



# Pen City Current

Friday, May 31, 2019 | 12 pages | Volume 3 • Issue 124

## Grassley makes first visit to "massive" IFC

*Senator also responds to Mueller's Wednesday remarks*

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG  
PCC EDITOR

WEVER – U.S. Sen. Charles Grassley (R-Iowa) made his first stop at the \$3.25 billion Iowa Fertilizer Company facility on Wednesday and called the facility "massive".

As part of the 85-year-old legislator's annual 99-county tour around Iowa, IFC dignitaries gave



GRASSLEY

him a 25-minute tour and then Grassley offered a 20-minute Q&A before heading to Keosauqua to meet with Iowa Farm Bureau members.

Iowa Fertilizer Co. invested \$3 billion in the facility, while tax incentives as part of a combined state and local economic incentive package contributed roughly \$140 million to the project. Groundbreaking on the facility took place in 2012 with operations beginning in April of 2017.

Currently the plant employs roughly 240 full-time employees, which plant manager Darrell Allman said is

more than the company originally planned to hold.

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Annual payroll, according to officials at the facility, contributes \$25 million and annual maintenance spending adds another \$25 million to regional pocket-books.

The facility is the first world-scale greenfield nitrogen fertilizer facility built in the U.S. in more than 25 years, and produces 1.7 to 2.2 million tons of fertilizer products each year.

See VISIT, page 10

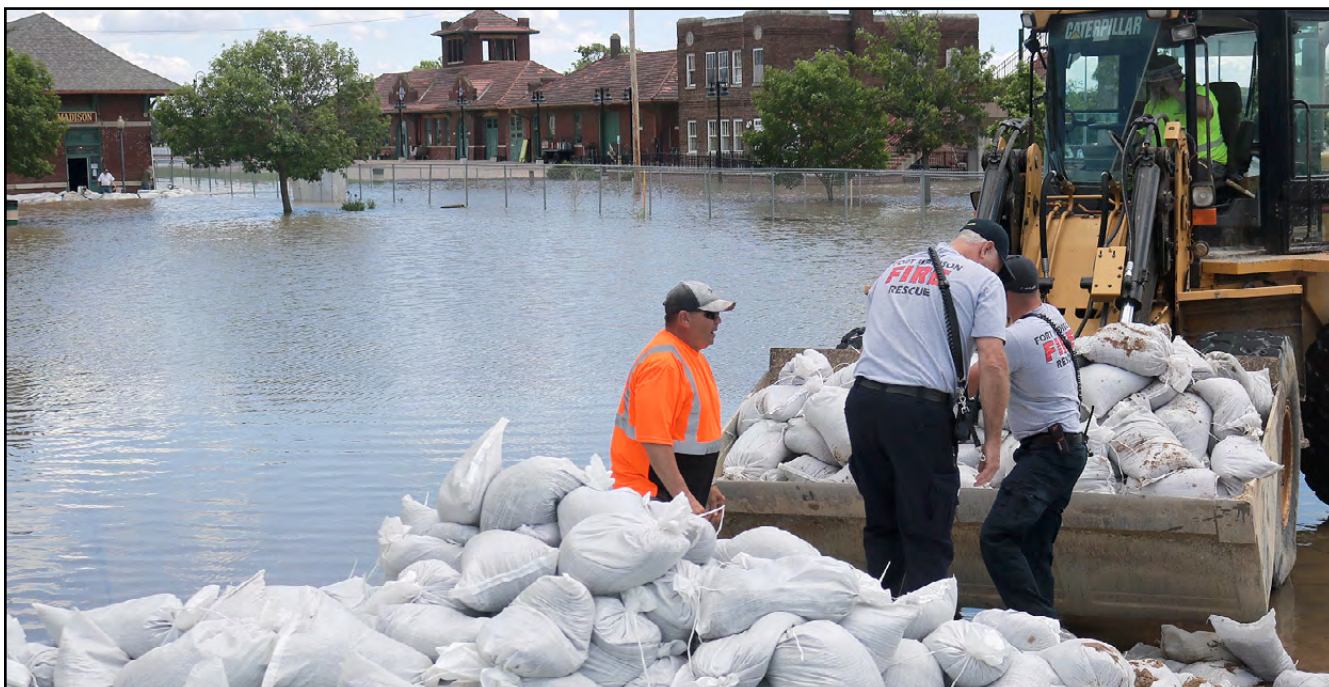


Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

### Mississippi cresting Thursday

The Fort Madison Fire Department lent a helping hand to city crews Thursday afternoon moving sandbags over to the North Lee County Historical Society museum. The Old Santa Fe Depot in the background was still out of the floodwaters, but pumping and sandbagging was needed to help contain water at the museum. According to the National Weather Service the river is expected to crest in Burlington just after midnight Sunday morning at 24.1 feet and crested in Keokuk Thursday at about 6 p.m. at 25.8 feet.

### Live Healthy Lee County targets area markets

Submitted article

LEE COUNTY – The Live Healthy Lee County wellness coalition partners have joined together to put on three "Live Healthy @ the Market" events at each of the Lee County farmer's markets. The events will be in Montrose on June 4th from 4:00pm-6:00pm at the Montrose Riverfront, Keokuk on June 15th from 8:00am-11:30am at the River City Mall parking lot, and

in Fort Madison on June 24th from 4:00pm-6:00pm at the Fort Madison Depot. Participating organizations will be on-hand promoting county health and wellness services.

"This is the first time for us holding such events. The idea came from results from the Lee County Community Health Needs Assessment survey," stated

See NUTRITION, page 2

### EMPTY NEST

By Curt Swarm



### MP man on quest to rename Skunk River

Dan Williams wants to reclaim the name "Shecaqua" for the Skunk River. He is tall and slim, and at 72, looks more like a man in his fifties, which means he has energy and enthusiasm.

"The Skunk River is a proud river," he says, gesticulating with his hands and arms. "It flows freely and wildly between the Iowa and Des Moines Rivers, emptying into the Mississippi between Burlington and Ft. Madison. It has two forks: the North Fork, originating in Marshall County, and the South Fork, in Hamilton. It doesn't deserve to be called the Skunk River. That name has too much negativity. It was originally called 'Shecaqua' (Sh-kauk-wa) by the Sauk and Meskwaki Indians, and means anything with a bad or obnoxious odor, such as the wild onions which grew along its banks, or the skunk cabbage, which can smell skunky when its leaves are bruised. The white settlers came along and renamed the Shecaqua, the 'Skunk.' So, I don't want to rename the Skunk River, I want to reclaim its rightful name."

Dan stops for a moment and contemplates. His voice builds, competing with the roar of the river over the spillway. "We don't deserve the 'Skunk River,' it's prouder than that. It's the 'Shecaqua.' It's like the Mississippi River. If you call it the 'Muddy Mississippi,' you have a dirty image. But if you call it, the 'Mighty Mississippi,' well now, that's a different feeling altogether."

See SWARM, page 11

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# Obituaries/For the Record

## Attendees could win Market Bucks to use during season

**NUTRITION** - Continued from Page 1

Emily Biddenstadt, LHLC facilitator. "We found that many of our common preventative services people didn't know how to access them. We hope people will take advantage of this opportunity to learn about them while checking out the local farmer's market."

The first 100 people to visit the LHLC booth will be given a "Live Healthy @ the Market" bag to use to put their farmer's market goodies in. Attendees of the event will also be eligible to win one of two drawings for Market Bucks to use during the



farmer's market season. To top it off, anyone who rides their bike to the event will receive a bike light.

Participating organizations include Lee County Health Department, Fort Madison Community Hospital, Lee County Conservation, ISU Extension & Outreach, Lee County RSVP, American

Eyecare, The Kensington, Domestic Violence Intervention Program, Community Health Centers-Keokuk Clinic, Bickel's, Hoerner YMCA, ADDS, and PORT of Fort Madison.

These events have been endorsed by the Healthiest State Initiative which works to inspire Iowans to improve their physical, social and emotional well-being, and help Iowa become the healthiest state in the nation.

For more information on the events and Live Healthy Lee County visit their website at [www.live-healthyleecounty.org](http://www.live-healthyleecounty.org) or Like them on Facebook.

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## OBITUARIES

### CHARLES LOUIS KITE JR.

Charles Louis Kite Jr. 55, of Argyle, Iowa, passed away at 7:14 p.m. Wednesday, February 27, 2019 at his home.

He was born on September 6, 1963 to Charles Louis and Mary Louise (Wagner) Kite.

Survivors include one son, Courtney Alan Kite; one brother Justin Kite; three sisters: Linda White, Rita White and Valerie Shaffner. Also surviving are several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Charlie and Mary and brother-in-law Bill White.

He was a graduate of Central Lee High School, Donnellson, Iowa.

Charlie worked as a truck driver, He enjoyed watching TV.

His body has been entrusted to Schmitz Funeral Home for cremation.

A Graveside Service will be held at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, June 1, 2019, at the Argyle Memorial Gardens, rural Argyle, Iowa.

Memorials have been established in his memory.

Schmitz Funeral Home of Donnellson is assisting the family with arrangements. On-line condolences to the family may be made at [www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com](http://www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com).

## For the Record

**Fort Madison Police Report**  
 5/29/19 - 4:10 p.m - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a shoplifter in the 2600 block of Ave. L.  
 5/29/19 - 5:11 p.m - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of larceny/ theft in the 1300 block of 24th St.  
 5/29/19 - 5:20 p.m - Casey Joe Wolf, 38, of Fort Madison was arrested for theft in the fifth degree in the 800 block of Ave. F. He was taken to Lee County Jail and released on promised to appear.

5/29/19 - 5:48 p.m - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 1000 block of 33rd St.  
 5/29/19 - 6:23 p.m - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of larceny/ theft in the 1100 block of Ave. E.  
 5/29/19 - 7:12 p.m - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 2300 block of Ave. I.  
 5/29/19 - 8:07 p.m - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a stolen vehicle in the 700 block of Ave. F.

5/30/19 - 1:22 a.m - Mary Natasha Gruening, 25, of Burlington, was arrested on a warrant for FTA For Compliance, Hearing OWI, in the 5400 block of Ave. O. She was taken to the Des Moines County line.

**Lee County Sheriff's Report**  
 5/29/19 - 9:39 a.m - Norma Jean Vanpelt, 69, of Fort Madison was arrested on a violation of no contact order - domestic in the 2100 block of Ave. H. She was released upon citation.

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# Obituaries

## OBITUARIES

### JUDY ANN SHINN SCHMIDT

Judy Ann Shinn Schmitt, 62, of Keokuk died Friday, May 24, 2019 at her home in Keokuk.

She was born August 11, 1956 in Keokuk, the daughter of Lloyd and Lois Wilson Shinn. On March 3, 1978, Judy was united in marriage to Stephen "Tony" Anthony Schmitt in Keokuk, IA. He preceded her in death on February 5, 2014.



SCHMIDT

She graduated from Keokuk Senior High School with the class of 1974.

Judy had been employed at Henniges in Keokuk for forty-two years retiring on August 31, 2018. She was a member of the United Steelworkers Local 444.

Judy enjoyed spending time outdoors in her flower gardens. She loved shopping in thrift stores and was always in search of a deal. Most of all, Judy loved spending time with her family and four legged companion, Hank. She was a loving and understanding mom and the best grandma you could ask for. All the neighborhood kids would consider her their grandma.

She is survived by one son, Brandon Lee (Amanda) Schmitt of Keokuk, three grandchildren, Alexandra Krystyne (Kyle) Brothers of Farmerville, LA, Kyle Christopher Schmitt of Keokuk and Cory Lea Krogmeier of Kahoka, MO, three great-grandchildren, five sisters, Connie (Moe) Davis of Keokuk, Barb Kutzner of Keokuk, Tammy (Steve) Wilson of Ft. Wayne, IN, Peggy (Earl) Duke of Keokuk and Debbie (John) Pezley of Keokuk, and two brothers, Paul (Alice) Shinn and Lloyd "Monk" Shinn all of Keokuk, two brothers-in-law, Larry Hall and Roger Daniels of Kahoka, MO, one sister-in-law, Virginia Clark of Quincy, IL, along with many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers, Timothy Shinn and Don Shinn, three brothers-in-law, Carl Schmitt, Robert Clark and Ron Kutzner and three sisters-in-law, Peggy Zick-Hall, Patty Stark and Fran Daniels.

A memorial service will be held at 10 a.m., Friday, at the Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk with Pastor Donald Skinner officiating. Burial will be in the Keokuk National Cemetery.

Visitation will be held after 1 p.m., Thursday, at the funeral home with family meeting with friends from 5-7 p.m.

In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to the Keokuk Animal Shelter.

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

#### Pen City Current obituary policy

The Current runs obituaries one time at no charge to funeral homes and they run the day they are submitted in most cases. They are also run as submitted by the funeral homes.

## OBITUARIES

### DELBERT C. CUSTER

Delbert C. Custer, 82, of Ft. Madison, IA died Saturday, May 25, 2019 at the Parkview Manor in Wellman, IA.

He was born October 1, 1936 in Mclean, NE, the son of Henry Howard and Zola Allen Custer. On October 3, 1959, Delbert was united in marriage to Linda Louise Slater in Montrose, IA. She preceded him in death on May 6, 2016.



CUSTER

Delbert was a proud veteran of the United States Navy and Army and retired from the Air Force on September 30, 1978.

He is survived by three daughters, Brenda Lynn Eston of Ft. Madison, Debra Dawn Calfee (Ricky) of Montrose and Carla Diane Gerek (Mark) of Vacaville, CA, five grandchildren, Jeffrey, Jeremy and Jennifer Schrader, Jason & Tara Calfee, six great-grandchildren, Adian and Elli Turner, Hailey Stowers, Kayden, Kolt and Tara Calfee and several nieces and nephews.

Besides his wife he was also preceded in death by his parents, one son-in-law, Marion Eston, and three brothers.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m., Tuesday, June 4, at the Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk with Reverend David Barrett officiating. Burial with military rites will be in the Keokuk National Cemetery.

Visitation will be held from 5 - 7 p.m., Monday June 3, at the Vigen Memorial Home in Keokuk with the family meeting with friends at that time.

A memorial has been established.

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



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### Live Healthy @ the Market

Come to one of the Live Healthy @ the Market events to learn about area health & wellness services.

June 4, 4:00-6:00pm - Montrose Farmer's Market

June 15, 8:00-11:30am - Keokuk Farmer's Market

June 24, 4:00-6:00pm - Fort Madison Farmer's Market

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## Sports/Scene Around Town

# Lady Hounds drop two in Mt. Pleasant

*Seventh inning rally comes up short for Hounds in opener*

BY PCC STAFF

MT. PLEASANT – Fort Madison dropped two games of a double header on the road at Mt. Pleasant Thursday night 6-4, 9-2 in girls softball action.

In the first game, Maycee Featheringill had a couple of hits and two RBI to lead Fort Madison in the loss.

The Bloodhounds 7th inning rally fell short by two runs when Allyson Helmick grounded out to short stranding Dalyn Wondra who had reached on a fielder's choice. Featheringill would try to score on Wondra's hit, but was thrown out at home.

With the Bloodhounds down 6-2 going into the top of the 7th, Olivia Williams stroked a single

to center. Logan Johnson popped up to the second baseman for the first out, but Powers singled to left pushing Williams to second where she was held up on the throw in.

Featheringill then ripped a shot to deep right center that plated Williams and Powers. Featheringill advanced to third on a throw home, bringing Wondra to the plate representing the tying run with just one out. Wondra's hit ran down the first base line, but the Panther's came up throwing and got Featheringill at the plate for the second out.

Helmick would then ground out to end the game.

Powers went the distance for the Hounds

giving up six runs, five earned on seven hits. She struck out five, walked four and gave up a two-run homer to Mt. Pleasant's Trinity Krabill on an 0-1 pitch in the third inning that broke a 1-1 tie.

In the nightcap, the Panther's jumped on Fort Madison pitcher Neeley Rehm for six runs in the first two innings. Rehm would give way to Katie Dennis who calmed things down giving up just 2 runs over the final four innings, but the Hounds couldn't get any offense going.

Kylee Cashman had a hit and an RBI and Logan Johnson went 2-for-3 at the plate. Olivia Williams and Dennis both scored runs for Fort Madison.

The Hounds fall to 1-2 on the year and travel to Wilton on Friday for another doubleheader.



Photo by Gracie Gobble/FMHS

### Color bomb

Fort Madison Partner's Director Tim Gobble get's hit with a blue color bomb as he runs by at the FMHS's 1st Color Run at the Fort Madison Middle School. The run helped raised \$1,400 for the Stead Family Children's Hospital and \$900 for the FMHS Student Government Association.



# COLUMBUS CLUB

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<b>Kids</b> (ages 5-12) includes 2 sides & a roll.....	<b>\$5.00</b>
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<b>Carryout 4 pcs. chicken</b>	
2 sides & a roll.....	<b>\$8.50</b>
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2 pcs. chicken, 1 side & a roll.....	<b>\$5.50</b>

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Served Every Friday Night 5:00-8:00pm  
Dinner includes 2 sides and a roll

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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

IOWA

**5/29**

3 32 34 42 61

Powerball: 7

Power Play: 2

**5/29**

5 7 27 45 48

Star Ball: 1

All Star Bonus: 5

**5/29 MID-DAY**

2 7 8

**5/29 EVENING**

6 0 8

**5/29 MID-DAY**

1 7 8 3

**5/29 EVENING**

4 3 0 9

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encourages you to play responsibly.

# Current-Lee

## CURRENT-LEE

### Jack Morris Memorial Golf Outing

The annual Fort Madison Partner's golf outing is set for June 14 and there is room for five more teams only. Sponsorships are available by contacting the Partner's office at 319-372-5471.

### Youth Jam Workshop

Iowa State University's Lee County Extension and Outreach will be holding a food preservation workshop at the Lee County Fairgrounds Learning Center on Wednesday, June 12 from 3 to 7 p.m. Register by June 5 by calling Whitney Weisinger at 319-835-5116 or email [weisinge@iastate.edu](mailto:weisinge@iastate.edu).

### Family Connections "Stepping Stones"

Family Connections, a free parenting support group will be hosting two sessions of "Stepping Stones" the first on June 3 in Fort Madison at 4015 Avenue L and the second on June 11th at 2315 S. 7th Street in Keokuk. Children will be able to decorate a stepping stone to take home. RSVP to Missy at 319-372-5225.

### Special Needs Prom

A Special Needs Prom has been set for June 28th from 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at First Christian Church 3476 Main Street in Keokuk. The evening will include a promenade, dinner and dancing with events sponsored by area businesses. A try-on for prom outfits is set for June 7 at the church from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Prom attendees must be at least 17 years of age.

### PGSB Ice Cream Social

Pilot Grove Savings Bank is inviting all customers to an ice cream social on Tuesday June 4 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at Holy Family Parish in Fort Madison and First Christian Church in Keokuk. On Thursday, June 6, 2019 from 4 to 7 p.m. the social will be held

at the PGSB Community Room in Donnellson, and in Houghton's K of C Hall, and West Point's American Legion Hall from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

### Downtown Summer Market

Fort Madison businesses will be hosting a Downtown Summer Market from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. June 13, July 11, and Aug. 15 along Avenue G. For more information contact Darla at 319-371-8385 or by email at [darlarae71@yahoo.com](mailto:darlarae71@yahoo.com).

### HTC Pajama Run

A pajama 5K run/walk will be held Saturday June 8 beginning at 5 p.m. at City Hall in West Point. Registration starts at 4 p.m. and all proceeds will benefit the Holy Trinity Catholic Volleyball program. Race day registration is \$25. Contact Melissa Freesmeier at 319-470-2796.

### Tennis Lessons

James Postman, head tennis coach at Iowa City Liberty High School will be holding a 6-week series of tennis lessons beginning June 5 at the HTC tennis courts. Registration can be done through the Fort Madison YMCA through May 31. Fee is \$40 for members and \$60 for non-members. Two sessions will be held daily, one for 8-10 year olds and a second for 11-14 year olds.

### Weekend at the Bees

Lee County Weekend at Community Field in Burl-

ington will be held on Friday through Sunday June 21-23. Pre-ordered tickets are just \$4 each when buying 10-plus tickets. Pre-order must be done by June 14. Sponsors can become a fireworks sponsor for \$400 and get 50 tickets to the game and ad in the program.

### Farmer's Market

Farmer's Markets at the Fort Madison Depot will start Monday June 3 and run every Monday through Sept. 30 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Old Santa Fe Depot. Every second Monday is Kid's Day at the Market.

### Sheaffer Memorial Golf Course

Sheaffer Memorial Golf Course will be offering junior and women's beginning clinics on Thursdays during the Month of June with the junior golf from 10 to 12 p.m. and the women's class from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. \$50 entry fee for both clinics. Contact Ryan at 319-528-6214 for additional details or email at [rmcmillan@sheaffergolf.com](mailto:rmcmillan@sheaffergolf.com).

### Kensington events

The Kensington is offering Senior's Only Community Bingo on the second Wednesday of every month at 2 p.m. The event is free for seniors and cash prizes are awarded. Caregivers Connection is held the 4th Tuesday of every month at noon. Call 319-372-4233 to reserve your seat.

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W-2319024 11/18

# the classifieds

## PUBLIC NOTICES

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**Fort Madison Community School District**  
**1930 Avenue M**  
**Minutes of the Regular Meeting**  
**May 20, 2019**

I. The meeting was called to order by President Wondra at 6:02 p.m. Directors Hope, Ross, Hotop, Menke and Steffensmeier were present. Director DiPrima participated via telephone. Also present were Superintendent Slater, Director of Curriculum and Student Services Harmon and Secretary Elmore.

II. Recognition of guests. President Wondra welcomed members of the audience in attendance and explained the procedures for the meeting.

III. Reading of Foundation documents. The Board read

and reviewed the Foundation documents consisting of the Vision, Mission and Belief statements and the Goals for the Fort Madison Community School District.

IV. Monthly communications

A. Student Rep report. The Board received an update of ongoing activities at the High School.

B. District Presentations. The Cyberhounds gave a demonstration of their robot and updated the Board on their recent trip to regionals in Sedalia, Missouri.

C. FMCSO Honor Night. The district hosted an Honor Night and awarded and recognized the following groups: FMCSO Board of Directors, State Legislators Joseph Mitchell, Jeff Kurtz, Rich Taylor, Key Club,

Bloodhound Construction Team, Bloodhound Music, Battle of the Books 7/8th Grade Awesome Squad, Battle of the Books 6th Grade Bloodhound Speedreaders, Battle of the Books 5th Grade The Bookmarks, Richardson Elementary PTO, and Lincoln Elementary PTG.

Break: 6:59 p.m.

End Break: 7:06 p.m.

D. Curriculum Corner. Instructional Coaches. The Instructional Coaches gave an update to the Board regarding ongoing activities related to the Teacher Leadership System and the Professional Learning Communities implementation. They also discussed how they are impacting the practices of teachers.

Exit DiPrima: 7:34 p.m.

Enter DiPrima: 7:36 p.m.  
 E. "Did You Know?" The "Did You Know?" document was accepted as presented.

F. Superintendent Goal Report. The Board received an update from SIAC from Trisha Hopper. Superintendent Slater shared her published dissertation with the Board.

V. Approve the agenda. It was moved by Hope and seconded by Ross to approve the agenda as presented. The motion passed on a 7-0 voice vote.

VI. Consent agenda. It was moved by DiPrima and seconded by Steffensmeier to approve the consent agenda as presented. The consent agenda consisted of minutes from the April 11, 2019 regular meeting; April 11, 2019 Public Hearing

#1, April 11, 2019 Public Hearing #2, May 6, 2019 work session; financial reports including the April Balance Sheet, April Revenue Summary, Expenditure Report and Student Activity Report, accounts payable for the April General Account Board bills for approval, May General Account Board bills for approval, Student Activity Board bills for approval and Nutrition Account Board bills for approval; resignations from Kaisie Peterson as Richardson teacher at the end of the 2018-2019 school year, Marissa Riffel as Middle School teacher at the end of the 2018-2019 school year, Becky Carvajal as custodian at the high school, Joe Abandola as middle school associate, Faith Achey as

Lincoln, associate, Sidney Simons as Lincoln associate, Carrie Burken as assistant girls basketball coach, Deva Ross as high school associate, Michelle McKeown as food service delivery driver, Karen Kester as Lincoln associate, Eugene Meyers as middle school custodian, Chris Conlee as JV girls assistant softball coach and Kirk McWhortor as bus driver; employment of Denicia Wright as middle school secretary, Michaele Davolt as middle school associate, Ericka Dillon as middle school associate, Megan Maag as 7/8th grade science teacher at the middle school for the 2019-2020 school year, Derek Doherty as head varsity football coach, Albert Schinstock as assistant baseball coach,

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# Classifieds/Public Notices

## PUBLIC NOTICES

Trisha Eaves-Fedler as assistant cheerleading coach, Jennifer Hoenig as assistant cheerleading coach, Tonya Campbell as kindergarten teacher at Richardson for the 2019-2020 school year, Christine Deming as food service at the middle school, Alisha Saathoff as second grade teacher at Lincoln for the 2019-2020 school year and Lee Cashman as 1/2 girls softball coach; termination of Staci Easton as middle school associate and Diana Kowalski as Richardson associate. The motion passed on a 7-0 voice vote.

**VII. Action Items**

A. Director of Curriculum and Student Services.

B. Superintendent.

1. Consider approval of IAHSAA & IGHSAA School Classification Equity Resolution. The Board reviewed the IAHSAA & IGHSAA School Classification Equity Resolution. Discussion followed. It was moved by Menke and seconded by DiPrima to approve the IAHSAA & IGHSAA School Classification Equity

Resolution as presented. The motion passed on a 7-0 voice vote.

2. Consider approval of AFSCME employee handbook. The Board reviewed the AFSCME employee handbook. Discussion followed. It was moved by Steffensmeier and seconded by DiPrima to approve the AFSCME employee handbook as presented. The motion passed on a 7-0 voice vote.

3. Consider approval of IASB membership and dues. It was moved by Hope and seconded by Ross to approve the IASB membership and dues as presented. The motion passed on a 7-0 voice vote.

4. Request for travel. The Board reviewed the request for travel from Bonnie Peterson-Slee, FFA Advisor, requesting permission to travel to Eminence, Missouri for an annual officer retreat June 10-12. It was moved by Hotop and seconded by Steffensmeier to approve the travel request as presented. The motion passed on a 7-0

voice vote.

5. Request for travel. The Board reviewed the request for travel from Jeremy Swink, Activities Director for the girls' basketball team to travel to Branson, Missouri for a basketball team camp June 18-21. It was moved by Hotop and seconded by Steffensmeier to approve the travel request as presented. The motion passed on a 7-0 voice vote.

6. Consider approval of tentative agreement with AFSCME Local #3929. It was moved by Hope and seconded by Steffensmeier to approve the tentative agreement with AFSCME Local #3929 as presented. The motion passed on a 7-0 voice vote.

7. Consider approval of tentative agreement with FMEA. It was moved by Ross and seconded by Steffensmeier to approve the tentative agreement with FMEA as presented. The motion passed on a 7-0 voice vote.

8. Consider approval of tentative agreement with

Teamsters Unit 1. It was moved by Hope and seconded by DiPrima to approve the tentative agreement with Teamsters Unit 1 as presented. The motion passed on a 7-0 voice vote.

9. Consider approval of tentative agreement with Teamsters Unit 2. It was moved by DiPrima and seconded by Menke to approve the tentative agreement with Teamsters Unit 2 as presented. The motion passed on a 7-0 voice vote.

10. Consider approval of policy changes.

a. 711.2-R-1 – Student Conduct on School Transportation Regulation. It was moved by DiPrima and seconded by Steffensmeier to approve policy #711.2-R-1 as presented. The motion passed on a 7-0 voice vote.

b. 711.2-R-3 – Bus Discipline and Student Responsibilities. It was moved by Ross and seconded by Steffensmeier to approve policy #711.2-R-3 as presented. The motion passed on a 7-0 voice vote.

c. 711.7 – School Bus

Safety Instruction. It was moved by Ross and seconded by Menke to approve policy #711.7 as presented. The motion passed on a 7-0 voice vote.

d. 711.8 – Transportation in Inclement Weather. It was moved by DiPrima and seconded by Hope to approve policy #711.8 as presented. The motion passed on a 7-0 voice vote.

e. 711.13 – District/Transportation Credit Cards. It was moved by Ross and seconded by Hotop to approve policy #711.13 as presented. The motion passed on a 7-0 voice vote.

f. 801.5 – Bids and Awards for Construction Contracts. It was moved by Ross and seconded by Menke to approve policy #801.5 as presented. The motion passed on a 7-0 voice vote.

g. 802.1 – Maintenance of Plant. It was moved by DiPrima and seconded by Menke to approve policy #802.1 as presented. The motion passed on a 7-0 voice vote.

h. 802.1-R – Custodial

Operations. It was moved by Ross and seconded by DiPrima to approve policy #802.1-R as presented. The motion passed on a 7-0 voice vote.

i. 802.2 – Requests for Improvement. It was moved by DiPrima and seconded by Hope to approve policy #802.2 as presented. The motion passed on a 7-0 voice vote.

11. Consider approval of fundraisers within the athletic department. The Board reviewed the list of current/past/future fundraisers within the Athletic Department. Discussion followed. It was moved by Ross and seconded by Steffensmeier to approve the list of fundraisers as presented. The motion passed on a 7-0 voice vote.

C. Board Secretary/Business Manager.

1. Consider approval of Refinance of Series 2009 Sales Tax Bonds. Resolution Directing Sale of \$8,020,000 School Infrastructure Sales, Service and Use Tax Revenue for Refunding Bonds, Series 2019

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# Classifieds/Public Notices

## PUBLIC NOTICES

Board Member Hope introduced the following Resolution entitled "RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE SALE OF \$8,020,000 SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE SALES, SERVICES AND USE TAX REVENUE REFUNDING BONDS, SERIES 2019," and moved its adoption. Board Member Menke seconded the motion to adopt. The roll was called and the vote was:

AYES: Ross, DiPrima, Wondra, Steffensmeier, Menke, Hope, Hotop

NAYS:  
The President declared the Resolution adopted.

\*\*\*\*\*  
RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE SALE OF \$8,020,000 SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE SALES, SERVICES AND USE TAX REVENUE REFUNDING BONDS, SERIES 2019

This is the time and place for the sale of School Infra-

structure Sales, Services and Use Tax Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2019 (the "Bonds");

WHEREAS, the School District has received proposals for the sale of the Bonds and has arranged for the sale of these Bonds to Key Government Finance, Inc. of Superior, Colorado, at a purchase price of par plus accrued interest to date of delivery:

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE FORT MADISON COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT IN THE COUNTIES OF LEE, HENRY AND DES MOINES, STATE OF IOWA:

Section 1. The sale of \$8,020,000 School Infrastructure Sales, Services and Use Tax Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2019, to be dated the date of delivery, for the purpose of refunding outstanding School Infra-

structure Sales, Services and Use Tax Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2009, dated December 1, 2009, upon the following terms, is approved and confirmed.

Section 2. That the President and Secretary are authorized and directed to issue and deliver \$8,020,000 School Infrastructure Sales, Services and Use Tax Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2019, in the aggregate principal amount of \$8,020,000, each in the denomination of \$100,000 or integral multiples of \$5,000 in excess thereof, bearing interest and maturing as follows:

Principal Amount  
Interest Rate  
Maturity Date  
See attached

Section 3. That all acts of the Superintendent of Schools, and Board Secretary done in furtherance of the sale of the Bonds are ratified and approved.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 20th day of May, 2019.

2. Consider approval of Refinance of Series 2009 Sales Tax Bonds. Resolution authorizing the Redemption of Outstanding School Infrastructure Sales, Services and Use Tax Revenue Bonds of the Fort Madison Community School District, State of Iowa, Dated December 1, 2009 and Directing Notice be Given.

Board Member Hope introduced the following Resolution entitled "RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE REDEMPTION OF OUTSTANDING SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE SALES, SERVICES AND USE TAX REVENUE BONDS OF THE FORT MADISON COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT, STATE OF IOWA, DATED DECEMBER 1, 2009, AND DIRECTING NOTICE BE GIVEN," and moved its

adoption. Board Member Ross seconded the motion to adopt. The roll was called and the vote was:

AYES: Steffensmeier, Hotop, Ross, Menke, Wondra, Hope, DiPrima

NAYS:  
The President declared the Resolution adopted.

\*\*\*\*\*  
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE REDEMPTION OF OUTSTANDING SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE SALES, SERVICES AND USE TAX REVENUE BONDS OF THE FORT MADISON COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT, STATE OF IOWA, DATED DECEMBER 1, 2009, AND DIRECTING NOTICE BE GIVEN

WHEREAS, the School District did by resolution dated December 7, 2009 authorize the issuance of \$16,290,000 School Infrastructure Sales, Services and Use Tax Revenue Bonds, Series 2009, dated December 1, 2009 (the "Refunded Bonds"); and

WHEREAS, the Refunded Bonds are redeemable in any order of maturity, beginning July 1, 2019, or any date thereafter upon giving notice in the manner provided in the resolution authorizing the issuance of the Refunded Bonds; and

WHEREAS, it is deemed necessary and advisable that \$9,230,000 of the Refunded Bonds maturing annually July 1, 2020 through July 1, 2026, inclusive, and January 1, 2030, as described in Schedule A attached hereto, be so redeemed on July 1, 2019, and notice of redemption be given.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE FORT MADISON COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT, STATE OF IOWA:

Section 1. That outstanding Refunded Bonds in the principal amount of \$9,230,000, be and the same are hereby redeemed as of July 1, 2019.

Section 2. Bankers Trust Company of Des Moines, Iowa in its capacity as Registrar, Paying Agent and Transfer Agent, is hereby authorized and directed to cause notice of such redemption to be given not less than thirty (30) days prior to the date of redemption by ordinary mail to the registered owner of the Refunded Bonds in substantially the form set forth in Schedule B attached to this Resolution. Piper Jaffray & Co., in its capacity as Dissemination Agent, is hereby authorized and directed to file electronic notice of such redemption to the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board at <http://emma.msrb.org/>. All liability for interest

on the Refunded Bonds shall cease, terminate and be completely discharged as of July 1, 2019 for the Refunded Bonds as provided in Section 6 of the Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of the Refunded Bonds.

Section 3. The School Treasurer is hereby authorized and directed to cause to be deposited in a separate fund sum sufficient to pay all principal and interest on the outstanding Refunded Bonds to the date of redemption.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 20th day of May, 2019.

3. Consider approval of proposal for audit services for the 3 Fiscal Years ending June 30, 2019, 2020 and 2021. Secretary Elmore reviewed the proposal process for audit services. Discussion followed. It was moved by DiPrima and seconded by Ross to approve the contract with Nolte, Cornman and Johnson for audit services for the Fiscal Years ending June 30, 2019, 2020, 2021. The motion passed on a 7-0 voice vote.

4. Consider approval for proposal of banking services. Secretary Elmore reviewed the proposal process for banking services. Discussion followed. Secretary Elmore recommended that the banking services for the District be provided by Lee County Bank. Consensus was given to move banking services to Lee County Bank.

VIII. Discussion Items  
A. Director of Curriculum and Student Services  
B. Superintendent.

1. Policies for 1st reading. The Board reviewed Policy 711.2-R-2, 711.6-R, 711.11, 711.13-R, 711.14, 803.1, 803.3. The Board reviewed the policies listed. These policies will be brought back at a later meeting for final approval.

2. Certified Employee Attendance. The certified employee attendance report was accepted as presented.

3. Board Member Attendance. The Board reviewed and discussed the Board member attendance report.

D. Board Secretary/Business Manager.

1. SAVE - Secure an Advanced Education (old 1 cent Sales, Services and Use Tax) Update. The Board received an update on the SAVE legislation that had been recently enacted.

IX. Comments from the audience. There were none.

X. Legislative update. The Board received a legislative update.

XI. Announcements.

June 1 11:00 AM - Graduation, High School

June 19 6:00 PM - Regular Meeting, Board Room, Central Office

July 15 6:00 PM - Regu-



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**PUBLIC NOTICES**

lar Meeting, Board Room, Central Office  
XII. Adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.  
Tim Wondra, Board President  
May 20, 2019  
Sandra Elmore, Board Secretary

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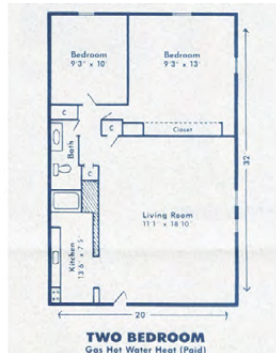
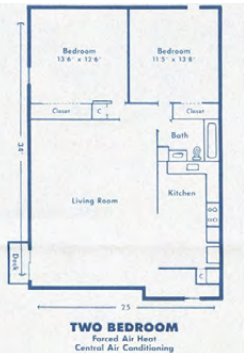
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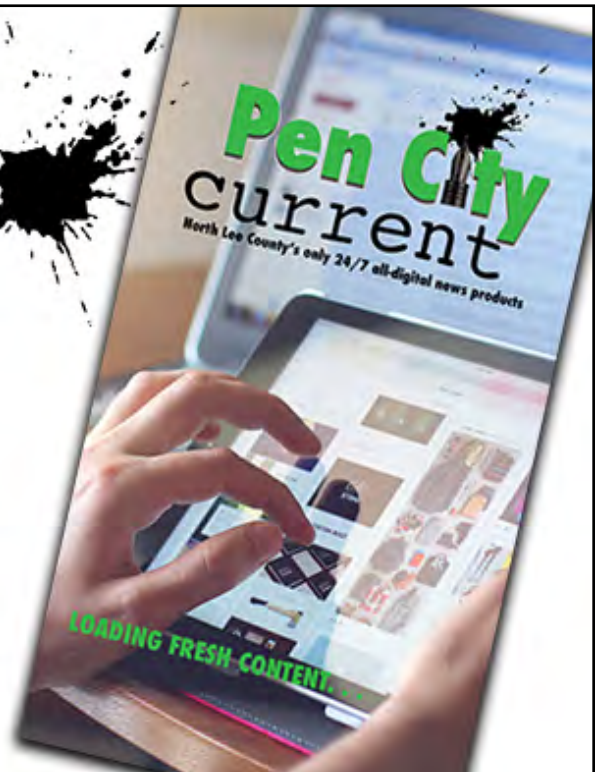
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## From the Front

# Grassley says it's about time Mueller put the investigation to bed

**VISIT** - Continued from Page 1

"Well, it's pretty massive and pretty helpful to American agriculture so you don't have to import so much nitrogen," Grassley said.

"I think the jobs it creates are pretty good paying jobs I would guess. To have a \$3 billion investment in Iowa is a pretty big investment."

With the \$140 million public investment, the largest in Iowa history, Grassley said it was something the state had to do.

"It could be taking money out of one pocket to put it in the other, but let me tell ya, if Iowa didn't do it we wouldn't have any economic development because 49 other states are doing it. So whether it was good idea or not, if you want to be competitive you gotta do it," Grassley said.

Grassley talked about the impact of heavy rainfall and tariffs on agriculture in the state. As a former farmer, Grassley said 92% of Iowans have crop insurance and that, coupled with preventative planting, and an additional \$16 billion in government aid announced last week, farmers do have some options although conditions are not optimal.

He said Trump has gotten further with China on discussions of tariffs than he ever thought he would have.

"This is the first president going to back to Clinton, George W. Bush and Obama that's really gotten tough with China," he said.

But he said Trump is making progress on leveling the playing field with China, and it's just a matter of knowing who you're dealing with and both sides negotiating in good faith.

"We thought we were at the 10-yard line with them and then a couple weeks ago, China moved it back to the 30-yard line," he said.

He also was questioned about workforce and skills gaps. Grassley said current STEM initiatives and a culture change in education could help fill those gaps.

"Many manufacturers in Iowa have told me, 'We've been going down into the high schools and the middle schools to tell people what's available in our community and they said after a few years of doing that they are seeing some success.'"

He also told the group that in his generation, the idea was that if you didn't get a college degree you weren't going to make as much money and have job security.

But he said now only 35% of people going to college end up getting a degree.

"You're just now starting to hear that not everyone's gotta have a college degree. We're waking up to the shortage of the skills we need," he told the group.

The visit took place a few hours after federal investigator Robert Mueller made his first public statements on the final report looking at possible criminal activity of President Donald Trump and his campaign team regarding possible obstruction and Russian collusion activity surrounding the 2016 election.

Grassley said Mueller indicted 25 people and spent two years digging into the issue.

"After two years and \$35 million there was no collusion and no crime, so it's about time it ends," Grassley said.

"Think about the 28 people he indicted. Maybe you can't prosecute a sitting president under rules of the justice department. but if it was so bad he could have made a determination of prosecution and the first day the president leaves the office of the presidency he could have been prosecuted."



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

U.S. Sen. Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa) speaks with employees of the Iowa Fertilizer Company Wednesday as part of his 99-County Tour through Iowa. Grassley talked about workforce, tariffs and agriculture as part of a question and answer session with the group.



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### 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

**This year, do your part to keep our environment clean, too!**



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**From the Front/Weather**

# Effort underway to rename river

**SWARM** - Continued from Page 1

Dan Williams is on a campaign to reclaim the name “Shecaqua” and restore the river to its rightful standing as a dignified, proud watercourse, like the Des Moines and Iowa rivers. He serves on the Board of Directors of Henry County Health Center Foundation and proudly recruits and welcomes new people to the area. Among all the positive attributes of Mt. Pleasant—Iowa Wesleyan University, Henry County Health Center, Midwest Old Threshers—Dan says it’s when you mention the Skunk River that peoples’ faces drop. “We need to change that.”

He has talked to Joe Mitchell, a state representative for Mt. Pleasant, and at 21, the youngest member of the Iowa House of Representatives. Mitchell is enthusiastic. Dan called the Vice President of Iowa Natural Heritage, an organization for protecting and restoring Iowa’s land, water and wildlife. They are very interested. Dan also wants to talk to conservation offices in the 15 counties that the river flows through, and mayors of the towns, such as Ames, Story City, Ellsworth and Kellogg; also Iowa State University. Then there are the unincorporated towns like Rome, Lowell and Augusta. He has talked to Butch Biddle of Butch’s River Rock Cafe at Oakland Mills. Butch is all for it and has offered his cafe as a meet-

ing place for people to discuss reclaiming the “Shecaqua River,” not to be confused with “Chautauqua,” which was an adult education movement in the United States in the early 20th century, and a popular name for parks, clubs and organizations.

Ultimately, renaming the Skunk River is a federal decision. A groundswell of support needs to build through the legislature, news media and social media. Bumper stickers could be made. American Indian Tribes need to be involved, such as when Mt. McKinley was changed to Denali. Dan does not want to be the face of the “Shecaqua Movement,” but already is. He’s used to organizing large projects. Along with another developer



in Mt. Pleasant, they are working on a 53-unit housing development in Mt. Pleasant called Robin Run, named after Dan’s late wife.

Tongue-in-cheek, the organization to Dunk the Skunk might be called, Peoples United—PU.

Have a good story? Call or text Curt Swarm in Mt. Pleasant at 319-217-0526, email him at [curtswarm@yahoo.com](mailto:curtswarm@yahoo.com), or visit his website at [www.empty-nest-words-photos-and-frames.com](http://www.empty-nest-words-photos-and-frames.com).

## 5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

**FRI 31 May**

Light Rain  
High— 77.6° F | Low – 64.3° F

**SAT 01 June**

Moderate Rain  
High— 77.7° F | Low – 61.6° F

**SUN 02 June**

Clear  
High— 68.8° F | Low – 52.3° F

**MON 03 June**

Partly Cloudy  
High— 66.6° F | Low – 54.4° F

**TUE 04 June**

Partly Cloudy  
High— 73.3° F | Low – 69.7° F

[OpenWeatherMap](http://OpenWeatherMap)

**Click for Details**

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