



# Pen City Current

Sunday, March 4, 2018 | 8 pages | Volume 2 • Issue 67



Photo by Ava Pietz/PCC Intern



At top the Fort Madison High School Swingspan performs one of their numbers as hosts of the Fort Madison Show Choir Invitational on Saturday. At left is the Fort Madison Middle School working up their program in the evening.

## Kurtz joins race for Kearns' House seat

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - Fort Madison resident Jeff Kurtz has announced plans to run this year for the Iowa House District 83 seat.

Kurtz sent out a press release on Friday at about 11 a.m. announcing his "Lets Get Iowa Back on Track" kick-off event Tuesday at the Newberry Center in Fort Madison beginning at 5 p.m. The seat is currently held by Jerry Kearns who announced earlier this year that he would not be seeking re-election.



KURTZ

The district includes the cities of Keokuk, Fort Madison, Montrose, and the Southern and Eastern Townships of Lee County.

Kurtz said Friday afternoon he thinks it's even odds on whether the Democrats can take back control of the legislature. He said short of that, the plan turns to the defensive.

*"The backfill issue might be the least of our problems, when you look at what they did with Chapter 20 and underfunding education."*

-Jeff Kurtz,  
District 83 candidate

"I'm hopeful we can," Kurtz said. "I'm about 50-50 on it. It seems like a lot of people are really disgruntled and I don't know how that translates to Nov. 6, we'll see. If we don't then we shift to defense and maybe slow some of this stuff down."

Kurtz, currently will face Fort Madison Democrat Robert Morawitz, who's also officially announced his run in a June 5 primary. Other candidates could surface as paperwork can't be turned into the county until Monday, with a March 28 filing deadline.

Kurtz said what has happened and is continuing to happen with the pending tax bill has derailed the state, including a \$1.2 billion tax cut bill and the possibility of renegeing on commercial property tax backfill.

"The backfill issue might be the least of our problems," he said. When you look at what they did with gutting Chapter 20 and underfunding education. If we

See CANDIDATE, page 8

## Buffalo61 trial run morphs to packed house

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - The old Field of Dreams adage - if you build it they will come - rang true at Fort Madison's newest bar and grille Thursday night.

A soft open, originally planned for staff and friends, turned Thursday night into a full-on packed house as city residents wanted to take a look and a bite out of Buffalo61 Bar and Grille at 6111 Reve Court.

The eatery, which is now in a completely revamped Chandler's, and before it, Bennigans, was teeming with people wanting to see what Chase and Jen Gibb are up to. The couple also own the Buffalo Tavern in

See BUFFALO61, page 5



Chase Gibb, owner, and Biana Blanchard, general manager, of Buffalo61 Bar & Grille, are welcoming guests all weekend prior to the restaurant's official opening Monday. The restaurant is open from noon to 5 p.m. today.

### Advertiser Index

Classifieds .....	P.6
Dr. Mark C. Pothitakis Family Dentistry .....	P.7
Fort Madison Community Hospital .....	P.3
Great River Regional Waste Authority .....	P.4
Griffin Muffler & Brake Center .....	P.8
Hope Associates Real Estate .....	P.2
Lee County Health Department .....	P.5
Pen City Current .....	Ps.2,6
State Farm Insurance - Thomas Klann .....	P.5
Trailways Travel .....	P.2

### News Index

Current-Lee .....	P.2
For the Record .....	P.3
From the front .....	Ps.5,8
Local News .....	P.3
Obituaries .....	P.2
-Quinton Michael Seabold	
Scene Around the Area .....	P.4
Weather .....	P.8

Scan the code to  
Subscribe today

Paid & Free Options Available!



# Obituaries/Current-Lee

## OBITUARIES

### QUINTON MICHAEL SEABOLD

HAMILTON - Quinton Michael Seabold, three month old son of Clay and Toni Boley Seabold of Hamilton, IL died Wednesday, February 28, 2018 at Unity-Point-Keokuk in Keokuk, IA.



SEABOLD

He was born October 30, 2017 in Quincy, IL and was welcomed home by his parents, four sisters, Georgia Jane Seabold, Myleigh Ann Seabold, Malea Jo Beaird and Payton McKenzie Seabold, and two brothers, Matthew Patrick Seabold and Logan Tyler Roskamp. Quinton was a really good baby. He loved his brothers and sisters. He touched many people in his little life and left big foot prints on many hearts.

In addition to his parents and his big brothers and sisters, he is survived by his maternal grandparents, Lonnie and Tina Boley of Hamilton, IL, paternal grandmother, Wilma Davis Ft. Madison, IA and maternal great-grandparents, Brian and Gina Springer of Kahoka, MO and many aunts, uncles & cousins.

He was preceded in death by his paternal grandfather, Kenneth Seabold and maternal and paternal great-grandparents.

A funeral service will be held at 1 p.m., Monday at the Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk, IA. Burial will be in Babyland in Oakland Cemetery in Keokuk.

Visitation will be held after 4 p.m., Sunday at the funeral home with the family meeting friends from 6-8 p.m.

Memorials may be made to the Iowa Donor Network.

On-line condolences may be left for the family at [www.vigenmemorialhome.com](http://www.vigenmemorialhome.com).

## CURRENT-LEE

### American Legion to meet Tuesday at FM Eagles Club 7 p.m.

Fort Madison Post 0082 The American Legion will meet Tuesday, March 6, 2018, 7 P.M. at the Eagles Club, 4821 Avenue O Fort Madison, Iowa. All Members and those interested in the American Legion are encouraged to attend.

### LCHD holding immunization clinic on Thursday in Keokuk

KEOKUK - Lee County Health Department will be holding a Children's Immunization Clinic Thursday, March 8, 2018 at Trinity Methodist Church, 2330 Plank Road in Keokuk from 12 noon until 4:30pm. The clinic is open to children who have no insurance, are insured by Iowa Medicaid or those who have private health insurance that does not cover the cost of vaccines. No appointment is necessary.

Free lead testing is available for all children ages 6 months to 6 years who reside in Iowa. Please call 1-319-372-5225 with questions or visit our website at [www.leecountyhd.org](http://www.leecountyhd.org).

### Spring vendor show coming to Fort Madison

FORT MADISON - Spring Vendor Show, Saturday, March 10th, 9am-1pm, Ruling Hall, 2217 Ave. I, Ft. Madison. Featuring 16 Vendors. Bake sale items will be available for sale from the Holy Family Parish BFF group

### 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/](http://www.pencitycurrent.com/glo-crazy/).



## #HyperLocalSuperFresh



(319) 372-4040  
Click here for our listings.



Turning Hope into Reality



**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](http://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](http://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](http://www.TrailwaysTravel.com)

**Charles Vandenberg, Editor**  
(319).371.1670  
[editor@pencitycurrent.com](mailto:editor@pencitycurrent.com)

**Lee K. Vandenberg, Sales Manager**  
(319).371.4125  
[sales@pencitycurrent.com](mailto: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](mailto:n.rung@pencitycurrent.com)

**Shawna Ross, Advertising**  
(319).470.0622  
[ssross@pencitycurrent.com](mailto:ssross@pencitycurrent.com)

Pen City Current and [www.pencitycurrent.com](http://www.pencitycurrent.com) are products of Market Street Publishing, LLC. Pen City Current is published Sunday through Friday mornings.

# Local News/For the Record

## City to vote on budget Tuesday

**BY CHUCK VANDENBERG**  
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - City officials will vote on Tuesday to approve the 2018-19 fiscal year budget as well as spending \$107,470 on a new roof for City Hall.

At Tuesday's regular meeting of the Fort Madison City Council, councilmen will vote on a budget that includes a 15.564 general mil levy. That number compares to the 2017-18 fiscal year budget levy of \$15.911 and is the amount the city collects per \$1,000 of assessed valuation of city residential, commercial, and industrial property.

Outside of the \$8.10, the city levies for liability, property and any self-insurance costs, local emergency management services, employee benefits such as retirement, and debt service. The city can also levy on agricultural land but at a reduced \$3/1,000 assessed valuation rate. Outside of the agricultural levy, those levies total \$15.564. The levy is the lowest since FY2014 when it was set at \$14.8.

The city is also voting on awarding a construction contract to Brockway Mechanical and Roofing out of Burlington for \$107,470 to replace the roof over City Hall.

In other action,

- the council will also be voting on a resolution to hold a public hearing and receive bids on upgrades and repairs to the city's water tower. The city has set March 27, 2018 at 2 p.m. as the bid deadline and a public hearing is set for April 3 at 5:30 p.m. The project will include surface preparation for coatings, tank containment, NACE inspector, coating interior and exterior surfaces, new roof ventilation, fixed ladder fall prevention systems, new ladder, new manway, new overflow structure, disinfection of tanks, new french drains; together with related subsidiary and incidental work.

- the council will be voting to approve a waiver of subdivision requirements for a plat of land owned by Thomas and Ingrid Waters at 3333 200th Street.

## For the Record

### Fort Madison Police report

03/01/18 -03:22 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism on Melody Terrace.  
03/01/18 - 07:38 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 1500 block of Avenue M.  
03/01/18 - 12:10 p.m. - Fort Madison Police cited Christopher Allen Seitz, 40, listed as homeless, in the 1700 block of Avenue G, on a charge of 5th degree theft. He was released upon citation.  
03/01/18 - 8:45 p.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Ralph Anthony Elmore, 58, of Fort Madison, at the intersection of Avenue A and Oak Drive on a charge of public intoxication. He was taken to the Lee County jail and held.

### Lee County Sheriff's report

02/28/18 - 4:10 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Stephanie Sue Allen, 45, in the 2700 block of 150th Avenue

on warrants for eluding, assault with a weapon and reckless driving. She was taken to the Lee County Jail and released on bond.  
03/01/18 - 9:53 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Nicholas Wayne Burgess, 34, of Keokuk, no location given, on a court ordered hold. He was taken to the Lee County jail and held.  
03/01/18 - 1:52 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Gregory Alan Meierotto, 50, of Keokuk in the 900 block of Palean Street on a charge of possession of a controlled substance in a structure or vehicle. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and released on bond.  
03/01/18 - 9:13 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Crystal Dawn Killoren, 38 of Keokuk, no location given, on a warrant for compulsory education violation-first offense. She was taken to the Lee County Jail and released on bond.  
03/01/18 - 9:39 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Adonnis Levi

Lee, 24, of Fort Madison, in the 3400 block of Hwy. 218, on charges of possession of a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia, and driving under suspension. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.  
03/01/18 - 9:43 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Wage Garret Wagner, of Fairfield at the Clarinda Prison on a court-ordered hold. He was held in custody.  
*Those listed above should be presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.*

### Fort Madison Fire & Rescue report

02/28/18 - Fort Madison firefighters responded to one medical call  
03/01/18 - Fort Madison firefighters responded to two medical calls and one assistance  
03/02/18 - Fort Madison firefighters responded to nine medical calls and one false alarm.



## IOWA LOTTERY WINNING NUMBERS

### Lotto Drawings

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



**3/3**  
6 21 30 32 45  
Star Ball: 7  
All Star Bonus:3



**3/2**  
24 28 42 60 64  
Mega Ball: 8  
Megaplier: 4



**3/3**  
13 17 25 36 40  
Powerball: 5  
Power Play:2



**3/2 MID-DAY**  
6 6 5  
**3/2 EVENING**  
9 6 3

**3/3 MID-DAY**  
3 9 7  
**3/3 EVENING**  
9 8 7



**3/2 MID-DAY**  
5 7 0 9  
**3/2 EVENING**  
1 7 4 4

**3/3 MID-DAY**  
9 4 6 8  
**3/3 EVENING**  
4 4 0 2

**Pen City Current encourages you to play responsibly.**

# 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](http://www.fmchosp.com)

# Scene Around the Area



Photo Courtesy of West Point Fire & Rescue

## Fireman's Ball prize winners announced

Pictured at left are the raffle winners from the West Point/St. Paul Fireman's Ball. Left to right: Tate Green winner of the 60" TV, Jeff Bell winner of the toy fire truck, Kim Wilson winner of the ride on fire truck. Not pictured: Deana Stuecker winner of the Green Mountain Grill (Donated by Grandpa's Gun Club). Proceeds from the Ball are going to West Point's truck fund for the purchase of a new tanker pumper. Anyone wishing to donate may mail contributions to: West Point Fire Truck Fund, P.O. Box 239, West Point, Iowa 52656



Photos by Ava Pietz/PCC Intern



Above, the FMHS Swingspan performs their version of Aerosmith's Dream On prior to a rendition of Metallica's Enter Sandman. While at left some Fort Madison Middle School showchoir students take a turn at some solos.

# 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 Carbide Lane  
Keokuk, IA  
1-319-524-6175

Visit Us Online! [www.grrwa.com](http://www.grrwa.com) [facebook.com/grrwa](https://facebook.com/grrwa)

## Education News/From the Front

# Catering, beer garden in the works at Buffalo61

**BUFFALO61** - Continued from Page 1

Burlington. Gibb, who's no stranger to effective marketing, blew it wide open going to a full menu and bar after about an hour, and the restaurant had standing room only until about 9 p.m.

General Manager Bianca Blanchard said she started to get a feeling something big was happening when Gibb came out of the kitchen and said they were opening the bar, which wasn't part of the original soft open plans - and going to a full menu.

"People started showing up so we just let them," Gibb said. "That's what we're doing all weekend, just trying to get employees used to how we're going to operate here."

Blanchard left a career at Great River Health Systems to take a shot at the food service business after she saw the Buffalo was expanding into Fort Madison where she lives.

The "soft openings" continue Friday and Sat-

urday from 5 p.m to 10 p.m. and noon to 5 p.m. on Sunday with regular business hours starting on Monday at 11 a.m.

The restaurant will be open Sunday to Tuesday from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. and Wednesday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to midnight or "whenever" according to the new logo on the front door.

Blanchard was a supervisor in environmental services at GRHS and had been there 10 years before leaving.

"I loved my job there, I really did, but this excited me. I wasn't really looking for another job, but when he posted that he was opening in Fort Madison, I thought this would be fun to do. Everyone wants to make money, but I think that's where Chase and Jen fit in so well. They have a family-oriented style and they are very involved. They are amazing but we're family and they are hands-on and I like that. Jen bartends and seats people, Chase helps

in the kitchen or at the bar or wherever. People like to see the owners and these two are very involved. I'd bet almost everyone learns very quickly who Chase and Jen are."

Current staff levels are close to 35, but Blanchard said they will run overstaff during the soft runs so people get a feel for the restaurant.

"We're overstaffed obviously for the weekend so we can make sure our customers get the attention they need as busy as we're going to be. We've got a good staff and a lot of potential. Right now we have around 33 to 35," Blanchard said.

Thursday's first live day was all Blanchard and Gibb expected and more.

"It was busy, but it will get busier," Gibb said.

The menu will be the same as the Buffalo Tavern in Burlington, but the Fort Madison location will offer ribs as a weekly special. Blanchard said that might be Wednesday. But with items like

“

*This is comfort food. This is what people are wanting. You can get a ribeye sandwich anywhere. But you're not going to get the ranch ribeye sandwich we have here because no one can duplicate that ranch seasoning."*

-Chase Gibb  
owner, Buffalo61 Bar & Grille

BigAss Tacos and the Mother Chucker...an epic buffalo chicken sandwich, Gibb said this isn't healthy eating.

"This is comfort food. This is what people are wanting. You can get a ribeye sandwich anywhere," Gibb said. "But you're not going to get the ranch ribeye sandwich we have here, because no one can duplicate that ranch seasoning."

Blanchard said this food is something different.

"Everyone says a taco is a taco - it's not. It's the same with a tenderloin, a tenderloin is not a tenderloin. He's got that seasoning - and he has one of the top five tenderloins in the state, so it's not your typical food here," Blanchard said.

The bar is a fully stocked bar with 12 beers on tap. Blanchard said

those brands will change at different times of the year, but some like Blue Moon and Budweiser will always be there ice cold and ready to go.

Gibb said he probably won't see profits in the first year.

"I probably won't make any money in the first year, honestly. I would think everything we make in the first year will go back into the business."

Gibb is still in the middle of construction but has the inside completely renovated, moving the bar from the north wall to the center, and has completely reset the seating arrangement around the bar. Gibb said seating is set now at 135 with a max capacity of 155 people.

The awnings have been removed and will be replaced with Gibb's trademark yellow-and-

black striped awnings.

"They're pretty tacky... that's how I like it. You'll certainly notice it when you drive by," he said.

He also said catering is a top priority for the restaurant.

"That's something that we want to get going very quickly. So once the staff has this under control, we're going to get that going as well. We think there is a demand here for that and we have some great options there."

He said there are still some other things to get done but the restaurant is at a point where it's time to let the community in.

"I'd like to put a beer garden out here on the northeast side of the property," he said. "There's a lot that still needs done, from stripes on the building, parking lot and dumpster area cleaned up and organized."



Photo courtesy of Jerry Kearns

Members of the Central Lee High School Student Council, Superintendent Andy Crozier, and others visited with Representative Kearns, Senator Taylor, and other legislators this week. Madison Kearns, granddaughter of Representative Kearns, who is working as a clerk for Representative Amy Neilsen this year, also joined the group from her H.S. alma mater.

### LEE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

*Promoting Health Throughout the Lifespan*

Lee County Health Department has a number of programs to help you in every stage of your life. To learn more about the following programs visit us online by clicking this ad.



- Hospice
- Homecare
- Wellness
- Senior Health
- Environmental Health
- Emergency Preparedness
- 1st Five
- HOPES
- I-Smile Silver®
- Immunizations
- Child / Adolescent Health



**Touching the Community with Care**

2218 Avenue H • Fort Madison, IA  
(319)372-5225 or (800)458-5572  
www.leecountyhd.org



## Two heads are better than one.



**Thomas Klann RICP LTCP LUTCF**  
Agent  
Bus: 319-372-5982  
www.fortmadisoninsurance.com  
2623 Avenue L  
Fort Madison, IA 52627



**Jess N Steenberg**  
Licensed Team Member  
Bus: 319-372-5982  
jess@fortmadisoninsurance.com

**Especially when it comes to reaching your financial goals.**

If you have questions or just want to discuss your options, we're both available to talk.  
**Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.®**  
**CALL US TODAY.**



1001373.2

State Farm, Home Office, Bloomington, IL

**Classifieds**

# the classifieds

**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.nyi.com](mailto:bjfoecke@ft.nyi.com). Resumes are due by March 15th.



**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.

Please contact Stefanie Drollinger at [stefanie.drollinger@holyltrinityschools.org](mailto:stefanie.drollinger@holyltrinityschools.org) or 319-372-6428 for application information.



**Subscribe to #PCC today**

**Free and Paid Options Available.**



**BE PART OF A WINNING TEAM**

New Dimensions is looking for motivated team members to add to our friendly and professional team. We are looking for a full-time stylist who is looking for a new place to call home.

With a 35 year proven track record, quality products, and an easygoing, relaxed atmosphere, New Dimensions is the perfect place to express your creativity and be part of a winning team.

In this role you will be working in a positive environment with professional staff who have expansive knowledge in the industry.

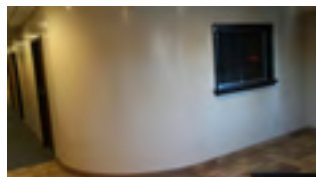
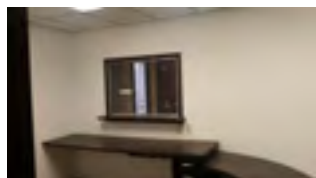
If you have the essential requirements and would like to seize this great opportunity, please call 319-372-6291 or stop in at 1736 Ave. G in Fort Madison.



**Place your ad online 24/7**

**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.

**Follow Us**  
@pencitycurrent

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**

**Open Mic Night** **Wednesdays 7:00pm**

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

**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!"**

**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

**5 Generations of Printing**

**DODD PRINTING & STATIONERY**

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

**319-372-2721 • doddprinting.com**

**Because your wedding gown is Precious**

**WEDDING GOWN PRESERVATION**

**IRIS CITY CLEANERS**

319 385 9707 . 888 485 9707  
[www.IrisCityCleaners.com](http://www.IrisCityCleaners.com)

**Don't Let Your Business Slip Away**

**CAUTION WET FLOOR**

**If someone is hurt on your property, is your business protected?**

Umbrella coverage can help reduce the risk of paying claim costs beyond where your business insurance liability limits stop. Schedule a SuperCheck® today because when your world is protected – it's business as usual.

**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 PC109 (4-17)

**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

**YOUR AD HERE**

**(319)371.4125**

# We Think You Should



## SMILE MORE!

*We'll be happy to help you polish up your smile  
so you can share it with the world.*

*Schedule your appointment today.*

**[www.drmarkdds.com](http://www.drmarkdds.com)**



**Dr. Mark C. Pothitakis  
Family Dentistry**

**Burlington Dental Associates  
319-753.2515**

**Fort Madison Family Dentistry  
319-372-3614**

**New London Dental Care  
319-367-2311**

**Mediapolis Dental Care  
319-394-3255**

**Burlington Family Dentistry  
319-752-7993**

From the Front/Weather

# Kurtz has labor roots with career in railroad

**CANDIDATE** - Continued from Page 1

pass something like this tax bill there's going to be very little left. We're already dipping into reserves and look what's happened in Kansas and Oklahoma where they tried the same thing."

Kurtz has been politically active in the past serving as President of BLET Local 391 for eight years and as Iowa State Legislative Board Chairman from 2004-2014.

"I've been politically active for quite a while. I was the head of our legislative department in Iowa and would make frequent trips to the legislature. I've been retired for more than three years and enjoying retirement and doing some work with labor federations," he said. "But I got into some policy as I saw how hard it was for Iowa workers. When Jerry sprung this on us, I looked

around and thought we had someone to run. I talked with some people and then sat on it for a couple weeks and decided if I'm ever going to do it, it's going to be now."

He said with his experience with the BLET Local 391, they were able to get things done, but it takes a lot of people to get it done.

"I need the voters help on this, that's all there is to it. Then we need to follow through with what we say we are going to do," Kurtz said. "In 10 years with the BLET, we got some things done, but it wasn't easy. We got it done with people working together. With this current political climate and having one party in charge, I don't see how we get anything progressive done."

In his release on Friday, Kurtz said he wanted to help Iowans with jobs, economic development, and getting Iowa...back on track.

"I intend to focus this campaign on jobs and economic development, on fully funding education and essential public services, and restoring devastating cuts to our mental health and Medicaid system," Kurtz wrote in the release. "We also must focus on rebuilding our communities by not only creating jobs but making sure the jobs created pay a decent wage and have good benefits."

"Iowa has been an education leader for generations, but Republicans seem determined to change that. Senate leaders just approved a paltry 1% increase in state funding which amounts to an average increase of only \$67 per student. This will cause schools to close, classroom sizes to increase, good teachers to leave the state, and a generation of students will suffer for it."

Kurtz said he is also motivated by the decision of the legislature to take away union rights for public workers.

"Under the current Republican leadership, Iowa is heading in the wrong direction," he said. "In the last year we saw the state take away rights from teachers, police officers, correctional guards, firefighters, bus drivers, and other public-sector workers who are the backbone of our community. This is not the Iowa I know and love. Iowans deserve better."

Kurtz was born in Fort Madison and has lived there most of his life. Jeff graduated from Aquinas High School in 1972. He attended Southeastern Iowa Community College and Iowa State University before joining the Santa Fe Railroad in 1974, first as a locomotive fireman, before being promoted to locomotive engineer in 1975.

Throughout his career, Jeff held multiple positions within the union, including serving as President of BLET Local 391 for eight years and as Iowa State Legislative Board Chairman from 2004-2014, where Jeff lobbied extensively for rail safety at both state and federal levels. Jeff retired from the BNSF Railroad in 2014 with almost forty-one years of service.

He has long been active with the labor movement in Iowa. Most recently he was a co-chair of the Lee County Raise the Wage Coalition which succeeded in passing a local minimum wage ordinance prior to the legislature's preemption bill. He has been married to his wife Debbie for 38 years and they are the proud parents of three children, Adam of Fort Madison, Nathan of Maryland, and Mindy McPherson of Cedar Rapids. The couple also has four grandchildren.

## Savin' the Green

Every day is your lucky day at Griffin's!



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

**Alignment Special**

**\$99<sup>95</sup>**

**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.



Your Griffin Gratitude Card entitles you to earn 5% back on all invoices, excluding sales tax, good toward future purchases.



Earn 6 months same as cash on purchases of \$199 or more when you use your CarCare One Card.

### Your one-stop shop for Full Service Auto Repair

535 Avenue G • Fort Madison  
 (319) 372-2478 • www.griffinmuffler.com  
 M-TH 7:30am - 5:30pm; F 7:30am - 5:00pm

Enjoy these free benefits: ASE certified technicians, 24 month, 24K mile warranty, free shuttle service, waiting area with free WiFi, same day service on most repairs



Like us on Facebook

### 5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

<b>SUN 04 Mar</b>	Clear Skies High - 47.4° F   Low - 44.9° F
<b>MON 05 Mar</b>	Heavy Rain High - 42.6° F   Low - 31.6° F
<b>TUE 06 Mar</b>	Snow High - 35.5° F   Low - 28.2° F
<b>WED 07 Mar</b>	Light Snow High - 28.7° F   Low - 22.4° F
<b>THU 08 Mar</b>	Light Snow High - 32.2° F   Low - 21.7° F

OpenWeatherMap