



Pen City Current

Thursday, March 22, 2018 | 9 pages | Volume 2 • Issue 83



Photos by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Lincoln grandparents get time at school

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

FORT MADISON - It was standing room only at Lincoln Elementary School Wednesday with grandparents pouring through the halls with their grandchildren in a wildly successful day of sharing.

The school hosted its first "Gardening with Grandparents" day where grandparents were able to get a planter with sunflower seeds, all donated by Ty Louck of Ty's Greenhouse, to make a project with their grandchild.

For about four square blocks around the school,

See **SUNFLOWERS**, page 4



Lincoln kindergartner Honesty Fluke, gets her sunflower planter on Wednesday with grandma Teri McCracken. Grandparents were invited to the school with students during the afternoon.

Bridges program gets \$10K funding kick

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG
PCC EDITOR

MONTROSE - In a symbolic gesture from economic groups in Fort Madison and Keokuk, the Bridges out of Poverty program got an infusion of seed money to kick off Lee County fundraising.

At the site of the Lee County Economic Development Group's efforts to bridge the north and south parts of the county with a world record of most people planting flowers simultaneously with 1,463 on Oct. 18, 2016, LCEDG Chief Operating Officer Dennis Fraise announced two \$5,000 funding donations to the Bridges program Wednesday from the Lee County Conservation Center.



FRAISE

Fraise, who's also a member of the Bridge's Steering Committee said the donations, which will serve as seed money to get fundraising locally off the ground, came from Keokuk Economic Development Corp. and the Fort Madison Economic Development Corp.

The initiative started in December with a meeting of 70 to 80 people and launched the idea for Bridges in Lee County.

"It's gonna take some money to fund the program," Fraise told the group. "We thought this would be good place to kick off what were planning. If you remember,



GOBBLE

18 months ago we came down here and planted a bunch of tulips and if you look out in the field they are started to come up again. Bridges has become that event. Bridges is one of the first things we've done since then and we sent out emails that something was happening with Bridges here and look what happens - we get people involved from all over the county."

Fraise said it will cost between \$65,000 and \$90,000 to get the program going and a \$10,000 donation is a great start. We couldn't be happier to see these two economic development groups step forward and say "We believe in this program and there is a need."

Tim Gobble, executive director of Fort Madison Partners, the umbrella group overseeing FMEDC was on hand for the joint check presentation.

See **BRIDGES**, page 8

Bloodhounds wind down marching season in Chi-town

BY ANIAH ROSS
PCC FMHS INTERN

FORT MADISON - Fort Madison High School's Marching Bloodhounds returned Sunday night from Chicago. The parade was a long wait but a quick

march. A lot of people were at this parade just to watch the band march and play. The trip itself was an amazing experience for the students. From the food to the entertainment, they enjoyed it all.

For freshman, Morgan

Meierotto, this is her first band trip outside of the normal competitions from this last season. She gave us a look at how she felt.

"In all honesty, I was completely nervous about the parade. It had a different atmosphere

then many of the other performances. The experience is something that I wouldn't trade for anything though," Meierotto said.

As for senior Jason Meyer, his experience

See **BAND**, page 4

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Obituaries

OBITUARIES

RHONDA SUE HUFF

Rhonda Sue Huff, 68, of Farmington, Iowa passed away at 6:15 a.m. Monday, March 19, 2018 at the Fort Madison Community Hospital in Fort Madison, Iowa.

Born April 15, 1949 in Fort Madison, Iowa the daughter of Roger and Sylvia (Reid) Naplin. On April 19, 1985 she married Michael Huff in Kahoka, Missouri. They made their home near Croton where they lived a long and wonderful life.

Survivors include her husband Michael of Farmington, Iowa; four children: Roger (Maria) Naplin of Rochester, New Hampshire, April (Channeon) Davis of Burlington, Iowa, Summer Martin of Fort Madison, Iowa and Dana (Chris) Petersen of Mediapolis, Iowa; eight grandchildren: Romen Martin, Johni Martin, Eathen Martin, Krissy Davis-John, Shawn Strobe, Stephaine Naplin, Devin Stark and Bailey Payne; two great grandchildren: Kya and Liam John; three sisters: LaVona Seth of Farmington, Iowa, Edna Still of Minneapolis, Minnesota and Deborah Woodward of Farmington, Iowa; two brothers: John Naplin of Cedar Rapids and Nathan Naplin of Hooper, Nebraska. Several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents, parents and one brother: James Naplin.

Rhonda was a 1968 graduate of Central Lee High School. She was a member of Embury United Methodist Church. She worked as a cook at the Farmington Senior Center and cleaned Embury Church for fifteen years. She enjoyed traveling, cooking and being with family.

Friends may call after 1:00 p.m. Friday, March 23, 2018 at Schmitz Funeral Home in Farmington where the family will receive friends from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

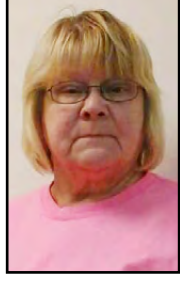
A funeral service will be held at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, March 24, 2018 at Embury United Methodist Church rural Donnellson, Iowa with Pastor Peg Ellingson officiating. Burial will be at Greenglade Cemetery in Farmington, Iowa.

Following burial a time of food and fellowship will be held at Embury Church.

A memorial has been established for Embury Church.

Schmitz Funeral Home Farmington is assisting the family with the arrangements.

Online Condolences may be sent to the family at www.schmitzfuneralhomes.com.



HUFF

DEREK MATHEW BONAR

Derek Mathew Bonar, 29, of Wever, IA, passed away unexpectedly on Tuesday, March 20, 2018 at his home. He was born on August 14, 1988 in Fort Madison, IA to Brian & Debra Soppe Bonar. He married Kayla Rae Eid on June 8, 2013 in Fort Madison, IA. He was an avid hunter and was a member of the Wever Fire Department. He enjoyed family get-togethers, farming and spending time with his kids.

Derek is survived by: his wife: Kayla Bonar of Wever, IA; 1-daughter: Brenna Bonar of Wever, IA; 2-sons: Dayton & Bentley Bonar both of Wever, IA; his father: Brian (Kelly) Bonar of Wever, IA; his mother: Debbie Bonar of Fort Madison, IA; his mother and father in law: Walt & Marsha Eid of Fort Madison, IA; 1-brother: Brent Bonar of Fort Madison, IA; 1-sister: Sara Bonar of Wever, IA; his paternal grandparents: Harold & Nadine Bonar of Wever, IA, whom he adored; a brother and sister in law: Darren (Kate) Eid of Donnellson, IA; 2-sister in laws: Tammi Eid of Fort Madison, IA & Mary Eid of Georgia and 1-brother in law: Gregg Eid of Revere, MO. He was preceded in death by his maternal grandparents and 1-uncle: Rick Bonar.

The family will receive friends from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 25, 2018 at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. The funeral service will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, March 26, 2018 at King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory with Rev. Jim Luder officiating. Burial will be held at Claypoole Cemetery in rural Wever, IA. Online condolences to Derek's family may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: www.kinglynk.com.



BONAR

HELGA KENT

Helga Kent, 78, of Montrose passed away on Wednesday, March 21, 2018 at 6:11 AM at her home.

She was born on February 27, 1940 in Gedern Germany to Adolph and Anna Behr. On August 18, 1961 she married Frederick W. Kent Jr. in Budingon, Germany and he passed away on January 31, 2012. Helga worked at Sheaffer Pen Co. for seventeen years and then became the Director of Housekeeping at the Ft. Madison Care Center. She enjoyed gardening, feeding the birds and squirrels. Helga also enjoyed listening to her German music. Her greatest love was her family and taking care of them.

Survivors include six children, Connie (Tom) Dunroe of Ken-duskeag, ME, Karina Kent of Montrose, James (Tammy) Kent of Ft. Madison, Thomas (Elizabeth) Kent of Pass Christian, Mississippi, Kevin (Robin) Kent of Montrose, Tish (Veronica Forrett) Petry of Ft. Madison; fifteen grandchildren; six great grandchildren and a sister-in-law, Letticia (Tom) Hauck of Ft. Madison and special friends, Evelyn and Harold Husted of Montrose. She was preceded in death by her parents, Husband, three brothers and two sisters.

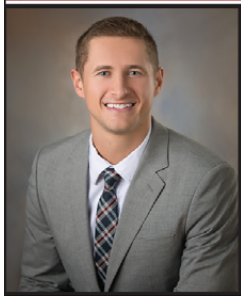
Per her wishes, cremation was been entrusted to King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory. There will be a private graveside service held in Soldier's Circle, Oakland Cemetery.

A memorial has been established for the Parkinson's Association and online condolences may be left at www.kinglynk.com.



KENT

Two heads are better than one.



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For the Record/Lottery Numbers

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report

03/16/18 - 10:07 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 2700 block of Avenue O.
 03/16/18 - 9:40 a.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Hamilton E. Parker, 31, of Fort Madison at the Lee County Jail on a charge of 4th degree theft. He was held in custody.
 03/16/18 - 1:52 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 2600 block of Avenue L.
 03/16/18 - 10:15 p.m. - Fort Madison Police cited Kaylee Nicole Alvarez, 21, of Fort Madison, in the 1100 block of 24th Street on a charge of driving under suspension. She was released upon citation.
 03/16/18 - 11:52 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 6100 block of Reve Court.
 03/17/18 - 9:28 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 2100 block of Avenue B.
 03/17/18 - 11:41 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 2700 block of Avenue O.
 03/17/18 - 7:37 p.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Timothy Daniel Selfridge, 31, of Pennsylvania, in the 700 block of Eighth Street on a charge of OWI-1st offense. He was taken

to Lee County Jail and held.
 03/17/18 - 9:38 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 900 block of 2nd Street.
 03/17/18 - 10:27 p.m. - Fort Madison Police cited Melinda Ann Pollmeier, 30, of West Point, in the 5000 block of River Valley Road, on charges of driving while revoked, possession of drug paraphernalia and expired registration. She was released upon citation.
 03/18/18 - 12:24 a.m. - Fort Madison Police cited Jason James, 34, of Burlington in the 1200 block of 25th Street on charge of driving under suspension. He was released upon citation.
 03/18/18 - 1:09 a.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Joshua N. Kinman, 31, of Dallas City, Ill., in the 5400 block of Avenue O, on a charge of OWI-1st offense, excessive speed, and failure to obey traffic control device. He was taken to Lee County Jail and held.
 03/18/18 - 9:07 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a hit-and-run in the 3400 block of Avenue D.
 03/18/18 - 11:43 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 1300 block of 23rd Street.
 03/18/18 - 1:31 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property

damage accident in the 1100 block of 34th Street.
 03/18/18 - 1:37 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a hit-and-run in the 500 block of Avenue E.
 03/18/18 - 1:44 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 1600 block of Avenue I.
 03/18/18 - 4:08 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a stolen vehicle in the 1500 block of Avenue D.
 03/18/18 - 4:26 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a stolen vehicle in the 1500 block of Avenue D.
 03/18/18 - 5:48 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of vandalism in the 2200 block of Avenue G.
 03/18/18 - 7:16 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a stolen vehicle in the 3200 block of Avenue H.
 3/19/18 - 12:44 a.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Stevie Ray Kay Londrie, 27, of Fort Madison at the intersection of 15th Street and Avenue H on a warrant for failure to appear, driving while suspended and charges of possession of drug paraphernalia and methamphetamine. She was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
 03/19/18 - 9:02 a.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft at 32nd Street and Avenue P.
 03/19/18 - 12:01 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a

report of vandalism in the 4800 block of Grand View Lane.
 03/19/18 - 1:13 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 2200 block of Avenue E.
 03/19/18 - 2:48 p.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Teresa Ann Manning, 43, of Fort Madison at the police department on eight counts of misuse of a credit card, and burglary of a motor vehicle. She was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
 03/19/18 - 2:48 p.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Gary Lee Manning, 51, of Fort Madison at the police department on eight counts of misuse of a credit card, and burglary of a motor vehicle. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
 03/19/18 - 9:21 p.m. - Fort Madison Police responded to a report of a property damage accident in the 2400 block of Avenue H,
 03/20/18 - 2:44 a.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Adam James Huss, 29, of Fort Madison, near the intersection of 187th Street and 345th Avenue on charges of eluding police, driving while suspended, reckless driving, no insurance, felon in possession of offensive weapons and/or ammunition, failure to have required number of headlamps, dark windows and speeding. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
 03/20/18 - 7:55 a.m. - Fort

Madison Police responded to a report of a larceny/theft in the 600 block of 5th Street.
 03/20/18 - 9:04 a.m. - Fort Madison Police arrested Paul Hileman, 47, of Fort Madison in the 2700 block of Avenue M on a warrant for attempted burglary-3rd degree. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.

Lee County Sheriff's Report

03/16/18 - 3:43 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Jeri Jean Duncan, 41, of Montrose in the 2800 block of River Road, on charges of driving under the influence and being a fugitive from justice. She was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
 03/16/18 - 12:17 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Russell Arlo Young, II, 42, of Fort Madison at the North Lee County Courthouse on court ordered hold. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
 03/17/18 - 7:13 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a two-vehicle accident in the 2900 block of Hwy. 27. A vehicle driven by Jacqueline Lynn Archibald of Buckeye, Ariz., slid on a wet spot on the roadway and went down into the ditch with the vehicle she was towing with a tow bar. The towed vehicle collided with vehicle Archibald was

driving. No injuries or citations were reported at the scene.
 03/18/18 - 11:15 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Nicholas Ryan Queen, 39, of Burlington in the 1000 block of Fulton Street in Keokuk on three warrants for possession of methamphetamine less than 5 grams and a warrant for failure to appear. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
 03/18/18 - 1:59 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Cody Scott Glasgow, 26, of Montrose in the 200 block of Hwy. 61 on a charge of eluding police. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and released on his own recognizance.
 03/18/18 - 4:27 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Devin Lance Lewis, 25, of Keokuk, in the 2400 block of Carbide Lane on a charge of driving while barred. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.
 03/18/18 - 6:33 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Michaela Elaine Land, 23, of Keokuk at the sheriff's office on a judgment entry. She was taken to Lee County Jail and held.
 03/18/18 - 10:03 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested Katie Joann Cleveland, 32, of Keokuk in the 1200 block of Exchange Street on a warrant for failure to appear. She was taken to Lee County



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 SM	Wed & Sat	8:59 pm	10:00 pm
Pick 3 - Midday	Daily	Noon	12:20 pm
Pick 3 - Evening	Daily	9:40 pm	10:00 pm
Pick 4 - Midday	Daily	Noon	12:20 pm
Pick 4 - Evening	Daily	9:40 pm	10:00 pm



3/21
 3 4 18 29 61
 Powerball: 25
 Power Play: 2



3/21
 6 18 25 26 28
 Star Ball: 8
 All Star Bonus: 5



3/21 MID-DAY
 4 1 2
3/21 EVENING
 7 2 6



3/21 MID-DAY
 8 6 4 8
3/21 EVENING
 7 7 2 7



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Opinion/For the Record

Parade can still be streamed on television

BAND - Continued from Page 1

was a nice closure to his time on the Bloodhound Marching Band

“As a senior, it was the perfect way to close out my time in marching band and help show why Fort Madison High School’s band is one of the best in America. It was great to bond closer with my friends and make new memories.”

If you still wish to see the Marching Bloodhound’s performance in the parade, you still can. Go to abc7chicago.com then search for the parade.



Photo courtesy of Teree Meierotto

The Fort Madison Bloodhound Marching Band took to the streets of Chicago on St. Patrick’s Day Saturday as part of the Chicago holiday parade. The parade can still be seen streamed on ABC7chicago.com.

More than 400 visit Lincoln Wednesday

SUNFLOWERS - Continued from Page 1

grandparents were walking up to the school and had taken up almost every parking spot on the street, in front of the school, and on the school parking area south of the playground.

The school encouraged the families to take pictures of the sunflower planting and transplanting process and share the pictures with school teachers. The pictures can then be shared on the school’s Facebook page.

In addition to the gardening projects, the school also held a book fair in the gymnasium at the same time.

Principal Tracy King said the event was a shocking success.

“We had an RSVP of 403. We’ve just had an enormous turnout, it’s been a great day,” she said.

Grandparents Day used to be held at Denmark, King said. But since that school was closed this is the first year it’s been done at Lincoln. Grandparents at Richardson were treated to a luncheon on Wednesday as well.

“Parents and grandparents like to be involved,” King said. “Grandparents don’t get to come to school much and this was their special day. It was just a time to share with their grandchild. We just wanted to get people in the buildings and try to get more family involvement in the school,” King said.

She said the book fair was kind of a misfortune of scheduling.

“The book fair is usually during parent teacher conferences and for some reason we didn’t align with that this year, so we moved it to coincide with this event and it’s just been a tremendous hit with everyone. It’s been very successful,” King said.

Grandparents were also able to go into the classrooms and meet the students’ teachers and see what projects are being worked on prior to the regularly scheduled Wednesday early out.

LETTER TO EDITOR

Reader submits review of two letters

Dear Editor;

I am a parent of two kids in the Fort Madison Community School District and an active member of the KIDS Committee. To keep Fort Madison moving forward I believe the residents of the Fort Madison Community School District should vote in favor of the proposed bond referendum.

In both elementary schools, the gym serves as a physical education space, as well as a lunch room. As my kindergartener says “we have to eat lunch in the same room where the sweaty kids just had PE.” He’s a bit dramatic, but he’s right.

More importantly, neither elementary building is completely handicapped accessible. Richardson has three levels and no elevator. Students in 2nd and 3rd grade attend class on the upper levels, and every way to those classrooms requires the use of stairs. An elevator cannot be added because of the Americans With Disabilities Act. Though the buildings are grandfathered in, any future changes to the schools would require the entire building to be ADA compliant. This is where the \$40 million price tag comes in. Unfortunately, the school cannot simply make small additions at this point, and we need our community’s support to make these changes possible.

If you’re opposed to the bond, I encourage you to visit one of the schools and take a look around before you vote no. Something will have to be done eventually, and so voting against this bond is only delaying the inevitable.

Schools are different today than they were when we, the voters, grew up. Technology has changed and space needs have changed. The school district needs to change also. Please vote yes on April 3rd.

Kim Shacklett,
Fort Madison

For the Record

Jail and then released on bond.

03/19/18 - 1:50 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff’s deputies arrested Melissa Janette McDermott, 33, of Keokuk, at the Lee County Jail on two warrants for violation of probation. She was held in custody.

03/19/18 - 7:02 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff’s deputies arrested Ezra Robert Fierman, 24, of Fort Madison, no location provided, on two counts of possession of a controlled substance, and one count of possession of drug paraphernalia. He was taken to the Lee County Jail and held.

03/20/18 - 2:40 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff’s deputies responded to a two vehicle accident following a high-speed chase through Fort Madison and onto Hwy. 61 north and then east of Hwy 61 in a field just south of Wever. A vehicle driven by Adam James Huss, 29, of Fort Madison was struck by deputy Joshua Allen Wade, 31, of Fort Madison as Wade was trying to stop Huss. Huss was charged with eluding police 25 mph over the speed limit, possession of weapons by a felon, no insurance, speeding, driving while suspended, failure to have proper headlights, reckless driving and dark windows. No injuries were reported at the scene.

03/20/18 - 1:32 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff’s deputies arrested Gloria Raquel

Schulte, 32, of Fort Madison in the 2400 block of Peach Orchard Road in Montrose, on charges of possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of a controlled substance and failure to have a valid driver’s license. She was taken to Lee County Jail and held.

03/20/18 - 4:06 a.m. - Lee County Sheriff’s deputies arrested a 15-year-old male juvenile in the 5300 block of Avenue O, on a charge of possession of a controlled substance. He was released to a parent.

03/20/18 - 4:13 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff’s deputies cited LaDarius Jason Levane Burton, 19, of Fort Madison, in the 5400 block of Avenue O, for possession of a controlled substance. He was released upon citation.

Those listed above are presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty in a court of law.

Fort Madison Fire & Rescue report

03/17/18 - Fort Madison firefighters responded to one medical call and one assist.
03/18/18 - Fort Madison firefighters responded to one medical call and one fire alarm.
03/19/18 - Fort Madison firefighters responded to two medical calls, one gas leak and one faulty detector.
03/20/18 Fort Madison firefighters responded to four medical calls.

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Classifieds/Public Notices

the classifieds

PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Great River Regional Waste Authority Is accepting bids for the mowing of its properties located at 2092 303rd ave in Fort Madison and 111 Carbide lane in Keokuk.

Bids must be received by April 2nd by 4:00 p.m.

It is recommended that all bidders look at the properties before submitting their bids.

Bids shall be for mowing services, weed eating every week (Unless not recommended by GRRWA) and also spraying weeds if needed.

Bids need to be sent to: Great River Regional Waste Authority, 2092 303rd Ave. Fort Madison Iowa 52627 and to the Attention of: Wade Hamm.

HELP WANTED

Marketing Director

We are in search of a candidate for a possible opening as Marketing Director for Holy Trinity Catholic Schools. This is a part-time position with full benefits, which may become full-time. Duties include all marketing for the school system including advertising, press releases, public relations, etc. Successful candidate will be responsible for social media, event planning, and helping with recruitment and retention. Facilitating the current International Student program is also part of the position.

Marketing Degree or several years of marketing experience is a plus. Necessary qualifications include excellent written, verbal, social media and interpersonal communication skills.

Send resume to:
Michael Sheerin
2600 Ave A
Fort Madison, IA 52627



YOUR AD HERE
(319)371.4125

HELP WANTED

FULL-TIME DAYCARE ASSOCIATE

Holy Trinity Early Childhood Center has a full-time daycare associate position available immediately. This a year round, benefits eligible position. Candidates must be able to complete DHS required trainings and pass a background check.

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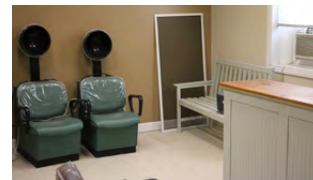
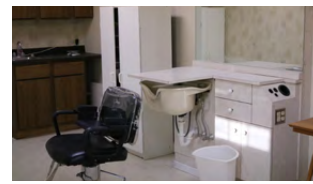
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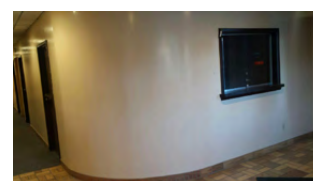
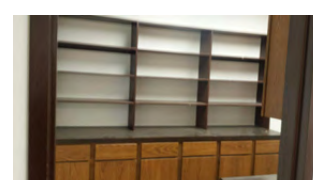
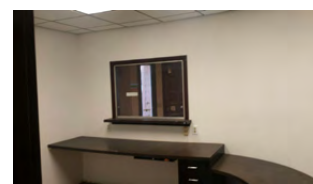
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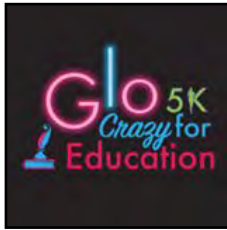
HTC TAPS 8th Annual Bunny Hop Event – March 31st, 2018

WEST POINT - HTC Bunny Hop 5K Run/Walk or 10K Run event. Saturday, March 31st beginning at the West Point Library. Registration begins at 8:00a.m. The race begins at 9 a.m. Pre-registration before March 23rd is \$20 & includes t-shirt. Registration on or after March 23rd is \$25. Drinks and light snacks will be provided for participants. Medals will be awarded to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place finishers in each age group. Registration forms can be found here or www.holytrinintyschools.org. [Click here](#) to download & print your registration form.



Glo Crazy for Education run set for April 7

FORT MADISON - A 5K run/walk will be held on April 7 at Baxter Sports Complex beginning at 8 p.m. Proceeds from the event will go to the Elliott Test Kitchen in Fort Madison. The event is being put on by Fort Madison service clubs including Fort Madison Kiwanis, Lions and Rotary clubs as well as the Fort Madison High School key club. Registration can be done at www.pencitycurrent.com/glo-crazy/.



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Birth Announcements

FALLON ANN HUNOLD

FORT MADISON - Katie and Brandon Hunold of West Point announce the birth of their daughter Fallon Ann Hunold on March 15, 2018 at Fort Madison Community Hospital.

Fallon joins brother Marshall and sister Bailey at home.

Grandparents are Mark and Judy Hunold of West Point, Dennis and Jill Pirri of Fort Madison and Mike Cochran (deceased).

Great-grandparents are Ron and Rovene Cochran of Fort Madison, Nancy Gray of Fort Madison, and Viola Hunold of Houghton.

The Pen City Current congratulates the family on this wonderful news.

DYLAN SCHMITZ

IOWA CITY - Brian and Lyndsey Markey Schmitz announce the birth of their son Dylan Schmitz, on Feb. 12, 2018 at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics in Iowa City.

Dylan joins Nolan, 3, at home.

Grandparents are Linda and Dave Dingman of Fort Madison, Tony Markey of Dallas City, Ill., and SueAnn Schmitz of Nauvoo, Ill.

The Pen City Current congratulates the family on this wonderful news.

Spring Cleaning

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From the Front/Weather

More training sessions set for April

BRIDGES - Continued from Page 1

“Obviously Bridges helps the workforce initiative and gets people qualified for quality jobs,” Gobble said. “Fort Madison Economic Development Corp. and Lee County Economic Development Group have been working towards that and this is a great addition to their support and will ultimately benefit not only Fort Madison, but Lee County as a whole.”

Gobble said the steering committee will be working on fundraising mechanisms that will include grants, different foundations and enterprises, and industries in and around Lee County.

“It’s going to be collaborative effort all the way around.”

Mona Ash, Building Bridges Coordinator out of Burlington and the Des Moines County effort said Lee County is certainly getting off on the right foot.

“I’m so excited about this, first of all, seeing you

all bring this together,” she said. “You might need your own Mona, but it takes a village to make all these things work. This is an excellent start. Both of these groups have started so powerfully, it’s really an avalanche. Burlington was the same way, it’s very exciting.”

Ash said the Burlington Bridges program started with seed money in the form of a grant from Great River Medical Center.

“I feel like this is coming together really well. You have such a diversity of people involved and you need that to make it a go.”

According to the LCEDG, the Bridges initiative seeks to provide education, build resources, and remove barriers to success for individuals and families living in generational poverty.

“Twenty-eight percent of children in Southeast Iowa live in poverty and Lee County’s unemployment rate has been the highest



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

A group made up of area economic development officials, educators, and Bridges of Lee County steering committee members were on hand for a \$10,000 donation from Fort Madison and Keokuk economic development corporations.

in the state for eight of the last twelve months,” Fraise said. “The need for an initiative such as Bridges is significant. It’s encouraging that both the Fort Madison and Keokuk economic development groups recognize the need and have chosen to support it.”

The committee is working with Young House Family Services, a 501(c)3 social services organization, whose program in Des Moines County has seen considerable success.

The steering committee is hosting the next community-wide Bridges out of Poverty training

“*The need for an initiative such as Bridges is significant. It’s encouraging that both the Fort Madison and Keokuk economic development groups recognize the need and have chosen to support it.*”

-Dennis Fraise,

Bridges Steering Committee, LCEDG COO

in Keokuk on April 9th from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the First Lutheran Church located at 1101 Blondeau Street. The training will look at the cyclical nature of poverty that can keep generations of a family in its grasp.

“Community members from all backgrounds will learn how to understand that framework and work within and around it to help our most vulnerable neighbors,” said Kira Kruszynski, another steering committee mem-

ber. “That’s essentially, the heart of the Bridges initiative.”

Those interested in participating in the April 9th community training can RSVP to the Keokuk Area Chamber of Commerce at 319-524-5055.



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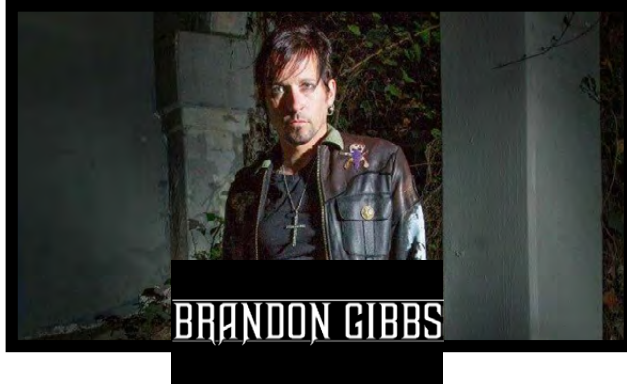
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FireHouse has been rockin' for over a decade. Their music has taken them all over the world and has produced Gold, Platinum and Multi-Platinum records in the United States and countries abroad. In 1990, their first album, entitled FireHouse, was released. The band's first single, Shake & Tumble, had impressive radio success. The band then released Don't Treat Me Bad, which became their first Top Ten hit. This was followed by Love of a Lifetime, which also entered the Top Ten, reaching the #3 spot on the United States charts. This string of hits vaulted their first album to double platinum status in the United States; also going gold in Canada, Japan and Singapore. At the 1991 American Music Awards, Firehouse found themselves standing before the nation accepting the award for Best New Hard Rock/Metal Band, chosen over Nirvana and Alice in Chains. The band's second album, Hold Your Fire, was released in 1992. It produced the hits Reach for the Sky and Sleeping with You. Another Top Ten hit, When I Look into Your Eyes, peaked on the United States charts at #5. This album earned the band two more gold albums and over 1 million sales worldwide. In 1995, Firehouse released their third album on Epic, simply titled 3. Once again, Firehouse produced another Top Forty hit in the United States with I Live My Life For You. It was with this album that Firehouse made their first trip to Southeast Asia for a promotional tour. Earlier American hits like Don't Treat Me Bad, Love of a Lifetime and When I Look into Your Eyes had climbed the charts in Asia. Here for You, the second single from 3, had also become a hit. The band then continued their promotional tour in South American countries such as Brazil and Argentina. Their fourth album, Good Acoustics, was released in 1996 and quickly went gold in Malaysia, Thailand, and Philippines. Good Acoustics contains unplugged versions of the group's greatest hits, as well as four new songs. This album produced foreign hits such as In Your Perfect World, Love Don't Care and You Are My Religion. The band returned to Southeast Asia for another promotional tour at the end of 1996. Then, in February 1997, Firehouse embarked on their first concert tour of Southeast Asia playing sold out shows for fans in Indonesia, Singapore, Thailand, and Japan. During May and June they toured the United States before returning to Southeast Asia in July for an unprecedented twenty-five city sold out tour of Indonesia. In 1998, Firehouse toured the United States on the Rock Never Stops tour, which also included Slaughter, Warrant, Quiet Riot, and LA Guns. October of 1998 featured the Asian release of Firehouse's fifth CD, Category 5 on Pony Canyon Records. The album quickly climbed to #4 on the Japanese charts, and supporting promotional tour of Japan followed. Category 5 was officially released in the United States in 1999. Firehouse continued touring through the winter and spring of 1999, including 3 more sold out shows in Tokyo, Nagoya, and Osaka. On April 22, 1999, the band recorded their live show in Osaka. The result - the first ever live album by Firehouse. Bring 'em Out Live was released in Japan in December 1999 and in the United States on Spitfire Records in July 2000. The turn of the century brought the release their seventh album, titled O2. It has been released in SE Asia on Pony Canyon Records, and in the US on Spitfire Records. This album had notable success despite the changing style of popular rock music. During this time, the band decided to part ways with original bass player, Perry Richardson. O2's remarkable bass playing was supplied by Bruce Waibel. Bruce brought to the band his phenomenal bass playing along with is equally impressive sense of humor. We truly regret to say that in September 2003, Bruce has passed away. He will be greatly missed as a friend and talented musician. FireHouse headed back into the studio in early 2003 to write and record their 8th album, PRIME TIME. As music changes over time, FireHouse continues to evolve their musical style; yet, at the same time, hang onto their hard rock roots. Released in October of 2003, album number 8 is no exception. You can expect to hear what FireHouse is famous for ... soulful, melodic hard rock.

Brandon's passion for music began at a very young age, when he would sing alongside his twin brother Brent. Around the age of eight, he started playing his dad's bass guitar, but quickly switched to the electric guitar and fell in love. At ten, Brandon landed his first gig with twin brother Brent backing him on the drums during a school assembly. This ignited a fire in the two to play more live shows. Throughout the next few years, Brandon spent endless hours practicing guitar and upon his discovery of the incredibly talented Stevie Ray Vaughan, Brandon knew he wanted to pursue a career in music. The Gibbs Brothers Band was formed and they began touring and recording music. Their reputation for harmonies, instrumentation, and pure entertainment was earning them more opportunities than most unsigned bands ever see. They would record three albums New Breed, Brothers N Arms, and Cover Up the Mess during their ten years together, but the time came for the brothers to part ways. In 2010, Brandon began traveling extensively as a solo act and working alongside Eric Brittingham. (Cinderella) In 2012, Cheap Thrill was formed, a band that toured nationally and internationally. Brandon continued writing during downtime, his song, This Town, was picked up by the John Force Racing Team and was eventually used for ESPN's NHRA division for three consecutive seasons. In June 2014, Brandon joined forces with Rikki Rockett (Poison), Tracii Guns (L.A. Guns), and Eric Brittingham (Cinderella) to form Devil City Angels. The band was soon with Century Media Music. Their first single, All My People, was used in the State Farm segment on the 2014 Monday Night Football Countdown. Devil City Angels released their self-titled record in September of 2015 and it received raving reviews. On April 17, 2015 in Miami, FL, Brandon kicked off the Monsters of Rock pre-party with what was announced as surprise performance by "The Special Guests" Poison fans were thrilled to find Bobby Dall, CC DeVille, and Rikki Rockett on stage and Brandon belting out the Poison songs fans have loved for years. The best is yet to come in 2017 as Brandon continues to unleash his talent both as a singer, songwriter and guitarist. 2018 expect to see Brandon Gibbs performing shows as BRANDON GIBBS BAND. "This has always been my goal/passion to have my own band out touring" states Brandon. Expect a very current pop/rock show along with new music yet to be released. "2018 could very well be the best year yet" says Gibbs.

Chaz and the Channel Catz are one of Fort Madison's very own with most of the band members having been born and raised right here in Fort Madison, Iowa. Loved by local and regional fans alike, they always deliver a well blended show of covers and originals with an Americana/Eclectic blend. Originally formed in the early 80's, Chaz and the Channel Catz performed at the first 'official' RiverFest in 1982 and continued playing at the event for many years and again at its comeback in 2016. Current band members include Chaz Rippenkroeger (vocals and guitar), Biff Rippenkroeger (vocals and guitar), Brad Kurtz (vocals, harmonica, mandolin and guitar), Ned Francis (electric guitar), Marty Hoyer (drums), Mike Delaney (steel guitar), and Steve Muerhoff (bass guitar). The newest band member who will be performing with the band during RiverFest 2018 is Andrew Brockman playing guitar. This year's performance will include a special guest appearance by a newcomer on the local music scene, Aniah Ross, on vocals and guitar. So grab your friends and neighbors this summer and come enjoy Chaz and the Channel Catz on the River once again.



As teenagers, the members of D.O.D. were listening to all of the 80s Hair Metal bands and reading every word of magazines like Hit Parader, Metal Edge and watching Headbangers Ball on MTV every Saturday, going to see concerts and watching their musical idols, all while dreaming of one day doing the music of this genre. Over the years since, every member D.O.D. have performed for thousands of fans all over the Midwest in some of the area's most popular bands. Honing their skills opening for legendary acts, they grew up idolizing. D.O.D. have reached the Summit, doing the music they love and doing the music justice, with no compromises! Set your clocks back to 1985 and let Decade of Decadence bring you back to when Whitesnake and Motley Crue ruled the Airwaves!! D.O.D. pays homage to the MUSIC of the Hair Metal era. Just the perfect lineup of Rockers, who grew up in the 80's, to keep you UP ALL NIGHT, dancing and singing to the biggest and best songs from the 80's Hair Band Era!!! So, come on and take a ride down Memory Lane, where the Down Boys go!

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FireHouse - 9:30 to 11:00
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