



Pen City Current

Monday, April 16, 2018 | 12 pages | Volume 2 • Issue 103



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Runners get an early start on a pretty brisk morning Saturday in Montrose as part of the Lee County LiveHealthy 5K and Kids 1K ran through the town. Results of the run will be posted in Pen City Current when they are available.



Beside The Point

Chuck Vandenberg,
Pen City Current - Editor

Jail staffing was wrong place to start spending talks

A heated conversation started last week toward the end of the Lee County Board of Supervisors meeting when Supervisor Ron Fedler suggested that the county not backfill a full-time and part-time correctional officer for the Lee County Jail.

Fedler, a veteran correctional officer himself, seemed to surprise other supervisors when he asked the board to put off replacing one officer who left to go to another county's correctional staff. It should be noted here, according to Sheriff Stacy Weber at the meeting, the officer left for a job that paid \$6/hour more than Lee County.

At one point in the meeting, Weber said regarding Fedler's move, "I don't know where this is coming from, I really don't."

Neither do we.

It's preaching to the choir, especially in this county, to say that we should be watching our pennies. But it's our contention, for what it's worth anyway, that the safety of county employees is the absolute last place to draw that line in the sand.

Last year, supervisors were shown a video of a correctional officer in a fight with an inmate. There's been a few more since then. The fight went on for almost two minutes before assistance could arrive. The C.O. was holding his own, but is that the job security we're trying to market to officers that are making \$6 an hour less than another department 30 minutes away. The officer also lived close to the county line where he transferred so it was a no-brainer.

But it's also a no-brainer to fill those positions. Weber wanted to move a part-time C.O. to full-time and then backfill the part-time position. Fedler wanted to hold up both moves. It should be noted that he voted in favor of the move at the end of the discussion, but only on a commitment from other supervisors to look very hard at future spending. It would appear that motion would have passed any way.

See JAIL, page 3

Empty Nest - Coop becoming an Adopt-A-Hen

My book is now available on Kindle. It's called "Protected." To find the book on Kindle, put in my name first, "Curt Swarm," as there are numerous book titles using the word "protected." This is my first book.

Meanwhile, back on the farm, our 11 hens were so curious about the new calf, Blossom, they laid 12 eggs the day of her arrival. That's the first time we have gotten more eggs than we have hens. One of them outdid herself!

But there's even more excitement in the hen house. Four new layers have been added to our flock. One of my readers from Keokuk passed my chicken stories along to

EMPTY NEST

By Curt Swarm



her son who has 30 hens and six roosters. Her son and I exchanged a couple of emails and compared notes: "How many eggs you get'n? Do you have trouble with predators? Where's the best place to get feed?" That sort of thing.

Then her son decided to move out of state and needed to find a home or homes for his flock. Would I be interested? Well, sure. But not thirty. Maybe a couple of hens to add to our flock. We have

adopted chickens before, and it worked out fine (except when a mink got into the hen house). Swarms' Adopt-A-Hen.

Ginnie and I made a trip to his acreage outside of Denmark, Iowa. His chickens are Light Brahmas, an exotic breed from China. They are a beautiful bird, mostly white, with black markings, and feathers on their feet. They are larger than our ISA Browns and quite docile and friendly. Even though the Brahmas are

mostly white, they lay a brown egg.

When we walked into their pen, they came running up to us, curious as to who we were and wanting to be introduced. We simply reached down and selected four pretty hens and brought them home, jiggity jog. We now have a clash of color: red and white hens. And they don't necessarily get along. The Brahmas spend a good deal of the day up on roosts, waiting for the red hens (normally a docile bird, also) to go outside. When it's safe, the white hens hop down to eat, drink, and lay eggs. They haven't yet figured out that they are larger than the red hens and don't have to

See SWARM, page 8

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Obituaries/Area News

CURRENT-LEE

Lee County Bridges group to hold Keokuk community-wide meeting April 16

The steering committee is hosting the next community-wide Bridges out of Poverty training in Keokuk on April 16th from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the First Lutheran Church located at 1101 Blondeau Street. The Public is invited to attend



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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



4/15 MID-DAY
8 8 2
4/15 EVENING
8 3 7



4/15 MID-DAY
5 1 4 7
4/15 EVENING
7 7 5 6

Pen City Current encourages you to play responsibly.

OBITUARIES

DEENA JO SCHULTE

A kind, loving, gentle daughter, sister and aunt, Deena Jo Schulte, age 69, passed away quietly at 3:38 p.m. on Friday, April 13, 2018 surrounded by family and friends. Deena was born on June 13, 1948 in Fort Madison, IA to Theodore Henry & Mary Helen Colby Schulte, with severe Cerebral Palsy. While her physical problems



SCHULTE

were many, she overcame them through her indomitable spirit. She met her daily challenges with unbelievable grace and patience. She maintained a positive sunny disposition despite her many disabilities. She laughed easily and expressed true delight in life's simplest things. She loved to have her nails painted and hair permed. She favored dresses over pants and bright flashy jewelry. She was a member of Holy Family Parish and enjoyed dancing, laughing, a good party and spending time with her friends and family. She had a special bond with her mother, Helen, who took loving care of her throughout her life. Special thanks to her caregivers from Optima, Great River Hospice and the Kensington. Also her sister, Lynn, was her fierce and loving advocate until the end of her life.

Deena is survived by: her mother: Helen Colby Schulte of Fort Madison, IA; 2-sisters: Shelly Franks of Salt Lake City, UT & Lynn (Gary) Hoyer of Fort Madison, IA; 2-brothers: Joe (Jayme) Schulte of Waconia, MN & Craig Schulte of Montrose, IA; several nieces & nephews and her loving roommates: Linda & Renee. She was preceded in death by her father.

A funeral mass will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, April 19, 2018 at Ss. Mary & Joseph Church with Rev. Joseph Phung officiating. A private family burial will be held in Gethsemane Cemetery. A memorial has been established for Great River Hospice and online condolences to Deena's family may be left at the King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory website: www.kinglynk.com. King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory is assisting the family with the arrangements.

Great River Hospice to host flower fundraiser

W. BURLINGTON—Great River Health System-Hospice and Zaiser's Florist and Greenhouse have teamed up for a

spring flower sale to benefit patients at end of life and their families. The sale is scheduled from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday, May 2, at Zaiser's Florist & Greenhouse, 2400 Sunnyside Ave., Burlington.

A portion of the proceeds from annuals and perennials sold May 2 will be donated to Great River Health System-Hospice to help provide physical, emotional and spiritual care to patients in Des Moines, Henry, Lee and Louisa counties, and their families.

"This is our ninth annual flower sale," said Missy Allen, Hospice fundraising specialist. "This fundraiser helps us provide services for our patients and grief-support programs that are open to the community."

Gift certificates for any denomination can be purchased at Great River Health System-Hospice House or Zaiser's through May 2. Only cash or checks will be accepted.

For more information, please call Hospice at 319-768-3350

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77¢ ea.

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Opinion

State's ongoing defunding shifts pressure locally

JAIL - Continued from Page 1

After supervisors witnessed the video of the fight in the jail last year, they approved hiring two more C.O.s. with an eye to the next budget to hire two more. The Southeast Iowa Area Crime Commission had recommended at that time, the county boost the C.O. staff by six, not two...six.

The county, in the last two budget sessions, has dipped into general fund reserves to balance the budget.

The sheriff's department, secondary roads, and the county health department make up the lion's share of the expenditures of the county with the sheriff's department teetering on the \$4 million mark. That's about 23% higher than the department's budget under former Sheriff Jim Scholl. Fedler said the department's budget has "exploded" under Weber's leadership. It has at that. But so has jail population and so has crime. Jail Admin-

istrator John Canida has put in the hours stripping down costs on daily items including soap, paper towels, and even food, to mention just a few.

The Sheriff's department put up a proposal to have a new vendor come in to provide three meals a day to the jail inmates at just over half the cost of the Iowa State Penitentiary's meal service. The prison has yet to negotiate the price of their meals to keep the contract with the sheriff's department, and has actually suggested the current price of \$3.25 might go to \$3.50. The price of the meals at the Juvenile Detention Center behind the prison, is already \$3.50. ISP provides two meals per day.

The meal program would require upgrades to the kitchen to the tune of about \$80,000 including equipment. The county is close to creating a bid for the maintenance work that would be required to handle the new equipment.

Canida told supervisors the savings, based on an average jail population of 90, would save about \$87,000 per year.

During the summer and fall, the Lee County Jail had seen average daily populations at more than 100 offenders during several stretches. It's been settling in at close to 65-70 per day.

Deficit spending is precarious in any organization and with the state continuing to defund local governments, it's a very real problem. A new backfill bill, which phases out payments the state was making to local governmental bodies to replace funds lost with a commercial property rollback in 2013, has the support of Governor Kim Reynolds. That bill will cost the county about \$96,000 next year if it passes.

The state has also mandated a spend down of counties' mental health funds without proposing a



way to fund those services going forward. It's painting a picture of additional unfunded mandates and putting pressure on county officials to find cuts.

But we're a news outlet that tries to keep tabs on crime in this part of the county. In the past four weeks we've had four high-speed chases in the county, and more importantly in the 16 months we've been up and running, we've had a murder, an officer-involved shooting, a random shooting from a vehicle on the north side of town..and that's what we know they're working on. Crime is on the uptick. Des Moines County,

specifically Burlington, has become a hot-spot for violence. Just across the river in Oquawka there was a shooting this week. I dude got tased this week trying to flee law enforcement

We need to have a reputation for "not here" and that message needs to carry into our jail. The county needs to protect its employees, especially the ones that go to work every day with the worst people in the county outside the state penitentiary. Until revenues starting coming in on natural gas use at the Iowa Fertilizer Plant (if the state doesn't find a way to commandeer those, too) and possible

revenues start flowing off the recently constructed pipeline, Fedler is bringing up the right conversation, but even veteran supervisor Rick Larkin got after Fedler a bit for indicating the county was not appropriating money in the taxpayer's best interest.

We agree. Cuts may be coming as the state continues to "deappropriate" at every turn, but Fedler just started at the wrong end of things.

Stay tuned next week, as I'm writing a piece on how writing, even personal writing, can have a healthy impact on stress levels at all ages. But that's Beside the Point.

Spring Cleaning

Keep it green!

This year, do your part to keep our environment clean, too! Here are just a few of the ways you can help:

- Properly dispose of your household hazardous waste materials, construction debris, & electronic waste
- Use environmentally-safe cleaning products
- Reduce • Reuse • Recycle
- Check our website for proper disposal methods, acceptable materials, & more



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Sports

Fort Madison wrestlers win title at Pickford tourney

Pickford Greco Tournament

Schoolboy - S1
 Guaranteed Places
 1st Place - Logan Pennock of Fort Madison
 2nd Place - Alexys Petersen of Bettendorf
 3rd Place - Beau Wagner of Fort Madison
 Round Robin Matches
 Logan Pennock (Fort Madison) over Beau Wagner (Fort Madison) Fall 0:40
 Logan Pennock (Fort Madison) over Alexys Petersen (Bettendorf) TF 13-0
 Alexys Petersen (Bettendorf) over Beau Wagner (Fort Madison) TF 10-0
 Cadet - C1
 Guaranteed Places
 1st Place - Aidan Pennock of Fort Madison
 2nd Place - Teague Smith of Fort Madison Wrestling Club
 3rd Place - Owen Kruse of Mississippi Mud Rippers
 Round Robin Matches
 Teague Smith (Fort Madison Wrestling Club) over Owen Kruse (Mississippi Mud Rippers) Fall 1:39
 Aidan Pennock (Fort Madison) over Owen Kruse (Mississippi Mud Rippers) TF 21-11
 Aidan Pennock (Fort Madison) over Teague Smith (Fort Madison Wrestling Club) TF 10-0
 Cadet - C2

Guaranteed Places
 1st Place - Damian Petersen of Bettendorf
 2nd Place - Nathan Steffensmeier of Fort Madison
 3rd Place - Payton Cline of Fairfield
 Round Robin Matches
 Nathan Steffensmeier (Fort Madison) over Payton Cline (Fairfield) Fall 2:45
 Damian Petersen (Bettendorf) over Payton Cline (Fairfield) TF 10-0
 Damian Petersen (Bettendorf) over Nathan Steffensmeier (Fort Madison) TF 11-0
 Junior - J1
 Guaranteed Places
 1st Place - Conrad Braswell of Prairie Hawks
 2nd Place - Duncan Delzell of Mississippi Mud Rippers
 3rd Place - Ethan Wood-Finley of Eastern Iowa Wrestling Club
 4th Place - Elton Kruse of Mississippi Mud Rippers
 1st Place Match
 Conrad Braswell (Prairie Hawks) over Duncan Delzell (Mississippi Mud Rippers) TF 15-4
 1st Place Match
 Ethan Wood-Finley (Eastern Iowa Wrestling Club) over Elton Kruse (Mississippi Mud Rippers) Fall 2:54
 Junior - J2
 Guaranteed Places
 1st Place - Aaron Steffensmeier of Fort Madison
 2nd Place - Vincent Vass of

Ottumwa
 3rd Place - Max Mashek of Monster-USA Wrestling Club
 4th Place - Andrew Rohret of Clear Creek Amana
 Round Robin Matches
 Aaron Steffensmeier (Fort Madison) over Max Mashek (Monster-USA Wrestling Club) Dec 17-12
 Aaron Steffensmeier (Fort Madison) over Vincent Vass (Ottumwa) Fall 1:36
 Vincent Vass (Ottumwa) over Max Mashek (Monster-USA Wrestling Club) TF 10-0
 Junior - J3
 Guaranteed Places
 1st Place - Jonah Uph of crawdads
 2nd Place - Alex Lauber of Fort Madison
Pickford Freestyle Tournament
 Schoolboy - S1
 Guaranteed Places
 1st Place - Logan Pennock of Fort Madison
 2nd Place - Alexys Petersen of Bettendorf
 3rd Place - Beau Wagner of Fort Madison
 Round Robin Matches
 Logan Pennock (Fort Madison) over Beau Wagner (Fort Madison) TF 10-0
 Logan Pennock (Fort Madison) over Alexys Petersen (Bettendorf) TF 12-2



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Fort Madison's Teague Smith tries to get a takedown over Aoci Bernard of Rock Island, during the Mick Pickford Freestyle Tournament Sunday at Fort Madison High School.



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Fort Madison's Beau Waner tries to escape from Alexys Peterson of Bettendorf during his round-robin match Sunday morning at the Mick Pickford Freestyle wrestling tournament.

Alexys Petersen (Bettendorf) over Beau Wagner (Fort Madison) Fall 1:59
 Schoolboy - S2
 Guaranteed Places
 1st Place - Dominic Lopez of New London
 2nd Place - Aoci Bernard of rock island wrestling club
 3rd Place - Teague Smith of Fort Madison
 4th Place - Aidan Pennock of Fort Madison
 Round Robin Matches
 Dominic Lopez (New London) over Teague Smith (Fort Madison) Fall 1:12
 Dominic Lopez (New London) over Aoci Bernard (rock island wrestling club) TF 0-10
 Aoci Bernard (rock island wrestling club) over Teague Smith (Fort Madison) TF 17-5
 Schoolboy - S3
 Guaranteed Places
 1st Place - Kendal Pugh of Monster-USA WC
 2nd Place - Aime Iranyib of rock island wrestling club
 1st Place Match
 Kendal Pugh (Monster-USA WC) over Aime Iranyib (rock island wrestling club) TF 14-4
 Cadet - C1
 Guaranteed Places
 1st Place - Marcel Lopez of New London
 2nd Place - Manuel Limon of rock island wrestling club

3rd Place - Owen Kruse of Mississippi Mud Rippers
 4th Place - Joseph Ferguson of rock island wrestling club
 Round Robin Matches
 Marcel Lopez (New London) over Owen Kruse (Mississippi Mud Rippers) Fall 1:48
 Marcel Lopez (New London) over Manuel Limon (rock island wrestling club) Dec 5-10
 Manuel Limon (rock island wrestling club) over Owen Kruse (Mississippi Mud Rippers) Fall 0:56
 Cadet - C2
 Guaranteed Places
 1st Place - Nathan Steffensmeier of Fort Madison
 2nd Place - Cael Bredar of North Scott
 3rd Place - Kyle Gant of rock island wrestling club
 Round Robin Matches
 Nathan Steffensmeier (Fort Madison) over Cael Bredar (North Scott) Fall 4:00
 Cael Bredar (North Scott) over Kyle Gant (rock island wrestling club) TF 12-2
 Nathan Steffensmeier (Fort Madison) over Kyle Gant (rock island wrestling club) TF 14-4
 Cadet - C3
 Guaranteed Places
 1st Place - Deven Strief of North Scott
 2nd Place - Damian Petersen of Bettendorf
 3rd Place - Payton Cline of Fairfield
 4th Place - Arya Patel of Stars & Stripes Elite
 1st Place Match
 Deven Strief (North Scott) over Damian Petersen (Bettendorf) TF 14-4
 Cadet - C4
 Guaranteed Places
 1st Place - Jaiden Fields of rock island wrestling club
 2nd Place - Aiden Morgan of rock island wrestling club
 1st Place Match
 Jaiden Fields (rock island wrestling club) over Aiden Morgan (rock island wrestling club) Fall 0:59
 Junior - J1
 Guaranteed Places
 1st Place - Ethan Wood-Finley of Eastern Iowa Wrestling Club
 2nd Place - Elton Kruse of Mississippi Mud Rippers

1st Place Match
 Ethan Wood-Finley (Eastern Iowa Wrestling Club) over Elton Kruse (Mississippi Mud Rippers) TF 10-0
 Junior - J2
 Guaranteed Places
 1st Place - Conrad Braswell of Prairie Hawk
 2nd Place - Duncan Delzell of Mississippi Mud Rippers
 3rd Place - Colton Spillman of Solon
 Round Robin Matches
 Conrad Braswell (Prairie Hawk) over Colton Spillman (Solon) TF 10-0
 Conrad Braswell (Prairie Hawk) over Duncan Delzell (Mississippi Mud Rippers) TF 12-1
 Duncan Delzell (Mississippi Mud Rippers) over Colton Spillman (Solon) TF 10-0
 Junior - J3
 Guaranteed Places
 1st Place - Andrew Rohret of CCA
 2nd Place - Collin Lewis of North Scott
 3rd Place - Max Mashek of Monster-USA WC
 4th Place - Aaron Steffensmeier of Fort Madison
 Round Robin Matches
 Andrew Rohret (CCA) over Max Mashek (Monster-USA WC) Dec 14-13
 Collin Lewis (North Scott) over Max Mashek (Monster-USA WC) TF 10-0
 Andrew Rohret (CCA) over Collin Lewis (North Scott) TF 13-3
 Junior - J4
 Guaranteed Places
 1st Place - Dylan Jeffers of Keokuk
 2nd Place - Vincent Vass of Ottumwa
 3rd Place - Andy Brokaw of Solon High School
 4th Place - Quentin Allison of North Scott
 Round Robin Matches
 Dylan Jeffers (Keokuk) over Vincent Vass (Ottumwa) Fall 2:00
 Vincent Vass (Ottumwa) over Andy Brokaw (Solon High School) Fall 1:10
 Dylan Jeffers (Keokuk) over Andy Brokaw (Solon High School) Fall 1:14
 Junior - J5
 Guaranteed Places
 1st Place - Jonah Uph of crawdads
 2nd Place - Alex Lauber of Fort Madison
 1st Place Match
 Jonah Uph (crawdads) over Alex Lauber (Fort Madison) Dec 10-7.

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Go to www.agemark.com/careers/ and click on the link for positions in Fort Madison or send resume to ebrown@kensington-evergreen.com. You can also stop in The Kensington at 2210 Avenue H, Fort Madison, IA.



Volunteer Services Program Director

United Way of the Great River Region which serves Lee, Hancock, and Clark counties is seeking a full-time Volunteer Services Program Director to manage all aspects of a newly formed Volunteer Services Program. Director will oversee a long-standing Retired Senior Volunteer Program. Ideal candidate will have excellent leadership and interpersonal relationship skills; grant management and writing skills; fundraising experience; strong office, computer, and bookkeeping skills; and ability to work with and manage volunteers and the organizations and businesses who utilize volunteers. The ability to multi-task is a must. Some travel required. To be considered, please send cover letter and resume with three references to: director@unitedwaygrr.org or mail to: United Way of the Great River Region, P.O. Box 251, Keokuk, IA 52632 on or before April 23, 2018.

SALES SUPERHERO WANTED



Pen City Current has an exciting opportunity in media sales available for a customer service maniac who is goal-oriented and creative, with a strong drive to succeed. Prior sales and media experience is a plus, but not necessary. Must be Internet and social media savvy, as well as highly computer literate. If you love working with people and thinking outside the box, this opportunity could be perfect for you!

Pen City Current offers a fun, rewarding, and family-like working environment with lots of flexibility. Our mission is to help our customers succeed while providing #Hyper-LocalSuperFresh content for our readers 24/7. If you're interested in learning more, shoot us an email, message us on Facebook, or DM us on Twitter.

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

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Currently accepting applications for the following positions:

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Hours: Full Time

Requirements: RN with a current Iowa license, excellent assessment and communication skills, able to multi-task, attention to detail, team player, flexible in duties, and patient focused. BLS, ACLS, and PALS required. Will train the right candidate. Positive attitude is a must.

RN - INPATIENT SERVICES:

Hours: Full Time, Night Shift

Requirements: RN with a current Iowa license, 1 year experience in acute care setting preferred. BLS/ACLS/PALS/Basic Telemetry monitoring course required but can be offered upon hire.

CMA/LPN/RN - FMCH CLINIC:

Hours: Full Time

Requirements: Need someone who is experienced and enjoys working with a diverse patient population from pediatrics to geriatrics.

MT/MLT/MLS - FMCH LAB:

Hours: Full Time, 2nd Shift

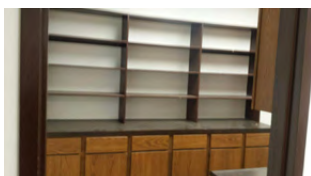
Requirements: MT/MLT/MLS, Generalist or Specialist with a minimum of 1 year experience in a medical lab.

For More Information on Position Requirements, Benefit Package Offerings, or to Apply - Go to www.fmchosp.com

OR Mail Your Resume to:
Fort Madison Community Hospital
Attn: Human Resources Director
P.O. Box 174, Ft. Madison, IA 52627
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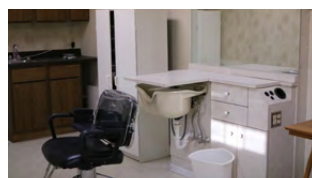
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Area News/Local News

Keokuk Clean up day this Saturday

KEOKUK - On Saturday April 21, 2018 the Keokuk Area Chamber of Commerce and City of Keokuk will host the 11th annual Earth Day Community Clean up-Event! The Pride committee has been hard at work to guarantee another successful event. In years past, hundreds of residents have joined us in fostering a sense of K-Pride throughout Keokuk. All are invited to participate again this year!

The meeting point for the event will be Tolmie

Park. Participants are asked to arrive between 8:00 and 8:25 to receive maps of locations to be cleaned and to return the litter they collect to the park at 10:30. A group photo will be taken to commemorate the event. All Earth Day Community Clean-up participants will receive a reusable water bottle sponsored by Roquette.

We also appreciate the support of sponsors that make this even possible; Hy-Vee, First Community Bank, Meyers Driveway,

Keokuk Municipal Waterworks, Krichel Animal Hospital, Poepping, Stone, Bach & Associates, and Advanced Home Health-care.

Participants can register online www.volunteer-signup.com/CKAMD, by emailing officemanager@keokukchamber.com or calling the Chamber Office at 319-524-5055. Registration is encouraged but not required to participate.

Don't forget, City Wide Cleanup Vouchers are valid from Saturday, April

21 through Saturday, May 5. Vouchers can be picked up become available on April 16. Any household within corporate city limits of Keokuk that pays for garbage pickup through their water bill can pick up two free vouchers at:

Keokuk City Hall, Second Floor
415 Blondeau Street
Keokuk, IA 52632

For more information concerning City Wide Cleanup Vouchers please contact Kathie Mahoney at the city of Keokuk, 319-524-2050 ext. 114.

God painting a pretty picture at Empty Nest

SWARM - Continued from Page 1

put up with bullying. Hopefully, they'll work all this out and get around to getting along. I imagine they will. I think there's a life lesson for humans in this somewhere.

So, that brings us up to 15 hens. (No, we don't have a rooster. Contrary to popular belief, you do not have to have a rooster for good egg production.) We are collecting 12 and 13 eggs a day now and harassing family and friends to come get'm.

Between bucket feeding Blossom twice a day, and tending to the hens, there's plenty of activity on the Empty Nest Farm. And we love it! There's nothing quite as pleasant as venturing outside in the fresh air, with dew on the grass, and the sun just rising or setting, to feed Blossom and gather eggs. God paints a pretty picture of hope, life, and well being.

Ginnie is turning into quite the farm girl. I even got her a pair of muck boots and "sloggers" (with cows on them) from the farm supply store so that she doesn't have to mess up her "go'n-to-town shoes." There have been quite a few trips to the farm-supply store lately and it has become our number-one place to shop. Move over Target!

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

Gov. Reynolds tours Pinnacle on Friday

FORT MADISON - Governor Kim Reynolds and Lt. Governor Adam Gregg visited Lee County Friday to see what Lee County industries are doing to connect business and education. They toured Pinnacle Foods during their visit and were able to talk with the company about their involvement in building a pipeline of future workers.

With over 500 current employees, Pinnacle's Lee County facility produces 3 million cans of chili per day and 500 miles of sausage per day. Due to this kind of production, their careers are becoming more technology focused and high tech. During the tour, Plant Manager Bryan Langured highlighted a few of these careers and the amount of robotics that go into

his facility.

Pinnacle has been involved in many of Lee County EDG's Grow Lee programs designed to develop a pipeline of skilled workers for future careers. They've also been involved with Southeastern Community College, helping with programming and hiring graduates from SCC's Industrial Technology program.

"Partnerships like this is how we move the state forward," commented Reynolds, "Without a skilled workforce, our businesses can't grow and it's great to see this happening."

Reynolds and Gregg also visited Burlington as part of their "Unleashing Opportunity" tour on their visit to SE Iowa.

New Beginnings

Spring is a time of new beginnings and new life.

A gift to the FMCH Foundation will allow us to provide a healthy start to our newest members and jumpstart a healthy lifestyle for those who look forward to new beginnings.



fmch
FORT MADISON COMMUNITY HOSPITAL
FOUNDATION

www.fmchosp.com ♦ 319-376-2747

5-DAY WEATHER FORECAST

MON 16 Apr



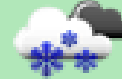
Light Snow
High - 36.9° F | Low - 27.6° F

TUE 17 Apr



Few Clouds
High - 45.6° F | Low - 43.7° F

WED 18 Apr



Light Snow
High - 51.0° F | Low - 35.2° F

THU 19 Apr



Clear Skies
High - 45.2° F | Low - 31.3° F

FRI 20 Apr



Clear Skies
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48V, 13 in. String Trimmer

.080 in. dual line, bump feed head. High-low speed selection. Includes 1-2Ah battery and charger. T 234 203 1

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110 MPH velocity. Easy to use cruise control. Includes 1-2.5 Ah battery and charger. T 234 201 1



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Removable side walls

50 cu. ft. tray for oversized loads



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Green Thumb®
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30-0-3. L 225 491 1
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Round Up® 1.33 gal. Ready-to-Use Weed Killer
For use on Southern grasses. Immediately kills at the root.
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*Limit 2 per household. Consumer responsible for taxes.



FINAL PRICE 19.99
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Round Up® 1.33 gal. Ready-to-Use Weed Killer
Shot wand with protective shield contains spray against desired plants.
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*Limit 2 per household. Consumer responsible for taxes.



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-3.00 MAIL-IN REBATE*
Round Up® 1 gal., Ready-to-Use Weed Killer with Reusable Comfort Wand
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Miracle-Gro® 1.5 cu. ft. Vegetable and Herb Garden Soil
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Good source of protein, minerals and vitamins.
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12-in. diameter top ring. Sturdy galvanized steel supports plants
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Nylon-reinforced 3-ply vinyl. E-Z Tite® lead-free brass couplings. 5/8-in. diameter.
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T 220 815 5

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