



# Pen City Current

Wednesday, Feb. 7, 2018 | 6 pages | Volume 2 • Issue 46

## Morawitz to seek state house seat

*First-term councilman throws hat in the ring for Kearns' seat*

**BY CHUCK VANDENBERG**  
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - A current sitting Fort Madison city councilman announced Monday night that he was seeking election to the Iowa House of Representatives



MORAWITZ

83rd district. Fort Madison city councilman and electrician, Bob Morawitz, unofficially announced his intentions to run for the Iowa House of Representatives seat currently being held by retiring Representative Jerry Kearns at Monday's Democratic caucus, but made the announcement official Tuesday afternoon.

The district includes 9 townships in southern and east-

ern Lee county that include the cities of Fort Madison, Keokuk, Montrose, and Wever. "I'm running for the Iowa House because our state is headed in the wrong direction. Wages are stagnant and hardworking Iowans are struggling to get by. Politicians are ignoring our broken health care system, causing costs to skyrocket and our state budget has been mismanaged causing cuts to education, Medicaid and critical services

See **ELECTION**, page 2



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

### Canadian gaggle

A gaggle of geese found an stretch of open water on the Mississippi River Tuesday evening. The recent cold snap accompanied by about four inches of snow crusted the river over. Snow is expected in light amounts each day for the rest of the week.

## County wants to pursue new jail meal plan

*Supervisors may take out a loan to pay for kitchen upgrade*

**BY CHUCK VANDENBERG**  
PCC EDITOR

MONTROSE - A plan to shift Lee County Jail inmate meal vendors from the Iowa Prison Industries to a Des Moines vendor took another step Tuesday.

After Tuesday's Lee County Board of Supervisors meeting, chairman Don Hunold briefed the board on the progress of the project at a workshop.

The sheriff's department currently gets their meals from the IPI, a subsidiary of the Iowa Department of Corrections at Iowa State Penitentiary, at \$3.50 per meal for two meals a day which costs taxpayers \$229,950 annually, not including breakfast. Inmates are getting toaster pastries for breakfast at a projected cost of about \$20,000 per year.

Under a new plan being proposed by Consolidated Correctional Foodservice, a subsidiary of Consolidated Management Co. of Des Moines, meal prices could drop to as low as \$1.65 per meal but the county would need to upgrade the jail's kitchen at a projected cost of \$65,000 to \$80,000.

Consolidated has offered to handle the renovations in the kitchen, but would require a 5-year contract with meals set at \$2.03 to offset those costs.



WEBER

See **JAIL**, page 6

## Lee County chair won't seek re-election

*Hunold joins Kearns, Heaton in stepping down from posts*

**BY CHUCK VANDENBERG**  
PCC EDITOR

MONTROSE - Lee County Supervisor Don Hunold announced today

that he will not be seeking re-election to the Board of Supervisors in this year's election.

Hunold, who spent 12 years on the Central Lee Community School Dis-



HUNOLD

trict Board of Directors and is finishing his fourth year as a supervisor, said after Tuesday's meeting he will only serve one term on the board.

"This is my last year," Hunold said. "I'm going to give it up. I've had a few health issues, but now I'm cancer free and there's some things I want to do and I want to get them done before something else happens, so I'm gon-

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# Local News/For the Record

## Morawitz unhappy with state's direction

**ELECTION** - Continued from Page 1

so many Iowans count on," said Morawitz. "What is of special concern to me is funding for our judicial system. Our courts and penal system are already underfunded and the legislature is looking at cutting them even more. I have friends and relatives working in our prison, underfunding and understaffing is putting them and our community at risk."

Morawitz, 61, was just elected to the Fort Madison City Council in November and was sworn in last month. He had previously been a member of the city's Electrical Board of Examiners and chairman of the Historic Preservation Commission.

Morawitz said he's running to continue the work of Kearns.

"It's the fact that I wasn't expecting Jerry to retire so early," Morawitz said. "It was a surprise to me. I've known Jerry for years and we think a lot alike. I thought they (the voters) would see me as somebody that could continue Jerry's good work."

In his release Tuesday, Morawitz outlined some of the issues facing the district and the state.

"We need good jobs in southeast Iowa and that takes an educated workforce. We cannot afford to cut more money from our local school systems, community colleges, and

universities and expect to be able to provide our state with the workers that modern businesses require," Morawitz said.

Morawitz was born in Burlington, Iowa and graduated from Burlington High School. After five years of active duty in the U.S. Navy, he returned to Burlington to work and earn his AA degree from Southeastern Community College. Thirty-one years ago he moved to Fort Madison and started his electrical apprenticeship with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW.) Morawitz is currently Recording Secretary, Political Registrar, and Pension Commit-

tee trustee for IBEW Local 13.

Morawitz and his wife, Beverly Gobble, have been married for 23 years. They have five sons, 13 grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren.

At Monday's Democratic caucus, Morawitz told the crowd of about 40 that he was disappointed in what happened to Chapter 20 and public employees rights to collective bargaining.

"I don't like where we're going in this state and I don't like what happened with Chapter 20. We need to get back to where we were on that," he said. "I want to get back to Iowans taking care of Iowans and not corporations."

## For the Record

**Fort Madison Police report**  
02/05/18 - 10:19 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of stolen vehicle in the 2100 block of Avenue C.  
02/06/18 - 2:05 p.m. - Fort Madison police arrested Rita Kay Peek, 53 of Fort Madison in the 2700 block of Avenue O on a charge of aggravated assault. She was released on her recognizance.  
02/05/18 - 2:09 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a burglary in the 2600 block of Avenue G.  
02/05/18 - 3:50 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a shoplifter in the 1800 block of Avenue H.  
02/05/18 - 7:26 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident at the intersection of Bluff Road and Chalkridge Road.

**Lee County Sheriff's report**  
02/05/18 - 12:43 p.m. - Lee

County Sheriff's deputies arrested Casey Lyle Wright, 36, of Ottumwa, at the sheriff's office on a warrant for violation of probation. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.  
02/05/18 - 5:17 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Joel Allen Gonzalez, 33, of Fort Madison, at the Lee County Jail on a warrant for violation of sex offender registration-1st offense. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.  
02/05/18 - 6:21 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Marc Anthony Dumas, 41, of Burlington, in the 2500 block of 255th Street, on a warrant for theft in the 1st degree. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.  
Those listed above are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

**Fort Madison Fire & Rescue report**  
02/05/18 - Fort Madison firefighters responded to one assist and two medical calls.

## 5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

**WED 07 Feb** Clear Skies  
High - 9.3° F | Low - (8.7)° F

**THU 08 Feb** Snow  
High - 22.2° F | Low - 19.7° F

**FRI 09 Feb** Light Snow  
High - 6.6° F | Low - (2.8)° F

**SAT 10 Feb** Light Snow  
High - 7.2 F | Low - 0.5° F

**SUN 11 Feb** Clear Skies  
High - 10.4° F | Low - (11.7)° F

[OpenWeatherMap](#)

# Valentine SAVINGS

**All Beef No Bacon Filet Mignon \$9.98 ea.**  
5 oz.....2/\$13

**10 lb. Roll 80% Lean Ground Beef \$237 lb.**  
Limit 30 lbs. Please

**16 oz. Heart Shaped Ribeye Steaks \$11.98 ea.**  
12 oz.....ea.....\$8.98

**8 oz. Ribeye Steak \$5.98 ea.**  
Limit 10 Please

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All Cuts Boneless Except T-Bones  
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**1/2 of 1/2 Beef 100 lbs. - Cut Wrapped & Frozen - \$449**  
All Cuts Boneless Except T-Bones  
Chuck Roast, Arm Roast, Ribeye Steak, Brisket, Round Steak, Swiss Steak, Sirloin Tip Roast & Steak, Rump Roast, Sirloin Steak, T-Bone & Ground Beef

**Front 1/4 Beef 100 lbs. - Cut Wrapped & Frozen - \$427**  
All Cuts Boneless  
Chuck Roast, Arm Roast, Ribeye Steak, Brisket & Ground Beef

**Hind 1/4 Beef 100 lbs. - Cut Wrapped & Frozen - \$477**  
All Cuts Boneless  
Round Steak, Swiss Steak, Sirloin Tip Roast & Steak, T-Bone, Sirloin Steak & Ground Beef

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## Obituaries/Education News

### OBITUARIES

# RICHARD L. "RICK" HILL

Richard L. "Rick" Hill, 72, of Montrose, passed away on Monday, February 5, 2018 at 3:22 PM at Great River Medical Center.



HILL

He was born on May 13, 1945 in Mill Spring, MO to David and Hazel Laxton Hill. On February 21, 1969 he married Anita "Sue" Rule in Montrose. Rick was a welder at Fruehauf, Wabash, Industrial Tool and Gregory Manufacturing. He served in the US Army and also the National Guard where he served in Desert Storm in Germany. Rick loved to read and enjoyed fishing. His great love was spending time with his family and he was known to always tell a good story.



Survivors include his wife, Anita "Sue" Hill of Montrose; two daughters, Jennifer Hill of Montrose and Nicolle (Eugene) Watts of Montrose; a son, Richard (Ayrene Richel Abellanosa) Hill of Montrose; four grandchildren, Stephanie (Paul), Dustin (Regan), Tommy (Cassandra) and Tiffanie; three great grandchildren, Madison, Eli, Kaydon and Ebony who is expected any day; six sisters, Willi Caro of Orange, CA, Lois Hill of Ironton, MO, Kathy Hill of Garden City, MO, Mary Hill of Potosi, MO, Joan Campbell of Annapolis, MO and Sheila Ruble of Vulcan, MO; one brother, Tom Hill of Mills Spring, MO; numerous nieces and nephews; two brother in laws, Harry and Edwin Rule of Montrose.

He was preceded in death by his parents, one brother and one sister.

Friends may call after 2 PM on Thursday, February 8, 2018 at King-Lynk Funeral Home where the family will meet with friends from 4-6 PM. The funeral service will be held at 11 AM on Friday, February 9, 2018 at King-Lynk Funeral Home with Rev. Dan Moore officiating. Burial will be held at Montrose Cemetery.

A memorial has been established for PAW Animal Shelter or the American Heart Association.

## Axalta, Elliott Test Kitchen sponsor FMMS Science Fair

Submitted article

FORT MADISON - On Monday, February 12th, the Fort Madison Middle School will host its 2018 Science Fair in the Middle School MPR. The science fair is a culmination of five months of work by students under the guidance and instruction of their science teachers. Over 30 projects from 7th and 8th-grade students will be displayed with their

original research in alignment with scientific practices and standards. Entries in a variety of categories will be rated by a panel of judges from the community. The rating and judging criteria include: the evaluation of each student's backboard display of information, written abstract, logbook, and scientific notebook

See FAIR, page 4



### IOWA LOTTERY WINNING NUMBERS

### Lotto Drawings

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



**2/6**  
14 17 25 48 48 58  
Lucky Ball: 25  
Megaplier: 3



**2/6 MID-DAY**  
6 7 7  
**2/6 EVENING**  
2 3 2



**2/6 MID-DAY**  
5 5 8 9  
**2/6 EVENING**  
2 8 2 7

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- Flatten boxes for better storage and volume reduction. \*Empty all boxes before recycling.**
- Place all recyclable products loose in bins.**
- Do not recycle wrapping paper.**
- Properly dispose of all electronics and household hazardous waste. [Click Here](#) for more guidance!**

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- HHW Collection Available by appointment during regular business hours at our Ft. Madison and Keokuk locations

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## From the Front/Classifieds

# Hunold said he's happy with the progress of the county

**HUNOLD** - Continued from Page 1

na to call it quits.”

Hunold, a Democrat, said he's happy in how the county has progressed despite tightening budgets.”

“That's an ongoing battle with the state and that's fine, we all know that,” he said. “I just wanted to let the public know so if someone is interested in running they can get their name out there.”

Hunold was elected in 2014 with 1,620 votes. His term will expire at the year's end.

His announcement comes on the heels of State Rep. Jerry Kearns' (D-Keokuk) announcement 10 days ago that he will not be seeking re-election this year. State Rep. Dave Heaton (R-Mt. Pleasant) announced Monday that he, too, will be stepping down this year.

Residents interested in running for office can currently petition and gather signatures to have their names on the ballot, but candidates for county office can't turn in that paperwork until March 5 at the Lee County Auditor's office. The final day for filing paperwork is March 28, according to Nikki Sugars, the Lee County deputy auditor and elections administrator.

Candidates for state office submit their paperwork to the Iowa Secretary of State's office and can do so beginning Feb. 26. They also have until March 28 to turn in paperwork. Residents can also request absentee ballots 120 days prior to the June 7 Primary Election. The ballots will be sent out 29 days prior to the election.

This year's general election is on Nov. 8.

# Over 30 student projects compete for cash, awards

**FAIR** - Continued from Page 1

This year's Science Fair is sponsored by Axalta Coating Systems and the Elliott Test Kitchen (ETK). Since the beginning of the school year, the Elliott Test Kitchen has opened its doors to students to work on their science fair projects. For the past several Thursdays, Science Fair students were able to come to the ETK and get necessary guidance from their teachers for their projects and also were treated to a delicious meal for their effort. Axalta is a proud supporter of STEM education for our area's youth and has come forward to make the Science Fair a successful annual event by helping with the cost and also providing support to the Elliott Test Kitchen in order to accommodate 25 to 30 students on Thursdays throughout the school year. According to Erin Thurman, Human Resource Advisor and honorary guest at the award ceremony, “Axalta is very proud to support STEM educational programs such as the Science Fair”.

The 2018 FMMS Science Fair will culminate with an awards ceremony, which will be held at 5 pm on February 12th. Parents, students, and staff members are invited to view the projects on display and recognize the students' accomplishments and hard work. First, second and third place students will be awarded Axalta Excellence in Science trophies and cash prizes of \$75, \$50 and \$25 accordingly. All the participants will receive participation medals for their efforts and treated to a pizza party during the event compliments of Axalta Coating Systems. Winning students will have the opportunity to compete at the next level in March against other middle school students in various area schools.

# the classifieds

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# Classifieds

## HELP WANTED

### School Age Care Program Supervisor Wanted

Holy Trinity Early Childhood Center has an opening for a School Age Care Program Supervisor. This is a full-time (benefits eligible), year round position that requires the following qualifications:

- Associate's Degree in Education or Early Childhood; Bachelor's Degree preferred
- 2+ years experience working in a youth program or education
- Must be at least 18 years of age
- Able to pass a background check and complete training as required by Iowa DHS
- Enthusiastic and patient in working with children

Holy Trinity Early Childhood Center is also seeking substitute associates for our preschool and childcare programs.

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



### West Point Branch FULL-TIME TELLER

Lee County Bank is looking for an outgoing person to join the LCB team as a full-time teller at our West Point Branch. Our ideal employee would have excellent customer service skills and previous teller or cash handling experience. A high level of confidentiality and accuracy is required.

To apply, please email your resume to [kseager@leecountybank.com](mailto:kseager@leecountybank.com) by Thursday, February 8th.

Lee County Bank is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



### Buffalo61 Bar & Grille Now Hiring

The Buffalo61 Bar & Grille is now hiring for all positions:

- Cooks
- Servers
- Bartenders
- Hosts

**Experience is a must.**

Must be able to work in a fast-paced environment where outstanding customer service reigns and must be available beginning mid-to-late February for training.

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**No Phone Calls.**



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## From the Front/Current-Lee

### CURRENT-LEE

## FMHS Boosters Trivia Night Feb. 10

FORT MADISON - The Fort Madison Bloodhound Boosters are holding a Trivia Night on Feb. 10 at the Fort Madison Eagles Club from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m.

The night will feature a full trivia contest in addition to a silent auction and other games for cash prizes. Teams are to be no more than eight people at \$10 per person. Participants are encouraged to bring snacks for their team table. A cash bar will be available.

Proceeds go to benefit the Fort Madison Athletic Booster club. The first 15 teams to register will receive an advantage on trivia night.

You can register at the following link <https://docs.google.com/.../2PACX-1vSl-nEKPM0vv-D46Esju6Nx.../pub>. Forms need to be returned to FMHS athletic office or to a Booster club member.

## Pheasants Forever raffle tickets available now

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



Pen City Current will list your event in this highly visible CURRENT-LEE section in increments of 25 words for \$15. Add a photo for \$5. Non-profit organizations are eligible for the reduced rate of \$10 per 25 words and \$3 per photo. To place your listing, click here or call Lee at (319)371.4125.

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# Folluo wants a larger loan to finish other projects

JAIL - Continued from Page 1

Hunold showed how it might be cheaper to take out a loan and use the savings on the meals to pay the loan off and save the county money on that cost.

Hunold handed out a scenario where the county would borrow the money for the kitchen renovation at an estimated 5% interest. Borrowing the money allows the county to keep the meals at \$1.65 per day, which is a .38/per meal savings. With an average inmate population of 90, that number would equate to \$102.60 per day annualized at \$37,499 per year. With interest the county would be repaying approximately \$81,000, he showed the loan would be paid off in 2.16 years. With the 5-year contract, the additional cost per meal would amount to \$187,495 over the term of the contract, so the county would save \$106,495 over the five-year period.

Supervisor Gary Folluo said if the county was going to take out a loan of that type he'd like to see some other projects rolled into the loan, but didn't elaborate prior to the end of the workshop.

Lee County Sheriff Stacy Weber, said Jail Administrator John Canida has been doing diligence on the plan and has said Iowa Prison Industries hasn't been able to come down to that price.

"Prison Industries has reached out to us, but quite frankly I told them that if they couldn't get to \$1.65 I wasn't interested. They're trying to get into this business, too. There's a profit in it or they wouldn't be doing it."

Supervisor Matt Pflug said he had a concern that Consolidated would be trying to buy into the business and then move to a higher per meal price. Pflug recommended trying to secure a long-term contract if Consolidated was open to something like that.

Wever said he has had conversations with other jails in Iowa that use Consolidated and there have been no problems. Weber did say that if the inmate population dropped significantly to like 20 inmates, the rate may increase, but he said other jails that have had that issue have never had rates higher than \$1.85 per meal.

"I contacted a sheriff's department that's been using them for 10 years and that's not been the case," he said.

Weber also said the Juvenile Detention Center, which is located next to the jail, is on board with the switch, too, and will work in conjunction with the jail."

"Whoever we go with, they're going to piggy back right along with us," Weber said.

Supervisor Ron Fedler said adding the juvenile center could help keep the meal numbers up.

Hunold told Weber to keep moving forward on the project. Wever said during the past month's budgeting process he cut the department's meal budget to \$150,000 reflecting the change.

"It's up to you but this is a tremendous way to start some savings. I'm with you guys. I don't want to rush it. Let's do what's best for the taxpayer. But the point of this is saving money."

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## Lee County Health Department - Hospice



Hospice Volunteer Training  
Providing Comfort on the  
Journey Home

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

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

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



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