

Pen City Current

Tuesday, January 2, 2018 | 9 pages | Volume 2 • Issue 15

2017 - A Year in Review

September & October

Police arrest FM man after Sunday shooting

Witnesses help police with description of vehicle leading to arrest of 37-year-old

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - The Fort Madison took a FM into custody after an alleged shooting incident on Sunday evening.

Fort Madison Police Chief Tim Sittig released a statement Monday morning regarding the incident which took place in the 1100 block of Avenue E.

Police officers were on the scene until about 9 p.m. Sunday night investigating the area of the shooting.

Sittig indicated the following statement is all the information that will be released at this time.

On Sunday at approximately 7:40 p.m. officers were dispatched to the area on a report of shots being fired.

Upon arrival, officers located a number of witnesses who advised the possible person firing the shots had left the area in a black, Lincoln LS. Officers located one spent shell casing from the scene. There is no indication at this time that anyone was struck by any rounds fired from the gun.

According to witnesses there was some type of argument taking place between the alleged person who fired the shots and another person. This other person was on scene for a very short time and then left, at this time he has not been questioned.

The alleged person who fired the gun has been identified as Russell K Kutcher, 37, of Fort Madison. Kutcher has been questioned and charged and is currently at the Lee County Jail facing the following criminal charges;

Disorderly Conduct a simple misdemeanor

Wreckless Use of a firearm a simple misdemeanor

Aggravated Assault an aggravated misdemeanor

Carrying Weapons an aggravated misdemeanor

Going Armed with Intent a class D felony

Possession of a Firearm by a Felon a class D felony

Sitting said the shooting appears to isolated incident and there is no threat to the community.

#1

Originally published
September 19, 2017

Looking back on 2017

Editors Note:

As the year comes to a close, it is customary to look back at the stories that affected us throughout the year. Being an all-digital newspaper with multiple social media channels, we have many avenues to consider when deciding to review the year behind us.

We chose to feature the Top 10 Best Read news articles from our website pencitycurrent.com and the Top 10 Facebook posts that impressed the most readers from each month.

Each issue of 2017 - A Year in Review will feature two months of these stories as they originally appeared.

These stories touched thousands of lives this year, whether they were heartbreaking or heartwarming, good news or bad.

We hope you enjoy looking back on the year with us as we usher in a new year filled with new stories. You can rest assured Pen City Current will be reporting those stories in a factual, unbiased way in the manner you've become accustomed to - whether you're reading them on our website, on our mobile app, in our e-Edition, or in any of our social media channels.

We thank you for your patronage and wish you a peaceful new year.

#2

Originally published
September 24, 2017

Arrest made in Indian Path murder case

Suspect sentenced Thursday on federal gun charges, then first-degree murder charges filed on Friday in Lee County

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - A Burlington man who was being held in Muscatine County Jail on federal gun charges has been arrested on a first-degree murder charge out of Lee County and has been transferred to the Lee County Jail.

Joseph Mayorga, Jr., 35, Burlington was transported to Lee County on Thursday and charges were filed Friday with the Lee County Attorney's office. Lee County Assistant Attorney Bruce McDon-

ald will be handling the case. Mayorga is charged in the shooting death of James Merlin Nelson on or about Feb. 11, 2017. Nelson's body was discovered at the Indian Path Park on the north side of Hwy 61 along the Skunk River, just past the Des Moines/Lee county Line.

According to an official with the Muscatine County Jail, Mayorga was being held in custody there by the U.S. Marshal's office on a federal charge. According to federal court records, Mayorga was sentenced on Thursday to 8.5 years in prison and an additional three years supervised release on one count of unlawful transportation of firearms - felon in possession of a

firearm.

Lee County Sheriff Stacy Weber said Mayorga was taken into custody about one week after the murder and has been in custody since that time so the investigation could run its course.

On February 11, 2017 the Lee County Sheriff's Office responded to a call of a possible deceased person at a Lee County roadside park near Wever, Iowa.

Upon arrival, a male subject later identified as 47-year-old Nelson, was found deceased. An autopsy performed



WEBER

on Nelson determined that he was killed by a single gunshot to the head. According to Iowa Department of Criminal Investigations Special Agent Rick Rahn, since the body was discovered in Lee County, the court case would be handled there, however Mayorga has the option to ask for a change of venue.

Rahn declined to comment on specifics of the case, including where the actual shooting took place.

Detectives from the Lee County Sheriff's Office-Criminal Investigations Division and Special Agents of the Iowa Department of Public Safety (DPS), and DCI launched an investigation at the



MAYORGA

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2017 - A Year in Review: September & October

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OBITUARIES

STEVEN C. GILLETTE

Steven C. Gillette, 30, of Ft. Madison, passed away on Saturday, September 16, 2017 at his home.



BARKER

He was born on October 5, 1986 in Iowa City to Charles and Nancy McGeehon Gillette. Steven and Michelle Metz began dating on September 5, 2008 and were united in marriage on September 5, 2015 in Ft. Madison. He worked production at Ft. Madison Pallet Company with many friends whom he considered family. He loved his super heroes, especially Anime. Steven enjoyed working on cars, doing handy work and helping anyone that needed it.

Survivors include his wife, Michelle Gillette of Ft. Madison; mother, Nancy Gillette of Ft. Madison; father, Charles Gillette of Ft. Madison; two brothers, Zach (Kelly) Gillette of Des Moines and Shane Gillette of Newton; a sister, Christine Pennington of Hamilton, IL; maternal grandparents, Neil and Wanita Lassman of Ft. Madison; his children, Chubbers, Bell, and Spuds Mackenzie; several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his paternal grandparents.

Per his wishes, cremation has been entrusted to King-Lynk Funeral Home and Crematory. A memorial service will be held at noon on Friday, September 22, 2017 at the Montrose United Presbyterian Church. A celebration of life will also be held at 5 PM on Friday, September 22, 2017 at 3116 250th Avenue, Montrose, IA. The family requests that all attending please wear super hero attire.

A memorial has been established in his memory and online condolences may be left at www.kinglynk.com.

#3

Originally published September 19, 2017

Task force makes 2nd bust in two days

BY PCC STAFF

KEOKUK - The Lee County Narcotics Task Force reports the arrest of a Keokuk, Iowa man on misdemeanor drug charges.

Tab Andrew Bottger, 44, of 516 South 5th #1, Keokuk, Iowa was arrested on September 15th, 2017 at the Lee County Sheriff's Office on misdemeanor drug charges. Bottger is charged with two counts of possession of a controlled substance (marijuana and methamphetamine), a serious misdemeanor, maintaining a drug house, an aggravated misdemeanor, possession of drug paraphernalia, a simple misdemeanor, and 7 counts of unlawful possession of a prescription drug, a serious misdemeanor.

If convicted, Bottger faces up to 11 years and 30 days in a state correctional facility.

The arrest of Bottger stems from an in-

vestigation by the Lee County Narcotics Task Force into allegations that he was involved in the use and possession of illegal drugs in the Keokuk area. A search warrant was served as part of this investigation and items that support the charges were discovered.

The Lee County Attorney's Office, Keokuk Police Department, and the Lee County Sheriff's Office assisted the Lee County Narcotics Task Force in this investigation.

The defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

The Lee County Narcotics Task Force is funded in part by the U.S. Department of Justice and the funds administered by the Iowa Governor's Office of Drug Control Policy.

#4

Originally published September 20, 2017

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2017 - A Year in Review: September & October

Task force gets Keokuk man

BY PCC STAFF

KEOKUK - The Lee County Narcotics Task Force reports the arrest of a Keokuk, Iowa man on felony and misdemeanor drug charges.

Alex Joseph Derr, 30, of 412 S 20th Street, Keokuk,



DERR

Iowa was arrested on September 22nd, 2017 on felony and misdemeanor drug charges. Derr is charged with possession of methamphetamine less than five grams with the intent to deliver within 1000 feet of a park, a class C felony with an enhancement, possession

of methamphetamine, a serious misdemeanor, and possession of drug paraphernalia, a simple misdemeanor. If convicted, Derr faces up to 16 years and 30 days in a state correctional facility. Derr was also arrested on two probation violation warrants.

The arrest of Derr stems from an investigation by the Keokuk Police Department into multiple 911 calls. Derr was encountered during this investigation and arrested on active warrants. During the course of the arrest, items that support the charges were discovered. The Lee County Narcotics Task Force assisted the Keokuk Police

#5
Originally published September 24, 2017

Department in the subsequent investigation.

The Lee County Attorney's Office and the Keokuk Police Department assisted the Lee County Narcotics Task Force in this investigation.

The defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

The Lee County Narcotics Task Force is funded in part by the U.S. Department of Justice and the funds administered by the Iowa Governor's Office of Drug Control Policy.

Suspect sought in Friday vehicle shooting on 61

Sheriff's dept. looking for person of interest

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - The Lee County Sheriff's Department is currently searching for a person of a interest in a shooting that occurred at about 5 p.m. north of Fort Madison on Highway 61 northbound just west of North Fork Road.

Lee County Sheriff Stacy Weber said deputies, with assistance from the Fort Madison police department, were on the lookout for a described vehicle with two male suspects, one of whom had shot at a passing motorist's vehicle. Upon investigation of the vehicle, authorities recovered a single bullet from the exterior of the vehicle.

No arrests have been made, but Sheriff Weber said he expects an arrest will be made in the near future.

"We don't need this kind of violence in Lee County. We'll push back hard," he said.

#1
Originally published October 22, 2017

First. Fresh. Local.

Top September Stories #6-10

- #6 **Joseph W. Steflik obituary**
Originally published September 28, 2017
Read the article here: <http://www.pencitycurrent.com/2017/09/27/king-lynk-obituary-joseph-joe-william-steflik-42/>
- #7 **Elizabeth Katherine Wagner obituary**
Originally published September 25, 2017
Read the article here: <http://www.pencitycurrent.com/2017/09/24/barr-memorial-chapel-obituary-elizabeth-katherine-wagner-92-fort-madison/>
- #8 **Lawrence Edward "Larry" Schinstock obituary**
Originally published September 22, 2017
Read the article here: <http://www.pencitycurrent.com/2017/09/21/schmitz-funeral-home-obituary-lawrence-edward-larry-schinstock-62-salem/?platform=hootsuite>
- #9 **Hounds move to 2-0 with win over Central Lee**
Originally published September 3, 2017
Read the article here: <http://www.pencitycurrent.com/2017/09/02/hounds-move-2-0-win-central-lee/>
- #10 **Tracking Hurricane Irma – Interactive Informational Map**
Originally published September 4, 2017
Read the article here: <http://www.pencitycurrent.com/2017/09/04/tracking-hurricane-irma-interactive-informational-map/>

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Pen City Current

Founded in 2016



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2017 - A Year in Review: September & October

Top September Facebook Posts

#1 Originally published September 22, 2017
Reached 16,115 people
See the post here: <https://www.facebook.com/PenCityCurrent/posts/1846435992334628>

Pen City Current
Published by WordPress (7) - September 22, 2017 - 48

BY PCC STAFF On February 11, 2017 the Lee County Sheriff's Office responded to a call of a possible deceased person at a Lee County roadside park near Wever, Iowa. Upon arrival, a male subject later identified as... [235 more words]
<https://www.pencitycurrent.com/.../arrest-made-indian-path-m.../>



Arrest made in Indian Path murder investigation

BY PCC STAFF On February 11, 2017 the Lee County Sheriff's Office responded to a call of a possible deceased person at a Lee County roadside park near Wever, Iowa. Upon arrival, a male subject [Read More...]
PENCITYCURRENT.COM

#2 Originally published September 18, 2017
Reached 13,701 people
See the post here: <https://www.facebook.com/PenCityCurrent/posts/1844742609170633>

Pen City Current
Published by WordPress (1) - September 18, 2017 - 48

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG PCC EDITOR FORT MADISON - The Fort Madison police department released a statement this morning regarding a possible shooting that took place Sunday night in the area of... [228 more words]
For more on the incident click here: <https://www.pencitycurrent.com/.../police-arrest-fm-man-gun-.../>



Police arrest FM man on gun charges stemming from Sunday incident

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG PCC EDITOR FORT MADISON - The Fort Madison police department released a statement this morning regarding a possible...
PENCITYCURRENT.COM

#3 Originally published September 24, 2017
Reached 13,010 people
See the post here: <https://www.facebook.com/PenCityCurrent/posts/1847428375568723>

Pen City Current added 2 new photos.
Published by Chuck Vandenberg (1) - September 24, 2017 - 48

Barr Memorial Chapel obituary - Elizabeth Katherine Wagner, 94, Fort Madison
Elizabeth Katherine Wagner, 94 years, of Fort Madison, Iowa died early Sunday morning, September 24, 2017 at her home. She was born April 5, 1923 in St. . .
Read Ms. Wagner's full obituary here: <https://www.pencitycurrent.com/.../barr-memorial-chapel-obit.../>



In Remembrance

#4 Originally published August 31, 2017
Reached 12,961 people
See the post here: <https://www.facebook.com/PenCityCurrent/posts/1836849996626561>

Pen City Current
Published by WordPress (1) - August 31, 2017 - 48

FORT MADISON - Next week Fort Madison will host the 70th annual Tri-State Rodeo. During this time the Fort Madison Police Department along with the Lee County Sheriff's Office and the Iowa State Patrol will providing services to the residents and guests of Fort Madison including traffic control and enforcement efforts. Enforcement efforts will be conducted with assistance of the Governor's Traffic Safety Bureau. [33 more words]
<https://www.pencitycurrent.com/.../fmpd-conduct-owi-traffic-.../>



FMPD to conduct OWI, traffic patrols during rodeo week

FORT MADISON - Next week Fort Madison will host the 70th annual Tri-State Rodeo. During this time the Fort Madison Police Department along with the Lee County Sheriff's Office and the Iowa State Patrol will [Read More...]
PENCITYCURRENT.COM

#5 Originally published September 19, 2017
Reached 12,010 people
See the post here: <https://www.facebook.com/PenCityCurrent/posts/1845202729124621>

Pen City Current
Published by WordPress (1) - September 19, 2017 - 48

Joseph W. "Joe" STEFLIK, age 42 of Jonesboro, AR and formerly of Ft. Madison, passed away on September 18, 2017 at St. Bernard Hospital in Jonesboro. Arrangements are pending at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory.
<https://www.pencitycurrent.com/.../king-lynk-death-notice-jo.../>



King-Lynk death notice - Joseph W. Steflik, 42, Jonesboro, Ark.

Joseph W. "Joe" STEFLIK, age 42 of Jonesboro, AR and formerly of Ft. Madison, passed away on September 18, 2017 at St. Bernard Hospital in Jonesboro...
PENCITYCURRENT.COM

#6 Originally published September 1, 2017
Reached 11,224 people
See the post here: <https://www.facebook.com/PenCityCurrent/posts/1837620066549554>

Pen City Current
Published by WordPress (1) - September 2, 2017 - 48

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG PCC EDITOR FORT MADISON - Yep. There's something special going on at Richmond Stadium and the Hound faithful are rolling right along. Head Coach Tony Shiffman and company have brought life and excitement to the Fort Madison football scene.... [1,508 more word]
<https://www.pencitycurrent.com/.../hounds-move-2-0-win-centr.../>



Hounds move to 2-0 with win over Central Lee

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG PCC EDITOR FORT MADISON - Yep. There's something special going on at Richmond Stadium and the Hound faithful are rolling right along. Head Coach Tony Shiffman and company have brought life...
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2017 - A Year in Review: September & October

OBITUARIES

DAKOTAH DALE RAINBOLT

Dakotah Dale Rainbolt, 21 years, of Fort Madison, Iowa died Sunday, October 22, 2017 at his home. He was born July 3, 1996 in Fort Madison the son of Shawn Brannen and Shawna Rainbolt.



RAINBOLT

He attended Fort Madison High School. He worked for Hellige Lawn Care and most recently for Pipeline Cleaners, both of Fort Madison. He attended Joy Baptist Church. He enjoyed fishing, hanging out with friends, surfing in Florida, and in the past boxing with the Lee County Boxing Club.

He is survived by his mother, Shawna Rainbolt of Ankeny, Iowa; his father, Shawn Brannen of Palm Coast, Florida; grandparents: Sara Jennings of Palm Coast; Carlo and Debra Bruno of Fort Madison; and Jim and Leslie Rainbolt of Keokuk; one great grandmother, Edith Johnson of Kahoka, Missouri; three sisters: Daylan Rainbolt of Ankeny; Stormi Norris of Angier, North Carolina; Kaylie Brannen of Palm Coast; several aunts, uncles, and cousins. He was preceded in death by his grandfather, Larry Brannen; great grandparents: Pete and Ruth Farmer and Hillis Dale Rainbolt.

His family will greet friends during a visitation from 4:00 - 6:00 pm Thursday, October 26, 2017 at the Barr Memorial Chapel, Fort Madison. His body will then be cremated. A memorial has been established, contributions may be left at the Barr Memorial Chapel. Online condolences to the Rainbolt /Brannen family may be made at the Barr Memorial Chapel website, www.barrmemorialchapel.com.

#2

Originally published October 24, 2017

MATTHEW "MATT" MERLE HUTSON

Matthew "Matt" Merle Hutson, 41, of Nauvoo, Illinois, passed away at 12:56 a.m. Thursday, October 12, 2017 in the emergency room at the Fort Madison Community Hospital in Fort Madison, Iowa.



HUTSON

Born October 28, 1975 in Burlington, Iowa, the son of William "Bill" and Marcia (Gnann) Hutson. On August 6, 2005, he married Brenda McEntee in Nauvoo, Illinois.

Survivors include his wife, Brenda; three sons, Matthew Hutson, Brady Boyer, and Noah Hutson; his parents, Bill and Marcia Hutson of Niota, Illinois; one sister, Mindy (Derek) Dexheimer of Sherman, Illinois; maternal grandmother, Linda Gnann of Nauvoo, Illinois; father and mother-in-law, Gene and Linda McEntee of Nauvoo, Illinois; two sisters-in-law, Bridgitt (Jerry) Hutson of Niota, Illinois and Amy (Matt) Shanks of Ankeny, Iowa; one brother-in-law, Tom (Carla) McEntee of Dallas City, Illinois; and several nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his paternal grandparents, Floyd and Kay Hutson; maternal grandfather, Don Gnann; and one uncle, Stan Hutson.

Matt was a member of Ss. Peter & Paul Catholic Church in Nauvoo. He was also a member of Hancock County Farm Bureau, and he served as a past Trustee of Appanoose Township. Matt was a 1994 graduate of Dallas City High School. Matt enjoyed farming with his dad and playing with his boys. He also enjoyed motocross, riding jet skis, going to the Lake of the Ozarks, and collecting Case International tractors.

Friends may call and meet with family from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Sunday, October 15, 2017 at Ss. Peter & Paul Catholic Church in Nauvoo.

A Funeral Service will be at 10:30 a.m. Monday, October 16, 2017 at Ss. Peter & Paul Catholic Church in Nauvoo with Father Tom Szydlak officiating.

Following the funeral service, his body will be cremated.

In lieu of flowers, a memorial has been established in his memory.

The Schmitz Funeral Homes are assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences may be made to the family at www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com.

#3

Originally published October 13, 2017

Task force catches FM man with meth, tarmadol

BY PCC STAFF

FORT MADISON – The Lee County Narcotics Task Force reports the arrest of a Fort Madison, Iowa man on misdemeanor drug charges.



WILSON

John Henry Wilson, 36, of 6008 Avenue O, Fort Madison, Iowa was arrested on October 20th, 2017 at his residence on misdemeanor drug charges. Wilson is charged with possession of methamphetamine, a serious misdemeanor, possession of tramadol, a serious misdemeanor, and possession of drug paraphernalia, a simple misdemeanor, and maintaining a drug house, an aggravated misdemeanor. If convicted, Wilson faces up to 4 years and 30 days in a state correctional facility.

The arrest of Wilson stems from an

investigation by the Lee County Narcotics Task Force into allegations that he was involved in the use of illegal narcotics in the Lee County area.

The Lee County Attorney's Office, Lee County Sheriff's Office and the Ft Madison Police Department assisted the Lee County Narcotics Task Force in this investigation.

The defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

The Lee County Narcotics Task Force is funded in part by the U.S. Department of Justice and the funds administered by the Iowa Governor's Office of Drug Control Policy.

#4

Originally published October 25, 2017

Judge tosses deal, sends FM woman to prison

Weiler pleads guilty in deal that had prosecution seeking suspended sentence

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - A Fort Madison woman has been sentenced to up to 10 years in prison for embezzling more than \$70,000 from a local chiropractor's office.

Danylle L. Weiler, 48, of Chariton, was sentenced Friday morning by Eighth District Judge Michael Schilling to an indeterminate number of years in prison not to exceed 10 after Weiler pled guilty to a first-degree theft.

Assistant Lee County Attorney Ross

Braden, who prosecuted the case, said the judge



BRADEN

"The facts and circumstances of the case justified the sentence. But I didn't argue for that."

- Ross Braden, Asst. Lee County Attorney

sentenced Weiler according to the penalties allowed by law. However, Braden said he was not

arguing for prison time for Weiler. "I wouldn't say I was shocked by the sentence," Braden said Friday afternoon. "The facts and circumstances of the case

See SENTENCE, page 9

#5

Originally published October 29, 2017

LEE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
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2017 - A Year in Review: September & October

Top October Facebook Posts

#1 Originally published October 23, 2017
Reached 30,340 people
See the post here: <https://www.facebook.com/PenCityCurrent/posts/1860047984306762>

Pen City Current added 2 new photos.
Published by Lee K. Vandenberg on October 23, 2017


Barr Memorial obituary - Dakotah Dale Rainbolt, 21, Fort Madison > PenCityCurrent.com
Dakotah Dale Rainbolt, 21 years, of Fort Madison, Iowa died Sunday, October 22, 2017 at his home. He was born July 3, 1996 in Fort Madison the son of Shawn...



#2 Originally published October 20, 2017
Reached 30,145 people
See the post here: <https://www.facebook.com/PenCityCurrent/posts/1858866571091570>

Pen City Current
Published by WordPress on October 20, 2017

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG PCC EDITOR FORT MADISON - The Lee County Sheriff's Department is currently searching for a person of a interest in a shooting that occurred at about 5 p.m. north of Fort Madison on Highway 61 northbound just west of North Fork Road. Lee County Sheriff Stacy Weber said... [112 more words]



Sheriff's dept. looking for shooting suspect
BY CHUCK VANDENBERG PCC EDITOR FORT MADISON - The Lee County Sheriff's Department is currently searching for a person of a interest in a shooting that occurred at about 5 p.m. north of Fort Madison [Read More...]
PEN CITY CURRENT.COM

#3 Originally published October 12, 2017
Reached 20,843 people
See the post here: <https://www.facebook.com/PenCityCurrent/posts/1855289988115895>

Pen City Current added 2 new photos.
Published by Lee K. Vandenberg on October 12, 2017

Schmitz Funeral Homes - Matthew "Matt" Merle Hutson, 41, Nauvoo > PenCityCurrent.com
Matthew "Matt" Merle Hutson, 41, of Nauvoo, Illinois, passed away at 12:56 a.m. Thursday, October 12, 2017 in the emergency room at the Fort Madison...



Read Mr. Hutson's complete obituary here:
<https://www.pencitycurrent.com/.../schmitz-funeral-homes-mat.../>



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#4 Originally published October 16, 2017
Reached 18,174 people
See the post here: <https://www.facebook.com/PenCityCurrent/posts/1857130001265227>

Pen City Current
Published by WordPress on October 16, 2017

Robert J. Walker, 36, of Dyersville, Iowa formerly of West Point, passed away at 11:40 P.M. Saturday October 14, 2017 at his home. Funeral services are pending at the Schmitz Funeral Home in West Point.



Schmitz Funeral Homes death notice - Robert J. Walker, 36, formerly of West Point
Robert J. Walker, 36, of Dyersville, Iowa formerly of West Point, passed away at 11:40 P.M. Saturday October 14, 2017 at his home. Funeral services are pending...
PEN CITY CURRENT.COM

#5 Originally published October 31, 2017
Reached 16,709 people
See the post here: <https://www.facebook.com/PenCityCurrent/posts/1863838267261067>

Pen City Current added 2 new photos.
Published by Lee K. Vandenberg on October 31, 2017

Schmitz Funeral Homes obituary - Sue E. Vandenberg, 55, Donnellson > PenCityCurrent.com
Sue E. Vandenberg, 55, of rural Donnellson, Iowa passed away 5:53 a.m. Tuesday, October 31, 2017 at her home after a courageous nine month battle...



Read Ms. Vandenberg's complete obituary here:
<https://www.pencitycurrent.com/.../schmitz-funeral-homes-obl.../>



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2017 - A Year in Review: September & October

Top September Facebook Posts

#7 Originally published September 5, 2017
Reached 10,873 people
See the post here: <https://www.facebook.com/PenCityCurrent/posts/1839300446381516>




Pen City Current
Published by WordPress · September 5, 2017 · 48

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG PCC EDITOR WEST BURLINGTON - Their story is sweet, their coffee is fresh, and their plans are set. TJ Widbin and Melissa Cervantes, a married couple who own and operate Lost Bear Coffee in West Burlington, have announced plans to expand in Fort Madison with a larger outlet at the ... [530 more words]
<https://www.pencitycurrent.com/.../lost-bear-finds-home-spor.../>

Lost Bear finds home at Sports Complex
BY CHUCK VANDENBERG PCC EDITOR WEST BURLINGTON - Their story is sweet, their coffee is fresh, and their plans are set. TJ Widbin and Melissa Cervantes, a married couple who own and operate Lost Bear [Read More...]
PENCITYCURRENT.COM


#8 Originally published September 24, 2017
Reached 10,852 people
See the post here: <https://www.facebook.com/PenCityCurrent/videos/1847431828901711/>



Pen City Current
Published by WordPress · September 24, 2017 · 48

Watch Hawkeye fans wave to the kids at Stead Family Children's Hospital after 1st quarter v Penn State 09.24.17: <https://www.facebook.com/PenCityCurrent/videos/1847431828901711/>

#9 Originally published September 9, 2017
Reached 10,081 people
See the post here: <https://www.facebook.com/PenCityCurrent/posts/1840997379545156>



Pen City Current
Published by WordPress · September 9, 2017 · 48

Fort Madison Police Captain was honored on Friday for 25 years of service and dedication to the Fort Madison Police Department. Pictured is Hogan receiving a plaque from Fort Madison Police Chief Tim Sittig. Court esy photo
<https://www.pencitycurrent.com/.../fm-police-capt-rob-hogan-.../>

FM Police Capt. Rob Hogan honored for 25 years
Fort Madison Police Captain was honored on Friday for 25 years of service and dedication to the Fort Madison Police Department. Pictured is Hogan receiving a plaque from Fort Madison Police Chief Tim Sittig. Court [Read More...]
PENCITYCURRENT.COM

#10 Originally published September 12, 2017
Reached 9,931 people
See the post here: <https://www.facebook.com/PenCityCurrent/posts/1842296112748616>



Pen City Current
Published by WordPress · September 12, 2017 · 48

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG PCC EDITOR FORT MADISON - Having been open just a mere two weeks, Fareway grocery manager Mark Braun said the company has surpassed opening projections for the store. The Fareway. . . [440 more words]
Read the complete story here: <https://www.pencitycurrent.com/.../fareways-first-two-weeks-.../>



FAREWAY FOOD STORES

Fareway's first two weeks exceeded expectations
BY CHUCK VANDENBERG PCC EDITOR FORT MADISON - Having been open just a mere two weeks, Fareway grocery manager Mark Braun said the company has surpassed opening projections for the store. The Fareway Grocery opened...
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2017 - A Year in Review: September & October

Top October Facebook Posts

#6 Originally published October 20, 2017
 Reached 16,643 people
 See the post here: <https://www.facebook.com/PenCityCurrent/posts/1858758051102422>



Pen City Current
 Published by WordPress (7) · October 20, 2017 · 48

BY PCC STAFF FORT MADISON - An Iowa State Penitentiary correctional officer injured in an attack early Wednesday morning has been released from the hospital and is recovering at home, according to a release from. . . [189 more words]
 Read the complete article here: <https://www.pencitycurrent.com/isp-officer-back-home-wed.../>



NEWS
 Pen City current

ISP officer back home after Wednesday attack
 BY PCC STAFF FORT MADISON - An Iowa State Penitentiary correctional officer injured in an attack early Wednesday morning has been released from the hospital and is recovering at home, according to a release from [Read More...]
 PENCITYCURRENT.COM

#7 Originally published October 12, 2017
 Reached 14,076 people
 See the post here: <https://www.facebook.com/PenCityCurrent/posts/1855224904789070>



Pen City Current
 Published by WordPress (7) · October 12, 2017 · 48


Wayne Marting, 69, of Nauvoo, Illinois passed away early morning Thursday, October 12, 2017 at St. John's Hospital in Springfield, Illinois. Services are pending at Schmitz Funeral Homes.
<https://www.pencitycurrent.com/schmitz-funeral-home-death-notice-wayne-marting-69-nauvoo/>



Remembrance

Schmitz Funeral Home death notice - Wayne Marting, 69, Nauvoo
 Wayne Marting, 69, of Nauvoo, Illinois passed away early morning Thursday, October 12, 2017 at St. John's Hospital in Springfield, Illinois. Services are...
 PENCITYCURRENT.COM

#8 Originally published October 17, 2017
 Reached 13,991 people
 See the post here: <https://www.facebook.com/PenCityCurrent/posts/1857447717900122>



Pen City Current
 Published by WordPress (7) · October 17, 2017 · 48

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG PCC EDITOR LEE COUNTY - About six law enforcement agencies were involved in the arrest of a homeless man who. . . [233 more words]
 Read the full article here: <https://www.pencitycurrent.com/lee-county-deputies-corrals-motorist-in-high-speed-chase/>



BREAKING NEWS

Lee County deputies corral motorist in high speed chase
 BY CHUCK VANDENBERG PCC EDITOR LEE COUNTY - About six law enforcement agencies were involved in the arrest of a homeless man who was trying to elude authorities early Monday afternoon in his vehicle. The [Read...]
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Pen City Current
 Holiday e-Edition Publishing Schedule

- Christmas Eve - No Paper
- Christmas Day - No Paper
- December 26th - Year in Review
- December 27th - Year in Review
- December 28th - Year in Review
- December 29th - Year in Review
- New Year's Eve - No Paper
- New Year's Day - No Paper
- January 2nd - Year in Review
- January 3rd - Year in Review

Watch pencitycurrent.com for Breaking News



Top October Stories #6-10

#6 Correctional officer hospitalized after morning attack
 Originally published October 19, 2017
 Read the article here: <http://www.pencitycurrent.com/2017/10/18/correctional-office-hospitalized-after-morning-attack/>

#7 High-speed chase ends in Lee County
 Originally published October 18, 2017
 Read the article here: <http://www.pencitycurrent.com/2017/10/17/lee-county-deputies-corrals-motorist-high-speed-chase/>

#8 Wayne Stanley Marting obituary
 Originally published October 12, 2017
 Read the article here: <http://www.pencitycurrent.com/2017/10/12/schmitz-funeral-home-death-notice-wayne-marting-69-nauvoo/>

#9 Task force makes FM drug arrest
 Originally published October 11, 2017
 Read the article here: <http://www.pencitycurrent.com/2017/10/04/task-force-makes-drug-arrest-fort-madison/>

#10 Robert J. Walker obituary
 Originally published October 20, 2017
 Read the article here: <http://www.pencitycurrent.com/2017/10/20/schmitz-funeral-home-obituary-robert-j-walker-36-formerly-west-point/>

Multiple agencies assisted

MURDER -
 Cont'd. from Page 1

ed in this investigation include Iowa Department of Public Safety (DPS), Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI), Des Moines County Sheriff's Office, Henry County Sheriff's Office, Iowa State Patrol, Muscatine County Sheriff's Office, Southeast Iowa Narcotics Task Force, Burlington Police Department, Iowa State Fire Marshal's Office, Iowa Division of Narcotics Enforcement, Fairfield Police Department, Iowa DNR, Intel Bureau, University of Iowa Decedent Care Center, and the Lee, Des Moines, Henry and Jefferson County Attorney's Offices.

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2017 - A Year in Review: September & October

Sentence to begin immediately

SENTENCE - Continued from Page 5

justified the sentencing. But I didn't argue for that."

The case was scheduled for trial on three separate occasions in March, June, and August, but Braden said Weiler chose to plead guilty to the Class C Felony first-degree theft instead of going to trial, in exchange for the state not asking for prison time, but a suspended sentence and restitution.

Braden said the defense was asking for a deferred judgment but the state argued strongly against that motion.

"I didn't ask for prison time because of her lack of criminal past, but I didn't think a deferred judgement was appropriate either."

Weiler's sentence was to begin immediately at Iowa Correctional Institute for Women in Mitchellville. She was facing five counts of theft in the crime, which occurred over a five-year time frame, according to a release that came from Fort Madison police when Weiler was charged in November. The release said she worked for the chiropractor for 15 years total.

She was originally charged with three counts of first-degree theft and two counts of 2nd-degree theft and faced close to 40 years in prison if convicted on all counts.

Weiler was represented by Johnathan Stensvaag of Burlington.

Top October Facebook Posts

#9 Originally published October 27, 2017
Reached 13,668 people
See the post here: <https://www.facebook.com/PenCityCurrent/posts/1862230420755185>



#10 Originally published October 28, 2017
Reached 13,226 people
See the post here: <https://www.facebook.com/PenCityCurrent/posts/1862657240712503>



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