plan taste of kindergarten

Submitted article

FORT MADISON - Join us Monday, March 12, from 5:30 - 6:30 at Lincoln or Richardson School for a Taste of Kindergarten.

Menu of Activities

- Enjoy a slice of pizza and a bottle of water
- Meet the kindergarten and Bright Beginnings teachers and principal
- Tour the building
- Participate in an activity in each kindergarten classroom
- Learn how you can be involved with your school's parent/teacher group

To help us plan for this fun event for you and your child, please call to confirm your attendance by Thursday, March 8th.

Lincoln 319-372-2896 - Use Door 1,

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



Judicial de-appropriation now set at \$1.6 million for 2018

FUNDING - Continued from Page 1

dated Feb. 16 he didn't see closures happening with the new levels. The \$1.6 million cut is what Gov. Kim Reynolds recommended and, with all the parties on the same page, that number could hold.

"However, the deal is still not done," Nuccio wrote in his memo. "There are still negotiations taking place on other issues. Until those matters are settled, we are in a wait-and-see mode. If the \$1.6 MM sticks, we will not need to do any layoffs or eliminate court services at the local level. We have been holding positions open throughout the year and have accumulated enough lapsed salary to cover this amount."

Steve Davis, the state courts communications officer said a judicial branch will be presenting to a subcommittee on appropriations for the judicial system on Wednesday regarding the de-appropriation even at the reduced level, as well as the fiscal 2019 budget. He said a question and answer session for reporters will follow that subcommittee presentation.

In a memo dated Jan. 25, Nuccio put Lee County

squarely in the cross-hairs of losing a courthouse when he indicated a \$4.8 million defunding of the system, courthouses in 30 counties would be facing closure. Lee County is the only state in Iowa with dual county seats and courthouses.

Other large funding cuts in the new bill include \$14.5 million to the Board of Regents. The University of Northern Iowa, for the time being, is being left out of the cuts. Community colleges are looking now at \$1.8 million in cuts, the Department of Corrections - \$3.4 million and \$6.2 million for the Department of Human Services.

Highlights of amendments put on the bill in the House on Feb. 14 included reducing the Board of Regents de-appropriation to just \$8.1 million, \$4.3 million for DHS, and \$500,000 for state community colleges.

The House review of the bill hasn't been taken up since Feb. 15 when it was placed on the calendar listed as unfinished business.

the classifieds

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Open Mic Night
Wednesdays 7:00pm

Hill Side Inn

1135 Ave. E • Wednesday ~ Saturday 5:00pm

Because your wedding gown is *Precious*

WEDDING GOWN PRESERVATION

IRIS CITY CLEANERS
 319 385 9707 • 888 485 9707
www.IrisCityCleaners.com

Shopping for a mortgage?

Thomas Klann RICP 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

5 Generations of Printing

DODD PRINTING & STATIONERY Est. 1977

Posters, Business Cards, Photo Correction, Wedding Invitations, Supplies, Custom Design, Office & Invitations, Online Ordering

319-372-2721 • doddprinting.com

ADVERTISE YOUR SERVICE BUSINESS

1 month • Only \$25⁰⁰
 2x2 Business Card Size Ad

Place your ad online 24/7 www.pencitycurrent.com
 Email your ad classifieds@pencitycurrent.com
 Call (319)371.4125

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

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

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

Classifieds

SHOP the classifieds



PLACE YOUR AD ONLINE AT WWW.PENCITYCURRENT.COM OR CALL (319)371.4125

HELP WANTED

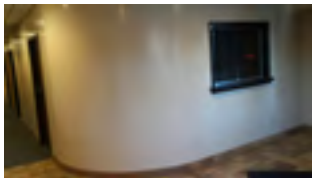
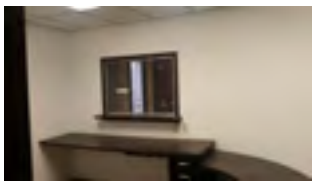
**HTC Foundation
DEVELOPMENT
DIRECTOR**

The Holy Trinity Catholic Schools Foundation Board is looking to hire a Development Director. This individual will work with the Board to grow the assets managed by the Foundation. Email resumes to Brian Foecke at bjfoecke@ft.nyl.com. Resumes are due by March 15th.



**COMMERCIAL
SPACE
FOR RENT**

**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). Also have a Hair Salon space available. Call 319-470-8711.

**MERCHANDISE
FOR SALE**

**Epson 69 Black and
Color C/M/Y Ink
Cartridges
(T069120-BCS)**



Combo 4/Pack . Box opened, but cartridges are not - purchased wrong package for my printer. Regularly \$62.99, will sell for \$50.00. Call Lee at (319)371.4125 or email sales@pencitycurrent.com.



Wishing you a wonderful
NEW YEAR
filled with many
**TREASURED
MOMENTS!**

HOPE
ASSOCIATES
REAL ESTATE
902 Avenue G
Ft. Madison, Ia
319-372-4040

Serving Southeast Iowa with over 150 Years of combined experience in residential, commercial and agriculture real estate!

View our listings: www.seia.rapmls.com

Place
your ad
online 24/7

Subscribe to
#PCC today

Free and Paid
Options Available.



**YOUR
AD
HERE**
(319)371.4125

Download our free
mobile app today.
Take **Pen City Current**
with you wherever you go!



Now available for Android & iOS in the iTunes Store & Google Play Store.



Call us
for all your real estate needs.



**KEEPING
LIVES
MOVING**
It's what we do.

**6 WEEKS TO A
NEW CAREER**

TRAINING BEGINS MAR 19
TUITION ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE
SCC KEOKUK CAMPUS

Industrial Operations Maintenance Skills
Learn more! 319-208-5375



From the Front

Grassley says mental health playing part in tragedies

GRASSLEY - Continued from Page 1

"Now if you're looking at business outside of Iowa, that's usually work for Iowa Economic Development people and the governor. I get on this at the fringe," Grassley said. "It could be local or the governor or any place in between. They'd say, 'I think it would be good for you to call company ABC and encourage them to come to Iowa. I'd get involved that way, but don't make the decisions on incentives. I can advocate but don't make those decisions.'"

Grassley said bringing more high-tech jobs to Iowa and diversifying in that fashion will help bring more companies to the state. He referenced a change in the state tax rate on C Corporations that helped bring Apple into Iowa.

"The tax bill is going to help the whole country. You know, when we had a 35% tax rate for C Corporations that was very uncompetitive with the other developed nations

around the world," he said. "We reduced that down to 21% and now Apple's going to bring back \$350 billion and 20,000 jobs, as an example. One of our major car manufacturers moving something to Detroit from Mexico for 2,500 jobs. There's a real feeling that capital that used to be stored overseas - you know - why pay 35% here when you can borrow for 3% over there. You borrow instead of bringing money back and paying a hefty tax. That money will come back now and encourage other investment and other jobs."

Fort Madison Community School District Superintendent Erin Slater asked the 85-year-old Grassley about Secretary of Education Betty DeVos and her rhetoric about moving money from public schools into private accounts for private schools.

"Basically she's the enforcer of laws we pass - like the disability act,

vocational and college programs. She can advocate for help in private and charter schools. But there's not much she can do about it because most of that is under state law," he said. "I think a year ago everybody thought we were confirming a superintendent of schools. We used to get that, 'Well, she's never been a teacher,' - well, we have several secretaries that weren't from schools."

Grassley has been quoted in other publication as saying the tragedy of the Parkland school shooting and the many other tragic shootings in the country are a result of mental health issues. He said there is a correlation to the reduction in mental health services and these types of tragedies

"You do have a problem that you aren't getting enough mental health services, not only in Iowa, but nationwide. Because of a shortage of people to provide those services. The other

issue is whether they are getting treatment or not. They should be on the list not to be able to buy guns. No one wants to talk about mental illness and you almost have to adjudicate it and those people are not getting the help they need. You just want to make sure Joe Blow, if he's got a mental illness, is in the databank and if he goes into buy a gun he can't buy a gun."

Grassley received \$9,900 in contributions from the National Rifle Association in the 2015-16 election cycle, the latest numbers available.

"I've had this rule for

decades. Any contribution that is legal and doesn't have strings attached I'll take. Most organizations, and individuals for that matter, aren't going to come to you and give you a check and say, 'You can have this if you vote this way and that way,' because the next day you'll get a check from someone who says just the opposite," he said.

"We had 650 murders in Chicago last year and no one gets worked up about that," he said. "Thirty times the amount killed down there. Nobody gets worked up

about that. Shouldn't they get worked up about that? Yeah, they should get worked up about that. For the first time since 2013 we've got an opportunity to have this debate again and I think we'll have that debate in the next couple of weeks."

He also briefly addressed President Donald Trump's hints at arming school teachers.

"Maybe Washington could give money to incentivize it, but I'm not sure I want too many education decisions made in Washington. This should be a state issue."

DNR officials say Meller working to abate asbestos from west side

DEMOLITION - Continued from Page 1

what's called an "ordered" or "wet" demolition where demolition crews would water down the area of the building and then haul the materials to the landfill in a lined container.

Fort Madison Fire Chief Joey Herren said DNR officials did come to City Hall about three weeks ago to talk about the progress at the Iowan.

"Right after that Mr. Meller came in for a demolition permit on another piece of property. He said they would be starting the process and start working on tearing it down. I was just out there today and he's moved some equipment back on the property."

Herren said Meller does have his own water truck and can handle a wet demolition.

"When the hotel on 6th Street burned down, he handled that demolition and that's what he did there, so he knows how to get that done," Herren said.

Kurt Levetsow, a senior environmental specialist with the DNR, said there are no specific federal or state laws that would require Meller to take the building down. He said the DNR gets involved with the asbestos monitoring and dumping. He said the DNR did monitor some dumping, but said Meller's crews were dumping properly in a development area with concrete, brick and stone which is legal according to Iowa code.

"Once the asbestos is disturbed that's when it activates us," Stueve said. "So technically if he let it sit there, it's on his timeline, it's his ownership. But it was my understanding, and he indicated to me that he would back working on this site again soon."

A phone call to Meller went unreturned on Thursday afternoon.



APRIL 24-27, 2018

Join Trailways Travel as we head east for this one-of-a-kind experience! Prepare to be amazed as we explore this life-sized reconstruction of Noah's Ark and the Creation Museum. We'll also visit the Newport Aquarium on the Levee as well as the Garden of Hope.

TOUR INCLUDES:

Tour includes:

- Deluxe Roundtrip Motorcoach Transportation
- On-board Friendly Host
- 3 Nights Hotel Accommodations
- 6 Meals (3B, 1L, 2D)

- Ark Encounter Admission
 - Newport Aquarium Admission
 - Creation Museum Admission
 - Garden of Hope Admission
- Single - \$815 per person
Double - \$590 per person
\$15 club membership discount

To view a full day-by-day detailed itinerary, please visit us online at www.TrailwaysTravel.com

CHICAGO CUBS 2018 WRIGLEY FIELD // CHICAGO, IL

Trailways Travel is now taking reservations for our 2018 Wrigley Field tours! For a full list of available games, and to make reservations visit us online at www.TrailwaysTravel.com or give us a call M-F between 8:30 and 5:00



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

Lee County Health Department - Hospice



**Hospice Volunteer Training
Providing Comfort on the
Journey Home**

**March 6 - March 27, 2018
4 Tuesday Evenings
6:00-9:00pm
Lee County Health
Department office**

No fee to the general public. To register, call Lee County Health Dept.-Hospice at **(319)372-5225** or **(800)458-6672** by March 2nd.

Volunteers are needed in Iowa counties of Lee, Henry, Van Buren, Des Moines and in Illinois counties of Hancock & Henderson.



#3 John Bennett Drive ~ PO Box 1426
Ft. Madison, IA 52627
www.leecountyhd.org ~ LIKE us on Facebook