



From the Front..... Ps.11-12,14
Local News.....P.3
Lottery Numbers.....P.3
Opinion.....Ps.11,14
Weather.....P.12

Pen City Current

Monday, August 28, 2017 | 14 pages | Volume 1 • Issue 207

Boulton says Iowa in a battle for its soul

Gov. candidate says 2018 election is critical moment

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR



BOULTON

FORT MADISON - State Sen. Nate Boulton made a stop in Fort Madison Sunday afternoon to pitch for the governor's seat in 2018.

Boulton met with approximately 20 people at Lee County Supervisor Chairman Rick Larkin's house for about an hour. He talked about a variety

of issues, but said the 2018 election cycle will be an election for the "Soul of the Iowa."

State Senator Rich Taylor introduced Boulton saying that Boulton was a candidate that could win in November and doesn't "take crap from anyone".

Boulton is a 37 year old labor attorney and first-



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Fort Madison resident Angela Roller meets with gubernatorial candidate Nate Boulton Sunday afternoon at Lee County Supervisor Chairman Rick Larkin's home, while fellow State Sen. Rich Taylor (left) and Fort Madison's Bob Morawitz look on.

term senator who won his district, which includes east Des Moines and Pleasant Hill, in 2016 with 60% of the vote.

"I think Nate being nice and young will attract those young independents," Taylor said. "I think out of all of our candidates, and we have some good candidates, but I think Nate's the one that

can win in November and we have to have a candidate that can win against, well, I think we know who that will be."

"If you can't get fired up about this kid, you're not going to get fired up about anyone."

Boulton grew up in southeast Iowa in Columbus Junction whose father was a worker at Bandag in

Muscatine.

"I'm proud of my southeast Iowa upbringing and I know what I want to do with that law degree. I want to fight for people like my parents and grandparents."

Boulton spent time before being elected litigating against the Branstad

See VISIT, page 12

"We stepped in when they shut down the mental health facilities in Clarinda and Mt. Pleasant. They shut those down with no vision to replace those lost services. We had people die as a result of that."

State Sen. Nate Boulton
Democratic gubernatorial candidate

Empty Nest: E-clips hard to accept

Isn't it amazing that the moon is exactly the right size and exactly the right distance from the earth to completely block out the light from the sun? Is this happenstance? Me thinks not. Me thinks there is an order and power in the universe far beyond man's ability to comprehend and understand while living.

The day before this solar event, a pastor friend put out an "E-Clips" message advising us to place no religious significance on the eclipse. That's practically impossible for humans to do. Just stating that we should not place significance makes us place it, like the tempting forbidden fruit hanging from the Tree of Knowledge.

Ginnie and I debated whether to drive south into Missouri to observe the eclipse in its totality, like millions of the other umbraphiles (people who love eclipses and travel to see them). After all, we would probably never get this opportunity again in our lifetime. Alas, we had just completed two whirlwind trips to Missouri to help her parents move into assisted living. We were worn out from the trips and needed a rest. We would observe the eclipse, although not a complete one, from the comfort and convenience of our own front yard in SE Iowa.

One of the off-shoots of moving her parents was that Ginnie acquired her parents' seven-foot-tall grandfather clock. (Getting it moved here is a whole other story.) Anywho, we needed to have a clock repairman come to the house to



SWARM

See SWARM, page 11

Incentives a "delicate dance" for officials

Bringing jobs into the state and its communities is somewhere on the list of every person who's in office and every person who's ever run for office. Jobs mean income, an improved quality of life, an increased tax base, and a domino effect on just about every facet of local and state budgets.

Politicians, economic development officials, elected officials, and just about everyone else has their respective toes curled when they hear a large employer is moving within their boundaries.

Apple announced this past week that they were building a large data center C. VANDENBERG in Waukee, a town of about 14,000 just west of Des Moines. Apple, one of the world's richest companies, will get \$20 million from the state and another \$194 million in abatements from the City of Waukee.

Man, that's a lot of money. It's more than Lee County gave Orascom in 2012 to secure the construction of the fertilizer plant south of Wever at a cost of just over

See INCENTIVES, page 14

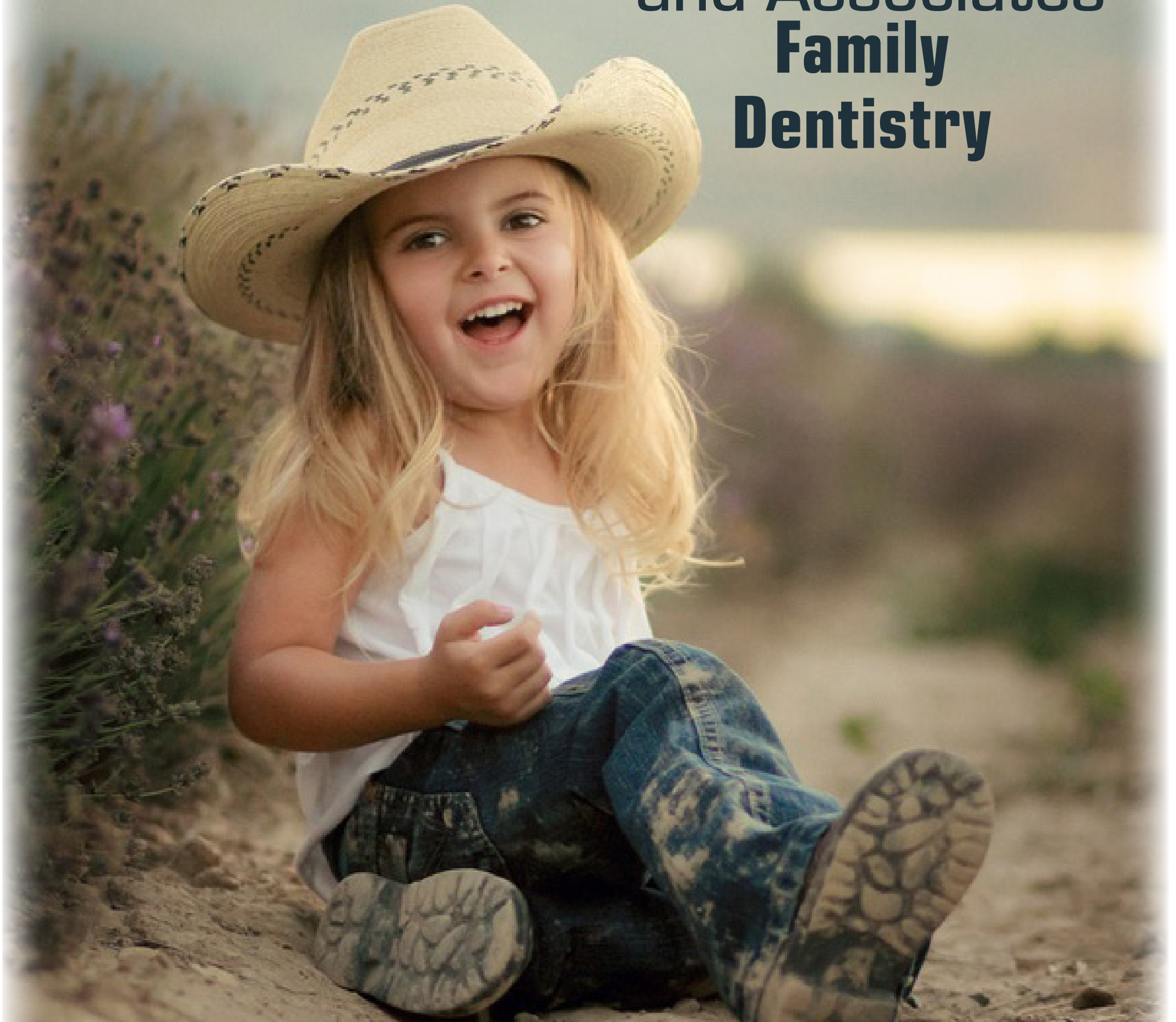
Advertiser Index

Brad's Pad.....P.4
Boulders Inn & Suites
Fort Madison.....P.10
Classifieds.....Ps.8-10
Dollhouse Dreams....P.11
Dr. Mark C. Pothitakis and Associates.....P.2
Eternelle' Beaute' - Sarah Harworth.....P.10
Farm Bureau Financial Services - Larry Holtkamp.....P.7
Farmers Savings Bank.....P.7
Fort Madison Chamber Ladies Golf Outing....P.10
Fort Madison Depot Farmers' Market.....P.10
Fort Madison Eye Clinic.....P.5
Fort Madison Public Library.....P.7
Fullenkamp Insurance.....P.11
Great River Regional Waste Authority.....P.5
Griffin Muffler & Brake Center.....P.6
Hill Side Inn.....P.10
Hope Associates Real Estate.....Ps.7,9
Kempker's True Value Rental.....P.4
KLM Realty.....P.7
Lee County Bank.....P.4
Lee County Health Department.....P.11
MidWestOne Bank.....P.7
Pilot Grove Savings Bank.....P.6
Public Notices.....Ps.8-9
Quarry Creek Elk & Bison.....P.4
River City Motors Plus.....P.14
Scotts Company.....P.3
State Farm - Thomas Klann.....P.10
StopBullying.gov.....P.10
Sunnybrook Assisted Living & Memory Care.....P.14
Team Staffing.....P.8
The Kensington.....P.11
The Madison / Rodeo Park Rehab.....P.10
Trailways Travel.....P.12
Tri-State Rodeo.....P.13
Under the Sun.....P.14
West Liberty Foods.....P.9
West Point Care Center.....P.11
Your Heat & Air guy.....P.12



Show that beautiful smile!

**DR. MARK C. POTHITAKIS
and Associates
Family
Dentistry**



www.drmarkdds.com

**Burlington
Dental Associates
319-753.2515**

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

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

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

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



Local News/Lottery Numbers

Sunday accident sends cyclist to the hospital

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON - A one-vehicle motorcycle accident has sent one man to the Fort Madison Community Hospital with injuries Sunday evening.

Emergency crews were called to the scene at about 6 p.m. The accident happened on a wet turn in the southbound lanes of Hwy 61 just south of 330th Avenue on the north side of Fort Madison.

According to reports the man was thrown when the vehicle lost control. The motorcycle slid another 100 feet or so and the victim, who's name wasn't immediately available, was thrown into the ditch into a clump of trees and brush on the west side of the highway. He was put on a backboard and transported the hospital by Lee County EMS personnel.

Wever Fire & Rescue, Fort Madison Police and the Lee County Sheriff's Department also responded to the accident.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Above, a motorcycle lays in the middle of the highway after it was involved in a one-vehicle accident in the southbound lanes of Hwy 61. The driver was transported to Fort Madison Community Hospital with injuries. At left, rescue personnel tend to the victim near a clump of trees about 40 feet off the roadway.



Scotts Miracle-Gro
is a proud
Gold Level Sponsor of the
Tri-State Rodeo



THE **Scotts Miracle-Gro**
COMPANY
Fort Madison, Iowa



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
Hot Lotto®	Wed & Sat	8:18 pm	9:40 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



8/27 MID-DAY
6 3 6
8/27 EVENING
9 6 5



8/27 MID-DAY
2 7 3 2
8/27 EVENING
9 7 1 4

Pen City Current encourages you to play responsibly.

Charles Vandenberg, Editor
(319).371.1670
editor@pencitycurrent.com

Lee K. Vandenberg, Sales Manager
(319).371.4125
sales@pencitycurrent.com

Copyright © 2016 by Pen City Current
All published materials are property of Pen City Current and cannot be used without express written permission.

Pen City Current
Founded in 2016



P.O. Box 366 | Fort Madison, IA

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

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

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

BRAD'S PAD

Pizza

208 8th St. • West Point, Iowa
319-837-6332 • Open 7 Days A Week @ 11am

23 Specialty Pizza's
Including Our
Famous
Bonny's Special

Beer & Wine



Create your own masterpiece!

Choose from 20 toppings & 3 crust options!

Appetizers • Soups • Salads
Sub Sandwiches • Cheeseburgers •
BBQ Pork Sandwich • Chicken Sandwiches
Fish Patty • Hot Ham & Cheese
Tenderloin Sandwich



Soft Serve Ice Cream
8 Flavor Burst Flavors to Choose From!
Twisters • Shakes • Malts

Dine-In, Carry Out & Delivery Available

CLICK HERE TO JOIN OUR FACEBOOK FAMILY,
CHECK OUT OUR SPECIALS & VIEW OUR MENU!

When Every Second Counts...



You Count On Lee County Bank!

www.leecountybank.com



You'll Thank A Bank Like Us...

801 Avenue F
Fort Madison, IA 52627
2501 Avenue L
Fort Madison, IA 52627
(319) 372-2218
319.372.2243
504 Avenue D
West Point, IA 52656
(319) 837-6262



GET YOUR RODEO ON AT

QUARRY CREEK

ELK & BISON Co.



Receive a FREE Rodeo Ticket for Thursday Night with \$50 purchase of Wrangler Products

Sidewalk Sales

Licensed Cinch® Dealer
Get all your favorite Cinch Boots & Apparel at Quarry Creek!

September 4th thru September 9th
20% to 75% OFF Select Merchandise

Carhartts® 20% Off Apparel (in-stock only)



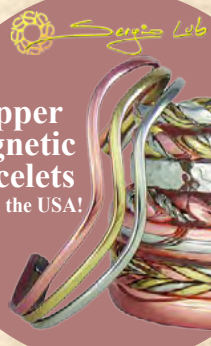
NEW

Cinch®, Justin® & Ariat®
Boots Just Arrived!

Over 2500 pairs in stock to choose from!



Copper Magnetic Bracelets
Made in the USA!



Premium Elk & Buffalo Summer Sausage, Steaks, Roasts, Burgers & More!
High in protein, Low in fat, Great for diets!



Large Selection In Stock!
LIBERTY
Liberty Safe Gives You Peace of Mind!



Now in stock!
Women's Ariat®
Cruiser Shoes!

Located 2 Miles North of Rodeo Park!
1866 303rd Avenue • Ft. Madison, Ia
319-372-8966

Open: Monday - Saturday 9am to 6pm, Sunday 9am to 5pm
www.quarrycreek.com facebook.com/quarrycreek

KEMPKERS

True Value



RENTAL®

In town for the Tri-State Rodeo?
Make a stop at Kempkers!

1904 Avenue H • Fort Madison, Ia • 319.372.3515

Fall Decor is Just Arriving!

At the Fort Madison Store!

Check out our new Yard Statements
Hang on your door OR display in your yard!

Sassafras Rugs • 1803 Candles

Fort Madison Rodeo
Garden Flags

Lots of Newly Displayed Signs
& So Much More!



True Value



RENTAL®

New Name, Same Great Service!

See Kempkers True Value Rental for all your rental needs!

DIY • Construction • Party & Event • Landscaping • & More

Ft. Madison • Mt. Pleasant
Burlington • Grimes



www.kempkerstruevalue.com



Start SAVING even more!

Kempker's True Value Rewards Program!
Join online for FREE!

The most important
Back To School supply:
CLEAR VISION



Back to School Eye Exam Specials
going on now through September 29th!

Complete Eye Care Packages
starting at

\$93.00

includes:

**Select Frames &
Scratch Resistant Lenses**

*See optician for details

OUR SERVICES

- Glaucoma Diagnosis
- Cataract Diagnosis
- Contact Lenses
- Diabetic Eye Diagnosis
- Dry Eye Treatment
- Eye Allergy Treatment
- Eye Infection Treatment
- Eye Injury Treatment
- Family Eye Care
- Frames & Lenses
- Pediatric Eye Care
- Macular Degeneration Diagnosis

and so much more!

Dr. Larry D. Peck, O.D.
3rd Generation Optometrist



*Specializing in
Family Eye Care
and Treatment.*

Schedule your appointment today!

319-372-2321

**716 Avenue G
Fort Madison, IA**



www.fortmadisoneyeclinic.com

 Like us on Facebook!

**Welcome
Tri-State
Rodeo
Fans!**



Please help Great River Regional Waste Authority keep Fort Madison clean and safe during your visit. Trash and Recycling bins have been placed in multiple locations throughout the Rodeo grounds for your convenience. We encourage you to properly dispose of your trash and recycle any materials that can be recycled.

Thank you,
Your friends across the street!



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

Saddled with unexpected auto repairs? Let Griffins get you back on the trail!

Full Service Auto Maintenance & Repair
ASE Certified Technicians
Same Day Service On Most Repairs
24 Month/24K Mile Warranty
Customer Friendly Digital Inspections
Family Owned & Operated for 20 Years!



www.griffinmuffler.com



535 Avenue G
Fort Madison, IA
319-372-2478

Mon - Thurs: 7:30am - 5:30pm
Friday: 7:30am - 5:00pm

 Like us on Facebook!



Pilot Grove Savings Bank welcomes our customers, friends and neighbors to the Tri-State Rodeo. We hope to see you there!

Pilot Grove Savings Bank
welcomes you to visit any
one of our Branch Locations
or ATM's during your stay.
Visit our website for a list of our locations



*Pilot Grove • Houghton • Donnellson • West Point • Mt. Pleasant
Packwood • Winfield • Ft. Madison • Keokuk • Fairfield*

www.pilotgrovesavingsbank.com

Pilot Grove Savings Bank

Toll Free: 800.283.2265

 Equal Housing Lender

Member FDIC

Tri-State Rodeo Grand Champions

FARM BUREAU FINANCIAL SERVICES

Welcome Back Tri-State Rodeo Fans!
Have A Great Time In Fort Madison!



FARM BUREAU FINANCIAL SERVICES



1301 37th Street • Fort Madison, IA 52627
(319) 372-9145

www.larryholtkamp.com

Hours: 9 a.m. - Noon and 1-5 p.m. Monday through Friday

Insurance www.fbfs.com Investments

Securities & services offered through FBL Marketing Services, LLC, University Ave., West Des Moines, IA 50266 877/890-2904, Member SIPC, Farm Bureau Property & Casualty Insurance Company, Western Agricultural Insurance Company, Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company/West Des Moines, IA Affiliates Company providers of Farm Bureau Financial Services M093-ML BC (4-13)



Every Cowboy Needs A Home!

Helping you

find the **perfect** property
- **it's what we do.**

Call us or visit our website to find your perfect property.



KLM REALTY

610 Avenue G, Fort Madison, IA 52627

319-372-1919

Build your favorite memories in the home of your dreams!



View our listings: www.seia.rapmls.com

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

902 Avenue G • Ft. Madison, Ia
319-372-4040

Welcome Tri-State Rodeo Fans



We invite you to
visit one of our
3 locations
or check us out
online:
www.fsbwever.com

Built on Tradition, Trust, and Teamwork



Denmark Branch
319.528.4222

106 Academy • Denmark, Ia
Open at 8:30 Mon. - Fri.



Wever (Main Bank)
319.372.5141

3542 168th St. • Wever, Ia
Open at 8:30 Mon. - Sat.



Burlington Branch
319.752.6200

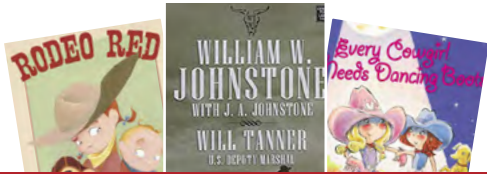
3131 Sunnyside Ave. • Burlington, Ia
Open at 8:30 Mon. - Sat. **FDIC**



Summer may be over
but there's still a lot of
great activities for all
ages at the

**Fort Madison
Public Library!**

Check out our
**September
Calendar of Events**
online by clicking this ad
or call 319-372-5721 for
more information.



FORT MADISON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Connect to our Catalog from your
iPhone or Android device,
visit our website to learn how!

1920 Avenue E | Fort Madison, IA 52627

You're the One[®] we're here for at MidWestOne.



See us for
all of your
banking needs.

Click this ad to
visit us online!



926 Avenue G | Fort Madison, Ia 52627 | 319.372.3991



MidWestOne.com

Member FDIC

Tri-State Rodeo, Fort Madison, IA
September 6-9 • www.tristaterodeo.org

Public Notices/Classifieds

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE
Fort Madison
Community School District
1930 Avenue M
Minutes of the
Regular Meeting
August 21, 2017

I. The meeting was called to order by President Lamb at 6:00 p.m. Directors Young, Wondra, Ross and Hotop were present. Also present were Superintendent Slater, Director of Curriculum and Student Services Harmon and Secretary Elmore. Directors DiPrima and Hope were absent.

II. Recognition of guests. President Lamb 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 for the Fort Madison Community School District.

IV. Monthly communications

A. Curriculum Corner. There was none.

C. Superintendent Goal Report. Superintendent Slater updated the Board on the presentation of goals to all staff of the Fort Madison Community School District. The Board reviewed the goals and how the progress towards meeting the goals will be reported.

V. Approve the agenda. It

was moved by Young and seconded by Wondra to approve the agenda as presented. The motion passed on a 5-0 voice vote.

VI. Consent agenda. It was moved by Wondra and seconded by Ross to approve the consent agenda as presented. The consent agenda consisted of minutes from the July 17, 2017 regular meeting; financial reports for the monthly balance sheet, revenue summary sheet, expenditure report and activity report, accounts payable for the July weekly warrants, August computer warrants, activity warrants and nutrition fund; resignations from Andrea Peterson as Middle School 7/8 math teacher, Chad Hannum as 8th grade football coach, Stan Schmidt as head softball coach, Bob Samuel as bus associate, Robert Weinheimer as bus driver, Robin Harrison as bus driver, Kayla Horner as elementary nurse associate, Goldie Johnsen as High School associate, and Joseph Johnstun as High School associate; employment of Amy Doherty as freshman volleyball coach, Christian Boyer as 7th/8th grade boys basketball coach, Ryan Smith as 8th grade football coach, Kayelyn Hendricks as JV volleyball coach, Dawn Schulte as Middle School cross country coach, Carrie Burken as 8th grade volleyball coach, Coy Dor-

othy as asst. football coach (1/2), Richard Casey Yager as asst. football coach (1/2), Tiffany Fullhart as food service director, and Carol Salladay as bus monitor; and review of the 2016-2017 student transfer report and the 2016-2017 policy revision list. The motion passed on a 5-0 voice vote.

Enter Hope: 6:19 p.m.

VII. Action Items
 A. Director of Curriculum and Student Services.

B. Superintendent.

1. Consider approval of handbooks

a. Teacher handbook. It was moved by Young and seconded by Wondra to approve the Teacher handbook as presented. The motion passed on a 6-0 voice vote.

b. Certified Staff Procedural manual. It was moved by Ross and seconded by Young to approve the Certified staff procedural manual as presented. The motion passed on a 6-0 voice vote.

c. Teamsters Unit 2 Handbook – Custodial and Skilled Trades. It was moved by Wondra and seconded by Young to approve the Teamsters Unit 2 Handbook as presented. The motion passed on a 6-0 voice vote.

d. Teamsters Unit 1 Handbook – Bus Drivers. It was moved by Young and seconded by Hope to approve the Teamsters Unit 1 Handbook as presented. The motion passed on a 6-0 voice vote.

e. Support Staff handbook. It was moved by Young and seconded by Wondra to approve the Support Staff handbook as presented. The motion passed on a 6-0 voice vote.

f. Substitute handbook. It was moved by Young and seconded by Wondra to approve the Substitute handbook as presented. The motion passed on a 6-0 voice vote.

2. Consider approval of salary lists.
 a. AFSCME Associates list. It was moved by Wondra and seconded by Young to approve the AFSCME Associates salary list as presented. The motion passed on a 6-0 voice vote.

b. Unit 1 Bus Drivers. It was moved Hope and seconded by Ross to approve the Unit 1 Bus Drivers salary list as presented. The motion passed on a 6-0 voice vote.

3. Consider approval of policy changes
 a. 210.2 Board Meeting Procedures. It was moved by Wondra and seconded by Hope to approve policy #210.2 as presented. The motion passed on a 6-0 voice vote.

210.2
BOARD MEETING
PROCEDURE
BOARD CALENDAR
 Agenda Guidelines
 This policy acts as a guide for potential Board action. It is not designed as a definitive listing of all activities that the Board may be expected to do, or the exact Board meeting that an item would appear.
 JULY (one meeting)
 Mileage charge established
 Nomination papers-Board positions-election year only
 Approve Legislative Action Priorities

Approve insurance program
 Annual School Lunch Prices
 IASB Dues Renewal
 AUGUST (one meeting)
 File nomination papers - Board positions-election year/vacancy only
 Review list of policy revisions
 Student transfers report
 Approval of handbooks
 1. Personnel
 2. Support Staff
 3. Substitute
 Review annual progress report
 Board self-evaluation and goals
 SEPTEMBER
 Summer project status report
 Review & plan needs assessment
 List of property disposed of
 Building tour
 Annual Meeting (Organizational)
 Approve secretary/treasurer
 Appoint Legislative Network Rep
 Appoint IASB Delegate
 Assembly Rep
 Depository Resolution
 Appointments as follows:

1. School attorney
 2. Affirmative action officer
 3. Asbestos coordinator
 4. Iowa Educators Benefit Program Trustee
 5. Title, ADA & 504 coordinator
 6. Level I investigator
 7. Compliance Officer
 8. Reconsideration committee
 9. Bus driver drug testing program
 Retiring Board meeting- old Board member adjourn – new Board Organization meeting
 Establish meeting schedule
 SEPTEMBER – (cont'd.)
 Elect officers

Preliminary Enrollment Count report
 Appointments as follows:
 1. County Conference Board
 2. Negotiations Committee
 3. Calendar Committee
 4. Vocational Program Representative
 5. Facilities study committee
 6. SIAC representative
 7. Audit committee
 8. FMCS Foundation Steering Committee representative
 OCTOBER
 Curriculum report
 Fall data
 Official enrollment Plan for American Education Week
 Building tour
 Approve Certified Annual Report
 Annual Transportation Report
 Food Service Update
 NOVEMBER
 Curriculum report
 Building tour
 Special education count
 Board Goal update
 Building Principals Report
 Pupil/Teacher Ratio Report
 SBRC Application Approval
 Tech Plan Presentation- 5 Year Plan
 Review CASA every 5 years
 At Risk Application
 Title I Application
 Facilities Report
 DECEMBER
 Bus specification approval
 Bus bids let
 IASB Convention report
 Building Principals Report
 Approve at-risk application
 JANUARY
 Curriculum reports
 Legislative report
 Accept bus bids
 Building tour
 Start superintendent evaluation
 Building Principals Report
 FEBRUARY
 Curriculum reports
 Update vehicle replacement cycle & plan
 Establish budget hearing date & presentation of budget
 Approve school calendar
 Building tour
 Winter MAP Test results
 Truancy Report
 MARCH
 Building tour
 Summer capital project specifications
 Review student achievement data
 Superintendent goals approved
 Superintendent contract approved
 Board Goal update
 APRIL
 Proposed budget published
 Budget hearing
 Approve certified budget

WHERE

Foam Fabricators
100 Formad Ind Dr.
Fort Madison, IA 52627

TIME

10:00am - 2:00pm

JOB FAIR

AUG 31ST

08.31.17

Plant Tours

ABOUT THE EVENT

Team Staffing will be holding a job fair at Foam Fabricators on August 31 at 10am. There will be plant tours, refreshments, on site interviews and multiple giveaways!!

We Place
People First

NOW HIRING

for the following positions:

<p>Press Operators All shifts available \$8.75+/Hr. Fort Madison, IA</p> <p>Packer 1st Shift \$10.00/Hr. Hamilton, IL</p>	<p>Marketing 1st Shift Pay Based on Experience Fort Madison, IA</p> <p>Packer 1st and 2nd Shift \$9.00/Hr. (with potential to increase) Fort Madison, IA</p>
<p>Packer All Shifts Available \$10.00/Hr. - \$10.50/Hr. Keokuk, IA</p>	

APPLY IN PERSON OR ONLINE TODAY!

Team Staffing Solutions is an Equal Opportunity employer!

CONTACT US TODAY!

www.teamssi.com

319-246-1294
4502 Avenue O
Ft. Madison, Ia

Like Us On Facebook!

Public Notices/Classifieds

PUBLIC NOTICES

Curriculum reports
Employee contract termination - RIF
Approve summer project bids
Approve annual audit
Set district goals
Set annual improvement goals (CASA)
Kindergarten round-up and enrollment projections
Approve athletic handbook
MAY
CLC report
Building improvement plan progress reports
Iowa Assessment Report
JUNE
Food Service report
List of graduates
Food bids
Establish food service prices
Establish textbook /other fees
Truant Office report
End of Year Data
Spring MAP Test results
Approve list of contracts to be issued
Approve Building Handbooks
Adopted: April 2, 1981
Amended: December 2, 1982; January 5, 1985; March 5, 1987; January 21, 1993; May 18, 2000; April 18, 2002; August 15, 2002; November 10, 2008; November 16, 2009; October 15,

2012, March 16, 2015, August 21, 2017
Reviewed: 2017
Legal Reference:
4. Consider approval of the modification of the Middle School Principal's Contract. It was moved by Wondra and seconded by Ross to approve the modification of the Middle School Principal's Contract. The motion passed on a 6-0 voice vote.
5. Consider personnel matters. There were none.
C. Board Secretary/Business Manager.
1. Consider approval of Bread and Milk Bids. It was moved by Young and seconded by Hotop to approve the milk bid from Anderson Erickson and the bread bid from Bimbo Bakeries USA as presented. The motion passed on a 6-0 voice vote.
VIII. Discussion Items
A. Director of Curriculum and Student Services
B. Superintendent.
C. Board Secretary/Business Manager.
1. Board Candidates. The Board reviewed the list of candidates.
IX. Comments from the audience. There were none.
X. Legislative update. There was none.
XI. Announcements.
All district employee meeting, High School MPR,

August 18, 8:00 a.m.
Next workshop, September 11, 6:00 p.m.
Next regular meeting, September 25, 6:00 p.m.
IASB annual convention, November 15-17, Des Moines
XII. Adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m.
President
Date
Secretary

PUBLIC NOTICE
Meeting Notice
City of Fort Madison
Planning and Zoning Commission
Will Meet On
Tuesday, August 29, 2017,
6:00 p.m.
At the Council Chambers, City Hall, 811 Ave. E
To discuss the following
AGENDA
1. Roll Call
2. Approval of minutes 8/22/17 meeting
3. Non-agenda item comments
4. Review of a plat of survey for John and Stephanie Warner within 2 miles of City Limits.
5. Old Business: None.
6. Other/New Business
7. Adjournment

Place your ad online 24/7

HELP WANTED

Now Hiring Press Operators in Fort Madison

Team Staffing Solutions is now hiring for Press Operators. All shifts are available. \$8.75 per hour. Apply in person at Team Staffing Solutions, 4502 Avenue O, Fort Madison, IA 52627 or online at www.teamsssi.com. Team Staffing Solutions is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



Now Hiring Multiple Packer Positions Ft. Madison, Keokuk & Hamilton

Team Staffing Solutions is now hiring for Packers in Fort Madison, Keokuk and Hamilton. All shifts are available. \$9.00 - \$10.50 per hour, some positions available with pay increase potential. Apply in person at Team Staffing Solutions, 4502 Avenue O, Fort Madison, IA 52627 or online at www.teamsssi.com. Team Staffing Solutions is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



Now Hiring 1st Shift Marketing Position in Ft. Madison

Team Staffing Solutions is now hiring for a 1st shift Marketing position in Fort Madison. Pay is based on experience. Apply in person at Team Staffing Solutions, 4502 Avenue O, Fort Madison, IA 52627 or online at www.teamsssi.com. Team Staffing Solutions is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



Bus Drivers Needed

We are currently in need of bus drivers for athletic events and occasional daytime trips. Pay is \$16.00 an hour. Drivers will need to have all standard CDL licensing requirements for driving a school bus. If interested, please contact John Goetz at the Jr./Sr. High - john.goetz@holyltrinityschools.org or 319-372-2486 x2.

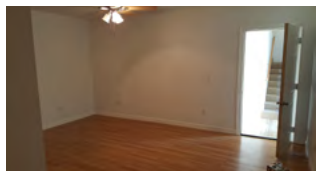


Sunshine Child Care is now hiring for a part time/full time position. We are looking for a fun, outgoing, energetic individual who loves working with kids to join our team. Apply within at 210 8th St West Point or call 319-837-6966 and talk to Stephanie for more information.



RENTALS

APARTMENT FOR RENT



Downstairs, 2 bdrm in downtown Fort Madison. Washer & dryer included, security cameras throughout property, off-street parking. No smoking, \$500 deposit, \$800 rent- includes all utilities except cable/Internet. Call or text (319)371.7753.

EVEN BIGGER
hello, opportunities.

choose your career at West Liberty Foods

One of North America's fastest growing food processing companies has immediate openings for highly motivated individuals to join their team!

IMMEDIATE INTERVIEWS EVERY TUESDAY 9AM-3PM
GET A RAISE BEFORE YOU EVEN GET STARTED!

2nd Shift – Slicer Technicians

Leadership AND maintenance and/or machine operator experience
Pay: ~~\$16.67 per hour plus \$0.30 shift differential~~
Pay: \$17.17 per hour plus \$0.30 shift differential

2nd Shift – General Production

Positive attitude and excellent attendance demonstrated by a solid work history
Pay: ~~\$11.50 per hour plus \$0.30 shift differential~~
Pay: \$11.85 per hour plus \$0.30 shift differential

Competitive benefits package includes health, vision, life, and dental insurance, employee discounts, matching 401k. Plus paid holidays and vacation effective first day of employment.

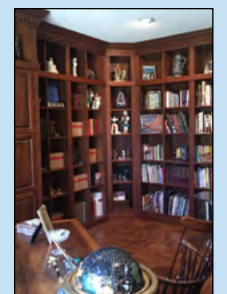
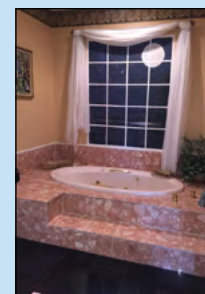
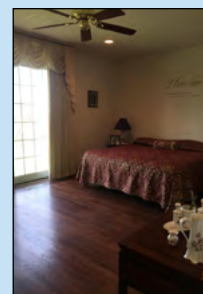


Apply online at <http://careers.wlfoods.com>

Equal Opportunity Employer

Home OF THE WEEK

15 15th Street Fort Madison, Iowa



3 bedroom, 4 bath, 3 car garage

Splendor in the woods...with privacy...AND a view...AND an AMAZING home. Call today on this brick beauty perched atop a hill overlooking Ft. Madison with a view of the Mississippi River and almost 6 acres of ground (could have another home). Offered RE 3 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths, a formal living and dining room, a large great room/kitchen/breakfast room combo and a study/den that is impeccably appointed with beautiful cherry cabinetry and bookshelves lining the walls. All of this with STUNNING hardwood floors (except living room and dining room). The chef's kitchen overlooks the open great room and offers all the bells and whistles. The large master has 2 large walkin closets, a separate dressing room, a glass shower and large whirlpool tub. Adjacent to this is the oversized laundry room (washer and dryer negotiable). The amenities are too many to list, but dont miss out on this beautiful home offering top-of-the-line features throughout, call your favorite realtor today!!

Click here to see all the pictures & to learn more.

\$435,000
Listing #20166968

(319) 372-4040 • 903 Avenue G • Fort Madison • www.scia.rapmls.com



There are hundreds of great listings in the area and we can show all of them to you.
Give us a call today or click here to search them!

Classifieds

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 MADISON

319-372-8021 | 1702 41st Street, Fort Madison, IA

You're worthless.

You don't see bullying like this every day.
 Your kids do.

Teach your kids how to **be more than a bystander.**

Learn how at StopBullying.gov

Ad Council | WPI QUALITY INSTITUTE

FREE TO BE... YOU AND ME
 FREE TO BE ORGANIZATION INC.

Buy Local Buy Fresh

Every Monday at the Ft. Madison Depot Farmers Market!

FRESH FRUITS & VEGETABLES
HOMEMADE PASTRIES & PIES
 & so much MORE!

RAIN OR SHINE!

Located in the Ft. Madison Depot Parking Lot at 814 10th Street

Click here for more details!

Have Questions? Call 319-372-5471

Follow us on Facebook



Save for a rainy year.

Thomas Klann RICP LTCP LUTCF, Agent
 State Farm Agent
 2623 Avenue L
 Fort Madison, IA 52627
 Bus: 319-372-5982

Get a 11 Month CD FDIC-insured CD
1.25% APY*
 Set aside money with a fixed rate of return. I'll be there to show you rates and terms that can help you reach your goal.
Bank with a Good Neighbor®.
 CALL FOR MORE INFORMATION.

State Farm Bank®

*Annual Percentage Yield as of 06/28/17. Advertised rates are subject to change at the Bank's discretion. The minimum balance required to earn the stated APY is \$500 (rates apply to deposits less than \$100,000). A penalty may be imposed for withdrawals prior to maturity. Special Term CDs renew automatically into the next highest Standard Term CD. Some products and services not available in all areas. FDIC basic coverage amount is \$250,000 per depositor, per insured bank, for each ownership category. IRA and ESB CDs are not available for terms less than 12 months. Callers who are hearing or speech impaired should dial 711 or use a preferred Telecommunications Relay Service.

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

Hill Side Inn

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

WEEKLY SPECIALS!

Tue - Men's Cuts \$10
 Wed - Free Trim w/ Color Service
 Thur - \$10 Off Full Hi-Light
 Fri - 20% Off Any 2 Services
 Sat - Kid's Cuts \$12
 *Specials Valid with Sarah Only!



Sarah Harworth
 Cosmetologist

Call Sarah: 319-371-0637 for an appointment

Eternelle's Beaute' Full Service Salon
 1302 Ave. G • Ft. Madison, Ia

Shawna Ross, Sales & Marketing Consultant
 sross@pencitycurrent.com
 319.470.0622



Fort Madison's 24/7 All Digital Source for News & Advertising • www.pencitycurrent.com

Nissa Rung, Sales & Marketing Consultant
 n.rung@pencitycurrent.com
 319.520.8953



Fort Madison's 24/7 All Digital Source for News & Advertising • www.pencitycurrent.com

Elevated Comfort.

"I keep coming back! The beds are amazing and the staff is fabulous!"
 - Mark M.



BOULDERS INN & SUITES

We are expanding! 78 Rooms with choices to fit all your needs!
 Now taking reservations for Fishing Tournaments, Sporting Events and the Annual Tri-State Rodeo!



Boulders Inn & Suites
 Fort Madison, Iowa
 4901 Ave O
 Fort Madison, IA 52627
 Tel: 319-246-1401
www.bouldersinnandsuites.com
 Email: info@bouldersinnfortmadison.com

Like us on Facebook!

tripadvisor

Subscribe to #PCC today

Free and Paid Options Available.



Pen City current

6th Annual Ladies Golf Outing

Sheaffer Memorial Golf Course
 September 22nd, 2017
 Registration: 3:00 PM • Tee Off: 4:00 PM
 Contact the Fort Madison Chamber of Commerce for more details.
 319-372-5471 • chamber@fortmadison.com • 614 9th St. Ft. Madison, Ia

Click this ad to register your team (space is limited)



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Sponsored By:



HOLTKAMP'S
 FLOORS DECOR & FURNITURE

From the Front

A welding mask and cereal box made day

SWARM - Continued from Page 1

get the clock set up. Wouldn't you know it, he came the morning of the eclipse.

The "visitation" by the clock repairman was sort of surrealistic. He drove an hour to get here, spent an hour adjusting and balancing the Sligh (pronounced "Sley") Clock, and then took off, thanking us for the "fun" he'd had. No charge. He said he gave away one free clock adjustment per month, money wasn't everything, and we were it. He also advised us to do something nice for someone else. Ginnie and I were flabbergasted, but we did do something nice for another person that day. We gave away a mess of garden string beans to a friend.

It was time for The Eclipse. I got out my welding mask and Ginnie made a viewer from a cereal box. We sat in

the front yard, like two kids at the movies, and had a wonderful time. The only thing missing was popcorn, so we shared a Snickers bar. Vehicles rolled by on Highway 34 and honked their horns. We waved back.

Immediately following the Eclipse, a fierce wind came up out of the south, blowing our lawn chairs over. We scrambled to pick up our things and wondered if there was any significance to the unexpected wind.

Earlier that day, at morning chores, I had noticed one of our pullets making signs that she wanted to nest, or lay an egg. After The Eclipse, I went out to check for eggs. Lo-and-behold, there were two brown eggs, one small egg and one oblong larger egg. Had The Eclipse had anything to do with getting our first eggs from our

spring pullets? Hmm.

Not able to contain myself, I cracked the eggs. The larger oblong egg was a double-yolker! Praise be to God in the highest! Ginnie and I fried the eggs up in butter, sat right down, and enjoyed our first farm-fresh eggs. The bright orange yolk reminded me of the sun on this day of The Eclipse.

Tell me again that there is no significance to the moon blocking out the sun.

By the way, Ginnie and I highly recommend the movie, "Wind River," starring Jeremy Renner.

Have a good story? Call or text Curt Swarm in Mt. Pleasant at 319-217-0526, email him at curtswarm@yahoo.com or find him on [Facebook](#). Curt's stories are also read at 106.3 FM in Farmington.



Making memories for tomorrow...

The Kensington is devoted to making each day special for residents and their families. Our team focuses on helping residents make the memories they want to make and help provide life residents experiences to remember!

- ~ Personalized programs and family events
- ~ Day Trips & Shopping Trips
- ~ Festival & Fair Trips
- ~ Annual Traditional Events
- ~ Friends & Family Gatherings
- ~ And so much more!

Learn about all our services online:
www.kensington-evergreen.com

319-372-4233
2210 Ave H, Fort Madison, IA 52627
We welcome you to
Join our Facebook Family!



FULLENKAMP Insurance Agency, Inc

Since 1963

Proud to provide exceptional service and professional excellence.



**AUTO • HOME • FARM • LIFE
BUSINESS • BONDS • ANNUITIES
HEALTH • DISABILITY CARE
LONG TERM CARE**


Call one of our licensed agents today for all of your insurance needs!

307 5th Street
West Point, IA 52627
319-837-6178 • 800-292-2208

www.fullenkampins.com

LEE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Touching the Community with Care





How can we help you?

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.

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

#3 John Bennet Drive • PO Box 1426
Fort Madison, IA


 (319)372-5225 or (800)458-5572
www.leecountyhd.org


dollhouse dreams

THE ONLY MINIATURE SHOPPE IN IOWA

Shop Online at www.dollhousedreams.com




Build A Bear
Melissa & Doug



EST. 2016

Under New Management




Hand Scooped Ice Cream
Old Fashioned Fountain Drinks
Panini's • Kids Meals
Homemade Desserts & Coffees

820 Ave. G Ft. Madison, Ia
877-875-6500
Open: Tues thru Sat 9am to 6pm
www.dollhousedreams.com
LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

When it comes time to retire your favorite boots let West Point Care Center help bring you comfort.

- ~ Long Term Nursing Care
- ~ Short Term Rehabilitation
- ~ Respite Care, Skilled Nursing
- ~ End of Life Care

- ~ On-site Therapy Room
- ~ High Staff to Resident Ratio
- ~ Individualized Care Plans
- ~ Daily Recreational Activities
- ~ Home Cooked Meals
- ~ Private & Semi-Private Rooms

Call to schedule a private tour and assessment today!



WEST POINT CARE CENTER

"Where Care is at the Heart of what we do!"

319-837-6117 • 607 N. 6th St. • West Point, Ia

Members of the Iowa Health Care Association and American Health Care Association

From the Front/Weather

5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

MON 28 Aug



Light rain
Low – 60.3° F | High – 75.3° F

TUE 29 Aug

scattered clouds
Low – 64.9° F | High – 75.5° F

WED 30 Aug



Sunny
Low – 60.8° F | High – 77.3° F

THU 31 Aug



Light Rain
Low – 67.0° F | High – 79.7° F

FRI 1 Sept



Moderate Rain
Low – 66.5° F | High – 73.9° F

[OpenWeatherMap](#)

Boulton said fully funding education a top priority

VISIT - Continued from Page 1

Reynolds Administration at the Iowa Supreme Court over issues of mental health facility closures. “We stepped in when they shut down the mental health facilities in Clarinda and Mt. Pleasant. They shut those down with no vision to replace those lost services. We had people die as a result of that.”

He also, along with a group of attorneys, challenged the administration when they shut down a juvenile home in Toledo, Iowa, a lockdown facility for adolescent at-risk girls and challenged a decision to close Iowa Workforce Centers.

“That was in 2012 when it was the hardest because they had just appointed three supreme court justices. The administration got out the veto pad and shut down those facilities and the funding for the facilities.

“They shut those down

to underemployed Iowans who needed those services. They didn’t just veto the funding, but vetoed the restriction on the funding and we scored a unanimous supreme court decision. So I’m here to tell you the Branstad-Reynolds machine can be defeated and we will do it again in 2018.”

Boulton said public schools have been defunded for the past seven years in a row, the administration went into counties who had lifted the minimum wage and lowered it back down.

“This is an agenda that is hurting Iowa and Iowans,” he said. “I was proud to stand with Rich Taylor and other senate Democrats and fight this every step of the way.”

He said that without education reform we run the risk of teachers leaving the state. A discussion with teachers held after

the collective bargaining bill was passed, had teachers asking Boulton how they undo what had just been done.

“We have to look at getting and keeping the best and brightest into that profession. We have to be competitive and if we don’t have a system that prioritizes education we’re going to see teachers leaving for other states. We need to fully fund education and make sure we can recruit the next generation of teachers into this state. That’s an Iowa value and it should be our first and foremost priority.”

Boulton said Iowa is a national leader in renewable energy and that’s starting to show results. He said 1/3 of the state’s energy comes from renewable sources, but he said 50% should be a goal in Iowa by 2025.

“We need to be ready

to make that transition. We can invest in rural and midsize economies in this state, not in individual private companies with millions of dollars for short-term limited goals.”

He said Governor Kim Reynolds has been visibly trying to distance herself from the Branstad administration as the election cycle heats up.

“She was a full partner in creating this mess. She was right there by his side and we’re gonna make sure that Iowa voters don’t forget about that,” he said.

“I think this election is about the soul of our state. We cannot let this hurtful agenda be carried on after the 2018 election. We won’t want this to carry on because they’ll finish everything they’ve started, collective bargaining, IPERS, workers compensation, they’ll finish everything they’ve started.”

Follow Us
@pencitycurrent



OUR CREW
WELCOMES
YOU TO THE
2017
TRI-STATE
RODEO

Visit us Online:

www.yourheatandairguy.com

Like us on Facebook!

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



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



Never Shiver, Don't Sweat Just Call



Pull out your cowboy or cowgirl duds and join the action! Stay right in downtown Nashville at the Hilton Garden Inn Downtown where you can easily get to the heart of all the action of Music City. Visit the Country Music Hall of Fame, celebrating 50 years, at your leisure when you want.

This is such a perfect time to visit Nashville with it not being as crowded as during CMA Fest, but you still have the opportunity to spot stars on the streets. Enjoy three nights to explore the honky tonks and restaurants in downtown Nashville and Lower Broadway on your own. During CMA week, you never know who might jump up on an available stage and sing a few of their songs! Or, you might choose to go online and purchase tickets for the Grand Ole Opry for Tuesday evening at the Ryman Auditorium, also known as “the Mother Church”.

On CMA day, you may want to stake out your area along the Red Carpet to watch the stars as they arrive with a perfect photo opportunity if positioned well. And then it is time for the “Big Show” where you will feel like one of the stars with **RESERVED SEATS IN THE LOWER LEVEL** of the Bridgestone Arena in downtown Nashville for the 51st Annual CMA Awards Show! It’s fun to see how the stages are set up and all of the “behind the scenes” things that go on during the TV commercial break times.

TOUR INCLUDES:

- Deluxe Roundtrip Motorcoach Transportation // On-board Friendly Host
- Hotel Accommodations at Hilton Garden Inn // Downtown Nashville
- Country Music Hall of Fame
- Reserved seats in the Lower Level for the 2017 CMA Music Awards Show at the Bridgestone Arena // Nashville, TN

DOUBLE \$1470 PP / \$20 CLUB MEMBERSHIP DISCOUNT

(DEPOSIT IS NON-REFUNDABLE)

\$500 DEPOSIT / PIF 9-18-2017



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

TRI-STATE

RODEO

70TH

ANNUAL

SEPTEMBER 6-9, 2017

Fort Madison, IA



Thur., Sept. 7

PRCA

Rodeo Action

followed by

Cody Johnson

Country Artist



Wed., Sept. 6

CINCH Shootout

The best cowboys
in the country
competing for
\$120,000
in prize money

Fri., Sept. 8

PRCA

Rodeo Action

with

Smash Mouth

rocking the stage

Sat., Sept. 9

PRCA

Rodeo Action

followed by

Jon Pardi

Award-winning country star

**Get Your Tickets Now
at www.tristaterodeo.org
or click this ad**



**Or call 800-369-3211
or 319-372-2550**

Opinion

Local officials weigh in on corporate incentive trends

INCENTIVES - Continued from Page 1

\$2 billion. The Apple Data Center planned for that area carries a \$1.4 billion price tag. But many Democrats are clamoring for leadership change and a cap on the incentives that are being paid to bring these jobs into the state and its counties.

I spoke with Iowa 2018 gubernatorial candidate Nate Boulton on Sunday afternoon to get his take on what he calls "corporate coupons" the state is using to attract business. I also spoke with State Senator Rich Taylor and Fort Madison Mayor Brad Randolph about balancing the value of landing these types of employers while at the same time being good stewards of public funds.

Boulton said he didn't think the state should do away with all tax credits because it does keep us competitive with other states, but he said the current system isn't working.

"There are certain technology credits that we need to keep with regard to cutting-edge technologies because that keeps Iowa competitive, he said. "But we have to get out of this transactional system where we give a certain number of dollars for a certain number of jobs, because the ratios are way out of whack and there's no promise for growth," Boulton said.

"In some cases we're even bringing in competition for our good long-term employers - companies that are already providing good jobs. I think the first thing the state legislature needs to start looking at is caps on these credits and exemptions so we aren't in situations where the incentives end up being four times as expensive as originally intended."

Boulton said there also needs to be accountability in the system so if the credit isn't resulting in the jobs or wages that were part of the agreement then governmental agencies would have a sunset or other ways to get out of it.

He said the state needs to get back to focusing on providing what these companies need in the way of skilled labor resources.

"We need to focus on getting back to emphasizing what attracts these companies and that's quality of life and a skilled work force. If we have that, we're going to be competitive without being the lowest bidder - because there's always going to be a lowest bidder," Boulton said.

Randolph said that Fort Madison's basic economy

is strong, and he believes in the potential of economic incentives to a point.

"You always have to look at the employers we have as far as retail, industry, and commercial that have been part of the Fort Madison fabric and framework for years. They are great employers for our community and have been great community partners," he said. "We tend to take that group for granted - those companies that are paying taxes, employing our residents and contributing to our community in a ton of different ways like payroll, payroll taxes, and all those things that go with being an employer.

He said most of the time it's easier to help or entice an existing building to expand, than it is to try to attract a new one, but he said the city, and its various economic development groups, stand at the ready when a potential customer shows interest in the area.

Randolph mentioned a previous negotiation with a company that wanted to locate in Fort Madison, but was demanding a 100% rebate on their property taxes over 20 years as an incentive to build in the Fort Madison city limits.

"I have some trepidation probably in giving out incentives because I look at the businesses and individuals that are here contributing. Then I look at a new possibility and you're going to give it all away to a new business and we're paying the taxes. We decided we couldn't do it because I had to hold the line. At some point you have to look at what impact it will have on the city.

"Sometimes we think that we're always looking for the next big catch. I think we've done a pretty decent job of still being ready when there's a potential of someone locating here. We've been quick reacting and business friendly that way, but we need to understand that it's easier to expand an existing business than entice a new one. Having said that, we always try to build on what we have. Competition is extremely tough and every community has a similar set of incentives to offer.

State Senator Rich Taylor said recent incentives are just too much to be giving out.

"We have to have a change of leadership. We can no longer follow this path of ignoring the problems that help loans in favor of corporate tax welfare. We're ignoring the needs of the people and giving handouts to corporations. It just has to stop," he said.

"We gave Apple \$213 million in abatements. That

means if we hire those 50 people and pay each one of them \$150,000 per year for 30 years, that's in essence what we've given away. It's too much and we're not doing our homework. And we have the resources that they're looking for. The young people that are getting themselves well educated to take these jobs. We have the land, the renewable energy - we have things to offer other than these large incentives and corporate charity."

"It's a delicate dance in an effort to get wins and you can't be shortsighted. At what cost do you 'win'?", Randolph said.

He said Fort Madison has used Tax Increment Financing, which is an incentive that, in a nutshell, allows the business developing or redeveloping property in a district to keep the property taxes on the improved property for a certain number of years to help offset the costs of the improvements. There are some nuances in the system, but basically the property taxes for a certain amount of time, typically 20 years, are abated.

Some instances such as the Iowa Fertilizer Plant have resulted in a payment in lieu of taxes at a much discounted rate, through the TIF or incentive period. Governmental bodies are getting creative with TIF models and use them on almost all development. Recent projects in Fort Madison, including Boulders Inn and the soon-to-open Fareway Grocery, received abatement incentives and, in some cases, cash to locate here and in Boulder's case, expand in Fort Madison.

Randolph said those deals can be complicated. But incentives used for Siemens worked very well for the city because the incentives were paid off early and now more of the Siemens real property taxes are landing in city and county coffers for public improvements.

Well, as the song goes, "It's tricky." We all love to see progress, but it's impressive that we have someone giving a balanced look at how these incentives impact our communities. It's also impressive that, at one point, we just said no. There are no guarantees. There's no guarantee that the fertilizer plant will be functional in 20 years and we would have lost those property tax dollars, but in the same breath you have to consider they - and Boulders - and Fareway - and Siemens, for that matter, may not have even been here to begin with.

It's tricky.



RIVER CITY MOTORS Plus
FT. MADISON, IOWA

BUYING A PRE-OWNED VEHICLE HAS NEVER BEEN BETTER

24 Hour Towing Service

River City Motors Plus, Inc.

(319) 372-6959

715 13th Street

Fort Madison, IA 52627

www.rivercitymotorsplus.com



Kick up your Boots & Enjoy the Rodeo!

We welcome you to stop by and say "Hi" during your visit to Ft. Madison!

Sunny Brook
ASSISTED LIVING & MEMORY CARE
FT. MADISON

5025 River Valley Road
Fort Madison, IA. 52627
(319) 372-8611
www.sunnybrookftmadison.com



End of Summer CLEARANCE Sale

50% Off & More Spring & Summer Florals
includes: Stems, Candle Rings & Garlands

50% Off Scarves, Jewelry & Handbags

50% Off Select Flameless & Luminara Candles

20% Off Greenery, Lanterns & Vases

40% Off Coloring Books, Pens & Markers

UNDER THE SUN
"Where the Unique is the Ordinary"
739 Avenue G
Ft. Madison
(319) 372-2828
Monday - Saturday
10:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Celebrating 40 Years in Business
Final Sales Going on Now at **The Avenue**
in Downtown Ft. Madison!